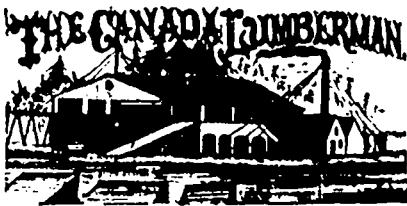


**Travelling Agent.**

MR. A. L. W. BEGG has been appointed agent for the CANADA LUMBERMAN, and is authorized to collect subscriptions and grant receipts therefor and to make contracts for advertisements appearing in its columns.



DEVOTED TO THE LUMBER AND TIMBER INTERESTS OF THE DOMINION.

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Advertisements intended for insertion in any particular issue should reach the office of publication at least three clear days before the day of publication, to insure insertion.

All communications, orders and remittances should be addressed and made payable to TOKER & Co., Peterborough, Ont.

Communications intended for insertion in the CANADA LUMBERMAN, must be accompanied by the name of the writer, not necessarily for publication but as a guarantee of good faith. Communications to insure insertion (if accepted) in the following number, should be in the hands of the publishers a week before the date of the next issue.

PETERBOROUGH, Ont. DEC. 1, 1881.

A PROPOSITION has been made to establish a woodenware factory in Lindsay.

THE Medonte Lumber Company have made preparations for getting out 4,000,000 feet of pine this winter, in addition to a large quantity of oak, elm, basswood, and black birch.

WE would direct the attention of consumers of hardwood lumber to the advertisement of the Medonte Lumber Co., and the manufacturers of the same article to the advertisement of the Kingston Locomotive Works, both of which will be found in another column.

A Log 30 feet long and 57 inches in diameter was sawed into inch planks at the Seattle Lumber and Commercial Co.'s mill. Some wide planks were needed for the Reinig-Voss building, and this log was used to fill the special order. The stick scaled 4,663 feet, and probably contained 5,000 feet of lumber.

THE Hon. Mr. Joly, in a recent election speech at Montreal, said:—"Mr. Chapleau endeavored to show that the Province was in a prosperous state, and as a means of establishing that position he spoke of the \$700,000 received from Crown lands as legitimate revenue which they had a right to depend upon. This was not so. It took a pine tree 400 or 500 years to grow, and the money realized by the sale of timber from the Crown lands was their capital, and not a revenue upon which they could depend."

THE Toronto Globe says that the Kingston and Pembroke road will yet have a large lumber traffic, probably sooner than it would otherwise have enjoyed on account of the persistence of Mr. Peter McLaren in obstructing the log navigation of the Mississippi. The limits of the Messrs. Caldwell lie far up the river from the railway crossing, and it is, I believe, their intention to erect a mill near the latter point, thus saving many miles of stream driving, and getting rid of a portion of the disputed river. Mr. McLaren has a mill already in operation near the same place.

It is stated from Alpena, Mich., that there will not probably be quite as many logs cut this year as last. There will be a large amount of last winter's cut left over. The mills have not cut as much as was intended in the spring. The breaking of Richardson's dam, in the beginning of the season, was a serious detriment to business, a full month's work in most of the mills being lost by it; besides, it disarranged the operations of the boom company to such an extent as to be an embarrassment the entire season, and mills have often been obliged to shut down temporarily because of it.

A SPECIAL telegram from Ottawa says that a well known forwarder, in speaking of matters pertaining to the forwarding business, says that while the same rates had been obtained during the season now practically closed, as in 1880, wages had advanced fully 20 per cent., and there was a decrease to fully that extent in the carrying capacity of the barges, owing to the low state of the water. He considered the outlook for 1882 very favorable, as more lumber will be cut, and as the construction of the dam at the Chute au Blondeau, the only really dangerous piece of navigation between here and Montreal, would greatly benefit the forwarders, doing away with the delays which have hitherto proved so serious. He thought the dam had proved a success beyond all question, and that now even the largest steamship could ascend the Chute without trouble or danger.

**AN UNKNOWN FOREST.**

MR. NIVEN'S EXPLORATIONS OF THE TAMAGAMANGUE COUNTRY—LOTS OF GOOD PINE.

Mr. A. Niven, P. L. S., of Haliburton, has just returned from making a survey of the country between Lakes Nipissing and Tamagamangue. The survey was made under the direction of the Ontario Government, and is merely preliminary to the laying out of a large block of townships, the base lines for which were laid down in this survey. A Globe reporter called upon Mr. Niven and gleaned much interesting information respecting the district, which hitherto has been almost unknown. Mr. Niven, with a party of thirteen men, set out from Lake Nipissing in the middle of June. The party penetrated to the north east corner of the Township of Field, where the survey was to commence.

