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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

NO. 1.

JOHN DONOGH first opened his eyes in the city of Toronto during the eventful year of 1854, consequently he is not an authority, except from reading and hearsay, on the Crimean war, or that free trade period of Canadian history so frequently alluded to by a section of our press, as the only prosperous and progressive epoch since Jacques Cartier stumbled on to our eastern shores. Some ten years of juvenile life spent at Mono Mills, (then in the "bush,") laid a good foundation for his future development of bone and muscle. Subsequent school training received in Toronto fitted him to face the world and carve out a livelihood.

He commenced to carve by delivering "jerked lightning" round the city for the Montreal Telegraph Co., and graduated from the desk of that company to "jerk" slivers out of his fingers when showing lumber to customers for S. R. Briggs, the pioneer lumber merchant of the Queen city.

In '68 there was a slight difference between the office help and furnishings of a lumber firm and the equipment of similar offices in '91. The assistant was a Pook Bah, and as such waded through the duties now performed by the telephone, the office boy, bookkeeper, city salesman and correspondent. To S. R. Briggs must be given the credit of establishing the wholesale, jobbing or middleman trade of Toronto, his business being almost confined to the disposal of car and vessel lots.

Under such training a man had lumber "greatness thrust upon him," and the subject of our illustration found himself in '76 so "choke" full of logs, lath and lumber, metaphorically speaking, that he embarked in the lumber trade on his own account on the retirement of his employer from active business life.

Joseph Oliver, (a salesman for Briggs) T. S. McCool and John Donogh, composed the new firm, whose shingle suspended over the doorway of 37 Adelaide street, east, read: "Donogh, McCool & Oliver." Some six months spent in their modest offices built up a trade which compelled them to seek more commodious quarters, and they removed to the Imperial Bank buildings on Exchange Lane. In '82 Mr. McCool withdrew from the partnership, leaving the firm to prosper under the name and style of Donogh & Oliver. On the opening of the new Board of Trade buildings, the firm rented a suite of offices on the second floor, overlooking Yonge street, Nos. 213, 214 and 215.

The business of the firm is confined to jobbing alone. They operate no limits, nor do they possess any mills. Purchasing agents cover the ground at all points, who keep them well informed of the quality and quantity of cuts; and agents and salesmen scattered over the inland towns and villages of western Ontario dispose of stocks for the home trade.

The season's output of a great many mills are purchased and sold locally, provincially and to the United States as far east as the Atlantic.

In that class of lumber merchants who do not manufacture and sell wholesale, it was generally conceded that Christie, Kerr & Co., S. C. Kanady & Co., and Donogh & Oliver led the van. The failure of the first two firms, the extra facilities obtained and employed

for purchasing, and a constantly increasing foreign trade, have pulled the firm to the front, and in volume of business they head the list as jobbers.

We selected Mr. Donogh as a subject of our first sketch, from the prominent position he occupies as the ex-chairman of the Lumber Section of the Board of Trade and now the occupant of a seat in the council, where for the first time lumber is strictly represented. His executive ability, backed by such an influential body, must result in redressing some minor evils that interfere provincially with the lumber trade, and the voicing of their resolutions by him, will carry the weight of a member thoroughly determined to fight for any reform, or to oppose any encroachment.

PERSONAL.

Hon. Mr. Joly de Lotbiniere has been strongly urged to be a candidate for the forthcoming election for the Province of Quebec, but has refused the honor



MR. JOHN DONOGH.

H. Cargill, M. P., one of Bruce county's big lumbermen, was in the city during the month.

G. W. Brisley, a well known and much respected mill man, of Fesserton Ont., dropped dead from heart disease two weeks ago.

Mr. W. Edwards, a well known lumberman and late member for Russell, is again the Reform candidate for that constituency. Mr. Edwards is a capable man and will likely lead his party to victory on the 5th inst.

