

John's spruce ex Hudson called forth some spirited bidding, but it is questionable if the deals, although a very poor lot of stuff, fetched the first cost. Prices of low-class stuff generally seemed of this non-paying character, but with the specially low freights that have been paid this season it is just possible that even on the present prices the expenses are covered, but that any margin is left it is hardly possible to conceive under the most favorable circumstances.

Some of the reserved lots in Wednesday's sale were bid for, and several sold, amongst which were the 2nd spruce planks, ex Jarlen, from Quebec, 9 to 11 feet, realizing £7 10s., and some 3x8, 12 feet, £7; these prices, all things considered, seem fair enough. The cargo was a good one, and with other descriptions of white-wood going at all sorts of cheap figures it is illustrative of the esteem choice Quebec wood is held in when we find packing case makers paying the same price for it as they do for Petersburg of similar quality: prices quoted in the open market for similar goods are £7 15s. to £8, which we believe there is no difficulty in securing. The Quebec oak, ex Oren, without reserve, fetched for the large-dimensioned logs £7 and £7 5s. a load, a tall price, especially when we consider that they have been two seasons in the docks. It was rumoured that these were bought in, but as they were put up without reserve we can hardly understand that can be so. At any rate, we record the sale; the smaller logs fetching a uniform price of £3 10s.; if the one parcel was brought in, the whole of it must have been, and that is hardly likely.

At Thursday's sale values throughout went low for the parcels disposed of; but as we have observed if values did not harden at all they certainly betrayed no further signs of weakness. The birch timber ex Hudson, from St. John, was cheap at the price, but it was not a very attractive parcel, and so with regard to the Odessa wainscot, one buyer took the whole parcel, 15 lots, at 4s. 12 ft. and upwards, and and 37s. 6d. for under that length; a couple of lots of the latter, however, went up to 42s. 6d., the same buyer being evidently determined to secure them. This was undoubtedly a very low crown logs.

The pitch pine planks ex Siberia, from Mobile, went slightly better than in the sale of the 27th, 4x12, which on that occasion went at £9, this time fetched £9 15s., and so by this we might describe the market as rather better the last week or two, were it not that other goods went proportionately lower. Uleaborg, for instance, 4 9, that fetched £8 10s. last month's sale, on this occasion went at £7 10s., and 2½x7, which in August realized £6 10s. to £7, in Thursday's sale sold at first-named price.

One with another we may say prices are steady, but it is entirely due to the comparatively small proportion of the stocks which comes under the hammer that keeps them so; this is pretty well recognized throughout the trade, and any presumption on this apparent steadiness would not bring about the anticipated result.

#### GLASGOW.

The *Timber Trades Journal* of Sept. 13, says:—A sale of timber was held at Greenock on Sept. 1, particulars as below. The attendance was fair and about 400 logs were disposed of, also various lots of deals.

There has been a light import during the past week—at Greenock a small cargo of greenheart timber and at Glasgow two cargoes of spruce deals and sundry shipments of oak planks, etc., etc., per steam liners, also an arrival of Quebec deals per steamer.

The total import of deals to Clyde shows a considerable falling off this year compared with corresponding period of previous years, being in round numbers 640,000 pieces this year to date, which is more than 200,000 pieces under previous year, and about 150,000 pieces under 1882. The storage accommodation for deals at Yorhill Wharf, Glasgow is, however, at present fully occupied, and indeed there are cargoes presently being yarded for which it was with difficulty room could be got, and the passageways have had to be encroached on. This to some extent arises from the space available being now more limited than formerly, part of the

ground being now taken up for another purpose. The dock authorities are also at present preparing a straight thoroughfare according to original plan, from Queen's Dock to Pointhouse, which cuts up a considerable part of the yard.

The masons' strike still prevents to a large extent the free onward flow of trade or the execution of such orders as are presently in hand. It was observed by one of the members of the school board here at their monthly meeting last week that they had work amounting to £50,000 on hand to be completed by next July, and as the demand for more room this year for scholars was unusually pressing, some means should be used to bring this dispute to a termination, so that the work which is now at a stand still may proceed. The Board school erection being only one item of our building operations going on, the settlement of this strike would no doubt improve the present sluggish position of the market.

