



DEVOTED TO THE LUMBER AND TIMBER INTERESTS OF THE DOMINION.

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PETERBOROUGH, Ont., SEPT. 15, 1884.

Forest fires recently devastated thousands of acres in Maryland along the course of the Captank River.

FOSTER, BLACKBURN & Co., lumber dealers, of Big Rapids, Mich., have failed, liabilities \$100,000, assets about the same amount.

THIS fall the Rathbun Company, who have a branch of their business here, will tranship 9,000,000 feet of lumber from Ottawa for Oswego, at Kingston.

THE famous lumber account of the Federal Bank has been sold to Col. Tisdale, of Simcoe, for \$800,000, which is equivalent to about 614 cents on the dollar.

LEWIS DRAKE was drowned in the Otonabee river, about four and a half miles above Peterborough, on Sept 8. He was engaged on Mr. Alfred McDonald's drive.

MR. JAMES BRYANT is about erecting and equipping a steam saw mill in Lutterworth township. With Mr. Bryant's energy there can scarcely be an impediment to the success of the enterprise.

A SALE of W. B. McAllister's timber limits on the Indian River was made to Jas. McLaren of Ottawa. The price paid was \$35,000. The same limits were bought by Mr. McAllister two years ago for less than \$24,000.

WOODEN water pipes were recently dug up in Philadelphia that were laid eighty years ago. The bark and heart of a spruce pipe was round, but the sap was decayed. A red oak pipe was decayed on the under side, the upper portion of looking nearly as fresh as if recently laid.

LETTERS have been received in Halifax announcing the failure of the old established firm A. W. Perot & Co., of Demerara. This firm had one of the largest businesses in the West India Islands, had a branch house in Baltimore, and was supposed to be wealthy. Their downfall is said to be caused by the enormous shrinkage in the value of sugar.

"I'm going to board," was what the log remarked on entering a saw mill.

THE lumber trade has evidently not been extremely light in Ohio and the east, but a very even demand has consumed vast quantities of the Saginaw valley product. A gentleman, just returned from Ohio and the east, reports stock in the retail yards, as well as in most of the distributing centres, as unusually light, and predicts a lively fall trade from the middle of September, forward.—*Lumberman's Gazette.*

AN extensive purchase of lumber is stated by the Brockville Recorder to have been made at Ottawa recently by the Oswego Manufacturing Co., for the manufacture of boxes in which to ship Pennsylvania kerosene oil to foreign markets. The whole shipment, several million feet, is to be made by barges from Ottawa. The Oswego company named is said to be "backed or owned" by the well-known Standard Oil Company.

RECENTLY the steam barge United Lumbermen, built at Squire Terrie's shipyard, Dresden, came into Chatham from Midland, with 160,000 feet of lumber, 35,000 of lath, and 4,050 cedar posts, which cargo she is discharging at his docks for Mr. Piggott. Capt. Morden and all hands, including Tom, the wheelman, are well. Tuesday, she unloaded lath and cedar posts at Amherstburg. She encountered light, baffling winds on the voyage, drew 10 feet 6 inches, and attracted much attention in Chatham, being the largest lumber vessel which ever entered this port.—*Chatham Planet.*

THE Pilot Mound Signal says:—Amongst other annoyances to which the settlers are subjected under the present arrangements is the presence in the woods of imposters who pretend that they gave authority to look after timber. It is not an unusual thing for several sharp men who have discovered a good grove to appoint an inspector in their own private interests who will keep intruders at a distance until his friends have secured the best of the trees. Very often these fraudulently appointed officers make simple and unsuspecting men leave logs which they have cut, or unloaded their sleighs of timber which is quickly appropriated by others who claim that they have bought it from the imposter. The insolent imposters even go further, and sell or offer to sell permits, and put the money in their own pockets.

