

THE CANADA LUMBERMAN

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SOME SAW-MILLING ESTABLISHMENTS OF WIARTON.

EARLY in the sixties Mr. Thomas Gilpin, a contractor, in company with Dr. Williams, established the first saw mill in the town of Wiarton, operating the same upon the site near where Kastner's mill now stands. Wiarton was then but a small village, while to-day it is a prosperous town with numerous important industrial establishments situated within its limits. Owing to excellent shipping facilities a number of saw mills have been established there, including those of Messrs. Robert Watt, J. P. Newman, Siemon & Bros. Manufacturing Company, C. H. Witthun & Company, Jones Bros., G. Kastner, W. G. Jimmie, and others. Illustrations and a few particulars of some of these mills and their owners are given below:

SIEMON & BROS. MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

In the fall of 1899 the above firm purchased the large saw mill previously operated by Mr. William Young, and are operating it to its full capacity. A large proportion of the product of the mill is used in the works of the Siemon Furniture Company, in which the members of the firm are interested, although large shipments are made to the United States and to local points. The mill is modern in its equipment and has a capacity of 4,000,000 feet annually.

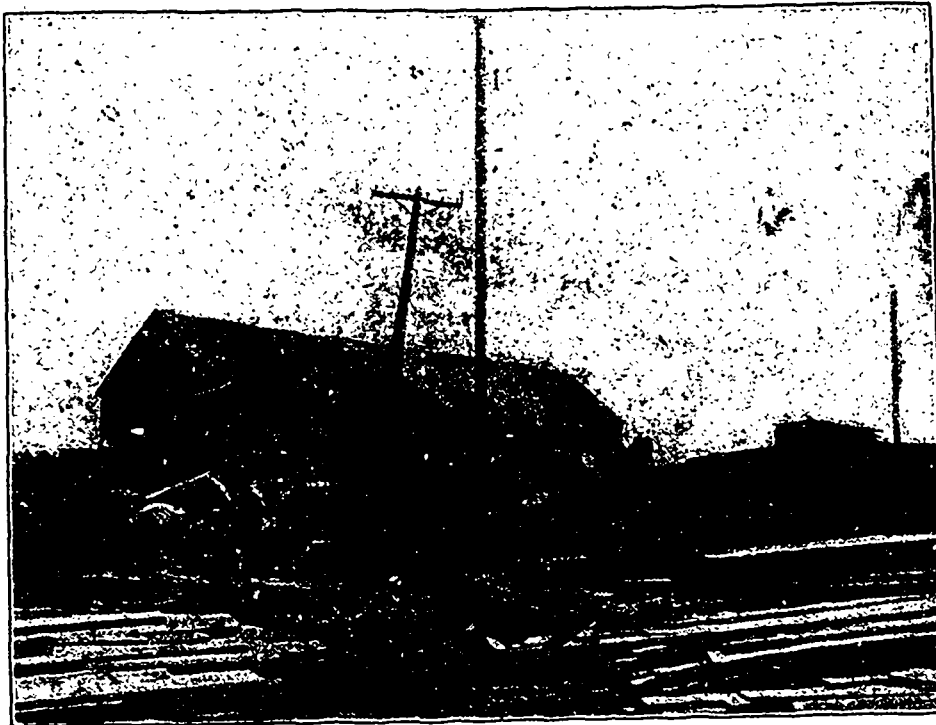
In connection with their table factory they have a large dry kiln, with a capacity of 72,000 feet of lumber. Tramways run from the lumber yard at the saw mill to the furniture factory. The output of the furniture factory exceeds in value \$175,000 per year. Over one hundred hands are employed, and \$60,000 is annually expended locally for raw material in logs and timber. Large quantities of goods are shipped to foreign countries. Last year Mr. J. C. Siemon visited Europe and succeeded in forming a connection which is greatly increasing their trade.

C. H. WITTHUN & COMPANY.

The above firm operates the Spirit Rock mill, situated just below the famous Spirit Rock. Mr. C. H. Witthun, who is the head of the firm, removed to Wiarton in 1899 from Hepworth, where he operated a large saw mill, besides one at Shallow Lake. The new mill erected in Wiarton is of a modern pattern and equipped with modern machinery, in which convenience and economy are combined in the conversion of logs into lumber. The mill has a capacity of over 20,000 feet

per day, and is kept constantly running during the cutting season. A railway switch runs through the piling yard, giving splendid facilities for loading, and the mill being erected on the water with convenient dockage, vessel loading is also very conveniently handled, besides giving ample facilities for rafts.

Mr. Witthun has been a long time in the lumber trade and is one of the most extensive dealers in hardwood lumber in Western Ontario, having been largely engaged in the business in Hepworth and Shallow Lake. The products of the mill are marketed in Canada and the United States. The firm owns extensive timber limits, from which they can secure all the timber neces-



SIEMON & BROS. MFG. CO'S SAW MILL AT WIARTON, ONT.

sary to keep the mill running for a number of years yet. Added to this, they buy largely from the settlers, and the amount of money they distribute in this way during the winter amounts to a considerable sum. Their mill is now equipped for cutting pine, a gang resaw having been put in, and the firm would be willing to contract for the cutting of several million feet. On account of the location of their mill the rates of insurance are low. As a citizen Mr. Witthun is one of the most enterprising, ever ready to give his aid to any project which is calculated to advance the business interests of the town. Previous to going to Wiarton he was Reeve of the Township of Keppel for a couple of terms.

JOHN P. NEWMAN.

Prominent among the successful mill owners and business men of Wiarton is Mr. John P. Newman, whose extensive lumber operations have given him a wide acquaintance all over the country. From the Wiarton Canadian Souvenir

it is learned that Mr. Newman went to Wiarton from Listowel in 1890, and formed a partnership with Mr. A. G. Seaman in the saw mill and timber business. A small saw mill on Griffith Island was purchased by the firm from Mr. John Kidd, moved to Wiarton, enlarged and improved, and a successful and prosperous business was established. The partnership was continued until December, 1896, when Mr. Seaman retired and Mr. Newman became sole proprietor. The present mill is equipped with all the latest improved and most modern machinery, with a capacity of 20,000 feet of hardwood per day. The annual output is about 3,500,000 feet, principally hardwood and cedar, besides from 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 million shingles, large quantities of square timber, ties, etc. This is distributed all over the country, the principal markets being Canada and the United States, with some shipments to Great Britain.

Mr. Newman owns large timber limits on the Bruce Peninsula, also timber on Lonely Island in Georgian Bay, where a large number of men are employed during the winter. In 1897, in company with Mr. Wm. Young and Capt. F. Wood, he purchased the tug Ann Long, for towing the rafts from the different dumps to the mill. In 1898 the tug was rebuilt and renamed the Gladstone, and is now a first-class vessel of her class. She is 78 feet keel, 85 feet over all, 17 feet beam and 9 feet draught. She is equipped with the latest improved compound engines,

12½ and 24 x 16 inch stroke, suitably fitted out for the comfort of the crew and raftsmen. From the opening of navigation until the close the tug is busy rafting.

Mr. Newman takes an active interest in public matters. He served several years in the town council, and while there looked carefully after the interests of the ratepayers.

THE NATIONAL HARDWOOD LUMBER ASSOCIATION.

THE Inspection Bureau of the National Hardwood Lumber Association have issued a pamphlet containing the rules and regulations of that Bureau, with the object of informing the lumber trade as to the methods adopted by the bureau, and ultimately to induce the hardwood trade to avail itself of the protection it affords. The association have printed 20,000 copies of the pamphlet.