

Market Reports.

TORONTO.

From Our Own Correspondent.

APRIL 23.—Sales from the yards continue fair and stocks have been kept up to a fair average. The only grades, or kinds, at all hard to obtain are 1½ cut and better, and bills cut to order. The latter will soon be easier to fill as most mills will be running as soon as May comes in, and the cut for 1886 will be larger than for some years past. The cut of hemlock also will exceed that of former years. This class of lumber is now coming into more general use, the prejudice existing in the past against this kind of lumber is fast dying out, and if the railway companies would only take a common sense view of the matter, and make a special tariff to suit this class of lumber there could be a much larger amount placed on the local market, but as it stands now it is quite impossible to freight green cut hemlock by weight at 9 cents per hundred weight. There is large tracts of hemlock yet uncut in localities where the pine is all gone, which would find a ready market under an reduced rate of freight. It is to be hoped that the companies interested will shortly see their way clear to give their customers a reduction on this class of wood, of at least one-third, and they would still come out the gainers.

Vessels are rapidly moving away what dry lumber there was piled on docks here during the winter months. Messrs. Rathbun & Son, of Deseronto, hold a large portion of the lumber on the docks, so that a nearly clean sweep will take place when they have shipped out. The firm of Donogh & Oliver have also a large stock on their docks. A large portion of their operations are confined to this market so that they generally fill up as fast as sales are made.

A number of timber vessels have been loading here this week, the constant repetition of their shrill whistles connected with the engines on board have made things seem quite lively. A large amount of elm and ash timber will go to Quebec from here, and some fine line board timber, and had the P. J. Railway started running in time for this season's work, a much larger quantity would have found its way here.

Lath and shingles are now both in fair demand; figures are not, however, as satisfactory as could be wished for. The best paying figures now going on this market is for 18 and 20 ft. bill stuffs, which rules \$1.50 per M above 16 ft. lengths. These prices will, doubtless, be modified when more mills start up.

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| Mill cut boards and scantling... | \$10 00 |
| Shipping cut boards, promiscuous widths... | 12 00 |
| Stocks | 13 00 |
| Scantling and joist, up to 16 ft. | 13 00 |
| " " " " 18 ft. | 14 00 |
| " " " " 20 ft. | 15 00 |
| " " " " 22 ft. | 16 00 |
| " " " " 24 ft. | 17 00 |
| " " " " 26 ft. | 18 00 |
| " " " " 28 ft. | 19 00 |
| " " " " 30 ft. | 20 00 |
| " " " " 32 ft. | 21 00 |
| " " " " 34 ft. | 22 00 |
| " " " " 36 ft. | 23 00 |
| " " " " 38 ft. | 24 00 |
| " " " " 40 to 44 ft. | 25 00 |

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| Cutting up planks to dry... | 10 00 |
| boards | 20 00 |
| ound dressing stocks | 16 00 |
| Picks Am. inspection | 50 00 |
| Three uppers, Am. inspection | 55 00 |

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|---------------------------|-------|
| 11-inch flooring, dressed | 26 00 |
| " " " " rough | 14 00 |
| " " " " dressed | 23 00 |
| " " " " undressed | 14 00 |
| " " " " dressed | 10 00 |
| " " " " undressed | 12 00 |
| Beaded Sheeting, dressed | 18 00 |
| Claiboring, dressed | 12 00 |
| XXX sawn shingles, M. | 2 75 |
| Sawn Lath | 25 00 |
| Red oak | 20 00 |
| White | 25 00 |
| Blackwood, No. 1 & 2 | 18 00 |
| Cherry, No. 1 & 2 | 50 00 |
| White ash 1 & 2 | 25 00 |
| Pack ash 1 & 2 | 20 00 |

OTTAWA.

From Our Own Correspondent.

APRIL 24.—The unprecedented warm weather has had the effect of opening up all the streams in this neighborhood, and now the driving of logs and timber is in full blast on nearly all the creeks and small rivers of the Upper Ottawa. In conversation with Mr. D. A. Martin, man-

ager for Messrs. Bronson & Weston, he said that in his thirty years experience he never saw a more favorable season for getting the winter's cut to the market. He had been on an extensive tour through the firm's works on the Upper Ottawa, and while the small streams are all open and the driving is in full progress, yet in the green bush there is fully three feet of snow, and a very heavy coating of ice, so that a most bountiful supply of water is assured. This state of things is shared in all the vast territory of the Upper Ottawa over which the lumbermen have been operating for the past winter, so that the probability is that more logs will be brought to the Chaudiere booms this year than ever before, because all cut will be got safely down, and more left by low water, as is case in the average year past.

On the 26th the mills in this locality all open for the season, which is many days in advance of last year. The most ample preparations have been made for the event and nearly all the mills will run day and night to supply the large orders already booked. For the past few days barges have been loading up with their freights for the south and east, and the hum of the great lumber industry is once more a moving living factor in our midst.