#### CONSERVING OUR FORESTS.

THE fact that Mr. R. W. Phipps, as representing officially the Ontario Government, is visiting the Ottawa valley with the view of acquiring information as to what is necessary for the preservation and reproduction of the forests of that district, is a fact of great importance to the country and especially to many of our readers. It is not surprising to learn that many prominent lumbermen of the Dominion Capital have approved warmly of his aims, and have promised him all the co-operation in their power. We have been aware that many of our lumbermen have been in favor of a more economical development of our forest wealth, and have even deplored that the present system of official management, and the little protection given to their property, almost forces upon them the destruction of what should afford a continuous supply for future generations.

There seems now to be a dawn of better things. General attention has been called to the subject, to the wasteful system in vogue in Canada, and to the better example set us by the scientific forestry of other countries. We should take this warning and act upon it, before it is too late.

#### REVIEWS.

FORESTRY OF NORTHERN RUSSIA.—We have received another of the interesting series of works on forestry written by the Rev. Dr. J. C. Brown, and published by Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh. The subject of this volume is the Forestry of Northern Russia, and it is treated with all the thoroughness of our author. It is perhaps the most interesting of the series to Canadian readers, because of the striking

similarity between the lumbering operations of the two countries. In reading some of the descriptions one may well fancy oneself as being on one of the rivers of Ontario. This brings out all the more clearly one important difference. We are accustomed to regard the Russians as not far advanced in civilization, and therefore it is the more surprising to find that they are far more scientific in their forest management than we are. Though their forests are even more extensive than our own, they have seen the folly of living upon their woodland capital, and are now treasuring it, so as to perpetuate the supply. Felling is so conducted as not to imply the virtual destruction of the forest, but to secure a perpetual succession of timber. This is the case not only in the enormous Government forests, but in those of private owners, and as we learn, in some instances, even in the communal forests. Surely what the half-civilized Russian can do is not impracticable for Canadians. One very interesting chapter deals with the profuse fossil flora of northern regions, showing what a great change there has been in the temperature of the globe. The information as to the navigation of the White Sea, is also timely, while we are investigating the capabilities of our own Hudson Bay.

#### FIRE AT DUBUQUE.

A fire broke out in the Dubuque Lumber Company's yard, at Dubuque, Iowa, September 3, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. A high southwest wind was prevailing, which made it impossible to check the flames until they had swept over a space equal to four blocks. The amount of lumber burned was from 5,500,000 to 6,000,000 feet. Most of it belonged to C. W. Robison, who has lately run the yard and mill of the Dubuque Lumber Company under a lease. A small portion of the lumber belonged to the Dubuque Lumber Company. Robison's loss was estimated at from \$65,000 to \$80,000, which was fully covered by insurance. There was considerable loss in the burning of tramways, elevated roads, bridges and shops, which was suffered by the company owning the plant. The total loss at the date of the fire was placed at \$105,000, nearly the whole amount being covered by insurance. During the excitement Mr. M. H. Moore, of the Dubuque Lumber Company, was thrown from the buggy, and received a severe cut on the head. Mr. Robison was also prostrated by the heat, and had to be conveyed to his home.—*Northwestern Lumberman.*

#### OUR FUEL SUPPLY.

As every one, be he rich or poor, has a direct pecuniary interest in any project calculated to increase the supply and lessen the cost of fuel, our readers will be glad to learn that Mr. Geo. Hilliard has been experimenting in this direction during the past season and that his efforts promise to be crowned with entire success. As the reader is aware, there still exists to the north of us a considerable supply of good hardwood, which would be invaluable to us could it only be transported to our doors at a moderate cost. One or two attempts have already been made to float it down in the same manner as sawlogs, but they were not attended with any great success, chiefly owing to the loss sustained by lockages, and the expense attending its removal from the water. Believing that these difficulties could be largely overcome, Mr. Hilliard had a considerable quantity of ordinary cordwood taken out last winter and delivered on the shores of Stony Lake, where it was allowed to remain drying until about six weeks ago. He then had it placed upon rafts or cribs for transport to Lakefield, from whence it was proposed to "run" it down the river loose. Owing, however, to the work now going on, on the Young's Point and Lakefield dams, the present lot had to be driven loose from the former point, but, although this materially enhanced the chances of loss, we understand that the percentage actually lost will not be serious. The other point to which Mr. Hilliard directed his attention was the devising of some cheap and expeditious means of taking the wood immediately on its arrival out of the water and placing it where it could be piled. To this end he determined to build a floating elevator which could be moved along the

