

out an exploring party to examine timber lands in the territory, so far as it may be adapted to ship-building. They have obtained valuable statistics from the explorations that have been made, and they now memorialize congress for the privilege of buying a tract of timber land with a view to establishing ship-yards there for the construction of ships. In California there has been great difficulty hitherto in getting sufficient ships to carry our grain to the markets of the world, and the idea is that if our people engage in ship-building a great many of the farmers there will unite to buy the ships in order to transport the grain. I move that the memorial be printed and referred to the committee on public lands, as it relates to the purchase of a tract of land, and I think should more properly go to that committee than any other."

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### AN OUTSIDE VIEW.

#### INFORMATION CONCERNING THE WINTER'S WORK IN THE PINERIES—ESTIMATES FROM EACH DISTRICT IN WISCONSIN—THE BUSINESS OUT-LOOK.

A lumberman of much experience, well known to the trade along the Mississippi, and who keeps pretty well posted as to the progress of the lumber trade, writes to *The Gazette* from Milwaukee, giving some interesting information concerning the winter's work in the pineries. He says that estimates are fully made on the winter's cut of logs in the pineries of Wisconsin, resulting in the following figures and prospects for the coming business season:

The Green Bay district, which last year cut about 25,000,000 feet and run off, in addition, about 11,000,000 feet left over from the preceding year, will have about 31,000,000 this year.

The Wolf river district will yield 121,000,000, to which may be added 30,000,000 feet of logs now on hand at Oshkosh, making the total for the district 151,000,000 feet, or about 26,000,000 more than last year and 124,000,000 less than the season of 1873.

The Wisconsin river will have on the market only about 65,000,000, being about half its yield of 1873, but nearly double that of last year. The Wisconsin last year suffered a greater falling off than almost any other district in the state.

Black river district will yield this year, as now estimated from work done in the logging camps, about 120,000,000, being

from 5,000,000 to 7,000,000 more than last year, and 20,000,000 less than the season of 1873.

On the St. Croix the cut is estimated at 118,000,000 feet, or about 3,000,000 more than last year.

The Chippewa and Eau Claire rivers will yield about 295,000,000, and the Yellow river about 40,000,000.

Some effort has been made to estimate the amount that will be produced by the millers and lumber camps on the lines of railroads penetrating the pine regions, but no satisfactory results have been reached. This product has become important enough to cut a conspicuous figure in the lumber operations of the state, and being exempt from hindrances by ice or low water, is more reliable as a source of profit than any other branch of the lumber manufacture in the state.

Our correspondent adds that lumbermen generally are somewhat discouraged at the prospect. They have earnestly striven to reduce the amount of production until prices should advance, but their efforts have only been partially successful. The crop of the present year is considerably above that of last year, and the out-look is thought to be but little improved.

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### WOOD MANUFACTURES IN RUSSIA.

According to recent statistics the extent of the forests of Russia in Europe is about 442,897,500 acres, or 40 per cent. of the whole area. The forests are very unequally distributed, and altogether cultivation and communication are thus rendered impracticable, the facilities are becoming every year increased. Nearly 65 per cent. of the forest land is situated in the four governments of the north—in Archangel, Vologda, Olenetz and Perm. Between 1866 and 1870 upwards of 20,000 acres were planted, exclusive of the action of private owners. The principle trees are the Scotch pine, spruce fir, larch, birch, lime aspen and oak. The value of forest products exported in 1871 amounted to 16,926,553 roubles. But the internal consumption gives a better idea of the immense wealth of these forests. The approximate value as stated by Mr. Werckhn must be at least 265,450,000 roubles per annum. Wood is the only fuel used in Russia, and the railroads consume wood to the annual value of 7,200,000 roubles. It is estimated that 40,000,000 wooden spoons are manufactured every year.