

## Market Reports.

## TORONTO.

From Our Own Correspondent.

MARCH 9.—Our retail men have had their patience and purses well tried by the long and severe winter through which scarcely any business has been transacted, and they will all hail with delight the signs of renewed activity now near at hand. Little will, however, be done this month beyond preparations for active work next month. The number of buildings to be erected this season bids fair to out do any previous year, and will be of a better class than formerly built. Land is getting so valuable that it will not pay to put up the cheap class of tenements heretofore erected. Loan companies also are shy of advancing money to build houses that begin to fall to pieces over the heads of the first tenant; in fact better work will be demanded all around. The drainage and plumbing have hitherto been of a most disgraceful character in many of the cheaply put up houses, and this will have to be altered for sanitary reasons, and to avoid the constant waste of water during severe frosts.

Considering lumber is now coming, in by rail and brisk competition may be anticipated in the carrying trade of that kind of freight, between the G. T. R. and C. P. R., and in the scrimmage that ensues the lumbermen will get the benefit. Figures for bill stuff have a slight tendency upward. Short jointing and scantling which sold at the mills a month ago at \$8.50 to \$9.00 are now worth \$9.00 to \$9.50 per M. Of course the manner of inspection rules the price to a greater or lesser extent. Quite a number of the manufacturers try to palm off about 50% mill culls, and so are prepared to accept 50 per cent less per M by so doing. There should, however, be a uniform class of inspection; there would then be one uniform price or nearly so. Most of the mill men admit there is a class of lumber called mill culls, but when asked to define what constitutes a mill cull the education of many of them in that line will be found to be lamentably deficient. The writer heard of one who when asked what a mill cull was said: "Well, a mill cull is a mill cull and that is all there is about it." The coarseness of the case is, as the quality and quantity of our timber decreases, year after year, so does the ideas of our mill men go up as to grading. I do not say this is universally the case, but it is so in many instances. Shingles and lath are not so plentiful as they were in the fall and will command \$2.10 to \$2.15 at the mill for the former, and \$1.50 to \$1.55 for the latter. When the mills get into operation, however, I presume prices will come down 10 to 15 cents on both.

Mill cut boards and scantling	\$10 00
Shipping cut boards, miscellaneous widths	12 00
Stocks	14 00
Scantling and joist, up to 10 ft.	15 50
" " " 10 ft. to 12 ft.	16 50
" " " 12 ft. to 14 ft.	17 00
" " " 14 ft. to 16 ft.	18 00
" " " 16 ft. to 18 ft.	19 00
" " " 18 ft. to 20 ft.	20 00
" " " 20 ft. to 22 ft.	21 00
" " " 22 ft. to 24 ft.	22 00
" " " 24 ft. to 26 ft.	23 00
" " " 26 ft. to 28 ft.	24 00
" " " 28 ft. to 30 ft.	25 00
" " " 30 ft. to 32 ft.	26 00
" " " 32 ft. to 34 ft.	27 00
" " " 34 ft. to 36 ft.	28 00
" " " 36 ft. to 38 ft.	29 00
" " " 38 ft. to 40 ft.	30 00
Cutting up planks to dry	24 00
boards	20 00
Sound dressing stocks	18 00
Picks Am. inspection	25 00
Three uppers, Am. inspection	35 00
" " " B. M.	40 00
1 1/2 inch flooring, dressed	30 00
" " " rough	10 00
" " " dressed	25 00
" " " undressed	15 00
" " " dressed	22 00
" " " undressed	16 00
3 Beaded Sheeting, dressed	22 50
Clapboarding, dressed	14 00
XXX sawn shingles, M.	2 75
Sawn lath	2 75

## MONTREAL.

From Our Own Correspondent.

