

SABLE ST. MARIE people are delighted in the anticipation of an unusual boom this year. Two great American trunk railroads are to be built to that point from the west, and two from the Canadian side. The Hay lake channel is to be deepened, and the canal enlarged for vessels of heavy tonnage. Building operations will be carried on with great vigor and real estate is going up rapidly. From present indications the "Soo" is likely to become a place of no mean importance.

An unusual amount of changes and improvements are going on this spring among the saw mills, which of itself indicates that the lumber trade is prospering. New mills are being erected in different parts of the country, while many others are being overhauled and the latest improved machinery added. In this, as in all other branches of trade, operators are continually tearing down and building, in order to keep pace with the demands of the trade, and as a consequence manufacturers of the latest style of machinery are reaping a harvest.

One evil effect of the proposed enormous ground rents of Quebec timber limits is that it would drive the limit owners to strip them as speedily as possible, so as to free themselves quickly from the heavy rent. This would for the moment help to fill the Quebec treasury through an artificial influx of anticipated income, but this would be no gain as it will only be robbing the revenue of future years of the receipts that would naturally accrue then. It would be equivalent to the case of a tenant for life, or for a term, "wasting" the timber on the property.

NOTWITHSTANDING the very sensational reports concerning the financial crisis in New Brunswick, which have been published in Canadian and American papers, it is now evident that the state of affairs is not by any means as serious as was at first generally supposed. The after results of the failure of the Maritime Bank, the private bank of McLennan & Co., the lumber firms of Stewart Bros. and Geo. McLeod, while certainly affecting to a greater or less extent the operations of other firms, did not result nearly as disastrous as the public at first imagined. Confidence is now being restored, and it is not probable that further failures of any importance will occur.

FROM the Trade and Navigation returns for the last fiscal year we learn that the amount of export duties collected on saw logs &c., was \$20,726.07. Of this \$2,869.46 was on pine logs, \$17,585.11 on spruce logs, and \$271.50 on shingle bolts. This is an improvement on preceding years, but it can hardly be supposed that the duty was very closely collected especially on pine logs or the sum would be larger. This was before the increase of the duty, which will make an increase for the current year. Every effort should be made to collect these duties in all cases, so as to protect our lumbermen and mill owners from the unfair competition of our neighbors.

THE pine forests of Michigan are getting played out. Although lumbering is carried on to a large extent there is not nearly as much timber exported as ten years ago. Indiscriminate chopping has done its work. The men would cut a sapling down rather than run a log around it. No thought was given to the future, and now the lumbermen have to be content with timber that a few years ago they would not have thought worth cutting. The result of the havoc which the men played among the young trees is that the State Legislature is being petitioned to pass a Forestry Act making it unlawful to cut down trees under a certain thickness.

WE take pleasure in drawing attention to the full page display in this issue of the Canadian Rubber Co., of Montreal and Toronto. This extensive company recently made large additions to their factory, and are about increasing their already large capital of \$1,000,000 to double that sum, in order to more fully keep pace with their rapidly growing trade from every point throughout the Dominion. The many friends of Mr. Walker, manager of the Toronto branch, will be pleased to learn that he has fully recovered from his recent severe illness, and is again in his old quarters, better than ever prepared to attend to the wants of his customers.

AN idea of the magnitude and relative importance of the timber trade industries of Canada may be obtained from the Trade and Navigation tables for the last financial year. The exports of "Produce of the Forest" amounted to the enormous sum of \$22,865,087. This ranks in almost the foremost place, "Animals and their Products" coming first with \$23,077,513, "Agricultural Products" being next with \$21,441,817. And in the amount thus given for forest products is not included carts and carriages \$25,992, ships \$266,363, furniture, doors, sashes and other manufactures of wood \$685,466, besides other items. Thus it will be seen that as regards the value of their export, the timber trade stand first among the industries of the Dominion.

THERE are expressions of discontent in British Columbia and a portion of the Northwest Territories in regard to the freights charged for the carriage of lumber by the C. P. R. Hitherto the C. P. R. has earned a favorable reputation for reasonable freights, and it should take care not to forfeit its good character in this respect. Its monopoly of transportation can only be endured through its acting fairly and even liberally in such matters. It is also for its own permanent advantage that it should aid in building up the country from which it must seek its customers if such a gigantic undertaking is to prove lastingly and progressively remunerative. The C. P. R. should carefully revise its rates for lumber, so as to remove any occasion for discontent. By a liberal policy it will best serve its own interests as well as those of the trade and of the public.

BUT few names in Canada are more familiar to the general public than that of Mr. E. B. Eddy, the great match man—who first established himself at Hull, Que., in 1854. He has of late years been among the heaviest lumber operators in Canada, in addition to which his extensive wood-working establishment is acknowledged to be one of the largest on the continent. During the past month we have been made acquainted with a change in name, Mr. Eddy having associated with himself a number of other gentlemen of capital and standing, who have formed themselves into what will hereafter be known as the "E. B. Eddy Manufacturing Co., Limited," a body corporate duly incorporated by an Act of Parliament, with a capital of one and a half million dollars. Mr. Eddy has been elected President of the company and also Managing Director; Mr. S. S. Cushman is the Vice-President, and Mr. W. H. Rowley, Secretary-Treasurer.

