POOR DOCUMENT

MC 2033

STUMPAGE RAISED TO $1 25 A THOUSAND.

Government's Reply to the Lumbermen.

The local government has decided to increase the stumpage on lumber cut in New Brunswick, from $1 to $1.25 a thousand, and to double the charge for renewal of leases, making it $8 a square mile, instead of $4, as at present. The new stumpage rate will apply to this winter's cut, and the new charge of renewals will affect all future renewals.

When increase of the stumpage was first talked of some little time ago, $1.50 was spoken of as likely to be the new rate, but on second view the government considered that a better plan would be to do what has now been decided on. Instead of making the stumpage $1.50, the government makes $1.25 and thus the burden is lighter on the steady operator, while more of an increase is asked from those who seek renewal leases and who hold lands for speculative purposes.

Other Important Matters.

There are other important matters relative to the lumber industry dealt with by the surveyor-general in replying to the memorial of the lumbermen's association. The full text of his reply is given here. It is signed by Hon. A. T. Dunn, surveyor-general, and a copy was forwarded Friday evening to Henry Hilyard, of this city, president of the association. The document reads:—

To Messrs. Henry Hilyard, Kilgour Shives, W. B. Snowball, John E. Moore, G. G. King, E. Hutchinson and R. A. Lawlor, Committee of The Lumbermen and Limit Holders' Association:

Gentlemen,—I am directed to inform you that I submitted to the executive council your memorial of the 29th September last, and to say that the matters therein referred to have received very careful consideration.

As you have made recommendations in reference to the administration of the crown lands which are very important, it will perhaps be well to refer to them in detail, and to acquaint you with the views of the government in respect thereto under the different headings.

Tops Must Pay Stumpage.

1. The question of allowing tops to be removed without payment of stumpage is one involving serious difficulties, and, after consultation with the officers of the department, who are fully competent to judge upon these matters, the executive council has reluctantly been forced to the conclusion that it cannot accede to your views. You will remember that this matter was brought up before the department of crown lands some years ago and the surveyor-general endeavored to meet the views of the lumbermen in this regard, but, finding that advantage was taken throughout the different sections of the province, by certain operators who claimed that a large percentage of their cut was on tops alone and therefore should not be liable to stumpage, it became necessary to adopt a different policy, and for this and other reasons it is not considered advisable in the public interest that the present policy in this regard should be departed from.

2. While the executive council is impressed with the view put forward in the second paragraph of your memorial, with reference to the increased cost attending the procuring of lumber and getting it to market, yet it should be borne in mind that the province has in recent years expended large amounts of money in the building of railways, which have very considerably lessened the cost of taking the supplies to the head waters of the rivers where lumbering operations are carried on, and this fact, as well as the reduced cost of supplies, should be taken into consideration in determining what would be a fair rate of stumpage.

Holdings More Valuable Now.

It must also be borne in mind that since the adoption by the government of the policy of granting the licenses for twenty-five years, the value of the holdings of licensees has increased enormously. Many licensees who purchased at the upset price of $8 per square mile, now hold their lands at $100 and upwards; and while it may be true that the cost of procuring the lumber has increased, owing to the higher rate of wages now prevailing, it is within the knowledge of the executive that the price of lumber in the local markets has very largely increased, and in many cases nearly fifty per cent higher than it was ten years ago. These facts cannot be ignored by the government as trustees of the public in determining this question.

A Uniform Rate; Burnt Districts.

3. The question of having different rates of stumpage in different sections of the province is a very important one, and the executive council has felt that a great deal could be said in favor of discriminating in this regard, having reference to the accessibility to markets, the facilities for procuring lumber, difference in freights and other circumstances, but it has been decided to acquiesce in the views put forward by you on behalf of the lumbermen and continue the uniform rate throughout the province.

4. In respect to recommendation No. 4 contained in your memorial, the executive council feels that it would not be in the interest of the province that a regulation of general effect should be made regarding the reduction of stumpage to operators cutting on burnt districts, but has decided that in cases of this kind application must be made to the surveyor-general, and by him referred to the committee of council for decision, and each case will be dealt with upon its merits; but the general opinion is that only in very exceptional cases should any reduction be made.

