

come to them, and as they already have a considerable number of orders on hand for the opening of the season, do not care to accept further business, unless at advanced figures. There is not too great margin in \$3.25 shingles, with a heavy freight and 30 cents duty to pay, and the indications strongly point toward a realization of this basis before the market settles down for the season. There is one thing that may be said with full assurance, and that is, that no manufacturer need be afraid to ask his price for fear of not securing enough business at going prices, and being compelled to take less during July and August. The summer market will be firmly maintained this year, and lower prices are not to be feared in the least degree.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

C. T. White, of Apple River, N.S., will cut about 3,500,000 feet of lumber this summer.

The Rat Portage Lumber Co. will, it is reported, cut 60,000,000 feet of lumber this season.

At Manistee, Mich., pine shingles are selling at \$2 and Extra Star cedars at \$1.85, on dock there.

The s.s. Greta is loading a cargo of deals at Montreal for the U.K., shipped by McLean, Kennedy & Co.

H. Cargill & Son, of Cargill, Ont., have over 5,000,000 feet of logs cut and ready to float down the river to their mill.

The Menominee River Lumber Co., of Marinette, Wis., has sold its cut, estimated at 20,000,000 feet, to A. S. Kibbee & Son, of Albany, N. Y.

E. G. Filer, of Manistee, Mich., recently sold to Tonawanda par's 6,000,000 feet of pine, to be shipped to Ashland, Wis., as soon as possible.

Shingles in all grades are very scarce in the Tonawanda market. The call for 18 inch XXXX pine shingles is phenomenal, and many orders are turned down every day on account of the shortage of stock.

At a recent auction sale of Allison, Cousland & Co., Greenock, Scotland, 43 logs of small waney boardwood, prime quality, sold at 1s. 5d., and a small quantity of 11-inch spruce deals, 12 to 17 feet long, at 9½d. to 10¼d.

C. J. Willis & Co. have cleared the first steamer this season from Grindstone Island, Que., for a British port. She carried about 1,500,000 feet of lumber. This firm expect to ship about 50,000,000 feet from this section of country this year.

The drives of K. A. Estey are all out in the main Tobique river, in New Brunswick, and are making excellent progress. The drives of John Kilburn are also coming along well. It is expected that all the logs on the St. John river and tributaries will be got out safely this season.

The steamer Start is loading timber at the Sillery Cove, Quebec, on account of Dobell, Becket & Co. The Innishowen Head is loading deals at Indian Cove, Quebec, for the U. K. The Rydal Holme is loading deals at the Louise Basin, Quebec, for H. R. Gooday & Son. The Charenton is completing her cargo with deals on account of H. R. Gooday & Son.

In the Chicago market basswood is selling at \$2 for first and seconds, and \$17 for common. Birch is in good demand, both white and red, the call being about equal for firsts and seconds and common. Cargoes of white pine have lately arrived in the Chicago market. One lot of piece stuff sold at \$11.50 and a lot of 11-inch mill run at \$15.50. Mixed green lath is selling at \$2.

High prices are being obtained in Maine for logs. Geo. I. Westcott & Son, Penobscot river lumbermen, have sold to Hastings & Stickland 750,000 feet of spruce logs at \$12 per thousand, and 250,000 feet vine logs at \$14. It is reported that Cornelius Murphy, of Oidtown, has completed the sale of 4,000,000 feet at \$13 per thousand. These prices

are from \$3 to \$4 higher than were paid last year.

The following rafts of timber have been entered at the office of the Supervisor of Cutlers, Quebec: Mr. Charles Veilheux, St. Lawrence docks, birch, etc.; Mr. Geo. Madden, Louse embankment, birch; Mr. Charles Veillieux, Ste. Anne de Beaupre, birch; Mr. Nicholas Flood, Loute embankment, birch, etc.; Mr. W. E. Simpson, Simpson's wharf, birch, etc.; the St. Anthony Lumber Company, Cap Rouge, pine; Mr. T. Houchard, Louse embankment, birch.

Commenting on a recent auction sale held in London, England, the Timber Trades Journal says: "The Quebec goods, especially the lots representing the balance of Sharples & Co.'s consignments, realized approximately good results, and the regulars were apparently favorably treated. The heavy lines of colonial goods put on the market does not help prices, and very likely some dullness in regular pine goods will prevail while the auction lots are being taken out of stock. The London demand, however, is a very elastic one, and the absorption of all these superfluities will not take very long. Spruce stocks are not more than moderate, and prices may harden considerably before any serious additions are made to the present supply. There is evidently a much better feeling pervading the white-wood market now than a couple of months ago."

The West Hartlepool correspondent of the Timber News, Liverpool, Eng., says: "The shipments of spruce to West Hartlepool and the Tyne show very conclusively that good quality spruce can be got, but that an inferior quality is very prevalent. One thing is certain, that if spruce of long average and good quality be shipped, and more care taken to ensure regularity of manufacture, then the fight between America and Sweden for the whitewood trade will be very close. The inferior quality and manufacture of spruce shipped last year, in some cases, has prejudiced buyers unduly, particularly where the goods are required to be planed; still these are defects that doubtless can and will be remedied in the near future. The Swedish shippers, for their part, will no doubt consider the question of price, to meet the American competition, and so keep the hold on the east coast which they have had so long."

