

QUEBEC FOREST RESERVES.

Notwithstanding the sweeping changes brought about last year by the Quebec government in the tenure of timber license holders by abolishing the forest reserve act, says a writer to an exchange, it appears that outside members of that legislature must needs try their hands at curtailing the rights of the limit holder to the profit of a class of men who have, in the past, proved a curse to the country. I mean the pretended settlers. When the forest reserve act was passed a few years ago an end was put to the frauds and consequent damage previously perpetrated under pretense of settlement.

It will be remembered that last year the government brought in a bill which passed the lower house abolishing the forest reserve *in toto*, and thus placing the limit holder at the mercy of speculators, who, under the guise of settlers, could go into the heart of a man's limit, select the lands on which the choicest timber grew, and then, in the names of a sufficient number of his employees, buy the lots (each sale being limited to 200 acres to one man) making one payment on them. And, as this bill provided that all timber cut on sold lots, previous to the issue of the deed by the government, should be subject to the payment of the same rates of dues as if cut under the timber license, and that the dues on such timber should be credited against the purchase price of the land, the government were thus virtually giving away not only the land, but the timber on it, and consequently the revenue which they would have derived from it, had the license holder's rights been protected, but offering a premium to men of small means and elastic consciences to invade the timber country ostensibly as settlers, but really as despoilers of those who, at considerable expense, had fostered the timber and allowed it to grow while paying the government all the time a ground rent for the privilege of cutting it when suitable for profitable marketing. These points being properly represented at the time, the upper house passed the bill with an amendment that the license holder should have thirty months after the sale of a lot to cut the timber on it, which in a small degree remedied the graver faults of the bill as first presented; but even this involved serious results both to the revenue and the limit holder, for naturally as soon as a lot was sold, the limit holder would immediately proceed to take the Pine timber off without regard to size, and thus timber which in a few years would be of great value to the country would be cut down when of little or no value, practically speaking, in comparison. The lumberman would, in a manner, be forced to this course, for, as he had a right to the timber for two years and a half, the settler would have no object in preserving it if left standing; consequently in making the improvements required by the terms of his purchase, he would not care whether it was burnt or not by fires made to clear his land, and thus not only the timber on his lot destroyed, but for miles around, as has been frequently the case in years gone by, involving incalculable loss to the country and not infrequently ruin to the pioneer of a prosperous settlement, the lumberman. It appears strange that men occupying high positions of trust should be led away by specious arguments of interested individuals or political exigencies, instead of being guided by the experience of years of men whose whole energies have been devoted to solving the problem of how to deal with the public lands and timber, so that the interests of the government, which means the public at large, the lumber merchant and *bona fide* settler should be each justly and fairly dealt with without detriment to any of the three. The nearest approach to this solution was the forest reserve act, which protected the government revenue, because as it was all under license, as the ground rent was always coming in, when the timber was cut the dues on it were paid, and consequently the public got all that the law allowed them for their timber. It protected the settler because he was prevented from going into a country known to be undesirable as agricultural land, spending money in fruitless efforts to hew out a house for himself and family where he would at best but eke out a scanty existence while the lumbermen worked in his vicinity, and be compelled, after years of useless toil, to leave the

place where the best years of his life were fruitlessly spent, to return to a more populous settled district, and take his chance of succeeding in what he might have secured had he settled there first.

It protected the lumberman, because he knew that his rights were secure. He was interested in protecting the timber, by using every precaution against fire, and by only cutting such timber as it was profitable to produce, letting the smaller timber grow till it was suitable to cut. But the Quebec government did not think it a just law. Therefore it was abolished, and the sorry substitute which I have described adopted. Now it seems as if even this will be driven out of existence at the desire of a class of men who have no practical knowledge of the subject, and none but personal or political ends to serve, to gain favor with the farming community, who are in the majority. It would look as if the best interests of the country, because the lumbering interest is undoubtedly the best, are to be sacrificed and frittered away to the benefit of nobody or class in particular, but to the detriment of the country at large for no other earthly reason than that the lumber trade has been prosperous for a few years, and a party strengthened in its hold on the office.

Ontario Exports.

The following table, taken from the Trade and Navigation returns, shows the exports from the Province of Ontario for ten years, from 1878 to 1887, of pine logs, planks boards and joists:

Year.	Pine logs M. ft.	Value.	Plks, bds. and joists M. feet.	Value.
1878.....	106	\$ 673	292,435	\$ 2,504,703
1879.....	72	784	282,247	2,579,835
1880.....	2,020	13,298	491,270	4,137,062
1881.....	2,632	20,208	473,788	5,390,702
1882.....	1,243	15,323	500,685	6,094,001
1883.....	1,641	11,377	445,360	6,145,520
1884.....	964	7,906	445,406	6,166,057
1885.....	373	2,284	403,107	5,058,035
1886.....	2,004	24,429	420,122	5,201,795
1887.....	6,349	49,237	300,169	5,193,774
Total.....	19,269	\$155,539	4,207,655	\$45,775,087

Ottawa Exports.

