

Bros. and McArthur Bros., Toronto; J. R. Booth and R. Nagle, Ottawa; J. C. Miller, Parry Sound; E. W. Rathbun, Deseronto; J. Cockburn, Gravenhurst; J. Petrie, Guelph; T. Murray, Pembroke; J. Bonfield, Eganville, besides several American buyers from Bay City, Saginaw, Tonawanda, and other places. The gentlemen from the other side, however, did not invest to any great extent, the large majority of the berths going to Canadian firms. Besides those engaged in the lumber business were one or two Toronto lawyers, who bought largely in the interests of other parties.

HOW SALES ARE CONDUCTED.

A sale of timber limits is not an everyday affair. The law, with a wholesome fear of what might occur under the stress of "party exigencies," does not permit timber limits to be disposed of in the usual way as lands for settlement purposes. The latter may be bought at any time, but the former can only be obtained when the Crown Lands Department brings on a sale, which must be by public competition. Hence the crowd of lumbermen and others on Tuesday, anxious in the present prosperous state of the lumber trade to obtain limits, and knowing that this would probably be their last chance for years to come. The last sale of timber limits by the Ontario Government was in 1872, when over \$500,000 was realized. On Tuesday timber berths in the townships of Mowat, Blair, McConkey, Hardy, Patterson, Mills, Sinclair, Bethune, Proudfoot, Gurd, Machar, Strong, Joly, Laurier, Pringle, Lount, Nipissing and Himsforth, all in the Muskoka and Parry Sound districts, were offered for sale. The limits aggregated

1,411 SQUARE MILES;

berths amounting to 130 square miles were withdrawn, the reserve bid not being reached, and the remainder sold for a total of \$717,176, or an average per square mile, exclusive of ground rent, of \$500. This is a most remarkable showing, and the significance of the figures will be realized when it is stated that at the last sale, which was held by the Quebec Government, the average was only \$98, while the sale held by the Ontario Government in 1872 produced an average of only \$199. The bidding on Tuesday afternoon was at the outset slow and backward, the first couple of berths being withdrawn, but it quickly grew rapid and lively, and in some instances very large figures were reached.

THE HIGHEST PRICE PAID

was for berth No. 2 in the township of McConkey, which was knocked down to Mr. J. M. Martin for \$2,500 per square mile, or a total of \$10,000; berth No. 1 in the township of Joly was sold to Mr. J. L. Burton for \$42,550, or \$2,300 per square mile; No. 4 in Nipissing to C. A. Brough for \$28,875, or \$1,510 per square mile; No. 3 in Mills to the same gentleman for \$25,381, or \$1,410 per square mile; No. 3 in Joly to J. Bonfield for \$21,900, or \$1,200 per square mile; No. 1 in Strong to McArthur Bros. for \$11,000, or \$1,100 per square mile; No. 3 in Himsforth to J. R. Booth for \$17,760, or \$1,110 per square mile; No. 3 in Sinclair and No. 1 in McConkey to Cook Bros. for \$14,840 and \$22,837, or \$1,060 and \$1,050 respectively per square mile. The lowest price reached was for No. 3 in Mowat, which was sold to T. G. Blackstock for \$937, or \$50 per square mile. The sale altogether was

A MOST SUCCESSFUL ONE,

fully realizing in the matter of prices the expectations of the Government. As the law formerly stood, limit holders had only five years in which to remove the pine from the lands which they had under license, any timber remaining after that time belonging to the settler, but at the last session of the legislature an Act was passed under which a licensee on payment of the ground rent (\$2 per square mile) and dues may renew his license from year to year, the Government after a certain number of years paying to the settler a percentage of the dues collected upon the timber cut. The disparity between the prices paid for different berths is of course accounted for by the variety in the quality and quantity of pine, the facilities for floating down streams, acreage burnt, etc.

NO INFORMATION

respecting the quantity of pine on the various berths, etc., was furnished by the Government, and intending purchasers had to make an exami-

nation for themselves of such limits as they wished to buy. As one factious lumberman put it when the sale was drawing to a close, and the auctioneer remarked in the afternoon, "We've had a pretty good business of the afternoon." Lumbermen were not generally known what they are doing, and it was only those at the sale on Tuesday who knew that they were exceptions to the rule. As a matter of fact all the firms sent out experts to examine the several berths, and of course the reports made thereon were kept a profound secret. A soon, however, as the berth was knocked down the lumbermen would tell one another what their report was. For instance, one berth on which there was considerable competition was reported to one firm as being good for three quarters of a million feet per mile, and another firm had it rated at one million. One gentleman, however, nearly caught himself in the matter of a bid. One limit which was going up by \$10 bids, and had reached the sum of \$2,000, when the audience was suddenly surprised to hear him ejaculate "\$3,600." This, of course, put a stop to all further competition, and the berth was knocked down to him for that sum. It turned out, however, that the bona fide buyer had only intended to advance the usual \$10 and say "\$2,100." The limit was accordingly put up again and ultimately sold to another for \$2,300.—*Toronto World.*

THE frame work of the knitting factory on Goderich street, Halifax, is fast approaching completion. The manufactory will give work to some forty or fifty hands.

M. LEGRU, the Paris capitalist, now in Quebec, says that fifty millions of francs have been subscribed in France for investment in local industries in Quebec Province.

ONE EXPERIENCE FROM MANY.—I had been sick and miserable so long and had caused my husband so much trouble and expense, I seemed to know what ailed me, that I was completely disheartened and discouraged. In this frame of mind I got a bottle of Hop Bitters and used them unknown to my family. I soon began to improve and gained so fast that my husband and family thought it strange and unnatural, but when I told them what had helped me they said "Harrah for Hop Bitters" I am may they prosper, for they have made me feel well and so happy."—*The Mother. — Home Journal.*

A RELIABLE FACT.—It is an established fact that Hagar's Pectoral Balsam is the best cure for coughs, colds, sore throat, asthma, croup, bronchitis, and all troubles arising from neglected colds. Price 25 cents.

DECLINE OF MAN.—Impotency of mind, limb or vital function, nervous weakness, sexual debility, and all diseases caused by indiscretion and abuse, are radically and promptly cured by the use of Mack's Magnetic Medicine, which is for sale by all responsible druggists. See advertisement in another column.

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