

upon recent quotations. Clapboards are very firm at the prices quoted. So far as this class of stock is concerned the market is entirely in the hands of the shipper.

New Brunswick cedar shingles are quoted at from \$3.40 to \$3.50 for extras on Boston rate of freight. An occasional order is accepted at five to ten cents below this figure, but the large manufacturers are holding out for \$3.50 and predict that at an early date the price will be firmly established on that basis. For this reason orders for late delivery are turned down.

MANITOBA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Owing to the congestion of the shingle market, the members of the British Columbia Lumber and Shingle Manufacturers' Association decided to suspend operations. On Saturday last, August 15th, all the shingle mills were closed down and will remain idle until the situation has sufficiently improved to warrant a resumption of work. The closing down of the mills will doubtless be followed by a suspension of operations in several logging camps, and the total number of men thus thrown out of employment will be quite large. It seemed absolutely necessary, however, to curtail the shingle production, which had been greatly increased within the past year by the erection of several new mills. The lumber demand is of average volume and prices steady. Seventy-seven licenses for cutting timber were issued by the British Columbia Government during July.

UNITED STATES.

The month of August so far has turned out about as expected. The volume of business does not compare favorably with the corresponding period of last year, but still there is very little complaint of unsatisfactory trade. The crops have deteriorated slightly within the past month, but promise an average yield. It seems to be the general opinion that prices of white pine are not likely to advance to a higher basis this season. For this reason consumers are showing no anxiety to add to their holdings, but on the other hand are disposed to wait until necessity compels them to purchase. Business conditions generally are favorable. A large consumption of lumber by the Eastern States is expected this fall, as most of the building strikes have been settled. The lower grades of pine are selling somewhat readily, the consumption being large. A Buffalo firm reports the sale of half a million feet of Lake Superior No. 3 boards, 12-inch, for \$20.50 on board the barge. The price of 12-inch box is still \$20. Stock is accumulating rapidly at Buffalo and Tonawanda, but the poorer grades, especially box and barn, are still insufficient to supply the demand. Saginaw Valley dealers are not buying to any extent, as most of them have a sufficient stock to care for the fall trade. The spruce demand is as firm as ever and prices slightly

stronger. By some it is predicted that the fall will witness an advance. Boston and Bangor dealers are making large shipments to the South American market.

The hardwood supply has doubtless been considerably increased of late, but the demand has been sufficient to prevent an accumulation of stock at wholesale centres. The demand for quarter-sawed oak is less urgent. Basswood has become more plentiful as a result of shipments from Michigan and Wisconsin. Birch and elm are scarce and cannot be kept in stock.

Hemlock prices continue to be very stiff. In some districts hemlock lumber is being supplanted by North Carolina pine. Buffalo reports great activity in hemlock on the base price of \$16.

Shingle prices are practically unchanged. There is a disposition to hold shingles for the improvement which is expected in the fall. In the Saginaw Valley cedar shingles are held at \$2.60 and \$3.60 for 18-inch stock and \$2 and \$2.45 for 16-inch.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The holiday season in Great Britain has resulted in a falling off in the lumber demand. The consumption, however, has been equal to the import, and stocks are no heavier than one month ago. The high prices of first quality pine and spruce deals have been maintained. Pine deals are almost invariably sold from the quay, which has prevented any accumulation of stock. Importers who make a specialty of this branch of business state that they have no lack of orders. There is more uncertainty about fourth quality pine, the supply of which is comparatively large. Very little spruce arrives at either London or Liverpool that has not already been contracted for. The receipts of 3 x 9 and 11 inch have been exceptionally small.

A writer in the Timber News urges prospective buyers to place their orders at current figures. He says: "The immense Quebec output is a vision of the past, and the enormous rise in all prime log stuff is at length reacting much more perceptibly with regard to sawn deals, boards and scantling. It may appear and indeed is an absurdity for consumers here to be quoted £45 per standard for best broad pines, with £35 for all 11 x 3; but in view of the facts already adduced, however, and having respect to the improving quotations of other competing woods, we are strongly of opinion that the buyer will have to be content for the present to remain entirely in the hands of the seller. The small quantities available in all prime stocks is another dominant factor to be remembered. While it must be admitted that a considerable percentage of consumers have been able to divert a portion of their wants to other woods, and to substitute canary whitewood, cottonwood, kauri and sequoia for pine lumber, there still exists a sufficient number of buyers

who are impelled to maintain the use of Canadian pine. In this connection importers have succeeded this season in placing fair quantities of prime logs ranging from 18in. to 19in. average at 35 9d to 45 per foot string measure ex quay. It is to be doubted even if these excessive results represent finality. We learn that one or two of the principal Quebec shippers are even sounding buyers as to their willingness to contract for next year at still higher quotations, which they assert will prevail in 1904."