river bank as it became filled with wood. This was done by placing a portable steam engine on a raft and attaching thereto, to be driven by it, an elevator which takes the wood out of the water, carries it to a considerable height and then drops it into an inclined spout, whose bottom is a series of rollers, which, aided by the wood's own weight, conveys it to the shore and drops it where it is desired to pile it. From the success which has attended this year's operation, notwithstanding the untoward circumstances already mentioned, there can be little doubt that Mr. Hilliard will be able to make this method of increasing our wood supply a complete success, and materially benefit both himself and every householder in Peterborough.

#### OTTAWA LUMBER TRADE.

The Boston Herald of August 27th contained a telegram from Ottawa calculated to do great mischief to our staple industry—the lumber trade. The despatch stated that "there will undoubtedly be a number of heavy failures in this line before spring. Over 150,000,000 feet of lumber is held on piling grounds here, there being no demand for it in the United States." The despatch also asserted that "43 American barges are here with nothing to do;" and that "the cut this year will fall 40 per cent off that of last year." Of course statements of no serious a nature as these had an effect in some quarters and tended towards depressing business. Having made careful enquiry of the leading lumbermen in this city we are in a position to give the statement an unqualified contradiction. There are no indications of failure probable or prospective. In all the higher grades of lumber the trade is as good as this time last year. In coarser grades there is a little slackness, for which our lumbermen have made the usual concessions. As for stock on hand, the amount is not more than has been usual for several years past at this season of the year. Altogether we are assured the trade, while not so brisk as in former seasons, is highly satisfactory and perfectly sound. We would request the Herald correspondent to note these facts and correct as far as he may the erroneous and injurious impression he has created on the other side of the line.—*Ottawa Sun.*

#### RAFTS ARRIVED.

The Quebec Chronicle has the following list of rafts arrived:

Aug. 22.—Cockburn's, waney pine and ash, Sharples' (Sillery).

Aug. 25.—D. D. Calvin & Co., oak and pine, sundry coves.

Wm. Simpson, birch, sundry places.

Aug. 26.—B. Caldwell & Sons, white and red pine, St. Lawrence Docks.

Edwin Jackson, pine deals, Commissioners' Wharf.

Sept. 4.—A. D. Ritchie & Co., deals, etc., Three Rivers.

M. O'Shaughnessy, deals, &c., Nicolet.

#### LIST OF PATENTS.

The following list of patents upon improvements in wood-working machinery, granted by the United States Patent office, Sept. 2, 1884, is specially reported to the CANADA LUMBERMAN by Franklyn H. Hough, solicitor of American and foreign patents, No. 617 Seventh St., Washington, D. C.:

304,109.—Broom handle—T. P. Watkins, New Bedford, Mass.

304,364.—Flooring, wainscoting, &c.—H. C. Tunis, Baltimore, Md.

304,396.—Match split machine—M. Arnold & J. W. Wimmer, San Francisco, Cal.

304,389.—Plane knives, gage for setting—D. Willey & J. B. Thurston, Concord, N. H.

304,390.—Saw handle—J. D. Abbott, Reading, Mich.

304,631.—Saw jointer—J. Eutsler, Wallace, Cal.

304,350.—Saw sharpening device—D. Willey, Concord, N. H.

304,478.—Saws, device for thinning the backs of band—W. H. Townsend, Grand Rapids, Mich.

304,469.—Shingle machine—C. A. Tarragon, Portland, Oregon.

304,409.—Veneering wood, &c.—G. O. Boynton, Boston, Mass.