The preliminary survey of the extension of the Canada Atlantic railway to the different lumber yards has been completed and now workmen are busily employed in the work of construction. When the road is completed it will be a great boon to the lumbermen, affording as it will the readiest means of shipment, and will greatly lessen the expense attendant on the handling of the lumber. It is expected that in about two months time the extension will be finished and in working order.

It is feared that our Government is altogether too apathetic in the matter of protecting our forests against the encroachments of the Michigan men, who are quietly getting possession of some of our best lands on the north shore of Lake Superior, as well as in the Nipissing district. They do not seem to realize that the pine growth of that vast region is its chief wealth, and should be protected by an increased export duty on logs. The argument that it is difficult to collect an export duty on logs does not apply to this region at all, for it would be utterly impossible to evade the duty, owing to the means the Americans will employ in transporting their logs to their Michigan mills. As I stated some months ago immense barges are to be employed for the purpose, and as the points at which logs can be shipped in this manner are limited in number the difficulty of appraising the export duty would be confined to the minimum, so that but a few more officials would be necessary to carry out the instructions of the Government satisfactorily. There can be no question but if the Government took the precautions which they should take in the matter of protecting our forests for the benefit of our own people, there would be a revolution in things and instead of those logs being sawed by Michigan saws the limit holders would find it advantageous to erect mills on this side of the boundary.

MONTREAL.

From Our Own Correspondent.

APRIL 26.—The lumber market since our last report, and especially during the past week, has been very quiet. It, in common with every other branch of trade, has felt the effects of our unprecedented spring flood. The water began to rise on Friday the 16th inst., and reached its greatest height on Monday; many of the streets in the lower part of the city being covered to a depth of from five to seven feet, some even eight feet. On Tuesday a shova took place, and after that the water quickly lowered.

The demand at the yards has been slight, but a good improvement is expected this week. Car load business, however, has been very fair. The total business done this month was much less than that of March.

Prices remain unchanged.

The following are the quotations at the yards:—

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| Pine, 1st quality, M. | \$35 00 |
| Pine 2nd | 23 00 |
| Pine, shipping culls, M. | 14 00 |
| Pine 4th quality deals M. | 10 00 |

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| Pine, mill culls, M. | 7 00 |
| Spruce, M. | 10 00 |
| Hemlock, M. | 9 00 |
| Ash, run of log culls out, M. | 20 00 |
| Base | 18 00 |
| Oak, M. | 40 00 |
| Walnut M. | 60 00 |
| Cherry, M. | 80 00 |
| Hickory, M. | 55 00 |
| Birch, M. | 20 00 |
| Hard Maple, M. | 25 00 |
| Lath, M. | 1 00 |
| Shingles, 1st, M. | 2 00 |
| Shingles, 2nd, M. | 2 50 |

CORDWOOD.

The following are the quotations at the

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|----------------------|---------|
| Long Maple, per cord | \$ 6 00 |
| Long Birch | 0 00 |
| Long Beech | 5 00 |
| Tamarack | 5 00 |

OSWEGO, N.Y.

From Our Own Correspondent.

No change can be made in quotations. The demand has very materially slackened since the labor troubles commenced. We are not free from the evil of the operations of the K. of L. here, one of the M. W.'s appeared here last Sunday and organized a branch, initiated the longshoremen and sailors unions, put three to four hundred dollars in his pocket and left on Monday. This K. of L. business is supporting a few of the leaders in good style at the expense of the poor people from whom the money must come.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Three uppers | \$42 00 |
| Picking | 32 00 |
| Cutting up | 24 00 |
| Fine Common | 22 00 |
| Common | 14 00 |
| Culls | 11 00 |
| Mill run lots | 18 00 |
| Sidings, selected, 1 in | 30 00 |
| " " " " 1 1/2 in | 32 00 |
| Mill run, 1x10, 13 to 16 ft. | 18 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 |
| 1x6 selected for clapboards | 25 00 |
| Shingles, XXX, 13 in. pine | 3 10 |
| XXX Cedar | 2 75 |
| Lath 1/2, No 1 | 1 85 |
| No 2 | 1 00 |
| Ash, 1st & 2nd 1 to 4 in | 16 00 |
| Blackwood, 1st & 2nd, 1 & 1 1/2 inch | 18 00 |
| culls | 8 00 |

CHICAGO.

BY THE CARGO.

The Northwestern Lumberman of April 24th says:—During the six days ending with Wednesday, April 21st, 51 cargoes of lumber arrived in port. This showing is sharply in contrast with that of last year for a corresponding week, when there were not half a dozen arrivals all told. During a like week in 1884 there were 98 arrivals.

The lumber that has come by lake thus far has mostly gone direct to the yards. This week one commission house sold two cargoes of Manitowish and White Lake green dimension, the ordinary length going at \$9.75, and a quantity of 3x12-16 in each cargo selling for \$11 and \$11.50. A quantity of selects brought \$26 a thousand, according to report. Mill culls have been sold on the market, to the extent of several jags, at \$7.50 to \$8. A load or two of cedar shingles, considerably off grade, were sold, but at private terms. Medium stock has been sold to arrive at prices reported to be \$1 better than last year at the season's opening, \$14.50 being the price named on some sales.

