

## LUMBER RANKS BROKEN.

## DEATH OF FOUR PROMINENT LUMBERMEN.

## ISAAC MOORE.

An early lumberman of the Ottawa district, Mr. Isaac Moore, died suddenly a week ago. Deceased was born in Hull, January 15th, 1823, and was brought up here, but the last 37 years of his life was spent in Ottawa. He was a first cousin of the late David Moore. He leaves six children, three sons and three daughters to mourn his loss.

## EDWARD D. DAVISON.

One of the leading lumbermen of the Maritime provinces, in the person of Edward D. Davison, of the firm of E. D. Davison & Sons, died at his home, at Bridgewater, N.S., on the 21st February. Mr. Davison was born at Mill Village, Queen's County, N.S. His ancestors hailed from Connecticut. His first sawmill was started in his own village in 1840. In less than ten years he enlarged his milling capacity, and added steam to his water power. In 1865, in partnership with his sons, he commenced business on the Lahare river in Lunenburg County, and it was not many years before he was able to lead all competitors. In 1890 and 1891 the firm secured and remodelled the lumber business on the Midway and Nictaux rivers, comprising 100,000 acres of land and three lumber mills. Last year the firm cut 20,000,000 feet of logs, and 16,000,000 feet of lumber. In 1884 deceased was elected to the local legislature and served a term of four years. He was generous to a fault and had gathered around him during his life-time a large circle of friends. He leaves behind him a widow, three sons and four daughters.

## GEO. CORMACK.

Few lumbermen were better known throughout the province of Ontario than Mr. Geo. Cormack, of Whitby, Ont., whose death occurred on Tuesday, 20th February, in his 64th year. Particularly throughout the lumber territories of the north, deceased was well known, he having been a frequent visitor to these points for many years, where he had a large business connection. Geo. Cormack was born at Aberdeen, Scotland, in 1829. He was selected by the Queen's architects to carve a model of Balmoral castle for her inspection before that fine Highland palace was built. He came direct to Whitby from Scotland about 40 years ago, and shortly afterwards started a retail lumber business. From these small beginnings he branched out into milling and lumbering, developing an extensive wholesale lumber trade. Personally he was a man who was greatly esteemed for his high character, integrity and kindly disposition. He occupied for a short time a position as councillor of his own town, but he had no particular relish for public life, preferring to live the life of the quiet and respected citizen. He was a member of the Presbyterian church and a Liberal in politics. A widow, one son, and three daughters survive him. The business will be carried on as usual by the son, George, who, for the past three years, since illness had confined the father at home, has been the active head of the concern.

## JOHN B. SMITH.

On 7th inst., John B. Smith, founder and senior member of the firm of John B. Smith & Sons, lumber merchants of this city, passed away at the age of 75 years. Deceased was one of Toronto's best known and most highly respected citizens. While engaged in overseeing the erection of a mill at Angus two years ago he overtaxed his strength, and the result was the illness that finally caused his death. Mr. Smith was born in Greenock, Scotland, in 1819, and when a young man he followed his business as a ship carpenter at St. John, N. B., Charleston, S. C., and New Orleans. He subsequently went into business as a contractor, and as such he constructed a number of bridges on the Scottish Central, now the Caledonian Railway, one of them being the bridge at Stirling, over the Forth, and another over the Bannock at Bannockburn. He became a resident of Toronto on October 17th, 1850, having previously been a grocer and provision dealer, on a large scale, and

associated with him was Mr. Robert Jaffray. The business was continued until 1859, and in conjunction with it Mr. Smith carried on the business of a contractor and lumber dealer. Subsequent to 1859 he devoted himself exclusively to the lumber business, in which he succeeded, despite reverses which would have discouraged a less resolute man. Thrice were his factory and lumber yards destroyed by fire, and thrice his sawmills at Angus; but under his directing hand they rose up out of their ashes larger and better than ever. As a business man Mr. Smith was the personification of probity and uprightness. He would scorn to take an unfair advantage for gain, or to do any act that would involve a sacrifice of his honor. Though in later years a wealthy man, he led a life of unostentatious simplicity, and never lost sight of the smallest details of his business, every feature of which he knew thoroughly. If there was one thing that gratified him more than another it was to see work properly done, and the mechanic who acquitted himself well was always sure of his commendation. Mr. Smith was married three times. His first wife died in the old country, leaving one son. His second wife was a sister of Mr. Robert Jaffray, while the widow who survives him is a daughter of the late John Armour, of York Mills. The deceased leaves behind him twelve children—six sons and six daughters. Three of the sons have been partners in the business, and will continue to carry it on. Mr. Smith was a Presbyterian, and a member of St. James' Square Presbyterian Church. Politically he was a staunch and consistent Liberal.

## ONTARIO'S TIMBER POLICY.

THE timber policy of the Province was defended in a vigorous, and in many respects, exhaustive speech, from the Commissioner of Crown Lands during the debate on the Budget a few days ago. Mr. Hardy replying to a criticism as to the lumber output of the province for some years back gave the following figures: The output in 1869 was 524 millions of feet board measure; 1872, 678 millions, and in 1893, 765 millions, or not quite one hundred millions more in 1893 than in 1872. In 1886 the output was 625 millions; in 1887, 628 millions; in 1888, 781 millions, and in 1889, 818 millions. Four years ago the output was more than it was last year. In 1892 it was 694 millions, and in 1893, 765 millions, or about fifty millions less than in 1889. These figures represent the quantity of timber actually cut and upon which dues were paid.