Here four months of laborious journeying commenced, almost every step having to be cut through a dense forest.

The first line was cut from the northeast angle of Field due northward eighteen miles nearly to the southern shore of Lake Tamagamangue. Along this line the country is undulating, and rocky ridges with an occasional swamp appear. The swamps, however, are only of small extent, and the ridges are rarely sharp, or show exposures of bare rock. In fact they are more like plateaus, and are densely wooded with pine, birch, poplar, etc. The pine is abundant and of excellent quality, being quite equal to any Mr. Niven has seen elsewhere in Canada. The soil is a sandy loam except where it is rocky. Returning twelve miles southward, Mr. Niven struck twelve miles eastward, finding a comparatively level country, similar in vegetation to the country on the north line. Maple is also present. On this line the soil is in parts excellent, and fully a third of it good arable land. The pine is good. Returning to the north and south line, the party then cut their way due west twenty five miles. For the first twelve miles the surface is much like that already described, and good timber abounds.

**AT THE STURGEON RIVER,**

which flows into Lake Nipissing, the soil is clayey and the timber good—very fine pine trees appearing. In this neighbourhood Mr. Niven saw the only great damage done by the fires of the past summer. This was a *brule* two miles wide and ten long. The trees were all, or nearly all killed, but were not burnt down. Burning down rarely occurs in the first fire which sweeps over a country. This fire took place in May, and originated in a fire kindled by a camping party at a portage. The roughness of the country gradually increases westward towards Sturgeon River, but good land and timber is found in large areas along the route.

Westward of the Sturgeon the party entered a *brule*, or

**TRACT OF BURNT FOREST.**

The conflagration which swept over it occurred six years ago, and was extensive. At one time, Mr. Niven says, the *brule* was to be seen six miles on every side of him. The spectacle was a strange one. The tall pine trees still stood rearing their blackened forms over a hundred feet into the air, and stretching out their withered limbs in ghastly malediction over the foliage, which but for them would form a vast lake of verdure. Where the pine trunk was not, there the underbrush was. This dense underbrush consisted of a young growth of poplar, birch and cherry, ten or twelve feet high. Here and there over the top of the starchy trees rose the bare cliffs or barren hillsides of the Laurentian formation, but down in the flats the surveyors travelled for hours without seeing more than a yard or two ahead. Beneath the tangle of underbrush, through which the axe had to cut a way, stretched in every direction the decaying forms of forest giants. In this desolation the twenty-five mile westerly line was completed, and the party turned northward for twelve miles, sketching the east shore of what is marked on the map as a fifteen mile long lake, but which is in reality a chain of three lakes, one of which—the smallest—bears the euphonious name Ahpetagickickung, and the others Wahnapachietegoganchanunguo and Olopangishgamackickongue, or some names equally unintelligible. Till within the last four miles of this northerly line the route was through a *brule*. Then came a fine piece of country, well timbered with maple, birch, balsam and spruce. From this point Mr. Niven, about the middle of September, turned eastward, on the sixty mile line leading to the Ottawa. The first four miles were like those just traversed, and much of it well adapted to agriculture. Then came

**THE STURGEON RIVER.**

This stream is a fine one. Its lower course is impeded by several falls, but the part lying in Mr. Niven's survey is obstructed only by rapids. It flows through a comparatively fertile valley, with a current two hundred to three hundred feet wide and fifteen to twenty feet deep. The banks are only ten or twelve feet high and are of quicksand and clay, which mingled, form a broad valley on either side. The banks of the stream are finely timbered with hardwood and pine. Leaving the river the line runs eastward over high plateaus broken by the chain of lakes leading from Lake Tamagamangue to the Sturgeon River. As the South Bay of the Tamagamangue is approached the maple becomes one of the most common of all the trees and the scenery is beautiful. A fine country extends from the South Bay a few miles eastward, where the land becomes high and rolling. Then on to the Tamagamangue River the soil is poor. From this river eastward the timber, soil, and appearance of the country are much like those north of the township of Field, and include, of course, some very good land and excellent pine. Then for fifteen miles the country is comparatively flat and is covered with a thick growth of white birch, spruce, balsam, poplar, and small pine. Swamps and rocky ridges are rather frequent. Good land appears here and there. Then comes a stretch of moderately good land near Ottertail Creek, and extending to within six or seven miles of the Ottawa River. This last stretch includes much excellent pine, but the soil is sandy with large areas of granite rock and *brule*.

