

Present Aspect of the Lumber Trade In Great Britain.

We are glad to note from a perusal of the late circulars from Great Britain, that there seems a break in the dark sky, which has so long hung over the lumber trade there, and that the outlook if it does not warrant the expectation of a boom, certainly indicates a much healthier state than has existed for a long time, and the prospects of considerable improvement in price of Canadian woods. This cannot fail to have its reaction here, and must help to improve our markets.

Messrs. Allison, Constand and Hamilton, in their circular of 1st November say:—"The private sales are probably in excess of any other months this year—orders for vessels estimated at 37,000 tons have been contracted for, and there are more to follow; our shipbuilders have been in the market and bought several lines of yellow pine deckwood, teak and pitch pine, and a continuation of the demand is looked for from this source."

A noticeable and regrettable fact from the same circular, we observe that the imports of Canadian woods to Glasgow have considerably declined, the past years. The number of ships from B. N. America to Glasgow in 1883 was 107, with a tonnage of 97,825 tons. This has since yearly decreased. In 1887 the arrivals were 55 vessels total tonnage 45,172.

We understand, however, the stocks in the Clyde in most lines of goods are moderate, so that an improvement in demand, and prices at this peculiar moment, the end of the import season, is a good augury of considerable improvement during the period which must elapse, from now until opening of navigation here next spring.

Turning to London market we find an even more encouraging state of things. Messrs. Churchill & Sims, in their circular of 1st November, in referring to tabulated statement of stocks, arrivals, deliveries, &c., say:—"These figures are more favorable than those of the preceding month, owing to an unusually light importation and to a rate of delivery from the docks, which equals that of last year, and with regard to price there has also been some improvement. The quantities sold have been of no great importance, but quite sufficient to test the strength of the market; they have been taken readily by the trade at figures, which could not have been reached in the summer. It will be seen that there is now a considerable reduction in the stocks." And further on they say: "Canada—the importation has been from the St. Lawrence Pine deals, &c., 1,440,000 pieces, against 1,527,000 pieces in 1886. Spruce deals, 1,018,000 pieces, against 1,370,000 pieces in 1886. And from New Brunswick, Pine deals 17,000 pieces against 75,000 pieces in 1886. A very important reduction throughout. As yet no start has been made in prices and the stock of pine is still too large for the hope of any great or immediate improvement. With spruce the case is different, the stock taken altogether is of small matter, and when the lowness of price is considered, it is scarcely possible that the trade should not see a change for the better."

This is certainly comforting news, especially for our spruce manufacturers, and no one will begrudge them as they have had the hardest row to all during the depression, and all will rejoice if the tide now turns in their favor, as our readers are no doubt aware the spruce deal trade, outside the Ottawa Valley is the chief one in the lumber trade of this Province, and any improvement therein means improvement in that which specially and directly benefits our Province.

As far as the pine deal trade is concerned, it is of course to be regretted that stocks are still large in London, but they are, we understand, held in strong hands, and are not therefore, likely to be sacrificed. The pine deal manufacturers, however, have it in their own hands to regulate this. The United States markets offer them an outlet, as good or better than the United Kingdom markets for their lumber, and if they cut no deal for simply one season, it would quickly right the demand

and value of pine deal in the United Kingdom. And they could do this, and that even to advantage in a pecuniary sense, for we believe the United States markets are capable of absorbing all the lumber they can turn out next season, and at good paying prices.—*Quebec Chronicle.*

WHAT THEY SAY OF US.

In addition to the large number of complimentary references to THE LUMBERMAN published in the December issue, we subjoin the following from the press of Canada and the United States:

Southern Lumberman Nashville, Tenn.

The CANADA LUMBERMAN, published at Peterborough, Ont., came to hand in November in a brand new dress and greatly improved in all respects. We tender our congratulations upon its success and our best wishes for its continued prosperity.

Chatham Planet.

The CANADA LUMBERMAN, published at Peterborough, is a monthly, and typographically a very excellent journal. We cannot judge as to its contents, whether it properly subserves the interests of those for whom it is published or not, but it

Lumber World, Buffalo, N. Y.

Our Canadian cotemporary, the CANADA LUMBERMAN, is out in a handsome new winter dress of type. It presents a neat appearance typographically, and it has made notable improvements in the character of its contents. We congratulate Editor Mortimer on the success he is achieving.

Northwest Review, Winnipeg.

We have received the CANADA LUMBERMAN for November. From our perusal of it we judge it to be of much value and interest to the trade. It seems very complete and well edited in all departments. Peterborough has for many years been known as the headquarters of very large lumbering interests.

Petrolia Advertiser.

We have received the new number of that enterprising sheet, the CANADA LUMBERMAN, and have no hesitation in pronouncing it one of the best gotten up periodicals, mechanically, in the Dominion. The LUMBERMAN must be invaluable to those interested in the business, and we wish Bro. Mortimer every success.

The Big Raft Adrift.

A mountain of timber weighing 9,000 tons, or 18,000,000 pounds, is adrift on the ocean in the direct path of navigation, without beacon light or anything to warn passing vessels of its

dangerous presence at night, threatening destruction to everything which may come in contact with it. The great raft broke loose from the steamer *Miranda* on Sunday morning, Dec. 11th, about eleven miles off Nan tucket.

