

Market Reports.

MONTREAL.

From Our Own Correspondent.

OCTOBER 24th.—Since the date of our last report the lumber trade has been quiet, but as the water at Ottawa has risen very considerably there have been more importations, and stocks are now pretty full, which has helped to prevent an advance in prices. In another fortnight the season for receiving lumber by water will be over for this year, when some change in quotations is looked for. There has been very little demand for building lumber of late, as builders are beginning to close operations for the time being, and what is required for the winter for completing buildings has been contracted for some time ago. Only three cargoes of lumber have been shipped since the 10th inst., viz., to London, 590,000 ft., and to Buenos Ayres, 794,714 ft. Two vessels are now loading for South American ports. The total shipments to the River Plate since the opening of navigation up to date were 9,182,337 ft., against 7,359,174 ft., being an increase of 1,923,163 ft. For building lumber, on yard, we continue to quote:—

Pine, 1st quality, 2 M.	852 00	24 00
Pine, 2nd " " "	13 00	24 00
Pine, shipping culls, 2 M.	12 00	15 00
Pine, cut deals, 2 M.	8 00	10 00
Pine, mill culls, 2 M.	6 00	8 00
Spruce, 2 M.	8 00	10 00
Hemlock, 2 M.	8 00	10 00
Ash, run of long culls out, 2 M.	10 00	12 00
Bass, " " "	14 00	16 00
Oak, 2 M.	25 00	24 00
Birch, 2 M.	17 00	20 00
Hard Maple, 2 M.	18 00	25 00
Lath, 2 M.	1 25	1 35
Shingles, 1st, 2 M.	3 00	4 00
Shingles, 2nd, 2 M.	2 00	3 00

CORNWOOD.—As the season advances the demand for cordwood increases, while stocks are by no means heavy, and an advance on present quotations is spoken about, and will likely take place as soon as navigation closes. We quote prices on the wharf, ex cartage:—Long maple, \$7.00; short do., \$6.50; long birch, \$6.50; short do., \$6.00; long beech, \$6.00; short do., \$5.50; tamarac, \$4.50.

TORONTO.

From Our Own Correspondent.

OCTOBER 24th.—Our docks now show conclusive signs that lumber shipments for the season of 1881 are rapidly drawing to a close, and there is but little lumber left on the dock at the present time, so that vessels have now to wait for cargoes, instead of the lumber having to wait for the vessels; and the fact that several American buyers are now over here looking for cargoes, and anxious for all they can procure before the close of navigation, tends to prove that there is at least no overstock of lumber at the eastern lumber marts. There is an excellent demand for stock boards for shipment, and rates in advance of that obtainable two or three years ago, and there is no doubt that the eastern market holds less sound dressing stocks on hand at this date than at any corresponding date for the last three years; this, coupled with the fact that stocks for shipment on this side are nearly exhausted, would seem to warrant the present, if not a further, advance in prices. Lath in this market are scarcer than at any period during this season, and will doubtless advance in price, as frost, if severe, practically prevents the manufacture of lath to any great extent, and there will be a great many yet required in this market, as well as other places, in order to finish up this season's building operations. Shingles are in fair demand, but quite sufficient are being manufactured to meet that demand, and in this connection I notice that manufacturers are not so particular as formerly in properly assorting their shingles, quite a quantity of No. 2 being mixed with the XXX, this will tell against them in the future, and manufacturers will ultimately find it to their interest to see to it, that their brands are just as represented. Their laxity in this respect is no doubt attributable to the scarcity existing during a part of the past season, so that purchasers did not stop to examine so closely as formerly as to quality. The local market is now fairly supplied with most kinds of lumber, and nearly all the yards during the last two weeks have increased their stocks considerably, more especially in boards. Lath stuff being still scarce, and dry joisting a

thing of the past. Good, dry 2 in. ash is exceedingly scarce, and good prices may be obtained for choice lots. The sales of mill cull scantling and boards in this market during the season has been large, and in consequence of the shipments to the American markets having been brisk, culls have been plentiful, and so much speculative building having been going on, has absorbed it all quite readily, the main object of such builders being to run up houses as cheaply as possible, and get them off their hands at the earliest opportunity.

QUOTATIONS, CAR LOADS.

