

## OTTAWA LETTER.

(Regular Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

## GEORGIAN BAY DEPUTATION.

THE city has of late been besieged with deputations, each seeking some measure of relief from the government. One of the most important came from the Georgian Bay district, and was composed of a number of persons representing the lumber industries of that vicinity, among whom were Messrs. H. L. Lovering, Coldwater; A. L. Vick, Orillia; P. H. Spohn, A. Tessier and T. Payette, Penetang; C. E. Newton, Victoria Harbor, and many others. The deputation was introduced to the Minister of Finance by W. H. Bennett, M. P., and a resolution was presented providing that in the event of a duty of more than \$1 per thousand feet on white pine lumber being imposed by any country, then the export of white pine saw logs from Canada be absolutely prohibited. Mr. Fielding in his reply stated that the government fully appreciated the importance of the question, and their requests would receive careful consideration.

## FAVOR RETALIATORY LEGISLATION.

Lumbermen in the Ottawa valley have at last recognized the necessity of taking steps to protect their interests, and have declared themselves in favor of retaliatory legislation. An important meeting of persons engaged in the lumber trade was held at the Russell House last week, when the Dingley bill was thoroughly discussed. Mr. Allan Gilmour presided, and there were present Messrs. Alex. Fraser; J. R. Booth; W. C. Edwards, M. P., representing W. C. Edwards & Co., Rockland, and the Canada Lumber Co., Carleton Place; Thos. Mackie, M. P.; E. C. Whitney, St. Anthony Lumber Co.; J. B. Klock, M. P., of R. H. Klock & Co.; Frank Bronson and Levi Crannell, of the Bronsons & Weston Lumber Co.; Peter Whelan, Sheppard & Morse Lumber Co.; E. W. Rathbun; J. Gillies, of Gillies Bros., Braeside; Chas. Reed, Buell, Hurdman & Co., Hull; William Mason, Mason & Sons; Jackson Booth; H. K. Egan, Hawkesbury Lumber Co.; Ward Hughson, Gilmour & Hughson; and Claude McLachlin, McLachlin Bros., Amprior. Upon motion of J. R. Booth, seconded by Levi Crannell, the following resolution was adopted: "At a meeting of the lumber and timber trade of the Ottawa valley it was unanimously agreed that the government should take power from the House to protect the sawn lumber and pulp interests of Canada against serious discrimination threatening it as contemplated under the Dingley bill."

Mr. Albert E. Reed, a large paper manufacturer of Maidstone, England, arrived in the city recently on a visit to his uncle, Dr. Wm. Saunders, of the Experimental Farm.

Some of the mills have commenced sawing, and others are receiving the finishing touches preparatory to commencing the season's work.

OTTAWA, April 21st, 1897.

## BRITISH COLUMBIA LETTER.

(Regular Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

## CROWN TIMBER COMMISSION.

THE chief topic of conversation among lumbermen in this province is the investigation which is now being made by the Dominion government into the working of the crown timber agency. Mr. Archer Martin was appointed commissioner, and the managers of nearly all the mills and a very large number of loggers and farmers have been examined under oath. Pending the result of the investigation, Mr. T. C. Higginson, crown agent, sent in his resignation, in accordance with the departmental rules in such cases. For some time past rumors of dissatisfaction have been current, and the government resolved to make a thorough investigation. From the evidence submitted it would appear that the authorities had not received payment for all the timber cut on government land, and that many inconsistencies had been brought to light, but as the country is of immense area, rendering it necessary to give the agent much latitude to enable him to act in the best interests of the country, it is probable that everything may be satisfactorily explained.

The commission is far reaching, the companies being compelled to submit figures showing the amount of timber cut and the dues paid thereon. Mr. Higginson explained that he sometimes gave verbal permits, as the settlers could not always pay the cash deposits for a regular permit before they commenced cutting, and his object was to

assist the settler. The result of the commission is awaited with interest.

## TAKUSH HARBOR TIMBER COMPANY.

According to reports, the manufacture of cypress lumber which was commenced about a year ago at Takush Harbor is to be abandoned. This was a new industry on the Pacific coast, and was somewhat of an experiment. An English syndicate purchased some cypress limits from Vancouver capitalists situated about 300 miles north of Vancouver, and fitted up a mill on an extensive scale. The men were recently paid off, and it is stated that work will not be resumed, as the timber is not there for profitable working, the majority of the trees having turned out to be of inferior quality.

G. O. Buchanan, of the Kootenay Lake saw mill, has acquired 1,000 acres of fir and white pine timber lands on the Moyie river, East Kootenay. A gang of men is taking out 1,000,000 feet of logs.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C., April 19, 1897.

## THE NEWS.

—Laking, Thompson & Patterson, of Hamilton, have lately put in an improved dry kiln.

—D. & J. Hadden, of Foxmead, Ont., intend putting in a stove mill this spring.

—Sargent's mill at Nelson, N. B., has been fitted with an electric light plant for night sawing.

—J. P. Ryley, of the Victoria planing factory, Lindsay, Ont., has added a new dry kiln to his plant.

—A joint stock company has been organized at Summerside, P. E. I., to erect a woodworking factory.

—Mr. Douglas, of Stanley, N. B., is making improvements to his mill and putting in an electric light plant.

—Alexander McKinnon, of Hillsburg, Ont., has purchased from the Watrous Engine Works Co., Brantford, an improved shingle mill.

—At Coggin's mill, near Sission, Cal., loggers cut a tree which was 404 years of age. It was eight feet in diameter and produced 15,000 feet of lumber.

