

accept, and more freedom to talk secession than would be allowed her as one of the United States. From among the successful candidates we find more than one prominent lumberman, while there are also to be found others who fought the fight, but came out less victorious. After the election of representatives to the Ontario Legislature *THE LUMBERMAN* had the pleasure of congratulating Mr. Brouson, of Ottawa, on his success. It is now an equal pleasure to extend to Mr. Perley, the Conservative candidate, our congratulations also, with the hope that both he and the other members of the fraternity he represents, may successfully watch the interests of the lumber trade whenever any measure effecting the same may arise in the House.

In a letter to the *Saw Mill Gazette*, on the cause of fires in wood-working establishments, Mr. A. Christofel, of Brooklyn, N.Y., calls particular attention to what he calls "draft-back," which, he says, "is nothing more nor less than a gas explosion. This has caused the destruction by fire of a great many mills, and is the result of improper stocking. Shavings have to burn from the top and never from the bottom, as a smouldering fire only makes smoke with very little heat. Wood or shavings contain many insidious vapors which, combining with the carbon of the charred shavings and the oxygen of the air, are likely to produce a violent explosion at any time. Whenever the fire is allowed to become too low and a large lot of shavings have been thrown into the furnace, do not leave the boiler before the flames and draft are fully established, and remove all light combustible materials to a safe distance, and then there will be no danger."

## NEWS.

Logs are coming over the Bay of Quinte Railway in large quantities.

Saginaw's rail shipments amounted to \$132,000,000 in round figures last year.

The book-keeper in McMillan's mill at Winnipeg, was murdered a fortnight ago.

The cedar mill at Deseronto, is again running. About 100 men and boys are employed.

The Georgian Bay Lumber Company are taking out a quantity of square timber on Black River this season.

The Minneapolis and Ontario Lumber Co. has purchased fifteen hundred million feet of timber in British Columbia.

Operations in the woods around Quebec are going on briskly and a large output of logs will be the result when spring opens.

The season's cut of logs and lumber that will come down French River in the spring is 74,000,000 feet of the former and 250,000 feet of the latter.

Quarter-sawed lumber has become so popular with customers throughout the country, that a great many mills are devoting considerable attention to that class of work.

The well known firm of Messrs. Hall Bros. & Co., of Quebec, has been dissolved, Mr. Lewis F. Peters going out. The business is continued by the remaining partners.

A. Hirtle, the proprietor of a planing mill in Berlin has effected a compromise at 50 per cent. secured on liabilities of \$3,000. His assets were covered by a chattel mortgage.

In bridging the Echo river for the Sault Ste. Marie branch of the Canadian Pacific railway, in the Algoma district, 9,000 piles will be required, instead of 2,000 that were first contracted for.

Mr. Grier's new saw mill at the Chaudiere is assuming goodly proportions. The frame work is erected, and the roof which is of an oval shape is placed. The structure is a large one and of a very substantial nature.

The number of new buildings erected in Montreal last year was 699, with a value of \$2,131,334 against 429 for previous year with a value of \$1,728,945, the increase being 270 buildings and valuation of \$402,889.

The recent wood dust explosions seem to have awakened a general interest in the matter. We trust wood dust explosions will not come to be of such common, every-day occurrence as saw mill boiler explosions.

The mill-owners at the Chaudiere have gangs of men employed in making all necessary repairs and getting the mills in perfect running order. It is reported that the cut at the mills this year will be larger than last.

Peter Watt, of Ompah, Ont., while working in one of McLaren's shanties was struck by a falling tree. He met with severe injuries, the bones of his shoulder being crushed and his hand pierced through with a knot.

It is stated in a Kingston exchange that the swamps and lumber district out on the Kingston and Pembroke Railway are covered with water; also that the country is in a bad state, and that the lumber trade is materially affected.

The Upper Ottawa Improvement Company have nearly completed the annual repairs on their booms and other works up the Ottawa. They are in readiness to stand the high floods which are expected this season owing to the great quantity of snow.

Sawdust thrown on a circular saw table will render the hauling of heavy planks quite easy. The grains act as small rollers and reduce friction.

The last season's cut of lumber in the White Lake district is being shipped now. Twenty eight teams are engaged in drawing it to Pakenham, eight of which are drawing for J. R. & J. Gillies. About 2,000 feet constitute a load, and one trip a day is made.

