



# THE CANADA LUMBERMAN

DEVOTED TO THE LUMBER AND TIMBER INTERESTS OF THE DOMINION.

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY BY  
TOKER & Co. PETERBOROUGH.

**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 00  
Per line, for six months..... 50  
Per line, for three months..... 30  
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 Toker & Co., 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.

PETERBOROUGH, Ont. OCT. 2, 1882.

J. B. CHARLESON, of Quebec, has purchased 1,860 acres (6,000,000 feet) of spruce timber stumpage from Lucius Packard, of Auburn, Me. The land is situated in the township of Stoke, on Windsor river.

FIFTY-two cars loaded with hemlock bark on a recent Monday stood on the track at Ludington, Mich., awaiting shipment across the lake. It is said that the hemlock forests in that part of the state are being sacrificed for bark.

Forest fires are scattered through Maine. About six square miles of the best timber land on Deer Island, near Calais, were burned over. Another fire was started in Dayton, and 76 acres of plain and woodland was burned over. Other fires are reported.

It is estimated that during the last three months 100,000 cords of bark have been taken from the trees in the northwestern part of Pennsylvania, and 120,000 feet of lumber has been placed on the market. Wholesale slashing of forests has been going on in Erie, Warren, McKean, Elk, Cameron, and Clinton counties. Men who were born and raised as lumbermen say they never before knew the like of it.

THE *Northwestern Lumberman* says:—It has been urged that the native pine forests in New England may easily be restored to a dignified importance by a systematic effort. All over this region are found great tracts of light soil, on plain and hillside, that is not worth cultivating for farm products, but which can be made available for pine growing. Experiments recently made at the Shaker settlement at Enfield, Conn., have had gratifying results, seed planted in sandy soil in 1869 having produced a dense growth of trees that are now 12 to 16 feet high. If there are conditions under which the growing of forests can result practically it is in such sections as that described above. Where the land is naturally adapted to the growth of timber more than for other purposes, it is strange that efforts in the direction of tree-growing were not made earlier, so that results could have been had at a time when they would be the most acceptable.

In the treeless region between Ainsworth and Sprague, W. T., 1,000 young trees have been set out, fenced and boxed, along the line of track, and the most of them are doing well.

THE *Northwestern Lumberman* says:—Lumbering in Kowatin, Canada, will be carried forward on an extensive scale next winter, stimulated by the growing demand in Manitoba. R. J. Short has some large contracts on hand, and Hugh Sutherland intends to lumber extensively. D. Mather, of the Kowatin mills, will do a heavy business.

## SAW DUST.

The *Minneapolis Tribune* calls attention to the urgent necessity of some legislation to abate the crying sawdust nuisance by which the channel of the upper Mississippi is being choked up much faster than all the government dredge boats can clear it out. The *Tribune* says that "three hundred thousand cords of sawdust are actually deposited in the Mississippi river from the saws of the Minneapolis mills." The injury done to commerce and the expense caused to the government by this accumulation of debris, are almost incalculable. The sawdust is dumped recklessly into the river, floats for some distance below and finally sinking, forms into bars that cause infinite annoyance and danger to the steamboat men. All this trouble and peril could be easily avoided by a law compelling the saw mills of Minneapolis and all points above, to consume their dust in their own fires. It is of but little use for Congress to appropriate money for the improvement of the river from below as long as the saw mills continue to fill it up from above.—*Lumberman's Gazette*.

## HEMLOCK BARK.

There is a great scarcity of barks in many of the tanning districts of Canada, which has already caused several tanneries in Ontario to close, and in other parts where it is obtainable the price has advanced considerably, thus adding to the cost of manufacturing leather, but what now concerns our tanners most is the actual scarcity of the bark supply, owing to the large quantities which have of late years been exported to the United States. It is now beginning to be realized that our hemlock forests are not inexhaustible, and that one of our foremost manufacturing interests is liable to suffer from it at no distant day. We have previously referred to the heavy drain which the American demand has entailed upon the hemlock resources of this province, and some of the leading men in the leather trade here have expressed concern as to the effect which the rapid exhaustion of our bark supply will soon have upon the tanning industry of the Dominion. The price of bark is up to \$7.00 per cord in the Eastern Townships, where only a few years ago it could be bought for about \$3.50. The American market for bark is also advancing through the shrinkage in the Canadian supply, which they have been drawing upon for years past, and at the same time have preserved their own forests.—*Montreal Gazette*.

