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THE CANADA LUMBERMAN

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THE CANADA LUMBERMAN is published in the interest of the lumber trade and of allied industries throughout the Dominion being the only representative in Canada of this foremost branch of the commerce of this country. It aims at giving full and timely information on all subjects touching these interests, discussing these topics editorially and inviting free discussion of them by others.

Special pains are taken to secure the latest and most trustworthy market quotations from various points throughout the world so as to afford to the trade in Canada information upon which it can rely in its operations.

Special correspondents in localities of importance present accurate report not only of prices and the condition of the market but also of other matters specially interesting to our readers. But correspondence is not only welcome but is invited from all who have any information to communicate or subjects to discuss relating to the trade or in any way effecting it. Even when we may not be able to agree with the writers we will give them a fair opportunity for free discussion as the best means of eliciting the truth. Any items of interest are particularly requested for even if not of great importance individually they contribute to a fund of information from which general results are obtained.

Advertisers will receive careful attention and liberal treatment. We need not point out that for many the CANADA LUMBERMAN with its special class of readers is not only an exceptionally good medium for securing publicity but is indispensable for those who would bring themselves before the notice of that class. Special attention is directed to "WANTED" and "FOR SALE" advertisements which will be inserted in a conspicuous position at the uniform price of 15 cents per line for each insertion. Announcements of this character will be subject to a discount of 25 per cent. if ordered for three successive issues or longer.

Subscribers will find the small amount they pay for the CANADA LUMBERMAN quite insignificant as compared with its value to them. There is not an individual in the trade or specially interested in it, who should not be on our list thus obtaining the present benefit and aiding and encouraging us to render it even more complete.

TO VISITING LUMBERMEN.

LUMBERMEN visiting Toronto are invited to use the office of the LUMBERMAN as their own. We shall take pleasure in supplying them with every convenience for receiving and answering their correspondence, and hold ourselves at their service in any other way that they may desire.

THERE recently arrived at Montreal from British Columbia, via the C. P. R., three huge sticks of timber, which created a great deal of admiration, being the finest specimens of timber ever shipped from the Pacific Province to that city. The sticks are of Douglas fir, measuring three feet square and are sixty feet long, being knotless and together weigh about 20,000 lbs. The trees from which they came averaged from five and a-half to six feet in diameter. They were purchased by the Harbor Board for dredging purposes.

"I NEVER saw the lumber trade so bad before either during winter or summer," remarked a Toronto dealer the other day. "The whole bottom seems to have fallen out of the business. Last week one of our representatives took a trip west but only succeeded in disposing of one car, and that at a figure which makes the transaction next to unprofitable. In fact there is no demand, and it is almost impossible to effect a sale at any price. To the strike last spring is generally attributed the falling off in the local trade; as to the causes which have influenced that outside I am at sea. We are looking for an improvement after the exhibition, but are not anticipating great things."

THE run of square timber down the Ottawa is over for this season. The last raft passed Quyon on Sept. 17th. Mr. E. B. Greene, secretary of the Upper Ottawa Improvement Company, states that the run of square timber this year has been in excess of the past three or four years, although it is known that many of the lumbermen are booming at Quebec rather than sell in the present depressed state of the market. The cut of logs this year will be lighter than usual and there will be less felled in the woods during the coming winter than for several seasons past. Wages average \$8 less per month than last year.

THE balance sheet of Messrs. Bryant, Powis & Bryant, Limited, London, for the year ending last March makes a very unfavorable showing. The loss on the year's transactions is set down at £42,249. It was understood that the firm had lost heavily in Canada. The Canadian loss is divided into two items, £15,363 being the amount of bad debts made in connection with Davies & Murphy, of Quebec, and £13,000 the estimated deficiency on securities in Canada. The third and last item of loss is on the depreciation of stock since March 31st, 1889, which is estimated at £7,000, or about 6½ per cent. on the entire stock.

HUNDREDS of carloads of telegraph poles are shipped yearly from different points in Ontario, principally from Dundalk, Romney, Buckhorn and Kingsville, to Buffalo, Pittsburg, Syracuse, Cleveland, and many other points in the United States, and the tie trade of Romney, Buckhorn and Kingsville keeps many Canadian vessels constantly employed. Should the McKinley Bill, as amended by the Senate, become a law, it will entail great financial loss upon those who are engaged in shipping this class of products, many contractors having entered into engagements for the year at a stated price, the imposition of a 25 per cent. duty on posts, ties and telegraph poles will seriously affect them.

