

somewhat cheaper than last year, cordwood on railway cars at Winnipeg being \$2.75 to \$4.50 a cord for poplar and spruce, respectively. About 18,000 cords of wood were sold in the Winnipeg and western markets during the year. As regards dues on burnt and fallen timber and forest fires in the northwest the minister says: "During 1887 forest fires in Manitoba and the northwest were more than usually destructive, and I regret to say that the experience of last year was equally unfortunate. One of the consequences of these fires has been the partial destruction of quantities of timber upon berths under license to mill owners. It is well known that unless the timber which has been injured by fire is manufactured into lumber within two years from the time of fire, it is rendered not only useless but harmful, inasmuch as it falls, and being highly inflammable is a constant source of danger to what living trees there may be still remaining in the locality. During the early part of last session, after conference with senators and members of parliament from Manitoba and the northwest, I issued instructions to permit actual settlers on Dominion lands to obtain permits for 25 cents each, enabling them to cut all the burnt and fallen timber under seven inches in diameter which they might require for their own use for fuel and fencing. This decision appears to have been very acceptable to the people. It has been suggested that the department should take further precautions for the prevention of forest fires. This might be possibly done if the staff of forest rangers were greatly increased, but the good to be derived from this large additional expense would, I am afraid, not be adequate to the cost incurred."

MICHIGAN men are now at Washington endeavoring to have congress take cognizance of the fact that there is no import duty on cedar, and that American operators are placed at a great disadvantage by Canadian competition. Farmers in Michigan, for example, who take cedar off their land after the lumbermen have been over it are injuriously affected. Canadians have been doing a rushing business, but the trade in poles across the line has been largely dull and unprofitable. It is said, however, that the senate ways and means committee does not take kindly to the proposition of placing a protective duty on cedar.

THE McArthur Bros. Co., of this city have put in the usual quantity of timber in Canada this season. They own a line of boats, and freight their own timber from the Georgian bay to Quebec, where it is transhipped for the European market, as they sell direct to English houses. Mr. P. McArthur, one of the members of this company, resides at Saginaw, where he is interested with S. S. Wilhelm and E. E. Eastman in lumbering operations. They put in a number of million feet of short logs, and also some board pine, in upper Michigan. The McArthur Co. is at present doing perhaps as large a timber trade as any other firm in the Dominion.

MR. W. G. PERLEY, M. P., a prominent and well-known lumberman of Ottawa, died at his residence on Wellington St. on April 1st, in his 59th year. The late Mr. Perley was born at Enfield, New Hampshire, on the 4th June, 1830. He received his education there and was twice married. Before coming to Canada the late Mr. Perley was in business with Mr. G. B. Pattee at Canaan, N. H. About thirty years ago Messrs. Perley & Pattee came to Ottawa, and on account of the water facilities decided to engage in lumbering at the Chaudiere. The Bronson's were already located on the island, but at that time the place was very wild and there were few improvements. The firm of Perley & Pattee purchased a site from the government, and the next year built a mill. In 1869 the mill was burnt down but was built thrice its original size. At first the firm purchased their logs, but they soon began to buy limits for themselves. The first limit bought was that on the Coulogne. Their area of limits was gradually increased until the firm now owns 1,800 square miles of limits. Improvements were made to the mill year by year until it became a very extensive and valuable property. In 1887 the late Mr. Perley was elected a

member for Ottawa. He was associated with Mr. J. R. Booth in the construction of the Canada Atlantic railway, and was also part owner with Mr. Pattee of an orange plantation of 100 acres at Riverside, California, which has the reputation of being one of the finest in that section. The late Mr. Perley devoted himself entirely to business, but a few years ago Mr. G. H. Perley and Mr. C. B. Powell were taken into the firm, since which time he ceased to take a very active part in the business, but he continued up to the time of his death to visit the office and interest himself in the management. He was a man highly esteemed by all who knew him. His funeral was a very large one, some three hundred vehicles being present...

THE parliamentary committee appointed to consider Mr. Taylor's anti-foreign labor bill met again last month and examined a number of witnesses upon the subject of foreign labor. W. W. Graham, foreman of the saw mill on the St. Croix river at St. Stephen, N. B., testified to the effect of the American act at that point. He said that perhaps there were 100 Canadians who lived in St. Stephen and formerly worked in the states, but were now prevented from doing so. About 450 Americans came over to St. Stephen to work, but no fault was found until Canadians were prevented from going to the other side. In one saw mill, which was run by Canadians, but was situated beyond the center of the river, and consequently in American territory, Canadians could not work, but an adjoining mill, owned by Americans and situated in Canada, was at full liberty to employ whom it liked. What they wanted was fair play. A Canadian section man on the St. Croix & Penobscot railway was informed by the president of the company a few days ago that he must move to the states or leave the company.

