

four per mill. Ten years before, in the census of 1871, 1144 sawmills were reported for Nova Scotia and 68 per cent of them produced less than 100,000 board feet in a year. Most of these were operated by one or two men for three to six months of the year.

There were some big mills, such as the two operated in 1871 by E.D. Davison and Sons of Bridgewater, which employed 114 men and produced 7,800,000 board feet of lumber in that year. Only the mills of S.P. Benjamin and Company, also at that time on the LaHave River, and those of William Chisholm and Company at Sheet Harbour, rivalled in size E.D. Davison and Sons. The Benjamin mills had a production of 5,500,000 board feet and 60 employees; Chisholm had 90 employees and produced 5,000,000 board feet. These "big" producers made up only four per cent of the Nova Scotian mills recorded in 1871. The bulk of the lumber production continued to be small scale.

The material history of the lumbering industry provides many facets for study -- the organization of work in the woods; the production of barrels and the apprenticeship of coopers; the specialist jobs in the sawmills, such as that of the sawyer; the production of tools for lumbering and shipbuilding; changes in blockmaking from manual to mechanized to meet the increasing needs of shipbuilding; the development of foundries and the diversity of their products manufactured to meet the needs of the lumber industry, of shipbuilding and of shipping; each provides topics for investigation. The £20 bounty given to encourage the building of mills in Nova Scotia was intended to pay for the iron work needed. What did the blacksmith provide for a price of £20? How did he fashion the iron work and where did he get his materials? In what ways did lumbering act as a crucible for the development of related industries and how were these changes reflected in the material possessions available to the homemakers of Saint John or of Liverpool?

It is interesting to compare Pictou County of the period up to 1820 with the same county after that time. Up to 1820, Pictou County was like New Brunswick; it revolved around the lumber industry. The local moralists, like those in New Brunswick, wrote scathingly of work in the woods. County timber makers became indebted to Pictou merchants through credit systems similar to those available to New Brunswick residents. The lumber trade in Pictou County had many participants, however, as Nova Scotian policies regarding Crown lands did not lead to monopoly control. After 1820, the economy of Pictou County became more diversified, as throughout Nova Scotia in general. Agricultural methods improved; the production of oats was encouraged; and government bounties assisted the building of oatmills and kilns. Coal mining began on a large