5. In regard to your recommendation No. 5, the executive council recognizes that there are throughout the province certain areas under license upon which the timber is not likely at any time, when cut, to become what would be termed merchantable; but the same remarks as made in reference to No. 4 must apply to these cases, namely, each case must be the subject of special application and receive the sanction of the executive, upon report of an officer of the crown land department.

Protection of the Forests.

6. With regard to the recommendation contained in paragraph 6 of the memorial, the executive council has decided that new regulations shall be made for the better protection of the forests from fire and that ample means will be employed to protect the timber lands throughout the province.

7. The recommendation contained in paragraph 7, that all persons going in the woods during the dry season shall first have to secure a license from some person duly authorized for that purpose, would be difficult of enforcement, but the executive council will carefully consider as to what can be done in this particular.

$1.25 a Thousand; $8 for Renewals.

8. The executive council has given full consideration to the comparative statement of the scales and rates of stumpage in the provinces of New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario, and likewise the amount paid for renewals. The executive council is, however, of the opinion that the scales and rates of stumpage and renewal charges in the provinces of Quebec and Ontario do not afford a safe guide upon which the government could act in the discharge of its duty to the people of this province. The charges to be made for the public property must be based upon the conditions existing in New Brunswick, and it is the duty of the executive to impose such rates as the state of the lumber business from time to time will reasonably warrant. After the very fullest and most careful consideration the executive council has determined that a fair rate to now impose would be, for renewal licenses the sum of $8 per square mile, and that the stumpage rate should be $1.25 per thousand upon spruce, pine, fir and cedar, and a proportionate rate on other lumber.

Applies to This Year's Cut.

The above rate of stumpage will be exacted upon the cut of the present season, and the increased mileage charge on renewal licenses will be enforced on all future renewals. Regulations will be made to carry this decision into effect, and any legislation which may be deemed necessary by the executive to bring the proposed changes into operation will be submitted to the legislative assembly for enactment.

9. With reference to the suggestion of your committee contained in paragraph 9 of the memorial, that in case it is the intention of the government to raise the stumpage, the term of the present leases should be extended for a period of twenty-five years from the date of the increased stumpage, the executive council would call your attention to the fact that at the time the policy of granting long leases was determined upon, it was clearly understood by the lumbermen that the right was reserved to the government at any time to increase the stumpage and also the mileage rate; and in view of this fact, the government does not think it desirable that the question of granting a further extension should form an element in considering the amount of stumpage and mileage rate to be paid.

Lands Open for Settlement.

10. Referring to paragraph 10 of the memorial, while the executive council recognizes to the fullest extent the great desirability of preserving from encroachment of trespassers the licensed crown timber lands of the province, yet it cannot accede to the proposition which is suggested in the tenth paragraph that the vacant lands of this province should, simply because they are under license, not be opened for settlement. The policy of the government is, that wherever suitable lands for settlement are available throughout this province, the fullest opportunity should be given to bona fide applicants to settle upon such lands. The department, however, will be careful in the future as in the past, to scrutinize all applications, in order to determine that they are bona fide, and will only approve of applications that are made in districts where the land is suitable for agricultural purposes and for settlement.

11. As to the statement in paragraph 11 of your memorial, the government intends to introduce an amendment to the act relating to the survey and exportation of lumber, so as to meet the difficulties suggested in this paragraph.

12. The suggestion made in paragraph 12 of the memorial merits favorable consideration, and it is the intention of the government, as far as possible, to have base lines run over all the crown lands, so that the evil complained of may be remedied.

13. With regard to the suggestion contained in the thirteenth paragraph of the memorial, the government is unable to see its way clear to make any general regulation allowing for the cut of logs of a smaller size than that already provided for.

The Further Extension of Terms.

In conclusion, the executive council desires me to say that the preservation and protection of the crown timber lands of the province have been the subject of the very gravest consideration by the government, recognizing, as it does, the great importance to the province of preserving and encouraging this great industry. The executive council is fully aware that the policy which was adopted in 1893 of granting long leases has been an important factor in this direction, having given an incentive which did not previously exist to the licensees to take all possible means to protect their holdings. The question of whether or not it is desirable to still further extend the terms of the licenses, thereby ensuring greater permanency of tenure, is one of great importance and will receive the most careful attention.

