

THE CANADA LUMBERMAN

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BY THE WAY.

An English firm has just contracted with one of the large shipping houses in Quebec for the export of 5,000 standards, St. Petersburg measure, during next summer from Montreal and Charlemagne, equal to 360,000 pcs., Quebec standard, and representing over \$250,000.

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An historic change is to be recorded in the formal passing of Perley & Pattee's lumber mill, Ottawa, into the possession of Mr. J. R. Booth. This mill is one of the oldest at the Chaudiere and made a fortune for the late Mr. W. G. Perley, M.P., and his surviving partner, Mr. G. B. Pattee. Perley & Pattee are not likely to be heard from again as a lumber concern, as other financial ventures will engage the attention of both Mr. Perley and Mr. Pattee.

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Mr. John I. Davidson has been elected a member of the Council of the Toronto Board of Trade. Mr. Davidson will by many, perhaps, be counted as a representative of the wholesale grocery trade, but it is to be remembered that he is also senior member of the large lumbering firm of Davidson, Hay & Co. It will be a matter of regret, however, that lumbering, the largest industry in Canada to-day, was not further strengthened by the re-election of Mr. Jno. Donogh to the Council. He has ever been a most useful and influential member, and directly and actively, by his large wholesale lumber trade, as distinct from the manufacturer or owner of timber limits, represents the lumber trade of city and country.

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The lumbermen of the Pacific coast have some concern in the recent tariff regulations of the Australian Parliament affecting lumber exported into that colony. The Southern Lumberman says: "So far the schedule agreed upon includes only Oregon or Washington fir, but it is probable that other classes of lumber will receive the attention of Australian legislators. So far as reported the duties on Pacific coast lumber are as follows: On sizes less than 8 x 2 1/2 inches a duty of 5s. per 100 superficial feet is levied. On sizes less than 12 x 6 inches a duty of 2s. 6d. per 100 superficial feet is levied. On sizes 12 x 6 and upwards a duty of 1s. 6d. per 100 superficial feet is levied. All logs in rough or undressed of any size, admitted free." This statement, if correct, lets our British Columbia lumber out in the meantime.

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An offset to the Bryan Free Lumber Bill has been introduced into the American Congress by Congressman Wedock, of Michigan. The effect of this bill, says a United States contemporary, should it become law, would be this: "Should the Canadian government reimpose the export duty on logs, as is threatened from time to time, this government will make a proportionate increase in the duty on lumber shipped into this country. A duty of \$1 to \$2 on logs would mean a corresponding increase in the duty on lumber. Our Canadian neighbors do not want their common grades of lumber debarred from the markets on this side of the line by any such provision. But the bill is not a law, and in the uncertainty of tariff legislation at the hands of the incoming congress, there is not much on which to even base a prediction concerning the fate of the bill. The measure will very generally receive the approval of the lumbermen of the United States, however." Evidently nothing practically hurtful is likely to be the effect of the bill. Just now the chief interest is in what the new administration will inaugurate in the way of tariff reform when it has become securely settled in power. Anything outside of this, at present, is simply playing at legislation.

CHARACTER SKETCH.

HON. W. B. IVES

PRESIDENT OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

Heaven helps those who help themselves. Old Proverb.

As party government is conducted in the present day we are disposed to look upon certain men as occupying certain positions of responsibility and influence, not always because they are just "the man for the place," but for the reason that they represent some class interest that it is deemed desirable to conciliate, or for whose support it is worth making a bid. Thus we speak of one Cabinet minister representing the Orange element, another the Catholic hierarchy; one the temperance people, and he is offset, probably, by a liquor manufacturer. And similarly commercial interests of various kinds are supposed to have their particular champions within the walls of parliament and the councils of the nation.

It may be that injustice is sometimes done our politicians by attributing their success in the field of politics to the causes here suggested. However this may be, it is the old story of give a dog a bad name and hang him. The politician, when he is honest, and takes a sincere



HON. W. B. IVES.

stand on a public question, finds it a hard matter to impress his sincerity upon others. He will have attributed to him, in spite of his sincerity, selfish and sordid motives as the basis of his actions.

