

poses. Trees of it are often found eight feet in diameter.

The western larch corresponds with the tamarac. It is a strong, coarse and durable wood. The other varieties are more or less valuable and have their several purposes. The wealth of the timber in the province is something marvellous. Its value can only be reckoned by billions of dollars. The development of these resources is giving an impetus to commerce that is annually increasing, for it must be borne in mind that the demand for the various kinds of wood enumerated comes from the world over; it is not confined to the province or to the Dominion, but it comes from everywhere, and from places too that send the gold in payment of their orders.

Nothing of late years in eastern Canada can be compared with the activity which is visible in the timber trade of the west coast. It is a commerce in itself which is new, and it traverses waters that have hitherto been unruffled by the mercantile marine of the western portion of the Dominion at least. It is giving rise to a commerce that I believe will far exceed the Miramichi and the St. Lawrence in the palmiest days.

Ship building, which was such a thriving industry in the maritime provinces in former days, promises to be prosecuted on a large scale on the west coast of Canada, thereby showing the fallacy of the assertion that the days of wooden ships have gone forever. Where, may I ask, are the coast craft to come from that will in ten years time be found in every creek and bay of the coast? Will they not be built out of the superb raw material to be found in the west coast province? Here is another industry that will be found in a thriving state as the demand for fishing craft increases with the fishing trade, which, as we have already seen, is fast rising into importance.

An idea of the volume of the lumber trade of the Dominion may be formed from the following figures: The production of timber in Canada, say for the year 1899, is given in the *Record* as follows: Saw logs, B.M., Ontario, 730,318,181; Quebec, 520,835,029; New Brunswick, 101,791,112; Nova Scotia, 92,603,488; Manitoba, 42,230,782; British Columbia, 130,000,000. These figures represent square timber, boards, hard wood, railway ties, cordwood, telegraph poles, cedar posts, pile timber, shingles, ships'-knees, posts, rails. The amount of dues received was \$1,039,764. Of course, the lumber industry in the west coast province is yet in its infancy, but every year witnesses a large increase, and indeed the time is not far distant when its timber trade will far exceed either Ontario or Quebec in the value of its productions. It will not be difficult for it to do this because in addition to the enormous quantities of large timber which it possesses, the smaller varieties are found in abundance and their value is such as will largely augment the total.

If the figures connected with the fisheries of British Columbia are amazing and astonish by their immensity, what will be thought of the yield of her gold mines? Nova Scotia since 1862 and up to 1889,

has produced gold to the value of \$9,402,703; Quebec, \$209,053, and British Columbia, \$45,159,644, being a total of \$54,771,400. Well might one stop here at the colossal figures of British Columbia fish, lumber and gold, but I have not yet done.

Since 1874 Nova Scotia has produced 3,001,314 tons of coal. British Columbia has distanced this in the same period by 533,500, the yield having been 3,564,814 tons. New Brunswick shows in the same period 104,253, the total being 6,670,381 tons. It will now be said that I may stop here, but no! In 1889 the Pacific province produced 84,181 tons of iron ore, valued at \$151,640, and here for the present I may pause.

MAXIME MARITIME.

TEA AND THE SILVER QUESTION.

The fall in the price of silver, which more than ever during the present week has been agitating people's minds in nearly all departments of commerce, does not seem to have aroused the same keen interest in the tea trade as elsewhere. It nevertheless affects the latter to no inconsiderable extent, though no actual displacement of the chief factors in regard to production is in view, the producing countries being all on one and the same level as silver using countries. Lewenz Brothers and Hauser say: The inference that owing to the low exchange a higher price in silver can be paid to the producing country, and thus a larger supply of tea attracted, is obvious, so that the question is: to what degree can and would such be the case? Of course the present level of prices in the London market is such that even the maintenance of the lowest rates which Eastern exchanges lately reached would still prevent many teas from being brought here at a profit. For instance Java has restricted her production in consequence of the unremunerative prices which she has obtained for her teas; but if she were again to increase her supply the price of say 5½d., which is being paid for Pekoe Souchongs, would probably go down to 4½d. or 4¼d., and thus the gain by the low exchange be neutralized at once.

In India the same conditions obtain more or less with Cachar teas, which, we believe, have ceased paying to the growers since they went out of favor here; on the other hand Assam, Silhet and Darjeeling (about Travancore we are somewhat in the dark) may yet give a larger yield, for these teas, especially Darjeelings, make a better average and the gardens seem to be in a fairly prosperous condition; but an immediate considerable expansion is not expected. The most favorable conditions are, however, met with in Ceylon, where tea could undoubtedly be produced at a profit even if a considerably lower range of prices had to be submitted to than we have now; thus the prospect of cheap silver is doubly in favor of Ceylon, and a constant expansion of her tea production a certainty.

Last, but by no means least, comes China now to be considered, which, with her almost inexhaustible supplies must still as before hold the key to the position. The difference here is, as we have pointed out before, that we need not take from her more tea than we want, for with China it is simply a question of what the foreigner will pay to get so much more or less tea. We think, after the lessons which the last few seasons have taught, reckless importation of China tea need not for once be feared this season, and if we are right

in this assumption the danger of our market being glutted with tea, in consequence of the reduced cost which cheap silver will bring about, would soon disappear or at least become greatly minimized.

DECISIONS IN COMMERCIAL LAW.

CANADIAN ASSURANCE CO. v. CONNELLY.—An insurance policy insured goods in a one-and-a-half story building with shingled roof, occupied as a storehouse for storing horse-feed and provisions, said building shown on plan on back of application for insurance as "feed house" situate attached to woodshed of assured's dwelling house. The building marked feed house on the said plan was not a one-and-a-half story building with shingled roof, was not attached to the woodshed and was not used as a storehouse; but another building on the plan answered the description in the policy and the goods insured were in said last mentioned building when they were destroyed by fire. The plan had been drawn by a canvasser who had obtained the application. He was not a salaried officer of the insurance company, but received a commission on each policy obtained through his efforts. The insurance company refused to pay the loss, claiming that the policy was made void by the alleged misrepresentation as to the building. On the trial of an action on the policy the jury found for the plaintiff, leave being reserved to move for a nonsuit on the ground of misrepresentation.

Held, affirming the judgment of the court below, that there was no misrepresentation, that the company was in no way damnified by the mis-description in the plan and in the maxim *falsa demonstratio non nocet* applied; that if that maxim did not apply, the matter was one for the jury who had pronounced on it in favor of the assured, and that it was evident that the intention was to insure goods in the building which really contained them.

Held also that the canvasser could not be regarded as the agent of the assured, but was the agent of the company, which was bound by his acts and could not take advantage of his mistake.

BRITTON v. MILSON.—A statement by the endorser of a dishonored note to the holder that he would see the maker about it, and his subsequent statement that he had seen the maker, who promised to pay as soon as he could, with a request from the endorser not to "crowd the note," are not in themselves sufficient evidence of waiver of notice of dishonor.

HOLLINGER v. CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY.—In an action against a railway company for negligence whereby the plaintiff was run over and injured by an engine and tender at a railway crossing, where eight tracks crossed the road and where trains were continually shunting,

Held that where the company are not able to comply with the terms of sec. 256 of 51 Vic. cap. 29, as to ringing a bell or sounding a whistle, at least eighty rods from a crossing, because the engine starts to cross within that distance, some other kind of precaution should be taken to warn the public of danger; and where, as in this case, the crossing is unusually dangerous, it is incumbent upon them to use even greater and other precautions than those required by the Statute.

Held, also, that an engine with tender moving reversely is a "train of cars" within the