bridge that is now being built at Ottawa, to cross the Ottawa river at Nepean's Point. The material must be delivered by the 15th of March next. The contract will require over 1,000,000 feet.

The city of Hamilton, Ont., have awarded the contract for the annual supply of lumber to W. J. McAllister, at $12.63 per thousand.

FOREIGN.

A noticeable feature of the New York market is the shortage in both white and North Carolina pine box lumber.

The Erie railway has let contracts for the building of new docks at Buffalo, for which 1,700,000 feet of timber will be required.

At Buffalo there is a fair enquiry for box lumber, culls and shingles, but the higher grades of pine find very little sale. Although prices have not advanced, there is said to be a firmer tendency.

An advance of 50 cents has been made in the Minneapolis market on dimension and No. 2 and No. 3 boards. On March 1st it is expected that a further advance will be announced. The demand for shingles is better than at the same time last year.

At Tonawanda a little more activity is reported in cutting up stock and mouldings and better. Barn boards are moving readily. Box lumber is in fair demand, and promiscuous widths are growing scarce, so that before navigation opens there is likely to be a still further stiffening in values.

Concerning the Buffalo hardwood market, the Northwestern Lumberman says: There is considerable effort on the part of hardwood dealers to get in a good stock before the season opens, especially as so many of the best selling woods are not plenty, and there is a general expectation of higher prices before long. Some dealers report that they are selling very little outside of oak, especially since cypress became so dull and elm ran short.

Fine common and the better grades of shelving are in short supply at Albany. The list of stock on hand in that market gives 350,000 feet of dressing, of which only a small proportion is No. 1 grade. There is about the same quantity of box strips, which are in fair demand, particularly narrow box. Spruce is scarce, especially 1¼ x 9 in., the price of which has advanced nearly three dollars per thousand since October last. In shingles, pickets and lath there is little doing.

The following figures show the value of wood and manufactures thereof exported from Canada to the United States for the last four months of the years 1896 and 1897:

	1896.	1897.
September	$1,961,899	$1,010,208
October	1,639,707	1,053,525
November	1,600,504	979,434
December	952,893	770,438
Total	$6,155,004	$3,803,005

It must be remembered, however, that very large stocks were shipped to the United States during the spring of 1897, in order to escape the duty imposed by the Dingley Bill. This accounts in a large measure for the variation in the figures given above.

Churchill & Sims, London, Eng., say of the London market: Pine deals have been sold freely in London during January without much further weakening of the market, but at prices which ought to have been better from the shipper's point of view. There is no great reason why they should be even one point down here, as they never fully shared in the enhanced value of foreign deals during 1897. Spruce deals have been in capital demand throughout the month, but have been kept at almost the lowest level of the previous month by the weight of the stock to be disposed of. Oak, birch, elm, ash and white pine timber have been uniformly neglected, and the month ends with even lower current rates for them than in December.

Referring to the results of a public sale held by Churchill & Sims, London, Eng., the Timber Trades Journal says: The Oregon pine planks went from 11d to 1s 2d per cubic foot, at which price we should imagine shippers would not be anxious to repeat consignments unless they can get some assistance in reduced freights. This was, however, only a balance of a cargo, the remainder of it being sold on contract, and it is to be hoped shippers made their money out of that portion. The St. Thomas spruce of Price Brothers' shipment brought £8 10s and £9 for the 3 x 9 in., which, although reading low, is as good as could be expected considering the large quantity brought on the market last fall. The "Hazelmoor" Quebec pine 3rds went at £9, which again seems cheap, but the bulk of them were bought by one shrewd buyer who had probably had a look at them before, and knew exactly what he was buying.

THE AUSTRALIAN MARKET.

Fraser & Co., of Melbourne, Aus., in their monthly report of 13th January, say:

But little alteration has been experienced in the general conditions of the market since the issue of our last report on the 16th ultimo. The holidays customary at the season of the year having meanwhile intervened, operations have, therefore, been protracted; but since business has been resumed in the new year, there have been indications shown to enter into dealings of more importance, though buyers have been desirous to secure some concessions upon existing rates, which importers in most instances have been unwilling to entertain, owing to the advanced costs of shipments lately to hand and shortly arriving, and to the fact of still further increased figures being named at export centers, both in the f.o.b. and freight quotations for nearly every description of timber which is shipped to this market. In the course of the next few weeks, when business fixtures will likely be of a more general character in the whole colony, the necessity of purchasing, at least at current rates, will be more fully recognized, as there is but little prospect of present values declining, while, for reasons just stated, there is more probability of higher prices being manifested in the near future. The difficulty of obtaining tonnage for this port is now most pronounced, owing to the impossibility of procuring back loading from here for some time to come, and this factor alone must have the effect of enhancing timber values at no distant date, and so enable importers to obtain something over covering costs for their ventures, which, in many importations during the past year they were scarcely able to secure.

