

Upper
Ottawa
territories
of Quebec
and Ontario
summary of
dues accrued
on each since
1826.

Period.	Ontario.	Quebec.	Totals.	Years.
	\$	\$	\$	
1826 to 1834 - -	169,078	46,023	215,101	9
1835 to 1851 - -	931,735 ⁵⁶ ₁₀₀	460,643 ⁷⁹ ₁₀₀	1,395,379 ³⁵ ₁₀₀	17
1852 to 1857 - -	153,058 ⁴² ₁₀₀	282,879 ²¹ ₁₀₀	735,937 ⁶³ ₁₀₀	6
1858 to 1866 - -	896,096 ²⁷ ₁₀₀	609,861 ¹⁵ ₁₀₀	1,505,957 ⁴² ₁₀₀	9
1867 to 1881 - -	3,279,538 ²² ₁₀₀	3,439,832 ⁸⁸ ₁₀₀	6,719,371 ¹⁰ ₁₀₀	15
1826 to 1881 - -	5,732,506 ¹⁷ ₁₀₀	4,839,240 ³⁰ ₁₀₀	10,571,746 ⁵⁰ ₁₀₀	56

Not having yet received the usual annual returns of collections of timber dues made at Quebec by the Collector of Crown timber and slide dues for 1882, on clearances transmitted by me, of rafts from my Quebec and Ontario agencies, I am unable to include, completely, in this summary the amount of revenue that accrued from them up to the close of the period they were under my charge; it is only for the last 30 years that they have been exclusively so.

Period I
have been
in charge of
them,

For six previous years there was a collector of Crown timber dues, who was my colleague in the settlement of contestations and head of the Crown Timber Officer. My duties were then limited to the awarding of timber berths to the applicants entitled to them, under regulations, and defining their limits, with the duty of inspecting the collector's accounts and transactions if I saw any cause for doing so.

In October 1852 his duties were added to mine.

and the
amount of
my time.

Of the above amount of \$10,571,746⁵⁰₁₀₀, \$8,846,814¹⁵₁₀₀ accrued under my charge and direction, and to complete both of these sums the amount of dues accrued, in 1882 about \$681,787⁵⁴₁₀₀ has to be added, which will increase the total accrued in the Upper Ottawa agency for Quebec and Ontario to \$11,256,534⁴⁰₁₀₀ and the portion of it that accrued under my charge, as Crown timber agent, to \$9,531,601⁶⁹₁₀₀ to which should be added as a chief branch of my official duty the collection since 1864 of \$1,527,200³⁷₁₀₀ of slide and boom dues for the Dominion Government, increasing the dues accrued to the three Governments I served to \$11,058,802⁶⁰₁₀₀. I mention the collections of slide dues in the foregoing as giving the opportunity of explaining the advantage of the collection of timber and slide dues being combined. It greatly facilitates and tends much to secure the accurate collection of both. The same timber and the same men are dealt with at the same time. The returns of the timber rangers of their inspections, supported by sworn statements of cullers, afford the means of effectively checking the accuracy of the certificates the lumberers give the deputy slide masters, which through careless error or fraud might be quite erroneous, as to the numbers of saw logs especially, and as to where they came from. On the other hand, the assistance the Dominion officers of Inland Revenue and Customs and their collections of canal dues, are authorised to render, at the request of the Crown timber agent, in preventing the departure of vessels or the passage of barges loaded with lumber through canals is often of the greatest importance in securing the payment of timber dues. On the River Ottawa no boats or barges loaded with lumber are allowed to pass through the canals without permits from the Crown timber agent. Such permits are occasionally withheld for the enforcement of the payment of timber dues, and the detention of the boats (till released by direction of the Crown timber agent) is always promptly effected by the officers of the Dominion.

Upper
Ottawa
territory.
Amount of
revenue to
the provinces
and the
Dominion, in
timber and
slide dues
while under
my charge.
Advantage
and economy
of combining
the collection
of timber and
slide dues.

Other
important
duties of
the Crown
Timber
Office,
Ottawa;
Timber
licenses and
surveys.

The business and accounts connected with the collection of the timber and slide dues for the three Governments form about two thirds of the duties and labour of the Crown Timber Office, Ottawa; and the preparation and issue, annually, with necessary alterations of the 529 timber licenses in the province of Quebec and the 245 in Ontario which together cover an area of 26,448 superficial miles of the Upper Ottawa territories, with the intricate investigation of obscure conflicting rights in the cases of contestations as to bounds and the issue of instructions for the surveys of them form the remainder, of which the last mentioned form the most difficult of the duties of the office.

Practical and scientific men alike who attended the meetings of the American Forestry Congress, held at Montreal in August last, could not fail to be deeply