In this connection, it may be proper to observe that the executive council recognizes the equitable claims of those who have invested large amounts of money in the erection of mills, the building of booms, wharves, etc., in connection with the carrying on of lumbering and milling operations, to hold lands for the purpose of supplying their mills. Upon the other hand, your committee will readily recognize the objections which may be urged and which would naturally have weight with the people of the province against permanently locking up the timber lands without first affording an opportunity to all persons to acquire an interest therein, if they saw fit to do so.

The Public Interest.

In considering this question, it must be approached from the standpoint of the public interest, and also with a view to protecting the large number of persons throughout the province who are engaged in this industry. The government recognizes the great importance of specially arriving at a proper conclusion, and your committee may rely upon the subject receiving the fullest consideration. I have the honor to be, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,
A. T. DUNN,
Surveyor-General.

Fredericton (N. B.), Dec. 4, 1903.

GOOD RULES IF YOU CAN FOLLOW THEM.

Don't worry. Don't hurry. "Too swift arrived as tardy as too slow."

"Simplify! simplify! simplify" your diet! Don't overeat. Don't starve. "Let your moderation be known to all men." Court the fresh air day and night. "Oh if you knew what was in the air. Sleep and rest abundantly. Spend less nervous energy each day than you make. Be cheerful. "A light heart lives long." Think only healthful thoughts. "As he thinketh in his heart, so is he." Work like a man, but don't be worked to death. Avoid passion and excitement. A moment's anger may be fatal. Don't carry the whole world on your shoulder, far less the universe. Trust the Eternal. Never despair. Lost hope is a fatal disease. "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them."—Journal and Messenger.

Personal Intelligence.

Doctor McCarthy and Mrs. McCarthy, of Ottawa, who arrived in the city Friday to visit Mrs. McCarthy's brother, A. George Blair, went to Fredericton Saturday to spend some days with Mrs. R. F. Randolph.

A. B. Pickett left Andover on Thursday for Montreal, en route to Southern California. He intended traveling by way of Chicago, St. Louis and New Orleans. He will spend the winter in Riverside or vicinity.

The militia department has been advised by Lord Strathcona that Major R. G. Leckie, who had been severely mauled by a leopard in Somaliland, had arrived at Berber on Nov. 22, on his way out of the country. The gallant officer is reported progressing favorably.

Capt. A. H. Anderson, of Lunenburg (N. S.), has been appointed captain in the ordinance store corps, and has been ordered to proceed to Charlottetown to take charge of all military stores.

Canadians who registered at the Canadian government office, London, the week ended Nov. 24, are C. Oshiltree, Mrs. Macdonald, W. H. Bowser, Mrs. R. E. Seeley and J. A. Butler, of Halifax.

Saturday's Fredericton Herald says: "The friends of Rev. Dr. McLeod, who met with a serious accident a short time ago, were pleased to see him out driving for a short time today. Miss Margarett Babbitt is home from Boston to spend Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. N. Babbitt."

A Fredericton church authority tells the Gleaner that if a Nova Scotian is chosen to succeed Bishop Courteney it will be Archdeacon Kaulbach. A Halifax despatch says that the name of Rev. Canon J. B. Richardson, of London (Ont.), is mentioned.

John McPherson, of the P. E. Island railway, will leave this morning, accompanied by his grand-daughter, Miss Ada McPherson, for Glace Bay, to attend the wedding of his grand-daughter, Miss Bell McLeod, to Lauchlan Robertson, of North Sydney, on Tuesday. — Charlottetown Guardian.

CONSERVATIVES WELCOME TO R. L. BORDEN IN ST. JOHN

Many Meet the Opposition Leader at a Reception—He Delivers a Brief Address.

R. L. Borden, M. P., of Halifax, leader of the Conservative party in Canada, arrived here at 7 o'clock Saturday evening and is the guest of W. H. Thorne. Saturday night a reception was tendered him in the York Theatre assembly rooms under management of the Junior Liberal Conservatives.

Quite a number were on hand to greet Mr. Borden when he arrived. The train was more than an hour late and it was 7 o'clock when St. John was reached. As Mr. Borden alighted he was welcomed by W. H. Thorne, J. D. Hazen, M. P. P., and others and three cheers and a tiger were given for him. A few minutes were spent in introductions and the leader was then escorted to Mr. Thorne's residence in Mecklenburg street where he is a guest while in St. John.

