

making a difference against 1866, as compared with 1864, of 14,406,979 cubic feet.

The returns of the Crown Timber Agents, of the quantities of Saw Logs cut on Public Lands, for the years ending 31st December, 1863, 1864, and 1865, are as follows:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
White Pine.....	1,085,643	1,286,898	1,290,856
Spruce.....	305,544	303,903	273,169

Apart from the tendency to diminish the production of timber for the Quebec market, there have been other contributing causes: the tightness of the money market, and the fact that trees suitable for square and wany timber are not so easily got at as in the past. Timber has to be brought a longer distance, and is, comparatively speaking, becoming scarce. The returns of white pine saw-logs, cut on public lands, show a considerable increase in 1864 as compared with 1863,—say 201,255 logs, or about 20 per cent.; while the numbers in 1864 and 1865 are nearly equal. The number of spruce-logs has decreased,—there being 32,375 less in 1865 than in 1863.

During the present year, there have been several sales by private parties of Timber Berths held under License from the Government. These berths—some of which were sold at public auction—have for the greater part been bought by saw-mill owners, for the purpose of supplying their mills with logs. The “Bissett Creek Limits,” belonging to the estate of the late John Egan, of about 235 miles in area, brought, it was said, \$32,000 at sale by auction,—or about 21½ cents per acre. Mr. Surveyor of Crown Timber Licenses, A. J. Russell, has been asked to procure a Statement of the sales of Berths made lately by private parties in the Upper Ottawa Territory.

The anxiety of saw-mill owners to obtain Berths to supply their mills with saw-logs, and the fact that no sale in the Upper Ottawa Territory was advertised by the Government, were partly the causes of the good prices which some of the Berths sold, brought; and no doubt these good prices were a standard of value for the Berths sold at Toronto on the 4th ultimo.

The great increase in value of the Forest property of the country for the ten years prior to '359, was one of the reasons