



THE CANADA LUMBERMAN

DEVOTED TO THE LUMBER AND WOOD WORKING
INTERESTS OF THE DOMINION.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

A. G. MORTIMER, PETERBOROUGH, ONT.

Terms of Subscription:

One copy, one year, in advance \$1 00
One copy, six months, in advance 0 50

Advertising rates furnished on application.

All communications, orders and remittances should be addressed and made payable to A. G. MORTIMER, Peterborough, Ont.

Communications intended for insertion in the CANADA LUMBERMAN, must be accompanied by the name of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. Communications to insure insertion (if accepted) in the following number, should be in the hands of the publishers a week before the date of the next issue.

Advertisements intended for insertion in any particular issue should reach the office of publication at least six clear days before the day of publication, to insure insertion.

The CANADA LUMBERMAN is filed at the Offices of Messrs SAMUEL DEACON & Co., 154 Londonhall Street, London, England, who also receive advertisements and subscriptions for this paper.

Our Readers who write to Advertisers in this Journal, will oblige both the advertiser and Publisher by mentioning the "Canada Lumberman."

PETERBOROUGH, ONT., MARCH, 1887.

It is authoritatively stated that the Export Lumber Company, of New York, has contracted for 41,000,000 feet of timber in Canada, involving a consideration of nearly \$700,000.

MR. ALEXANDER McEWEEN, timber merchant, Caithness Steam Saw mills, Wick, N. B., has taken into partnership his son, John McEwen and his son Alexander James McEwen, both of them having been for many years associated with him in the business, and henceforth the style of the firm will be Alexander McEwen & Sons, timber merchants, Wick, N. B.

THE Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, in his speech from the Throne, on the occasion of the opening of the Ontario Legislature, February 10th, said that the question of the right to the timber and minerals in the territory awarded to Ontario by the Privy Council, has been carried to the Supreme Court where it stands for judgment. Will the people ever hear the last of this question?

THE heavy tax imposed by the Province of New Brunswick on all wood cut from Provincial or Crown Lands, seems to have had a bad effect on the trade. Every influence has been brought to bear on the representatives of the Local Legislature to make a reduction on this tax, but so far nothing has been done in the matter. It is to be hoped that something satisfactory to the lumbermen will be done in this matter at the next session of the Provincial Parliament.

THE *Journal of Commerce*, Montreal, lately presented figures showing the decline of Quebec's lumber and timber shipping interests, and a corresponding increase at Montreal. The decline at Quebec is seen in this, that in 1877, vessels to the number of 796 cleared from that port, loaded with an aggregate of 670,627 tons of lumber and timber, while in 1886 the number of vessels was only 325, with cargoes aggregating 250,635 tons. In 1877 only 10 vessels cleared from Montreal, with 3,400,000 feet of lumber and timber; but in 1886 the amount of superficial feet of lumber and timber shipments amounted to 98,277,000 feet.

"BOOK-KEEPING for Country Storekeepers" is the suggestive title of an article published in the February issue of *The Off* from the pen of Mr. E. R. C. Clarkson, of Toronto, Ont. Mr. Clarkson's effort is to show how country storekeepers may keep their accounts so as to know how they stand at all times, and steer clear of the shoals of insolvency. His paper is accompanied by some illustrations of journal, forms differing in some of their features from the conventional book-keeping of the schools, but the use of which would facilitate the commendable results that he has in view. *The Off* is published at 205 Broadway, New York, and every issue is replete with articles of interest and importance to accountants and business men.

THE projected bridge across the St. Lawrence river, at Quebec, has been the cause of much discussion among the members of the city council of the ancient capital, but from latest accounts it seems that the resolutions on the subject have now received the sanction of that body. It is estimated that to erect a bridge of a character desired, that three millions of dollars will have to be raised. The harbor commissioner of Quebec proposes to submit the trade of the port to a tax sufficient to pay the interest on this sum of money, but it is not likely that his idea will be carried out, for the reason that it is not entirely a local work.