Mill cull boards and scantling	8 7 00
Shipping cull boards, promiscuous widths	9 00
Stocks	11 00
Scantling and joist, up to 16 ft.	10 00
" " " 18 ft.	10 50
" " " 20 ft.	11 00
" " " 22 ft.	11 50
" " " 24 ft.	12 00
" " " 26 ft.	12 50
Scantling and joist, up to 28 ft.	13 50
" " " 30 ft.	15 00
" " " 32 ft.	17 00
" " " 34 ft.	18 00
" " " 36 ft.	20 00
" " " 38 ft.	22 00
" " " 40 to 44 ft.	27 00
Cutting up planks to dry	10 00
boards	14 00
Sound dressing stocks	14 00
Picks Am. inspection	24 00
Three uppers, Am. inspection	32 00

D. M.

14-inch flooring, dressed	23 00
" " " rough	14 00
" " " dressed	24 00
" " " undressed	12 50
" " " dressed	20 00
" " " undressed	13 00
Beaded Sheeting, dressed	20 00
Clayboarding, dressed	12 50
XXX sawn shingles, 2 M.	2 50
XX sawn shingles	2 50
sawn lath	1 35

OTTAWA.

From Our Own Correspondent.

OCTOBER 12.—It is estimated that the cut of lumber this season at the mills of the Chaudiere, Hull, and New Edinburgh will not be equal to that of last year by between forty and fifty million feet, so that the surplus stock, above what was contracted for in the spring by outsiders, will be extremely limited, taking it all in all and none of the mills in this locality have been running much more than half time during the season now drawing to a close, owing to the lack of logs. There were plenty taken out last winter, but the rapid falling of the rivers, and unusually low water this fall, prevented them being brought down to their destination. Several large lots of logs were stuck in the tributaries of the Ottawa before being got into the main stream. Thousands of those that were got out are now stuck on the rocks in the rapids at the Chats, the Deschenes and the Remenix. It is thought that there are between three and four hundred thousand logs stuck at the Chats Rapids alone. The channel in the Remenix has been improved by blasting, and logs are being got through slowly. The Gatineau drive is still stuck above Chelsea, but the contractor has blasted the channel and will get the logs started as soon as the water begins to come up.

THE WATER IN THE OTTAWA

has risen a few inches during the past week, but not enough to benefit the river drive. The mills will only be able to run until about the middle of November at the best, so that if the logs do not come down soon there will be a decided cleaning out of the lumber yards of this neighbourhood during the coming winter. As a general thing quite a large quantity is yearly held over from the fall until the spring, when prices generally rule better. Very few sales of lumber have been made of late, shipping contracts being merely filled. Prices are decidedly firm, with a strong tendency to further advance. The following are present

QUOTATIONS:—

Shipping Culls, per M.	\$90 00
Stocks	16 00
Sidings	25 00
Mill Culls	7 00
Lath	1 60

LUMBER FREIGHTS.

Shipments are steady, although barges are unable to take out little more than half a load, owing to the low water, which is somewhat unprecedented; but to make it pay three barges start from this point and when St. Anne's is reached the load of one is transferred to the other two, which go on to their destination while the empty one is sent back again. Barges

which carry 200,000 feet at a load have only been able to take 115,000 feet at the most. There was recently a slight advance in freight rates, caused by American barge men striking. The rates paid at present are as follows:—
To New York, (with 25c. extra for strike)... 3 75
To Albany..... 3 50
To Whitehall..... 2 50
To Burlington..... 2 25
To Quebec..... 2 00
To Montreal..... 1 20

FOR THE SHANTIES.

A great many men are being sent up to the shanties this fall, and it is estimated that 6,000 men will be in the woods at work the coming winter. The quantity of logs and square timber that will be taken out will be, it is expected, considerably in excess of that of the past season. Square timber has sold well, while lumber is in excellent demand. Shanty men's wages are 25 per cent. better than they were last fall, and 50 per cent. better than two years ago. They are about the same as they were some seven years ago, when the times were good and just before the depression in the trade. The rate of pay being given in the Ottawa Valley is as follows for the class of hands specified:—

General Hands	\$15 @ 18 per month.
Log-makers	18 @ 23
Scorers	23 @ 28
Liners	30 @ 32
Hewers	32 @ 45
Foremen	40 @ 60
Cooks	30 @ 40

MISCELLANEOUS.

Up to the present time of writing 700 carloads of square timber belonging to the Scotch Canadian Lumbering Co. have passed this point for Quebec by rail. There are about 150 carloads yet to be brought down.

McLachlin Bros.' new mill at Arnprior is now running. It is built in the most substantial manner, and fitted up with the finest machinery made. The engine used is a 500-horse power one, and the largest in use in any Ottawa V. J. ley mill. The entire cost of the new mill, complete, is about \$120,000. The firm have shown a great deal of enterprise in building and fitting up such a splendid mill.

Improvements are being made in the vicinity of the Chaudiere. Just below the Union Suspension bridge a portion of the low water rock island is being removed. At high water it divided the current and caused it to be so strong along either of the docks that it was impossible for steamers to bring up barges to load until near the middle of June, six weeks generally being lost. It is thought the removal of rock will prevent this in the future. At the head of the Chaudiere slides a new bulkhead is being put in.

Later.

