

—The freight rates at present are 42/6 to 45/0 from Quebec to London or Liverpool, and probably the same to Glasgow.

—The demand for lumber in Montreal during the month just closed was fairly good, but despite this a rather gloomy feeling prevails regarding the future. Dealers have experienced some uneasiness owing to the imminent danger to which stocks at the Chaudiere were exposed. That material is now, however, practically out of the millowners' hands, having already been disposed of and being in process of delivery. Supplies at first hands are very small. There has been a fair amount of orders from the country and prices are steady and without change.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

—Messrs. Allan Bros., Carleton, are supplying the machinery for the new lumber mill of Mr. D. J. McLaughlin, being built at Pollet River.

—Messrs. Murray & Shaw, Flat Lands, near Chatham, are building a shingle mill which will be equipped with the newest and best machinery.

—S. T. King & Sons, of St. John, are the purchasers of the lumber business of Mr. E. C. Gates, of Calais. Mr. Charles King, of the firm, will look after the business.

—The Chatham New Brunswick *World* says, spruce logs which were worth but \$6 there last year, and no demand for them at that, find a ready sale now at \$7, and the supply is not equal to the probable demand.

—Extensive forests fires have been raging in the eastern section of New Brunswick, and doing an immense amount of damage. Immense tracts of forests lands, besides mills, farm houses, barns and standing crops have been destroyed. The town of Moncton had a narrow escape.

—W. H. McLeod, of Richibucto, Geo. K. McLeod, of St. John, Jas. F. Atkinson, of Kouchibouguac, Wm. E. Cleaver, of London, Eng., and John Curran, of New Mills, Restigonche Co., seek incorporation as the "Kent Lumber Company." Capital \$80,000 in \$100 shares.

MANITOBA AND THE NORTH-WEST.

—P. McLaren's new saw mill at Macleod, Alberta, has been completed and put in operation.

—The capital stock of the Calgary Lumber Company has been increased from \$85,000 to \$170,000.

—Hunter & Moore have opened their lumber yard, at Crystal City, and have a large stock of building material.

—Cedar shingles from British Columbia are being used extensively throughout Manitoba. They are said to give the utmost satisfaction both as to price and quality.

—Campbell & Stevens have opened a lumber yard at Glenboro, and M. W. Naughton has opened a yard at Killarney, both in Manitoba. J. R. Reilly & Co., have opened a yard at Regina, Assa.

—The ties from the Riding Mountains for the N. W. C. railway have all passed this place on their way down the river. The drive from the mountains which was made in 20 days is the fastest time on record for such a large quantity of timber. There are over 30,000 ties and a lot of bridge timber.

—A bush fire set fire to Mr. Strevel's ties at Stott's Hill near Whitemouth, and before it was stopped 10,000 of them were destroyed. About two weeks previous another lot of 10,000 of the same ties were destroyed. These were the ties once intended for the R.R.V.R., but the Government never took them over. Mr. Strevel, however, claims that the ties belong to the Government; while the Government say they belong to Mr. Strevel.

—We learn from the *Edmonton Bulletin* that the damage to timbers on the head waters of the Saskatchewan and the Athabasca this spring has been very great. The country from the 52nd to the 55th degree of north latitude and from the Rocky Mountains eastward to about the 5th principal meridian contains the available supply of sawing timber of the Northwest. The area of this region is very great, but it was never as densely or as uniformly timbered as the wooded lands of Eastern Canada. The good spruce is in patches with considerable areas of scrub and even open prairie. However, the whole region is so thoroughly cut up by the main streams mentioned, their greater tributaries the Red Deer, the Brazeau, the Pembina and the McLeod, and many smaller branches that the greater part of it is really accessible. Many million feet of spruce well fitted for lumber, which within the memory of man was standing green and growing in the country mentioned is now lying in brule of no use for any purpose, an impediment to travel and furnishing a perpetual supply of tinder with which to kindle and spread new fires. Even within the past five years the loss on known and immediately available timbered lands must have mounted into the hundreds of thousands of dollars. As is well known, in the Northwest series of wet and dry years alternate.