BUFFALO AND TONAWANDA.

[Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.] There is a continuation of the good feeling in all branches of the lumber trade, unless it be the sash and blind industry, which is still too much overdone to make any money. Hardwood is still taking the lead, though the pine dealers are very sanguine. "Business is moving along very nicely," is the word from all sources. There is so little complaint that it may be said that a new atmosphere has pervaded the entire business.

There is possibly one feature that is not so entirely satisfactory, and that is the sharp advance in the price of certain woods and cuts that are necessary to construction work. Hemlock is so high that some of the dealers are looking for a decline or a substitution of some cheap wood, like Norway, in its place unless it comes down. The Lehigh Valley Railroad Company has plans for a freight warehouse that will take about a million feet of lumber, but rather than pay the price for hemlock there is an effort to build it of white pine entirely.

A dealer who is well acquainted with the Canadian trade expresses a fear that the extra production of shingles will bring down the price unless building springs up very fast. The demand is good for them, but the advance in price has set the mills to turning them out much more rapidly than formerly. For a long time the price was low, with a good demand, so that the production was kept down. It is different now, and there is fear of overdoing it, especially as the tariff does not shut out Canadian shingles.

Of course, there is grim smiling over the squirming that certain lumbermen are doing on account of the failure to remove the lumber tariff. Even those who saw the mistake before it was made, and fought against it, are quite willing to smile over the predicament that the Michigan lumbermen are finding themselves

in. There is no hope of relief now much as it is needed.

I learn from the Sullivans that they have about withdrawn from Canada, they are not able to find the hardwood lumber they handle, especially elm and ash, in sufficient quantity. Even the dealers in maple are reporting sales of that wood back to Canada at better prices, sometimes, than they could obtain for it here. This may have been a mere special deal, but it shows that Canadian hardwood is not holding out any better than our own, to say the least.

The Black Rock yard of the Holland & Emery Company is now about bare of lumber, though the Byng Inlet mills of the company will be started up this month. Most of the cut will be sold in Canada, though it is the intention to use the yard here for considerable handling, and duty will be paid on quite a large amount. There is at least something in that trade now, and the outlook is for more before there is less.

Everybody is looking for a large demand for lumber soon on account of the Pan American Exposition, though at present the hesitation over the selection of a site is holding operations back. There is no lack of enthusiasm over the project, but some very perplexing questions have arisen. The desirability of a waterside site and the difficulty of adapting the only available one to the requirements is still puzzling the managers. It will probably all be settled within a week, however.

Buffalo has gone ahead very much since the establishment of the steel plant was announced. In fact, it is quite a different city already, and if other projects of an industrial nature, now in the air, go through, there will be a new city here at once. One of these is the bridge across Grand Island at the Niagara to connect the New York Central and the Canadian Pacific, which is now regarded as a certainty.

The Buffalo Lumber Exchange took action last week, confirming the rule not to allow more than 1½ per cent. discount on cash orders or accept notes of more than 60 days. This rule was made during the winter, but the Saginaw trade asked that it be reduced to signature, so this was done. It is the intention to cover the eastern pine trade in the same way. There is really no complaint of cutting prices by this method, but it was quite common during the dull times.

The Buffalo lumbermen have arranged to hold a number of outings this summer, and at the last meeting of the Exchange, F. W. Vetter and A. P. Strong were made the committee of arrangements.

The lake trade is opening up so very late that only about two cargoes of lumber arrived in April. The Loud Company was first in, but most of the first cargoes, the Wyoming and Ketcham, went to Tonawanda. There is much complaint that the government is neglecting the trade, much to its disadvantage, by not putting down the buoys in Niagara river. So far not a stick has been displayed, and the boats are afraid to make the trip to Black Rock and Tonawanda.

Dealers are complaining of the \$2 lumber rate, but it is as little as the barges can live on, and ought to be held. The canal rate has opened at \$1.75 to New York, and there is considerable business.

There is not so much pine lumber in the upper lake yards for shipment by lake as there would have been if the price had been lower, for it has been taken out all-rail to a great extent. Yards here are not in as much need of pine this spring as was feared, for the grades are quite generally all in yet. The great demand is for box lumber of all sorts, as the box trade has been brisk for some time and promises to remain so this season.

The How-Hoo contention came late this winter, but it is over and all is well. Both Chicago and Boston was in it this time. J. B. Wall is again the ruling snark. The intention announced early in the winter to hold a con-catenation in Toronto appears to have been given up.

BUFFALO, May 9th, 1899.

J. C.

DEMAND FOR BROOM HANDLES.

The United States consul at Birmingham, England, recently stated that there was a large demand in that town for American broomsticks, which appeared to be very scarce, partly owing to the fact that the broom handle wanted must be 42 inches long, 1½ inches in diameter and the same size at both ends, whereas the American handle is 38 inches long and ¾-inch in diameter at one end, tapering to ½-inch at the other. He also says that the English insist upon having spruce handles, and expect to pay from \$15 to \$18 a thousand, whereas the lumber from which these are cut is worth from \$23 to \$24 a thousand feet in the boards. The handles used in this country are mostly bass-wood or birch, but so far the attempt to introduce these into England has not met with success.—American Lumberman.

The failure is announced of E. H. Barton & Son, timber merchants, London, Eng. No Canadian firms are believed to be interested.

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