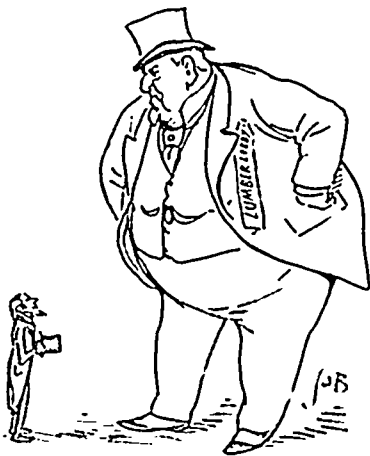


traitor, too? You mean to say that the duty of \$2 a thousand on lumber is not in the interests of the United States, es Dingley says?"

"Well," replied the Elder, "I don't want to say a word agin Dingley, but I don't see what good it does me to keep lumber out when I want to use it; so fer es I kin see the \$2 per thousand of duty only adds that much to the price, and I want it cheaper."

"But I tell you, repeated Sol, rising to a warmth of eloquence, "Dingley says the United States would lose by free lumber, and you kin see that's Gospel truth when you come to understand what the United States is, es Dingley looks at it. It is a community of people thet owns lumber mills and timber limits, and earns a honest livlihood by furnishin' lumber to folks thet wants to build. You kin see that if we took off the duty and let Canady lumber come in, the United States would lose trade or hev to bring down the price and so lose profits."

"But, jes' hold your hosses a minute, Solomon," piped up Deacon Smithers, "I don't agree to it thet the United States is jes' a passel of lumber mill fellers—I guess thase a few millions of us folks that don't make and sell lumber, but hes to buy it. Whar' do we come in?"



THE CONSUMER AND THE LUMBER BARON.  
(Showing their relative size in the eyes of the Dingley law.)

"Thar' you hit the nail right on the head, Deacon," said Sol. "In the Dingley way of lookin' at things you don't come in at all. You belong to the class they call the consumers, and the Dingley kind of statesman don't know you at all. You may be several millions more'n the protected class, but you haint got any political pull to speak of, and don't amount to nothin' in the lobby at Washin'ton that's the way it is. It must be plain to eny man of common sense that free lumber would be a big blessin' to the people of the United States in general, and especially to us of New England that happens to be right next door to Canady—but I won't say no more less Sam there might s'pose I didn't hev the respect I'd orter hev fer Mr. Dingley of Maine."

"I've kinder got new light on this lumber question this evenin', neighbors," said Sam, candidly "and es I look at it now, I can't see why our folks at Washin'ton shouldn't 'gree to put lumber on the free list, specially es Canady is willin' to take the duty off other things we send over thar'. What's the trouble with it Sol? Why haint it agreed to?"

"I don't quite know," replied Sol, refilling his pipe, "but I have an idea that our commissioners is afraid the Senate won't let 'em, and the

Senate dassent on account of the big lumber fellers in the lobby."

"This is my hour fer closin', friends," mildly suggested the grocery man, and the company dispersed.

J. W. BENGOUGH.

#### MESSRS. E. D. DAVISON & SONS, LIMITED.

THE Lahave river, which passes through the town of Bridgewater, and empties into the Atlantic ocean, fifteen miles below, has, with its tributaries, without doubt, the



LOWER MILL OF E. D. DAVISON & SONS, LIMITED, AT BRIDGEWATER, N. S.

largest area of timber lands to be found in the province of Nova Scotia. Lumbering on a large scale has been carried on there for forty years. At one time there were three large operators on the river, but for the last ten years or so the firm of E. D. Davison & Sons, Limited, have been the sole owners, having purchased the mills and timber properties of the other operators. Within three miles up the river from the town of Bridgewater there are several excellent water privileges, also owned and controlled by E. D. Davison & Sons, where in all likelihood pulp mills will be erected in the near future.

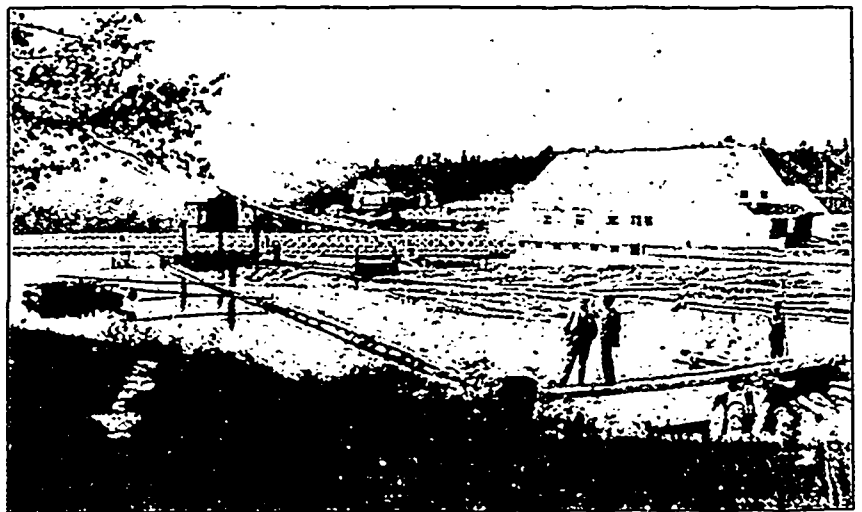
Messrs. Davison & Sons own over 200,000 acres of

the longest haul to water not exceeding three miles. The logs are driven from twenty-five to fifty miles.

At Bridgewater the firm have two saw mills, shown in the accompanying illustrations. They are operated by water power, and are thoroughly equipped for the manufacture of first-class stock, the plant consisting of a shing and stock gang in what is known as the lower mill, and a live gang in the upper mill. There is also lath, picket and box machines, patent edges and gang circulars in both mills for sawing scaling, planks and boards up to six inches wide. The firm exercise great care in the manufacture of their lumber.

using very thin saws as compared with the usual gang mills sawing spruce—as thin as thirteen gauge being successfully used. The capacity of the two mills is about twelve million feet, when working day and night.

Messrs. Davison & Sons also operate a waterpower gang and rotary mill at Alpena, a station on the Nova Scotia Central Railroad, the timber for which is cut in the Nictaux waters and driven to the mill. The lumber from this mill is taken by rail to either Bridgewater or Lunenburg for shipment. From three to five million feet are usually cut there. They also own a large two gang mill on Port Medway river, at Mill Village, and have large limits on this river, but they have at



UPPER MILL OF E. D. DAVISON & SONS, LIMITED, AT BRIDGEWATER, N. S.

timber property, and are therefore the largest land-holders in the province. The present firm was established on the Medway river in 1840, and on the Lahave river in 1865, but their ancestors had been getting timber in the district since 1760. On the Lahave river the firm own 50,000 acres on which no logs have been cut for twenty years, and 30,000 acres on which none have ever been cut. It is estimated that their lands will produce about 4,000 feet of timber to the acre, which would give a total production, from all their property, of 800,000,000 feet, the bulk of which is spruce. There is also a considerable quantity of pine and hemlock. The facilities for logging are excellent, owing to the numerous streams and lakes,

operated on them for four years, preferring to let the timber grow.

The principal part of the firm's shipments are cut from their wharves at Bridgewater, which are a mile below the mills, and where large vessels can load and safety. Having been in the lumber business longer than any other concern in the province, they have secured markets out of the ordinary course, and procuring to specifications which require considerable labor compared to the amount of lumber produced, and for which the price realized is considerably higher, they do not draw heavily on their forest area as those who ship only do. With the large timber limits they own, and their system