and low grade stock, and their supplies have become diminished.

The scarcity of dry hardwood lumber is still the feature of the market. Buyers are anxious to contract for stock to be cut, but in some instances manufacturers refuse contracts of this character, believing that the limit of price has not yet been reached. At Tonawanda there is an increasing demand for basswood sidings, and in New York oak and ash hold strong positions.

FOREIGN.

Within the past week there has been a hardening of prices in the British market, owing to the fact that stocks have become reduced and that some classes of timber have practically passed out of first hands. The stock of spruce deals in the public docks at London on March 31st was 935,000 pieces, as compared with 1,220,000 pieces one year ago. Deals of third and fourth quality are quite firm, 3×9 thirds selling in small quantities at £8 per standard, while higher prices are probable before the first shipments arrive. Pine deals are in stock in about the same quantity as last year. The better quality are in good demand, at slightly higher figures, but in the lower grades there has been no improvement. The hardwood trade is showing more life. Birch timber and planks have sold freely, and the stock is small. A modern demand exists for elm and ash, while in waney and square pine the call has been chiefly for prime wood. Elsewhere are given detailed information of the Liverpool and Glasgow markets.

It is expected that South America will this year import more lumber than usual. The harvest has begun, and promises an abundant yield, which will result in improved commercial conditions. The Australian market is dull, prices for Oregon pine being about 5£ 10s per thousand feet.

NEW BRUNSWICK CEDAR SHINGLES.

The spring demand for shingles has at last struck in with full force, and the manufacturers who have the goods to furnish are in a very small minority. As a consequence, prices are soaring upwards, and there is no telling where they will stop. Some conservative operators express themselves as believing that quotations inside four or five weeks will touch a \$3.25 to \$3.50 basis for extras. The market to-day has a most decided bullish tendency, and the fact that very few shipments can be made before about June 1st adds material to the strength of the situation. The fact is that the manufacturers are now in most absolute control, and it would appear that radical advances on present prices could be maintained without difficulty. Practically all of the wholesale trade are heavily oversold, and on promise of immediate shipments. They are struggling desperately to get their orders placed at some price or other for quick delivery, but are finding this virtually impossible, for the shingles in sufficient quantity are not to be had at any price. The bulk of the orders now being placed are taken on basis of Boston freight rates at: Extras, \$2.90 to \$3; clears, \$2.50 to \$2.60; 2nd clears and clear whites, \$2 to \$2.10. A considerable number of the best informed manufacturers are asking for June delivery \$3.25 for extras and corresponding figures for other grades. This latter price is not too high to afford a fair margin to the makers, and if they all have the courage of their convictions will be secured before June 1st.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

Messrs. George & McGregor, of Killaloe Station, Ont., advertise for sale in this issue a large number of telephone poles, fence posts and railroad ties.

Carswell & McKay's saw mill at Calabogie, Ont., will not be operated this season, they having arranged to have their logs sawn at Cavanagh's mill.

H. C. Sharpe, of Houlton, N.B., has purchased from Fred. Moore his Meduxnekeag cut of logs, amounting to about 900,000 feet. The price paid was \$6,000.

S. H. Black, of Orillia, Ont., has purchased fifty acres of timber land from the Tudhope Carriage Co., it being part of the estate of the late Geo. Wright, of Medonte, and timbered with maple, basswood, butternut and oak. Mr. Black has given a contract to Aaron Stew t to saw the logs, and has disposed of the maple to the Orillia Export Lumber Co., and of the basswood to the Tudhope Carriage Company.

The Royal City Mills, New Westminster, B.C., has received an order from Australia for a sample shipment of 10,000 boxes suitable for shipping canned goods to Europe.

The importations of Canadian lumber into London up to March 31st last were as follows: Quebec pine deals, 9,000 pieces; Quebec spruce deals, 73,000 pieces; New Brunswick spruce deals, 9,000 pieces; birch planks, 25,000 pieces.

The returns of exports from the district of Ottawa to the United States for the quarter ending March 31st last contain the following items: Lumber, \$143,029.95; lumber (for export), \$18 911.87; laths, \$3,144.05; shingles, \$3,079 68.

