

Lachlin Bros., and one or two others, account for the increased production.

The export of forest products from the consular district of Ottawa to the United States, as furnished by the United States Consulate General, shows a gain over 1896 of about \$500,000. The detailed figures for three years are as follows :

EXPORTS FROM OTTAWA CONSULAR DISTRICT FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1895.

ARTICLE	Qr ending March 31.	Qr ending June 30.	Qr ending Sept. 30.	Qr ending Dec. 31.
Bark.....	\$ 1,704.00	\$ 3,572.20	\$ 6,528.00	\$ 4,215.00
Lath and Shingles.....	6,447.70	28,102.29	24,908.55	23,027.84
Logs and Timber.....	159.95	1,587.26	1,717.25	1,717.25
Lumber.....	351,751.30	586,114.47	625,745.15	597,903.64
" in bond for expt.....	3,585.69	17,232.95	35,341.07	47,046.93
Match Blocks.....	1,420.20	18,239.39	14,478.94	19,309.10
Pulp, Sulphite.....	17,570.57	3,090.73	3,406.72	6,254.64
Pickets.....	450.00	5,950.10	3,307.30	4,828.40
Railroad Ties.....				
Total.....	\$381,254.66	\$659,489.88	\$715,303.99	\$704,312.80

EXPORTS FROM OTTAWA CONSULAR DISTRICT FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1896.

ARTICLE	Qr ending March 31.	Qr ending June 30.	Qr ending Sept. 30.	Qr ending Dec. 31.
Bark.....	\$ 1,704.00	\$ 3,572.20	\$ 27,415.38	\$ 22,283.65
Lath.....	3,572.20	297,205.15	658,803.82	514,979.02
Pulp, Sulphite.....	16,078.95	12,332.28	8,039.53	3,763.12
Cordwood.....	30.00	14.75	14.75	14.75
Shingles.....	2,160.95	6,651.19	6,957.48	15,178.25
Railroad Ties.....	6,591.82	5,469.84	888.20	636.00
Logs.....	129.00			
Timber.....	425.89	1,960.50	5,245.82	154.32
Pickets.....	5,391.96	749.97	964.74	
Curtain Sticks.....		3,583.73	3,704.92	
Match Blocks.....		2,729.25	731.25	900.00
Posts and Poles.....		93.00		30.00
Pulpwood.....		357.50	297.00	
Total.....	\$333,349.02	\$720,228.95	\$569,223.34	\$543,401.52

EXPORTS FROM OTTAWA CONSULAR DISTRICT FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1897.

ARTICLE	Qr ending March 31.	Qr ending June 30.	Qr ending Sept. 30.	Qr ending Dec. 31.
Bark.....	\$ 520.00	\$ 10,466.28	\$ 3,069.47	\$ 14,097.42
Curtain Sticks.....	7,379.99	24,351.24	14,163.22	14,097.42
Lath.....	467,151.05	1,334,069.79	364,050.63	191,648.80
Logs.....	220.00			
Match Blocks.....	966.60	27,880.83	288.33	594.00
Pickets.....	6,894.39	3,823.13	1,979.62	
Posts and Poles.....	146.50	1,232.65		495.05
Pulp, Sulphite.....		12,600.02	15,225.90	2,746.61
Pulpwood.....		228.00		132.00
Shingles.....	5,724.01	14,641.81	8,134.17	5,475.51
Railroad Ties.....		4,738.80	8,203.42	2,712.24
Timber.....		220.20	3,259.77	1,001.50
Total.....	\$489,002.54	\$1,434,360.65	\$418,374.53	\$218,813.13

Grand Total, 1895	1896	1897
\$2,460,352.23	\$2,170,990.80	\$2,560,550.85

It will be observed that for the quarter ending June 30th, 1897, lumber was exported to the United States to the value of \$1,334,069.79. This is the heaviest quarter's shipments on record, and was induced by the approaching import duty on lumber.