—Ritchie Bros., of Aylmer, Ont., have purchased the old Cormier saw mill for the sum of \$3,500. The mill and adjoining factory will be thoroughly repaired.

—The Shultz Bros. Co., of Brantford, Ont., are seeking incorporation to acquire the business of Shultz Bros., contractors and lumber dealers. The capital stock is \$90,000.

—W. C. Edwards & Co., of Ottawa, have donated the lumber necessary for finishing a room in the Canadian headquarters at Bisley, Eng. Other materials have also been given by different firms.

—The Wilson Company, of Montreal, is a new company which proposes to manufacture lumber, tan bark, etc. The capital stock is \$100,000. Among the promoters is David Mitchell, lumber merchant, of Forestdale.

—The Dominion government has increased the quantity of green timber which may be cut by a settler from 1,800 to 3,000 lineal feet, and no restriction is placed upon burnt or fallen timber which may be taken for building purposes.

—The Woodstock Woodworking Co., of Woodstock, N. B., have elected the following officers: Wendell P. Jones, president; James W. Astle, manager; Herbert A. Seely, secretary-treasurer. The company have now about fifty men engaged at the factory and in sawing, hauling and piling lumber.

A company is seeking incorporation, to be known as Twidale, Dunn & Company, for the purpose of carrying on business in the city of Montreal as manufacturers and dealers in lumber. The capital stock is \$20,000. Among the promoters are Michael Dunn, of Montreal; Henry Aylen, of Ottawa; and Duncan McPhail, of the township of Wakefield.

—A meeting of lumbermen engaged in operations in the Georgian Bay district was held in Toronto on the 20th ultimo, at which there were present, Ald. Scott, H. H. Cook, John Bertram; Robt. Thompson, Hamilton; W. Thompson, Longford; J. B. Smith, W. H. Pratt, and T. D. Master. Resolutions were passed favoring an export duty on saw logs in case a duty is imposed upon lumber by the United States, and disavowing all reports to the

effect that they were willing to pay an import duty of \$ per thousand feet.

—In a paper read before the Imperial Institute, London, Eng., entitled "The Timber Supply of the British Empire," Dr. Schlich, C. I. E., Professor of Forestry at the Royal Indian Engineering College, stated that Canada was estimated to contain 1,248,798 square miles of wood lands, but enormous tracts of that area did not contain any useful timber, while the remainder was by no means so well taken care of as it ought to be. Fires were frequent and disastrous, and the quantity of timber thus lost to the colony was calculated to be many times more than that cut down and exported. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, however, he believed that with proper management and careful conservation of the forests Canada might, at a moderate relative expenditure, supply the whole world for many years to come. He advocated the creation of a forest department in this country, the careful conservation of existing and the creation of new forests by planting vacant lands, the establishment of schools of forestry, and model plantations for the guidance of private owners, and government grants in aid of those objects.

## CASUALTIES.

—Hormidas Tailleux, an employee of the W. C. Edwards Company, Ottawa, died in the bush near the firm's shanty on the Kippewa, having lost his way in the woods.

—Frank Armstrong, of Pennfield, employed in the lumber mill of S. H. White & Co. at Alma, N. B., caught his arm in the belting and was instantly killed.

—A serious accident occurred to Samuel Anderson, of Kazabazue, Que., recently. By the breaking of a pulley that was holding a rollway of logs, he was knocked down and thirteen logs rolled over him. It is thought he will recover.

## SHAVINGS.

Mr. W. H. Winnett, lumber dealer, London, in receiving his subscription to the LUMBERMAN, reports business very good, and that he finds the LUMBERMAN very interesting.

Patents have recently been granted in Canada as follows: Fred. Cluff, Mar, Ont., saw guide; H. M. Wilcox, Owen Sound, Ont., cutter-head for wood-working machinery; J. A. Ulman and Victor L. Emerson, Baltimore, U. S., lumber truck.

Mr. Campbell, of Barrie, Ont., is making a jubilee case for the Queen. It will contain 1,897 pieces of wood, birch, maple, cedar, ash, oak, walnut, thorn, Russian mulberry, sumach, lilac, cherry and acacia, with pearl and ivory, inlaid with foreign wood. The case is 2 feet 10 inches long.

The McEachren Heating & Ventilating Co., of Galt, Ont., have started in their new premises recently occupied by Messrs. Cant Bros., where they will manufacture a full line of ventilating fans, electric fans, shaving fans, blowers, exhausters, etc., besides their dry kiln machinery and "Little Wonder" boiler. They have received a number of orders recently from Ontario and the lower provinces.

Many persons feel that the loss of one brace or one stay is not of very great importance, and go on using a boiler with full knowledge that one or even more braces are broken. The loss of one stay throws double the work upon others adjacent; but, more than this, the plate protected by it, while it may not give way at the moment, is unsustained, and will be depressed to a greater or less extent. Braces and stays should be carefully looked after every time the boiler is opened for inspection, which last duty should be done every month.

Speaking of the reduction of duty on rubber belting made by the new tariff, Mr. J. H. Walker, manager of the western branch of the Canadian Rubber Company, remarked that the present duty would permit of the importation of some inferior grades of belting, and for a time competition would be felt in this connection. The public would soon become convinced, however, of the economy of purchasing a first-class article, and the trade would then resume its normal condition. "We manufacture the best frictional belting in America to-day," said Mr. Walker, "and this fact has been acknowledged even by our competitors. The business of the western branch last year showed a gain over 1894 of \$140,000."