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Article from the Newaygo Republican, May 4, 1881.

A jam of logs 10 to 12 miles long, beginning just above Big Rapids and extending up river, broke at 2 PM, started on a rampage; first, destroying the booms, piers and logs belonging to the Big Rapids Boom Co. and the Tioga dam, which had been under observation because of a small break; the next obstruction, the upper bridge, was carried down the river practically intact until it hit the Maple street and was demolished. The Maple bridge held because it had protective cribbing. The lower dam went out, and with it, all the logs and booms belonging to C. D. Stimpson & Co; Trowbridge Bros. and Johnson & Webster.

The P. R. Boom Co. is a heavy looser.

Newaygo, down stream, was notified and immediately, the authority, ordered scores of men to the Newaygo dam to strengthen it. Much to the surprise of every one the Orton Piers held; the booms caused the logs and other debris to jam and no damage was caused to upper Newaygo bridge and Newaygo Co. dam.

8-28-72.

RIT.