

curtailing their operations in the woods this winter owing to the expense of logging, and it is predicted that the quantity of logs for next season's sawing will fall short of that of the past season. The weather so far has been favorable for logging, and, especially in New Brunswick, good progress has been made. Forecasts of wintering stocks of spruce deals indicate a reduction as compared with one year ago. There is very little life to the shingle market, extra cedars still ranging from \$3.35 to \$3.45 on Boston rate of freight.

MANITOBA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA.

From the standpoint of the manufacturer the lumber business of Manitoba and the Territories is not in a very satisfactory condition. Large quantities of low grade stock continue to be shipped in from the mills across the border and sold at cut-rate prices. As the present consumption is not large, this leaves but a small trade for the Canadian mill men. With the turn of the year more activity is expected and prices are likely to become steadier. Winnipeg is looking forward to another good building season next year. In British Columbia the local and export demand is keeping up remarkably well, but eastern shipments are dull. The new timber regulations are commanding a great deal of attention and some modification seems likely.

UNITED STATES.

The lumber trade of the past week has corresponded very closely with what was expected. There has been some buying of small lots, but in no respect has the demand been active. Winter building in the Eastern States is calling for considerable stock, and it is stated that a very light supply is being carried by retail dealers. Attention is now centred upon the balancing up of the year's business and upon the volume of lumber carried by manufacturers and dealers. There is a comparatively heavy stock of shop lumber in the Lake Superior district, but manufacturers are disposed to hold until the prices asked can be realized. No. 1 shop is held at the mills at \$40, No. 2 at \$31, and No. 3 at \$18. The scarcity of box lumber is general, no district reporting a large supply. In the Upper Wisconsin and Minneapolis districts the amount of piece stuff on hand is considered short of the probable spring demand. Norway pine is in light stock and held at firm prices. The general feeling in pine circles is that a steady volume of business at good prices will characterize the coming year. A large consumption of low grade boards is expected, in anticipation of which a number of orders have already been placed. Birch, soft elm and basswood lead among the hardwoods. Thick maple is wanted at Buffalo. In some markets ash is also scarce. The call for hemlock dimension and boards is naturally

quiet, but the market is firm and the outlook for the coming year considered bright.

GREAT BRITAIN.

In the British market orders for lumber have dropped to the lowest point of the year. This is due chiefly to the advent of the holidays, and until after the turn of the year business will continue very quiet. Some buying of Canadian pine and spruce is reported, as dealers and consumers are beginning to realize that prices of lumber in stock are low when compared with the prices asked by shippers for next season's supply. Prospects for next year are brighter than they were three months ago. While stocks generally are of an average volume, there is a scarcity of the better grades. A cargo of spruce from Dalhousie, N.B., recently reached Liverpool and was immediately purchased by James Halsall & Son. The price realized has not transpired. The supply of pine deals is concentrated in the hands of a few firms, who are said to have already made their engagements for next season at high prices. This would seem to guarantee the maintenance of present values for some time to come.

White Sea shippers are said to be asking £11 for third quality Archangel redwood deals. Agents have endeavored to close contracts on this basis, but it is reported that few transactions have taken place. Considerable sales to France and Belgium are announced.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

Fully 6,000 men are at work this season in the woods in the Rainy River district.

James Hoey is getting out about 800,000 feet of logs at Prince of Wales, in St. John county, N. B.

Rhodes, Curry & Company, of Amherst, N. S., intend to take out 5,000,000 feet of lumber on their Sheet Harbor property.

The Albion Lumber Company, of Moser River, N. S., expect to take out in the vicinity of 4,000,000 feet of logs this winter.

The United Lumber Company, Halifax, N. S., are taking out about 8,000,000 feet of logs for their Jordan River mills. About 10,000,000 feet will be cut on the St. Mary's property, lately purchased by Alfred Dickie, Lower Stewiacke, N. S.

The John Arbuthnot Company, of Winnipeg, has concluded negotiations for the purchase of the balance of last season's cut of lumber now in A. R. McLennan's yard at Wabigoon, Ont., and the whole of next year's cut of the same firm. The present stock is about 1,250,000 feet, and the 1904 cut will be 4,000,000 feet. Two million feet of logs are already in the water, left over from last season, and two camps are in operation on Long Lake.

