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MANUFACTURE OF LUMBER.

Old-Time Saw-Mills-The Changes of a Century.

Among the most marvelous of the many wonderful things which distinguish the United States from other nations, are the results which have grown out of the possessions of immense forests of valuable timber, in stimulating inventive genius to the preparation of an article of building material so cheap as to enable the poorest to have a comfortable home, while at the same time of so excellent a character as to be not only suited, but indispensable to the working classes. Those more accessible regions of the continent which possessed these forest growths in the greatest abundance were among the first to receive large accessions to their populations, drawn together at those centers which presented the easiest access to cheap building material, not less than for their personal safety from a savage foe. It was not until the demand for lumber far exceeded the ability of the "greatest" mills of half a century ago to supply, leading the manufacturers to feel the need of a more extended system of production, that the star of empire made any progress westward, or it became a possibility to settle upon the prairies of the West, or to develop the mineral resources which have already shown our nation to be the peer of, if it does not excel, all others in the extent of its possessions. To possess is to need. And the cheap building material which the cheap mills of the days gone by enabled a scant population to utilize, stimulated a more extended immigration, with its increased needs, as well as a higher order of inventive genius to increase the supply.

The mills of the olden time were, first, the windmill, with its uncertain power, scarce exceeding that of the men who ran the pit saws which were then in a measure superseded and whose indignation at the effort to lessen their manual labor caused them to mob the owner and tear down the machinery. Second, the adaptation of a current water wheel of scarcely greater power, if more reliable, run by the natural current of a small stream. Next came the simple flutter-wheel, to impart motion to which required the building of dams to hold large bodies of water, which should at all times be available. But for large operations the flutter-wheel was found to possess too little power, and the overshot or undershot wheel became a necessity, to be superseded later by the adaptation of turbine-wheels, now so much in favor with mill owners who control water power. For the first fifty years of our national growth, as well as during the preceding portion of the world's history, none of the mills were equipped with anything more than a single upright saw working in a gate; and when another saw was added, as the incipient idea of the gang, which quickly succeeded with its large number of saws, words could scarcely express the astonishment of all who saw the working of the bold innovation.

Up to this time, all the lumber which was manufactured had been edged upon the top of the log after it was turned down; an auxiliary saw was not thought of, for the buzz saw, just beginning to be used, was considered a most dangerous piece of machinery. But the increased manufacture growing out of the increased in the power and an increase in the number of saws, led to the introduction of the small circular or "buzz" saw, which was at once found to nearly double the capacity of the

mill. It is needless for us to enlarge upon the introduction of steam power in saw mills, or to follow the original idea of an engine, 6x8 inches, attached to the lower end of the pitman or saw gate, through its successive stages of development and enlargement to the present time, when the Corliss, or Estey, or other well-known engines, of power from ten to one hundred times greater capacity than was the original device, are by the thousand in number engaged in turning out lumber, each in one season aggregating a greater manufacture than were all the sawmills of the country combined at a period scarcely fifty years in the past.

The old gate saw was superseded by the maul, with a reduction of friction equal to thirty or fifty per cent. increase in cutting capacity. The maul gave way to the circular, and with its introduction may be dated the commencement of an era which has been prolific of innovation, improvement, and advantage to the sawmill world. As the use of the circular became better understood, and men became expert in so dressing it as to make true lines and smooth surfaces, they found themselves able to produce more lumber in the rough than they could properly edge and prepare for market. The old edging-table could not keep up with the cut of the saw. This was remedied by the introduction of gang edgers, which no mill doing any considerable business could now dispense with. Now the work of the main saw could be safely increased, for the gang, or as it was at first known, "double" edger, was abundantly able to keep pace with it, and while at first a capacity equal to 1,000 feet per hour was doubtfully claimed, later developments have shown in not a few instances an entire season's work at the rate of 6,000 feet per hour.

The increase in capacity called for a more speedy movement of handling the logs on the carriage, and the lumber as it left the saw, and a multitude of inventive minds were concentrated on mill dogs, which should successfully take the place of the lever and pike, driven by a mallet, and the modern sawmill could not now be operated with the original method of goggling the log. The "nigger," for turning the log on the carriage, as well as rolling it on the skids, has superseded the cant hook and muscular power formerly relied upon, while the lumber, as it leaves the saw, drops upon a system of live rollers, which does the work to much better advantage than it was formerly accomplished by a hard worked "off-bearer," who could not in these days by any possibility keep up with the work which would crowd upon him.

