

first time, this wood being left with a wane of from three to six inches on the corners, so avoiding the excessive waste of wood resulting from hewing the timber exactly square. Previous to this, the timber was square and of large average, beautifully hewn by the lumbermen in the woods; but board (waney) pine, that is, short logs of large girth, were sent down

the drives with the other timber, and soon found their way into the market. Their being cut from the lower part of the tree accounted for the waney character of the logs, but the quality of the timber was excellent. It gradually almost altogether supplanted square pine. To illustrate this point, I beg to submit the following comparison:

Year.	Square pine.	Waney pine.	Total.
1861.....	15,731,000 c.f.	6,735,000 c.f.....	22,466,000 c.f.
1909.....	66,200 c.f.	699,360 c.f.....	765,560 c.f.

While the decline in the quantity of square and waney pine made for the Quebec market was to some extent due to the scarcity of suitable trees to manufacture into timber, it was in a far greater degree attributable to the increase in the deal and board trade. Gradually the produce of the sawmill took the place, for export, of timber in the hewn log.

Before leaving this point, I would observe that in the Ottawa region a large proportion of the trees are suitable to make deal logs, but would not be large enough to be made into waney board pine. This is exemplified by the smallness of the square pine that was latterly taken down from Ottawa. In former days square pine was made seventy, eighty and even one hundred feet cube average; lately it was with difficulty that forty feet average cube was procurable in square pine, and the waney board pine is decreasing in girth annually. Formerly, twenty inches and over, average cube, was easily had as late as 1904, 17 inch average was as large as most manufacturers would undertake to supply, and they frequently fell below this average on delivery at Quebec.

As deals took the place of timber, so lumber is gradually supplanting deals for export. The sawn white pine exported is manufactured by Ottawa valley and western mills, and shipped from Montreal as being nearer the point of production.

This change from the manufacture of timber hewed square in the woods to the bringing of it to the mills in the form of round logs has effected a very important saving of the very best material, formerly left in the woods in the form of chips cut in the process of squaring the trees, which were useless for any purpose except that of spreading the vast forest fires that have destroyed many times more timber than ever was cut with the axe.

The change from sailing vessels to steamer for ocean carriage has necessarily affected Quebec as a shipping port for wood goods, as steamers charge no more on freight from Montreal than from Quebec, and as a matter of fact prefer the first-named port as being under more favorable conditions. Montreal also has the advantage of being nearer most of the mills that now produce pine lumber and

deals, as they are generally west of it, and the freight by barge or rail is much less than to Quebec.

Thus the export business in wood has changed from hewn timber made with the axe and floated down to Quebec in rafts (with a limited proportion of deals sawn at Quebec mills or floated to Quebec from Hawkesbury or Chelsea on the Gatineau) to a small export of timber from Quebec (where hewn timber can best be handled, on account of the facilities given by the tides), and an export of sawn lumber, including some deals, from Montreal. A considerable proportion of the reduced quantity of timber now shipped comes from the United States, which is the source of all the oak exported and most of the elm. The supply of oak suitable for export is exhausted in Canada and the supply of elm is rapidly tending in that direction. Another change is that of shipping by steamer instead of by sailing ship. These two factors account for the loss of the squared timber trade by Quebec and Levis, which was inevitable, but, some authorities say, was accelerated by the restrictions imposed and the wages exacted by the Quebec ship labourers.

Before leaving this subject, it may be interesting to say a few words about the price the lumberman received at Quebec for his timber. I have no record at hand earlier than of the year 1841. I was once shown by an old lumber merchant, the settlement of account between a Quebec merchant and himself, in which he was credited with a raft of square pine, seventy cubic feet average, at 3d. (6c.) per foot.

Mentioning this to another old lumberman, he said it was perfectly correct, for he recalled that he had told the lady, whom he afterwards married, that he could not afford to marry till timber was worth 4½d. (9c.) a foot. He was married in 1846.

In recent years, waney timber 18-inch average has brought as much as 80 cents per cubic foot and square pine 30 to 40 feet average, 40 to 50 cents per foot, a vast advance from the 6c. of 1841 or the 9c. of 1846.

Doubtless the great prices paid for timber limits, higher timber dues levied by the provincial governments and the growing scarcity of large timber, all account