Work in the woods this winter in the Georgian Bay district is being carried on moderately. Canadian firms are operating in a limited manner, but any falling off in this direction is counterbalanced by the extensive operations of Michigan firms. In the Ottawa valley a slight curtailment of the log input is reported.

QUEBEC.

The export trade from the province of Quebec was exceedingly active up to September. Then an advance in freight rates and a weakening of the British market checked shipments to some extent. Those who rushed their goods forward early in the season were the more fortunate, and closed the year with large profits. Others have had a fairly successful season, but have suffered somewhat from the immense production of spruce deals by the maritime provinces. As a result of heavy stocks shipped to South America in late years, that country took very little lumber in 1897. From the port of Montreal there were shipped to the River Platte only 417,505 feet, a decrease of 7,372,661 feet as compared with the previous year. There are indications, however, that this market will revive in the near future, provided the policy of restricting shipments is adhered to. The exports from Quebec ports were chiefly to Great Britain, which continues to consume an increasing quantity of pine and spruce deals. Manufacturers who cater to the United States trade report an unsatisfactory year. The margin of profit was small, and stock sold after the imposition of the duty was, in a measure, sacrificed.

From the port of Montreal the exports show a gain over the previous year of over 100,000,000 feet, the total being 320,802,733 feet, valued at \$5,272,164. Much of this was the production of the Ottawa valley. The following table shows the exports of timber made by the principal shippers from the port of Montreal for the season 1897, with a comparison with the previous year :

	1897—Feet.	1896—Feet.
Dobell, Beckett & Co.....	98,000,000	54,000,000
W. & J. Sharples.....	56,829,640	44,869,840
R. Cox & Co.....	38,125,185	26,117,300
J. Burstall & Co.....	36,319,608	24,521,007
McArthur Bros.....	32,786,506	19,192,515
Watson & Todd.....	30,359,130	25,642,000
E. H. Lemay.....	8,000,000	4,932,000
Sundry shippers.....	3,218,227	21,828,927
Total.....	300,420,069	221,003,609

The figures below give the quantity and value, in detail, of timber, deals and sawn lumber, etc., exported from Montreal during the season of navigation ending 30th November, 1897 :

Description.	Quantity.	Value.
Battens.....		\$ 2,784
Deals, pine, standard hundreds.....	70,569	3,478,843
Deals, spruce and other, standard hundreds.....	13,683	432,148
Deal ends, standard hundreds.....	7,157	353,346
Palings, standard hundreds.....	30,502	590
Planks and boards, million feet.....	35,510,726	739,031
Scantlings, million feet.....	289,190	6,676
Staves, etc.....		34,004
All other lumber.....		51,884
Timber, sq. ash, tons.....	1,787	16,920
" sq. birch, tons.....	5,801	55,951
" sq. elm, tons.....	1,808	18,507
" sq. maple, tons.....	97	1,111
" sq. oak, tons.....	395	5,781
" sq. white pine, tons.....	4,460	57,723
All other, tons.....	643	26,865
Total.....		\$5,272,164

The following statement shows the quantity, in standard hundreds, and value of wood exported from the ports named :

PORTS.	ARTICLES.	QUANTITY.	VALUE.
Three Rivers and Bastiacan.....	Pine Deals.....	2,065 Std. H.	\$23,940
	Spruce Deals.....	3,122 " "	105,995
	Deal Ends.....	122 " "	4,638
	Planks, Boards, Etc.....	15,837 M. ft.	149,429
	Pulp Wood Spruce.....	51,922 " "	193,482
	Other Headings.....		5,419
	Total value.....		\$528,813
Sorel.....	Pine Deals.....	154 Std. H.	\$ 6,327
	Spruce Deals.....	3,502 " "	108,532
	Planks, Boards, Etc.....	2,280 " "	20,005
Total value.....		\$134,864	

The timber trade of Quebec is reviewed by J. Bell Forsyth's annual circular, which is now recognized as an authority on the subject :

The business of the port has shown a marked increase in the shipment of lumber over recent years, and spruce deals have been heavily exported. The shipment of pine deals from Montreal, which is largely in the hands of Quebec houses, has been unprecedented in extent. Continued dullness in the United States market, with the imposition of a tariff duty by that country on sawn wood goods, has induced increased shipments of boards and sidings, both pine and spruce, to the United Kingdom.