WINNIPEG LUMBER PRICES.

Winnipeg dealers have as yet made no changes in lumber quotations, although it is expected that an advance will shortly be decided upon. The following are the retail prices:

Dimension and Timber—No. 1 2x4 to 2x12, 12, 14 and 16 ft., $18.50; 18 ft., $19.50; 20 ft., $20.50; 22 ft., $21.50; 24 feet, $22.50; 3 x 6 to 3 x 12, 4 x 4 to 4 x 12, 6 x 6 to 6 x 12 and 8 x 8, 12, 14 and 16 ft., $20; 18 ft., $21; 20 ft., $22; 22 ft., $23; 24 ft., $24; 8 x 10 to 12 x 12, 12, 14 and 16 ft., $22; 18ft., $23; 20 ft., $24; 22 ft., $25; 24 ft., $26; 2 x 4, 10 ft., $20.50; 2 x 6 to 2 x 12, 10 ft., $18. No. 2 dimension, $2 less than No. 1. Dimension, 26, 28 and 30 ft., $26. Timber, 26, 28 and 30 ft., $28. $1 per M. advance on each inch over 12 inches in depth and width. Tamarac dimension same price as pine. Spruce dimension at $2 per M. less than pine. Cull plank, all widths at $12 per M. B. C. fir dimension up to 32 feet at $30 per M., 32 to 40 feet, $33. 40 to 60 feet $36. $1 per M. extra for each 2 in. over 12 in. in width or depth.

Boards—1st common red pine, $25, 2nd common, $18, 3rd common, $16. No. 1 cull, $12, No. 2 cull, $8; spruce, $16.00. $1.00 per M extra for stock boards. $2 per M. less for 10 ft. and under. No. 1 box boards, 14 in. and up, $30, No. 2 box boards, 14 in. and up, $26. Extra dressing $1.50 per M.

Siding, Flooring and Ceiling—2nd, 4, 5 and 6 inch, white pine $36; 3rd, 4, 5 and 6 inch white pine, $28; 1st and 2nd, 4, 5 and 6 inch red pine, $30; 3rd, 4, 5 and 6 inch red pine, $25; 4th, 4, 5 and 6 inch, red and white, $20; B. C. No. 1 fir, $32; B. C. No 2 fir, $29; B. C. No 3 fir, $26; B. C. spruce, $32; 4, 5 and 6 inch spruce, native, $20; 8 and 10 inch pine, $23; No. 1 cedar siding and ceiling, $36; No. 2 cedar siding and ceiling, $30; ½ inch cedar or fir siding and ceiling, $26. $1 per M. advance for dressing both sides.

Bevel Siding—No. 1 white pine, $26; No. 2 red and white, $23.

Shiplap—Pine, 6 inch, $18, 8 and 10 inch, $20; spruce, 8 and 10 inch, $19, 6 inch, $18; cull shiplap, $16.

Shingles—B. C. cedar, per M., No. 1, $2.50, No. 2 $2; B. C. cedar dimension shingles, $4; B. C. cedar dimension band sawed, $5; No. 1 pine, per M., $2.50, No. 2, $2, No. 3, $1.75.

Lath—Pine lath per M., $3.

Finishings—1¼, 1½ and 2 inch—White pine, 1st and 2nd clear, $65; 3rd clear, $55; selects, $45; shops, $36; red pine, clear, $40; selects, $32; B. C. cedar clear, $55; B. C. fir, clear and stepping, $45; $5 per M. advance on 2½ inch and thicker. One inch—White pine, 1st and 2nd clear, $60; 3rd clear, $48; selects, No. 1, $38; selects, No. 2 (extra 1st com.) $30; red pine, clear, $40; selects, $30; B. C. cedar, clear, $55.

