

# PETITION

OF

## RIPARIAN PROPRIETORS AND RESIDENTS ALONG OTTAWA RIVER.

(No. 2.)

*To the Parliament of Canada.*

Petition of inhabitants of the County of Prescott and Counties of Ottawa, Argenteuil, Vaudreuil, and Two Mountains, humbly sheweth :—

Having learned that an Act passed during the last session of Parliament, making it illegal for mill-owners to put sawdust, mill edgings, or refuse into the Ottawa river, and that this Act takes effect on the 1st May, 1895, we the petitioners humbly request the consideration of the Governor-in-Council to the following :—

1st, That the Hawkesbury Lumber Company (Limited) manufacture pine lumber to about the annual average extent of fifty millions of feet at their Hawkesbury mills at the Longue Sault in the County of Prescott.

2nd, That upwards of 750 hands from this and adjoining Counties, and over 900 men and teams in the bush find employment with this firm.

3rd, That very many of the petitioners for many miles below these mills find a large proportion of their winter's fuel, and that the edgings, slabs and other refuse which are unground or not passed through a "hog" are a great boon to the poor people.

4th, That your petitioners are firmly of the belief that pine sawdust or pine wood does not injure the quality of the Ottawa river, but on the contrary is helpful in purifying it; while we are strongly of the opinion that the filthy sewage and defilement from the drains of Ottawa city pollutes and injures the water and should be prevented.

5th, That pine sawdust and edgings have been put in the Ottawa river at this place for upwards of 90 years without injury to fish, navigation or otherwise, and your petitioners believe that pine sawdust or pine edgings do not effect or injure the fish that are now to be found in this part of the Ottawa river, but that the Government dam at Carrillon does entirely prevent the ascent of fish of all kinds from the Lower St. Lawrence and shad from the sea; the latter entirely disappeared after the dam was completed.

6th, That if the Act passed last session is enforced it must leave the proprietors of the Hawkesbury mills no other alternative but to close their mills, to the great injury of the surrounding country.

7th, Your petitioners would humbly pray that your Parliament would exempt these mills from the recent Fishery Act, so as to permit of sawdust and mill edgings being allowed to go into the river as heretofore at Hawkesbury mills, as in like manner the Government did at the request of a similar petition sent to the Government some seventeen or eighteen years ago.