

HISTORICAL OF THE LUMBER TRADE.

TWENTY years ago the CANADA LUMBERMAN made its bow to the lumber trade of this Dominion—a new venture, but relying for its support on a class of business men of whom generosity is a characteristic trait. Since that time the journal has gone forth regularly to its readers, and with this issue enters upon its twenty-first volume. It is, we hope, with pardonable pride that we make this reference, and at the same time give a brief history of THE LUMBERMAN and a review of some of the events

contributions of trustworthy correspondents, trade circulars etc., will be freely used, to give our readers the best, the earliest, and the most reliable information that can be obtained, concerning the important branch of business to which this journal will be especially devoted; while the mining, the milling, and the manufacturing interests will receive attention proportionate to their great claims on the public.

In short, it will be our endeavor to make the LUMBERMAN worthy of its title in every respect; and, while giving special attention to the great staple industry to which it is devoted, it will also furnish a carefully selected amount of general reading that will make it a welcome visitor in every family.

Advertisers, especially those dealing in mill, mining, and lumbering supplies and machinery, will find the LUMBERMAN a very favorable

medium of reaching their customers, as it will circulate among these classes, and receive more attention from them than they have the time or inclination to bestow on a general newspaper.

The amount of space devoted to the forestry question and to the advocacy of a proper system of reforestation. Twenty years ago the necessity of taking steps in the direction of perpetuating our forests seems to have been as fully recognized as it is to-day, and it must be admitted that in the intervening period very little has been accomplished.

The Commissioner of Crown Lands for Ontario, in his report for 1879, shows the quantity of square pine taken out in the ten years from 1868 to 1877 to be 119,254,471 cubic feet. He estimates that the waste is equal to one-third of the total, namely 39,750,140 cubic feet, or round numbers 477 million feet, which, valued at \$7.50 per thousand, represents a loss to the province of \$3,577,500.

A sale of Quebec timber lands was held on October 15th, 1880, at which \$280,000 was realized. Among the purchasers were W. C. Edwards, James Connolly, Fitch and S. Lynch.

Wm. Quirn, supervisor of cullers at Quebec, gave the following statement of timber, etc., measured and cut at that port up to October 22nd for the three years 1878, 1879, and 1880:

	1878.	1879.	1880.
Waney white pine...	1,846,640	1,444,609	2,099,454
White pine.....	7,917,756	2,507,729	3,978,612
Red pine.....	1,359,756	741,499	1,017,606
Oak.....	1,516,123	828,407	1,539,141
Elm.....	177,653	318,074	932,784
Ash.....	36,507	47,161	237,142
Basswood.....	923	280	363
Butternut.....	39	70	645
Tamarac.....	29,306	6,691	30,803
Birch and maple....	180,416	121,224	575,464
Masts and bowsprits	93 pcs.	50 pcs.	4 pcs.
Spars.....	42 pcs.	26 pcs.	23 pcs.

In the issue of October 30, 1880, under the heading of "A New and Valuable Invention," it is stated that Finlay Ross, of Byng Inlet, Ont., has invented and patented a gang of circular saws which will probably supersede the ordinary stock gangs of upright saws. By a simple contrivance, it is stated, he can arrange on one mandrel any required number of saws, which may be taken off at pleasure as easily as the ordinary gang by shifting a key and coupling.



SCENES ON THE UPPER COULONGE—A RAFT ON ITS WAY DOWN THE OTTAWA.

associated with the lumbering industry, as gleaned from early numbers of the journal. This latter feature will serve to recall to the older members of the trade incidents which Father Time has well nigh blotted out, while to the younger members it may perhaps prove both interesting and instructive.

We reproduce on opposite page, to a somewhat smaller scale, the original heading of THE LUMBERMAN. It was first published as a semi-monthly journal, at the subscription price of two dollars per year, by A. Begg, of Toronto, whose introductory read as follows:

INTRODUCTORY.

