

## VIEWS OF A BANK MANAGER.

At the annual meeting of the shareholders of the Merchants' Bank of Canada, held in Montreal last month, Mr. George Hague, general manager, made the following remarks with respect to the forest products of Quebec:

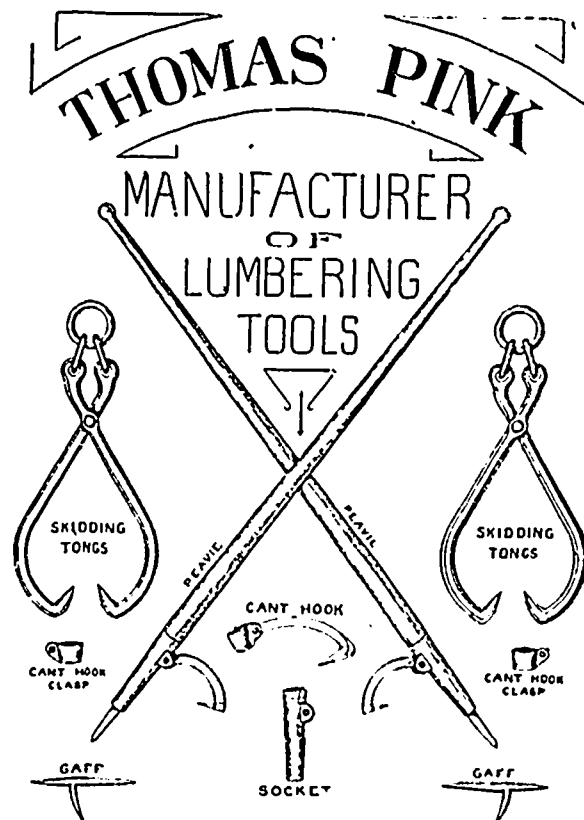
"The unsettled condition of affairs in the States is affecting prejudicially our great export of lumber to the American market. Fortunately the other great branches of the trade in our forest products are in a really prosperous condition. The English market is active and strong, and contracts for this year's sales in the United Kingdom have been made by the shipping houses at better prices than for years back, a state of things which has given rise to a feeling of satisfaction and hopefulness, especially in this province and throughout the Ottawa valley. There is one development of recent date that is coming into increasing prominence. I refer to the products of our spruce forests. Many of these forests have been neglected on the supposition that they were almost valueless. Now, however, they are becoming valuable for the production of pulp for paper making. It is estimated that 75,000 cords of spruce pulp wood, or about 1,000 canal boat loads, will be taken out of Canada this season through the Chambly and Champlain canals and delivered at Ticonderoga and mills

on the Hudson. Perhaps it is a pity that so much immature timber is sacrificed and sent out of the country in this way, but developments may go on in the future of a character we can hardly estimate at present. Experiments are now being made in Europe, with a view to the production of a kind of silk from pulp wood, the process being a close imitation of that by which raw silk is produced by the worm. If our forests, besides producing lumber and paper, and numbers of things that are made of paper, can also be utilized to produce silk, we may be independent by-and-by altogether of the looms of Lyons. This, however, may only be a fanciful picture. Yet, quite as strange things have happened, and anyone who has observed the extraordinary developments of electrical engineering during the last decade may well be pardoned if he believes almost anything to be possible in the way of future development."

## A BUSINESS NECESSITY.

Messrs. Duff & Stewart, Bluevale, Ont., in remitting their subscription, write: "We look upon THE LUMBERMAN as one of the necessities in running our business."

While riding on his bicycle early last month, Mr. E. C. Grant, of the Ottawa Lumber Company, was run down by a horse and buggy. Mr. Grant was knocked unconscious, besides receiving several minor wounds.



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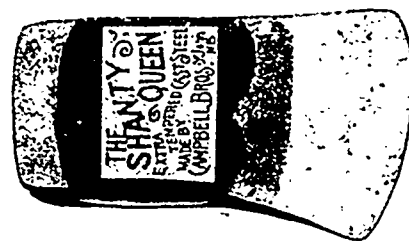
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