

TIMBER LIMITS HOLDERS' ASSOCIATION.

The *Montreal Gazette*, of June 8th, says:—A special meeting of limit holders, bankers and others interested in the tenure of timber limits in this Province, convened by the Timber Limits Holders' Association of the Province of Quebec, was held in the hall of the Corn Exchange yesterday at 1.30 p.m.

The following gentlemen were present:—Messrs. W. G. Perley, J. R. Booth, E. B. Eddy, E. H. Bronson, James Gordon, Oliver Latour, Allan Grant, Chas. Smith, Alex. Fraser, Allan Gilmour, Ottawa; Andrew Thompson, Kirkoy, J. Price, Jas. Ross, G. B. Hall, P. P. Hall, H. Atkinson, J. Breakoy, John Broakey, E. Benson, T. Girouard, Peter McNaughton, John Welsh, John Gilmour, Quebec; F. Wolfenstein Thomas, Geo. Hague, Hon. John Hamilton, Thomas Workman, J. K. Ward, Grendy, J. Macdougall, G. Giroux, J. Macnider, Montreal; A. Baptist, Three Rivers.

Mr. W. G. Perley, of Ottawa, having been called to the chair, said that the object of the meeting was to take into consideration the late act passed by the Quebec Legislature.

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting,

Mr. Andrew Thomson moved the following resolution, seconded by the Hon. John Hamilton:—

That the Association be composed of limit-holders, bankers, corporations, and others interested in the security of the tenure of limits.

That the object of this association is to secure the united action of all interested in the tenure of limits, for the protection of their rights generally, and for mutual assistance in promoting the interests of each individual member thereof.

That there shall be elected a President, Vice-Presidents and a council of seven, who shall employ a secretary and be empowered to administer the business of the Association.

That at all meetings of said Council three members thereof shall constitute a quorum.

That the annual subscription shall be \$10 for each member.

That the Council, should the emergency arise, have the right of levying a contribution per square mile on limits at the rate of and not exceeding: On pine limits valued at \$200 or upwards per square mile—\$1 per mile. Pine limits valued at less than \$200 per mile—50 cents per mile. Mixed pine and spruce limits, 50 cents per mile. Spruce limits only, 25 cents per mile.

That the valuation of limits for the purpose of assessment be established by the council.

That the annual meeting be held on the first week in August of each year alternately in the cities of Quebec and Ottawa, when the President, Council and officers shall be elected by ballot, and that reports of the Council of the preceding year be submitted.

That any firm, corporation or banking institution having an interest in licenses may be represented by not exceeding five members of such firm, corporation or banking institution, who shall be entitled to vote, having paid their annual fee.

That the President or Vice-President and any two members of the council shall be empowered at any time to call a special meeting of the Association, should the occasion in their opinion require it.

Mr. Thomson, at the request of the Chairman, rose to explain to the meeting the objects of the movement, and also as to what had already been done. He thought the resolutions were very explicit. The real matter now before them was the appointment of a suitable committee to work at and endeavor to accomplish all that the limit holders at present desired, more especially to give their licenses a title, which had recently been seriously injured by the action of the Legislature. He thought such could be accomplished, though were he to give them his view as to by what means, he was afraid he might defeat the very object they had in view. It was one of those things that would have to be done by a few men and not by a great number or by an individual. He felt confident from what he had learned from some of the leading members of the Dominion and local cabinets that something of the kind would be done—something of the nature of a statute that would give their licenses a title. It was impor-

tant that they should appoint the best men they could select to set about petitioning the Legislature in the matter. "The act as it stood. He thought there were some mistaken views about it. He did not himself think that in its present form it would occasion any serious loss to lumbermen, or that it would seriously interfere with their operations, but it certainly had injured the title to the licenses. If, for instance, a man wanted to sell his licenses or to pledge them as security the title had decidedly suffered by the action of the Government. He believed they might be satisfied to let it rest as it stood, provided that they could get some legislation on the title.

