

it a misdemeanor, punishable by five years' imprisonment and a fine, (1) to make a contract for the sale or purchase of stock in any company or undertaking in Canada or elsewhere, or of merchandise with the intent to make profit by the rise or fall in price, and without the bona fide intention of acquiring any such stock or merchandise; (2) to make a contract for the sale of stock or merchandise with the intent to profit by the rise or fall in the price thereof, when there is no delivery or bona fide intention to give or receive delivery of the stock or merchandise so bought or sold. This section applies to every one who "acts, aids, or abets in the making or signing of any such contract or agreement." It is also a misdemeanor, subject to a year's imprisonment, to habitually frequent any office or place when such contracts are made, signed, or negotiated. By the second section the onus of proving the bona fide nature of the intention with which the contract was made rests on the party charged under the act. By section 3 every one, either principal or agent, occupying, using, managing, or maintaining the place in which the contracts prohibited in the first section are made, negotiated, or signed, shall be held to be the keeper of a common gaming house, the house or place shall be held to be a gaming house, and the tablets, blackboards, slates, and other implements used in recording prices or fluctuations in the prices of stocks, shares, merchandise, etc., shall be held to be gaming implements within the Dominion Act for the suppression of gambling houses.

THE forests of Quebec were the theme of discussion recently in the Legislative Assembly of the Province. In the first place Mr. Poupore obtained an order of the House for copies of all correspondence exchanged between the lumbermen of the province and the Commissioner of Crown Lands on the subject of the protection of the forests against fire, for which protection \$5,000 were voted in the year 1884. It is to be hoped that this step will lead to due attention being given to this very important matter of so great interest not only for the trade but for the public revenue and for the whole community. Immediately afterwards Mr. Tessier moved a resolution, which after a long preamble, setting forth the evils resulting from the destruction of forests, the benefits derived from forests, cultivation and the large profits which the different countries of Europe drew from their forests, declaring that "it is of the highest interest for the Government to take measures to introduce the study of silviculture which has produced such good results in Europe and India, so as to permit the Province to draw from the forest means of augmenting its revenues and to promote systematically the interests of colonization by furnishing the colonist with a safeguard for the future." The resolution was adopted. The system of setting apart forest reserves in the Province of Quebec is to be abandoned and it is said that regulations are to be adopted reserving a certain amount of timber for the settlers on each lot. It is to be hoped that this does not indicate the encouragement of settlers upon the limits, for that is a system which infallibly leads to much distinction of property, and to friction which might well be avoided. Till these regulations are actually framed it would be premature to say that they must necessarily be mischievous, but the report is not assuring.

DURING the month just closed the tariff on lumber has had a generous share of attention in the debate in Congress over the Mills bill. Notwithstanding a most persistent opposition, the lumber clauses of the bill, taking off the United States customs duties, were accepted. It was surprising what wide differences of opinion there were, even among those of the same side, whether for or against the reduction. Hardly any two speakers seemed quite in accord as to the exact incidence of the duty, some holding that the Canadian manufacturer paid it, and others that it was paid by the United States, while others thought that it was divided in various proportions. Some maintained that the change was simply making the Canadian lumbermen a present of the amount of duty, while others declared that it would give the people cheap building material reducing the profits of the United States lumbermen. It was urged that it would preserve the pine forests of the North-Western States while depleting those of Canada, but others argued that by diminishing the value of the United States forests it would make owners less careful of the property. In the course of the debate "Sunset" Cox, of New York, is reported as saying that the lumbermen were almost all millionaires, men who had made the forests of Michigan almost a calcined desolation. He wanted to protect the forests against a tariff which offered a premium to selfish people to cut them down, leaving scars and waste places and breeding places of malaria. Mr. Dockery of Missouri, said the explanation of the failure of lumbermen's wages to increase lay in the fact that 90 per cent. of the workmen were Canadians. Mr. Guenther, of Wisconsin, predicted that the Democratic party, if it passed this bill, would go to that place paved with good intentions where every limb and knot of timber would be used,

not to raise the revenue, but to raise the temperature to at least 600 deg. above zero. The debate on the pending paragraph expiring, the amendment to strike out from the free list timber hewed and squared, and timber used for spars and whaves, was rejected by a vote of 61 yeas to 101 nays. On June 19th an arrangement was concluded whereby the tariff bill was laid aside for a week or ten days, therefore for the present it is difficult to foresee what will be the ultimate outcome. There is, however, no doubt but that the prospects are improving for a removal of the lumber duties at no distant date, even if the measure is not carried this year.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

TORONTO, June 17th, 1888.