Mr. J. R. Boeth, has a gang of men employed in making repairs and improvements in his large saw mill at the Chaudiere. A busy season is expected by the lumbermen as there will be no delay for logs, as large reserves have been left over from last season.

A large number of lumber shipments were unable to be made lately owing to the scarcity of cars. Prices are not quite so firm as they were a month ago and buyers are not investing so freely as last year. At this date last year the quantity of lumber sold far exceeded this year.

Mr. David Edgar, a well-known resident of Hamilton, passed away during the month. Deceased was for many years a builder, but for the last ten years or more gave his attention to his lumbering business at Mitchell. Mr. Edgar was highly esteemed and respected by all who knew him.

Reports from the Dumoine and Kippawa lumber shanties state that the cut this year has been much interfered with by the immense amount of snow in the bush which has rendered the drawing of lumber to the mill very difficult and tedious, as it is almost impossible to keep the roads open.

It is understood that Messrs. Dobell, Beckett & Co., of Quebec, have purchased Mr. Little's Three Rivers deals, 4th quality, being the balance of his 1886 cut. The price paid was \$27 and all charges. Messrs. McArthur Bros & Co., of the same place are reported to have purchased H. E. Hall's 1886 spruce. Some 65,000 q.s. at \$41, \$24.50, \$22, and all charges.

Mr. J. Bell, formerly of Cavan, has located in the township of Cartwright, Ont., and has put up a saw mill, which works well. He intends building a band barn, 70 x 40, and a house 24 x 34 during the coming summer. He will also have a boat in which to give his friends, who may wander that way, a treat.

The Rathbun Company have at present 475 employes at their works in Deseronto alone, a larger number than were ever engaged at this time of year. All told, in their different agencies, lumbering operations, &c., they have at present over 2,000 men in their employment. This vast army gives some idea of the magnitude of the Company's operations.

There will soon be an end to the far-famed redwood forest of California. There are no fewer than nineteen lumber companies now engaged in cutting down the "big trees," and all the mills are in constant work as the demand for the wood is practically unlimited. The country will, therefore, be cleared in a very few years, for nobody makes even an attempt at replanting.

There is considerable work under way in the shipyard department at Deseronto this winter. The yacht *Norah* is being completely rebuilt. The engine and boilers have been removed from the steamer *Puritan* and she has been otherwise dismantled with a view of converting her into a lumber and wood barge. The *Rescue* will be fitted out with a new engine, so as to enable Capt. Murray to beat, if possible, his record of last year. The *Quinto* is also receiving a new boiler and other craft are receiving a complete overhauling.

A White Lake correspondent says:—The lumber that was sawed here last summer in the two mills owned by Gillies and Paris respectively, is being drawn to Pakenham, preparatory to its being shipped on the train. Gillies employs eight teams, while six are drawing from Paris' lumber yard for Marshall & Co., of Brockville. There are also fourteen teams drawing from Stewart's mill at Wabigoon to Pakenham. The average loads are over two thousand feet some being over three thousand. These are not bad loads considering the state of the roads lately.

The total number of miles of timber licenses issued at the New Brunswick Crown Land Office during 1886 was 4,116½, consisting of 1,068 applications, as against 1,625 of the year previous. In nearly every case applications for renewal were made, while about 475 miles of new berths were taken, making the total number of miles of timber licenses renewed 3,641, and the number of miles of new timber applications sold 375. The total average of licenses issued during the year is considerably in advance of previous year. Of this extent of timber lands under licenses J. B. Snowball has 406 square miles; John McLaggan, 309½; Kennedy Burns, 265; Geo. McLeod, 218; Allan Ritchie, 213½; John Stewart, 145½; Wm. Richards, 140; G. C. King, 110; Hugh McLean 109.

The following clipped from the *East Saginaw Courier*, refers to Wm. Merrill, of Norwich, Ont. The *Courier* several weeks ago gave a history of the case of Wm. Merrill against Joseph Wilson et al. It has been decided by Hon. J. H. Steere, Circuit Judge of Alger County. The Judge decides that the complainant is entitled to the relief prayed for in his bill. This gives Mr. Merrill title to 320 acres of pine land in Alger County under a deed given by him October 3, 1885. As

previously stated, Mr. Merrill had placed in the hands of his agent 1000 acres of pine land in Alger County for sale, and as he claims, the 320 acres of land were held by Wilson and others through fraud, and filed his bill to set aside the pretended title held by them. The case will be carried to the Supreme Court.