#### AUCTION SALE.

|   |  |           |
|---|--|-----------|
| On 4th inst., at Greenock, Messrs. Singleton, Dunn & Co., brokers:— |  |           |
| Quebec waney boardwood (unreserved)—                                |  | p. c. ft. |
| 40 c. ft. avg. per log 1s. 8d.                                      |  |           |
| Quebec yellow pine (unreserved)—                                    |  |           |
| 50 c. ft. avg. per log 1s. 2½d.                                     |  |           |
| 40 " " 1s. 0½d.   |  |           |
| Quebec yellow pine (superior jointing)—                             |  |           |
| 35 & 40 c. ft. avg. per log 1s. 2½d.                                |  |           |
| Quebec Red pine—  |  |           |
| 40 c. ft. avg. per log 1s. 0½d.                                     |  |           |
| 35 " " 1s. 1½d.   |  |           |
| 30 to 40 " " 11½d. to 1s. 0½d.                                      |  |           |
| Quebec birch—   |  |           |
| 13½ c. ft. avg. per log 1s. 5d.                                     |  |           |
| One log poplar—   |  |           |
| 37 c. ft. avg. per log 10½d.  |  |           |
| Sawn pitch pine timber—   |  |           |
| 40 c. ft. avg. per log 1s. 2d.                                      |  |           |
| 35 " " 1s. 1½d.   |  |           |
| Pitch pine planks 3 to 6 in. thick—                                 |  |           |
| 10½d. to 10½d.  |  |           |
| Quebec 3rd pine deal ends—  |  |           |
| 8 ft. 11x3 11d.   |  |           |
| 7 " 11x3 10d.   |  |           |
| Quebec 4th pine planks—   |  |           |
| 14 to 16 ft. 7/20x2 8½d. & 6½d.                                     |  |           |
| Quebec 2nd spruce deals—  |  |           |
| 11 ft. 7/8x3 8½d.   |  |           |
| Quebec 3rd spruce deals—  |  |           |
| 12 ft. 7/11x3 9d.   |  |           |
| 13 to 18 ft. 7/11x3 6½d.  |  |           |
| 10 ft. 7/18x3 8½d.  |  |           |
| 9 & 11 ft. 7/18x3 8½d.  |  |           |
| Quebec 3rd spruce deal ends—  |  |           |
| 4 to 8 ft. 9/11x3 7½d.  |  |           |
| Bright spruce deals—  |  |           |
| 11 & 12 ft. 7/15x3 8½d.   |  |           |

#### AUSTRALIA.

The monthly circular of Lord & Hughes, timber brokers, dated Melbourne, July 26th, says:—

Business in timber and building materials continues in much the same state as at date of our last issue on the 30th ult., quietness being still the prevailing feature in almost all descriptions, which is usually the case at this period of the year.

Offering at auction have been below the usual monthly average. Sales publicly have been principally Oregon deals and timber, ex Howard D. Troop; Scotch flooring, ex Glentilt and Blairgowrie; American lumber, ex Lothair, Hoiden and Leading Wind; Kauri pine, ex Camillo and Naiad.

The trade report a falling off in the demand from the yards for consumption, as compared with the previous three months.

Stocks of most descriptions of timber are ample for the next six months at present rate of consumption, but as the banks have reduced the rate of interest on fixed deposits to 3, 4, and 5 per cent. for 3, 6, and 12 months respectively depositors will doubtless seek more profitable investments, and this may cause a more active demand for timber and building materials in the coming spring.

The arrivals have been Mathias, from Gothenburg, with red deals; Howard D. Troop, from Puget Sound, Minnie Carmichael, from Vancouver Island, with Oregon timber, laths and pickets; Lothair, from New York, Saml. Skolfield, from Boston, with clear pine, white pine shelving, T. and G. Coiling, spruce deals, spruce flooring, laths, pickets, plaster and slates; Tiverton, Loch Eck, Westmeath Romanoff, Port Darwin, Blairgowrie, Avenger, Fort George, Halse, Procida, Yarra Yarra, Loch

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Vennachar, and Glenochil, from Great Britain, with flooring, deals, laths, slates, lead, galvanized iron and cement; Romus, from Antwerp, with cement; Camillo, from Kaipara, Naiad, from Mercury Bay, N. Z., with kauri pine; Cheviot, Gabo, Nemesis, Konoowarra, Buninyong Wendouree, Leura, Cahora, City of Adelaide, from Sydney, with cedar, galvanized iron and lead; Adelaide, from Adelaide, with red deals.

RED DEALS.—Imports: 10,942 pieces from the Baltic, 1,860 from the United Kingdom. The arrivals have been Mathias, from Gothenburg, Avenger, from London, and Adelaide, from Adelaide, the latter being transshipment from the Baltic. On 4th inst. the deals ex Leviathan, were offered at auction, but the trade showing no disposition to purchase they were withdrawn, with exception of a line of 9x3, F W T brand, which was sold at 4½d. to 4½d. The only other public sales have been parcel ex Adelaide, and small lines ex Java. We understand the cargo ex Mathias has been sold privately at a price not transpired.

SPRUCE DEALS.—Imports: 1,729 pieces. This parcel arrived in Saml. Skolfield, from Boston, and is advertised for sale on the 8th proximo. There have been no sales at auction during the past four weeks.

