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## MODERN METHOD OF BREAKING A LOG JAM.

The accompanying illustration shows, in operation, a contrivance arranged by Mr. Samuel Bingham, of Ottawa, for the speedy loosening of a jam or other accumulation of logs, pulpwood, ties and so forth. Mr. Bingham is probably one of the best known and most successful logging contractors in Canada, having charge of all the logs on the Gatineau river for a distance of 100 miles, from the river Desert to the Ottawa.

The view shows an accumulation of 250,000 or more logs and an equal number of pieces of pulpwood and ties. The "tie up" is located at the retaining boom on the Gatineau, situated at the Cascades. The logs are piled a distance of half a mile and to a height of 28 to 30 feet, extending the entire width of the river, about three-quarters of a mile. A sudden rise of water in the tributaries caused the accumulation of logs. In 10 days last spring over 500,000 pieces were swept in from a distance of 60 miles up stream. The current in the Gatineau on this stretch runs 20 miles an hour, and as the logs were swept down to the collection at the boom, they were forced under water, and thus coming to the surface under the other logs, raised the entire lot to a great height. The logs presented an unbroken

front, and hence were even more difficult to handle than when in the shape of a jam. Under ordinary circumstances, months, and perhaps an entire season, would have elapsed before the logs could have been released and sent on to the different mills. Mr. Bingham, however, decided to put into operation a scheme that suggested itself to him last season. He secured a 60 horse power steam hoist and placed it on a platform 120 feet long and 36 feet wide. From this hoist a three-quarter inch steel cable was worked over a drum 27½ inches in diameter. The cable was 550 feet in length, and a second one was provided for cases of emergency. A number of ordinary jam dogs or hooks, single and double, were provided, as well as log tongs. When it was decided to release the logs, the tongs were first used on single logs, a number of which were taken out to make channels. The tongs, of course, were fastened to the cable, which was operated by means of the steam hoist over the drum. After the necessary channels had been cleared, the dogs and hooks were brought into play. The latter were so placed

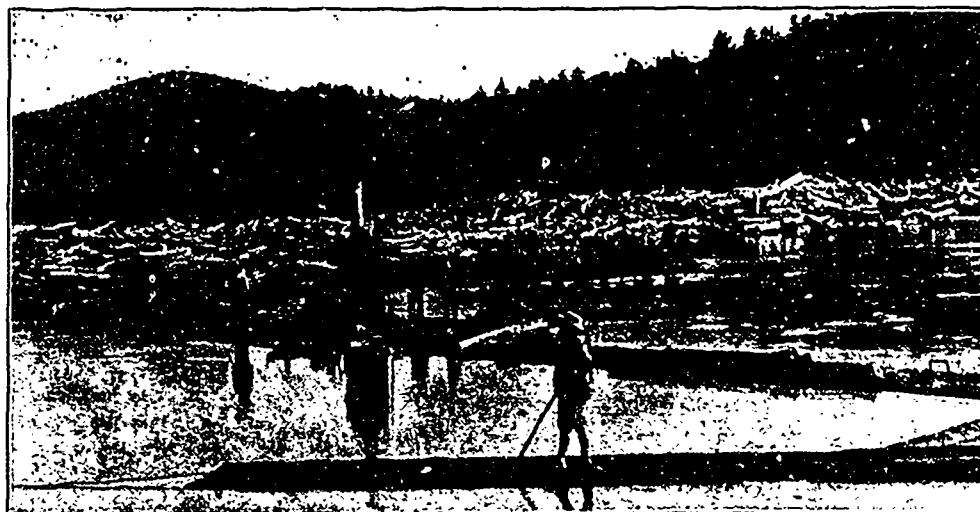
that the release of one log brought thousands with it. Thus in the operations pictured, as many as 5,000 and 10,000 were brought out at a time. The use of the tongs in the first instance gave a more direct purchase on the single logs it was desirable to release. The engineer can regulate the strength and speed of the pull as demanded by the position of the logs, number of logs to be released, etc. The contrivance is, in short, to the log stream what the reaper is to the wheat field. The latter, when compared to the sickle, does not do one-tenth the work Mr. Bingham's contrivance accomplishes. Its advantages are manifold; speed and safety to the men are important factors in its workings.

The float with the hoist can be so placed that when the logs are released it can be readily swung clear of danger. Another advantage it

wood ever brought together on the Gatineau, and it was held back by one of the strongest booms in the world. At this point there are four piers stretching across the river. The largest one in the center, is 100 feet square at the base and tapers to a crown 46 feet square. It is 96 feet high. These were built by Gilmour & Co., under the direction of Mr. Bingham. Owing to the frequent change in the level of the water most of the other booms are made permanent.

The Gatineau is known as a rough river on which to run logs. In the 100 miles from the river Desert to the Ottawa, there are 47 rapids and 22 chutes. In this distance from the Ottawa upwards there is an elevation of about 1200 feet. Mr. Bingham has the river divided into 37 sections, varying in length according to presence of rapids, speed of current, etc., from one-half to three miles. These sections are patrolled by permanent men.

The present is one of the busiest seasons Mr. Bingham has had in his 26 years' work as river contractor. He has delivered 850,000 logs, measuring from 13 to 16 inches in diameter. Last year he handled 500,000 logs. Each year he handles large numbers of ties and pieces of pulpwood, as well as the saw logs. This is the first season he has not had at least one raft of square timber down the Gatineau. Mr. Bingham



METHOD EMPLOYED ON THE GATINEAU RIVER FOR BREAKING A LOG JAM.

handles all the logs on the Gatineau, and supplies the following mill-owners: W. C. Edwards & Co., Ottawa; Gilmour & Hughson, Hull; Rideau Lumber Co., McLaren & McLaurin, East Templeton; Logan Estate, Maniwaki. He employs 350 men during the season, which extends from about May 1st to October 15th. Mr. Bingham oversees the work personally and knows the river thoroughly. He now handles the logs off limits extending 240 miles from the Gatineau. When he first started the logs were cut much nearer.

Mr. Bingham states that the reason for the decline in the production of square timber is the advance in the prices secured for finer grades. The Gatineau mill owners, seeing better financial returns in the latter, adhere to it. The Gatineau, however, was never improved for the passage of square timber as were the Coulonge, Black river and other tributaries of the Ottawa, and hence more was cut along the banks of the latter streams. Mr. Bingham cites his present season's business as proof that the Ottawa lumber business is not declining, although

It took six weeks to release the 500,000 saw logs, ties and pieces of pulp wood that became wedged at the Cascades retaining boom. This was the largest collection of logs and good

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