

Office of CANADA LUMBERMAN,)
March 31, 1892.)

TRADE during the month has been in the region of the future rather than the immediate present. March has not been a busy month for lumber, but the indications point to a fairly active season so soon as navigation gets in full swing and the weather will permit of outside work in building. In Toronto no great amount of building will be done, that will be helpful to the lumber industry. The public works under construction do more for the quarryman and ironmonger than for the lumber merchant; still activity in building will increase with the opening spring, and the wood-worker will be able to secure some share of the trade.

In country sections of Ontario business is likely to be fair, yet without any particular boom. Our trade with the United States shows a marked increase, and is likely to continue steadily in the same direction. In the Maritime provinces, where trade for the past year has been dull, hope is not yet very bright regarding the future. Some improvement is at the same time expected. In British Columbia the outlook might be better. The large harvest of the past season has given a stimulus to trade in the Northwest. Under the headings of the "United States" and "Foreign" we give a resume of conditions in outside markets.

There is not much movement in trade in this province as yet, though with the spruce market bracing up in some degree, and stocks in the English market reported low, an improved trade is at least hoped for this year.

The harbor commissioners of Quebec in their annual report furnish some figures which, though supplied in the main by the LUMBERMAN in its annual review, will be found valuable as coming from this particular source. According to this report the quantity of square white pine in stock at the first of the year was 2,943,680 cubic feet; waney, 2,048,898 feet; red pine, 348,165; oak, 522,040; elm, 102,608; ash, 21,357; larch, 13,177; basswood, 258; tamarack, 5,686; spruce, 483; black walnut, 4,122; whitewood, 9,153; hutternut, 187; maple, 2,609; hickory, 3,296; hemlock, 11,416; pine deals, 207,880 standard, merchantable, 65,902, cull; spruce deals, 1,121,339 standard, merchantable, 78,611 standard; pine and spruce plank, 1, 1½, 1¾ and 2 inch, 7,656,381 feet; hardwood plank, 345,846; hemlock and tamarack deals, 1,533,190. Business has not yet shown any marked signs of revival, but the belief is that it will improve when the shipping season actively opens.

While the people of the Prairie province are not anticipating any unhealthy boom in building, they have, from the present conditions of the country, good reason to expect a brisk season's business. Immigration will no doubt be on a considerable scale this summer; in fact, we are commencing to know something about it already, and the class of men and women who are deciding to make this new country their future home apparently possess not alone sufficient capital to give them a start, but also are of a character personally to add the right kind of strength to the communities where they will settle.

Lumber business on the Coast continues quiet. The hope is entertained that the turn will soon come, but as yet it is not here. A representative of one of the largest lumber companies returned from Australia during the month. He found trade very depressed. This is an important field for British Columbia lumber, and until a revival takes place in this colony a hitherto profitable outlet for our forest products will be closed. All reports from the Antipodes confirm what the lumber representative cited states. There is said to be in Melbourne a stock of lumber equal to a year and a half's consumption. Whilst from this one point of trade things are not looking up overmuch, some better news comes from South America, where a good deal of lumber goes. In considering lumber matters on the Coast this is to be remembered that the capacity for doing a lumber trade is on a large scale, and even when trade is reported dull, which relatively it may be, yet a comparatively large business may be doing. The local market has been experiencing for a little while lack some of the pleasures of cutting prices, until now the Victoria lumber dealers have cried a halt and formed a combine. The following are the prices agreed upon: Rough lumber, per M., \$10; best quality dressed lumber, per M., \$18; second quality dressed lumber, per M., \$14; laths, per M., \$2.25; shingles, per M., \$2.25. Quotations are as follows for cargo lots for foreign shipment, being the prices of the Pacific Pine Lumber Association: Rough merchantable, ordinary sizes, in lengths to forty feet,

inclusive, \$9 per M. feet; rough deck plank, average length thirty-five feet, \$19; dressed flooring, \$17; pickets, \$9; laths, four feet, \$2.

Writing of trade for the month just closed, and remembering that we are not yet "out of the woods" so far as the winter season is concerned there is no particular reason to grumble of trade at any leading lumber point. The movement of lumber has been impeded in part during the month because of snow storms that have prevailed over almost every part of the country. But this difficulty will quickly melt away under spring rains and summer suns. From almost everywhere come reports of stocks being short, and as a result prices are holding firm. There is certain to be a large demand for the better grades of pine, and for coarser grades there is likely to be a fair call. The spruce market is looking up and hardwoods are in active demand. Whilst on the one hand the continued cold weather of March had an untoward influence on the distribution of lumber, it has helped the loggers, and will reduce to a minimum the supply of logs to be left on the skids.