FROM the official report of the Commissioner of Crown Lands of the Province of Quebec, for the twelve months ending 30th June, 1886, we find that the total revenue for that period was \$630,475.82, made up as follows. Of the lands specially designated Crown Lands, there were 79,019 acres sold for the price of \$45,551.27; and the sum of \$52,450.35 was collected on account of these sales, and those of previous years, \$46,252.10 being derived from sales of land for agricultural purposes, and \$6,198.25 from those of mineral lands. The revenue derived from timber dues, ground rents, bonus, etc., is given as \$528,574.80. The result of the transactions of the Department of Crown Lands for the twelve months as stated above, is almost the same as that obtained in the preceding fiscal year. The figures show a slight decrease, but this is attributed to the fact that during this last period no extraordinary sale of either timber limits or mining locations took place, while in the year 1884-5, a sum of \$68,145.41 was derived from a very important sale of timber limits.

WE have before us parts VI and VII of "Architectural Studies," just issued by Van T. Comstock, of New York. The first of these is devoted to small and low-priced country houses, giving among them a number of designs that can be executed for \$1,000 or less. One is impressed, in looking over these designs, at seeing how much a little good taste can do for the improvement of houses where only a small sum of money is to be expended. The second of the two, part VII, is devoted to the interiors of moderate-cost houses, giving a large number of examples of window finish, wainscoting, window seats, staircases, hall and library finish, book shelves, china closets, mantels, bath room fittings, with full working details drawn to large scale, carrying out the idea of good, tasteful, but moderate-cost interior fittings, as part VI does that of good planning and well proportioned exteriors, the whole scheme being to furnish suggestions for building a good comfortable home, after a well thought out plan and within the limits of a moderate purse. They are published in paper, portfolio, at the cost of \$1 each.

THE *Southern Lumberman* being asked its sentiment regarding the admission of Canadian lumber into the United States, says:—"We favor a tariff on all lumber or timber brought into our ports, except such woods as do not grow in the United States. When we say tariff, we don't mean a tariff for revenue only, but a *protective*, or if you please a *prohibitory* tariff. We don't want any money sent from our country to pay for any kind of timber or lumber that we have for sale ourselves." Our contemporary very courteously acknowledges its selfishness, and when we reflect on the amount of grumbling that is going on among the trade across the lines because the Canadian Government has seen fit to protect our people against the slaughter of our forests in favor of the Americans, we cannot help but think that the average Yankee is indeed very selfish. Canadians don't grumble because the Americans choose to adopt a prohibitory tariff, on the other hand we rather like it, and consider that what's sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander. We propose to make our cousins pay for the woods that do not grow in the United States. We hold the trump card.

rails have to be shifted. Treasured elm and birch did well, and are to be recommended. Chestnut was unfortunately not included in the experiment, although it is considered one of the best woods for ties. The behavior of the catalpa was one of the most resting features of the case, all the ties of this wood being sound, except just under the rails, where they are crushed nearly to a pulp.

THE intention of the new Administration of Quebec to increase the provincial revenue at the expense of the lumbermen is one of most serious consequence for the trade in Quebec. Hitherto that Province has been disposed to foster rather than to discourage its greatest industry, so that the new policy is as startling as it is ill advised. Even as an expedient for augmenting the revenue, Mr. Mercier may find that he has made a false calculation in adopting this step. For the moment it may raise the receipts, but in the long run the effect may be the very contrary. Such an enormous increase in the ground rents as that from \$2 to \$5, must have a crushing effect upon the industry. If so it would be the old story of killing the goose that laid the golden eggs. If the business is rendered stagnant the receipts of rents, &c., may fall off instead of increase. Limits placed in the market would find bidders shy of property depreciated not only by heavy additional burden imposed upon it, but also by the uncertainty whether there might not be another sudden turn of the screw. And the depression and impoverishment of a great industry cannot have its baleful effects confined to those who have their capital invested in it. The vast army of men employed would also share in the loss and indeed its influence would pervade the whole community. It is to be hoped that the Quebec Ministry will yet reconsider a decision which must be so injurious if carried out.

As has been previously stated in THE LUMBERMAN it is quite probable that a still higher export duty on Canadian logs will be imposed during the present session of the Dominion Parliament. The lumbermen are asking for the change, in order to more fully diminish the shipments of forest produce in its unmanufactured state. It is to the interest of not only the lumber trade but the public in general, that whatever of our forest products finds a market in the United States, or any other country, should be sent in the shape of sawn lumber, thus securing additional employment for Canadians. Our American contemporary, the *Northwestern Lumberman*, thinks that the policy of the Dominion Government in regard to the export duty is of doubtful wisdom, for the reason, as it says, that it has the effect of checking the movement of Canadian logs to Lake Huron mills, on the American side, that had begun to assume important proportions. We are also called upon to reflect that "but for American enterprise and capital the lumber industry of Algoma and Muskoka would be of slow growth." We would remind our contemporary that Canadians are not as anxious to have their forest wealth slaughtered as it seems to imagine. Our object is to protect our forests as much as possible, so that in future years we will, unlike our cousins across the border, have something to fall back on. No attempt has been made to prevent Americans from cutting timber in this country, but when this privilege has been allowed we claim that it should be manufactured here also, or the alternative of a high export duty. Canadian lumbermen are sufficiently wide awake and have the capital necessary to do full justice to the lumber trade of Canada, but at the same time a welcome is extended to any outsider to open out operations here, provided they will comply with the just demands laid down by our government. It may fairly be open to question whether even if it is advisable that we should export considerable quantities of saw logs or lumber to the States, seeing that in a very few years we may need all that we can produce for our own use. If Americans complain so bitterly now about the duty on saw logs, what would be the result were our government to further restrict the output of forest productions, by putting an export duty on sawn lumber also? In consideration of the fact that Americans are so eager for our fish, forests, minerals, coal and other natural products we would suggest that they forsake that God-forsaken country, emigrate to Canada, and take the oath "For Queen and Country."