

AUSTRALIA.

We take the following from the monthly circular of Messrs Lord and Hughes, timber brokers of Melbourne, dated 19th December, 1883:

Since our last advices of 21st ultimo, our market for the principal descriptions of timber has been more than supplied by imports, and prices then ruling have hardly been maintained. Baltic flooring and Oregon timber are easier, and American lumber about maintains prices then quoted. Our market cannot recover as long as it is being flooded by so many arrivals.

The deliveries from store yards have been to an extent almost unprecedented, showing that the trade are doing a larger business than ever; in fact, the demand for building materials has not been exceeded for years, and there is every prospect of a continuance.

The arrivals have been—Avanti and Concordia, from Frederikstad; G. P. Harbitz and Eduard, from Christiana, with flooring; Marpesia, from Sundswall, Subra, from Hudiksvall, Forsote, from Skutskar, with deals; Thos. R. Foster, Birchgrove, Melrose, L. B. Gilchrist, and Martha, with Oregon laths and pickets; Martha P. Tucker, from New York, with shelving, plaster and slates; Beatrice Havenor, from New York with laths and plaster; Aberdeen, Gulf of St. Vincent, Thurland Castle, Cairnbulg, Copernicus, Duncone, Loch Ness, Glondower, from Great Britain with flooring, slates, galvanized iron and cement; Robin Hood, L'Avonir, and Alice Muir, from Kaipara, with Kauri pine; City of Adelaide, from Sydney, with shelving; Nemesis, Bunninyoung, Woundouree, Konoowarra, from Sydney, with cedar, doors and laths; South Australian and Victorian, from Adelaide, with doors and laths; Mercury, from Luncheonston, and Victorian from Adelaide, with slates.

RED DEALS.—Imports: 1,037 standard, from the Baltic. The arrivals have been Marpesia, from Sundswall; Subra, from Ludiksvall; and Forsote, from Skutskar. The cargo, ex Leto, was sold by auction on 27th ult. when MARMIA brand, 9x3, realised 5½d.; MB, 9x3, 5½d. to 5d.; 11x3, 5½d. to 5d., all at per foot of 9x3.

SPRUCE DEALS.—Imports: Nil. Sales by auction comprise cargo, ex Hooghly, and small parcel, ex Emo. The cargo ex Hooghly, was sold on 27th ult., at (as was anticipated) extremely low rates, 11x3 realising 2½d. to 2½d., 9x3, 2½d. to 2½d. 12x3 to 20x3, at 2½d. per foot of 9x3.

OREGON TIMBER.—Imports: 3,193,707 feet super. The arrivals have been—Thos. R. Foster, Birchgrove, Melrose, L. B. Gilchrist and Martha. Sales by auction comprise cargoes ex Birchgrove and Star of Peace, and small parcel ex Matilda, all sold on 27th ult., prices ranging from £6 17s. 6d. to £6 10s. The cargo ex Thos. R. Foster, was offered at auction on 30th ult., but £6 12s. 6d. being best bid, it was withdrawn.

LUMBER.—Imports: Shelving, 72,176 feet super. The arrivals have been—Martha P. Tucker, from New York, and City of Adelaide from Sydney. Sales by auction have been made ex Emo, Navosink, City of Adelaide, and Martha P. Tucker. Michigan clear pine realised £18 to £16 10s.; white pine shelving (Peabody brand), £13 to £13 7s. 6d.; other brands, £13 7s. 6d. to £12 15s.

PITCH PINE.—Imports: Nil. Auction sales.—Nil.

REDWOOD.—Imports: Nil. Auction sales.—Nil.

FLOORING AND WEATHERBOARDS.—Imports: 4,800,420 feet lineal. The arrivals have been Avanti, Concordia, G. P. Harbitz, and Eduard, from the Baltic. Sales by auction comprise shipments ex Mario Becker, Rauno, Cairnbulg, Adole e Sabina, Loch Shiel, and Loch Ness. The following being prices realised—Red 6x1½, 10s. 6d. to 9s. 9d.; 6x½, 7s. 9d. to 8s.; 6x½, 6s. to 6s. 9d.; 6x½, 4s. 6d.; 4-out weatherboards, 7s. 6d. to 6s. 6d.; white 6x1½, 9s. 6d. to 9s.; 6x½, 8s. to 7s. 9d.; 6x½, 6s. to 5s. 9d.; 6x½, 5s.; 6x½, 4s. 7d. to 4s. 4d.; 4-out weatherboards, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 3d.

KAURI PINE.—Imports: 726,710 feet super. The arrivals have been Robbin Hood, L'Avonir, and Alice Muir, from Kaipara. Sales by

auction during the month have been of a very limited character, being confined to only portions of cargoes ex Robbin Hood and Alice Muir. The cargo ex L'Avonir, was offered, but there being no inclination to buy evinced by the trade, it was withdrawn.