OUR American contemporaries are discussing the merits and demerits of a new company which has lately been organized by some of the Pacific coast lumbermen, to test the efficacy of a plan of controlling the market for their output—that of actually marketing the entire mill product through a special corporation. The new company will purchase the lumber from the mills, and distribute it wherever a market may be found, either local or export. It is expected that by this method competition will be avoided, expenses lightened, and profits increased. The prospects are that the new idea will prove a success, so long as the business retains manageable proportions, but no longer.

ON pages 4 and 5 of this issue of the LUMBERMAN we publish an almost complete report of the lecture delivered by Prof. John Macoun, F. L. S., F. R. S. C., before the Carriage Makers Institute, in London, Eng. It is so full of interest and vital importance to Canadian lumbermen, that we have no doubt but that all our readers will give it a careful reading. We are pretty safe in asserting that no other man in Canada is better posted in "lumber lore" than Mr. Macoun, and it is a pleasure to note that he is bringing his knowledge into practical use. It is a satisfaction to be able to inform our readers that this gentleman will hereafter be a regular contributor to the LUMBERMAN.

AMONG the many attractions at the late ice carnival in Montreal was the Lumbermen's Camp, which was appropriately placed under large trees on Phillips Square. Within the camp the scene was a typical one, true to life in every particular. In the centre blazed a large fire of logs, while over this was suspended the *chandeliers*, in which are concocted the *soupe aux pois* and other such delicacies. At one end are arranged the sleeping bunks, providing room for ten men. In the rear extension is the cook's shanty, and the dining table. Here a regular bill-of-fare was provided at a nominal figure, and from all accounts a large number of people availed themselves of the novelty provided. Mr. W. Parker acted as *chef de cuisine*.

So far as can be learned from different sources throughout the Dominion, the lumber trade has had no reason to complain of the amount of business done, and the probabilities are that trade will continue to increase. During January there was an advance of 50 per cent. over the business of the corresponding year. Prices rule about the same, with a prospect of an advance in certain quarters. In the Ottawa district it is said that lumbermen are indifferent about having more logs cut this season until a better opportunity offers to have them taken out. In all probability the cut will be large during the coming season, and with the already perceptible improvement in the English market, it can fairly be conceded that the export will far exceed that of last year.

It is expected that the Provincial Governments of Ontario and Quebec will withdraw from the existing arrangement for the collection of the timber dues in the Ottawa district. At present the Dominion slide dues, and Ontario and Quebec timber duties are collected by the Ottawa Crown timber office, the expense of maintaining the same being borne jointly by the Dominion Government and the Governments of the two Provinces, the appointment of the officials resting with the Dominion authorities. The Provincial Governments seem to think that a more economical arrangement might be made, by which the Crown timber revenues of the two Provinces may be collected jointly without reference to the Federal Government.

AN English exchange in reviewing the lumber trade of that country during the year 1886, points out that a deficiency existed of 803,787 loads of timber, compared with the year previous. London, as the leviathan of the trade, fell short by 170,000 loads; Liverpool, which is unrivalled for second place, 87,000; Barrow gave way 22,000 loads; Bristol, 36,000; Cardiff, only 16,000; Gloucester 37,000; Grimsby, 66,000; Hartlepool, 48,000; and Hull, the capital of the east coast, only 19,000; Lynn, 13,000; Newcastle, 20,000; Newport (Mon.), 59,000 (a very fluctuating market); Plymouth, 8,000; Shields (N. & S.), 22,000; Sunderland, 29,000; Swansea, 14,000; Wisbech, 16,000. Then Scottish ports: Aberdeen, 41,000; Alloa, 10,000; Dundee, 7,000; Grangemouth, 56,000; Granton, 19,000; and Greenock, 17,000 loads. Then in Ireland: Belfast is 12,000; Dublin, 19,000; Waterford, 3,000 loads short of their supply in 1885.