Plenty of lumber, cheaply manufactured and sold at reasonable prices, has enabled the settling up of a nation at the rate of nearly fifty per cent. increase of population during each decade. This in turn has demanded a network of railroads, and carriage by them has not as yet been reduced to a science, which enables us to believe that rates have reached a minimum while they will realize in the future. The manufacturer of lumber, bearing this mind, must reduce the weight of this product to the lowest possible point, and the trimmer became a prime necessity as an economizer, not less than for an advantage in an aesthetic point of view. And the old gang mill, from its original adaptation of two saws, hung in a cumbersome frame, upon monstrous

posts which headed in a weigh beam, made from the largest stick of timber which the forest afforded, and footed in the mill foundations, shaking the structure and the surrounding country, and keeping the machinery about one half the time in the repair shop from its everlasting jar, has been displaced by the neat, effective and comparatively noiseless devices of modern times, developing a sawing capacity of which the fondest anticipation of the original inventor of the idea had not the remotest conception. The heavy weigh beams have disappeared, the monstrous wooden posts have given way to equal advantageous and strong but less cumbersome and more slightly iron supports, resting upon foundations independent of those which support the mill frame. The old, stiff, and full of friction gate has been superseded by oscillating slides giving to the saws the same motion which the pit sawyer seeks to obtain in order to accomplish the most work with the least outlay of strength.

Time would fail us to trace out all the changes which a quarter of a century has developed in the sawmill. Should a Rip Van Winkle of the last century be suddenly awakened from his long sleep, still dreaming of the last act of dogging the log on his old-fashioned carriage, in the old mill when he took long naps between the cuts, and esteemed a production of 1,000 feet per day something to brag of, and open his eyes on the modern mill of the smallest size, he would truly think that the world had turned upside down, and if he saw the army of men carrying off a quarter of a million feet of boards per day from the saws of some of the larger mills, he would not believe the evidences of his senses. All has changed; the water wheel has given place to the steam engine; the single small cylinder boiler, to the monstrous tubular or flue in large batteries; the upright saw in a gate, to the maul and the circular; the two-saw going, to a forty saw; the rag-wheel, to the steam feed, adding countless possibilities to the ability of the circular saw to cut up logs; the single buzz saw, to the double edger; the rough end lumber, to the well trimmed; the vast piles of worthless slabs, to a useful article of laths and pickets; and the final debris, in many localities, to usefulness in the manufacture of other commercial articles. The pioneer knew nothing of lath and shingle manufacture; live rods had not entered his noddle; gang slab cutters would have been by him pronounced an invention of the devil to feed the flames of his insatiable furnace. Endless chains would have had no use in mill economy; saw sharpeners and gummings would have had no value in his eyes, for he could cut all the lumber he expected to, and find plenty of time for dressing his saws by hand.

The modern sawmill is indeed full of improvements, down to the last device of sorting by machinery. The production in one day, by one saw, of more lumber than was accounted the work of a year in former times, is not only the result of the genius of invention, such as marks the spirit of the age, but has rendered possible the remarkable development of the youngest in the sisterhood of nations, forming no unimportant factor in the influence of this country among the people of the earth. All hail to the modern sawmill, and the wise intelligence of nearly every man who is connected with it either in the production of logs

from the forests or the manufacture and sale of lumber, for each progressive step in the march of improvement has reduced the cost of manufacturing lumber, keeping pace with the inevitable increase in the cost of timber, due to the gradual decadence of the forest.—*Northwestern Lumberman.*

Washington as a Voter.

Washington voted at all the Fairfax elections until the close of his life, uniformly supporting the Federal candidates. Although living some distance from the Court House at the Alexandria market, he generally voted early. The polls were reached by a flight of steps outside, which in 1799 had become old and shaky. When the General reached the steps he placed one foot upon them, and shook the crazy ascent as if to try its strength. Instantly twenty brawny arms, one above the other, grasped the stairway, and a dozen men's shoulders braced it. Nor did a man move until the venerable chief deposited his vote and returned. "I saw his last bow," said one of them half a century afterward; "it was more than kingly."

Mitney Men.

Wells' Health Renewer. Absolute cure for nervous debility and weakness of the generative functions. \$1, at druggists. Oregon Depot, DAVIS & CO., Portland, Or.