Prices have been well maintained, except in spruce deals, which have fallen heavily in value in the United Kingdom, owing to excessive shipments from the maritime provinces. Producers of Ottawa and other pine deals should give timely consideration to the lesson, and by keeping manufacture within limits, prevent a similar result in their goods.

A comparative statement for three years of the timber measured and culled by the Supervisor of Cullers at Quebec is as follows :

	1895. Cubic Ft.	1896. Cubic Ft.	1897. Cubic Ft.
Waney white pine.....	3,086,469	2,870,879	4,311,340
Square white pine.....	273,771	316,093	832,589
Red pine.....	108,601	50,609	211,217
Oak.....	1,006,139	1,139,155	1,448,960
Elm.....	596,137	416,625	666,577
Ash.....	149,077	83,749	132,435
Birch.....	240,818	252,424	262,297

WHITE PINE.—With a larger supply and heavier shipment, the stock shows some increase over the unprecedentedly light one of last winter, but is by no means excessive and is largely in merchants' hands. The production of waney pine will be considerably under that of last year, and a marked improvement in the United States would at any time cut off the Michigan supply.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1897 { Square	832,589	3,733,040	482,849 Square.
{ Waney	4,311,340		2,288,249 Waney.
1896 { Square	316,093	4,251,800	537,013 Square.
{ Waney	2,870,879		1,474,168 Waney.

RED PINE.—The stock is sufficient for reduced requirements of trade, and little is being made, as the price is too low to induce manufacture, and the demand is only for superior wood, which is scarce.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1897.....	211,217	168,760	183,552
1896.....	50,609	139,160	82,069

OAK.—Shipments have been very heavy as compared with recent years. The stock is not excessive for business on a similar scale, as production will be diminished.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1897.....	1,448,960	1,412,200	694,111
1896.....	1,145,564	1,382,880	637,348

ELM has been in good demand all the season, but the difficulty of securing suitable wood will prevent an over-supply, and eventually bring about a scarcity.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1897.....	662,577	587,080	163,835
1896.....	416,625	501,000	78,374

ASH is not wanted in the United Kingdom, and stock is probably more than ample for next season's requirements. Even large average wood of first-class quality and good white color is sold with difficulty.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1897.....	132,435	76,200	92,766
1896.....	3,749	113,680	42,694

BIRCH is not in demand, as cheap African mahogany has to some considerable extent taken its place. Manufacturers should restrict production, especially of short wood under ten feet long.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1897.....	262,297	214,080	24,712
1896.....	251,430	319,200	9,470

PINE DEALS.—Quebec business is small and quite secondary to the heavy and increasing one carried on in Montreal by Quebec houses. Twelve months back it seemed that the prompt completion of short rail connection through Hawkesbury with the Ottawa district might bring a large portion of the business this way. The delay, in all probability, has been finally fatal to the realization of these hopes.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1897.....	601,864	49,716	168,885
1896.....	657,264	400,343	142,410

SPRUCE DEALS are in a most unsatisfactory condition, and unless the excessive increase of production, especially in the maritime provinces, is curtailed and brought within previous bounds, there can be no improvement.

The business in pulp-wood continues to increase, but business in sawn spruce lumber with the United States is restricted by the recently imposed duty.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1897.....	3,049,322	1,738,107	1,071,313
1896.....	3,915,455	3,828,258	573,413

SAWN LUMBER.—There has been very little demand for spruce for River Platte. Towards the end of the season owing to the light shipments a few cargoes were sold at a slight advance on last year's prices, and the stock wintering being very short as compared with former years, an improvement is looked for next season.

FREIGHTS have followed the same course as last year, though the advance towards end of season came earlier, and was more marked, ton-