As yet there have not been enough cargo transactions to make a market. The disposition of the yard dealers is to buy little or nothing for the present. May 1st is the time for taking inventories in the yards. It is now so near that date that few want to take on more stock until the inventories are complete. Besides, it is plain that the jobbers and manufacturers are wide apart in their views. They usually are in the spring, but this year there seems to be less than the usual margin between cargo and yard prices. While this is the case, the yard men now have a strong motive for holding off about making purchases on account of the dubious condition of labor affairs. And, as a matter of fact, there is less dry lumber to be thrown on the market than there was last year. Green lumber will not come forward freely until the mills are all in full blast. Mills that have not already begun operations will not, in most instances, be started before May 1st.

Lake freight rates are on a basis of \$1.25 a

thousand on dry lumber from Muskegon, \$1.37½ from Ludington, and \$1.50 from Manistee.

AT THE YARDS.

Trade is but moderate. The urgency of demand that was a feature of March business has departed. The great yards that have to sell lumber or do worse are still sending out long trains, but the yards of smaller capacity are not now making any special effort to crowd sales. The present condition is peculiar. Stocks are so much broken, and values in the yard correspond so nearly with those at the mills that holders of medium sized stocks have no motive to urge business. When they undertake to scalp for assortments they have to pay about as much for lumber as they can sell it for. The outlook is also a little uncertain. Merchants are not sure as to how serious labor disturbances are to be. They also begin to figure on crop prospects, and future prices for farm products. They are simply in a condition of "don't know," and see no loss in waiting until their minds are clearer. At the same time business is moving along in a steady fashion, a large amount of lumber in the aggregate going into distribution. Dry stocks all over the country being broken in assortment, there is a demand, as a matter of necessity, for lumber held in this city. It is going in all directions—often north, right into the heart of producing districts, to patch up assortments.

Receipts of lumber and shingles for the week ending April 22nd, as reported by the Lumberman's Exchange:—

| | RECEIPTS. | Lumber. | Shingles. |
|------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| 1884 | 28,814,000 | 2,847,000 | |
| 1885 | 4,831,000 | 1,016,000 | |

FROM JAN. 1, TO APRIL 22, INCLUSIVE.

| | RECEIPTS. | Lumber. | Shingles. |
|------|-------------|------------|-----------|
| 1884 | 113,577,000 | 25,492,000 | |
| 1885 | 55,513,000 | 10,093,000 | |

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| Increase | 58,064,000 | 9,599,000 | |
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STOCK ON HAND APRIL 1.

| | 1884. | 1885. |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Lumber & timber | 596,147,654 | 432,442,084 |
| Shingles | 298,662,080 | 223,422,800 |
| Lath | 43,065,153 | 35,073,175 |
| Pickets | 1,824,840 | 1,865,742 |
| Cedar posts | 379,971 | 167,674 |

EASTERN FREIGHT RATES.

FROM CHICAGO AND COMMON POINTS ON CAR LOAD LOTS OF HARD AND SOFT LUMBER.

| | |
|------------------------|------|
| To New York | 25c. |
| Boston | 30c. |
| Philadelphia | 23c. |
| Baltimore | 23c. |
| Washington | 23c. |
| Albany | 23c. |
| Troy | 23c. |
| Buffalo and Pittsburgh | 23c. |
| Shenectady | 23c. |
| Wheeling | 23c. |
| Suspension Bridge | 18c. |
| Salamanca | 18c. |
| Black Rock | 18c. |
| Dunkirk | 18c. |
| Erie | 18c. |
| Toronto | 15c. |

AUSTRALIA.

Messrs. Lord & Hughes' monthly circular, dated Melbourne, March 20th, says:—

Since our last, on 22nd ult., we have to advise the heaviest arrivals of every description of timber and building materials we have ever had in any one month, with the result of lower prices and greater difficulty of making sales, even at such lower prices; the fact is, the trade are so fully stocked that they purchase most reluctantly, their difficulty being enhanced by the inability of obtaining drayage and fire insurance. We can look for no improvement in prices until there is a great falling off in imports.

The trade from the timber yards continues good, with no evidence of any falling off. Builders are all actively employed, and with every prospect of continuing so for some time to come.

The Howard, from Saguenay, with cargo of Canadian lumber for this port, is stranded at Ringarooma Bay, N. E. coast of Tasmania.

RED DEALS.—Imports: 91,332 pieces from the Baltic, and 15,559 pieces from London. The arrivals have been Nanna, Jotun, and Aurora, from Gefle; Albert Ehrensvord, from Gothenburg; Ilos, from Arendal; Atlantic, from Skutskar (via Adelaide); Lorelei, from Frederickstad; Manleaden, Bankfields, Eusemere, and Marsala, from London. The Albert Ehrensvord's cargo came to the order of one of the trade and has gone direct into stock. The Atlantic's cargo was sold privately, to arrive,