

**Town of Kamloops, B. C.**

Unquestionably the element of little faith enters largely into the composition of many of our people, else with their environment why do they give vent to the dismal interrogatory, "what keeps Kamloops up?" The question may be answered by propounding another, "what keeps Victoria up?" Commree, you answer, trade with the interior, and the influx of visitors. Well, Kamloops is being kept up by methods similar or at least analogous. Stock raisers may be found in every direction from Kamloops. There are also tillers of the soil scattered promiscuously about, besides in a radius of one hundred miles every miner, prospector, logger, wood chopper, and Indian gravitates to Kamloops for supplies and to spend their surplus dollars. Large streams from little fountains flow. Just so with Kamloops. The recipient of a hundred streams, insignificant taken separately, but momentous in the aggregate, the hamlet has swelled to a town, and will continue to increase in proportions until every foot is utilized and every quartz ledge developed. Kamloops, from a mere trading post, has become in four years the most important town of the interior. It is in fact the only town of the interior. In the old town there are seven stories, representing every phase of drygoods and groceries. The aggregate amount of business transacted by these seven establishments for the last twelve months approximates \$450,000, and by including Chinese houses of the same stamp, the amount is swelled to \$200,000 more or \$650,000. But while dry goods and groceries represent considerably more than half

a million dollars, the other elements of trade, such as milling, hotel keeping, mechanics, &c., form a no inconsiderable feature of Kamloops monetary transactions. The old town supports three hotels and two saloons. There are two drug stores, two harness shops, two shoemaker shops, two blacksmith shops, two butcher shops, two barber shops, two dressmaking shops, a book store, a restaurant, a saw mill and flour mill. Going to the new town site we have three hotels, a bakery, and a produce store. We may reasonably infer that the amount of business transacted in Kamloops for the last year does not fall much short of one million dollars.

These figures do not include the Shuswap Milling Company, whose annual output of lumber during the season cannot be much less than 2,500,000 feet, which is sold as soon as it leaves the saw. The Shuswap Milling Company in fact have not been able to meet the demand. This year at Tranquille, Wm. Fortune has rebuilt his saw mill which was burned last year, so it may confidently be assumed that Kamloops will be able to produce as much lumber as she will consume. Turning to real-estate matters, forty buildings were erected in Kamloops last summer, ten in the old town, and thirty in the new town. Those of the old town were almost altogether for business purposes, while those of the new town, with the exception of seven, consisting of two churches, the bank of British Columbia, the jail, a livery stable and two stores, were dwellings. The last but not least of the improvements of the last summer are the water works. The water

is forced by a powerful pumping engine from the river to a reservoir two hundred feet above the town. The water system supplies only to the old town. If the future of Kamloops can be judged by the past, we have every assurance of a town double its present size. Kamloops is the focal point of the interior and must become the base of supplies for a vast region combining rich agricultural and mineral resources. It is scarcely possible that a rival town should spring up. It is the county seat, it has the capita, and with prospective quartz and coal mines to the southward and northward of it, must in the event of their development merge into a full fledged city.—Victoria Times.

**Lumber Cuttings.**

10,000 saw logs are still in the river above the mill, at Birtle, Man. There is a prospect that they will be cut up at Birtle.

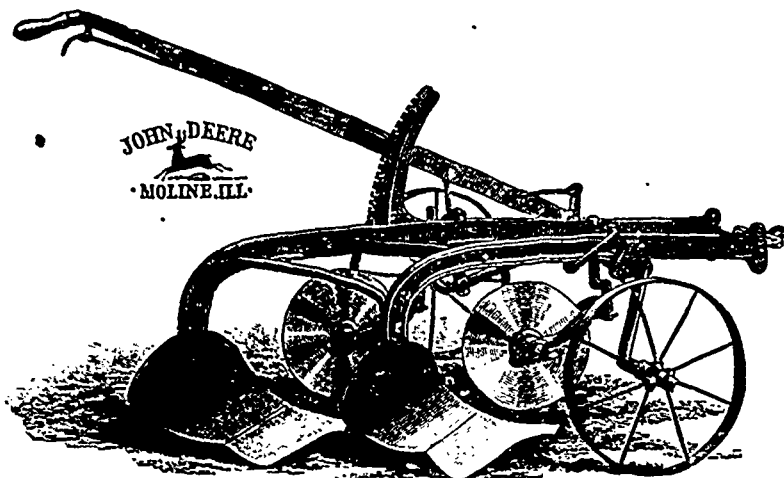
Canadian Lumberman: The lumbermen of old Canada have begun to turn their attention to the pine on the other side of the Rocky Mountains. More than one of them is likely to be operating on the Pacific coast. As to the quantity and excellence of the pine and other wood there is no doubt, and the only question would be as to the market if the output were greatly argued. There seems, however, every likelihood of rapidly increasing settlement on the great prairies and this must bring a demand for lumber in that direction. The markets in Australia also should be capable of extensive development, for they have little but hard wood and their requirements are large. British Columbia should certainly be able to compare with Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide if some enterprise were shown in pushing the trade which has its peculiarities.

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