THE commercial editor of *Le Canadien* has been interviewing some leading Quebec shippers and dealers on the prospects of the timber trade for the coming summer with the following results: Mr. R. R. Dobell, of Dobell, Becket & Co., said:—I regret that prices of timber are too high, the supply exceeds the demand and the market is somewhat overstocked. But it may be said in general that trade is excellent. The demand is fair, and will be certainly much larger this year than for a considerable time back. We shall have a large number of steamers in port this summer, if we can get fair treatment from the Ship Laborers' Society. There is no doubt that the conduct of the Society for the last couple of years has caused trade to desert our port. Masters wishing to have no trouble with the laborers have taken their ships elsewhere. Possibly this year again a number of owners may hesitate to trade at Quebec for fear of difficulty with the Society. The latter should have mainly in view the attracting to Quebec of as much trade and work as possible. For this a good understanding and good will are necessary. The further we go, the more will the carrying trade be done by steamers, as more speedy and less costly. Trade is good, but the best advice we can give to manufacturers and merchants is to be prudent. In England business is lively, but the slightest falling of in the demand might entail loss on exporters. Lt-Col. Forsyth, of the firm of J. Bell Forsyth & Co., said:—A large demand for deals is generally looked for this summer in the port of Quebec, and the trade in any case promises to be still better than last season. Prices for white pine are high in England and for the moment the demand is not as active as at this time last year. The pine deal market is quiet, but a decided improvement is reported in spruce deals. Altogether, from the best information obtainable, the timber trade to day is satisfactory, with an evident upward tendency. All our merchants look forward to a very profitable season. Mr. Herbert M. Price, of Hall & Price, owners of the Montmorency mills, spoke of the sawn lumber business. According to him the indications for the coming season are most encouraging, with a fair English demand. Spruce deals are selling at very good prices, and the market is better than for the last two years. Spruce is in great demand on the American market, indeed it is extraordinary how this wood has been sought for within the last couple of years. It follows that manufacturers have no difficulty in placing their goods, certain qualities especially. The American market is very much improved. For certain qualities of spruce the prospect is very good, and hemlock will also be in demand. The retail lumber business is very thriving, tamarac and hemlock being more largely used than in former years. Altogether, an excellent business is expected this coming season.

## SPLINTERS.

IT is stated that Canadian capitalists have purchased forty thousand dollars worth of standing timber in Carrol county, Virginia, and will erect large saw mills.

A GREAT sale of valuable timber and mineral properties will be held at Knoxville, Tenn., May 21st. A full description of the properties for sale will be found in our advertising columns.

WHAT'S the matter with the station agent at Midland? Like the proverbial flea when he's wanted he's some place else. Fashionable business hours won't do when lumber has got to be shipped.

WE are requested by the Toronto Hardwood Lumber Co. to announce that Mr. F. S. Miller has no further connection with that firm, and that they will not be responsible for any business he may do in their name.

THE auction sale of Gilmour & Co's, mills, and limits, on Gatineau and Trent rivers, advertised to take place at the Russell House, Ottawa, on the 9th day of April, has been postponed until the 31st, of July. See advertisement in another column.

WE are indebted to our friends F. G. Strickland & Co., of New Westminster, B. C., for a splendidly gotten up illustrated view of that city. It was issued as a holiday supplement to the *World*, and so great has been the demand for it that it was necessary to issue a second edition.

MESSRS McARTHUR BROS., lumber merchants of Toronto, have struck it rich, having purchased a newly discovered gold mine, 18 miles north of Thessalon, for the sum of \$7,500. Assays made by Professor Hays, of Toronto, of some of the specimens run as high \$44,000, to the ton.

FOUND at last, a practical friction Grip Pulley and Cut-off Coupling, simple, efficient, instant in its action, applicable to the heaviest, as well as the lightest machinery and shaft. Patented in Canada and the United States. Send for particulars to Waterous Engine Works Co., Brantford, Canada. Mention this paper.

ON the order for the third reading of the bill to amend the timber slides company's act, Mr. Hardy moved the further consideration of the bill in committee, and the amendment of several of its clauses. The amendment did not affect the principal of the measure which was again reported to the house, and afterward read the third time.

JOHN CHARLES RYKERT, M. P., of timber limit notoriety, member for Lincoln has resigned. Mr. Rykert seems merely to have forestalled the action of the House, as the investigating committee were to have unanimously reported him guilty of conduct corrupt and discreditable. The general feeling appears to be that Mr. Rykert took the wisest course in resigning.

THERE were exported from the Ottawa consular district to the United States during the quarter ending March 31st, 1890, lumber amounting to \$203,292, against \$387,521,67 during the same period in 1889. There were also exported during the first quarter of the present year to the United States, box shooks to the value of \$847; plank decking, \$2,737; lath, \$8,511; pickets, \$2,214. In bond for export lumber, \$71,353.

THE lumbermen of London have effected an organization which is practically a branch of the London Chamber of Commerce, and is to be known as the Timber Trade Section of that body. At this late day they have been seized with the co-operative idea, having discovered that they can accomplish more through the instrumentality of an organization for mutual aid. In "unity there is strength," and we trust the organization will achieve an abundant measure of success.