CEMENT.—Imports: 111,652 feet super. The arrivals have been ex various steamers, from Sydney. Logs have been sold at auction during the month, at 45s. to 29s. according size and quality.

RED AND WHITE PINE (Colonial).—Imports: Nil. Auction sales.—Nil.

DOORS.—Imports: 194. Auction sales.—Nil.

LATHS AND PICKETS.—Imports: Laths, 13,395 bundles; pickets, 5,529 bundles. Sales by auction during the month have been made Oregon laths, 4½-foot, at 40s. to 37s.; 4-foot, 33s. Spruce 4-foot, 34s. 8d. Baltic, 1½-foot, 27s. Oregon pickets, 6 feet, £10 2s. 6d. to £9 10s.; 5-foot £9 2s. 6d.; 4½ feet, £9 5s. to £9; 4-foot, £7 10s.; spruce, 5-foot, £5 2s. 6d.

SLATES.—Imports: 905,163 pieces. The only sale by auction has been the shipment ex Mercury, from Tasmania.

PLASTER.—Imports: 900 barrels. The parcel of red beech ex Martha P. Tucker was offered at auction on 14th inst., when only 50 barrels were sold at 12s. 9d. each. The parcel of 200 barrel ex Alert was sold on 30th ult. at 13s.

CEMENT.—Imports: 2,950 barrels. There have been no sales by auction during the month. Privately a good demand exists. Gostling's has been selling at 15s.; and Knight, Boyan & Co.'s at up to 15s. 3d. Auction sales.—Nil.

GALVANISED IRON.—Imports: 737 tons. There have been no sales by auction. Privately Orb, and other best brands have had sales at £20 10s.; inferior brands, £20. Demand slack. Auction sales.—Nil.

HARDWOOD.—Imports: Nil.

PALINGS.—Imports: Nil.

ENGLISH IMPORTATION OF TIMBER.

The following is a list of the most important classes of timber imported into England during 1883:—

AMERICAN TIMBER.	
Yellow pine.....	4,350 logs
".....	47,825 "
Hickory.....	15 "
Oak.....	284 "
Cherry.....	34 "
Poplar.....	144 "
Ash.....	731 "
Walnut.....	123 "
Ela.....	384 "
Birch.....	453 "
STAVES.	
American.....	50,854 pieces
Memel.....	22,500 "
Danzig.....	80,566 "
Norwegian.....	206,101 "
Riga.....	4,200 "
Austrian.....	48,000 "
TIMBER.	
Danzig.....	2,070 logs
Windsau.....	3,619 "
Memel.....	1,459 "
Libau.....	530 "
OAK.	
Danzig.....	317 "
Stettin.....	20 "
Memel.....	250 "
WAINSCOT.	
Austrian.....	271 "
Memel.....	30 "
Riga.....	142 "
PITCH PINE.	
Logs.....	1,896 "
Deals.....	876 "
DEALS AND BATTENS.	
1,444,354 pieces.	

MINDEN.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—One of the most melancholy accidents that has occurred for some time took place on Friday last at John Coburn's lumber shanty in the township of Sherburne. It is a common thing in the woods to draw logs to the edge of a precipice or steep hill and dump them over, to be skidded at the bottom. On Friday morning James Quigley, and two others were engaged at a Skidway, situated at the foot of one of these mountain dumps, skidding the logs as they came down. A load of three logs was brought to the dump, and the first two logs landed at the skid, end on, Quigley and

his two companions stood on the last log of the skidway farthest from the dump. Quigley being in the middle, and the other two at either end. The usual warning was given from above and the third log was rolled over. Down it came, whirling through the air, and landing broadside on the ends of the first two logs which were on ways to the skid, instead of stopping at that end of the skid, it was shot on to the logs already skidded and went bounding over them in a slanting direction to one end of the front log. The instant the men saw the log was going to come to them, O'Brien, who was on the end where the log was coming to, dropped off beside the skidway and was safe. The man on the other end also dropped off, though the log did not reach where he was, but Quigley being in the middle, jumped off, and tried to run ahead of it. The log, a twenty-four inch one, and sixteen feet long, came bounding along, struck Quigley in the back, knocked him on his face, and then crushing his chest and shoulders, splattered the poor fellow's brains for some distance. Death was instantaneous. One of the peculiar features of the case was that the unfortunate young man had a premonition of his impending fate, on the night before. On Friday morning when he awoke he told his companions that he had dreamed that a fatal accident had occurred, that some one had been killed with a tree, and so impressed was he with his dream, and that some fatal accident was about to occur, that he declined to go out to work. After a time he was persuaded to go out, but altogether against his inclination, and the result was a melancholy verification of his premonition. The young man was much esteemed. He was conveyed to the home of his brother in Vermont, on Saturday.—*Bolcaygon Independent.*

SWEDEN.