Take Notice.

On after this date an additional 10 cents per cord will be charged on all orders for sawed wood not accompanied by the cash, at Gray's wood yard. July 1st, 1881.

"Rough on Rats."

The thing desired found at last. Ask Druggists for "Rough on Rats." It clears out rats, mice, roaches, lice, bed-bugs. 15c. boxes.

Buy the Weekly.

THE WEEKLY ASTORIAN for this week is full of just such information and news of the country as your friends in the east want to see. It has very few advertisements, and is checked to the hilt by the cash, as it was called in the language of the country, "Quinquina." Grateful for her recovery, on her return to Europe in 1832, she introduced the remedy in Spain, where it was known under various names, until Linnaeus called it Cinchona, in honor of the lady who had brought them that which was more precious than the gold of the Indies. To this day, after a lapse of two hundred and fifty years, science has given us nothing to take its place. It effectively cures a morbid appetite for stimulants, by restoring the natural tone of the stomach. It attacks excessive love of liquor as it does a fever, and destroys both alike. The powerful tonic virtues of the Cinchona is preserved in the Peruvian Bitters, which are as effective against malarial fever today as they were in the days of the old Spanish Viceroy. We guarantee the ingredients of these bitters to be absolutely pure, and of the best known quality. A full and satisfactory system of the best bitter in the world. "The proof of the pudding is in the eating," and we willingly abide this test. For sale by all druggists, grocers and liquor dealers. Order of: Loeb & Co., agents for Astoria.

Peruvian Bitters.

Cinchona Rubra. The Count Clinch was the Spanish Viceroy in Peru in 1630. The Countess, his wife, was prostrated by an intermittent fever, from which she was freed by the use of the native remedy, the Peruvian Bitters, as it was called in the language of the country, "Quinquina." Grateful for her recovery, on her return to Europe in 1832, she introduced the remedy in Spain, where it was known under various names, until Linnaeus called it Cinchona, in honor of the lady who had brought them that which was more precious than the gold of the Indies. To this day, after a lapse of two hundred and fifty years, science has given us nothing to take its place. It effectively cures a morbid appetite for stimulants, by restoring the natural tone of the stomach. It attacks excessive love of liquor as it does a fever, and destroys both alike. The powerful tonic virtues of the Cinchona is preserved in the Peruvian Bitters, which are as effective against malarial fever today as they were in the days of the old Spanish Viceroy. We guarantee the ingredients of these bitters to be absolutely pure, and of the best known quality. A full and satisfactory system of the best bitter in the world. "The proof of the pudding is in the eating," and we willingly abide this test. For sale by all druggists, grocers and liquor dealers. Order of: Loeb & Co., agents for Astoria.

A few more chances yet to be taken for that fine graphoscope at the City book store.

For Dyspepsia and Liver Complaint, you have a printed guarantee on every bottle of Shiloh's Vitalizer. It never fails to cure. Sold by W. E. Dement.

Have Wistar's balsam of wild cherry always at hand. It cures coughs, colds, bronchitis, whooping cough, croup, influenza, consumption, and all throat and lung complaints. 50 cents and \$1 a bottle.

The Peruvian syrup has cured thousands who were suffering from dyspepsia, debility, liver complaint, boils, tumors, female complaints, etc. Pamphlets free to any address. Seth W. Fowler & Sons, Boston.

A cough, cold or sore throat should be stopped. Neglect frequently results in an incurable lung disease or consumption. Brown's Bronchial Troches do not disorder the stomach like cough syrups and balsams, but act directly on the inflamed parts, allaying irritation, giving relief in asthma, bronchitis, croup, catarrh, and the throat troubles which singers and public speakers are subject to. For thirty years Brown's bronchial troches have been recommended by physicians, and always give perfect satisfaction. Having been tested by wild and constant use for nearly an entire generation, they have attained world-wide rank among the few staple remedies of the age. Sold at 25 cents a box everywhere.

Furnished Rooms to Let

At Mrs. Munson's lodging house.

Notice to the Public.

I have opened a new boot and shoe store on the Broadway, and am prepared to do first class work in my line. I. J. ARVOLD. Opposite O. R. & N. Co's dock.

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New, quick, complete cure 4 days, urinary affections, smarting, frequent or difficult urination, kidney diseases, St. at druggists. Oregon Depot, DAVIS & CO., Portland, Or.

