

cut comes out, be fully a hundred million feet of lumber to cut this year. The largest operators are Senators Snowball and Wm. Richards, Chatham.

In furnishing a room it is well to remember that the furniture should be well made and durable, no matter how simple, because such pieces last longer, are more artistic than cheap showy goods, and are never out of date. Fads in furniture are to be avoided, as they soon become back numbers, and are in a short time consigned to the garret. Tidies, fans, ribbons, etc., are no longer considered essential to the adornment of a chair, be it ever so simple.

In his report to the March meeting of the Canadian Furniture Manufacturers' Association, the solicitor, Mr. J. R. Shaw, states that "since our last meeting there have been fifteen failures in the furniture trade, namely:—Boulanger, Montreal; Cook, Watford; Crack, St. Thomas; Campbell, Toronto; Dart, Deseronto; Harper, Havelock; Martin, Kingston; Miller, Elmsdale; Mathewson, Arnprior; Mosey, Wheatley; MacLennan, Finlay's Harbor—who are all retailers; and Goddard, Toronto; McTavish, Wingham; Toronto Upholstering Co., Toronto, and Vock, Mitchell, manufacturers. These failures did not involve very large losses, and as far as the retailers were concerned, were directly attributable to want of capital. . . . I would advise the passing of a resolution at this meeting that the members of the Association refuse to fill an order unless the customer, when requested, furnished a statement in writing of his assets and liabilities to the secretary. If this resolution was known to have been passed and was published in the *Journal*, no reputable retailer would object."

The town of Deseronto is partially lighted by gas made from sawdust. The sawdust is charged in retorts, which are heated by a wood fire, the gas from the retorts passing into a series of coils and thence into the purifiers.

An exchange says that the cut of lumber during the winter on the Upper St. John has been unusually large. The quantity got out above the Nashwaak will be about 110 millions of spruce, seven or eight millions of pine, and twelve millions of cedar. Mr. Gibson's cut is also larger than usual. The chances are good for getting it all out, too.

Clarke, Skillings & Co. have two mills running near Newcastle, N.B., and James Aiton also has two mills, one at Grand Down and another at Bartibogue, all cutting timber for spools.

Hon. Mr. Flynn, Commissioner of Crown Lands, for Quebec, has just sold by auction a spruce timber limit, nine square miles in superficies, situated on the River Assomption, Lower Ottawa. The purchasers were Messrs Edward Fisk and J. A. Renaud, of Joliette, at the exceptionally high figure of \$456 per square mile, the total amount realized, comprising ground rent, being \$4,131.95.

Probably the average product of the lumber mills of East Texas, considering the amount of machinery employed and the size of the timber, was greater than anywhere else in the United States, says the *Timberman*. The white pine mills could not equal these East Texas examples of power and activity. But even in that section the bandsaw is finding a place. Some of the best mills are already equipped with it.

In a special issue of the *Timber Trades Journal*, of London, mention was made of samples of woods received from New South Wales, and now open to inspection to all callers at the office of that paper. They are described by a N.S.W. paper as "a magnificent display of handsome timbers, worthy of inspection by reason of the insight which is given to the richness of our valleys and our hills."

Briquettes made from coal-dust are likely to find a rival in localities where wood sawing is largely carried on. Good fuel is now being made from wood sawdust, and there is no reason why sawdust, if well agglomerated, should not make excellent briquettes. They are said to be successfully made in Germany, and in an exceedingly simple manner. When well heated the sawdust becomes sticky owing to its resinous properties, and then it is compressed into suitable blocks in the usual way. One man with a machine driven by two-horse power can turn out about 9,000 briquettes per day. We should be inclined to doubt the cohesive properties of the sawdust itself. All woods are not alike as regards resin.—*Railway Review*.

The wisdom of a rumored development in the wood pulp industry is questioned by the *World's Paper Trade Review*, which refers to the proposed erection of new works to produce 75,000 tons of wood pulp per annum. The scheme is said to have originated in the Glommen district, which has a production of about 350,000 dozen logs. Seeing that a dozen logs are ordinarily required to make a ton of mechanical wood pulp, one-fifth of the Glommen's log supply would be utilized by the new works—an unwise levy on the available resources of the district.