## NORWAY AND SOUTHERN PINE TESTS.

Reference is made in a recent number of the *Railway Gazette* to tests of the relative strength of Norway and southern pine for car building purposes. At a meeting of the Master Car Builders' Association, Mr. Davenport, of the Erie works, exhibited some specimens of the two kinds of pine which had been submitted to tests on a steelyard suspended in a frame for that special purpose. There were five specimens of each variety, each one inch square and 11½ inches between bearing points. The pressure was applied in the centre with the following results of breaking strain: southern pine, 500, 510, 500, 490, 490, and 530 pounds; average, 506 pounds. Norway, 620, 645, 730, 650 and 630 pounds; average, 635 pounds.

Mr. Bissel, of the Barney & Smith company, of Dayton, Ohio, also had some specimens tested. The following is a report of the tests: A number of specimens of Norway and southern pine were dressed exactly an inch square, and these were broken in a testing machine by placing them on bearings one foot apart and the weight in the centre. The southern pine had

been air seasoned for two years and upwards, the Norway 12 to 16 months. The weakest southern broke at 720 pounds, the strongest at 1,102 pounds; average of eight specimens of southern pine 904 pounds. The weakest Norway broke at 501 pounds, the strongest at 790 pounds; average of ten specimens of Norway, 702 pounds, showing the southern pine to be 28.7 per cent. stronger than Norway, and that a southern pine sill of 4x8 inches dimensions is equivalent to a Norway sill of 6x8 inches, with the further advantage in favour of the southern pine that it can be got much freer of knots, and consequently stronger in comparison than these figures show, which are based on clear timber.

## THE EBB AND FLOW OF PRICES.

The more the season advances the greater the difficulty becomes of forming a judgment as to the position of the trade at the end of it; for never perhaps were opinions on that point more equally divided nor more stoutly defended. You meet an influential man in the trade, perhaps representing a well-known Swedish stock and mills, who, on being interrogated as to the prospects of the fall trade shakes his head and laments that things are looking bad for the shippers just now; the great east coast ports are too well supplied to increase their engagements for this year, and small vessels are difficult to obtain for fulfilling such orders as are still in hand, for places of less note. He fears there will be a great glut in London, as "those Finland fellows will send their goods forward, whether wanted or not," and that the spring trade is likely to open badly for the shippers. Scarcely have you time to ponder over this view of the situation when you run against the representative member of an influential Canadian house, who, on your suggesting that things do not look very well for the maintenance of prices, expresses his surprise at your innocence. "My dear fellow, look at the Canadian freights, what a spring they have taken—70s. to Liverpool and Glasgow! Do you think merchants would pay that if they did not want the goods? Take my word for it, yellow pine deals will fetch at the public sales 10 to 15 per cent. more this fall than they did last year." And he adds, perhaps, "I only wish I had twice as much at market as I have now."

Thus each argues from his own point of view. Sweden, up to the end of July, with heavy stocks remaining on hand, had already shipped 42 per cent. more this year than last in sawn and manufactured wood and more than 50 per cent. of square timber. Canada, on the contrary, has shipped, on the whole, say 15 to 20 per cent. less than, date for date, was done last year, and is looking forward to a brisk demand for next year from the moment the navigation opens.

If we look around upon the trade at home, and compare the reports, it is equally difficult to come to any definite conclusion. Quebec wide pine deals of first quality fetched at the sale by Singleton, Dunn & Co., on the 29th Aug., at Greenock, from £24 to £28 per standard, according to their width, the smallest price being for 12 ft. 15x3, and the highest 3s. 4½d. per cubic ft. (equal to £27 16s. 10½d. per standard) for 12 ft. 19-20x3, while fourth yellow pine deals, 12 ft. 11x3, fetched within a fraction of £8. But if we look at the prices which yellow pine fetched at the last London sales, we shall see that, out of a large assortment offered on both days, not one lot went as high as £20 per standard. 1st bright Quebec 12 to 14 ft. 3x9 and 10 (good sizes) fetched but £15. The best pine obtained was for some lower port (Bathurst) 1st quality 10 to 20 ft. 3x14 to 18, which went as high as £19 10s., while third quality of similar dimensions brought no more than £8, and other good useful sizes and lengths of this quality were sold at £2 a standard less, and 4th 9 to 18 ft. 3x11 to 16 in. were knocked down at £5. Take, say, only £4 out of this for freight, landing charges, rent and broker's commission (freight alone would now be £3 10s.), and what return does the importer get who paid probably £3 10s. to £4 for them free on board at the shipping port?

