

permanent in its details, for it may hereafter be found advisable to open forest land for agricultural purposes, or to withdraw additional areas from settlement to extend the forest. But from time to time the limits should be fixed and should not be encroached upon irregularly.

This system would offer several advantages of importance.

1. It would open the way for the scientific cultivation of our public forests and for their permanent preservation, a policy that should be at once adopted.

2. It would facilitate the treatment of these public forests as real estate expected to produce an annual crop—as capital from which a yearly income should be derived—and not as a source from which might be derived casual receipts to be treated as revenue, even though the property is alienated.

3. It would diminish the risk of fires spreading through our present forests or those to be planted—a risk against which it is very hard to guard under the ordinary method of clearing land—so long as agricultural settlements are interspersed with forest.

4. It would put an end to much of the divergence of interests, the disputes and contentions between settlers on wooded land and holders of timber limits and licenses. The lumberman need not intrude on the settler's lands or the settler upon the lumberman's limits.

5. It would prevent settlers from being tempted to clear and expend their energies, time and money upon land that is poorly fitted for agriculture, and that would be far more economically and profitably devoted to the production of timber.

Without the adoption of some such system Ontario will soon experience the financial disadvantage of having a large portion of its capital, its forests, vanish for ever, to the impoverishment of the country, with nothing to show for the receipts that had been used to meet current expenditure. It will also experience the economic disadvantage of no longer having any timber to export or even for its own use, but will on the contrary have to import from abroad.

It is urgently necessary that our remaining forest should be reserved and in part renewed before it is too late, and we would invite thoughtful consideration of the policy we have outlined. —*Peterborough Review.*

WASHINGTON TIMBER.

The Seattle, W. T., *Post Intelligencer* thus describes the timber of a locality in Washington Territory: "A man from Illinois, who recently visited the Quiloute country with a party of land seekers, returned a day or two ago, and called to tell us what he found there desirable to seekers of government land. A number of little prairies were seen that for beauty and fertility cannot be excelled, while the bottom land is as rich as the best anywhere. Game and fish are also very abundant, so that a settler of very ordinary ability as a sportsman need not trouble about meats for his table. The timber, though, is the crowning glory of that country. It consists of fine maple, cedar, alder, fir, and spruce—principally the two latter varieties. Our informant saw great tracts of spruce that average four and a half feet in diameter, with trees here and there nine and 10 feet through. Trees rise 250 and 200 feet above the ground. Altogether, it is the best timber country he ever saw or heard of, the only disadvantage to it, or depreciation of its value, being the absence of saw mills and local demand and the lack of an outlet to the trade abroad. A continuance of immigration there, however, will greatly change matters and appearances during the next two years."

NORTH OF LAKE SUPERIOR.

A reporter of the *Ottawa Citizen* has had an interview with Mr. H. J. Hubertson, an old journalist, who has been taking a trip on the C. P. R., north of Lake Superior. From the published account we take the following extracts:—

"Did you learn anything as to the extent of the timber district remaining?"

"No. Nothing definite. Still it must be enormous, as the headwaters of the streams emptying into the Ottawa and Lakes Nipissing

and Huron are not yet encroached on. Mr. Klock is making a raft of square timber near Vouvo Station, and Mr. James Worthington is making two rafts of square timber at Sudbury Junction, for shipment by rail."

"Where do the Construction Company get their timber?"

"They have erected two portable steam mills west of the Sturgeon and saw the boards and dimension timber required. They own oak and other timber lands near there, and it is thought will also erect saw works at Sturgeon Falls, where there is good water power."

"The country is all under timber license along the line of railway. I believe?"

"Yes, along the stream emptying into Nipissing and French rivers. Worthington has the license of McKim township at Sudbury Junction. The licenses do not extend very far back, however."

"Will not this interfere with settlement?"

"I think not; rather otherwise. The timber will be cut, and the settler will work for the lumberman in the winter and on his own land in the summer, and all his farm produce will be immensely valuable."

CHOICE LUMBER.

