

PREFACE TO THE FRENCH EDITION.

The Province of Quebec is a marvel among the countries of the western hemisphere in respect of its water powers and its forests. So far as geographical discoveries have disclosed, no region of the earth is possessed of water-powers so numerous and on such a colossal scale. Hundreds of these powers are yet unutilized, and many rivers, known, from the elevations they traverse, to contain large water-powers, are still unexplored by white men. In northern and eastern Quebec, and accessible to many of these rivers, are vast stretches of timber land, specially adapted to the production of pulp, and the province is peopled by a race of men who cannot be equalled for their skill in wood craft. As ample water supply is an essential to the manufacture of mechanical wood pulp, here is a combination of circumstances which ought to make Quebec the greatest pulp and paper manufacturing country in the world. To realize this great distinction, it is only necessary that the people of the province should first understand the facts and then have the patience and determination to move towards their destiny.

It will be shown in this pamphlet that the benefits created by a pulp and paper industry within our own borders are from ten to a hundred times greater than those arising from the sale of pulpwood for export, and if the export of pulp-wood is prohibited and foreigners are compelled to manufacture here, it will be but a short time before these benefits are realized in the development of this country, simply because the presses of the United States and other countries must have their supplies, and if these are not available at home, they must be obtained in Canada, or in other pulp producing countries. If, with the intention of retaliating, the United States should obtain its supplies of pulp from Scandinavia, then the absorption of the extra supply from Scandinavia would take that much out of the British and European markets and by raising the price there, so open the British and European markets to Canadian pulp. There is no doubt that the world's supply of raw material for pulp and paper is diminishing, not increasing, and the fact that American mills are each year becoming more and more dependent on Canada for the supplies of pulpwood which their own depleted forests can no longer furnish, puts it out of the power of that country effectively to retaliate against Canada for any new policy we may adopt to protect our own interests. The United States is not likely to attempt any such retaliation. There is no measure that country could take which would not work a greater injury to itself than to Canada. The simple fact that Canada buys twice as much from the United States as the United States does from Canada (the exact figures for 1906 being \$97,806,552 of exports to the United States, and \$175,862,071 of imports from the United States, largely manufactured goods), shows who would suffer most from tariff recrimination.

It is in the power of the Dominion, but not of the Provincial, Government to prohibit such exports.