With these things passing before our eyes, how can we justify a belief that the general market is improving and prices getting firmer? What is true of one place or one kind of wood is false,

it may be, if applied to another. Glasgow, for instance, is a good market to sell yellow pine at this time, but by the test of public sale London is more favourable for those who have occasion to buy it. Nor can we say very much in favor of the spruce trade, which, though better on the whole than it has been, is not steady at any measurable advance. Quebec 1st quality regular sizes (12 and 13 ft. 3x9 and 11) at £10 6s. can hardly be considered other than cheap, for they fetched that in the bad year 1878. St. John and Miramichi spruce are doing better in the London market *pro rata*, as they used to be about 40s. to 50s. a standard behind the Quebec prices, and now approach them much nearer; but lower port battens sizes have been recently sold at prices varying from £5 5s. to £7 10s., according to quality, at the public sales in London. On the Clyde, pitch pine planks appear to be very cheap. 12 to 30 ft. 9 to 13x3 to 5in. at 1s. 0½d. per cubic foot, at the sale aforesaid at Greenock, is lower than anything we have heard of in London—£8 15s. 4d. per Petersburg standard, and while this kind of wood can be had so reasonably it will be difficult to force up the prices of other kinds, especially while the importation continues on such an abundant scale.

Our friends across the Atlantic, that is on the Canadian side, wonder why they cannot get better prices here for their specialties of pine and spruce when they are less plentiful than they were last year and the shippers have to pay more for them; in fact the trade is annually warned that they will have to pay dearer for these goods when the next season comes around; but buyers on this side, when they have to go to market, find that they can still supply themselves on as easy terms as ever. That there is no appreciable advance on yellow pine in the London market this season has already been shown, yet the shipping from Quebec, had fallen short in comparison of last year up to the 15th of August by more than 10,000 tons, which would represent 13,000 to 14,000 loads of timber. Evidently, therefore, we ought to find those goods on the rise here generally, and doubtless it would be so were it not for the constant influx of pitch pine to this country, which, though surpassed in utility for special purposes by many other kinds of fir, is an excellent substitute for them all. Its cheapness is a standing difficulty in the way of woods that are preferred to it realizing any thing more than a very moderate profit, because any serious advance brings pitch pine into question, and it is then found that Canadian pine is not so indispensable as it was formerly thought.

That this is the actual position of the trade is manifest in the large importation of pitch pine to Liverpool and Glasgow, that being the only stock that is seriously in excess of last year. Very little doubt can be entertained but that Canadian pine would almost fetch its own price within any not very unreasonable limit, and nothing shows more the esteem in which it is held, where first-class joiners' work is in constant requisition, than to see best yellow pine deals fetching, say, on the average of the most useful sizes, £25 per standard, while the same quality of pitch pine, in dimensions scarcely less useful, not requiring to be classified on account of general good mercantile quality, could be had at the same sale for less than £9. Still there is the fact that for every other use but that which requires choice joinery pitch pine offers a strong opposition, not only to Canadian but to Swedish and Baltic timber as well, and while it continues to be sent into this country so plentifully, and at a price within everybody's reach, it will be very difficult to establish any advance upon the building timber of other kinds either in Northern Europe or America.

If the f. o. b. rates that have ruled for this season, and that they are endeavouring to maintain still in Sweden with some misgivings, as may be gathered from our Stockholm letter in last number, can be continued next year: it is as much as the shippers can wish for, and in respect of the home trade, let it be as good as it will, we do not see that there are any grounds for expecting a general rise of prices while the supply is so ample and the prospects of a large increase not by any means fading away.—*Timber Trades Journal*.