The Stockholm correspondent of the *Timber Trades Journal* writing on Dec. 15th says:—The weather is still uncommonly mild for the season in Norrland, and the latest advices are to the effect that "driving" operations in the woods as far north as the Sundswall district cannot be proceeded with. There will consequently be no production of logs to speak of in the principal export districts until the second week of January at the earliest, forest work being entirely suspended about Christmas time. There is, of course, plenty of time between the middle of January and the end of April to get out as many logs as usual, were there any inducements to do so, but all the mill owners that I have spoken to on the subject admit that it would be suicidal to make as many logs as of late years. The general consensus of opinion seems to be that a substantial reduction in the log-get will be made by most of the firms of standing, unless a rise of price takes place before the end of February. In the event of the latter contingency occurring, no doubt mill-owners will endeavor to get hold of as much raw material as they can handle. The late events in Finland will also decidedly have an effect here, in making the banks watch with a less indulgent eye over the quality of the paper set before them.

NORWAY.

The Christiania correspondent of the *Timber Trades Journal* writing on Jan. 5th, says:—The early part of the winter having been very mild, the driving was impossible in most parts up to Christmas time. If a serious frost had then occurred, the peasants might have been tempted to disregard the traditional resting time, by taking up forest work immediately after the strict holidays. However, the mild weather has continued till yesterday, and even now the frost is probably not sufficiently intense to make marshes and pools in the forest passable. Consequently nothing more may be lost by conforming to the old custom of "drinking out yule" before recommencing forest-driving in earnest. It is, however, now quite evident that this winter's production of timber will be considerably below the average. This will tend to keep prices of logs and of battens from going down in this country, to a great extent, independently of the state of the import market abroad. The saw mills and flooring mills cannot very

well be stopped, even if at times they have, especially the latter, to work with a small profit or none at all, which may have been the case in several instances last year.

A CANADIAN AUTHORESS.

There is in Ottawa at present, on a visit to some relatives, a lady, who is, or ought to be, well known throughout Canada, for she belongs to a family whose writings a generation ago were widely read throughout the British Islands and did much to clear away wrong impressions concerning our country. The lady referred to is Mrs. Trail, who is one of the Strickland family, every member of which was a writer of more or less renown. The most famous is, of course Agnes Strickland, whose historical writings are very popular—a popularity which shows no signs of decreasing. The next best known member of the family is Mrs. Susannah Moodie, of Belleville, whose novel "Roughing it in the Bush" is still widely read. Mrs. Jameson and Major Strickland will also be remembered by all middle-aged Canadians. Miss Strickland is the only member of the family who never visited Canada or wrote about it; Mrs. Jameson wrote a couple of volumes describing rambles through our then wild and untamed country, while the remaining three wrote almost exclusively on Canadian topics. Major Strickland's only work was "Twenty-seven years in Canada West." Mrs. Moodie's best known work, is "Roughing it in the Bush," a delightful account of the trials and tribulations of Mr. and Mrs. Moodie while establishing themselves in the "back woods," while Mrs. Trail is most remembered for her Canadian Crusoe, and "The Backwoods of Canada."

Almost every late Canadian writer on literary and historical subjects, always assumes that it is only during the past few years (since he began to write) that a Canadian literature really came into existence, and if he refers in any way to preceding works, it is with the object of calling it "hog wash" or some equally mollifious appellation. If some of these self-constituted critics would be induced to read the works of Mrs. Trail and Mrs. Moodie, or look over the issues of the *Literary Garland*, which flourished in Montreal for some years during the "forties," in which many stories by these ladies first appeared they might come to the conclusion that there were some brains in the country previous to their advent upon it.

The only connecting link between the two periods of literary activity, is Mr. John Lovell, of Montreal, who then, as now, was a very prominent publisher. Indeed, the *Literary Garland* of that day was a venture of his, but although it was an excellent periodical; it, like so many other Canadian literary ventures, was not warmly supported, and the sequel can be guessed.—*Montreal Star*

THE FLOODS IN THE STATES.

CINCINNATI.—The river has risen 4½ inches since midnight, and is rising fast at Portsmouth. It is falling rapidly at head-waters but a further rise must come before it all runs out. Marietta and Parkersburg have been entirely cut off for two days.

YOUNGSTOWN.—Two hundred houses are inundated here. A dozen industrial establishments and rolling mills have been abandoned, and hundreds of workmen are out of employment.

TOLEDO.—The latest advices from the towns along the river above the city are to the effect that the water has passed the highest point reached last year. At ten this evening the water at South Toledo was seven feet higher than ever before.

PHILADELPHIA.—The Pennsylvania railway bridge at Mansyunk, which was carried away last night, had just been completed. It cost over a million.

PITTSBURG.—This city and Allegheny are now free of water and business is being assumed.

WHEELING.—The Baltimore and Ohio engine shops are carried away. Main street bridge caved in this afternoon. Wheeling is in danger of famine. Nearly all the bakeries and many of the groceries are beneath the water. Milk and meat, except salt meat, is almost impossible to procure. The stock of provisions is rapidly