During the former the timber is comparatively safe, the only loss arising from local fires in the fall. No matter how dry the weather may be for a time the ground is always moist, and when it is so the fire does not travel far. After a succession of dry years the reverse is the case. The soft mould, full of vegetable matter, becomes thoroughly dry and in the woods even heavy rain fail to wet it. When fire is once started in a section of country having such a soil in such a state it is bound to run through it all. Nothing has ever been done to stop this destruction. The timber destroyed had no market value and no one was interested in it. Now, however, matters are different. Local saw mills are turning the spruce to account in yearly increasing quantities and eastern speculators have seen the bonanza that must be in limits of good timber lying on the headwaters of navigable streams flowing on the lower part of their course through agricultural lands. There is bound to be an influx of immigrants shortly who will need this timber and will cause the loss of every stick to be felt. At the same time the past dry seasons have brought the country in the condition in which it is most liable to fires.

—In a description of the town of Calgary, N. W. T., printed in the *Winnipeg Sun*, the following reference is made to the largest lumber firm in the Northwest: The Eau Claire and Bow River Lumber Co., organized in 1883 with a capital stock of \$300,000, is situated at Calgary N. W. T. The company have purchased ten timber limits situated on the Bow, Spray and Kanabaskus rivers, covering an area of 500 square miles, estimated to contain 300,000,000 feet of growing timber, which is cut and put into the rivers and brought to Calgary on water down the Bow river, where they have established the largest sawmill in the N.W.T. They have also in connection with their mill a dam and extensive river improvements, booms, piers, etc., in order to hold and handle the large cut of logs brought down each year. They have for this year's manufacture five million feet of logs, and are in a position to furnish anything in the line of building material, etc.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

—H. W. Petril is erecting a saw mill at Lilloet.

—John Elwood's shingle mill near Westminster, has been burned out.

—Fader Bros. have bought a disused saw mill plant at Vancouver. They will add machinery and operate the mill.

—The Brunette Saw Mill Company, Westminster, have recently built a 80x30 foot addition to their works, into which \$1,500 worth of new machinery will be placed, consisting of a flooring machine, lathing machine, bolter, and a machine for cutting box lumber out of slabs.

AMERICAN NOTES.

—The southern California lumber boom is said to be on the wane.

—It is said that the lumber business in New York is duller than it has been for ten years.

—Duluth expects to receive upward of 500,000,000 this season from the Georgian Bay alone.

—The drives of the Penobscot River and tributaries in Maine aggregate upward of 100,000,000 feet.

—A big hemlock combination has been formed in New York State, to be known as the Pennsylvania Lumber Storage Co.

—The season at Bangor, Maine, opened with high rains and a slack demand for lumber, with prices bordering downwards.

—A Muskegon, Mich., paper reports the local surgeons as saying that accidents in the saw mills are scarcer than ever before.

—A congressman has estimated that there is not less than \$700,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000 worth of lumber in the forests of Arkansas.

—P. O. Scribner, of Tonawanda, N. Y., has chartered the mammoth lumber barge Wahnapeeta for two trips from Lake Superior to that port.

—The Tennessee Lumber Company's property and the Mill Creek Distilling Company's works, Cincinnati, have been burned. Loss, \$180,000.

—Hargreaves Bros., & Tripp, lumbermen Detroit, Mich., have made an assignment for the benefit of creditors to Francis G. Russel. Assets \$2,274.85; liabilities, \$7,072.39.

—Dubois, Pa., a thriving lumber town of about 10,000 inhabitants has been completely wiped out by fire. Over thirty lives were lost and about 4,000 people left homeless.

—Unless there is some unforeseen accident, more lumber will be made in Minneapolis this year than in any preceding year. The total cut is expected to run considerably over 300,000,000.

—Wood fiber for paper makers' use is manufactured in twenty-one States. The industry employs \$20,000,000 capital and 22,000 men. The State of Maine alone produces

84,000 pounds of ground wood fibre and 188,000 pounds of chemical wood fibre.