Mr. Geo. Hague asked whether it had occurred to those who were initiating the movement that there was a power conferred upon the Dominion Government by the constitution, of disallowance of acts passed by the Provincial Legislature, and whether they would consider the advisability of asking that that power be exercised. There had been such an exercise during the past year, and he noticed in a statement of Sir John Macdonald's made recently, giving the reasons for such, that he emphasized the fact that the bill in question passed by the Legislature of Ontario would seriously affect the rights of property, that the rights of property were sacred, and that no legislation should ever be suffered to interfere with them. In the present case there was very plainly an interference with the rights of property, though probably, as they had heard, there might not be much practical interference with the actual working of the lumber business for some time to come. But with respect to the value of property, the power of disposing of property or of giving security for money bonds on property, all those questions were very seriously involved. It was a matter for serious consideration whether the Dominion Government should not be approached and an endeavor made to induce them to exercise their power of disallowance.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and agreed to, clause by clause.

On the suggestion of Hon. John Hamilton the following clause was added:—

That not exceeding one member of any firm, corporation or banking institute shall be eligible to election as a member or officer of the Council.

Mr. E. H. Bronson, of Ottawa, also moved the addition of the following clause:—

That it is desirable that the President to be elected shall be a resident of Quebec, and the Vice-President a resident of Ottawa; and the Council shall be constituted of four members from the Quebec and Three Rivers District, and of three members from the Ottawa District.

At Mr. Thomson's suggestion the following clause was also added:—

That the President, Vice-President and Council shall have power to fill any vacancies that may occur in their board from time to time.

It was moved by the Hon. John Hamilton, seconded by Mr. P. McNaughton, "That the sincere thanks of this association are due and are hereby tendered to the Legislative Council of Quebec for their prompt and energetic action in protecting the vested rights of property."—Carried.

A vote of thanks to the editor of the *Quebec Morning Chronicle*, for his able advocacy of the rights of the limit holders, in the columns of his paper was unanimously passed.

The election of officers by ballot was then proceeded with, Messrs. McNaughton and Eddy acting as scrutineers. The result was as follows:—President, Mr. Andrew Thompson; Vice-President, Mr. W. G. Perley. Members of Council—Messrs. T. Girouard, A. Baptist, J. King, P. McNaughton, Quebec; Peter White, Pembroke; E. H. Bronson, Ottawa; Hon. John Hamilton, Hawksbury.

A vote of thanks to the Corn Exchange having been passed for the loan of the room in which the meeting was held,

Mr. E. H. Bronson was desirous that it should go forth to the public that they were not opposed to *bona fide*, legitimate settlers, and that in advocating what they felt to be their own interests in the matter, they were really advocating what were actually in the interests of the public.

The speaker alluded at length to the undesirability of ceding timbered territory to railroad companies, and thought it would be well if the Council were to press on the Government the desirability of isolating all sections of country that were purely timbered sections, for the purpose of harvesting the timber, so that revenue to be derived from the proper use of that timber might not be lost to the province. There were agricultural lands within the bounds of the province that were not pine lands, that were amply sufficient for the wants of the average settlers, and by keeping settlers absolutely out of the timbered sections, the timber might be preserved until it was harvested in the proper manner.

A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

DIACHROMATISED WOOD.

The *Timber Trades Journal* says we had an opportunity this week of examining, at the Cannon Street Hotel, some specimens of a new process of wood decoration, styled "diachromatised wood," the patentee of which, Mr. Henry Chalk Webb, of Worcester, is about to transfer his useful invention to a limited company, the prospectus of which appears this week in our advertising columns. The invention consists in producing patterns on wood and other materials by injecting colours, which has the effect of inlaying or painting, and for flooring, dado, and other decorative purposes, it appears to be highly applicable. One great merit of the invention, apart from its beauty and inexpensiveness, is the fact that the colour being forced into the wood, under pressure, is not likely to be obliterated by any amount of wear which it might be subjected to; indeed, some specimens of flooring blocks of pitch pine, about one inch in thickness, which we examined, were completely soaked through, although we understand that dado and wall purposes it is found sufficient to force the colour in about one-sixteenth of an inch. It appears to us that the process is most successful in using the darker colours, such as those which are employed for producing on a piece of common fir the effects of inlaying in walnut, dark oak, mahogany, &c., while the treatment of the lighter coloured woods, such as sycamore, satinwood, &c., with such colours as pink and blue, does not produce such a real or artistic effect. This remark, however, does not apply to a remarkably handsome piece of wall dado, prettily made of American walnut, satinwood, and bird eye maple, "diachromatised" in mauve, black, and other colours, in a florid, artistic pattern, and having all the appearance of a good specimen of inlaid work.