A HALF century's incessant onslaught by saw mills and tanneries on the once dense forests of pine and hemlock in the counties of Northwestern Pennsylvania and the adjoining counties of New York State, has at last virtually exhausted them. Out of 150 immense tanneries in operation fifteen years ago, it is said that there is not enough bark left to keep more than half a dozen in operation to-day, and not more than one of these can be run over three years longer. The same state of affair exists in Wayne County, which, ten years ago, sent annually to market 125,000,000 feet of hemlock lumber. To-day not more than one-quarter of that amount is cut. In Canada we find ourselves in a similar position, and the fact is to be regretted for the reason that it is only of late that the true value of hemlock has been recognized by cabinet makers and others engaged in the utilization of wood.

ADVICES from Miramichi ports indicate that although the export from the principal spruce ports has been curtailed, that from Nova Scotia, as well as from the smaller ports in New Brunswick—places not having the heavy stumpage tax to contend with—the export has been increased. This has brought the total export for 1886 nearly up to that of 1885. Notwithstanding this, and also the fact that freights ruled lower than in any previous season, the business has been unprofitable, the consumer and not the producer receiving the benefit. The shipments from this port during 1886 were less than half what that they were in 1877, 1880 or 1883, but it is not expected that any further decrease will take place, in view of the fact that the sawing power has lately been doubled, and only part of this was utilized during the past season. The stocks of both manufactured and unmanufactured woods on hand are estimated at twenty-five millions superficial feet.

AN investigation was lately undertaken in the Michigan legislature looking to the abolishment of those dens of iniquity called "stockades," which abound in the lumber and mining regions of the northern peninsula of that state. An exchange in commenting on this subject uses the following strong but expressive language: "Ordinary debauchery, when under the eye of municipal police, is shocking enough, but when the lowest order of brutes, in the semblance of men, seek the seclusion of the almost illimitable forest, and there establish houses of prostitution, into which they entice the dissolute of both sexes, and where horrors and cruelties too deep for conception can be perpetrated without scrutiny of law, it becomes a damnable disgrace to any class of men who wink at it, and a double-dyed stain on the state that permits it. And when ignorant or unsuspecting girls, whether wholly innocent or not, are inveigled from their city homes, and spirited away to become slaves in such dens, as has in several instances been proved, the outrage becomes so intense and stupendous that words are impotent to adequately characterize it."

WITH the object of more thoroughly introducing the CANADA LUMBERMAN to the trade of Canada, the United States and England, we have undertaken the work of issuing, on Friday 1st April, next, a special edition of six thousand copies. Every effort is being made to make this edition, both in size and nature of contents in advance of anything yet introduced by the trade press of Canada. Some of the best authorities on the lumber trade, in every Province of the Dominion, will contribute to make this special effort a success and one worthy of the great industry whose interests it is intended to represent. By reference to the prospectus to be found on page 18 of this issue, full particulars regarding advertising space, etc., are made known. At no other season of the year will an investment in advertising pay so well as at present, and it is to be hoped that wholesale lumber merchants, manufacturers and others, will make free use of the pages of THE LUMBERMAN next issue. It is intended that every man engaged in the lumbering and wood-working branches of trade in Canada, will receive a copy of this issue. The wants of anyone making application by letter will be promptly attended to.

THE month that has intervened since the last issue of THE LUMBERMAN, is one which will long be remembered by Canadians as a period of political turmoil second to none in the annals of this country. For three weeks previous to election day business was practically at a standstill, and men were left to indulge to their heart's content in the discussion of the vital issues before the country. Fortunately, the elections in this country are hurried through in a few weeks, instead of piecemeal and periodical elections months ahead of the time when officials and legislators enter on their duties, as is the case in the United States. The one great issue of the late campaign was that of the National Policy, and notwithstanding Mr. Blake's expressions of friendship towards a protective tariff, the issue became none the less interesting and on this the electors cast their votes. The question of secession in Nova Scotia came in for a considerable amount of discussion from both sides, and it is pleasing to note that a large majority of the people of that Province are still loyal to confederation. The Nova Scotian difficulty will doubtless be settled by concession and possibly a rearrangement of the tariff. This province has as much Home Rule as Ireland would gladly