The York Theatre assembly rooms were filled Saturday night when opportunity was given all who wished to meet Mr. Borden. The gathering was very enthusiastic and Mr. Borden, on his entering about 9 o'clock, was given a very hearty reception. A platform had been placed at the northern side of the hall and over it were draped British flags upon which hung portraits of Sir John A. Macdonald, Sir Charles Tupper, Sir Leonard Tilley and Mr. Borden.

The evening's proceedings were informal and enjoyable. Ald. J. B. M. Baxter presided and before the leader's arrival pipes had been lighted and speeches by Dr. A. A. Stockton, C. A. Everett, Ald. A. W. Macrae, songs by Mr. Furlong and music by the Carleton Cornet Band had helped an hour to pass pleasantly.

When Mr. Borden arrived, smoking a cigar, he took his place upon the platform while the gathering cheered lustily. Mr. Baxter then delivered a brief but very nice welcoming address, referred to the portraits of former party leaders, the great Sir John A. Macdonald, New Brunswick's own respected Sir Leonard Tilley, and Sir Charles Tupper, and referring to the fact that Mr. Borden's was with them, expressed confidence that he would take the same place as they in guiding the destiny of the great Conservative party. He introduced Mr. Borden as "the Premier of Canada."

A large number then passed in line and were presented to Mr. Borden, who appeared to make a good impression upon all.

After songs by Harry Doody, John McAllister, ex-M.P. of Restigouche, who had come down to pay his respects to the opposition leader, was called upon and spoke briefly. R. D. Wilmot, M. P. of Sunbury and Queens, who also came to the city to welcome Mr. Borden, was asked to speak and made a brief address. Songs were sung by Mr. Matthews and Mr. Borden was then introduced.

Mr. Borden said he could not fail to be delighted with the reception accorded him. Not many years ago the Conservatives were taunted from one end of Canada to another that not many Conservatives could be found. But so far as St. John was concerned, there was no difficulty finding the old guard and many of the new guard. He was especially delighted to see not only those who had been in the battles of other days but the young, to whom the future of the country is entrusted.

Mr. Borden said he was glad to renew all old acquaintances and make new ones. It was one of the compensations of public life that a man came to know his fellow countrymen better and make friendships which lasted a life time. He had made many such and in New Brunswick especially he felt at home, because like himself we were a fish eating people.

In the house of commons they give us credit for intelligence in discussion of public affairs and in a jocular way they say it's because we by the sea partake of a diet largely fish. New Brunswick has had its fair share for she has sent to parliament many men of great ability whose names have become household words.

St. John and Halifax were friendly rivals and there should not be any but kindliest feelings between them. The question in Canada was not now between Halifax and St. John, but between Halifax and St. John and ports in the United States. (Applause.) All should stand together, said the speaker, for consummation of the policy by which the trade that now goes through American ports will go by Halifax or St. John and both those ports, he was sure, were ready to stand the test of commercial requirements. (Hear, hear.)

St. John deserved the highest praise of the people of Canada because no port of Canada having regard to population and resources had done so much towards development as an ocean port as had St. John.

Mr. Borden spoke of his pleasure in the cordial reception given him and would take back with him news of the reception as a message of inspiration for rally to the grand old party which, he said, had built up, extended and developed Canada and has even greater work to do for the Canada of the future.

At the conclusion of Mr. Borden's speech Mr. Baxter announced that the band would head the procession planned to escort the leader to Mr. Thorne's residence and the order was to "form fours." About 200 formed in line, many bearing torches, and Mr. Borden joined in the march, walking with Messrs. Hazen, Thorne and McInerney. At Mr. Thorne's gate cheers were given for the king, Messrs. Borden, Hazen, Thorne, McInerney and Baxter and the gathering dispersed.

ST. JOHN HAS OUTGROWN PORT'S FACILITIES.

He Describes the Progress as Wonderful.

For the first time since he entered the Laurier cabinet, Hon. Raymond Prefontaine, minister of marine and fisheries, was in St. John Friday. It was not his first visit to the city, however, he having been here a couple of times before. Hon. Mr. Prefontaine, after inspecting the harbor, says St. John's business has grown beyond her facilities; it's absolutely necessary to have these increased, and he spoke rather willingly of lending his aid, if desired, towards this end, regarding the matter from the broad standpoint of the man who sees the necessity of better facilities here in the interests of the trade of the whole dominion.