One of the choicest lots of lumber that has been brought to the Chicago market for many a month, and we might reasonably say year was seen upon the docks of Messrs. Cutler, White & Boice. It had just been received from the mills of White, Friant & Co., Grand Haven, Michigan, and comprises upwards of a million feet which is running 75 per cent. better than common, Chicago yard grading. Fully 40 per cent. of it is thick uppers, and 45 per cent. is grading better than C. The lumber bears the "diamond" brand adopted by the manufacturers and was sawed from Grand river stock, which, according to the timber statistic sharps, should be entirely played out. The rule was laid across any number of pieces of three-inch plank, from 21 to 23 inches wide, clear as a quill and handsome as a piece of rough lumber could well be. The lot contains a very desirable 1½-inch stuff that is especially sought after in this market and altogether it ought to prove a veritable bonanza to its holders. They may be confidently assured of one thing, which is, that every inch of it will not only be wanted, but eagerly sought after before the saws that made it got half their next season's revolutions made. The yard of Messrs. Cutler, White & Boice presents altogether one of the finest and best selected stocks of lumber we have ever seen in pile. The amount now in hand is about 9,000,000 feet, and so well arranged that an order for anything that enters into the construction of a building can be filled to the last stick without going off the premises for any of it.

Forest Land Flat.

BANGOR, Me., Nov. 15.—The first reports of the damage by the gale gave but a slight idea of the havoc wrought. The calamity appears to be of great magnitude. The greatest damage appears to have been within a belt some miles wide crossing Piscataquis county and northern Penobscot into Aroostook. Great stretches of forest were levelled to the ground and millions upon millions of valuable timber destroyed. Whole townships in some instances are said to be nearly flat. The loss is certainly several hundred thousand and one well known lumberman estimates the total damage throughout the state at a round million.

The Cardiff correspondent of the *Timber Trades Journal* of Nov. 3, says:—This week we have again had a large number of arrivals with Canadian goods. A good many of the deal vessels, both from the Baltic and Canada, have had to wait four to six days in the roads before they could be admitted into dock, as our docks are so crammed, that it is even difficult for vessels to move in them. Of course this is very detrimental to the trade, and shipowners demand higher rates of freight than otherwise would be the case. Business is good; all our importers are very busy, both in receiving and delivering, and the prospects appear to be very satisfactory.

THE *Madoc Review* says:—Mr. Blount informs us that Gilmour & Co.'s suspension of the past few weeks was only temporary, and they are again going on with work both at headquarters and in the woods. Large gangs have gone to the shanties during the past day or two, many men having never come out when work stopped, expecting to go to work again shortly. The firm's operations this year will be quite as large as usual. This will be very gratifying news. We regret, however, losing Mr. Blount and the company's office from Madoc, both of which will be sorely felt.

E. S. VINDIN,

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Notice to Contractors.

THE LETTING of the work at the upper entrance of the CORNWALL CANAL, and those at the upper entrance of the RAPIDE PLAT CANAL, advertised to take place on the 15th day of NOVEMBER next, are unavoidably postponed to the following dates:—

Tenders will be received until TUESDAY, the FOURTH day of December next.

Plans, specifications, &c., will be ready for examination at the places previously mentioned on and after TUESDAY, the TWENTIETH day of NOVEMBER.

For the works at the head of the Galop Canal tenders will be received until TUESDAY, the EIGHTEENTH day of DECEMBER. Plans and specifications, &c., can be seen at the places mentioned on and after TUESDAY, the FOURTH day of DECEMBER.

By order,
A. P. BRADLEY,

Secretary.

Department of Railways and Canals,
Ottawa, 20th October, 1888.

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If not sold on blot by the 10th of October, will be sold in lots to suit purchasers.

Catalogues giving particulars of the Machinery, etc., can be had from the liquidators, or at the offices of W. H. OLIVE, No. 107 Prince William Street; T. MCNEIL & SONS, 13 King Street, St. John, and W. E. SKILLEN, St. Martins. 1121