

QUEBEC AND NEW BRUNSWICK.

Prices at Quebec for waney and square lumber are unchanged, as no sales are being placed. There has been, however, an appreciation in the value of pine timber, and contracts for this winter's production are likely to be made at higher prices than were realized for the output of the past season. There is abundant evidence that spruce lumber is strong. Dealers are showing a disposition to contract for the deal production of next year most regardless of price, while manufacturers are disposed to hold on until they are better able to judge as to the merit of the present advancing tendency. It is safe to say that spruce lumber will be a valuable asset in the early part of next year at least. New Brunswick cedar shingles are a trifle easier. While a few weeks ago manufacturers were asking \$1.65 for extras on Boston rate of freight, they are now willing to accept orders at \$1.60. It can hardly be expected that a price above this figure can be permanent-maintained. Lath prices are steady at \$1.40 for 1 1/2 inch and \$3.25 for 1 1/2 inch, Boston delivery. The mills are heavily oversold, which is likely to hold prices firm some time.

UNITED STATES.

The movement of lumber in some districts is active; in others it is rather quiet. In the western country there is a heavy demand for barn and corn crib stock, and the supply of 4 and 6-inch No. 2 and No. 3 common strips has been materially reduced. A scarcity of piece stuff and northern lumber is reported from several markets. On the whole, white pine prices are being well maintained. Sash and door manufacturers report that there is a growing surplus of No. 3 shop common. On everything above this grade, however, prices are strong and stocks comparatively scarce, with little prospect for any lower values for some time. Substitution of other woods has resulted in a lessened demand for No. 1 and No. 2 shop lumber sash and doors. At Duluth some sales of lumber have been made for delivery in the shipping season of 1903. This is said to be the earliest date that any sales for the coming year have been made in that market. It forecasts active buying for spring delivery during the next two months. Eastern spruce is firm, 10 and 12-inch dimension bringing \$18.50 to \$19.50 Bangor. Hardwoods are gaining on the point of activity. The lower grades are no longer a drag upon the market; in fact, everything in the hardwood line sells readily. Frequent predictions are heard that there will be a decided advance in prices before the close of the year. If in the eastern market there is one class of lumber that is not in line with the general side it is white ash. Inquiries for basswood are numerous, with the supply not equal to the demand.

GREAT BRITAIN.

There is a fair consumption of lumber in Great Britain and the market continues firm, although quiet. Stocks are not heavy and are firmly held for higher prices. The usual amount of house building is in progress, but the cabinet trade is in a depressed condition. Prices of first quality pine deals continue to stiffen, one or two parcels of specially wide average being recently been sold at very high prices. The stock of pine sidings is almost exhausted and prices are advancing. The same remarks apply to Quebec waney and oak. Ash is slightly

weaker, ranging from 18 8d to 2s per cubic foot.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

No. 1 mixed lath is selling in Chicago at \$3 to \$3.25.

The Dominion government is taking tenders for the construction of four ice piers at Richmond, Que.

The steamer Santa Marina last week brought a cargo of 350,000 feet of lumber from Ashland, Wis., to Port Colborne, Ont.

F. E. Neale, representing F. Harrison & Company, of Liverpool, England, expects to ship this season 41,000,000 feet of lumber from the Miramichi and 16,000,000 feet from Restigouche, N. B.

Fuerstenburg Bros., of Saginaw, Mich., last week bought 1,000,000 feet of log run white pine from Edmund Hall. The stock was manufactured at Sarnia, Ont., and is reported to have been bought at \$18.

In the Chicago market dry Norway piece stuff is scarce at \$16 for short and \$18 for long. Hemlock is in fair inquiry; prices at the mill ranging from \$10.50 to \$10.75 and in Chicago at from \$12 to \$12.25.

J. & T. Charlton are reported to have completed a deal whereby they become the owners of a timber tract of 170 square miles in the Spanish River territory, above Georgian Bay. The timber is composed mostly of white pine, and it is probable that a new mill will be constructed to manufacture it. It is understood to be the intention to operate the limits this winter.

The New Brunswick government will offer for sale on November 5th the following timber licenses: Six square miles on Young's Brook, branch of McCollum's brook; 3 miles on Alward's brook, branch of Canaan river; 2 miles on South Branch, Rider's brook; 3 miles at mouth North Branch, Cain's river; 3 miles on Lower Otter brook, Cain's river.