In the appointment of W. B. Ives, M.P., of Sherbrooke, Que., to the position of President of the Council, in the Thompson ministry, there will be those who will look upon him as a representative of the lumber industry, because he has been engaged in lumbering, just as some speak of Hon. E. H. Bronson, of Ottawa, as representing the same interest in the Mowat administration, because he is a prominent lumberman. A broader view, and the view that is more likely to be borne out in the experience of each, is that it is a coincidence that the dual position of Cabinet minister and lumberman applies in the case of these individuals. Rather, too, is it a compliment to the men engaged in the lumber trade that there are those among its members who can worthily hold the honorable positions to which these have been elected.

Mr. Ives is not a lumberman in the same sense as Mr. Bronson. Both are owners of saw mills and have a considerable financial interest in lumber. The latter is a lumberman by profession, the profession of the

former is law, he being called to the bar in 1857, and was constituted a Q.C. in October, 1880. Mr. Ives' interest in lumber is more of a speculative character, just as we find him director of a railroad company in Maine, and President of the Dominion Cattle Company, of Texas. He evidently has a strong leaning towards commercial affairs, and his legal training is not unlikely to prove a valuable adjunct to his operations along these lines. This interest has, however, gone beyond the mere investment of capital in the business. For some time he has been a student of tariff conditions, and somewhat specially in their relations to the lumber industry. Doing business in the Province of Quebec, where spruce lumber pays a duty of \$2 per thousand, going into the States, while logs go free, he has been a sturdy advocate of a re-imposition of the log duty, and has been heard on the question from his seat in Parliament.

Mr. Ives was born in the township of Compton, Que., Nov. 17, 1841. On November 17, 1869, he was married to Elizabeth E., only daughter of Hon. J. H. Pope, M. P., Minister of Railways. Mr. Ives first entered Parliament in 1878, and has been re-elected at each successive election. Personally he stands well with his friends and is popular and strong in the Eastern Townships, whose interests he has represented in the Commons for fifteen years.

A BOOK FOR LUMBERMEN.

READERS of the LUMBERMAN will be interested in the announcement made in our advertising pages of the intended publication of a Canadian Lumberman's Directory and Index to the planing mills and sash and door factories of Canada. Many enquiries have come to this office for such a work and to meet the call, which, we believe, is general to the lumbermen of the Dominion, the publisher of the CANADA LUMBERMAN now undertakes its publication. Necessarily it involves a large amount of labor and every possible care. Such a book can only properly serve its purpose by being correct and complete in every detail. Subscribers to the LUMBERMAN can lend substantial aid in this direction by forwarding to the publisher the information asked for in the announcement on page 15 of this month's LUMBERMAN. It is to be understood that the Directory will be much more than a directory of the names and nature of the business carried on by Canadian lumbermen, though this feature will hardly be too highly prized by the trade. The rules and regulations for the measurement and inspection of lumber at the leading lumber centres of Canada, and those of the United States, where Canadian lumbermen do business, will be embodied in the work, together with information of a practical and useful character to lumbermen and wood workers, not obtainable in collected form in any other book.

HERE IS A CHANCE.

An unusually good opening exists near Bracebridge for a man of limited capital to secure a first class shingle mill and plant. The mill is practically new and exceptionally located. Unlimited timber resources, abundant water power and convenient shipping facilities. Further particulars of the estate may be obtained from Sheriff Bettes, Bracebridge, Ont.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The special illustrated number of Timber, of London, Eng., is a credit to trade journalism anywhere. It is, relatively, as massive in construction as some of the large timbers it illustrates. It might appropriately be termed an historical number, as the many illustrations and pen and ink sketches of the lumber interests of various parts of the world gives it a special value in this respect. We shall certainly keep it on file as a valuable number for future reference.