

the estimates as correct, without examining the limits themselves. It appears that there was no agreement whatever to the effect that Marks, Dobie & Co. should pay, or guarantee to pay, the wages of the men, although there were some whose wages they did guarantee and who have since received their pay. They simply agreed to supply the contractors with provisions, etc. It is said that in their purchase of the limits Timothy, Nestor & Co. lost over \$175,000. In the township of Morin alone, their own bush ranger estimates that there were 55,000,000 feet where there is only 10,000,000. It appears that the contractors instead of paying the shantymen absconded to the States and left the shantymen to whistle for their winter's pay. The logs were taken out by John Rowan for Matheson & Co., and between Marks, Dobie & Co. and John Rowan they got all that was coming them from the firm. When the men found that they could not get their pay it was natural enough for them to ask where the \$37,000 paid to them had gone to. They undertook to hang on to the logs. The improvements that Rowan had to make and the unnecessary distance he had to draw his supplies left him in the ditch. John Boyd was in a similar fix, but it is said he had nothing to lose. Rowan lost all his horses and plant, all were mortgaged, registered at the "Soo" on the 4th of March. Marks, Dobie & Co. were the securities for Rowan & Boyd, and this circumstance is what caused their failure for \$75,000. It was out of these troubles that the rioting at Bruce Mines grew. The shantymen, some 500 in number, took possession of the logs and refused to allow the lumber company to take their logs down the river. The shantymen had dynamite in their possession with which they blew up the dams, which will have to be rebuilt before the logs can be floated down the river. Violence being threatened the authorities were invoked for aid, a detachment of constables was sent from Toronto, upon the appearance of which the men blew up the bridge. The police at once proceeded to rebuild the bridge, and as soon as they were able they crossed over and charged upon the shanties. So far no lives have been lost, but great damage has been done to the stores. It falls extremely hard upon the men to lose their winter's earnings, and to prevent trouble from a like cause in the future a law should be passed making the shantymen's wages a lien upon the logs.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *American Cultivator* cites some interesting experience showing the profits of growing timber. Twenty years ago he bought a farm and cut off the wood and timber which covered 12 to 15 acres. The pine was mainly on six acres—scattered and in clumps. No trees over ten inches thick were left uncut, yet three years ago, over 100,000 feet of box boards were cut on this lot. In 1855 he bought a lot of 115 acres, upon which all the timber had been cut five or six years before; the little pieces left were too small to make timber of any description. The growth was mostly hardwood and poplar. In 1861-2 he netted \$1,200 from the timber taken off the new growth; two years later he netted \$800; and two or three years still later he sold the soft timber for \$600 and refused \$1,000 for the remaining timber. The lot was presumed very poor soil and cost only \$600. An ordinary white pine, a foot in diameter, is worth almost nothing, but in 24 years each acre will carry 100 trees at least 20 inches in diameter and therefore worth a large amount of money. There is little doubt that poor lands grown in timber and carefully thinned, will produce more profit than the same land put in farm crops of any kind.

THE importation of all kinds of wood goods into Great Britain is by no means a decaying industry, but, on the contrary, is in a very flourishing condition as a statistical comparison of the importations of this class of goods during the last forty years readily shows. In 1837 wood goods were imported into Great Britain to the value of £832,182, and into Ireland of £237,782, or a total of £1,069,964. In 1864, the year preceding the one in which the duty was taken off all timber imported, we find that Great Britain and Ireland imported wood goods to the value of £2,247,278, or more than double that of 1837. On referring to the Board of

Trade returns for the year 1888, we find that there were imported into Great Britain and Ireland wood goods to the value of £14,068,000, or fully thirteen times the value for the year 1837, when Her Majesty ascended the throne. This sum represents an enormous amount of material, no less a quantity than 6,220,000 loads, exclusive of fancy woods and staves. The proportions given are, log or hewn timber, 1,884,000 loads; sawn timber, deals, battens, or boards, 4,336,000; and of mahogany and fancy woods and staves 164,700 tons. These figures show that the timber trade of Great Britain occupies no mean place in the value of its imports, being now about one-thirtieth of the total importation of all classes of goods to that country. If we exclude fancy woods, we find that three-tenths of the timber imports are hewn timber, and the remaining seven-tenths sawn goods. Hewn timber does not therefore bear a heavy proportion of the wood imported, the bulk of it being in a sawn state. Taking into consideration that the United States use double the amount of Great Britain's timber imports, and the enormous quantities exported from other countries to her colonies, in addition to the consumption on the Continent of Europe, we can form a good idea of how large an industry the handling of timber has now become in all civilized countries.