From Manistee, Mich., the sale is reported of 400,000 feet of log run soft elm at \$18.50 on dock, 500,000 feet inch maple at \$5.50. \$10.50 and \$15.50 on dock, and 500,000 feet of maple at \$8, \$13 and \$18.50. Beech is being inquired for by chair makers.

A lumber manufacturer of Cumberland county states that there will be about 35,000,000 feet of lumber for shipment this season from West Bay, N.S., to trans-Atlantic ports. The cut throughout Cumberland county h s been lighter than for some years past.

At Saginaw, Mich., box lumber is still scarce, and sells at \$12 to \$13. Canada log run brings \$14 to \$18 and Michigan \$18 to \$20. For Norway \$9 50 to \$12 is offered. Mill culls are selling at \$9 to \$10, but quotations are likely to weaken when the mills start operation.

Since the first of the year the export of lumber from St. John, N.B., to the United States has been about 20,000,000 feet of long lumber, 20,000,000 laths, 4,500,000 shingles and three cargoes of piling. Most of the sawn lumber was the product of Maine logs, cut in the American mills at St. John.

Chicago agricultural implement and waggon factories are paying \$40 to \$50 for first and second ash, and \$32 to \$35 for inch ash. Yard prices for selected red birch are \$40 for inch and \$45 to \$55 for thick. Plain birch is selling at \$27 to \$30 for inch first and second, and \$32 to \$35 for thicker. Soft elm, common and better brings \$20 for inch and \$22 to \$25 for thick; rock elm firsts and seconds, \$28 to \$30 for inch and \$35 to \$40 for thick, and common stock about \$10 less. Basswood is in urgent demand, and sells at \$22 to \$23 for firsts and seconds inch, \$24 to \$26 for thick, \$17 for inch common, and \$18 for thick. Culls sell at \$12.

A public sale of pine and spruce deals was held at Glasgow, Scotland, on 5th inst., by Messrs. McDowell & Neilson. 1st Quebec pine deals, broads, sold at 2s 3½d per cubic ft., and 8 in. to 11 in. at 2s 2½d. For 1st ends, 6 ft. to 9 ft., prices ranged from 2s to 2s 3½d, and a lot of 1½ in. pine planks brought 2s. In Quebec 2nd pine 15×9×3 in. got 1s 8d, and a lot of 7/10×3, 1s 5d, while 7×7/11×3 ends were sold at 1s 6d. In 3rds one lot of broads were sold at 1s 3d, and two lots of 4th quality broads at 10d and 10½d. The demand for spruce deals was quiet, a large portion offered being sizes not in demand, and some shipments were passed over without effecting a sale. 6½×2½ battens were disposed of at 11d per cubic ft; 11×3 deals (Quebec) got 8¼d. In Lower Port spruce several lots, mostly without reserve, sold at 10½d for 14×9×3; 7 11×3 at 9¼d, and 4/6×3 at 8d.

THE BRITISH MARKET.

Timber circulars to hand review the respective markets of Great Britain for the quarter ending March 31st. Of the Liverpool market Messrs. Duncan, Ewing & Co. say:

WHITE PINE TIMBER — The deliveries during March comprised only 10,000 feet of waney board wood, the stock of square pine remaining unchanged. Stocks are very moderate and values steady.

RED PINE has been in fair demand, the deliveries amounting to 5,000 feet, but the stock is still ample for probable requirements.

OAK LOGS—The demand has been of a retail character, and the market remains unchanged.

ELM—Stock is light, and this wood is in fair request at firm prices.

BIRCH—LOGS: The import during March amounted to 71,000 cubic feet. The bulk of this import has gone into consumption. Some parcels were offered by auction and met a strong demand at increased values. Planks: The import has again been heavy, but the deliveries have been very satisfactory, and stocks are reduced by 24,000 feet, but are still excessive. Values continue low.

PINE DEALS, SIDINGS, &c. The deliveries during March have been of a somewhat more extensive scale, but stocks are still too heavy in view of the near approach of the import season, and the market is not in a very satisfactory condition. Some 3rd quality deals were sold by auction during the month at £8 per standard.