For public halls, churches, libraries, and also private houses, we should say that this invention only requires to be known to acquire great favor with the public. We may add that amongst the directors we notice the names of several gentlemen well known in the timber trade.

A FORESTERS' JOURNAL.

Notwithstanding the vast importance to the people of the United States of the question of forestry, it has hitherto, or until very recently, received an inconsiderable amount of attention, particularly from the daily press and publications not specially devoted to such industries as have wood for a basis. Of late, however, and especially since the late forestry congress in Cincinnati, both the press and people have evinced a much deeper interest in the subject. In every section of the country the danger is evidently becoming apparent, that the reckless destruction of timber which has hitherto characterized our history, if persisted in further, will utterly denude our forests and be the source of incalculable and irreparable loss. So apparent has this become, and so great is the desire for information on the subject of forestry, that the necessity for a periodical devoted specially thereto has presented itself, and we are glad to chronicle the fact that Dr. Franklin B. Hough, chief of the forestry department of agriculture at Washington, has undertaken to supply the deficiency. An exchange says, in reference to this subject, that a journal devoted to the dissemination of such information will have a wide field before it and may do a good work. The education of the people on this question,

just begun by the agitation of those interested in forestry, ought to be carried forward; and the periodical is now one of the most successful of educating influences. The efforts of a few enthusiastic advocates of a forestry system have awakened the country from its past apathy, and there is scope for the talent which will be attracted to this new phase of the subject, in forming and directing public opinion as to the future course of a work of national importance and dimensions. Dr. Hough's general information on the subject of forestry, acquired by years of research and study, especially adapt him for the work he has undertaken. His qualification for the self-imposed duty are not surpassed by any writer on forestry on the continent. His name will be a tower of strength and influence in the outset, which will give the publication a boom which will carry with it an insurance of success.—*Lumberman's Gazette.*

THE FRENCH TIMBER TRADE.

La Gironde (Bordeaux) of 22nd May, makes the following observations with regard to the different descriptions of wood goods:—

HOUSEBUILDING.—The principal feature in this branch which at present has attracted the greatest attention is the chartering, and several more vessels have been chartered, some easily, others with difficulty, amongst which we may mention several steamers from the Bothnian Gulf at current rates and usual conditions. The treaty of commerce with Sweden and Norway has now come into force, and flooring boards have to pay duty in consequence, from which circumstance the consumer must pay a higher price on the square metre.

Canadian news received this week reports that the spruce stocks are very firmly held.

The arrivals of late have been very few; one from Gothenburg, one from Fredrikstadt, and two from Dantzig.

The French steamer *Panama* has been chartered from St. John for Havre, St. Nazaire, or Bordeaux, with deals, at the low rate of 53s.

STAVES.—The usual market of St. Fort, although not having the same importance as before the ravages of the phylloxera, has been larger this year than during any of the latter ones. The business done has been on the whole satisfactory, and a very good tone seems to pervade the market. This improvement was much needed, as the market went down every year since 1876, when stocks were large and the consumption small. At the present stocks are very small, and with a restricted importation one has every hope to look forward to an improvement, provided the vine harvest proves good this year.

The Austrian shipments to this place have been very few during the last two months, and will be the same during May. At present there are no arrivals to announce. Freight, 6 to 6.50 fs. per hundred per sailing vessel, and 20 to 22 fs. per ton by steamer.

DECAY OF THE SPRUCE.

The following letter appears in the *Montreal Witness*:—

SIR,—I have read carefully the letters of Messrs. Hall and Rose in your valuable paper regarding the decay in spruce trees. The spruce in this part of the townships are also suffering from the same seemingly unknown disease, and the letter of Mr. Rose explains exactly what is taking place here. When the trees show the first symptoms of decay a small worm is noticed between the bark and the sapwood, and where those worms are found the bark in peeling time adheres firmly to the tree. Whether these worms are the cause of the trees dying I cannot say. It is certain, however, that fully one-third of our best spruce timber is already dead and useless, and the disease is still spreading. This will be a great loss to owners of wild lands in the Dominion, as spruce is now becoming as valuable as pine was some twenty years ago. The same disease seems also to be attacking the hemlock, though as yet to a less extent.

Kingsbury, P.Q., June 2nd, 1882.

"AND FOOLS who came to scoff remained to pray."—We receive many letters from those having tried while doubting, yet were entirely cured of dyspepsia and liver troubles with Zopos, Clergymen write us earnestly as to its wonderful effects.