

Cunard by the unpopular Commissioner of Crown Lands, Thomas Baillie, met with swift opposition from independent operators and merchants, many of whom had seats in the provincial legislature. The ultimate effect was that Cunard lost his monopoly in 1833, but was able to continue lumbering activities until 1848 when, because of adverse economic conditions in the province, his firm went bankrupt.<sup>30</sup>

Cunard's arch-rival on the Miramichi was Alexander Rankine, a member of the Glasgow firm of Allan Gilmour, which under various names had establishments at Newcastle, Dalhousie, Campbellton and Saint John, as well as in Quebec and Montreal. Rankine's lumbering operations began on the Miramichi in 1821 during the Napoleonic Wars. The firm annually imported £100,000 worth of British goods and exported an equivalent value in timber.<sup>31</sup> When opposition to monopolies scored in the 1830s, Alexander Rankine abandoned the favours granted to him by Thomas Baillie, "appeared as the champion of the independent men," and was able to entrench his business position by threatening to withdraw his firm and capital investments from the province.<sup>32</sup>

The inter-relationships in New Brunswick among lumbering, Crown lands and politics have been well documented.<sup>33</sup> The granting of licenses to cut timber on Crown lands, and later the sale of Crown lands, not only encouraged monopolies but also provided a revenue for the government of New Brunswick. When in 1837, the Legislature took over control of Crown lands from the Executive Council and the Commissioner of Crown Lands, the surplus revenue amounted to £153,700.<sup>34</sup> Since many of the legislative seats were held or controlled by merchants and others interested in lumbering, given the preponderance of the industry in the economy, it can be understood why the power of this group continued to develop.

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30 Trueman, *An Intimate History*, pp. 116, 118. MacNutt, "Politics of the Timber Trade," pp. 133, 136.

31 Lower, *Great Britain's Woodyard*, p. 146. Latham, *Timber*, p. 136.

32 MacNutt, "Politics of the Timber Trade," pp. 123, 134.

33 MacNutt, "Politics of the Timber Trade," pp. 122-140, and W.S. MacNutt, *New Brunswick, A History: 1784-1867* (Toronto, 1963), pp. 225-253.

34 MacNutt, "Politics of the Timber Trade," p. 139.