N. B. and N. S. SPRUCE DEALS—The deliveries have again been satisfactory, and stocks are light. Parcels from St. John, N.B., have been sold at from £6 5/-to £6 7/6 c. i. f., and values for contract cargoes are firm. Halifax deals are selling at about £6 3/9 to £6 7/6, ex quay.

QUEBEC SPRUCE DEALS—Stock on hand is now only 890 standards, so that the new season's imports should come to a good market. Values are steady.

Wholesale prices at Liverpool are as follows:

	s	d		s	d
TIMBER—white pine, Quebec, per cu ft	1	3	to	2	4
Waney board, Quebec, per cu ft	2	0	to	2	10
Waney board, St. Johns, 18 inches	1	6	to	2	2
Quebec red pine, per cu. ft	1	5	to	1	9
Quebec oak, 1st quality, per cu. ft	2	9	to	3	0
Quebec elm, per cu. ft	2	0	to	2	2
Quebec ash, per cu. ft	1	6	to	1	10
Quebec whitewood, per cu. ft	1	4	to	1	10
Quebec birch, per cu. ft	1	3	to	1	9
St. John, N.B., birch, per cu ft	1	3	to	1	6
St. John, N.B., birch planks, per cu. ft	0	9	to	0	10
SPARS.—Spruce, per cu. ft	0	10	to	1	0

	£	s d		£	s
DEALS.—Que. pine, 1st qual., per std.	20	0	to	24	0
Quebec pine, 2nd quality, per std	15	10	to	16	10
Quebec pine, 3rd quality, per std	9	0	to	9	5
Pine, St. John's, &c., N.B., per std.	6	5	to	6	10
Spruce, St. John's, per std	6	5	to	6	10
Spruce, Nova Scotia, &c., per std	6	0	to	6	5
BOARDS—Spruce, per std	5	0	to	5	5
LATHWOOD—Hemlock, per fathom	3	12 6	to	4	0
OAK STAVES—Quebec pipe, 1st quality, per mille	65		to	05	
Quebec pipe, 2nd quality, per mille	35		to	45	
Quebec puncheon, 1st qual., per mille	20		to	22	10
Quebec puncheon, 2nd qual., per mille	14	0	to	16	0

From Messrs. Calder, Henderson & Livingston we extract the following particulars of the Glasgow market:

In reviewing the quarter just closed, we have to report a continuance of the activity which prevailed at the close of 1898, a remark which is applicable to both the timber trade and allied trades. Speaking generally, the market has been maintained in a healthy condition, although in certain items of Canadian stock there has been a decided weakening of values. The exceptionally heavy stocks of lower grade pine deals carried over from 1898 have been difficult to deal with, and keen competition has prevailed in the endeavors to realize. This has to some extent been met by improving values in standard sizes of first quality. The all round amount of stock in both timber and deals that has gone into consumption has been very satisfactory.

WHITE PINE.—WANEY—The demand has practically been entirely for prime wood of long average for shipbuilding purposes, and it has been selling at from 2s 6d to 2s 9d per cubic foot. There is a moderate demand for short girthy wood, at from 2s 3d to 2s 6d, but 2nd class wood is entirely neglected. It is quoted at 15d to 20d per cubic foot. Very little business in square timber has been done. The stock is small and the demand not large.

RED PINE—There has been a fair consumption, chiefly of prime wood of large average, which sells at 2s. to 2s. 3d. per cubic foot.

ELM—There has been a good demand, and the prime wood in the market has practically now been all taken up at firm prices. The stock consists mostly of second class wood. Prime wood is quoted at 2s. 2d. to 2s. 5d. for 45 feet average.

OAK—There is very little movement to report in this staple. First class wood has been sold at about 2s. 8d. to 2s. 10d. for 70 cubic feet average, but several clearances have lately been made at much lower figures. Second class wood has been cleared out at 18d to 19d. per cubic foot.

ASH—Prices are quoted steady at 19d. to 22d. for 13 to 15-inch average.

BIRCH—The import has been nominal and prices have advanced. They are firm at 18d. to 21d. for 16-inch average.

DEALS, BATTENS AND BOARDS—Considerable business has been done, and prices as a whole have been steady. Any weakening of