

hogany, which is as follows:—In Dublin, every five feet Queen's caliper measure counts only for three to the purchaser. In Bristol, every five feet such measure (Queen's caliper) counts four to purchaser; while in Liverpool three feet Queen's Caliper counts two feet to the purchaser, and different allowances obtain in other ports—Dublin and Bristol being the two extremes. This practice was cited to me when in Liverpool as an argument in favor of string measure, which may be regarded as one absurdity quoted to justify another. It appeared to me strange why all these different rules, modes, and customs should prevail in the different ports for timber only, while the generality of all other commodities are governed by one uniform system of weights or measures all over the kingdom.

In the course of my communications with Mr. Chaloner, of Liverpool, an extensive timber merchant and broker, I mentioned to him that I was instructed by the Honorable the Commissioner of Crown Lands to procure specimens of all the foreign timber imported into the United Kingdom, and asked him where and how I should be most likely to obtain them. Mr. C. introduced me to Mr. Bride, an extensive dealer in fancy woods. This gentleman consented to get together as many specimens as he possibly could, but at the same time he did not appear to be anxious to undertake this business. At the expiration of nearly three months, Mr. Bride's foreman, with the assistance of one of his clerks, managed to procure, after much trouble and considerable expense, about seventy different kinds,—for all which Mr. Bride declined compensation. Even the parties thus occupied would not accept any remuneration for their trouble or time. These specimens are now in my office in Quebec. While speaking of these samples I think it right also to remark that Mr. Strang (of the firm of Messrs. Gilmour, Rankin, Strang & Co.), of London, is getting up a complete set for me, which he purposes sending out in the fall by one of their ships. Mr. Strang informed me before I left that he had already procured thirty-four.

Glasgow being the next most important place where string measure is used, I proceeded there on the 1st April. Called on Allan Gilmour, Esq., who notified the principal men in the trade on the Clyde to meet at his office for the purpose of affording me an opportunity of explaining the different modes of measuring wany timber. I found no difficulty in convincing these gentlemen of the fallacy of string measure, and the correctness of the manner in which we take the dimensions in Canada. They were very reasonable, and seemed inclined, from my explanations, to introduce the system adopted by the Canadian Government. Mr. Gilmour, previously knowing the string to be erroneous, had been doing everything in his power to establish caliper measure. I have reason to believe he would have succeeded had he been supported by the Quebec merchants. Having presented the box of specimens to the Chamber of Commerce, several gentlemen in the lumber trade expressed a desire to have sets for their own private use, and requested me to send twelve, addressed to Messrs. Edmiston & Mitchell, Glasgow, who would remit the amount of cost and charges of the same. The sets are now being prepared.