



DEVOTED TO THE LUMBER AND TIMBER
INTERESTS OF THE DOMINION.

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY BY THE
Peterborough Review Printing and Publishing
Company (Limited), Peterborough, Ont.

Terms of Subscription:

One copy, one year, in advance..... \$2 00
One copy, six months, in advance..... 1 00

Advertising Rates:

Per line, for one year..... \$0 50
Per line, for six months..... 30
Per line, for three months..... 20
Per line, for first insertion..... 10
Per line, for each subsequent insertion to 3 mo's..... 05
Cards not occupying more than 12 lines (1 inch)
per annum..... 8 00
Cards not occupying more than 12 lines (1 inch)
for six months..... 5 00
Cards not occupying more than 6 lines per annum..... 5 00
Cards not occupying more than 6 lines, for 6 mo's..... 3 00

Special rates will be made for page, half page and column advertisements.

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

All communications, orders and remittances should be addressed and made payable to THE PETERBOROUGH REVIEW PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY (LIMITED), 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.

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

PETERBOROUGH, Ont., SEPT. 1, 1884.

CONVENTION OF LUMBERMEN.

The Convention of the lumber manufacturers of the northwest was opened at the Grand Pacific Hotel, Chicago, on Aug. 20th. About 60 prominent lumber merchants from all parts of the northwest were present. A. G. Van Shaick, of Chicago, presided over the deliberations. The principal business to be considered is to devise means by which the present depression in the trade may be overcome. It is complained that the supply is much larger than the demand, and it is hoped before the convention adjourns something may be done to remedy this state of affairs.

J. G. Thorpe, of Eau Claire, Wis., being called on, said that lumbering in the Chippewa valley had been only fairly prosperous this season. A large amount of logs are hung up for lack of water. Prices are low and sales dull.

A. A. Carpenter, of Chicago, gave it as his opinion that there was entirely too much lumber in the country. He thought it would be a good thing to stop the mills, but did not think it could be done, on account of lack of concerted action on the part of mill owners; but if some means of relief are not devised it will result in firms having to carry immense stocks at a fearful loss. He thought that the amount of logs taken from the woods should be curtailed. This might not regulate things in one season but it would eventually.

Fred Weirhauser, of Moline, was in favor of shutting down the mills there as soon as possible.

Maj. Camp, of Minneapolis, was satisfied that there is enough manufactured lumber now in the northwest to supply this section with enough to last this and next year. He did not think any agreement between manufacturers not to cut logs would stand. Minneapolis tried faithfully to reduce the cut agreed on last year. Of the logs on hand there this spring 160,000,000 feet have been manufactured. In the river there to-day were 190,000,000 feet of logs which, if they are not manufactured, are liable to be swept away in the ice freshet. The mills above Minneapolis are reducing the cut. At that place 140,000,000 feet of this and last year's cut will have to be carried over. Minneapolis, while manufacturing as little as possible, still

has too much on hand, and the firms there, not being rich, cannot afford to carry it, and Major Camp warned the Chicago firms that they would sell it, even at a loss, and would compete with them in the southwest.

Thaddeus Doan, of Chicago, rather objected to airing his views, but had to yield to the call for him. He was inclined to endorse the remarks of Maj. Camp. Mr. Doan did not believe much in combinations of men who would bull their goods and make others suffer. The men at this convention virtually owned the pine forests of the country and their actions at this time were momentous. He suggested that instead of spending money in sending delegations to try and influence congress they should stay at home and not interfere with the natural course of legislation. He was not scared at the amount of lumber in Chicago and thought that there was not too much.

J. H. Swan, of Muskegon, thought the mills should run on less time to overcome the surplusage now existing. The mills now run about twelve hours a day; they should run only ten hours. If this was done there would be 10 per cent less produced. He did not think this convention could do anything to meet the exigencies of this year. His mill would close next Saturday after making only 9,000,000 feet, instead of 20,000,000 as usual. They shut down because they could not afford to make a great stock and then sell at a loss. Manufacturers should cut off the amount produced 30 to 40 per cent. The only way to overcome the depression is to shut down.

A. A. Carpenter took exceptions to Mr. Doan's remarks about influencing legislation, and denied the allegation. Continuing, Mr. Carpenter reviewed the state of things on the Menominee river. An agreement had been entered into by the firms there by which the number of logs to be cut was reduced 10 per cent.