In bringing before the public a new journal specially devoted to lumbering interests, and incidentally to milling, manufacturing and mining, as being kindred forms of development of the national industry, there is little apology needed. As there are special branches in trade, so there are special departments in journalism. The daily paper, morning and evening, rushes forth without regard or respect for any interest, but with an intention well formed to treat all fairly, and the result is a little general information here, a little special pleading there, and a large mass of the general gossip concerning things that occur upon the streets or elsewhere, but have very little practical interest for the business man, no matter what may be the branch in which he is engaged.

It is for this reason that specialists in Journalism have in many cases achieved such remarkable success. Not to speak of the religious journals, whose existence depends on the zeal of the sects, there are others, such as the Bullionist, the Scientific American, the Grocer, &c., that represent special interests in trade and science, and they all receive a more or less generous support, from their own class—from those who are interested in the specialties they represent.

Though much attention has been given to the lumbering interests by the press of Canada, yet it is felt that a special organ, which would concentrate the views of those who understand the business, and present them to the public in a way in which they could be fairly discussed, with a full comprehension of the value of the vast interests involved, would not merely serve those who are engaged in the trade, and their employees, but also the country at large. Let it be remembered that the lumbering interest is the second greatest in Canada—being next to the agricultural. Now, mining, milling and general manufacturing naturally take a secondary and subservient position, as being dependent on the success and progress of the two great national industries—agriculture and lumbering. In proportion as they prosper, so will be the general prosperity of the country.

It would be out of place in this "Introductory" to enter into details as to the vast resources of Canada as a timber producing country. It has not unfrequently been sneered at as a "wooden country," and the taunt is neither without foundation, nor is it one to be ashamed of. Canada is indeed a wooden country, but its woods are fast disappearing, and one of the prime elements of its early growth is being ruthlessly destroyed by the old style of management on the part of the government, and the reckless indifference of the people. It will be the duty of the LUMBERMAN to point out the injuries annually inflicted on the wooden wealth of Canada, by reckless tree-felling, and the still more reckless starting of forest fires, whether by sportsmen or settlers. Even in the latter particular our journal may, by assisting in arousing public opinion, be the means of saving millions of dollars to the country in a single year.

But we are not ignorant of the great responsibility of starting this journal. Devoted as it is to a special class of operators, it must mainly look to them for support. It has not the whole of the reading community to appeal to directly, and hence must depend for success on the earnest and liberal support of those in whose interest it is published. Lumbermen, as a class, are noted for their public spirit and liberality, and we freely trust to their generous support as well as to that of lumber dealers generally. Nothing shall be wanting on our part to make this journal a full and complete record of the lumber business and all that relates to the trade in Canada. To this end the latest market reports, the

medium of reaching their customers, as it will circulate among these classes, and receive more attention from them than they have the time or inclination to bestow on a general newspaper.

In March, 1881, THE LUMBERMAN was purchased by Toker & Company, of Peterboro', to which place the office of publication was removed. Toker & Company continued its publication twice a month until October, 1886, when it was purchased by A. G. Mortimer. It was then changed to a monthly publication and the subscription price reduced to one dollar per year. In April, 1890, the office of publication was removed to Toronto. In the



SCENES ON THE UPPER COULONGE—IMPROVEMENTS ON A CREEK.

(In the early days less of this was done than at present, now the tendency is to shorten the haul by improving the streams.)

spring of 1894 Mr. Mortimer disposed of the journal to the present owners, who, on January 1, 1895, commenced the publication of a weekly intermediate edition, the subscription price, however, remaining at the sum of one dollar per year.

The character of the journal in late years is so well-known as to make any comment superfluous. Glancing at the early numbers, one is immediately impressed with

Mills on the Georgian Bay in 1880 were those of the Collingwood Lumber Company, incorporated about 1871 at the instance of Hon. Mr. Dodge, of New York, and others under the management of Mr. D. G. Cooper; Georgian Bay Lumber Co., including the Waubushene and Severn mills, under the management of T. W. Buck; the Parry Sound Lumber Co., managed by J. C. Miller; and the Magnetawan Lumber Co., under the management of Mr.