

# QUEBEC

AREA OF FOREST LANDS YET UNLICENSED. LOCATION OF THE VARIOUS CLASSES OF TIMBER. STATISTICS OF THE PORT OF QUEBEC. THE ST. MAURICE RIVER A GREAT LUMBERING CENTRE. REPRESENTATIVE MILLS.

**W**HILE the white pine forests of Quebec possess the greatest wealth in proportion to their extent, the spruce forests are rapidly becoming more valuable from a commercial point of view. The pine forests of this province have been denuded of their timber to a greater extent than is the case in Ontario, but nevertheless there still exist considerable quantities both of the red and white variety, principally located in the Ottawa valley. The valley of the St. Maurice river once contained valuable pine forests, but spruce now furnishes the principal source of wealth. The spruce forests, which are being more and more exploited every year, extend much further eastward than the pine, and beyond the St. Maurice valley and south of the St. Lawrence are found the largest trees.

A report issued by the Quebec Crown Lands Department in 1893 gives an estimate of the quantity of timber lands yet unlicensed. According to this report, the total area of Government lands still vacant and not yet under license to cut timber, as well as can be ascertained (the northern boundary line being assumed to be for the present at the height of land, a line which is extremely irregular and geodetically determined at a few points only) is certainly not less than 75,000,000 acres, or 117,187 square miles, of which say 45,000,000 acres may be deducted, being

Excellent spruce, and in quantity, is to be found in the St. Maurice, Saguenay, Lake St. John, Rimouski, Bonaventure and Grandville agencies, as well as tamarac and cedar, the latter being notably good and abundant in the three last named localities.

Tamarac is spread evenly all through the divisions just mentioned. White birch is met with everywhere, but is particularly plentiful in the St. Maurice valley and the Saguenay and Rimouski districts. Cypress, scrub pine (Banksian pine), predominates in the Saguenay region. According to the surveyors' reports, this timber (which is well adapted for railway ties) covers the extensive tracts of land watered by the Peribonka, Bersimis, Aux Outardes, Manicouagan rivers and tributaries.

Moreover, all through the immense tracts of country just described, an unlimited supply of poplar, spruce and other soft woods can be found, especially suited for the manufacture of pulp. In fact, on this pulp-wood trade, which is yearly taking greater proportions, most probably depends the best future prospects of a great portion of these back regions.

The right to cut timber in the province of Quebec is disposed of at auction by the Government, the licenses being subjected to a yearly ground rent of \$3 per square mile, together with the Crown dues. The receipts derived from timber dues, bonuses, ground rents, etc., for the year ending June 30th, 1895, were \$772,355.56.

In the province of Quebec are situated two of the most important shipping ports of the Dominion, viz., Montreal and Quebec. In earlier years, so far as the shipment of forest products was concerned, Quebec was the most important port, but with the construction of railways and the gradual cutting away of the forests came a revelation in this connection, until to-day the greater portion of deals and lumber is loaded upon the steamers at Montreal for shipment across the Atlantic. Quebec has, however, maintained her position as the shipping port for square timber. Below will be found some interesting statistics bearing on the timber trade of this port:

## EXPORTS FROM PORT OF QUEBEC.

|      | WHITE PINE.<br>Cub. Ft. | RED PINE.<br>Cub. Ft. | OAK.<br>Cub. Ft. | ELM.<br>Cub. Ft. | ASH.<br>Cub. Ft. |
|------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1890 | 5,498,380               | 355,520               | 1,119,160        | 530,260          | 15,280           |
| 1891 | 4,715,120               | 249,350               | 897,280          | 675,800          | 130,320          |
| 1892 | 5,300,440               | 379,680               | 1,127,580        | 637,800          | 177,880          |
| 1893 | 4,092,280               | 312,670               | 1,013,160        | 421,840          | 168,840          |
| 1894 | 3,468,600               | 146,120               | 937,840          | 528,880          | 134,920          |

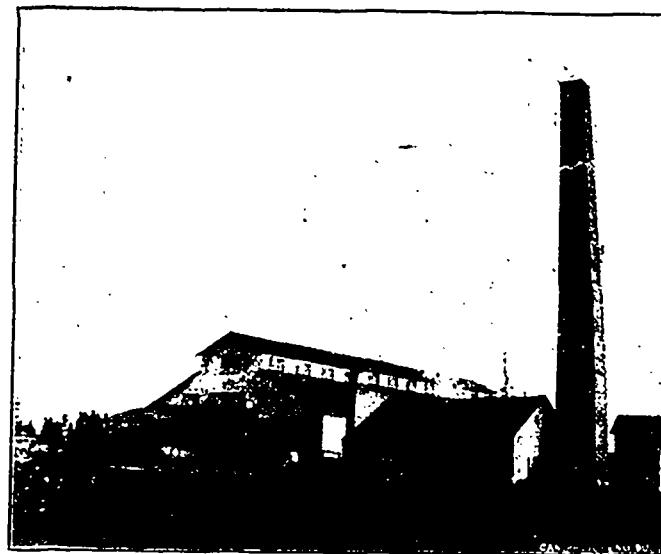
|      | BIRCH.<br>Cub. Ft. | PINE DEALS.<br>Quebec Stds. | SPRUCE DEALS.<br>Quebec Stds. |
|------|--------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1890 | 493,740            | 1,075,992                   | 3,975,576                     |
| 1891 | 148,320            | 704,472                     | 2,280,409                     |
| 1892 | 345,840            | 361,045                     | 3,629,783                     |
| 1893 | 121,480            | 728,300                     | 3,540,000                     |
| 1894 | 189,920            | 479,700                     | 3,462,800                     |