STOCKS AND PRICES.

For the week ending August 8th Buffalo received by water 4,474,000 ft of lumber and 4,880,000 shingles.

The Gull River Lumber Company, of Cobokong, Ont., have cut about 750,000 feet of lumber this season.

The steamer Persian is loading deals at Marysville, N. B., for the Alexander Gibson Manufacturing Company.

No. 1 white pine lath is selling in Chicago at \$3.50; No. 1 hemlock and Norway mixed at \$3 to \$3.10, and No. 2 at \$2.75.

D. & J. Ritchie & Company, of Newcastle, N. B., are understood to have purchased a quantity of logs which will enable the mill to run longer than anticipated.

The steamer Nzassa arrived at Montreal last week from Savannah, with 1,932,790 feet of pitch pine lumber, consigned to McLean, Kennedy & Company.

W. A. Preston, of Mine Centre, Ont., has just received a contract to get out 100,000 ties for the Canadian Northern Railway. He has two camps in operation.

A raft of 5,000,000 feet of pine logs from Spanish River to Sarnia, in tow of the tug Buscobel, broke away from the tug in a heavy gale about 48 miles off Sturgeon Point on August 11th.

Firsts and seconds white ash sells readily in Chicago at \$36 for one inch, common at \$22 and cull at \$11 to \$12. Holders are asking \$38 for firsts and seconds basswood. Birch is quoted at \$29 for inch first and seconds, with 1½ and 2 inch selling at \$2 additional.

Keenan Bros., of Owen Sound, Ont., last week received a raft of 2,500,000 feet of hemlock logs from St. Joseph's Island. Unfavorable weather was encountered and it is estimated that nearly 300,000 feet were lost during the journey and through the breaking of booms at the island.

The corporation of Victoria, B. C., recently invited tenders for paving blocks. James Leigh & Son, J. A. Sayward, the Taylor Saw Mill Company and the Shawinigan Lake Lumber Company tendered, but prices were the same in each case, namely \$18.75 for fir and \$23.45 for cedar.

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CANADIAN LUMBER SHIPMENTS.

From Bridgewater, N.S.: Schr. Lorn, for Guysborough, 24,000 ft. lumber, 145,000 shingles.

From Parrsboro, N.S.: Str. Hermann, for Sharpness, England, 1,076,221 ft. deals, value \$12,992, 332,272 ft. ends and scantling, value \$3,545, by M. L. Tucker for W. M. Mackay, of St. John.

From Sorel, Que.: Str. Nextos, for Glasgow, spruce deals, value \$7,898, by Tourville Lumber Mills Co. Str. Leif Erikson, for Spain, spruce deals, value \$7,898, by Tourville Lumber Mills Co.

From Yarmouth, N.S.: Barque Armita Manetti, for Buenos Ayres, 719,000 ft. lumber, value \$7,500, by Blackadars & Co. Str. Huelva, for Great Britain, 1,000,000 feet plank, value \$12,410, by Dickie & McGrath.

From St. John, N.B.: Str. Imperator Alexander II., for Melbourne, Australia, 1,591,153 ft. spruce deals, 47,110 ft. spruce ends. Schr. Victor, for New Haven, 128,285 ft. deal ends. Schr. Jennie C., for Fall River, 119,788 ft. scantling, 25,353 ft. plank. Schr. Lotus, for Boston, 77,068 ft. hemlock boards, 27,885 ft. spruce boards, 26,680 ft. spruce plank, 22,089 ft. spruce scantling. Barque Cedar Croft, for Buenos Ayres, 1,099,664 ft. spruce boards, 159,803 ft. scantling, 84,508 ft. plank. Schr. Rosa Mueller, for Vineyard Haven, 1,509,600 laths. Schr. W. L. Elkin, for New York, 206,244 ft. deals. Schr. I. M. Parker, for New York, 200,000 laths.

From Halifax, N.S.: Str. Ask, for Jamaica, 31,367 ft. spruce lumber, value

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