The Weekly Astorian

Is a mammoth sheet, nearly double the size of the Daily. It is just the paper for the dreside, containing in addition to all the current news, choice miscellany, agricultural matter, market reports, etc. It is furnished to single subscribers at \$2.00 per year in advance.

War! War! War!

Water front offered free to any person that will build a saw mill in the city of Williamport. Lumber we must have to build this city. We have one store in running order at present. Quite a number have already located homes in this city, and yet there is room. Sold on time to suit purchasers. Located one mile south of Astoria, on the sunny side of the hill, on Young's bay.

J. WILLIAMSON, SR.

Various Causes.

Advancing years, care, sickness, disappointment, and hereditary predisposition—all operate to turn the hair gray, and either of them incline it to shed prematurely. AYRES' HAIR VIGOR will restore faded or gray, light or red hair to a rich brown or deep black, as may be desired. It softens and cleanses the scalp, giving it a healthy action. It removes and cures dandruff and humors. By its use falling hair is checked, and a new growth will be produced in all cases where the follicles are not destroyed or the glands decayed. Its effects are beautifully shown on brassy, weak, or sickly hair, on which a few applications will produce the gloss and freshness of youth. Harmless and sure in its operation, it is incomparable as a dressing, and is especially valued for the soft luster and richness of tone it imparts. It contains neither oil nor dye, and will not soil or color white cambric; yet it lasts long on the hair, and keeps it fresh and vigorous.

FOR SALE BY ALL DEALERS.

Get your legal blanks at THE ASTORIAN office. A full line of over two hundred styles.

The Rev. Geo. H. Thayer, of Bourne, Ind., says: "Both myself and wife owe our lives to SHILOH'S CONSUMPTION CURE." Sold by W. E. Dement.

Are you made miserable by Indigestion, Constipation, Dizziness, Loss of appetite, Yellow Skin? Shiloh's Vitalizer is a positive cure. For sale by W. E. Dement.

All citizens of Oregon who desire to inform their friends in the states of the condition and progress of this state, can have no more complete and comprehensive volume of facts to send them than by subscribing for this journal, and having us send it weekly to their friends. We mail it as directed. For \$5.00 in advance, we mail three copies of THE WEEKLY ASTORIAN one year.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SAINT MARY'S HOSPITAL,

ASTORIA, OREGON. THIS INSTITUTION, UNDER CARE OF THE Sisters of Charity, is now ready for the reception of patients. Private rooms for the accommodation of any desiring them. Patients admitted at all hours, day or night. No physician has exclusive right, every patient is free to call and has the privilege of employing any physician they prefer.

United States Marine.

Seamen who pay Hospital Dues, are entitled to Free care and attendance at this Hospital during sickness. Permits must be obtained for United States Marines at the Custom House.

SISTERS OF CHARITY.

Dress Making.

MRS. W. G. ROSS, & MISS ELLA LOGAN.

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NICE SUITS FOR LADIES

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A hotel now running and doing a good business in the city of Astoria. Centrally located. A first class bar room attached. In health on the part of the proprietor is the only reason for selling. Inquire at ASTORIAN office, or address Lock Box 73, Astoria, Oregon.

Health is Wealth.

Dr. E. C. West's Nerve and Brain Treatment: a specific for Hysteria, Dizziness, Convulsions, Nervous Headache, Mental Depression, Loss of Memory, Spasmodic, Impotency, Involuntary Emissions, Premature Old Age, caused by over-exertion, self-abuse, or over-indulgence, which leads to misery, decay and death. One box will cure recent cases. Each box contains one month's treatment. One dollar a box, or six boxes for five dollars; sent by mail prepaid on receipt of price. We guarantee six boxes to cure any case. With each order received by us or six boxes, accompanied with five dollars, we will send the purchaser our written guarantee to return the money if the treatment does not effect a cure. Guarantee issued only by W. E. Dement, druggist, Astoria, Oregon. Orders by mail at regular prices.

Proposals for Piling.

BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED UP TO Noon on Friday, March 10, 1882, for furnishing, driving and capping the piles for the building of the O. R. & N. Association of Astoria, at the office of I. W. Case, where the plans and specifications can be seen. The right to reject any and all bids is reserved. A. J. MOELLER, Secretary.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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