The wood trade in Great Britain does not look up. About the only consoling condition is the limited supplies of leading stocks on hand, which means that there must be some buying in the near future. The more sanguine spirits, however, are hopeful of a speedy resumption of active operations. Prices are fairly well maintained and those for the better grades of hardwood are decidedly firm. Black walnut logs and lumber are both in good request and can be readily disposed of at full prices. The lower grades are not wanted. At Liverpool consumption is satisfactory for the time of year, and recent arrivals light. The Scottish timber trade has been interrupted recently to a considerable extent by severe snow storms, but demand has been fairly steady and prices well maintained. Denny, Mott & Dickson, of London, Eng., in their latest wood market report, say: "The general lethargy which has marked the opening months of the year is becoming very disquieting to large holders of stocks, and is not conducive to the merchant on this side making forward contracts for import." A recent arrival at Liverpool is a cargo of Canadian goods, consisting chiefly of what in England is known as pine stocks, i.e., pine boards twelve inches wide and one and one-quarter inches thick. These boards are said to have been cut for the South American market, but shipped here instead. A public sale of logs at Hamburg, Germany, the latter part of February is reported to have been quite satisfactory in results, and is taken as indicative of a favorable market. In Australia trade is emphatically dull. There is some improvement in South America affairs.

CAR OR CANNED LATHS.		
1 1/4 in. cut up and better.	37 00	33 00
1x10 and 12 dressing and better.	18 00	20 00
1x10 and 12 mill run.	13 00	14 00
1x10 and 12 dressing.	14 00	15 00
1x10 and 12 common.	12 00	13 00
1x10 and 12 spruce culls.	10 00	11 00
1x10 and 12 mill culls.		9 00
1 inch clear and picks.	24 00	25 00
1 inch dressing and better.	18 00	20 00
1 inch siding mill run.	14 00	15 00
1 inch siding common.	11 00	12 00
1 inch siding ship culls.	10 00	11 00
1 inch siding mill culls.	8 00	9 00
Cull scantling.	8 00	9 00
1 1/2 and thicker cutting up plank.	22 00	23 00
1 inch strips 4 in. to 8 in. mill run.	14 00	15 00
1 inch strips, common.	11 00	12 00
1 1/4 inch flooring.	14 00	15 00
1 1/2 inch flooring.	14 00	15 00
XXX shingles, 16 inch.	2 30	2 40
XX shingles 16 inch.	1 30	1 40
1x4th, No. 1.	1 70	1 80
1x4th, No. 2.		1 70

Mill cull boards and scantling 10 00					
Shipping cull boards, promiss-					
cums widths	13 00				
" " " "	14 00				
Scantling and joist, up to 16 ft	13 50	1 1/2 in. flooring, dressed, S. M.	25 00	30 00	
" " " "	18 ft 15 00	" " " "	18 00	22 00	
" " " "	20 ft 16 00	" " " "	22 00	28 00	
" " " "	22 ft 17 00	" " " "	24 00	28 00	
" " " "	24 ft 19 00	" " " "	26 00	30 00	
" " " "	26 ft 20 00	" " " "	28 00	35 00	
" " " "	28 ft 22 00	" " " "	30 00	40 00	
" " " "	30 ft 24 00	" " " "	32 00	45 00	
" " " "	32 ft 27 00	" " " "	34 00	50 00	
" " " "	34 ft 29 50	" " " "	36 ft 33 00	55 00	
" " " "	36 ft 35 00	" " " "	38 ft 37 00	60 00	
" " " "	40 to 44 ft 37 00	" " " "	40 to 44 ft 37 00	65 00	
Cutting up planks, 1					
and thicker, dry	25 00				
" " " "	26 00				
Dressing blocks	16 00				
Picks Am. inspection	30 00				

1 Pine, 1st qual., per M \$35	40 00	Oak	47 00	61 00
2 Pine, 2d qual., "	22 00	Walnut	47 00	50 00
3 Pine, 3d qual., "	12 00	Cherry	60 00	80 00
4 Pine, 4th qual., "	12 00	Hottelums	22 00	41 00
5 Pine, 5th qual., "	8 00	Birch	15 00	25 00
6 Spruce	10 00	Spruce timber	12 00	10 00
7 Hemlock lumber	2 00	Hard maple	20 00	21 00
8 Hemlock timber	9 00	Lath	1 30	1 00
9 Ash	12 00	Shingles	1 50	1 20
10 Basswood	12 00	Shingles, cedar	1 50	1 20

Spruce deals	\$12 00	Spruce boards	12 00
Pine	15 00	Pine "	12 00
Deal ends	6 00	Oak "	40 00
Scantling	10 00	Ash "	15 00
		Hemlock boards . . .	7 50

Spruce, extra	\$3 50	Spruce No. 1	1 25
" clear	3 00	Pine	1 25
" No. 1, extra	2 25		

Pine, extra.	\$35 00	Spruce, extra.	24 00
" clear.	45 00	" clear.	23 00
" 2nd clear.	35 00	" No. 1.	15 00
		" No. 2.	10 00