—A giant poplar tree, that measured 11 feet 8 inches in diameter at the base, and was 240 feet high, was recently felled near Taylorsville, O. It is estimated that it will yield 20,000 feet of lumber.

—From New York state comes the cry that there is more or less cutting of prices going on. Some Buffalo firms are in the habit of knocking considerable off the price in their strenuous efforts to secure trade.

—A curious freak in the tie trade is reported from Duluth, Minn. Vessels are carrying cedar ties to that port from Sault Ste. Marie for the Manitoba road, and taking back tamarack ties to the "Soo" from Port Arthur for the Grand Trunk. A heavy trade is thus carried on.

—New York City it is said is not demanding lumber as vociferously as it is wont at this season of the year. There has been a slowness in that quarter, that does not seem just natural. Not but that a great deal of lumber is being shipped there, but it is hardly up to the usual standard.

—A Muskegon, Mich., shingle manufacturer stated on Friday to a representative of the *News*, that the output of shingles from the Muskegon mills for 1888 will be at least 100,000,000 less than that of last year. Shingles are averaging better in price than last season, and decrease in the cut will redound to the interest of the manufacturers.

—Figures show that more lumber was sold in Chicago in May than in any month in the history of the market—20,000,000 more than was sold in March, the sales aggregating 229,000,000 feet. Of this total 151,000,000 feet went in local consumption, leaving only 78,000,000 for the out of town trade. A year ago in May the local consumption reached only 34,000,000 feet.

—There is a fairly encouraging tone to the reports regarding the British market for American woods. A steady trade continues in prime walnut logs and lumber. A quiet, steady trade is reported in whitewood, with stocks large in both logs and lumber. Prices fairly maintained. There is considerable activity in American oak. Gum seems to have been deserted, the market being overstocked.

—A resident of Chicago has in his possession a copy of the *Ulster county, N. Y., Gazette*, dated, "Saturday, January 8, 1800," and a sample of the contents is given in the style of the following advertisement, showing that the people of olden times did not notice little incongruities such as are involved in this ad:

FOR SALE—THE ONE-HALF OF A SAWMILL, WITH A convenient place for building; lying in the town of Rochester. By the mill is an inexhaustible quantity of pine wood, and also a stout, healthy, and active negro wench. Any person inclined to purchase may know the particulars by applying to JOHN SCHOO-MAKER, JUN., at Rochester, November 13, 1799.

The *Courier* says the Saginaw cargo lumber market is dull, but June is invariably a quiet month. No sales of consequence are being reported, but a number of small lots have changed hands. There are no changes in quotations. What demand there is is limited to common lumber. Box stock is firm, and Norway strips sell readily, but bill stuff is dull and featureless. The demand for coarse box lumber seems to be fully equal to any demand for such lumber the valley has ever experienced and contracts are being made at \$10.50 and \$11 per thousand for green stock. Norway strips are also in good demand; also hemlock strips. While some claim that the demand for good lumber has improved the evidence on the face does not show much of an improvement. The dry lumber is nearly all sold and but very little green is being contracted ahead.

—The manufacture of hemlock in Michigan is increasing rapidly. In the Saginaw valley hemlock, bill stuff and lath are being largely used in home building, while a large quantity will find shipping market. As its use extends people are finding out that it makes a stiffer frame than pine, and is of greater value in all dimension sizes about a building.

Canadian Lumber In the States.

There is a general impression that the presidential elections in the United States will have a detrimental effect on the American lumber market and that in consequence the Canadian lumbermen will suffer to a certain extent.

A reporter visited the Chaudiere this morning with a view to obtaining the opinion of the Chaudiere lumbermen on the subject. The universal statement was as far as this year's cut is concerned almost every foot of it was sold before it was taken from the limits last winter, at fair average prices. It is now possible that the elections may effect the sale of next winter's cut, as the market is at present and will be until some time after the election in a demoralized state. The lumbermen have been expecting this however and many of them have made arrangements elsewhere for the sale of most of the cut for 1889.—*Ottawa Journal*.