Oak—Red and White—¼ sawed, $85; 1st and 2nd, $55 to $65; common, $40.

Mouldings and Base—Parting strips, 100 feet lineal, 60c.; lattice, ½ x 1½, 100 feet lineal, 75c., ¼ x 1¾, 100 feet lineal, 85c.; window and door stop, 1¼ inch lineal, $1.25; ditto, 2 inch lineal, $1.50; ¼ round and ⅞ cove, 75c; 1½ round mould, $1.50; 2 round mould, $1.75; 2½ round mould, $2; 3 round mould, $2.25; 3½ round mould, $2.50; 4 round mould, $2.75; 4½ round mould, $3; 5 round mould, $3.25; 6 round mould, $4; 5 round window stool, 1¼, $4.50; 6 round window stool, 1¼, $5.25; 4 round casings, $2.50; 5 round casings, $2.75; 6 round casings, $3.25; 8 round base, $4.50; 10 round base, $5.50; 12 round base, $7; hand rail, 2 x 4, $5; wainscot. cap, 2¼ inch, $2.35; 3 inch, $2.75; paper mould, 75c. Moulding made from 1¼ stock add 25 per cent.; 1½ add 50 per cent. Hardwood mouldings or mouldings to detail at special prices. All shop work at special net prices.

SHIPPING MATTERS.

The steamer Simonside has been chartered to load deals at St. John, N.B., for Hull, Eng., at 42s 6d.

The ship Asia has been chartered to carry lumber from Boston to Buenos Ayres at $8 per thousand feet.

The steamer Barcelona is loading a cargo of pulp wood, spars and deals at Halifax, N.S., for Liverpool.

The following charters are reported: Ship Asia, Boston to Buenos Ayres, lumber, $8; Keewaydin, Jacksonville to Barbados, lumber, $5.50; bark Madeline, Yarmouth, N. S., to Buenos Ayres.

FIRES.

Heffler & Webber's shingle and saw mill at Sackville, N.B., was burned recently. Loss $2,000; no insurance.

The saw mill of T. M. Reid at Cascades, Ont., was destroyed by fire last week, at a loss of $1,500. There was no insurance.

BUSINESS NOTES.

Magruder & Noone have commenced in the lumber business at New York.

Poole & Hotchkiss, lumber dealers, Buffalo, N. Y., have dissolved partnership.

J. P. Williams & Co., of New York City, have been incorporated, with a capital stock of $25,000.

The Rome Planing Mill Co., at Rome, N. Y., has been incorporated, with a capital stock of $20,000.

The planing mill and lumber yards of Blythe & Co., at Monongahela, Pa., are reported to have been seized by the sheriff. The assets are placed at $50,000.

The Eastman Lumber Co., of Eastman, Que., has been dissolved. L. D. Phelps retiring. The business will be conducted by the remaining partners under the old style.

The Moore Lumber Company, of Detroit, has filed notice that its property has been sold at private sale, the proceeds distributed among the stockholders, all claims paid, and the business wound up.—Lumberman's Review.

THE DEMAND FOR FURNITURE WOODS.

From the standpoint of demand, the hardwood business is in a strong position. The Timberman says that the most activity of demand is found in the furniture, agricultural implement, wagon and car factories. Moulding shops are having very fair business, considering that this is an off season with them. Particularly is this the case with picture frame moulding manufacturers. As far as house mouldings are concerned, the demand is increasing, and promises soon to be large.

The furniture business is a particularly interesting one just at this time. Reports are uniformly to the effect that the factories are well supplied with orders, and that practically all of them are running at full capacity. The principal furniture points in the west, like Grand Rapids, Chicago and Rockford, are blessed with numerous buyers, who are placing orders in a liberal way, which is in marked contrast to the condition of things for several years past. They are from all parts of the country—east, south and west. Running at their normal capacity, as they are, the furniture factories demand a large amount of material. Unfortunately for them and fortunately for hardwood manufacturers and dealers, their stocks are, for the most part, low.

A gentleman familiar with this branch of the trade, when asked in regard to the class of lumber that was going in furniture, said that in his opinion the consumption and consequently the purchase of furniture lumber was, as far as quantity is concerned, in relative importance as follows: Birch, oak, soft maple, soft elm, mahogany and ash.

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