

and disaster to the business of the whole country. Is it desirable that the lumber trade should cease? It certainly would as a result of the resolution, as in less than six months the British market would be overloaded and collapse. The import duty was not imposed as a blow at Canada; it was imposed because the industries there clamored for it. An export duty would not build up villages, but kill them. I live in a village of 3,000 people which is almost entirely dependent upon the lumber business, and it would be destroyed by an export duty. Instead of the two dollar duty being a detriment to Canada, it will be a benefit. We are cutting our forests altogether too fast. In the United States some white pine still exists, and just as long as it can be obtained it will be preferred. Let the Americans go ahead and exhaust their supply, and then we will come in and make money. In the Ottawa valley fewer logs will be taken out this winter than heretofore. I think we should be compelled to curtail our production. That is my position, and I would take the same stand in the House of Commons even if it were to defeat the government. Referring to the proposal for an export duty on pulpwood, he said the United States would take exactly the same action in this case as in the case of lumber, and the people who would be injured would be the farmers. He desired to see many pulp mills in Canada, but until they were built he was opposed to placing a duty on the material, which would circumscribe the supply and raise the price to the farmer.

Mr. Brennan followed. He did not believe the restriction would be an injustice to American holders of timber lands. Previous to 1892 there had been an export duty on logs, and it was removed by arrangement between the two governments. Now we were justified in putting on the duty, as the United States had taken the initiative and broken the agreement. If no action was taken, manufacturing would be diverted to Michigan. Were we not, therefore, in danger of losing our own citizens?

Here Mr. Beck jocularly suggested that the government compensate the Georgian Bay manufacturers for their loss and tax the Ottawa people a corresponding amount.

Mr. Lovering was pleased with the first resolution. The question was one of the most important that had ever come up in the province. He asked the sympathy of his Ottawa friends, who, he said, were in a favorable position to cater to the foreign market.

Mr. Edwards: "Not one-third of the timber will make deals for the British market."

MR. LOVERING SPEAKS.

Mr. Lovering, continuing, said he considered the Georgian Bay interests of more importance to the country than those of the Ottawa valley. He thought he could speak from a provincial standpoint. Look what the lumbering trade means to Owen Sound, Penetang, Collingwood, Midland, Victoria Harbor, Waubesa, Orillia, Peterboro', Gravenhurst, Huntsville, Burt's Falls, and dozens of other towns. Their interests were completely wrapped up in the lumber business. He believed if the government had taken action last summer, and said, "we will put on dollar for dollar," the United States duty, instead of being two dollars, would have been one dollar. If the Ontario government placed restrictions on the exportation of logs, they could go to Congress and offer something tangible, but if they did not, Congress would rightly think that they were only bluffing. He pointed out that the duty was on Canadian labor, and not on Canadian lumber. The United States were quite willing to admit Canadian timber, but if any labor is put upon it in the shape of manufacturing it into lumber, then it is subject to the duty. The tax is therefore not on the lumber, but on the labor. The wisest thing they could do was to protect the forests. Why, he asked, should Canadians strip their woods for the Michigan mills and the Canadian mills be allowed to stand there and rot? Nor, he said, will the Ottawa valley escape. Just as soon as the Americans have finished with the Georgian Bay, they will cross the divide, and then the Ottawa men will rue the day they opposed making restrictions.

Mr. Lovering, upon retiring, was greeted with loud applause.

Mr. Charlton: "There has been much discussion apart from the motion before the meeting. I have said nothing for or against an export duty. My resolution merely affirms that it would be judicious to defer action until

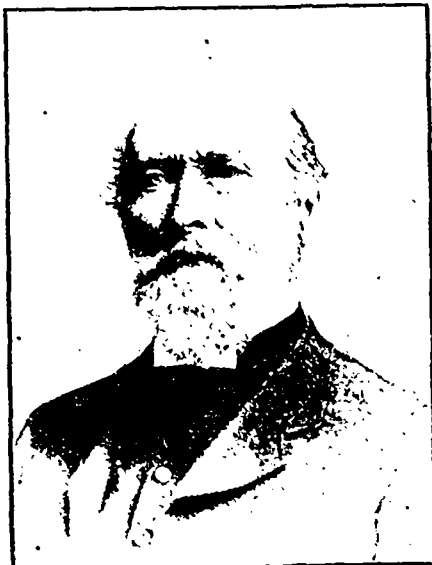
Congress assembles. The real opinion of Congress has never been obtained on this question. I may take this meeting so far into my confidence as to say that Messrs. Alliston and Aldrich, two members of the Committee of Congress, informed me privately that they did not sanction the duty on lumber, but that no objection had been made to it through fear of endangering the whole bill in which it was incorporated. It is a mistake to imperil our chances by passing the resolution before the meeting. If the proposal of Messrs. Scott and Bertram becomes law, Mr. Lovering will see only 500,000 feet of lumber cut in the Georgian Bay district within 18 months."

Mr. Lovering: "I would rather see it in 18 months than in five years, when the Americans would have taken away all our timber."

Mr. Newman, of Warton, urged the chairman to proceed with business as rapidly as possible, as several of those present desired an opportunity of voting on the question and had only a short time to remain.