A good deal of the wood pulp of Maritime Province pulp mills is going to the United States market. The new pulp mill at Mill Cove,

on the Miramichi, is nearly ready for work, and the one at Chatham, N.B., has been thoroughly overhauled.

It is asserted that North America possesses a greater variety of trees than any other country in the world. Dr. Bell said not long ago in a lecture that nearly 100 different species are found in Canada east of the Rocky Mountains.

It is stated by the *Indian Forester* that "hitherto sawmills have not been found successful in Indian forests, yet there are firms in Calcutta and Bombay, and in the large coast towns of Burmah, where sawmills are working. It may be that the rise in the price of labor, the increased output of the forests, and the improvement in the means of communication may some day again lead the Indian Forest Department to set up mills."

Upwards of four pages are devoted, in the special issue of the *Timber Trades Journal*, of London, to the operations of Mr. Alexander Gibson, the New Brunswick lumber merchant. There are views of his mills at Marysville and Blackville, and a good portrait of the "lumber king" himself.

As a fancy wood, either in furniture or in house finishing, walnut has lost its popularity and gives place to oak, and now the bulk of American walnut goes abroad, Germany taking most of it. At least 80 per cent. is shipped to London, Liverpool and Hamburg. The bulk of it comes from Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, Indiana, Texas, Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Illinois and Pennsylvania. The largest walnut sawmill in the world is in Chicago, and it uses about 3,000 car loads a year. America's competitors in the European markets, says *Furniture*, are Italy and Circassia, the latter furnishing Black Sea walnut. The so-called French burls which are shipped to this country to some extent are not French at all, but Circassia shipped to Marseilles and reshipped from there.

Of the Scandinavian wood trade the *Furmand* of March 12th says, business is quieting down. As far as Norway floorings are concerned, shippers will not now, as a rule, be in a position to offer large quantities before June shipment; of redwood battens, seasoned stuff will not be ready in any quantity before the end of that month, while white-wood may be ready at the earliest in the beginning of June. Under such circumstances shippers will be in a position to hold back entirely. If shippers adopt this policy, the inherent strength of the market will soon level up the price to what it was at the opening, viz., £8 for mixed white to cheap ports, for with the current prices reported in the English papers for Swedish battens it is quite evident that the competition from Sweden cannot become formidable during the present season. And the consumption of wood goods is large, not only on the continent and in nearly all the British markets, but the minor markets outside of Europe are all increasing their orders, while the log crop of Sweden and Norway does not appear to have been increased beyond that of last season.

Donald Fraser & Sons, proprietors of the Aberdeen mills, near Fredericton, N.B., are making preparations for a big season's work. They intend sawing twelve million feet of lumber, and in order to do this will have to keep their mill running night and day. The manufactured lumber will all be loaded on scows and taken to St. John for shipment.

Two timber berths were sold at the New Brunswick Crown Land Office on Saturday last, says the *Gleaner*. One was a 5½-mile block near the mouth of the Upsalquitch River, and was bid in by Mr. R. D. Blair at \$35 per mile. The other was a 7½-mile block on Cheauters Brook, Restigouche county, and was bid in by Mr. R. D. Blair at \$30 per mile. The advance realized on both sales was \$313.50.

A MINING COMMUNITY.

It is rather interesting, as a rule, to get hold of a newspaper from a far West town. There is bound to be something new in it, and as like as not there will be something startling in it. On Monday last, the Nelson, B.C., *Miner* came to hand, under date 21st March, having taken nine days to get here, which is over the normal time. There is a lot in the paper, though it is not a large one (and it has the good sense to stick to good-sized type, and eschew the horrid American fashion of solid nonpareil). Even the advertisements are of interest. For instance, one of these announces that the Victoria Stock Exchange, Limited Liability, commencing on April 15th, will call stocks daily at 10.30, Sundays and holidays excepted. A lawyer advertises that "A Full Statement of Facts is required for Advice by Correspondence." Tenders are asked for the purchase of a first-class hydraulic plant "in place on the ground," etc., etc., in West Kootenay; there are six or seven notices, signed by the Government agent, that as many persons have applied for Crown grants to mineral claims; and Mary Hartson declares her intention to apply for a license to sell wines and liquors.