SPECIAL OBJECTIONS

TO THE

EXPORT DUTY ON TIMBER.

Aside from objections to Export Duties, based upon general principles, as that they are a special tax upon the producer, and afford protection to his competitor in foreign markets, &c., the effects produced by the imposition of an Export Duty, under the Tariff Act of August 15th, 1866, shows conclusively that the following special objections may justly be raised against the policy of imposing an Export Duty upon pine, spruce, and oak saw-logs, shingle bolts and stave bolts, as provided under Schedule F, of the Tariff Act of April, 1868:

That the Duty will be a special tax upon one locality to the extent of collecting four-fifths of its amount in the Counties of Norfolk and Elgin.

That it will render great quantities of timber of a certain kind valueless.

That it will break up an important industry, without conferring benefit upon any other industrial interests in the Dominion of Canada.

That it will retard the settlement of wild lands in the Counties of Norfolk and Elgin, and will increase the difficulties and hardships of the settler, by depriving him of profitable employment, and compelling him, when clearing land, to burn timber, which before the imposition of the duty would pay, in whole or in part, the expense of clearing.

That it will operate as a direct and efficient protection to the Round Timber Dealers of Michigan in their competition with the Round Timber Dealers of Norfolk and Elgin Counties for the control of the markets of Western New York.