Before taking the vote on the question, Messrs. Scott and Bertram, as mover and seconder of the resolution, were heard.

"Mr. Charlton has made a piteous appeal to defer action," said Ald. Scott, "but the appeal came from the other side of the line. His sentiments are not those of a true Canadian lumberman. He asks that we defer simply that we may ask the United States to take us into their pitiful consideration. The Michigan lumbermen had placed the whole question before Congress, and the result



MR. A. H. CAMPBELL, SR.,
President Ontario Association of Lumbermen.

was the \$2 tariff. If Congress could do nothing then, I see no reason why they should now. I believe that delay would be only prejudicial. The United States would think we were afraid, and every day we wait our case is prejudiced."

Mr. Scott said he felt aggrieved at the manner in which Mr. Charlton had treated himself and some others, and he thought he (Mr. Charlton) owed them an apology. He explained that at a conference of some of the Georgian Bay lumbermen at the Rossin house, Mr. Charlton admitted that we were entitled to free lumber for free logs, but if they could not get this they would concentrate their efforts to keeping the duty down to one dollar. They were all pledged to strict secrecy, but Mr. Charlton, in an interview with an Ottawa newspaper man, stated that Canadian lumbermen were willing to submit to a one dollar duty. This Mr. Scott characterized as a breach of trust, as nothing, he said, could have transpired between Saturday and Monday to convince Mr. Charlton that free lumber was an impossibility.

Mr. Charlton undertook to reply in a somewhat roundabout manner, reverting to the advantages which he claimed to have secured some years ago for the lumbermen of Canada.

The Chairman: "That is not answering the question. You must confine your remarks to the answer."

Mr. Charlton: "These points have a direct bearing upon the question, and I claim the right to so answer the question as to place myself properly before the meeting." Continuing, he said: "At the Rossin House I admitted that Canada was entitled to free lumber, but said that I

did not believe we could get it, and advised concentrating our efforts to secure the one dollar duty. At Ottawa I met some lumbermen and a reporter, and discussed the lumber question, giving it as my opinion that the one dollar duty would be generally accepted. The reporter took the liberty of publishing a private conversation."

Mr. Charlton referred to his efforts at Washington to obtain free lumber, but he was again reminded by the chair that this was away from the question, and retired with the remark that he wished the meeting to understand that he was not permitted to reply to the attack as he desired.

Mr. Scott continued the debate. With reference to the argument that had been used, that by imposing the restrictions they would be breaking faith with the American purchasers of claims, he referred to the fact that when the limits were purchased the question of an export duty was prominently before the country, and the purchasers were fully aware of the restrictions which might be adopted. He characterized Mr. Campbell's illustration with regard to wheat as inapplicable to the present case. The United States was not a market for wheat, and there was not the slightest analogy between the two cases.

Mr. Bertram, seconder of the motion, stated that Messrs. Edwards and Charlton asked them simply to do nothing. In place of going to Washington, we should legislate for ourselves. He cut logs in Michigan last year and is also cutting some this season, but as a Canadian he was prepared to stand the consequences of the resolution and allow the pine to stand in the woods, if need be. It was quite within the jurisdiction of the Ontario government to take the step asked, as in 1885 the government dues were raised from 75 cents to one dollar—a similar action. "Let us assert our manhood. We think we are right, and as Canadians and British subjects, let us give our opinions regardless of the United States," concluded Mr. Bertram.

This ended the discussion, and the chairman announced that the vote would be taken on Mr. Charlton's amendment. The result was 11 for and 50 against.

The original resolution submitted by Ald. Scott was then put and adopted, the vote being 48 for and 11 against. On motion of Ald. Scott, seconded by Dr. Spohn, a committee, composed of Messrs. Bertram, Rathbun, Waldie and Scott, was appointed to wait on the Ontario government and present the resolution.

ONTARIO LUMBERMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

Mr. Rathbun moved that steps be taken to form an Association of Lumbermen for Ontario.

Mr. J. B. Miller stated that such an association already existed.

"Has it not gone out of existence?" was asked.

Mr. Miller: "I think not; there are yet some funds in the treasury. Mr. A. H. Campbell, sr., is president, and myself secretary."

Mr. Newman inquired if the hardwood lumbermen were included in the association. He thought their interests should be guarded. They were now suffering from unfair treatment by the railway companies in the matter of freight rates.

Mr. Scott replied that they would become a section of the association in the future. He urged that the association be revived into renewed activity, and asked all present to become members.

Dr. Spohn moved, seconded by Mr. Charlton, that the Dominion government be requested to impose an import duty on lumber coming into Canada equal in amount to the United States import duty. This was carried by a vote of 35 for and 5 against.

Votes of thanks were then tendered the chairman, secretary and the Board of Trade, which brought the meeting to a close.

A Chicago lumber firm is said to have made a heroic effort to save \$6,000 duty on imported lumber on Saturday, July 24th. The firm had 1,750,000 feet on board of several steamers, and telephoned to Milwaukee to send out the tug Starke and bring the captains with their manifest to the city. Here a special train took the captains to Chicago, where the manifests were filed that night. The tariff law, however, went into effect on Friday night, and the trick therefore failed.