**LAKE TAMAGAMANGUE.**

At South Bay the party stopped for a time to explore Lake Tamagamangue. The lake is of a very irregular form, consisting of a central part 30 miles long by 15 to 20 broad, and three arms. The greatest length of the lake is probably sixty miles. The water is remarkably pure, and abounds in fish. The shores are not high, nor are they on the other hand marshy. The number of islands dotting this lake and forming a labyrinth of channels is surprising. The islands are all wooded, and the scenery is beautiful, and may be compared to that of the Thousand Islands. On one of the islands is the Hudson Bay Post, around which sixteen Indian families are settled. The Indians here, and at Temiscamingue, and on the reserves at Lake

Nipissing, are the only ones in this part of the country. Lake Tamagamangue has two outlets—one by a river of that name, flowing southward into the Sturgeon, and the other by a river which expanding into Rabbit Lake, flows north-easterly under the name of the Matabige wan River, a branch of the Ottawa. The Tamagamangue as it leaves the lake is 130 feet wide, and of a fair depth. The other outlet is equally large. It was explored to Montreal River by Mr. Galbraith, one of Mr. Niven's explorers.

**SOIL, LUMBER AND MINERALS.**

Mr. Niven cannot speak of the south eastern part of the district, as the lateness of the season prevented the completion of the survey in that part. Along the Sturgeon River the soil is clayey, elsewhere it is sandy loam or rocky. The rock is not so much exposed, nor are the rocky ridges so common as in the country south of Lake Nipissing. About one-third of the surface consists of arable land. There is a large amount of fair-sized pine in the district, and of excellent quality. It is easily reached, streams of considerable volume abounding. There are unmistakable indications of iron in the territory, and Mr. Niven has brought specimens with him.

Mr. Niven visited McLaren's saw mill depot, about two miles south of Lake Temiscamingue. He says that if he hadn't seen it he would not have credited the existence of so fine a farm in this part of the country. There are 260 acres cleared and 100 acres without a stump. The buildings are good and splendid crops of oats and roots are raised. Indian corn is grown. Wheat would be grown, but there is no mill to grind it. The soil is first-class.

As the season was late when the party reached the Ottawa they took canoes to Matawan and thence returned home by road. The region traversed was not known to the white man, and Mr. Niven found that chains of lakes marked in the maps had no existence, and that rivers were marked away from their proper positions. His explorations are, therefore, important as making known for the first time a district almost as little known as Central Australia.

**The Variability of Bricks.**

A correspondent suggests that the market price of bricks should be rated according to their size, weight, and crushing strength. He instances two lots of brick, sold at the same price per thousand. One lot averaged  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{4} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$  inches in size, 5 lbs.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  oz. in weight, and broke at 5,490 lb. per square inch. The second lot ran about  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 4 \times 8\frac{1}{2}$  inches in size, weighed only 4 lb.  $8\frac{1}{2}$  oz., and broke at 3,610 lb. per square inch. The real values of these two lots of brick were obviously very unequal. As our correspondent says it makes a vast difference to the builder of an arch or pier if he calculates on bricks standing 500 tons to the square foot and gets them half as strong; or if he figures on 4,500 bricks per rail of 306 cubic feet, and if it takes 5,500. He thinks that every brick maker should guarantee a certain size, weight and crushing strength—which they will probably do when (and not be fore) builders refuse to purchase bricks which fall short of a stipulated standard of size and quality, or make their contracts with the brickmaker or dealer contingent, as to price, upon the character of the material delivered.

**Southern Woods at the Atlanta Exhibition.**

One of the notable exhibits at the Cotton Fair is the fine display of Southern woods, both rough and polished. It includes the sweet gum, a light colored wood, often worked up for coffins; the tupello, a tree that cuts like cheese, but cannot be split, used by the negroes for corks; the famous (and infamous) palmetto; the Spanish bayonet, with stiff blades, sharp as needles, and serrated edges; the swamp cypress with its pointed excrescences, three feet high, springing from the root; and the curled pine, which takes a grain polish like the curled maple, but infinitely more vivid and beautiful.

The Georgia saw mills—there are eight hundred of them in the State—have sent in some colossal pine logs, one of them a sylvan monarch, straight as a needle, seventy feet long, twenty inches in diameter at the smaller butt, and some four feet thick at the base.—Scientific American.