Mr. Farnsworth, of Oconto, thought the reduction of 10 per cent at Menominee did not amount to much.

The President explained the matter further, demonstrating that the 10 per cent reduction in the number of logs amounted to a reduction of 20 per cent in lumber.

Mr. Swan, of Muskegon, said that the timber tributary to the eighty-eight mills at Muskegon was in the hands of about ten men. At present there was an immense number of logs there, but he did not think this state of things would occur another year. No mills had been built during the past year at Muskegon, and he was sorry to say only one had burned down, and it was heavily insured.

Maj. Camp, of Minneapolis, said that a number of new mills would be started soon in Minnesota.

Col. Durand, of Stillwater, Minn., was impressed with the gravity of the work before the convention. He thought there was not a single mill owner who would be willing to shut down his mill and throw out of employment from one hundred to one thousand men for all winter. He did not think that an Oconto mill owner could judge of what was best for a mill in Minnesota. The price of crops was low, and this made it impossible to get high prices for lumber. This convention might result in a good social time, but he did not think they could agree on any time when they should shut down. The only anchor to hold on to now was the fact that for two years the country had been prosperous. The lumber interests had passed through two crises, but no one could tell whether it could stand another.

D. C. Cranage, of Bay City, was called on. At his place they were cutting off the timber very rapidly and he did not think the mill owners would consent to stop, as there were local interests there which would not allow it. He would be glad to know of some plan by which the production of lumber in the Saginaw Valley could be stopped, but there was none.

A committee of five was appointed, who were given charge of the subjects brought before the meeting. These are:

1. Has the production of pine lumber in the northwestern states overtaken and exceeded the annual demand?

2. Is the supply of logs and lumber now held

by manufacturers in excess of their ability to protect, and how do stocks of lumber at distributing markets compare with other years?

3. During the present financial condition of the country, and considering the current price of agricultural products, can lumbermen expect an increased demand for lumber or higher prices?

4. Would it not be desirable to produce 6,000,000,000 feet of lumber in 1885, in the northwest, as compared to 7,500,000,000 and save the 1,500,000,000 feet of standing timber and the whole cost of marketing it as a profit?

5. In what manner can curtailment be made if deemed advisable?

This committee is: J. G. Thorpe, Eau Claire, Wis.; F. Meyerhauser, of Moline, Ill.; W. J. Young, Clinton, Iowa; Thomas Cranage, of Stillwater, Minn.; E. Cropp, of White Lake, Mich.

The present officers of the association were then re-elected for the ensuing year. They are: A. G. Van Shaick, president; O. C. Merriman, vice-president; A. A. Bigelow, treasurer; E. S. Hotchkiss, secretary; Directors: E. E. Cropp, White Lake, Mich.; A. T. Lay, Traverse City, Mich.; E. W. Durant, Stillwater, Minn.; O. H. Ingram, Eau Claire, Wis.; R. G. Peters, Manistee, Mich.; W. C. Goodman, Menominee, Mich.; J. H. Swan, Muskegon, Mich.; P. M. Musser, Muscatine, Iowa; W. J. Young, Clinton, Iowa; G. S. Shaw, Davenport, Iowa; O. L. Coleman, LaCrosse, Wis.; J. M. Gould, Moline, Ill.; G. W. Roby, Lundington, Mich.; S. W. Farnham, Minneapolis; C. M. White, Montrose, Iowa.—Chicago Evening News.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

We summarize from the Northwest Lumberman the business done at the afternoon session. At 2:40 p. m. the President called the convention to order.

The reports of the Treasurer and the Secretary were read.

Mr. Thorpe read the report of the committee on business as follows:

Your committee, to whom the questions in the President's address, were referred, reports as follows:

1. Has the production of pine lumber in the Northwestern States overtaken and exceeded the demand?

We answer, Yes.

2. Is the supply of logs and lumber now held by manufacturers in excess of their ability to protect, and how do stocks of lumber at distributing markets compare with former years?

We divide this question, and answer to the part of it that individually we think the manufacturers cannot control or protect prices, but unitedly and with combined effort we believe they can.

Your committee, not having sufficient statistics at hand, cannot answer the second part of this question in a satisfactory manner.

3. Having hope and belief that the financial crisis is passing over, and in view of the now assured large crop of the country and the low price of lumber that corresponds with prices of agricultural products, we have good reason to expect an increased demand for lumber at present or higher prices, provided the manufacturers will hold it steady and without endeavor to crowd it upon the market.