We were pleased to meet in the office of THE LUMBERMAN, Mr. Wm. Foster, lumber dealer, Owen Sound; W. C. Irvine and Mr. Chas. Ashby, of Pontypool.

Mr. John Stah who had been seriously ill at Quebec, has returned to London, Eng.

Mr. Benjamin W. Arnold, the well-known lumber king of Spanish river, died at his residence in Albany, N. Y., last month. His demise will be learned with deep regret.

Amongst the nominations on the 27th ult. we notice the names of quite a few prominent lumbermen. East Bruce has two in the field, Cargill, ministerial, Truax, opposition. Ottawa has also two, Robillard, ministerial, Nagle, independent. Ministerial candidates were nominated as follows: Dickenson, Carleton Co.; Desjardins, Hochelaga, Que; Bryson, Pontiac, Que. Opposition nominees are: Schell, Glengarry; Waldie, Halton; Cook, Simcoe; Edwards, Russel; Prefontaine, Chambly, Que.; Meigs, Missisquoi, Que. The conservatives lose two old representatives in Rykert, of Lincoln, and Wright, of Ottawa Co., Que. In the retirement of Alonzo Wright, the Dominion, not the Conservative party alone, suffers a national loss. Irrespective of race or creed, few men in the House of Commons held a higher reputation for honesty and few sacrificed so much time and personal interests. Many patizan causes are advanced as to his reasons for voluntarily giving up his seat, but it can be presumed that a man who knows so much about public questions of the day, knows enough to gauge correctly his own private reasons.

Mr. Jas. Dollar, who was injured on the railway New Year's night, is still confined to his room at Bracebridge Ont.

Messrs. Fred. Taylor and Charles Marshall, of Orillia, have gone to work on a mill Mr. Wm. Tait is erecting in British Columbia.

T. J. Hammill, Barrie, Ont., a prominent lumbermen, was prospecting in British Columbia last month.

Mr. Wm. Mackay, lumberer, Ottawa, Ont, with his son and the two Misses Mackay, left by the G. T. R. on the 20th on a trip to California.

T. S. Higginson, Crown Timber Agent, in British Columbia, had his leg broken in the railway accident which happened on the Canadian Pacific near Schreiber, a station on the Lake Superior section.

Wm. Stahlschmidt, manager the Canadian Office and School Furniture Co., of Preston, Ont., went west on the 17th ult. to superintend the placing of several car loads of opera chairs, school desks, etc., in Manitoba and British Columbia.

John McLean, the journalistic father of protection, died in Toronto on the 13th. The deceased was born in Glasgow in 1825, emigrated to Canada when a boy, and with his parents settled in Brantford, Ont. Before entering journalism in 1863 on the Hamilton Times, he operated a sawmill at Seneca, Ont. on the Grand river. When the Mail was established in 1870 he was its protectionist editor for eight years, and followed up his theory on the World, contributing largely to that journal's ethics, autonomy in Canadian commerce, education, nationality and patriotism.

Mr. T. S. Higginson, Dominion lands agent at New Westminster, was far less injured in the Canadian Pacific Railway accident near Schreiber than at first reported. His leg is severely bruised not broken.

Mr. Harcourt Smith, of Quebec, who is now in London, Eng., will prolong his visit until the spring.

Mr. Francis Maguire, the well known lumberman, of Ottawa, is assisting the Reform candidate in Renfrew Co., and Mr. A. Miscampbell, M. P., of Midland, is opposing his fellow lumberman H. Cook, in Simcoe Co.

Mr. R. S. Wilson, at one time a member of the lumber firm of McCrancy, McCool & Wilson, this city, and now with Messrs. W. N. McEachren & Co., was married to Mrs. S. Irving recently. THE LUMBERMAN extends its best wishes for the future happiness of the newly-made twain.

We wind up our fatalities and casualties with a reorganization of the old saw, awaiting the record of the saw for April. "Tree spare the woodman" "Saw spare the sawyer."