MARCH 9.—There is as yet no appreciable change in this market, as the spring trade cannot be said to have opened and will not do so till about the first of April, but that trade is likely to be good on account of the extensive building trade which is being prepared for. The Ottawa markets are hardly so stiff as they were earlier in the season, and merchants there do not seem so confident of high prices as they

were when snow was scarce and the roads at the shanties unfavorable for lumbering. Now the roads are good and there is every probability of as much lumber being got out as usual. In our market the stock of low grade lumber is rather large, while the better grades are not to say too small, but fully equal to the prospective demand. Prices here are unchanged, and we continue to quote ex yard as under.

Pine, 1st quality, M.	\$35 00
Pine, 2nd, M.	22 00
Pine, shipping culls, M.	14 00
Pine, 5th quality deals, M.	10 00
Pine, mill culls, M.	7 00
Spruce, M.	10 00
Hemlock, M.	8 00
Ash, run of log culls out, M.	20 00
Bass, M.	12 00
Oak, M.	40 00
Walnut, M.	60 00
Cherry, M.	25 00
Butternut, M.	25 00
Birch, M.	25 00
Hard Maple, M.	25 00
Lath, M.	75¢
Shingles, 1st, M.	3 00
Shingles, 2nd, M.	2 50

## CORDWOOD.

Pretty free supplies are being received by the railways, while the retail demand for the past week has been lighter than usual. The imports are expected to continue to be on a liberal scale, as railways now are consuming coal, having substituted it for wood. We still quote at the railway stations ex cartage.

Log, Maple	\$ 6 00
Long Birch	5 50
Long Beech	5 00
Tamarack	4 50

## BOSTON.

The *Journal of Commerce* of March 7th says: Business has not opened yet for spring, and the prospect has not developed itself. Eastern lumber is naturally quiet, with the arrival of an occasional cargo only. Orders for spruce have come in quite fairly. Western pine is dull, especially the coarser grades. Prices on selects and fine commerce are firm. Yellow pine is very dull for timber, with flooring and step plank in moderate request. In hardwoods there is a fair demand for walnut, cherry and whitewood.

SELECTS, DRESSED	\$48 00
Shelving, Dressed, 1st.	40 00
" " " 2nd.	33 00
Dressed Shippers	27 00
Dressed Box	18 00
Sheathing, 1st quality	42 00
" " 2nd	34 00

## CHICAGO.

AT THE YARDS.

The *Northwestern Lumberman* of March 7th says:—The continuance of warm weather has caused a marked increase in the movement of lumber. Local consumption has begun in earnest, so that the call on yard stocks from the contractors and carpenters, has become an important feature of trade. Yards that cultivate such business are busy loading wagons for delivery at building sites, some of them being actually crowded with orders. The urgency is, no doubt, greater on account of the fact that the frost is rapidly coming out of the roadways, and soon the mud will prevent hauling.

There is now sufficient movement of lumber to make some test of prices, but, as yet, there appears to be a degree of uncertainty. A careful inquiry fails to elicit the acknowledgement that cutting is done to the extent of more than 50 cents to a \$1 a thousand on common lumber. On the most desirable dimension the concession is generally about 50 cents a thousand, and on sizes that are druggery, \$1 is knocked off. All 12-foot lumber is wanted and comparatively firm of price. Twelve inch common boards are good property, and box boards are scarce and firm. No. 2 fencing is about as weak as any kind of lumber, and 12, 14, 16 and 20 foot fencing of first quality never sells up to the list price; it is quoted at \$13 a thousand, while nobody pretends to ask but \$12.50 for it. Selects and thick uppers sell below the printed list issued by the trade, but it is thought that the tone of prices on these classes of lumber will "firm up," as the season progresses. Inch finishing lumber is fairly firm, with little concession.

There is some disappointment about the selling prices of shingles. Some houses quote standards as low as \$2.10 to \$2.15, but the majority say that \$2.15 to \$2.20 is as low as they can be bought in quantities. It is thought unnecessary to change our quotations on shingles

to conform to some sales between yards that may be lower than quotations. For the same reason the general list in the *Lumberman* is permitted to stand until a further revival of trade has developed a more positive range. It is believed that the list now appearing is not widely divergent from prices made to customers on mail orders. It is yet to be seen what the anxious drummer will do when he grapples with the like kidney from the middle river and the North.