J. S. H. Clark, of J. S. H. Clark & Co., wholesale and retail lumber dealers, Newark, N. J., has been in the valley. This firm handles about 15,000,000 feet of lumber from the Saginaw valley annually, shipping largely by rail. Asked his opinion as to the probable effect of the In re State Commerce law, he said it was an unknown quantity, but he did not believe that it would seriously affect the lumber traffic. He has recently returned from a visit to British Columbia, having been interested with an English syndicate in a vast tract of pine timber on the Shuswap Lake, about 300 miles east of Port Moody, near the Canadian Pacific railroad. Mr. Clark disposed of his interest in the timber, regarding it as too much of a future. In other works there was too little market and too much competition for the cheaper grades of white pine.

A correspondent writing from Duluth furnishes some interesting figures in regard to the lumber business in the Zenith city. He says: A short time ago, a local paper of this city, the *News*, gave a very general report on the lumber industry of the city, and among the interesting matters mentioned was the fact that the cut of the Duluth district, including the mills of the St. Louis river and Tower has been 161,000,000 feet in the past year, besides 43,000,000 shingles and 22,000,000. Of this total, a very small amount, probably not more than 50,000,000 feet, is now in yards, and of this only 20,000,000 feet is in this city itself. The cut of the coming summer promises to be slightly larger, as 155,000,000 feet is being cut in the woods, and 10,000,000 more will be driven down in the spring. The depression in the Duluth lumber trade seems to be over, and the lumbermen of this district are looking for a good business during 1887.

The *National Builder* gives the following items for the use of nails.—For 1,000 shingles allow 3½ to 5 pounds fourpenny nails; or 3 to 3½ pounds threepenny nails. For 1,000 laths allow about 6 pounds threepenny fine nails. For 1,000 feet clapboards about 18 pounds sixpenny box. For 1,000 feet boarding boards, 20 pounds of eightpenny common. For 1,000 feet boarding boards, 25 pounds tenpenny common. For 1,000 feet top floors, square edge, 34 pounds tenpenny floor. For 1,000 feet top floors, square edge, 41 twelvepenny floor. For 1,000 feet top floors, matched, blind nailed, 35 pounds tenpenny floor. For 1,000 feet top floors, matched, blind nailed, 42 pounds twelvepenny floor. For 1,000 feet furring, 1x3, 45 pounds tenpenny common. For 1,000 feet furring, 1x2, 65 pounds tenpenny common. For 1,000 feet pine finished, about 30 pounds eightpenny finish.

The New Brunswick Trading Company are well to the front for the new year's business, and although little over a year in existence, have, during the past season, done a very large business. Our readers will recollect that this company recently paid to their shareholders a dividend of 8 per cent., which we consider very good as times go. Though chiefly representing the spruce interest, the New Brunswick Trading Company are also largely engaged in the pitch-pine trade. The shipments of New Brunswick spruce during the past season have shown a marked falling off. From St. John, the shipments in 1884 amounted to 165,000,000 ft., but in 1885 they dropped to 152,000,000, and last year they only amounted to 136,000,000. From Miramichi, the decrease as shown in Mr. Snowball's circular has been even greater; for while in 1883 the total shipments amounted to 149,000,000 ft., in 1886 they were only 72,000,000 ft., less than one half. This shows that the recent advance of spruce prices on the west coast was not without justification. Were the North of Europe whitewood does not enter into prejudicial competition with spruce, as in London, Hull, Leith, &c., the advance recently established is likely to be maintained.—*English Ex.*

Mr. Hiram Robinson, general manager for Messrs. Hamilton Bros., lumber merchants, has just returned from an extensive visit to the Gatincau district where he was looking after the working of the shanties of the firm. Mr. Robinson said that the output of lumber this season on the Gatincau, was not as large as it would have been had there been good weather. The fore part of the season was splendid weather for lumbering and consequently a great many logs were made before the heavy snow storms set in. These storms rendered the roads in every direction almost impassable as there was a depth of five or six feet of snow, and in many places the roads were drifted to a much greater depth. Later on, consequent upon a heavy rain storm, a thick crust was formed which was another impediment, as it was very hard for horses to work in this crust while hauling logs and timber. None of the shanties of any of the lumber firms had to shut up, but many of the small jobbers were unable to continue their work, and consequently had to send their men down the river. "What is the quality and size of the lumber being turned out this season?" "Well, the quality is fair, and the size large. I think that on the whole, the quality is nearly as good as last year's cut."—*Journal*.