

PINE SIDING AND BOARDS.

With Canadian pine deals up to their present value, it is surprising, says a write in the Timber News, that London importers and those using the port of London as the most convenient and central for receiving and handling bills of lading of Canadian goods, have not taken the cue from West Coast and Midland buyers, and turned their attention to white pine sidings and boards. Cut from the sides of the pine logs from which the regular 3 in. deal is produced, and further therefore away from the heart, they should commend themselves for several reasons to pine buyers.

It is true that away from the heart the nearer the sap, but as pine is distinctly a cabinet or "interior" wood, this disadvantage is not so serious, providing the goods are shipped under good conditions and come to hand bright and light.

On the first point of cost, many pounds per standard divide the best pine deal from the best pine siding and best stock board in favor of the last named. In lengths they all run the same, so that the question of thickness alone seems to explain the very small sales to this market.

Habit is a bad master to overcome, but it is not conceivable that any or very few pine deals are ever worked up in an un-reduced form. A great deal can be got out of a good plank with judgment, and there is opportunity for making the best of the best side, and the best of the worst side; still, when we consider the very important percentage of deals reduced to siding and board thicknesses, it is surprising that those thicknesses are not acceptable when imported.

In looking through a catalogue of stock lying in Liverpool we find among Quebec pine sidings lines of "clears" 2 by 16 up

to very wide, and 1½ by 19 and up. In best sidings, which are more in evidence, we find 2 in., 1½ in., 1¼ in., and 1 in. by 8 and up to wide, called O quality. Under this come in order A quality, B quality, and C quality, A quality holding 65 per cent. firsts against 35 per cent. seconds, and B quality 60 to 65 per cent. seconds to 35-40 per cent. thirds, C quality averaging good thirds.

In pine boards we notice fine lines of first, seconds, and thirds, 2 by 12 and 11, 1½ by 12 and 11, 1 by 12 and 11, also 10 in. 9 in., and 8 in. widths.

In all these we find lines of useful shorts 9 to 11 ft., and ends 6 to 8 ft. at, of course, corresponding prices.

Perhaps these goods may not appeal to the yard keeper, with his pits and racks for 12 to 16 ft. deals, selling by the foot or plank, in the old-fashioned manner, but surely now is the time for the contractor and the cabinetmaker in a large way to

inquire into the question of sidings versus deals.

CANADIAN LUMBER SHIPMENTS.

From Halifax, N.S.: Schooner James W., 125,437 feet pine lumber, value \$2,250; 19,483 feet spruce lumber, value \$228. Steamer Manchester Commerce, for Manchester, England, 320,419 feet spruce deals, value \$3,204; 114,137 feet birch plank, value \$1,206. Steamer Pretorian, for Liverpool, 12,505 feet hemlock deals, value \$125; 168,007 feet spruce deals, value \$2,017.

From St. John, N.B.: Str. Astracana, for Melbourne, Australia, 1,400,695 feet deals, 6,741 feet ends. Steamer Laurentian, for Liverpool, 145,813 feet box boards, 163,895 feet deals, 6,455 feet ends, 74,199 feet scantling. Steamer Lake Manitoba, for Liverpool, 1,752 maple blocks, 2,458 pieces white pine lumber strips, 240 cases chair stock, 539,080 feet deals, 140,410 feet scantling, 76,371 feet ends, 100 tons birch timber, 1225 bundles maple flooring, 1,848 doors. Steamer Tritonia, for Glasgow, 438,376 feet deals, 22,965 feet scantling, 10,855 feet ends.

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We find our competing salesmen's story to the customers has now got to be a "song pure and simple," which they have learned from necessity to sing loudly and lustily, and is as follows: "JUST AS GOOD AS HASTINGS." "JUST AS GOOD AS HASTINGS."

While we appreciate their holding our goods as models of perfection, which the high standard certainly merits, still looking at the matter from the customer's and the consumer's standpoint we cannot see any advantage to you in buying an imitation when the real article can be had through our representatives, viz:—

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