In regard to prices at this season it must be taken into consideration that some stocks are being closed out entirely, and that as a consequence, low prices are sometimes made to the trade. Such special terms must not be taken as a test of values in actual distribution, though it must be confessed that they tend to weakness all along the line. It is evident, however, that proprietors of yards that are closing out are not inclined to slaughter their property to that degree that some expected. They think that lumber in pile at this season should bring a price not greatly below that asked by the general trade.

## STOCK ON HAND FEB. 1.

	1885.	1884.
Lumber & timber	\$59,442,064	\$53,228,966
Shingles	\$33,389,025	\$37,745,250
Lath	\$7,824,792	\$2,506,999
Pickets	\$2,977,264	\$1,616,999
Cedar posts	478,484	453,436

## FREIGHT RATES TO EASTERN PORTS.

In effect from Nov. 15th, 1884, to March 1st, 1885, on pine, hard and soft-lumber, lath, shingles and logs, in car loads, per 100 pounds.

Chicago to—	New York and common points, per 100 pounds	32c.
Albany		29c.
Boston and common points		37c.
Philadelphia		30c.
Baltimore		29c.
Washington		29c.
Buffalo and Pittsburgh		18c.
Erie, Pa.		18c.
Dunkirk, N. Y.		18c.
Troy		29c.
Schenectady		29c.
Wheeling		18c.

## ALBANY.

Quotations at the yards are as follows:—	
Pine, clear, M.	\$55 00
Pine, fourths	50 00
Pine, selects	45 00
Pine, good box	22 00
Pine, common box	13 00
Pine, 10-in. plank, each	00 42
Pine, 10-in. plank, culls, each	00 23
Pine boards, 10-in.	00 28
Pine, 10-in. boards, culls	00 16
Pine, 10-in. boards, 16 ft., M.	28 00
Pine, 12-in. boards, 16 ft.	28 00
Pine, 12-in. boards, 13 ft.	23 00
Pine, 13-in. siding, select	40 00
Pine, 14-in. siding, common	20 00
Pine, 1-in. siding, select	42 00
Pine, inch siding, common	15 00
Spruce, boards, each	00 00
Spruce, plank, 12-in., each	00 00
Spruce, plank, 2-in., each	00 00
Spruce, wall strips, each	00 12
Hemlock, boards, each	00 00
Hemlock, joist, 4x6, each	00 00
Hemlock, joist, 2x6, each	00 00
Hemlock, wall strips, 2x6, each	00 00
Black walnut, good, M.	100 00
Black walnut, 1 inch	80 00
Black walnut, 2 inch	00 00
Scaymore, 1 inch	30 00
Scaymore, 2 inch	23 00
White wood, 1 inch and thicker	33 00
White wood, 2 inch	30 00
Ash, good, M.	40 00
Ash, second quality, M.	25 00
Cherry, good, M.	60 00
Cherry, common, M.	25 00
Oak, good, M.	40 00
Oak, second quality, M.	30 00
Basswood, M.	25 00
Hickory, M.	40 00
Maple, Canada, M.	28 00
Maple, American, per M.	26 00
Chestnut, M.	38 00
Shingles, shaved, pine, M.	0 00
" " 2nd quality	0 00
" " extra, sawed, pine	4 50
" " clear	0 00
" " cedar, mixed	0 00
" " cedar, XXX	0 00
" " hemlock	0 00
Lath, hemlock, M.	0 00
Lath, spruce	0 00