Goes to Partridge Island.

Hon. Mr. Prefontaine was accompanied by Deputy Minister Gordeau, Commander Spain, R. N., and M. Sauvanne, editor of Le Canada. They reached the city on the Halifax express.

An early call was made to F. J. Harding, agent of the marine and fisheries department, and then the minister and his party went down to Partridge Island to inspect the government properties. With them were Mr. Harding, Inspector of Lights Kelly, and Captain Bissett.

The Sand Point wharves, also the site of the proposed new berths at South Rodney wharf, were visited and the harbor generally inspected.

In the afternoon Hon. Mr. Prefontaine was entertained at the Union Club by Senator Domville. The guests invited to meet the minister were His Lordship Bishop Casey, the Chief Justice, Hon. A. G. Blair, Hon. J. V. Ellis, Mr. Justice Barker, Mr. Justice McLeod, Hon. Wm. Pugsley, Rev. J. de Soyres, Sheriff Ritchie, Deputy Mayor McGoldrick, W. H. Thorne, George McAvity, W. M. Jarvis, C. J. Coster, M. Sauvanne and A. C. Fairweather.

A Talk With the Minister.

Later Mr. Prefontaine was given a drive about the city by Mr. Harding and went aboard his car about 5.30 o'clock. He left for Montreal by the C. P. R. Pacific express. A Telegraph reporter had a pleasant talk with the minister just before he left.

Mr. Prefontaine said he had come to the maritime provinces principally to look into the matter of winter navigation between P. E. Island and the mainland and, being here, it would not be natural if he did not visit the stations of his department in Halifax and St. John.

He had been met by F. J. Harding, the agent of the department here, who had everything ready for a visit to Partridge Island. There the minister and his party were taken, though the sail was not too pleasant because of a blinding snow storm. Hon. Mr. Prefontaine inspected the government station on the Island and also the Sand Point facilities, the site of the proposed new wharves on the west side, and the harbor generally, his wish being to have first-hand information as to the port not that this was in his department, but as a cabinet minister he desired to understand the situation here.

The minister is evidently very favorably impressed with St. John harbor. He says what has been done here since the winter port business was begun is wonderful, and there is greater development in the future as the dominion grows.

Development in the Future.

"We're not going to depend upon the United States," said Mr. Prefontaine. "We must develop our own resources and the business of the country is growing greatly. St. John and Halifax are the two winter ports of the dominion and they'll be summer ports, too, with the enlargement of the dominion trade."

Mr. Prefontaine considered that St. John's development in the winter port business has outgrown her facilities and more steamer berths are absolutely necessary.

Asked if, now that he saw the conditions, he would have a good word for this port in connection with the providing of more facilities should the matter come before the government, Hon. Mr. Prefontaine replied that he was not a sectional man and was always pleased to do anything in the interests of the dominion. He had learned of matters at this port from Hon. Mr. Blair, Col. Tucker, M. P., and others and now he had seen for himself.

Reverting to the prime object of his visit here, Mr. Prefontaine said he had examined the situation relative to the winter P. E. Island service and would come to a decision which, he thought, would make the service better than it was last year though it wasn't very good then.

The New Cabinet Minister.

The minister had no election news, and as to a successor to Hon. A. G. Blair in the cabinet said New Brunswick was entitled to a representative in the government, but he spoke no name, neither did he comment when told there was a claim on the part of a portion of the press that this province should have two representatives in the cabinet.

Weddings.

Tiner-White.

John White and Mrs. Fannie Tyner were united in marriage by Rev. A. T. Dykeman at the Baptist parsonage, Fairville, on the 2nd inst.

Kimble-Tait.

George James Tait, of Fredericton, and Miss Blanche Kimble, of Kingsville, were declared husband and wife at the Baptist parsonage, Fairville, on Monday evening, Nov. 30, by Rev. A. T. Dykeman.

Spence-Gillin.

