about one week ago a slight weakness in spruce developed, at a time when the general market was strong. This weakness is confined to the narrow sizes, namely, 7 and 8 inch. The cause of the weakness seems to be the heavy stock of narnow sizes now in stock at Liverpool. As compared with one year ago the stock of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia spruce deals is 7,000 standards larger, and of this increase the greater portion is 7 and 8 inch. It is believed, however, that the consumption will take care of the available stock, as during the month of October 12,470 standards were consumed in Liverpool, as compared with 8,550 standards in same month of last year. At London the dock stocks make a very different showing, spruce deals and battens being less than twelve months ago and the only class of lumber that shows a decrease. For square and waney timber there is steady demand and stocks are in such shape as to ensure a firm market for some months to come. At Liverpool square and waney pine, red pine, elm, birch, and ash all show a considerable decrease as compared with same time last year. This is also the case at London, the exception being oak timber, the stock of which is larger. Much attention is being directed to the prices which are likely to prevail for next spring delivery, but as no transactions have taken place, any opinions advanced are merely conjecture.

#### STOCKS AND PRICES.

The steamer Lovestaken is loading deals at Miramich!, N. B., for the United King-

No. 1 mixed lath are quoted in Chicago at \$3 by water, with the demand fairly good.

Ritchie Bros., of Aylmer, Que., have recently sold 3,000,000 cull lath at \$1.25 per thousand.

Pittsburg prices are as follows :216inch hemlock shingles, \$2.65; 18-inch, \$3.05; hemiock lath, \$3.50.

The steamer Skuld sailed last week from Montreal for Hull with deals and grain, completing cargo at Three Rivers.

The Columbia Lumber Company? which operates at Golden B. C., is planning to handle 5,000,000 feet of logs at that point this winter.

White pine shingles are scarce in the Saginaw valley and bring \$4.25 for stocks-Clear butts are worth \$1 less. Cedar shingles are selling at \$2.25 to \$2.90.

Ramsay township council is asking for tenders up to December 16th for supply of a large quantity of bridge timber. Particulars may be obtained from T. C. Foster, of Clayton.

The Imperial Veneer Company is in the market for 1,000,000 feet of hardwood logs delivered at any point between North Bay and Scotia Junction before the 1st of May, 1007.

Cockburn & Sons, of Sturgeon Falls, Ont.; are reported to have recently sold 250,000 feet of common pine at \$15 at the mill. The balance of their season's cut was sold last spring.

The barque W. W. McLaughlan is loading lumber at Bear River, N. S., for Buenos Ayres, Clarke Bros. being the shippers. The schr. Frank W. Pickles is loading at Annapolis, N. S., for the West Indies, the cargo being supplied by Pickles

The United Lumber Company, of Hali-

fax, N. S., shipped during the past season 12,000,000 feet of lumber to European and South American markets. They are proparing to take out 20,000,000 feet of logs this winter on the St. Marys, Gaspereau, and Jordan rivers.

J. & T. Charlton, of North Tonawanda, estimate that they will be able to manufacture about 175,000,000 feet of lumber from the tract of pine timper on the Spanish river recently purchased from Booth & Shannon, of Pembroke, Ont. The tract is traversed by logging streams in such a manner that the average had will not exceed one mile.

Logging operations in the Dauphin district of Munitoba this winter are quite active. Comps are being established in the Riding Mountains by Ritchie Bros., Shaw Bros., and James Shoud, and in the Duck Mountains by Briggs Bros. The Northern Lumber Company, Hanbury Lumber Company, Swan River Lumber Company, Peter McArthur and Makenzie & Mann will operate their limits on Lake Winnipegosis.

The Sutherland-Innes Company, of Chatham, On., refer to the cooperage stock market as follows: "The manufacturers appear to be getting all the orders they want for stock, and the coopersgetting all the stock they need. There is a little shortage in No. 1 stock, on account of the mills not being able to joint stock up fast enough, the weather having been very much against jointing stock. The demand for apple-barrel stock still continues, but not very lively. Prices remain practically the same as last month, with the exception of No. 1 staves, which are advancing a little on account of the scarcity already referred to. All the manufacturers want now is good drying weather, when they will be able to take care of their orders to good advantage. No. 2 staves still continue low in price, but the surplus is getting pretty well cleaned up, so that we look for a good price for No. 2 staves in the spring."

