

GOVERNMENT SALE OF TIMBER.

The sale of Ontario Government timber berths on the North shore of Lake Huron was held in the Legislative chamber, Toronto, on Oct. 22nd. The audience numbered between four and five hundred, and comprised several lumbermen from the United States as well as most of the prominent Canadian lumbermen. The sale commenced at one o'clock, and was continued without intermission until half-past three, by which time all the lots were disposed of, the total sum realized being close on half a million dollars. It is safe to say that the prices obtained were by far the best ever got at such a sale. The following were the sales effected:—

Berth No. 1, township of Springer.—A concession, lots 1, 2, 3, except four acres in north-west part 6, 7, 8, 13. B concession, lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13. C concession, lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10. D concession, lot 12, 13, 14. Goulais Island in McLeod's Bay. Township of Caldwell.—A concession, lots 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12. B concession, lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12. Area 27½ square miles. Bidding opened at \$25, and sold at \$250 to Hugh Macdonald, Toronto.

Berth No. 2.—The space projecting eastward in Lake Nipissing from timber berth 11, and that part of timber berth 12, situate south of West Bay. Area, 68 square miles, more or less. Opened at \$25; sold at \$1,250 to John Page, Toronto.

Berth No. 3.—Broken fronts, south of timber berths No. 11, 19, 27, and the large island in French river south of the said broken fronts. Area, 53 square miles, more or less. Opened at \$50; sold at \$250 to Arthur Hill, Saginaw, Michigan.

Berth No. 4.—Lying between timber berths Nos. 35 and 43 and the north channel of French river, and bounded on the west by Wahnapitae river. Area, 50 square miles, more or less. Opened at \$50; sold at \$65 to F. B. Maxwell, Toronto.

Berth No. 5.—Lying between timber berths No. 51 and 59 and the Wahnapitae river and the north channel of French river. Area, 59 square miles, more or less. Opened at \$50; sold at \$350 to W. H. Bennett, Midland.

Berth No. 8.—The southerly part of the Township of Humboldt, exclusive of the Indian reserve and a location at the mouth of the Mahzenazing river, 200 acres. Area, 13½ square miles, more or less. Opened at \$200; sold at \$1,200 to W. H. Bennett, Midland.

Berth No. 9.—Philip Edward Island. Area, 11 square miles, more or less. Opened at \$200; sold at \$490 to R. Jaffray, Toronto.

Berth No. 10.—Lying between timber berths, No. 82 and 90, and the Georgian bay and Collins inlet. Area, 83 square miles, more or less. Opened at \$50; sold at \$150 to John Scully, Toronto.

Berth No. 11.—Lying between timber berth No. 98 and the Georgian Bay, exclusive of White Fish River Indian Reserve, exclusive of the surveyed portion of the township of Rutherford and half a mile immediately north of sections 23, 24, in said township. Area, 28 square miles, more or less. Opened at \$500, sold at \$710 to John Waldie, Burlington.

Berth No. 12.—Lying between the township of Merritt and Georgian Bay, exclusive of White Fish River Indian Reserve, and the patented mining locations west thereof. Area 23 square miles, more or less. Opened at \$200, sold at \$710 to Mossom Boyd & Co., Bobcaygeon.

Berth No. 13.—Township of Lewis. Area, 26 square miles. Opened at \$50; sold at \$240 to John Scully, Toronto.

Township of Long.—Berth No. 14.—Area 24½ square miles. Opened at \$100; sold at \$320 to John Scully, Toronto.

Berth No. 15.—Part of Township of Cobden. Area, 15 square miles. Opened at \$80; sold at \$100 to J. A. Dollar, Midland.

Berth No. 16.—Adjoining berth No. 2, on the French River. Opened at \$60; sold at \$250 to Charles Creney, Nipissing.

Berth No. 20.—Situate in the township of Balfour, on the C. P. R. Opened at \$50; sold at \$400 to Thomas Charlton, Ottawa.

Berth No. 21.—Situate in the township of Fairbank, and intersected by Vermillion lake.

Opened at \$80; sold at \$210 to Wm. McNabb, Douglas.

Berth No. 22.—Situate in the township of Downing, and immediately north of berth 21. Opened at \$70; sold at \$250 to Charles Creney, Nipissing.

Berth No. 23.—Situate on the Laoponago lake. Opened at \$50; sold at \$200 to A. Sutherland, Belleville.

Berth No. 24.—Near the Spanish river. Opened at \$50; sold at \$380 to Conlin Bros., Thorold.

Berth No. 25.—Being timber limit No. 150. Opened at \$50; sold at \$260 to S. Lount, Barrie.

Berths Nos. 10 to 25, inclusive, are estimated at an area of 36 square miles, more or less, each.

Berth No. 27.—Situate in the township of McGiverin. Opened at \$25; sold at \$225 to S. Lount, Barrie.