Editor Canada Lumberman.

SIR,—In your issue of June 1st there appears a letter signed by one "Pinus," in which assertions, too one-sided in their nature, are made, that I cannot allow it to pass entirely unchallenged. The present state of affairs as described by "Pinus" has been caused, and maintained up to the present by the retail men themselves. They one and all decline to purchase at the mills, or to quote their own words, "decline to buy a pig in a sack," and desire to see what kind of lumber they are getting for their money; therefore the lumber has to be brought here for their inspection, and if not sold (in order to release the cars) must be piled off until such times as a purchaser is found. Again the retail dealers are so close in financial matters, that I think I may say, that, without exception, they all require the wholesale dealer to pay the entire freight charges before they accept a car of lumber—and this is done in nearly every case, so that the assertion made by "Pinus" that the retail dealers contribute largely to the revenue of the railway company is not correct, and the railway companies are well aware of this fact, and therefore grant privileges to wholesale dealers which they would not otherwise give them.

"Pinus" is well aware that the wholesale dealers have tried in vain to compromise all differences existing between the wholesale and retail men, and all in vain. Some of the retail (or if "Pinus" would like the term better—yard men) are so utterly selfish they want to have all their own way, and give nothing in return. The offer made by the wholesale men was as follows: If the yard men will agree to buy all the lumber they require from the middle-men, and not go to the mills, we on our part promise not to break bulk or sell to any consumer. This offer was declined by some of the most important men in the yard trade, and the matter stands so. There is still another more important phase of the question left untouched by "Pinus," and that is the financial part. I venture to assert, without fear of contradiction, that during the entire of the last winter, that retail men did not return more than 25% of their paper as it matured, and the wholesale dealers had to carry them through, and one considerable dealer has shown his appreciation of the wholesale dealers leniency, by making away with all his effects and absconding from the country, leaving many creditors to mourn his dishonesty. Is it any wonder I would ask "Pinus" in view of facts above given, that we prefer to distribute our lumber as suits us best, and to reduce our risks as far as possible?

Now as to what quantity of lumber a dealer must sell at one time in order to be classed as a wholesale dealer. I would ask "Pinus" if a grocer sells 10 or 20-lbs of sugar or tea is he not called a retail dealer, and if on the other hand he sells a brl. of sugar or a chest of tea does he not stand as a wholesale man; and the same with a dry goods man, if he disposes of cloth by the yard he is classed as a retailer, if by the bale, as a wholesale man. I therefore claim the same latitude for the lumbermen. If we sell less than a car load we are retail dealers, if by the 1,000 ft. and car load lots, we are retail and wholesale dealers, and just there comes the rub with "Pinus." He evidently desires to be able to sell by car load or smaller quantities and still claim to be only a retailer. "Pinus" had better take the advice given to the shoemaker, "stick to your last, my friend." If "Pinus" and his confederates in the trade will only do this, and so not touch on the preserves of the wholesale men, there will be some chance of a full and complete separation of the operations of both retailers and wholesale men. Then in conclusion let me define our position and our wishes as to the equity of the relations sought to be established between the railway companies and the wholesale dealers. We desire to pay for all we receive, and we frequently pay for a little more than we absolutely get. We have made the following offer for their acceptance: Allow 12 ft. as a suitable space for piling off one car of lumber, charge us for that space, and if we do not keep the space occupied that will be our own fault. Can "Pinus" say that we are trying to gain any advantage over the retail men by this offer? There is little to fear, but the railways will charge us much more per foot than any retailer is paying for his holding, and that coupled with frequent doubling up of parts of cars, and first

cost of unloading will make our cost of handling equal to the yard men's. We ask for no monopoly, and will certainly not claim squatter sovereignty. We only ask fair play and to be allowed to do our own business in our own way, paying for all the privileges given us, and asking favors from none. I trust this explanation of the position we wish to occupy will satisfy even "Pinus."

Truly yours,

WHOLESALE.

## Trade With Australia.

Editor Canada Lumberman.