OCTOBER 25th.—All the saw mills in this locality are now running full time, the rise in the water having allowed a plentiful supply of logs to be got down. Recent rains caused the Ottawa to rise over a foot in a few days, and navigation of the river between this point and St. Anne's has been much improved thereby. Barges which were compelled to leave the Chaudiere with a little more than a half load for five or six weeks past are now able to carry some 50,000 feet more, and with a little further rise will be able to take their full loads. The freight business has improved within the past week, and will be brisk from now until the close of navigation. The saw mills will continue to run until closed by the frost, as the mill owners are anxious to produce all the lumber possible, owing to the present excellent demand. Owing to the lack of logs, caused by low water, the cut of lumber by the mills of this section this season will be greatly reduced. It is estimated that it will not be much more than two-thirds of the quantity manufactured last season. A great deal of time was lost by moett mills, some of which have not averaged more than half-time, consequently the cuts of these mills will be scarcely more than one-half of what they should be, or what was counted upon at the beginning of operations in the spring.

The lumber market is firm, very few sales being made, as an increase of price is looked for by the lumbermen. In either lumber or freight rates there are no changes to note.

A great many men are being sent to the woods this fall, and indications are that more

logs and square timber will be taken out than for many winters past. The wages paid are good, being considerably in advance of those of last fall.

The log drives on the Upper Ottawa and the Gatineau are progressing favorably, and will be got through all right now in the course of a couple of weeks.

Holland Brothers, of this city, are building a saw upon their timber property in West Port Huron, Ottawa County, and will have it running in the spring.

Men in the employ of the Upper Ottawa Improvement Company are counting the logs lying on the shores of Algonquin Lake, which will not be brought down until next spring.

LONDON, ONT.

From Our Own Correspondent.

OCTOBER 22.—I read a long article in the London Free Press, of yesterday, of the discovery of immense tracts of pine lands discovered north-east of the Georgian Bay by Col. Wm. Mercer, a railroad engineer of great experience. He penetrated 100 miles up the Spanish River inland from Georgian Bay and found pine forests of an area sufficient to supply building material to Canada and the West for the next hundred years! If all this is true, we have a bonanza. The Spanish River to the base of this widely extended land of pine is said to be wonderfully adapted as a logging stream, being devoid of rapids or other impediments its entire length. But we must await further developments before purchasing our "little hatchet."

Since my last letter two weeks ago there has not been much lumber moving in this market, and the expected spurt has not yet come, though merchants are not complaining and prices rule as high as when I last wrote you. I had a conversation last night with the largest lumber merchant here, and he informed me that there is the greatest difficulty in getting G.W. R. cars loaded from the north, but that in respect to G.T.R. cars there is no difficulty, in fact he says we are perhaps better off here in the West than the Toronto merchants find themselves. It is understood that the G.T.R., the Northern Railroad, and H. & N. W. combined have each put on 150 cars, making 300 cars, to be devoted especially to our western demands, and that these cars are not allowed to be sent east. The consequence is that lumber by the G. T. R. arrives promptly, and there are no reproachful epithets in the lumberman's vocabulary on this score.

Notwithstanding the quietness in lumber the demand for building supplies from the mills is very brisk, and nearly all here have abundance of uncompleted contracts on hand. The Messrs. Green's new mill is fast approaching completion and they expect to be at work again in about two weeks.

Mr. Hargreaves' estate is being rapidly wound up. The sale of the mill by auction took place yesterday and realized \$1,300, upon which there is said to be a mortgage of \$1,000. The contents of the lumber yard will be auctioned off to-day. The stock, however, is small, consisting of pine and hemlock, and some matched flooring and siding.

Shingles are now plentiful, but the prices are unchanged. Lath is also plentiful and unchanged.

My report for this market is,—quiet but firm, with prospect bright for the spring.

QUOTATIONS.

Mill cull boards and scantling	11 00
Shipping cull boards, promiscuous widths	11 00
" " " 10 and 12 in. stocks	11 50
Common boards, promiscuous widths	13 00
Scantling and joist, up to 16 ft.	14 00
" " " 18 ft.	14 50
" " " 20 ft.	15 00
" " " 22 ft.	16 50
" " " 24 ft.	18 00
Common stocks	14 00
Common 2 in. plank	15 00
Cutting up plank and boards	18 00
Sound dressing stocks	17 00
Clear and picks	21 00
Three uppers, Am. inspection	35 00
1/2 inch dressed and matched flooring	20 00
" " " " "	20 00
" " " " "	20 00
XXX sawn shingles, 2 M.	3 00
Lath per 1000 feet	4 00

DR. FOWLER'S EXTRACT OF WILD STRAWBERRY cures summer complaints, diarrhoea, dysentery, cholera morbus, cholera infantum, sour stomach, colic, nausea, vomiting, canker, piles and all manner of fluxes.