When we come to consider revenue from Crown lands the case, said the Commissioner, is somewhat different, for the reason that the bonusing system is comparatively modern. In 1873 we received as revenue \$832,119; in 1882, \$539,610; in 1886, \$731,845; in 1887, \$1,004,304; in 1888, \$1,652,659; in 1889, \$1,027,531; in 1892, \$2,135,849; in 1893, \$1,858,896. On this point the following question was interjected by Mr. Clancey: Will the hon. gentleman permit me to ask if the ground rent, bonus and timber dues are not essentially a part of the same thing, growing out of the timber sale? Mr. Hardy replied: "Ground rents are not bonuses in the slightest degree. When the land is a virgin forest the ground rent of \$3 per mile is still payable upon it. Until the limits are put under license no revenue whatever is derived from them. The dues are paid on the timber when cut. It does not follow that the licensees will cut the timber when they pay their ground rent. They may wait 5, 10 or 20 years, and, in the meantime, the Government is receiving ground rent. The timber taken out from 1873 to 1882, inclusive, was 4,433 million feet; from 1883 to 1892, 6,184 million feet, or an increase of 39 per cent., instead of 83 per cent. The bonuses were, from 1873 to 1882, \$422,890, and from 1883 to 1892 \$3,189,000, or an increase of 654 per cent."

The hon. Commissioner then turned to a record of the timber sales before and since Confederation. Before Confederation there was sold, he pointed out, at the rate of fifty cents per mile, no fewer than 9,904 miles of timber, while there was also sold before Confederation 2,561 miles upon which was paid a bonus of \$116,771, averaging \$45.50 per mile. Thus the total disposed of before Confederation was 12,465 miles. Since Confederation the record of timber sales was as follows:—

The Sandfield Macdonald Government, in four years,

635 miles for \$165,362, an average of \$260 per mile.

The Blake Government, in one year, 5,031 miles for \$592,601, an average of \$117.79 per mile.

Mowat Government, in 22 years, 4,284 miles, for \$5,101,627.75, an average of \$1,205.15 per mile. Thus the total sales since Confederation amounted to 9,900 miles, which, added to the 12,465 miles sold before Confederation, made a total of 22,365 miles sold down to the present time.

The Sandfield Macdonald and the Blake sales were made subject to a ground rent of \$2 per mile, and to dues of 75 cents per thousand feet. Of the 4,234 miles sold by the Mowat Government the terms were as follows:

2,766 miles were sold subject to \$2 per mile ground rent and 75 cents per thousand feet dues; 835 miles were subject to \$3 per mile ground rent and \$1 per thousand feet dues; and 633 miles were subject to \$3 per mile ground rent and \$1.25 per thousand feet dues.

The Sandfield Macdonald Government made four sales in four years, or an average of one every year and the present Government had made six sales in twenty-two years—one in about four years. Put another way, the Sandfield Macdonald Government sales had averaged 159 miles per year, and the sales under the Mowat Government had averaged 192 miles per year. Continuing, the Commissioner showed that as between the present Government and preceding Governments the figures quoted show that there were sold during a period of 31 years prior to the time of this Government—1873

18,227 square miles, and during the 22 years of this Government 4,324 miles. He took the period of 31 years before the present Government took office because that was the time, about 1841, when the Government of Canada first began to make sales of timber. Of the amount sold before Confederation 9,904 miles were so sold at 50 cents per mile and 2,561 miles at an average of \$45.50 per mile. During the five years from 1867 to 1873, 5,666 miles were sold for \$759,963, or an average of \$133.77 per mile. From 1873 to 1894 under the Mowat Government, 22 years, 4,234 miles were sold for \$5,101,627, or an average of \$1,205.15 per mile.

Referring to the charge of members of the opposition that large areas of timber limits have been sold, which had they been reserved to the present time, would have brought greatly increased prices and would now have been filling the Provincial coffers, the Commissioner said: "It is true that there have been recent sales of limits between private individuals at very large prices, limits that were sold by the Crown 30 or 40 years ago, before the time of Confederation, when the fixed charge was 50 cents per square mile, or a little later, when the average was \$45 a square mile. For example, the Lumsden, formerly McLaren, limits sold recently for \$400,000, which were originally bought for 50 cents per mile. The Perley & Pattee limits on the Bonnechere, bought for 50 cents per mile, sold for \$750,000. The Dickson estate limits, bought at the same price, sold for \$400,000. The Georgian Bay Lumber Company sold a portion of their limits, bought from the Government for \$50 per square mile, for \$1,000,000, including some lumber, deducting which, the price for the limits themselves has been estimated at \$750,000. These limits were disposed of by the Crown before Confederation, and, of course, prior to the existence of the present Government."

The objection has been urged that it is wrong to use receipts from timber taken from the forests and apply it from year to year as revenue. The Commissioner replied by saying that there is not a single representative country in existence on this continent or elsewhere where the receipts from timber taken from the forests is not applied from year to year as revenue.

## A THREE CENT STAMP DOES IT.

ON receipt of a three cent stamp we will mail free to any address a copy of our little hand-book entitled "Rules and Regulations for the inspection of pine and hardwood lumber," as adopted by the lumber section and sanctioned by the Council of the Board of Trade, of Toronto, June 16, 1890. Address, CANADA LUMBERMAN, Toronto, Ont.

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