SIR,—I enclose you a letter which arrived here some weeks prior to my return from Australia via England. It may be of service to your numerous readers. It is from the Hon. Phillip Santo, of Adelaide, South Australia. I know Mr. Santo very well. No man in Adelaide has a better reputation. I have no personal interest in the matter referred to in this letter. I presume, however, that I told him what I told many others in that prosperous British colony, that there ought to be a larger trade, especially in timber, between them and the Canadians, who were in possession of as extensive forests and as great a variety and as excellent quality of timber as any country in the world. A great deal of the lumber used is at present brought from the Baltic. What I saw (and I saw a good deal of it) was apparently from second-growth pine, with more knots than could be counted, and with no board above six inches wide. It seems to me a large trade might be established between these two great colonies of Great Britain in other branches of industry as well. I saw spades, shovels, hoes, forks, and other horticultural, and agricultural implements imported from the United States. I think we can send as good and as cheap. They must soon (as I predicted in various parts of the country) have stoves such as we use, both for cooking and heating purposes. These are not manufactured at all in Australia. Yours, etc, D. V. LUCAS.

Grimsby, June 16th, 1888.

ADELAIDE, S. Australia, March 12, 1888.

Rev. Dr. D. V. Lucas, Montreal, Canada:

DEAR SIR,—Since you left South Australia I have felt very sorry that I did not speak to you on a matter of business in which I have no doubt you are quite able to obtain for me information that would be of great service in forwarding the object I have in view.

If I am correct, I understood from you when in Adelaide that some of your friends were engaged in the timber and shipping trade. I have been supplied with spruce deals, clear pine, Canada siding and shelving from Boston and New York, and in this way the timber has cost me much more than it should do by direct shipments from some port in Canada.

If, on receipt of this, you can place it in the hands of some good house in the timber trade who would be desirous of doing business with me I think it could be made mutually profitable.

We are short of stocks of this description of timber at present and I think we shall be so for some time. The information I would like to have, if possible, is: The prices on board or afloat at Port Adelaide, say cost, freight, and insurance; the shippers to draw on me at 60 days after sight for the value of the timber and insurance, freight to be payable in the colony, vessel to be about 400 tons or less, the timber to be sound and good in quality. As time is an object with us, your friends might telegraph prices at once, and I will reply. If they do not like to telegraph they may write, but in this way we shall not have the necessary information in time for this season's supply. If they should telegraph, they will only have to state price of each kind of timber in the order in which the specifications enclosed herewith are numbered, say No. 1, price per thousand feet super., which would mean spruce deals, so much per thousand feet super.; in the same way No. 2 would mean dressed shelving; No. 3, Canada siding; and No. 4, clear pine, all at per thousand feet super. as 12x1, as per specification. The vessel to be consigned to me with usual commissions.

Should your friends require any reference I would refer them to the Bank of South Australia, London. \* \* \* I remain, dear sir, yours, faithfully,

PHILLIP SANTO.

P. S.—If this matter be carried out satisfactory, I have no doubt but that it will lead to a considerable business in the future, as our silver and tin mines are opening out most satisfactorily, and the consumption of timber must be very large in the future.

## SPECIFICATION OF SPRUCE TIMBER SUITABLE FOR THIS MARKET.

No. 1. Say 500 pieces 7x3, 400 pieces 9x3, 8,000 pieces 11x3. Length to run, say from 12 feet upwards to 25 feet; greater proportion to run 15 feet and upwards. Short lengths required for stowage to be 11x3. Timber to be thoroughly dry when stowed, and all sound and of good quality, as free from knots as possible.

No. 2. Shelving dressed, say as follows: 12x1 inches, 10,000 sup.; 14x1, 4,000 sup.; 16x1, 3,000 sup.; 18x1, 3,000. To run full size when dressed: bright and clean and as free from knots as possible.

No. 3. Canada siding, 3 to 8 inches thick, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18 inches wide and wider, 12 to 16 feet long. About 15,000 super.

No. 4. Clear pine, 3 to 8 inches thick, and mostly from 12 to 26 or 28 inches wide; length 12 to 16 feet. About 20,000 super. Both siding and clear pine to be free from knots.

The above approximate specifications of proportions of the different kinds of timber to be increased or diminished according to the carrying capacity of vessel.