4. We agree with its suggestion that if a reduction of 25 per cent in the quantity of lumber to be manufactured in 1885 can be made, that an amount equal to 1,500,000,000 feet of standing timber and the cost of marketing it would be saved to the owners as a profit.

5. The curtailment can be made by the sawing of less lumber, by shutting down the mills for a month this coming fall, or reducing the cut of the mills next season.

The report was taken up article by article, and after a debate the different sections were adopted.

Mr. Thorpe—It is suggested to me by a member of the committee to amend the report in this way: "Your committee not having sufficient statistics at hand cannot answer the second part of this question satisfactorily." I will ask the unanimous consent of this Convention as chairman of that committee to thus amend it.

The President—If the Convention makes no objection it will be so amended.

It was moved and seconded that the report as amended be adopted, which was agreed to.

Mr. Pierson—I would like to offer this resolution:

Resolved, That there are logs now in sight in the rivers, and with the lumber crop on hand, to supply the market for the balance of this year, and for the next.

Considerable debate followed. Mr. Bassett offered an amendment, which was afterwards withdrawn, and the motion was put and lost.

Mr. Pierson offered the following resolution, which, as amended after discussion, was unanimously adopted:—

Resolved, That, in the judgment of this Convention, in view of the amount of logs and lumber now on hand, we recommend to the manufacturers of lumber that they get out not to exceed 60 per cent of the amount of logs cut in 1883, the coming winter, and that they cease operating their mills this fall as early as possible, and not later than Nov. 1.

Mr. Camp—I move that our semi-annual Convention be held at Eau Claire next spring, at a date to be fixed by the President.

This motion was adopted.

Mr. Thorpe—I was requested by a party, and agree with him, that it may be well to offer a resolution something in this form:

Resolved, That from the facts and statistics gathered and learned at this meeting, and in view of the assured large crop of the Northwest, the probable demand for lumber and the further consideration of the large number of men employed at the several mills who would be thrown out of work, that is not deemed wise nor expedient to close down the mills before Nov. 1 next, leaving it optional with any to close earlier if deemed necessary or best.

In answer to a question the chairman stated the effect of the resolution so simply recommended, leaving each member free to act his own judgment in carrying out its provisions.

The resolution, being seconded by Mr. Norton, was carried.

After passing votes of thanks to the President and Secretary, to the proprietor of the hotel for the use of rooms and to the press of the city, the convention adjourned.

RAFTS ARRIVED.

The Quebec Chronicle has the following list of rafts arrived:

Aug. 8.—D. D. Calvin & Co., oak and pine, sundry coves.

Aug. 11.—P. & W. Murray, waney and square white pine, St. Michael's cove.

Collins' Bay Co's, sundry drams, sundry coves.

D. & J. Maguire, boards, Cap Rouge.

Aug. 12.—John S. Murphy, staves, Indian Cove West.

Aug. 13.—Wm. Mackenzie, red and white pine Hadlow cove.

J. R. Booth (2), red and white pine, Cap Rouge.

Collins Bay Co., spars, New London cove.

D. Moore, white pine, etc., Cap Rouge.

R. Dollace, waney white pine, St. Michael's cove.

Aug. 14.—John Ross, deals, Woodfield cove.

QUEBEC CULLERS' OFFICE.

The following is a comparative statement of Timber, Masts, Bowsprits, Spars, Staves, &c. measured and culled to date:—

	1882.	1883.	1884.
Waney White Pine..	1,315,104	1,392,952	1,471,010
White Pine.....	5,328,670	8,813,964	1,887,056
Red Pine.....	591,949	306,300	249,593
Oak.....	754,840	1,354,544	546,792
Elm.....	425,522	243,761	637,893
Ash.....	196,395	196,356	375,361
Basswood.....	816	2,145	3,992
Butternut.....	2,223	939	1,121
Tamarac.....	4,533	4,016	18,633
Birch & Maple.....	202,417	137,240	185,111
Masts & Bowsprits..	33 pcs	— pcs	— pcs
Spars.....	51 pcs	— pcs	41 pcs
Std. Staves.....	273,412.20	461,10.25	35,12.25
W. I. Staves.....	835,0.210	466,4.3.6	78,0.0.26
Brl. Staves.....	10,0.2.15	87,1.1.27	0,0.2.13

JAMES PATTON,
Quebec, Aug. 22, Supervisor of Cullers

Subscribe for the CANADA LUMBERMAN.