

but definite information is not obtainable. There is no doubt but that the tendency of square and waney timber prices is upwards. So far as immediate business is concerned, white cedar shingles are quiet. There is a considerable stock offering at from \$3.35 to \$3.40 for extras on Boston rate of freight, but it is significant to note that manufacturers and wholesalers are unwilling to accept orders for future delivery at any figure below \$3.50. The shingle market is feeling the benefit of the arrangement for the control of the British Columbia output, as during the past year competition from that source was quite severe.

UNITED STATES.

The lumber trade of the United States during the past week has been of moderate volume, though no very important sales are reported. Manufacturers are not urging sales and are unwilling to make any concessions in prices. Buying has not yet begun in earnest, but reports from the Lake Superior district state that dealers are feeling the market and that there is evidence of more activity in the near future. A number of lumber associations have recently held their annual meetings, and where the question of prices was discussed the feeling was strongly in favour of the maintenance of present prices. The Wisconsin Valley Lumbermen's Association advanced ten inch No. 3 and No. 4 pine, all widths, 50 cents, and 4 inch No. 3 \$1. No. 1 and 2, 6 inch, all lengths, were reduced 50 cents. The Southern Lumber Manufacturers' Association made a number of slight advances over the October list. Third clear finish was advanced \$1 a thousand, shiplap and common lumber 50 cents, and grooved roofing, surfaced one side, \$3. No. 1 mixed 4-foot lath were placed at \$3 to points where a freight rate of 23 cents is in effect. No changes were made by the North-Western Hemlock Association, the price list of August 28, 1903, being reaffirmed.

Hardwood prices are being well maintained, and while business is a little quiet at the present time the outlook is positively bright. There are no surplus stocks on hand, and as most of the consuming factories are now in operation, with prospects of continued activity for some months to come, there is reason to expect a heavy consumption of hardwood lumber. There may be a lack of demand from the car shops and railroads as compared to that of last year, but this will not be a serious matter. The demand for black ash exceeds the supply, and elm and basswood are as scarce as ever.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Buyers of lumber in Great Britain have for some time been predicting lower prices, but comparison shows that no important decline has as yet taken place. Certain it is that consumption is not all that could be desired, and that consumers are pursuing a very conservative policy with respect to purchases, but it is not unusual to find an apparently gloomy view taken at this season of the year, when many persons are anxious to contract for their lumber requirements on the most advantageous terms possible. We hear very favorable reports regarding waney and square pine, of which the stock on hand is very light. It is pointed out that during the past seven years the Clyde stocks of white pine timber have fallen from 19,400 loads to 7,300 loads. Best quality pine deals are held very firmly, prices ranging between \$30 and \$34 per S. Petersburg standard of

1,980 feet. The same may be said of spruce deals, of which the consumption, comparatively speaking, is quite large. The lower cost makes spruce lumber much favored for many purposes, and this will be more pronounced as the price of pine advances.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

The St. Croix Lumber Co., of Hartsville, N.S., expect to cut about 5,000,000 feet of lumber this year.

The St. Anthony Lumber Company, of Whitney, Ont., are putting in about 40,000,000 feet of logs this winter.

Gilman Bros. & Burden, of Pokiok, N.B., are conducting lumbering operations on the Oromocto River this winter, and expect to cut upwards of one million feet.

Shepard, Farmer & Company, of Boston, are reported to have contracted for the entire output of nine leading shingle mills of the Pacific Coast, including some British Columbia mills.

About a million feet of norway and white pine logs and several hundred cedar poles, which had been cut by trespassers, were offered for sale by auction at Crooks' on, Minnesota, on January 16th. The successful purchasers were Sprague & Hyland, of Winnipeg, Man.

J. P. Mosher, who is operating the rotary mill on the Knight property at Musquash, N.B., expects to manufacture about 1,500,000 feet of lumber this winter. At the spring two rotaries will be put in operation at the water mill, where about 7,000,000 feet of logs will be sawn.

The Department of Indian Affairs at Ottawa is asking for tenders up to February 10th, for the dead and fallen tamarac, jack pine, and birch timber on the Indian Reserve, No. 15 M, known as the Wild Land Reserve, which must be cut and removed within five years from date of acceptance of tender.

The lumber cut of the H. Witbeck Company, of Marinette, Wis., for the coming year, was last week sold to the Edward Hines Lumber Company, of Chicago. The price paid for the cut is said to have been about the same as last year. The transaction represents about 20,000,000 feet, of which 11,000,000 feet is white pine, 2,000,000 feet norway and 7,000,000 feet hemlock.

From Edmiston & Mitchell's Glasgow timber circular: The import of birch from Montreal and Quebec amounts to 2,350 loads of logs and 1,260 loads of planks, compared with 1,230 loads of logs and 1,940 loads of planks last year, while from the lower ports there arrived about 2,000 loads of logs and 3,000 loads of planks, against 2,200 loads last year. As has been the case for the past few years, the demand has been of the most languid kind, and except in the case of large prime logs, suitable for boarding purposes (which were never too plentiful and consequently brought full values), prices proved far from satisfactory to importers. These ranged in the case of Quebec timber from 1s. for small interior logs, up to 2s. 2d. for first-class 10-inch average, while for lower port logs current values have been from 14d. to 17d. per foot. Planks also proved dull of sale, and prices were for the most part round 1s. per foot. The stock on hand of both logs and planks consists chiefly of low port.

BUFFALO NOTES.

BUFFALO, Jan. 23, 1904.—The trade continues slow as is usual in winter.