#### THE OTTAWA VALLBY.

(Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

At the court house here yesterday, the British Columbia limits of the Maclaren-Ross Lumber Company were sold as a sequal to the dissolution of partnership. Keen interest was shown in the sale, which was attended by both Canadian and American opérators. The limits are 56942 acres in extent with a well equipped saw mill, and sold for \$159,500. The property was sold in three separate parcels, two of which were bought in by Mr. J. C. Browne, lumber brocker, of Ottawa, and the third by Mr. H. J. Jenkins, head of the H. J. Jenkins Lumber Company, of Minneapolis.

The first parcel consisted of about 23.-600 acres of timber land situated in the Seyward district, Vancouver Island. It was sold to Mr. Browne for \$113,000, to which figure it advanced in the bidding from \$50,000. The limit is accessible, compact and well wooded, and is considered a good bargain at the price paid.

The second parcel, also bought by Mr. Browne, contained in all 32,942 acres and sold for \$24,000. The property is in the following lots: 9,280 acres in New Westminster district; 6,720 acres in the Chilliwack district, another of 15,900 in the same, and a third of 1,042 acres also in this district. These cover scattered territory and are not as well wooded as was the land in the first parcel, hence the difference in price.

The third parcel, the one secured by Mr. Jenkins, is not wooded. It contains about 400 acres situated on the Fraser river about three miles from New Westminster-On it stands a well equipped saw mill and accessory buildings.

It is understood that the American firm will take possession of the mill forthwith. Mr. Browne, however, will not operate his newly purchased limits just at present. He refused to express any intention, and said that he alone was interested in the deal.

Reports from the limits in the Ottawa district show that operations which aswell under way were interfered with by the constant rains of October. On limits remote from the railways, the foremen are having trouble with deserters. Few days passed during the past month in which one or more men did not take French leave. To fill orders, local agents were forced this year to engage practically all the men and many youths who offered themselves for employment. The roaving class of spasmodic workers were well represented on the limits, with the work of which many were wholly unacquainted. It is this class that is giving trouble, the members taking advantage of the open season to get out from the remote limits before winter sets in and shuts them out from civilization for six months or more.

The swamps and lowlands are all full of water and the lumbermen are hoping for early frosts so that good "bottom" can be procured before deep snow comes, otherwise it will be difficult to transport logs.

Davidson & Thackray, of Ottawa, have secured a \$15,000 order from South Africa where the firm recently sent a representative. The order called for sashes, doors

There is no relief in the car famine and the shippers are sending outstock by barge. Several are loaded daily at the mills along the Ottawa river. Local dealers report a falling off in orders from American points. The inability to move stock has put a damper on business.

G.L. Burtis, the lumberman of Munising, Mich., is erecting a large mill at Thessalon. on the Georgian Bay. The mill will have an output of 25,000,000 feet. The car shortage has not been felt at Thessalon, as the shipments are mostly all made by

McLachlin Bros., large mill at Amprior has closed for the season. Gillies Bros, mill at Braeside is still running. None of the Ottawa mills have closed down.

OTTAWA, November 13th, 1902.

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#### BRITISH COLUMBIA LETTER.

(Correspondence, of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

Lumber prices in nearly all grades have risen during the past week. Rough tumber now retails in Vancouver at \$13.00 per thousand. The railway list has advanced, and it is probable that prices will be raised on nearly all grades shipped east to Manitoba, Ontario and all eastern points within the next few days. The principal cause of the advance is the rise in the price of logs. The demand has been active during the past summer, with the result that but few logs are in the water, and it is anticipated that there will be a scarcity owing to the camps not being able to run to their capacity during the wet weather of the winter months. Contracts are being let by the millsto jobbers at from \$6 to \$7 at the camp. Wages continue high and men are scarce, at wages ranging from \$3 to \$5 per day.

The shingle market remains good, and prices are firm with a tendency to advance. Some of the mills are refusing orders for next summer shipment, as prices of lumber, logs and shingle bolts will doubtless advance before spring.

Shipments to the Orient are active and prices remain firm. It is expected that new markets will open shortly in South Africa for Canadian producers. Not much lumber has been shipped there as yet, as the Australian. Japan and other countries have kept foreign shippers busy during the

New Westminster, Nov. 12th, 1902.

#### SOFT ELM WANTED.

Persons in a position to supply soft elm for the British market may learn of a prospective customer for large quantities by communicating with this office.

#### DOORS AND MOULDINGS

A large buyer of Canadian white pine doors and mouldings is open to contract with a mill for their entire output of No. 3 and 4, qualities of doors and all their mouldings during 1902. Write in first instance to "Empire," CANADA LUMBERMAN.

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