Berth No. 29.—Situate in the township of Day, on the Mississauga river. Area, 7½ square miles. Opened at \$50; sold at \$320 to S. Lount, Barrie.

Berths Nos. 6, 7, 17, 18, 19, 26, and 28 were withdrawn, the reserved bid not being reached. The above prices are per square mile.

REMARKABLE TREES.

There is not at present in this country such an elm as was, in the year 1674, cut down in the Park of Sir Walter Bagot, in Staffordshire. The particulars recorded in the family are that two men were five days in felling it; it measured 40 yards to the top in length; the butt was 47 feet in circumference; 14 loads were broken in the fall; 48 loads were contained in the top; there were made out of it eighty pair of naves for wheels, and 8,860 feet of boards and planks. It cost, at a time when labor rated less than at present, £10 7s. for sawing and the whole substance was computed to weigh ninety-seven tons. In May, 1760, an oak was felled near Ludlow, in Shropshire, the contents of which were as follows: Thirty-six tons of timber, forty-two cords of wood, 2,000 park pales, and four and a half cords of brackets. A bough broke off before the tree was felled, which weighed seven tons and a half. Two men were employed a month in sawing it. The tree was valued at £250. In March, 1800, an ash tree was cut down at Broughton Hall, near Shipton, which contained upward of 500 feet of sound wood. The bole was 13 feet long, squared 36 feet 9 inches and contained 182 feet of wood.—*Timber*

THE VALUE OF EXPERIENCE.

Among our acquaintance we number several who place a great deal of stress upon the twenty to forty years of experience which they have had in certain lines, and we have found it a pretty safe rule to write a big N. G. beside the name of a man who urged such an experience as his greatest hold. Do not let us be understood as underrating at all the value of a long experience and practical contact with a subject, but it is too often the case that an engineer who is the very crystallization of old fogysism will unhesitatingly assert his very crude opinion upon any question connected with steam engineering, and back it up in dead opposition to recorded fact, to scientific principles, and to common sense, with the awful responsibility of his "twenty years of experience." There are plenty of men who for a dozen or more years have worked as firemen and engineers about one plant, who could not tell you, if their lives depended upon it, how many square feet of heating surface there is in their boilers, and if they know how many tubes there are in them it is only because they count them over anxiously when cleaning to see how quickly they can get through. They know nothing of steam engineering outside of their own little sphere, and do not even know whether they are doing there the best that under the circumstances could be done. Many a man of a more energetic temperament and more liberal ideas would learn more in two years of such experience than they have in their dozen or twenty, and would probably find opportunities for economy which his older colleagues would have always overlooked. Another places a great deal of stress upon his lengthy experience with the

indicator, during which he has, in fact, attained only a superficial knowledge of the instrument which is fully equalled by that of numerous engineers to whose kit the indicator is a very recent acquisition.

The value of a man's experience depends, as does his life in general, upon the manner in which he lives it. Many men attain their three score years with but little more than grey hairs and enfeebled step to note the epoch. Others lead so active and so full a life that every passing year adds to their stock of knowledge and their value to their fellow men, and it is such men as these whose absolute qualification for any service may be measured by the years of experience in that line.—*Boston Journal of Commerce.*

RHINE TIMBER RAFTS.

The timber rafts of the Rhine are a noticeable characteristic of the river. They consist of timber felled in the mountain forests, and brought down to the Rhine by the Nekar, Main, Moselle and other rivers. The single logs are first hurled down from the heights into the mountain torrents, then a few tied together, and, as they float down the streamlet, grow like a snowball till in the Rhine itself they are made into huge floating masses, which are carefully navigated to Dordrecht and sold.

A raft often has eight or ten small houses on it, and from four to five hundred workmen, rowers and pilots. The vast pile is steered by means of immense oars, and is so constructed as to twist like a huge snake in the narrow channels. The boatmen often have their wives and families on board, and various trades are carried on, such as tailoring, dress-making, spinning and knitting. An immense supply of provisions, including pigs, poultry and other animals is carried and replenished from time to time as needed. The sale of a single raft at the end of a voyage often realizes about £30,000.—*Furniture Gazette.*

WOOD-WORKING PATENTS.

The following list of patents relating to the wood working interests, granted by the U. S. Patent Office, Oct. 13th, 1885, is specially reported by Franklin H. Hough, solicitor of American and foreign patents, 925 F. Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.:

328,019.—Saw—T. Fowler, Bridgeport, Conn.
328,164.—Saw—H. W. Wheeler, San Francisco, Cal.
328,423.—Saw filing machine—J. S. Mosley & T. J. Mancill, Atlanta, Miss.
328,094.—Saw mill, band—T. B. Walker, Minneapolis, Minn.
328,035.—Saw setting machine—H. F. Jonks & W. H. Butman, Pawtucket, R. I.
328,377.—Sawing machine, scroll—W. F. Barnes, Rockford, Ill.