Captain Leseman, of the steamer *Miranda* said: "We left Two Rivers N. S., on Dec. 9th. No difficulty was experienced with our monster tow until the 11th, Sunday, when there came up a south-easterly gale, with a heavy cross sea. Finally the fifteen-inch hawser parted with a noise like the report of a cannon. The steamer immediately forged ahead and the extra strain on the ten-inch hawser and the hit to which it was attached, pulled the latter clear out of the deck, ripping up the flooring for a space of fifteen feet. There was a heavy fog at the time, and the raft immediately drifted out of sight. We did not spend any time looking for it, but steamed away as rapidly as possible to avoid any chance of collision."

The raft was valued at about \$50,000, and was uninsured; no underwriters being willing to accept the risk at this season of the year.

Mr. James D. Deary, the owner of the great raft, was very indignant at the failure of the steamer to bring it safely into the port of New York. He said: "It seems that when the *Miranda* left Port Joggins she was only provisioned for seven days' voyage, and, in consequence, on Thursday last there was but half a barrel of flour on board for thirty men. For three days the men were on half rations and when the hawser broke, instead of waiting in the vicinity of the raft as Captain Leseman was instructed to do in case of such a contingency, he immediately came to New York, as the men were half starved. Another fact which made it necessary to put into port was that the oil on board gave out and the

machinery had to go without oiling for some time. There was a scarcity of light on board, which is also attributed to the same cause. I contracted with Bowering & Archibald to bring the raft to this port for a certain sum and they tried to do it too cheaply. I sent the agents a note last night instructing them to dispatch a steamer immediately to search for the raft, which they refused to do. I will charter the first suitable steamer I can lay my hands on and if she fails to find the raft I will bring suit against Bowering & Archibald for the whole cost, \$32,000. I am convinced that if proper care and discretion had been exercised the raft would have arrived in safety."

Secretary Whitney has instructed Commodore Gherardi, in command of the New York navy yard, to send a naval vessel on a cruise after the Nova Scotia lumber raft adrift in the path of European vessels, to warn them of its presence.

The *Canadian Gazette*, of London, Eng., urges that the Dominion Executive be invested with the power to prohibit a repetition of the raft enterprise, with a view to the grave danger to navigation so caused.

8TH YEAR OF PUBLICATION.

\$1 PER YEAR, IN ADVANCE.

THE CANADA LUMBERMAN

STATISTICAL EDITION.

We have now in course of preparation the SECOND ANNUAL STATISTICAL EDITION of The Lumberman,

SIX THOUSAND COPIES

of which will be issued FEBRUARY FIRST, NEXT, and circulated among the trade throughout Canada, the United States and Great Britain.

This issue of THE LUMBERMAN is intended to surpass, both in size and variety of contents, anything heretofore produced from this office. Arrangements are being made whereby every province in the Dominion will furnish a complete budget of news of interest to every man engaged in the lumber, wood-working and kindred branches of trade. The result of the past year's operations and the prospects for the coming season, will be fully set forth, while the list of technical contents will be unusually large and complete.

No better opportunity has yet been offered Manufacturers of Saw Mill and Woodworking Machinery and Appliances, Wholesale Lumber Dealers, Etc., to introduce their business to the trade in general. The tariff of advertising rates for this edition are sufficiently low to commend the publication to all judicious advertisers.

From the rates specified below, advertisers will note that, if a series of insertions are ordered, they will gain all the benefit of the special issue at contract rates, which will be furnished on application.

TARIFF OF RATES FOR SPECIAL ISSUE:

TWO PAGES,	\$55 00	QUARTER PAGE,	9 00	THREE INCHES,	\$2 75
ONE PAGE,	30 00	EIGHTH PAGE,	5 00	TWO INCHES,	2 00
HALF PAGE,	17 50	FIVE INCHES,	4 25	ONE INCH,	1 25
THIRD PAGE,	13 00	FOUR INCHES,	3 50	[Size of Page 9x12½ inches.]	

Advertisers contracting for half or whole page advertisements can have descriptions of machinery and illustrations of same inserted among reading matter at the rate of \$7 per column. Those not having displayed advertisements will be charged at the rate of \$10 per column.

We beg to remind you that during the months of February and March Canadian lumbermen are fitting up their mills for the season's trade; discarding old machinery and putting in new; and for this reason, at no other time during the year will an investment in advertising pay as well. As the work is large and time short, intending advertisers will please let us understand their intentions at the earliest possible date.

Address all Communications to

A. G. MORTIMER, Peterborough, Ont.

appears to be equal in substance to its appearance. A. G. Mortimer is the editor and proprietor.

Railway Life, Toronto.

The last issue of the CANADA LUMBERMAN presents a great advance in typographical appearance over former ones, good as they were. Not only has an entirely new dress of type been secured, but better paper is used, the size of the journal is increased, and in every way the LUMBERMAN presents the appearance of a thoroughly successful newspaper. At the same time the editorial management is even more vigorous than before, and altogether in this wide-awake journal the milling and wood-working interests of Canada have a representative in the newspaper world of which even so large and important an industry may well be proud.

Sherbrooke (Que.) Gazette.

We are glad to see our old friend the CANADA LUMBERMAN in a new dress, remodelled and with handsome type. We have always found it a most useful and trustworthy authority on everything connected with the lumber business, and in addition it contains a vast amount of interesting matter. It is published at Peterborough, Ont., and all engaged in this industry should subscribe to it.