The Buffalo hardwood merchants continue to find increasing difficulty in the securing of Canadian hardwoods, this being due, they say, to the large increase in the home demand and the consequent raising of prices. That they recognize the hopelessness of the situation is seen in the fact that to-day it is not possible to find more than one or two firms with representative buyers in Ontario, whereas three years ago that province was simply overrun with them.

The box manufacturers here are gradually turning their eyes towards Canada, the growing scarcity of box lumber at the head of the lakes, their formerly source of supply, being most marked.

A new concern, H. M. Poole & Company, has been formed here for conducting a lumber business, with capital of \$50,000. The directors, Henry M. Poole, Guy J. Buell, Gilbert L. Hume, Whitney G. Case and Moses Shires, are all experienced lumbermen and propose doing a large trade in hemlock.

THE BOSTON MARKET.

Spruce lumber is quiet at Boston, the cold and stormy weather of late having discouraged inquiry for the spring trade. The supply, however, is small, and prices are firm. Ten and 12 in. dimensions, \$21; 9 in. and under, \$19; 10 and 12 in. random lengths, 10 ft. and up, \$20.50; 2x3, 2x4, 2x5, 2x6, 2x7 and 3x4, 10 ft. and up, \$17.50; all other random, 9 in. and under, 10 ft. and up, \$18.50; 5 1/2 in. and up, merchantable boards, \$17; matched boards, \$18.50 to \$20; out spruce boards, \$13 to \$14; bundle furring, \$17.

Hemlock lumber is easy at quotations: Boards, 12, 14 and 16 ft. stock, \$14.50 for good eastern; Pennsylvania No. 1, \$18.50 to \$19.50; No. 2, \$15 to \$16.50.

Western pine lumber is steady and unchanged: Uppers, 1 to 2 in., \$84 to \$87; 2 1/2 to 3 in., \$92 to \$97; 4 in., \$96 to \$100; selects, 1-in., \$76; 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 in., \$76 to \$78; 2 in., \$78; 2 1/2 to 3 in., \$81; 4 in., \$86; fine common, 1-in., \$67; 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 in., \$69; 2 in., \$72; 2 1/2 to 3 in., \$80; 4 in., \$82; barn boards, \$23 to \$33; coffin boards, \$28 to \$32.

Hardwoods are generally easier, though sales are still being made within the range of quotations: Quartered oak, \$85 to \$92; plain oak, \$42 to \$45, common and rejects, \$20 to \$25; red oak, plain, \$43; whitewood, \$53 to \$55; sap, \$43 to \$48; common, \$39 to \$45; brown ash, \$41 to \$44; white ash, \$42 to \$46; maple, \$33 to \$37; end dried white maple, \$46; birch, \$27 to \$30; birch, 75 per cent. red, \$45 to \$50; northern elm, \$29 to \$31.

Clapboards are quiet: Extra, \$42 to \$44; clear, \$41; second clear, \$39; extra No. 1, \$38 to \$30.

Laths are firm: One and five-eighths in., \$3.40; 1 1/2 in., \$3.25.

Shingles are steady and unchanged: Extra cedar, \$3.35 to \$3.45; clear, \$2.90 to \$3; second clear, \$2.25 to \$2.40; extra, No. 1 \$1.50 to \$1.70; British Columbia red cedar,

16-in. five butts to 2 in., \$3.40 to \$3.50; 18 in. five butts to 2 in., \$3.70 to \$3.90; five butts to 2 1/2 in., \$4.10 to \$4.30.

BIRD'S EYE MAPLE.

Concerning maple lumber Messrs. Churchill and Sirr, of London, England, say: "This wood seems now to be quite out of fashion for picture frames, and its use for cabinet work is so small that a few logs each year suffice for all purposes. The consumption of plain hardwood for flooring purposes is steadily increasing, and this promises to be a large trade; logs were not wanted and only a few were sent; of planks the stock is still too heavy."

BROOM HANDLES

If an enterprising man with supplies of cheap spruce, Basswood or Poplar care to put in several machines to work broom handles we can take his output. Write in first instance to Empire, care of CANADA LUMBERMAN

WANTED

Fine Cutting common and better, 6 1/2 inches long and up, 4 in. and wider, 1 1/2 in. thick and thicker. State quantity and price for yearly supply from saw mills or factories.

FUEL LUMBER CO.

75 Victoria St. TORONTO, ONT.

Planing, Matching, Resawing, etc.
In Car Lots.

Manufacturer of

Doors, Sash, Mouldings, Ceilings

Rad-Matched and Bored HARDWOOD FLOORING
A SPECIALTY.

Lumber Dried in Any Quantity.

J. R. EATON - Orillia, Ont.

Correspondence Solicited.

TELEGRAPH POLES
WANTED

We buy all lengths. Write us for prices and you will see that by cutting your Cedar into Poles it will net you more than you can get out of it in any other way.

J. B. FARWELL & SON

Successors to M'Cahey & Farwell.

Orillia, Ont. Oswego, N. Y.

30 YEARS' EXPERIENCE IN FORESTRY

Expert Explorer and Practical Lumberman.
Reports on Timber Limits, Pulp Wood Lands, Water Powers, Rivers and Streams.

HIGHEST REFERENCES

Frederick N. Ritchie,
Dealer & Broker

Timber Limits and Pulp Wood Lands,
Lumber, Pulp Wood, Ties, etc.

Commercial Exchange: QUEBEC, Canada
131 St. Peter Street

BULMER, McLENNAN & CO.

WANTED: Basswood, Birch, Hard Maple, Rock
and Soft Elm Lumber

Office and Yard—571 Dorchester Street, MONTREAL, P. Q.

Telephone Main 388.

Correspondence Solicited