PATENTS ISSUED OCT. 20.

328,649.—Bit brace—J. Chantrell, Bridgeport, Conn.
328,828.—Lumber transporter—W. Way, Ontario, Can.
328,794.—Planing and re-sawing machine—G. Lhoté, New Orleans, La.
328,654.—Saw gummer gin—W. F. Collie, Barren Fork, Ark.
328,528.—Saw-sawing machine—G. F. Simonds & L. Blake, Fitchburg, Mass.
328,486.—Saw, trip—E. P. Hayes, Deer Lake, Mich.
328,771.—Sawing machine, circular—M. Garland & A. D. Catlin, Bay City, Mich.

BLACK RIVER LIMITS.

Auctioneer W. H. Lewis, on Oct. 29th, conducted one of the most successful sales of timber limits ever held in Ottawa. It took place in the Russell House, and nearly all the leading lumbermen of the Ottawa Valley, to the number of about 150, were present, and the bidding was very lively, so much so, in fact, that at one juncture the excitement ran high among those present. The Black river limits, which comprise 74 miles of first-class timber, were put under the hammer. They were the property of Messrs. McCashen and Fraser. It will be remembered that Mr. McCashen died suddenly in Quebec a few weeks ago, and this sale was for the purpose of settling up the affairs of the

firm. Bidding begun at \$50,000, and in the space of about fifteen minutes it had increased by one thousand dollar bids to \$100,000. Bids now dropped to \$400, but were still lively at this figure. At \$123,000 auctioneer Lewis knocked the limits down, but two parties, Mr. H. Robinson, for Hamilton Bros., and the Courty Bros., claimed to have made that bid. The sale was of continued, and again by \$1,000 and \$500 bids the price went up to \$159,600, when the limits were knocked down to Mr. Hiram Robinson. This figure is at the rate of over two thousand dollars per mile. There is in addition to the limits, the plant, etc., the schedule price of which was about \$14,000.

Auctioneer Lewis also offered for sale a limit of 34 miles on the Opeongo branch, belonging to the same firm. This limit was also bought by Mr. Hiram Robinson, for \$65,000. The schedule price of the plant etc., on the limit was about \$8,000. Both sales aggregated over \$200,000.—*Ottawa Free Press.*

LEGAL.

PETITION OF RIGHT.—A petition of right was presented on Tuesday Oct. 27 at Osgoode hall before Mr. Justice Proudfoot. The suppliants were Mr. McArthur, of Washington Territory, and Mr. Barnett, of the county of Renfrew, petitioning her Majesty for a declaration that they are entitled to a license for fifty square miles of timber limits on the Pettawawee river, in the region of the Upper Ottawa. The Attorney-General's defence was that the plaintiffs were disentitled to a license by their own laches. His lordship gave judgement in favour of the suppliants with costs.

SOLICITOR'S LIEN.—In Can. Pac. R. W. Co. v. Grant, the plaintiff sued for freight for the carriage of timber, and the defendants counter-claimed against the plaintiffs for damage for neglect and delay in the carriage of the timber. At the trial judgement was given for the plaintiff for \$2,122 and for the defendants for \$1,420. Judge Armour endorsed in the record these words:—"The verdict will be for the plaintiffs for \$2,122 and for the defendants upon their counter-claim for \$1,420 and each party will be entitled to costs against the other, as if the statement of claim and counter claim were separate actions," etc. There was an application before the Master in Chambers to set off the two judgements, and there was an objection by the defendants' solicitors on the ground that they had a lien for their costs. Mr. Dalton gave judgement on the 27th inst., and held that there was nothing in the judgement of Mr. Justice Armour to take the case out of the operation of the general law, for the words of the judgement in respect to costs applied merely to the quantum of costs. He then stated the general law to be that where, as here, the rights depend upon one judgement given in the same action, the costs may be set off with out regard to the solicitor's lien, and he so directed. This decision will probably be appealed.

LEITH.

The *Timber Trades Journal* of Oct. 17th says:—"The arrivals of the past seven days have not been on a large scale, and contain few items of very special interest. They are largely made up of pit-props and mining timber from south of Norway, a few cargoes from the Baltic, one from Quebec, for steamers with assorted cargoes from Gothenburg and Christiania, and the rather unusual arrival of an entire cargo of Riga lathwood; of the latter very little being now imported, as a rule the greater part of the laths used here being either imported from Gothenburg or the wood purchased at neighboring ports. There is no change to report either in the aspect of affairs generally, as regards the amount of business being done, or of the values of any commodity. Certainly there is no improvement to chronicle, and as the season progresses, what housebuilding there was going forward is being gradually lessened, very little being now in progress as compared with this time last year.

Log timber is still very largely held, and not many orders appear to be in hand for this wood.