OREGON TIMBER.—Imports: 1,901,710 feet super. The arrivals have been, Howard D. Troop, from Puget Sound, and Minnie Carmichael, from Vancouver Island. The cargo ex Howard D. Troop was offered at auction on 18th inst., the greater portion being sold, prices ranging from £6 15s. to £6 5s. The balance of cargo is advertised for sale on the 29th inst. The Minnie Carmichael has just arrived.

LUMBER.—Imports: Clear pine, 145,670 feet super; white pine shelving, 302,872 feet super; T. and G. ceiling, 51,511 feet super. The arrivals have been Lothair, from New York, and Saml. Skolfield, from Boston. Sales by auction have been, shipments ex Lothair, and several lines ex Hoiden, Leading Wind, W. H. Bosse, and Kylemore. The parcel ex Saml. Skolfield is advertised for sale on the 8th proximo.

PITCH PINE.—Imports: Nil.

REDWOOD. Imports. Nil. The balance of cargo ex Kylemore was offered at auction on 4th inst., but only a portion of 2-inch was quoted at £10.

FLOORING AND WEATHERBOARDS.—Imports: 864,294 feet lineal from United Kingdom, 27,703 feet lineal from United States. Sales by auction have been of a limited character, being shipments ex Glentilt, Blairgowrie, and Avenger, and small line, ex Kamfjord. Prices realized were as follows:—Red, 6x1½, 11½, to 10s. 3d.; 6x3, 8s. 6d. to 8s.; 6x3, 6s.; 6x3, 4s. 7d. to 4s. 6d.; 4-out weatherboards, 6s. 3d.; white, 6x3, 7s. 9d. to 7s. 6d.; 6x3, 1s. 8d. to 1s. 6d.; 4-out weatherboards, 6s. 3d. to 6s.

KAURI PINE.—Imports: 458,211 feet super. The arrivals have been Camillo, from Kaipara, and Naiad, from Mercury Bay. The cargo ex Camillo was sold on the 22nd instant, logs real-

izing 14s. 6d., and fitches 16s. 3d. per 100 feet super, and cargo ex Naiad was offered at auction on 25th instant, when the whole was sold with exception of about 20,000 feet 3-inch shelving.

CEDAR.—Imports: 426,970 feet super. The arrivals have been heavy; a great portion of which is of indifferent quality, and logs small sized, consequently prices this month are lower. Doors.—Imports: Nil.

LATHS AND PICKETS.—Imports: Laths, 9,890 bundles; pickets, 1,936 bundles. Sales at auction have been made of Oregon laths, 4½ ft., at 36s. 6d. to 34s. 6d.; Oregon pickets, 4½ ft., at £3 5s.; Spruce laths, 4½ ft., at 34s.; 4 ft., at 30s.; Baltic red laths, 6 ft., at 46s.; 4½ ft., at 35s.

SLATES.—Imports: 442,729 pieces. The only sale by auction has been shipment ex Lothair, of first American Blue Bangs slates, 24x12, realizing £14 2s. 6d.; 20x10, £9 15s.

PLASTER.—Imports: 200 barrels. This parcel of Albert Mill Plaster (large barrels) arrived in Saml. Skolfield, and was sold by auction on 18th instant, at 14s. per barrel. There have been no other sales by auction during the month.

CEMENT.—Imports: 11,940 barrels. There is no improvement in the market for cement this month, and the arrivals continue heavy. Knight, Bevan and Co.'s and Gostling's are quoted at 15s. 6d. to 15s. 3d. Jossen and Co.'s Portland cement has been sold privately at full rates.

GALVANISED IRON.—Imports: 1,765 tons. The market continues quiet, and we hear of no private sales of importance.

PALINGS.—Nil.

EXPLANATION.—Red deals and spruce deals are sold at per foot of 9x3; T. and G. flooring at per 100 feet running; Oregon timber, redwood, clear pine, shelving, ceiling, per 1,000 feet super; kauri pine and cedar logs at per 100 feet super; laths, pickets and slates at per 1,000 pieces.

#### OUR TRADE WITH FRANCE.

The trade in Canadian woods, which are much appreciated in France, has until now been carried on through English middlemen, so much so that the English word "spruce" has become a recognized term of French carpentry. In some quarters it has been found singular that trade between two countries speaking the same language and united by so many ties should not be direct, the only appreciable use of the middlemen being to draw a percentage on the profits, and the classification of the lumber of commerce by Canadian inspectors being sufficient guarantee to the buyer. However, a new departure seems to have been taken, as during the months of July and August two Canadian barques, the Earl of Shaftesbury, 500 tons, and the St. Louis, 480 tons, have cleared Les Escoumains, with full cargoes of spruce planks, the first bound for La Seyne, near Toulon, and the second for Havre. Mr. T. J. Lamontagne is the consignee in both cases. Three other barques will shortly leave the same port with cargoes for the French market.—*Montreal Star*.