

but I am quite convinced that it is very greatly in the interests of Canada to promptly adopt the policy and enter upon its application without delay. If provincial income from stumpage should thereby shrink, we may be assured that every thousand feet of lumber taken out and so manufactured in Canada means the employment of more skilled labor, the erection of more durable and diversified lumber and wood-working establishments which, while employing more capital will greatly preserve and extend operations based on our forests, that will otherwise within the present generation be practically exhausted.

The export of logs from Canada to the United States:

In 1890 amounted to.....	\$ 681,265
" 1891 " " .....	722,845
" 1892 " " .....	1,112,687
" 1893 " " .....	1,508,116
" 1894 " " .....	2,749,370
" 1895 " " .....	2,227,819
" 1896 " " .....	1,717,770

The falling off in 1895 and 1896 was abnormal and, as all will recognize, caused by the severe trade depression existing in the United States; but the moment it is removed, the demand from the mills of Michigan, Ohio, and New York for Canadian logs will without an export duty very quickly exhaust what standing timber in Canada remains tributary to the Georgian Bay and North Shore waters.

The exports of pulpwood from Canada to the United States:

In 1890 amounted to.....	\$ 57,197
In 1896 " " .....	600,285

Exports of wood pulp from Canada:

In 1890 amounted to.....	\$147,098
In 1896 " " .....	557,085

Do not these figures (and they comprise four years of severe commercial depression in the United States) clearly demonstrate that enterprising men from Canada, Britain and the United States will be forthcoming to provide ways and means to manufacture our pulp timber in our own country to an extent quite commensurate with the standing timber we possess?

The government wisely wish to act in accordance with the mature judgment of the people—this judgment being founded on the facts. Believing this I submit my views, and ask the co-operation of others, and especially of those in the lumber trade, that the best results may be attained.

E. W. RATHBUN.