The marriage took place at the Methodist church, at Glace Bay, on Nov. 30th, by the Rev. W. Q. Genge of Margaret Loretta Gillin, daughter of Michael H. Gillan, of Charlottetown (P. E. I.), to Wesley J. Spence, of Springhill (N. S.) The groom was supported by John E. Frain, of Manchester (Eng.), and the bridesmaid was Miss Annie E. Lodge, of St. John.

Warren-Cornish.

The marriage of Andrew B. Warren and Flora J. Cornish was solemnized at the residence of Richard W. Cornish, father of the bride, Maple Grove, York c on Tuesday, 2nd inst., by Rev. J. tine, of Stanley.

A curious theatre programme of the Stadt Museum at Brunswick. quaintest of German the following tions are set forth: "In order for the venience of the audience it is requested the first row doth lie, the second kneel, third sit, the fourth stand: thus can all Laughing is forbidden, because it is tragedy."

When it comes to love letters, I and U are not in it with X and V.—Town Topics.

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ST. JOHN, N. B.

Billiard and Pool at Home is Best

THEN

There was a time when lovers of these scientific games were forced to pay high rates in the oft times objectionable billiard rooms, or pay hundreds of dollars for a big table, which took up the largest room.

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The householder and his fa indulge in pool, billiards and games on portable tables, whi laid away when the fun is ov Christmas Gift.

Burrowe's Billiard Tables from $15 to $60. See Them!

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Already the holiday trade has set in with a rush and the vast array of fancy goods, practical presents and ture is being selected in large quantities. Nevertheless, we prepared for this Yuletide boom in business and have more goods in reserve; still, there is always wisdom in early shopping.

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The art of manufacturing clothing ready for wear has been so carefully developed and improved upon of late that observant people are growing to realize more advantages of selecting material of this kind. Best materials, latest styles, newest trimmings, durability and general nattiness.

The Popular Sac Suit.

In mixed tweed, fancy worsted and cheviots.

From $8.00 to $15 00.

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The Greatest Value Giving Sale of the Season'

An event which has forcible meaning for you. Our sales this season have been largely in advance of last but the demand has been almost entirely for our highest priced coats, consequently we are left with a large stock Overcoats at prices ranging from $15 to $10. These we must sell at once as we do not intend to carry any over, we feel sure you will appreciate buying at the HEIGHT OF THE SEASON, the most

Reliable High Grade Overcoats at 25 per cent. discount off regular prices.

It means an economical opportunity to select from a large stock of Overcoats made by the best make Canada--at such low prices that you will see at a glance it is for your benefit to invest. THIS MONEY-SAV WILL BEGIN ON SATURDAY, DEC. 12, AND CLOSE WITH SATURDAY, DEC. 19.

Read carefully the following descriptions of a few of the offerings. rom our previous highly successful s the public know we keep faith with them--when we advertise bargains they are genuine bargains. Prices al marked in plain figures.

$10.00 At this price an excellent Cheviot, Oxford mixed, stripe effect; long; flap pockets, outside breast pocket; broad shoulders and loose back; finely tailored; silk velvet collar; mohair linings. Regular price, $10; now $7.50.

$10.00 A dressy Oxford mixed Frieze; broad shoulders; vertical pockets; mohair lining; outside breast pocket; a capital coat at $10, but a bargain at $7.50.

$12.00 Blue and Black Beaver Overcoats; medium-long; mohair linings; box back; broad shoulders; silk velvet collar; elegantly tailored; only a few, but in nearly every size—a very dressy overcoat. Sale price $9.00

$12.00 A good style, well made, thoroughly tailored, highly finished long Overcoat; broad shoulders, box back; Oxford mixed Cheviot; mohair linings. A young man's coat—very popular. Now $9.00.

$15.00 Overcoats of medium and Oxford mixed Friezes; m long and long; box back; vertical and flap po silk velvet collar; most durable, storm and sisting overcoats. Regular price $15.00, l per cent., $11.25.

$15 00 This lot is of exceptional valu; fi Cheviot Overcoats in several shade of grey; smooth and moderately rough cloth; box back, moderately loose; medium long; curved flaps; silk velvet collar; fine quality, heavy mohair lining, as good as custom made overcoats at $22 and $24. Regular Prices, $15.00; now $11.25.

A. GILMOUR, 68 King St. Men's Tailoring and Clothing. Best Place to Buy Good Clothing