6 in., No. 1.	12 00	4 in., No. 1.	12 00
" No. 2.	10 00	" No. 2.	10 00

Staves	3 00	4 50	Laths	1 00
Heading 17 in. per pr		04	Pickets	6 50
Heading 18 in.	04 12	05½	Railway ties	15 00
Heading 22 in.	04 12	06		

Pine, 1st qual., per M\$35 00	40 00	Pine, 4th qual., deals	10 00	12 00
Pine 2nd " " 22 00	25 00	Pine, mill culls	8 00	10 00
Pine, shinning culls . 14 00	16 00	Laths	1 80	1 00

WHICH PINK IS THE BEST.		etc.	etc.
For inferior and ordinary according to average, quality, etc., measured off.	16	24	24
For fair average quality, according to average, etc., measured off.	24	24	24
For good and good fair average,	24	24	24
For superior	24	24	24
Shipping order	24	24	24
Waney board, 18 to 19 inch	24	24	24
Waney board, 19 to 21 inch	24	24	24

Measured off, according to average and quality.....	14	27
In shipping order, 35 to 45 feet ".....	22	31
OAK—MICHIGAN AND OHIO		
By the dram, according to average and quality.....	43	47

By the dram, according to average and quality,	45 to 50 feet	28	3
	30 to 35 feet	23	2

ASH.

11 inches and up, according to average and quality		75	2
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16 inch average, according to average and quality.....	20	2
TAMARAC.		
Square, according to size and quality.....	27	2

Merchantable Pipe, according to quality and specification.....	\$70	\$70
W. O. Puncheon, Merchantable, according to quality.....	80	90

Height, Michigan, according to mill specification, \$120 to \$130 for 1st, and \$90 to \$95 for 2nd quality.

BOSTON, MASS., March 31.—This has been one of the quietest lumber points in the Union for several months. No power above or below seemed to be able to move things. As we approach closer to spring business fortunately shows some slight indications of improvement. Quite an active trade is shown in spruce. A good stock of white pine is in the hands of dealers, and whilst the demand is not large, prices are stiff. Prices on hemlock are easy. Shingle trade is more stirring than probably any other line, and prices steady.

Uppers, 2 in.....	\$48	00	50	00	Fine com., 3 and 4 in.....	72	00	46	00
1½, 1½ and 1 in.....	48	00	50	00	No. 1, 1 in. Fine com.....	48	00	30	00
¾ and ¼ in.....	55	00	60	00	1½, 1½ and 2 in.....	49	00	31	00
Select, 2 in.....	47	00	43	00	No. 1 strips, 4 to 6 in.....	40	00	43	00
1½, 1½ and 2 in.....	43	00	45	00	No. 2.....	35	00	37	00
¾ and ¼ in.....	45	00	50	00	No. 3.....	24	00	26	00
Moulding boards, 7 to					Cut pulp, 1 to 2 in.....	74	00	30	00
1 in.....	36	00	38	00	Cut pulp, 2 to 3 in.....	72	00	29	00
per cwt., clear.....	34	00	36	00	Common all widths.....	72	00	26	00
Fine common, 2 in.....	35	00	38	00	Shipping culis, 1 in.....	15	00	15	50
1½, 1½ and 2 in.....	38	00	40	00	do 1½ in.....	15	00	16	00

No. 1 and 3.....\$40 over 47 on	Clapboards, 4 ft., up	
4.....28 00 30 00	clear.....	40 00 45 00
5.....23 00 26 00	Sap, and clear.....	33 00 35 00
Ship's hls and cisme 16 00 16 50	Heart extra.....	50 00 55 00
Refine.....12 00 13 50	1 st sort clear.....	45 00 50 00
Western pine claulds	Nevel siding 6 in. clear 21 00	24 00

CRUCK—BY CARGO.			
Scantling and plank, random cargoes.....	14	over	15 00
Yard orders, ordinary sizes.....	15	00	16 00
Yard orders, extra sizes.....	16	00	18 00
Clear floor boards.....	10	00	20 00
No. 2.....	10	00	17 00
Ceiling, rough.....	12	00	14 00
Hemlock bds., rough, dressed.....	12	00	13 00
Clapboards, extra, 4 ft., 30 ft.....	12	00	14 00
Second class.....	30	00	35 00
No. 1.....	10	00	14 00

Spruce by cargo.....				2 100 2
SHINGLES.				
Spruce.....	1 250	30	Cedar, sawed, extra.....	3 35 3 0
Pine, 16 in., extra.....	4 00	4 25	Clear.....	3 0
Pine, No. 1.....	3 50	3 15	Extra, No. 1.....	2 5
			Common, No. 1, 16 in.....	2 0

OSWEGO, N.Y., March 31.—The encouraging winter trade done at this point is being followed by substantial signs of lively spring opening. Stocks are well broken into and there will need to be an active sorting up to meet the immediate demand. Fine grades of white pine are emphatically short.