WHEN a man undertakes to teach another he should first thoroughly inform himself, and when a politician sets himself up as a leader of the people and an enlightener of the masses he should be prepared to enter the field well organized with facts. Sophistry may do well enough for the unthinking and unwary but it requires something more tangible to elicit the approbation of the more thoughtful and practical classes. Mr. Eliastus Wiman, the political blacksmith, with the aid of his striker, Mr. Benjamin Butterworth, a well known politician on the other side, who affiliates with the protectionists in his own country and with the free-traders in this, seeks to weld Canada and the United States together into one political union in order to patriotically enhance his own interests, and in doing this he shows a determination to accomplish his purpose by ignoring the rules of logic and the utter disregarding of facts. In a recent communication to the *North American Review* he makes this statement: "One-half the lumber consumed in the Western States is cut from Canadian forests." Referring to the above, the *Lumber World*, an American journal, gets on this man Wiman with both feet in the following style: "According to the statistics of the Dominion of Canada the total annual log and lumber production of Canada is about 1,510,000,000 feet, while the Western States consume at least 6,000,000,000 feet annually. It would appear from this fact that Mr. Wiman is at least 50 per cent. out of the waz, a very serious error, even in case the total log and lumber production went to the Western States, which is by no means true. To make the error still more serious and inexcusable, it is only necessary to quote the government statistics, which show that for ten years past the yearly average export from Canada to the United States has been about 490,000,000 feet, and that about 250,000,000 feet of that total have been bonded for export from the United States! As the consumption of the United States aggregates 29,999,000,000 feet annually, as Canada's total production is about 1,510,000,000 feet, as the Western States consume nearly 6,000,000,000 feet, as Canada sends to the United States 490,000,000 feet, and as only 240,000,000 feet of that total is consumed in this country, it is easy to comprehend how dense, how dark, how solid, how hopeless is the ignorance of Mr. Agitator Wiman, who is trying to bamboozle 65,000,000 people into the idea that the chief end of the existence as a nation is to make regulations that will enrich him! It is this same Mr. Wiman who not long ago informed the wheat-growers that the great depth of forest in the ground in Manitoba fitted that country most admirably for wheat-growing. It would seem to unprejudiced observers that this eloquent Mr. Wiman should be sat down upon in the interest of common-sense. He has brought himself from Canada into the United States and grown wealthy, but now, when he proposes to carry the United States over into Canada to make the Dominion wealthy and

prosperous, it is time to protest." This political blacksmith and his cohorts can lay the flattering unction to their souls that Canadians are not dreaming of political union or annexation. Canada is a great country with as fine a climate as any country on the face of the globe, rich in its productions, blessed with enumerable water ways, a railway extending from ocean to ocean, innumerable lines carrying the products of the soil, the forest and the mine, to the various points where they are needed. Canadians are fully capable of managing their own affairs in their own way and to suit their own purposes. They want no dictation or instruction from unscrupulous American politicians or reckless adventurers.

#### THE EXPORT DUTY ON LOGS.

THE export duty on logs is still an open question, and it is likely to remain so for some time to come. It has been, and it still continues to be, discussed by our contemporaries on both sides of the line, and it is well that it is so for it is a matter of the gravest importance as to the future of the second leading industry of the country. The lumbermen themselves are by no means a unit on the question, the Maritime Provinces being largely in favor of the maintenance of the duty, while western Ontario and Manitoba are largely in favor of its reduction, if not in favor of its repeal altogether. It is a well known fact that when the duty was increased last fall, it was done so at the earnest request of some of the leading lumbermen of Ontario, and it was done without an actual knowledge of the facts no sensible person will deny. In acceding to the requests of the lumbermen, whether the government are to blame or not, they had a precedent for their action established in 1879, when the existing duties upon wheat and flour were fixed by the late Mr. Gibbs after consultation with the millers, who had practically the making of the tariff. The action of the lumbermen in asking for an increase of the duty was undoubtedly stimulated by the issuing of President Cleveland's message of retaliation—a message dictated by neither wisdom nor statesmanship, and which no person well informed on American politics ever for a moment supposed would be carried into effect. The issuing of the message proved to be a mistake, yea more, it proved to be a fatal blunder to the Democratic party, when in its zeal to catch the Anti-British vote in order that it might be enabled to retain power, it estranged thousands of naturalized Scotch and Canadian voters, who were sufficiently numerous to remand the Democratic party to a negative position, and who have since atoned for their blunder by the loss of power.

It is now seen that the increasing of the duty upon logs was not only an unneighborly act, but an absolute mistake, and the more so when we consider that the imports of American logs into Canada free of duty are four-fold greater than the export of Canadian logs into the United States. It is true that a small portion only of the lumber manufactured in Canada from American logs finds a market in this country, the great bulk of it being shipped back to the States; yet it brings Americans in direct contact with our manufacturers, and while it is a matter of convenience to them to use our waterways to get their products to market, the bringing of the logs to this side in order to manufacture them into lumber gives employment to a large number of Canadian workmen, and being American products they are again exported free of duty, the advantage being largely in favor of the Americans.

The interests of the lumbermen are so varied that it makes this question a very troublesome one to handle. In order that we may be able to draw just conclusions let us carefully examine the facts. As stated in a former issue of THE LUMBERMAN, the export of logs from Canada to the United States from 1880 to 1888, nine years, was \$2,251,339, while the imports of logs into Canada from the United States during the same period was \$10,619,850. Logs exported from Canada to the United States are principally from the Lake Huron region to Michigan mills. To some extent logs are also exported from the Maritime Provinces. It is estimated that from 50 to 100,000,000 feet of spruce, pine and cedar are floated down the River St. John from the State of Maine to St. John, N. B. The