IN CANADA, says the London *Timber Trades Journal*, the position is not a whit better than at the Baltic ports, the output being far in excess of the demand, and it is reckoned by some authorities that the present depressed state of the market will extend over a couple of years. A great deal of the present evil is due to the desire abroad to hurry goods out—cutting for the American market, and accumulating goods too rapidly, with no alternative but to see them lying idle, or shipped at a sacrifice to the United Kingdom. The lumbering operations in the Dominion, anyhow, have far exceeded the demand, and, with plenty of other woods daily coming into competition, the interval above mentioned may be tided over before the recovery comes is over estimated.

A MAHOGANY tree lately cut in Honduras made three logs which were sold in Europe, says an exchange, and brought over \$11,000. The mahogany tree ranges from 1 to 7 feet in diameter, is often 60 feet to the first branches, and frequently exceeds 90 feet in height. The Honduras mahogany comes to market in logs from 2 to 4 feet square and 12 to 14 feet long, planks sometimes being obtained that are 7 feet wide. The weight of a cubic foot of mahogany varies from 35 to 53 pounds. As compared with oak, which is called 100 per cent., the strength of mahogany is 67 and 96, its stiffness is from 73 to 93, and its toughness from 61 to 99 per cent. The government engineer of Honduras estimates the total value of the trees, such as are regarded fit to be cut, at \$200,000,000, while the smaller trees not ready to cut are also worth a large amount.

THE alterations in the United States tariff, as passed by the Senate, in that portion of the Tariff bill which is known as Schedule D, will be found important changes. Lumber, sawn, N.E.S. is placed at \$2 per M.; planed \$2.50 per M.; grooved \$3 per M.; planed double \$3.50 per M. Boards, planks, deals, &c., of hemlock, white wood, basswood and sycamore \$1 per M. White pine boards \$1 per M. Timber, hewn and sawn, 10 per cent.; squared N.E.S. ½c. cubic foot. Pine clapboards \$1 per M.; spruce \$1.50 per M. Pickets and palings 10 per cent. *à valorem*. Laths 15 cts. 1000 pieces. Shingles, white pine 20 cts. per M.; others 30 cts. Railway ties and telegraph poles, lighthouse tree, 25 per cent. Cedar posts and paving posts 25 per cent. Staves of wood all kinds 10 per cent.

LARGE investments of British capital have recently been made in the Southern states, but it seems as though the investors for some cause or other, studiously avoid the lumbering interests. At the present time, however, there is no incentive to go extensively in the business while there are so many engaged in it who are wishing that they were engaged at something else. A Baltimore paper states that \$3,000,000 of English money has just been invested in iron and other factories in Virginia; nearly \$5,000,000 in Florida phosphate mines and fertilizer factories, nearly \$1,000,000 in cotton and rolling mills, breweries and powder works in Tennessee; over \$1,000,000 in Texas coal mines, and other large amounts in Louisiana, South Carolina and Arkansas.

THE Ontario government has taken a new departure in regard to the sale of timber berths, and while it may not be very flattering to the American holders of Canadian timber limits, it may have the effect of preserving our forests for the benefit of Canadian operators and workmen. Among the conditions of the sale of timber berths in the Rainy River and Thunder Bay districts, to be held on October first, is a highly important one, of which the public have practically no knowledge. The conditions of the sale do not appear in the advertisement, but the one referred to reads as follows: "Timber cut from these limits to be manufactured in the province"; all of which means that all the timber cut from these limits must be manufactured in the Province of Ontario. This policy, once adopted by all the provinces, would be far more effectual in preserving our forests than any export duty upon logs we could impose.

A MICHIGAN lumberman, who recently visited the Ottawa and Georgian Bay districts, has the following to say in regard to the present condition of the lumber interests:—"I find that the American demand for timber limits is increasing and the stumpage is advancing in price. Already the talk of reciprocity is advancing the value of limits. Pieces of land which I looked over three months ago have advanced 25 per cent. in price. The cut of timber the coming winter will be curtailed considerably. The log cut will also be decreased. The docks seem to be pretty well filled with lumber which must be carried over the winter. The export trade during this season has not been brisk. The South American difficulty, it is supposed, is accountable for it to a large degree. In the South, Kentucky, Tennessee and North Carolina, where I spent May, June and July, I found a good deal of enquiry for stumpage. Operators do not seem to be making much money because they do not get enough for their lumber. There are too many small mills and stumpage is too cheap; however, I predict a bright future for the Southern lumber business."