

To what number could you reduce the staff of specification clerks, if the cullers were employed by the year and assisted in the office?—I am unable to say, as the measuring of the timber and the making out of specifications take place about the same time.

Is there sufficient work for these four men during the whole winter?—Yes, there is work.

Could you recommend any diminution in the number of the specification clerks in consequence of the cullers assisting in the office?—No; as the culling and measuring and the making out of the specifications are being performed about the same time. The services of the cullers in the capacity of clerks would be too uncertain to depend upon.

Whether the employment of the cullers on specifications would enable you to reduce the number of extra specification clerks employed?—I believe it would reduce the number of extra clerks and expense.

How much should cullers get as a fixed salary?—From seven to nine hundred dollars for the season; say from the 1st May to the 15th November, and they should be classified.

How many pieces of timber is one culler capable of measuring in one day?—A great deal of that would depend on the facility afforded by the parties who file the requisition, in placing the timber in such position as would enable the culler to get through with his work. While they are measuring they can measure about eight hundred pieces of Ottawa timber in one day, with the assistance of two boys. In measuring timber from the lakes, the number of pieces a man would measure in a day is very uncertain, as the timber is rafted in such a way as to prevent its measurement without being broken up. There are two rafts now remaining, the measurement of which is not completed, by reason of the owners not being prepared to break them up, one of which arrived in 1872 and the other in 1873.

In case the superannuation system be adopted, how much should be allowed annually to those incapacitated from old age and infirmities?—I would say two hundred dollars each per annum to all the cullers attached to the office who would be deprived of employment by the change now contemplated.

To what number could the cullers in all the departments be reduced?—Say about fifty at present, but I am of opinion that the young men who would remain, and at present holding a license only for one department, might qualify for one or two, or the whole of the other departments, and by that means could be kept more constantly at work and thereby reduce the number of men required to, at most, forty; and all future applicants a higher qualification should be required, that is, they should be competent in all the branches, possessed of a fair education, reading, writing, and arithmetic, to comprise vulgar and decimal fractions, and the extraction of square root.

In the event of a reduction of the cullers from sixty to forty, to what extent do you think the culling fees would be reduced, allowing the average pay of cullers to be \$500?—Keeping in view the desire expressed by the trade generally to have an independent Board of Survey, and a moderate pension to those cullers who would be left out of employment, I am of opinion that for the present at least the tariff cannot be reduced, unless the whole of the lumber be passed through the office. If counting was done away with, and all the deals, planks, boards, and lathwood culled, the rates now paid for deal might be reduced one-fourth.

Do you not think that if the rotation system was abandoned, and the fees for culling should be reduced to half the present rates, the cullers required by the trade would still be well paid?—I do not think so; and am of the opinion that while private companies are paying from \$1,000 to \$1,600 per annum for men to perform their work, the trade cannot expect to get competent, sober and honest men to discharge the duties expected of them at the rate above indicated.

Do you not think that in case the culling of timber should be thrown open to all who hold certificates, the work would be more efficiently done, and that it would give better satisfaction to buyers and sellers?—I do not think so.

Do you consider the present mode of settling disputes arising out of the measure.