There is not as much lumber in stock at

Buffalo to begin winter with as there was a year ago, but the trade all round is getting used to shortages, and there is much less difficulty from that direction than there used to be. Common grades of white pine are scarcer than they should be, on account of the great run made by the box factories. The middle grades are somewhat uncertain in price but the holder of them is gaining confidence and will no longer sell them at buyers' prices, as some have done during the fall. High-grade pine is quiet, but firm.

Eastern shingles are about steady at Boston on a basis of \$3.35 to \$3.45 for extras. The stock of shingles offering is very light at all points, but the feeling is so strong that the market in the spring will open at a higher level than the leading handlers are not inclined to accept any business for February or March delivery at a lower basis than \$3.50. Most of the small mills have cleaned up their entire holdings, and will have nothing to offer from now on except winter sawed stock.

During the season of navigation to December 1, there was entered at the custom house at Bay City, Mich., 104,354,596 feet of lumber, and at Saginaw 29,463,183 feet, making a total of 133,817,779 feet, and the 4,000,000 which came in since the first of the month makes the receipts about 138,000,000 feet, compared with 160,000,000 feet last year. There was shipped out during the season by lake only about 3,000,000 feet, compared with 858,000,000 feet during the season of navigation of 1882, showing the wonderful transformation in the lumber business of the Saginaw Valley in a score of years.

Under date of December 5th Messrs. S. P. Musson, Son & Company say of the Barbados market: "The only arrival has been the steamer "Viking," from Tusket Wedge, N.S., with about 40,000 feet of white pine and 156,000 feet of second quality spruce. Nothing has yet been done with the former, but the latter had been contracted for at \$20. Most of it, however, consists of 3 and 4 inch boards, which have been rejected and re-sold at \$15, any usual second quality being taken at the original price. We have 125,000 feet of white pine coming, and with the 200,000 feet second quality which is also expected, the wants of dealers are fairly provided for, and we rather expect that next arrivals will meet lower prices. No arrival of shingles has taken place since last report. Stocks of Laying Cedar are ample, but Long and Dimension Gaspe are saleable."

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.

TRADE OPENINGS.

The following was among the inquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the Canadian Government Office in London during the week ending 18th December, 1903.

An Irish dairy society desires to get in touch with parties in Canada who can supply them with small cut-up boards suitable for nailing into butter boxes.

The name of the firm may be obtained from the publishers of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.

NEW BRUNSWICK STUMPAGE DUES

The New Brunswick Government has given notice that pursuant to the new regulations made regarding crown timber lands, the following amounts are hereafter to be collected for stumpage:

On spruce, pine, fir, tamarac, and cedar logs, per thousand superficial feet.	\$1 25
Hardwood timber, up to an average of 14 inches square, per ton.	1 10
Hardwood timber, above 14 inches, additional inch, per ton.	0 10
Hardwood logs, per M superficial feet.	0 80
Pine timber, up to 14 inches square, per ton.	1 25
Pine timber, additional per inch, per ton.	0 25
Hemlock timber, per ton.	0 65
Spruce timber, per ton.	0 65
Cedar logs, per M superficial feet.	1 25
Or per M on the shingles sawed from same, the first three grades each.	0 16
Shaved shingles, per M.	0 25
Railway ties, ordinary length, each.	0 02 1/2
Boom poles, each.	0 02
Brackets, each.	0 01
Spruce or pine spars, for ships' masts, etc., per lineal foot.	0 01
Spruce or pine piling, per lineal foot.	0 00 1/2
Hemlock per M superficial feet, full scale.	0 40
Hemlock bark, per cord.	0 80
White birch logs, for spool wood, per M superficial feet.	0 80

And for all other description of lumber, such as knees, foot books, cordwood, etc., etc., fifteen per cent. of the market value thereof at the mill, place of shipment or place of consumption in the province.

The upset price for mileage on timber licenses will be twenty dollars per square mile, and the renewal mileage on timber licenses will be eight dollars per square mile.

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.

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FOR SALE.
 A number of very valuable pine and other timber lands on the north shore of Lake Huron and elsewhere for sale. Also lands bought and sold on commission and estimates given. For particulars, apply to
P. McDERMOTT,
 Box 177, South River, Ont.

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