## OSWEGO, N.Y.

Three uppers	\$42 00
Picking	32 00
Cutting up	22 00
Fine Common	10 00
Common	14 00
Gills	11 00
2nd run lots	18 00
Sfjigs, selected, 1 in.	30 00
" " 1 1/2 in.	32 00
Mill run, 1x10, 13 to 16 ft.	16 00
Selected	21 00
Shippers	14 00
Mill run, 1x10	17 00
Selected	21 00
Shippers	14 00
Mill run, 1 & 1 1/2 in. strips	15 00
Selected	22 00
Culls	11 00
1x7 selected for clapboards	25 00
Shingles, XXX, 18 in. pine	4 00
Cedar	3 00
Lath, No. 1	4 00
No. 2	1 75

## BUFFALO.

We quote cargo lots:—

Uppers	\$45 00
Common	17 00
Culls	13 50

## TONAWANDA.

CARGO LOTS—MICHIGAN INSPECTION.

Three uppers	\$45 00
Common	15 00
Culls	13 00

## LIVERPOOL.

The *Timber Trades Journal* of Feb. 28th says:—Had it not been for the public sales of timber and mahogany, there would have been but little to interest your readers, for the business of the past week has been upon a very limited scale, if we can judge from the small amount of timber, deals, etc., lying at the various wharves for transhipment to the country districts. The reports from the manufacturing districts continue to be of a doleful character; orders continue to be small in extent and prices cut down to the lowest margins.

On Friday the 20th inst., Messrs. Alfred Dobell & Co., offered a portion of the cargo of hewn pitch pine per Sirian Star, from Apalachicola, consisting of about 209 logs and 243 deals. The company present was composed chiefly of the local trade. Prices ranged from 14d. to 19d., averaging about 16d. per foot for the timber, whilst the deals sold at 11d. per foot.

Messrs. Duncan, Ewing & Co., immediately afterwards offered the entire cargo of hewn pitch pine timber and deals ex Choice, from Apalachicola, to the same company, and cleared it out at prices ranging from 13d. to 19d. per foot, averaging about 15d. per foot for the logs, and 10d. to 11d. for the planks. Several lots of teak planks were sold at from £14 10s. to £14 15s. per load, and it is understood that the lots withdrawn were subsequently sold by private treaty.

On Wednesday, the 25th inst., Messrs. Farnworth & Jardine offered the cargo of sawn pitch pine timber now landing, ex Voeni, from Pensacola, and, with the exception of a few lots, it was sold at from 13d. to 17d. per foot, averaging about 14 13-16d.

It having been suggested to the Mayor of this city (Alderman D. Radcliffe) that an exhibition of appliances used in "navigation, travelling, and commerce" might not only be of immediate benefit to this port, but might tend to its permanent advantage, he issued a private circular to the most prominent citizens, asking their attendance at a private meeting at the Town Hall to consider the subject. In response to this invitation a large and influential meeting was held in the City Hall on Monday, at which all the chief interests of the port were represented, and after an able address by his Worship, which was very cordially received, the following resolution proposed by Mr. Christopher Bushell, and seconded by Colonel McCorquodale, was passed unanimously.

"That in the opinion of this meeting the proposal to hold an exhibition in Liverpool next year, of navigation, travelling, and commerce, with a complete collection of Lancashire products, is deserving of hearty approval and support."

According to the private circular, a prominent feature in the proposed exhibition would be a complete collection of imports; hence it will be of considerable interest to those engaged in the timber trade of this port; and it is to be hoped, when the scheme is more fully developed, we shall see a greater amount of interest shown in the project, by all wood producing countries than was the case in the recent Forestry Exhibition held in Edinburgh, where some of the principal sources of our timber supplies, notably our North American Colonies, were lamentably weak.

## LONDON.

The *Timber Trades Journal* of Feb. 28th says:—Things at Messrs. Churchill & Sims' sale on Wednesday went somewhat better, and though this apparent activity was limited to the small parcels likely to go cheap, it was still a welcome change to the monotonous character the public sales have for some time past assumed.

There were plenty of buyers present who