

# THE CANADA LUMBERMAN

VOLUME XIII.  
NUMBER 5.

TORONTO, ONT., MAY, 1892

(TERMS, \$1.00 PER YEAR  
SINGLE COPIES, 10 CENTS)

## CHARACTER SKETCH.

HON. J. KEWLEY WARD.

"Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings."  
Proverbs of Solomon.

It comes to comparatively few men to recount the achievements of half a century in one particular line of work. Gladstone is a notable exception in the walks of the statesman; Von Moltke in military affairs; and the late Cardinal Manning in the work of the Church. Years have been added unto years in their individual callings. We tell in the following lines the life story of Hon. J. K. Ward, of Montreal, now at the age of seventy-three years, who has spent fifty-six of these as a lumberman.

Mr. J. Kewley Ward was born in the Isle of Man, in 1819, of English and Manx parents. His course in life, as after events have proven, was shaped when, at an early age, he was apprenticed to the trade of carpenter and joiner. Having completed his tenure of apprenticeship he spent a year in England working at his trade. In 1842, now fifty years ago, he emigrated to the United States. For a time after his arrival in the new world, he wandered around to some extent, engaging with energy and faithfulness in any honorable work that came in his way. In 1845 he located in Troy, N.Y., securing a position in a planing mill, owned by the late John Gibson, of Albany, N.Y. It was there that he obtained his first experience in handling lumber, a branch of business in which in after years he was to occupy a conspicuous position. At the end of three years he entered into business on his own account by renting from the owner the mill in which he had given three years of faithful service. It was a plucky undertaking for the young man, but he rose equal to the occasion. From boyhood Mr. Ward had tasted of the sweets of labor. Work did not frighten him, nor could difficulties overpower him. He believed with D'Avenanti: "Rich are the diligent, who can command time, nature's stock? and could his hour-glass fall, would, as for seeds of stars, stoop for the sand, and by incessant labor gather all." He was his own book-keeper, amanuensis and office man-of-all-work, at the same time keeping three Woodworth planers doing their work making money for the mill, and not alone supervising, but doing in person much of the actual mechanical work of the shop.

Three years of earnest toil along these lines brought to Mr. Ward success altogether beyond his expectations. He was yet prepared to assume further responsibilities, and harder work and move on to greater victories, and at this time entered into the manufacture of lumber, along with a son of his old employer, who had built one of the best steam sawmills in Steubin county, in southwestern New York. Increased experience was now added to Mr. Ward's store of lumber knowledge. He learned what was meant by shanty life, making logs and driving them, as all logs for the firm's mill had to be taken along the Tioga river down to the Chemung, where the mill was situated. Unable to secure a sufficient supply of timber without a larger expenditure of capital than the firm was able to control, Mr. Ward determined not to jeopardize his future by entering into ventures beyond his depth, and wisely pulled up stakes in Steubin county.

This step was immediately followed by a decision, as he has expressed it himself, "to try Canada." This was in 1853, and Mr. Ward has never had occasion to regret the choice. Prospecting for a time, he at last bought a mill and property on the Maskinonge river, in the province of Quebec, where he spent ten years lumbering, driving and sawing, adding during these years somewhat to his possessions. In 1863 he moved to Three Rivers and took the mills and limits built and owned by Norcross, Philips & Co. Running these successfully for

several years, he afterwards sold out to an American firm from Williamsport, Pa.

The year 1870 found Mr. Ward a resident of Montreal. Lumbering operations were commenced on the river Rouge, a tributary of the Ottawa, where he has lumbered ever since. The sawmill is situated in the vicinity of the Lachine canal, and the logs are rafted through the Long Sault, the lake of Two Mountains, and along the Lachine canal to the mill. The annual cut of the mill is about 15,000,000 feet.

"Me tink dat all men love lazy" is the expressive way in which a foreign tongue has sized up the chief love of ordinary mortals. The record of Mr. Ward's career shows plainly "dat he no love lazy." At his advanced age he is still active in business pursuits; at the same time, as a good citizen, giving liberally of his time and means to many important undertakings of a public character. Four years ago he was named a Legislative Councillor of his adopted province, probably the first case recorded where a practical mechanic, a man who had sprung directly from the working classes, and a Manxman, has held this exalted position. The "Protestant Hospital for the Insane," of Montreal, is an institu-



HON. J. K. WARD.

tion in which Mr. Ward is deeply interested, and which owes much to his generous care. Briefly: Whatever his hand findeth to do, he does with all his might. On another page we publish an able paper on "Canadian Woods," by Mr. Ward.