The following summary of the exports of lumber from the city of Ottawa during the year 1888 has been compiled by the *Free Press* of that city:

Manufacturers.	English Market.	South American Market.	United States Market.	Local, chiefly Montreal.
E. B. Eddy Mfg. Co.	30,000,000	5,000,000	20,000,000	15,000,000
Gilmour & Co.	20,000,000	.....	20,000,000	10,000,000
Bromsons & Weston	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lumber Co.	2,000,000	20,000,000	25,000,000	18,000,000
R. Hurdman & Co.	.....	20,000,000	25,000,000	15,000,000
Perley & Pattee	20,000,000	3,000,000	19,000,000	15,000,000
J. R. Booth	45,000,000	5,000,000	15,000,000	15,000,000
J. McLaren & Co.	3,000,000	.....	12,000,000	15,000,000
W. McClymont & Co.	1,000,000	2,000,000	3,000,000	4,000,000
Pierce & Co.	6,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000	4,000,000
W. C. Edwards & Co.	20,000,000	2,000,000	13,000,000	10,000,000
The Rathbun Co.	.....	.....	3,000,000	2,000,000
Hamilton Bros.	20,000,000	.....	20,000,000	10,000,000
Ottawa Lumber Co.	3,000,000	.....	.....	7,000,000
R. & W. Conroy	.....	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000
Buckingham Mills.	10,000,000	.....	5,000,000	15,000,000
C. P. R. Line	5,000,000	50,000,000	50,000,000	20,000,000
Scattering	2,000,000	1,000,000	5,000,000	12,000,000
Total values.....	\$17,000,000	\$23,000,000	\$250,000,000	\$190,000,000
	\$3,740,000	\$2,214,000	\$3,750,000	\$1,520,000

Of the above quantity, what goes to the English market is almost entirely carried by barges to Montreal and Quebec, of the South American market lot about 30,000,000 feet are carried in barges to Montreal, about 20,000,000 feet by rail to Portland, and the balance by rail to Boston. Of the 250,000,000 that go to the United States market the following division may be made: 75,000,000 carried direct to Albany and New York in American boats, 50,000,000 by barge to Burlington, 30,000,000 by boat and barge to Oswego and the balance by rail; or, in words, about 512,000,000 feet are removed by water, 218,000,000 by rail and 2,000,000 used in local consumption.

Some Things Worth Knowing.

Always lace a belt so that the ends tie in the middle, and not at one end.

To clean zinc, moisten a cloth with kerosene and rub well; afterwards rub with a dry cloth.

To remove rust from steel, take one-half ounce of emery powder mixed with one ounce of soap and rub well.

Where a heater is used, a pump is more economical as a boiler feed than an injector; but an injector is always preferable where there is no heater.

If you ascertain the thickness of a boiler shell in decimals of an inch, and shift the decimal point three places to the right and then divide the number thus found by the diameter of the boiler in feet, the quotient obtained is the safe working pressure in pounds for that boiler.

Remember, in arranging belts, to have the slack side on the top; it is the proper as well as philosophical way to have a belt run.

To make a flange joint that won't leak nor burn out on steam pipes, mix two parts white lead to one part red lead to a stiff putty; spread on the flange evenly, and cut a liner of gauze wire—like mosquito net wire—and lay on the putty, of course, cutting out the proper holes; then bring the flanges, "fair," put in the bolts and turn the nuts on evenly. For a permanent joint this is A1.

A new process has been devised for cleaning lubricating oil that had once been used, so that it can be used again. The oil is poured gently over a bed of iron which is strongly magnetized. The heaps of iron fragments constitute a magnetic sponge which stops all the particles of metal, especially those of iron. The oil is then passed through two hair filters, and comes out perfectly clean.

PUBLICATIONS.

The annual number of *The Commercial*, published at Winnipeg, is out, and is brim full of interesting matter. It is the only purely commercial paper in Manitoba and is a credit to the rising and progressing constituency it represents.

We take pleasure in acknowledging receipt of a copy of Mr. J. L. Stanley's "Handbook for Hardwood Lumbermen," containing rules for inspection, etc. It is a handy little volume, and from a careful perusal of its contents we judge it is just about what the hardwood dealer has been looking for for some time. Our readers interested in hardwood would do well to send for a copy to J. L. Stanley, 236 Superior St., Cleveland, Ohio.

The Office, published from 66 Duane street, New York, is one of our most valuable and interesting exchanges. It is devoted to accounting and business management and has made hosts of friends throughout both the United States and Canada. The paper is conducted by Mr. A. O. Kittredge, long connected with the *Metal Worker and Carpentry and Builder*. Sample copies of this excellent publication will be sent free on application.

The *Canadian Furniture Dealers and Undertakers' Journal*, the initial number of which came to hand last month, is still another addition to the trade journals of the Dominion. The new paper is issued by the Sterling Publishing Co., Brockville, Ont., and makes a good typographical appearance. Advertisers seem to have given it an exceptionally good "send off" and if they continue as they commenced and pay a reasonable sum for the privilege, the new paper ought to bloom like a green bay tree. It has the best wishes of THE LUMBERMAN at all events.

The celebrated "Hanging Gardens of Babylon" were within the precincts of the palace called "The Admiration of Mankind." They consisted of gardens of trees and flowers on the topmost of a series of arches 75 feet high and built in the form of a square, each side of which measured 400 Greek feet. The city of Babylon, with its famous gardens, was razed to its foundation, 690 B. C. Two Thousand, Five Hundred and Seventy-Nine years later we find the celebrated gardens of James Vick in Rochester, New York. For description, Catalogue of seeds, advice how to obtain free a copy of Vick's Floral Guide and also of the famous new rose, called "Vick's Caprice," address, James Vick, Seedsman, Rochester, N.Y.

FIRE RECORD.

The planing mill belonging to R. H. Chandler, Markham street, Toronto, was totally destroyed by fire the early part of February.

The shingle mill near the village of Feversham, Ont., owned by John Hudson, has been destroyed by fire. It was insured for \$600.