

The Chaudiere Mill Owners and the Government.

The dispute between the government and the Chaudiere mill owners, which has gone on for many years, with regard to the rent due for the use of the water power, says the Ottawa *Free Press*, has at length been settled. The lessees contended that the government never made the proper channels or the improvements agreed upon when the lots were sold. These improvements the lessees made themselves, and whenever the government pressed for payment of arrears, amounting to over \$64,000, they made a counter claim for over \$100,000. Nearly every administration attempted to effect a settlement but without success. New leases have been issued under which the mill owners become entitled to sufficient water to run their mills. There is reserved for the use of the city of Ottawa all the water now necessary or that may be necessary for the water-works. The government reserves all the surplus water beyond this and also sufficient water for the timber slides. The government will maintain supervision over all existing works as well as over all works to be erected hereafter, and no works, improvements or repairs are to be undertaken without the consent and supervision of the department of public works. That department is to see that due economy is exercised in the use of water and to prevent waste, and for that reason the chief engineer of public works is to have complete supervision of any machinery that may be placed in the mills, in order that the most improved and economical may be used. The government reserves the right at any time to make such improvements or changes as may be necessary and to regulate the height of water as it thinks proper. The lessee binds themselves to make all necessary repairs to existing works at their own expense and also to construct at their own expense any new works that may be necessary in controlling the water. In no case will the government be liable for any works constructed by the

lessees. In case of default by the lessee in any of the conditions imposed upon them the lots in default revert to the government.

By this agreement the government obtain the following arrears:—

Lots B, C, D, Perley & Pattee.....	\$14,120 76
" E, F, G, J. R. Booth.....	9,364 00
" H, I, J, T. McKay & Co.....	8,334 20
" K, Marg. Petrie.....	2,493 32
" L, A. H. Baldwin.....	2,533 32
" Q, T, R, Bank of Montreal.....	7,500 00
" S, M. Merrill.....	2,500 00
" H, V, W, X, Y, Z, Bronson & Weston Lumber Co.....	14,760 00
" M, N, O, P, Perley & Pattee.....	3,080 00

Total.....\$64,685 60

In return the lessees have executed releases to the government of all claims against it, amounting to over \$100,000. The practical result is that the government has obtained a release of all claims against it; a thirty years' dispute has been settled, the government collects arrears of \$64,000, and the relations between the parties begin anew.

SPLINTERS.

A MEETING of the creditors of Christie, Kerr & Co was held recently in Toronto to decide on a matter in connection with the winding up of the estate. The Union Bank is secured for its claim of \$40,000, and one of the creditors having signified a wish that the security be tested, the assignee, Mr. James Tennant, called a meeting to lay the matter before them. It was decided that the estate shall not contest the security, but the creditor may do so at his own expense, and if he is successful his claim will be satisfied from the security. The winding up of the estate will be completed in the spring.

AMERICAN NOTES.

—California's redwood exhibit at the Paris Exposition was awarded first prize, a gold medal.

—A well attended meeting of the Retail Lumber Dealers' Association of Indiana was held, Dec. 15, at the New Denison Hotel, Indianapolis.

—The estimated cut of the Tacoma mills, Wash., for the season of 1889 is 225,000,000 feet. This makes the largest cut ever known in that city.

—The cut of the mills in the Duluth district is placed at 282,000,000 feet. Prices ruled lower than for 1888 and much more was shipped to Eastern markets.

—Tucker David, of New York, ex-newspaper man and lumberman, has severed his connection with Partridge & Son, and has again entered the commission field.

—The hardwood lumber, 2,000,000 feet, destroyed by fire at the Pullman works, Ills., was chiefly mahogany, cherry oak and walnut, and was valued at \$75,000.

—Lake Superior lumber movements have largely increased the past year. For the year ended June 30, 276,000,000 feet of lumber passed through the Soo canal, in addition to 469 rafts.

—John Torrent bought of W. R. Lontitt, of Grand Haven, agent for D. Willis James, of New York, 8,600,000 feet of standing pine in Luce county, Mich. It is estimated to cut 140,000,000 feet, the consideration being \$200,000.

—The lumber cut of the mill companies of Eau Claire, Wis., and vicinity during the past season has been, as nearly as can be estimated, about 175,160,000 feet. The total cut of shingles reported is 90,366,500, and of lath 49,142,260.

—The Sabine Pass Export Company, of Beaumont, Texas, has orders from Mexico and South America for sixty-five cargoes of timber and lumber. The cargoes will average 250,000 feet, and the largest will reach about 700,000 feet.

—The largest saw mill in the new State of Montana, is the Blackfoot mill, located about six miles east of Missoula on the Blackfoot river. 24,000,000 feet were manufactured from April 1st to Oct. of last year. The capacity of the mill is 150,000 feet a day.

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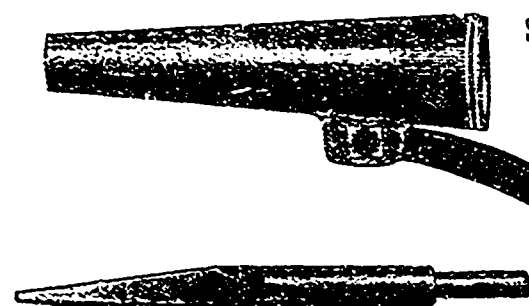
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HANDLES.

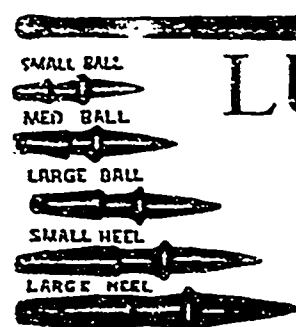
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