

the climate was much more suited to them, but they found that if they took up the land which they could cultivate they would have to pay a price very much beyond what they considered its value and if they took up virgin land the cost of clearing would be greater than for which they could buy the finest land in Manitoba or the North-West, while the yield would be less, so they have gone back poorer but wiser men.

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#### THE PROTECTION OF TIMBER LIMITS.

One day last week there was an important meeting of lumbermen of the Province of Quebec held in Montreal, the president being Mr. F. B. Buck, of Sherbrooke. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Limit Holders' Association, but the special business under discussion was the grievance which has arisen under what the lumbermen regard as the unwise and unjust timber policy that has been pursued in the Province for years. The practical object which the lumbermen had in view was to take organized action with a view to preventing the breaking up of the timber reserves for bogus settlement. Several of the owners of large limits do not object to bona fide settlement; on the contrary, they welcome it, but find that the limits are being spoliated, the choicest of the timber lands getting into the hands of squatters, who are the instruments of speculators. The result is that the banks are turning upon the limit-holders and are refusing to give accommodation on the security of the limits. The situation is regarded as serious, and it is feared by those interested that advantage will be taken of the Government policy of throwing what are called colonization reserves open to settlement to make the position worse. Persons who have no intention of cultivating the soil will, it is contended, rush in and pick up the best of the timber lands and strip them of the timber, and thus deprive the limit-holders of the rights that belong to them. The lumber districts mostly represented were Saguenay, Riviere du Loup, the Eastern Townships, the Laurentian Ranges and the Ottawa Valley, while in timber limits alone it is stated that those at the meeting represented a value of \$100,000,000, in addition to saw-mills and pulp mills.

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#### A BANK CLERK'S SHAME.

The young bank clerk, Edwin St. George Banwell, who, when in the service of the Crown Bank of Canada, robbed it of \$40,000 and ran away to the United States, and thence to the West Indies, taking with him a young girl, whom he married en route, was condemned a few days ago to serve four years in the penitentiary. And he was taken from the court-room along with several burglars or other malefactors, to whom he was handcuffed, the group being all bound for the same place of detention. Was he not overwhelmed with shame? What his feelings were, who knows? What they ought to have been, in the way of bitter repentance and a resolve to make his term of punishment a term of good behavior and moral self-improvement, is clear. But the apparently frivolous character of the young man tends to impair one's belief in his turning over a new leaf. The address of the judge to the prisoner on sentencing him is one that may be perused with profit by young men in positions of trust whom wild impulses may sometimes seize to do as Banwell did and "have a good time," even if they sweat for it afterward.

"You obtained the confidence of a young lady," said Judge Winchester. "You put yourself out of all respect, and you not only injured yourself, but the one you loved, by your action. You were engaged to a pure young woman, and you should have considered her."

"The smallness of your salary is no justification. Each of the many managers of our large institutions had no larger salary than yours when occupying a similar position."

"There are hundreds of young men like you throughout Canada, and if they get hold of the idea that possessed you it will be a sad day for our country."

"You have not criminal instincts, but you have been brought up in an honest home by an honest mother, in whom you have destroyed all ambition."

"I am going to punish you for the purpose of preventing young men following your course. I hope this will deter them from doing what you have done. I shall send you to the penitentiary for four years."

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#### NORTH OF ENGLAND LETTER.

Not for the first time there comes into the British Legislature a desirable measure providing for limited partnership. Under this name, those who know the business methods of the Continent, will recognize their old acquaintance the business "en commandite." A means is wanted to facilitate the introduction of capital into unlimited companies, whereby an investor escapes liability beyond the extent of his original investment, with, of course, proper security to the creditors of the firm. This, Lord Avebury would supply by registering such partnerships, and making them operative for a fixed term during which the limited partner might not return unless all partnership debts were paid, or unless the unpaid creditors assented. He would prevent the limited partner from withdrawing, during the currency of the term, any part of his capital contribution and he would not allow the name of the limited partner to appear in the style of the firm. The Bill contemplates an arrangement whereby one or more partners should be liable only in part and the remainder liable in full for any losses. The proposals move in the right direction, and it can scarcely be doubted that some such would lend to the stability of affairs. A firm that by some misfortune or isolated indiscretion found itself in difficulties might thus gain the support that would tide over a temporary crisis and perpetuate its old connections. We can do with a weather-proof half-way house between the fully limited and the entirely unlimited concern, and Lord Avebury's Bill will, at least, lead to a fuller consideration of ways and means.

A proposal has been heard of, per cable, to authorize Canada's Commercial Agents in England to prosecute persons applying the word "Canadian" to goods of other origin. One does not know that the national name is frequently taken in vain. The temptation now is not so great as it may become when Canadian goods have established a clearer title to admiration. We buy Canadian cheese, bacon, butter, apples, and the like on the unsupported warrant of the salesman's word, which is not beyond risk of error. Branded goods speak for themselves, and, no doubt, with general truth. Outside of these, it is hard to recall any commodities known specifically to the private consumer as Canadian. One may, except Canada balsam and Canada (whet) stone—in each case pronounced Can-ah-da—but they are not articles in universal demand. This world, however, is thickly populated with dealers who see no harm in tagging-on to their inferior goods a well-reputed description to which they possess no right. All over the world the name "English" is most scandalously ill-assorted. In Paris, Berlin, Vienna, Madrid, St. Petersburg, Constantinople, and the further East that eligible title is attached to articles that are no more English than they are Choctaw.

But Canadians have a precedent, of a sort. The Belfast linen-traders lay traps for the incautious shop-keeper who sells towels or collars as linen when half of them is cotton, and they see that the defamer gets his deserts in the police court. Our Food and Drugs Act provides for the proper description and composition of certain medicines and comestibles. And, no doubt, a few convictions would put sellers on their guard as to the misuse of the word Canada. But, as sufferers ourselves, we are conscious that the embezzlement of our national name is not an undiluted misfortune. It is an advertisement as well as a species of fraud. The consumer who is observant sees that people of all sorts ape the name English and that sight strengthens his faith in the integral value of English goods. He is not always so stupid as to fail to detect flagrant impositions, and his disgust over the spurious imitation helps to heighten his

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