### SAWING HARDWOOD.

TO successfully saw hardwood, says a writer in our bright little contemporary, *Hardwood*, requires first, a saw adapted to the purpose and to the power of the mill. Hardwood does not heat a saw because it is hard, but because the saw is not suited to its work and in many cases not fitted up rightly. Sawyers know that a saw cuts much better while cutting through the bark, unless it is hickory or a similar species.

It is when a log is squared up, as is now generally done, that the best lumber is made as a rule, and right here the saw runs badly. It enters the cut right, goes straight for a few feet and then begins to snake and heat on the rim. The carriage is giggered back, the saw cooled and the process repeated, the best timber being spoiled in sawing. When the heart is approached the saw begins to run better.

I am inclined to take the part of sawyers. They are often accused and abused when they should not be. No man under the sun can run a saw that is not adapted to the work in hardwood.

Now, what constitutes the right kind of a saw? Any millman of experience ought to know. First, all log saws will do more and better work with as few teeth as possible, other things considered. That is, a thin saw requires more teeth than a thick one. A filer who cannot put a corner on a tooth so it will stay, must have more teeth in his saw. Bent or spring set requires more teeth. A man in the dark is apt to imitate his successful neighbour, who may be running sixty teeth on four or five inch feed. The man in trouble is at once caught with the running of the saw, and observing that it has more teeth, concludes that a saw of this kind would work on his mill. But not so. He has limited power, while his neighbour has ample to make the saw take a large feed.

For ordinary work fifteen teeth for every inch of feed are sufficient on an eight-gauge saw; a ten-gauge saw should have eighteen and a seven-gauge twelve teeth. If a saw runs on one-inch feed fifteen teeth are ample; if it has a two-inch feed it will require thirty teeth, and so on. They must be filed square, have good corners, and then the saw will be in proper shape so far as the teeth and fitting of the points are concerned.

For an eight-gauge saw I would recommend not larger than a  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch throat to teeth, so as to chamber the dust well. The whole trouble often arises from the saw tooth not chambering the dust. Why? Because too many teeth cut the dust too fine, and instead of packing it into the throat of the teeth to be carried out of the cut, it passes by between the saw and the log, packs firmly against the log and the rim and heats the saw. If all hardwood sawyers will take notice they will find that when their saw heats as mentioned the dust will be packed as nicely to the side of the log as a plaster. If each tooth had cut a trifle more the dust would have been coarser and more in the shape of a chip and would have chambered nicely, and the saw would not have been heated and the lumber ruined. If you are running on two-inch feed and have a saw with 48 teeth, you will get along better with a spring set instead of a full swage tooth. If an eight-gauge saw has over 50 teeth on a light feed it will give trouble and would do better with every other tooth taken out.

A large, round gullet will not always work, as there is often too great a number of teeth for such a shape. Often inserted tooth saws give this trouble, no one knowing exactly where the trouble is until finally a new set of rings or throat pieces is put in and the saw works well, the trouble being that the old rings had worn off on each side and were convexed in the centre, letting the dust slip by instead of carrying it of the cut.

Light power should have plenty of hook to the teeth, and where the carriage approaches the saw slowly a greater hook can also be carried. The set should be much less for hard wood than for soft. In sawing hard wood it is a common practice to run too much lead in the mandrel. All saws should be flat or lean a little to the log, and have sufficient lead so that the back of the saw does not scratch the cut in giggering. A log going to and fro against a saw sidewise will heat the saw and make crooked lumber, not when the saw is hot but when it is cold. This is a great oversight on the part of many mill owners, and the cause of much worry and vexation to the sawyer. The mill owner thinks a cool saw ought to always make a bee line. It will follow the same curve or crook in each board, making them of even thickness, but when a piece of square stuff is turned out, or the last piece on the carriage, it is found to be crooked and almost ruined.