## STOCKS WINTERING AT PORT OF QUEBEC.

|      | WHITE PINE.<br>Cub. Ft. | OAK.<br>Cub. Ft. | RED PINE.<br>Cub. Ft. | ELM.<br>Cub. Ft. | ASH.<br>Cub. Ft. |
|------|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1890 | 8,327,842               | 753,566          | 612,918               | 459,501          | 99,383           |
| 1891 | 4,992,578               | 520,040          | 348,145               | 102,608          | 21,357           |
| 1892 | 4,452,660               | 291,541          | 359,455               | 181,811          | 49,000           |
| 1893 | 3,762,217               | 376,141          | 339,789               | 391,452          | 50,761           |
| 1894 | 3,207,564               | 609,205          | 282,084               | 244,145          | 99,059           |

|      | BIRCH.<br>Cub. Ft. | PINE DEALS.<br>Quebec Stds. | SPRUCE DEALS.<br>Quebec Stds. |
|------|--------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1890 | 13,752             | 246,015                     | 774,020                       |
| 1891 | 13,177             | 274,782                     | 1,119,950                     |
| 1892 | 45,593             | 142,633                     | 579,588                       |
| 1893 | 29,245             | 145,916                     | 844,718                       |
| 1894 | 13,242             | 63,624                      | 579,774                       |



THE WARREN CURTIS SAW MILL, THREE RIVERS.

## TONNAGE ENTERED AND CLEARED AT PORT OF QUEBEC.

|      | OCEAN STEAMERS. | NO. OF STEAMERS. | SAILING VESSELS. | NO. OF VESSELS. |
|------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1890 | 642,874 tons.   | 341              | 320,093 tons.    | 381             |
| 1891 | 623,858 "       | 313              | 233,327 "        | 252             |
| 1892 | 753,379 "       | 379              | 307,301 "        | 346             |
| 1893 | 835,876 "       | 415              | 190,418 "        | 211             |
| 1894 | 779,944 "       | 368              | 163,297 "        | 191             |

|      | FIRST ARRIVALS FROM SEA. | LATEST SAILINGS. | LENGTH OF SEASON OF NAVIG'N. |
|------|--------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| 1890 | April 29                 | November 25      | 211 days.                    |
| 1891 | " 27                     | " 26             | 217 "                        |
| 1892 | " 27                     | " 24             | 215 "                        |
| 1893 | May 6                    | " 22             | 217 "                        |
| 1894 | April 26                 | December 5       | 226 "                        |

A correspondent at Quebec, under date of 15th October, sends us the following letter relating particularly to the various coves at that port:

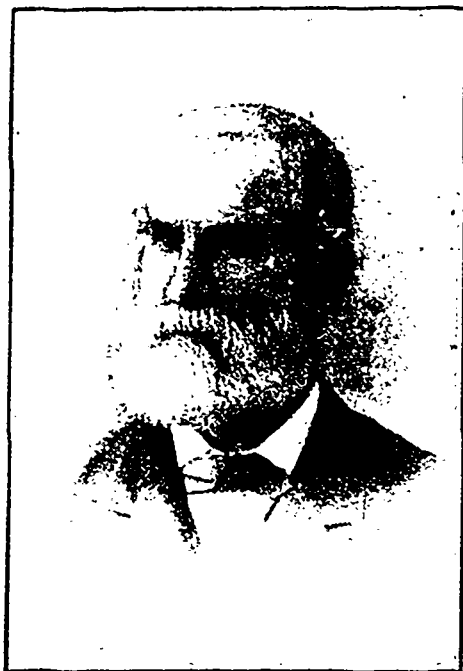
Any lumberman coming to Quebec now, during the season of navigation, will express surprise at the unusually small quantity of timber (particularly pine) in the different coves. Starting at Cap Rouge, I am sure many of your readers will remember the number of rafts which formerly moored here every summer, in the booms of the Cap Rouge Pier & Wharf Co., while this season, at the present moment, there is not a raft intact, and in fact very few sticks of timber in the whole cove. Of course, almost all the wood which came into Cap Rouge cove in former years was from the Ottawa district, and as the production last winter in that locality was exceedingly limited, this to some extent accounts for the scarcity of stock in the cove.

The next cove on the way down to the city is Victoria cove, and here there is not even a boom to be seen, the wharves all going to ruin.

Next come Bridgewater and Safety coves, owned and operated by the Messrs. Sharples, where a brisk business was done this season.

Rings' End cove, a commission boom, owned and operated by Messrs. A. H. Falardeau & Co., comes next, and contains at present a very small stock of oak, etc.

New London cove is next in order, and here the large



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destitute of timber, leaving 30,000,000 acres still untouched and to be disposed of for the requirements of the future. Of the above superficies three to four million acres may be safely computed as pine growing. The remainder is chiefly covered with spruce, cedar, tamarac, white birch, cypress, maple and birch. The above named species in the order where they each predominate may be distributed as follows:

Pine in the Lower Ottawa and St. Maurice agencies, but principally in the Upper Ottawa valley.