Wright, Graham & Company, of Glasgow, Scotland, quote the following prices in that market for Quebec deals and sidings: White pine deals, 1st quality, £34 to £37 16s 3d per standard; 11 in. £25 8s 9d to £28 10s; 7 in. to 10 in. £22 to £23 7s 6s; 7 in. and up by 6-9 ft., £18 11s 3d to £19 18s 9d. 2nd quality, broad, £22 to £23; 11 in. £20 to £21; 7 in. to 10 in. £15 16s to £16 10s; 7 in. and up by 6-9 ft. £13 to £14. 3rd quality, broad, £14 to £15; 11 in. £12 7s 6d to £13 5s; 7 in. to 10 in. £10 to £11; 7 in. and up by 6-9 ft. £8 5s to £9 12s 6d; 4th quality, broad, £10 13s to £11 6s 10d; 11 in. £10 to £10 10s; narrow, £8 5s to £9 5s. White pine sidings, £22 13s 9d to £24 15s per standard. Red pine deals, 9 and 11 in. by 3 and 4 in. £9 2s 6d to £9 12s 6d per standard; 7 to 10 in. by 3 in. £6 10s to £7 10s.

Messrs. S. P. Musson, Son & Company, under date of October 11, say of the Barbadoes market: "Only two small parcels of white pine lumber have arrived for the fortnight, one of 22,000 feet boards, which we placed at \$20.05 mixed quality; and another of 16,000 feet from Gaspé, Que., of better quality, sold at \$21.30. We value first cargo arriving in the neighborhood of \$24.50 for shipping and \$18.50 for seconds. In spruce the "Success" brought 90,000 feet, of which 50,000 feet were placed at \$19.10 round and balance at \$19.62. A cargo arriving should, we think, bring

about \$21 for shipping and \$17 for seconds. The schooner "Success" had 320,000 Long Gaspé cedar shingles, 35,000 of which, extra quality, brought \$4.90 to \$5; balance are being stored. She also brought 150,000 dimension shingles, which sold at \$4.10 for 4 inch, \$5.10 to \$5.20 for 5 inch, \$6.10 and \$6.25 for 6 inch, and \$7.25 for 7 inch; also 75,000 laying cedar, sold at \$1.75.

THE OTTAWA VALLEY.

(Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

Inquiry at the local railway offices reveals the fact that the shipment of lumber is slow, the scarcity of cars already reported still prevailing. This applies alike to Ottawa and lumber centers in the Ottawa Valley. One of the leading local yards is 200 cars behind in its orders. Business as a consequence of this difficulty in transportation and the scarcity of suitable stock, is quiet. It is generally acknowledged that the greater part of the present season's cut is off the market; the scarcity of cars alone delaying the shipment of that portion which is in shape for present movement.

Part of the cut of the Parry Sound mills is being forwarded over the Canada Atlantic Railway to points in New York and the New England States. This was contracted for or rather sold outright a year ahead. The completion of the spur line from the Canada Atlantic Railway into Parry Sound makes this route available this season for the first time.

An American buyer who was in the Capital recently, said that the scarcity of southern pine and cedar lath in Pennsylvania centres was the cause of the past year's brisk demand for the Canadian white pine article. The dealers pushed the alien lath for all it was worth, but the Ottawa visitor expressed a doubt whether or not the Canadian lath could retain possession of the Pennsylvania field once the southern brands recovered a portion of it. The presence of gum in the Canadian white pine lath does not find it favor in the mining state. There is said to be no gum in the southern pine or cedar and for this reason a preference is expressed for it.

The Ottawa market quotations in THE LUMBERMAN were submitted to several dealers to-day, but none of them felt justified in making a change. Business which opened brisk in September has for reasons already mentioned suffered a decline. On account of the scarcity of

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cars it is highly problematic whether the time honored fall rush immediately preceding the close of navigation will cut much figure this year. If business does not improve then prices are not likely to advance. It seems to be pretty well understood that high grade stock in and about Ottawa which has not already been sold, is being held for the winter trade. On account of the many railway connections and the greater freedom of rolling stock, this winter movement will probably be active. Dealers six weeks ago anticipated much greater business than is being transacted to-day.

An advance of ten per cent. on British quotations on waney and square timber was recently reported. Questioned as to the causes for this marked advance a prominent exporter stated that they were manifold. In the first place, many of the limits changed hands within the past twelve months at greatly enhanced values. The new owners to protect themselves have been compelled to make a proportionate advance on the price of the product of the limits. The second reason for the advance is the condition of the labor market, dealt with in these columns several times already. It is difficult to secure skilled and competent square timbermen and wages in the year have advanced from twenty to thirty per cent.

All kinds of fodder and provisions, with the exception of hay and oats, have also advanced, and this advance contributed another cause for the ten per cent. increase in selling price of square timber. The increased demand in the British market is a fourth reason quite as important as the others. It is just possible that a further advance on pending sales may be made.

No sales of limits or manufactured lumber have been reported since the last list appeared in the LUMBERMAN. There are no limits on the market, and the holders of such property are not desirous of selling except at a fancy figure, for the reason

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