

UNITED STATES.

There is a natural decline in the call for lumber. The East has been buying with some liberality, but in the Northern and Western States the movement is light. The pine market is strong, however, with prospects of a continuation of firmness throughout the winter months. The readjustment of prices has apparently been completed. Box and other low grade lumber is about one dollar higher than at the same time last year, while common lumber is selling one dollar less and the price of the best grades is off about two dollars per thousand. In the Lake Superior district a very hopeful feeling prevails. The feature of the situation is the large amount of No. 4 and No. 5 boards that have been sold to be cut next season. No. 4 boards are bringing \$12.00 a thousand, as compared with \$10.50 last year. Advance sales of No. 5 boards have also been considered at \$6.50 to \$7.00 per thousand, as compared with \$5.00 and \$5.50 last year. The stock of low grade pine is almost cleaned up. The supply of shop lumber has been reduced on account of a more active demand recently for that lumber than for other grades. Buffalo reports a very fair trade, most of the orders now placed being for January shipment. There is less activity among the hardwoods and a consequent softening of prices at some points. Quartered oak has suffered to the extent of about \$2.00 per thousand, but is still in good demand. Stocks are low and inquiries are sufficient to create the hope of an active trade in the near future. There is no increase in the demand for lath and shingles. Good white pine lath are steady in price but mixed are offered at concessions.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Messrs. Foy, Morgan & Company's Abstract of Stock, Consumption, etc., shows that at the end of November the stock of deals and battens in the public docks at London, England, was 3,898,970 pieces, as compared with 9,339,754 pieces one year ago. The duration of supply at the present rate of consumption is given as 6.53 months, as against 5.96 months a year ago. It will thus be seen that although there is a lighter stock the supply will be sufficient for a longer period, this being due to lessened consumption. In 1902 the monthly consumption was 1,276,959 pieces, while this year it is placed at 1,074,092 pieces. Deliveries from the public yards have fallen off considerably of late and some reports state that the price of pine deals and sidings is weaker. There is no doubt that the high prices have curtailed the consumption. Spruce is ever firmer than pine. There is a healthy market for square and waney pine timber, the bulk of late receipts having been sold before arrival. First-class elm timber sells quickly.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

McLaughlin, Bros. are engaged in logging operations at Chipman, N.B.

The steamer Thrift is loading a cargo of deals at Pugwash, N.S., for the west coast of England.

E. Marceau, Superintending Engineer Quebec Canals, wants tenders by December 18th for supply of timber and lumber.

The schooner Baden Powell is loading a cargo of lumber at Halifax, N.S., for the West Indies, shipped by C.F. Longley & Company.

E.F. Farquier is advertising for 100,000 ties to be delivered along the route of the Lindsay, Bobcaygeon and Pontypool Railway during the present winter.

It is reported that Bradley, Miller & Company, of Bay City, Mich., have bought a large block of lumber cut at Sarnia the past season by the Edmund Hall mill.

The Department of Interior at Ottawa are asking for tenders up to January 6th for a permit to cut timber on Berth No. 1116, in Township 3, Range 9, Province of Manitoba, containing an area of 4 square miles.

D. S. Pratt, of Midland, Ont., is taking out a good stock of logs this winter. He expects to have 2,000,000 feet of mixed hardwoods, mostly maple and basswood. He is also cutting a stock of 3,000,000 cedar shingles. His mill is now running, so the stock will be ready for the spring trade.

The Harbor Commissioners of Montreal have accepted the following tenders for supply of timber and planks: Hemlock face, Shearer & Brown; round pine and flat pine, J.L.B. Leclair; pine face, Mason, Gordon & Co.; pine coping, Shearer & Brown; pine piles and elm piles, J. L. B. Leclair; elm planks, Shearer & Brown; maple planks, J.L.B. Leclair; pine, hemlock and spruce planks, E. Chausse.

Contracts for the supply of lumber for the city of Toronto have been placed with the following firms: Planks, Reid & Company, \$18.79 per M; boards, \$17.97; pine scantling, 4x4, \$18.79; cedar, 4x4, Arthur Bryce, \$18.50; pine or cedar curb, 4 x 10, \$19.50; pine lumber, Arthur Bryce, \$21 per M; hemlock lumber, Reid & Company, \$15.97; pine timber, 12 x 12, Arthur Bryce, twelve feet long, \$20; 16 feet long, \$20; 20 feet long, \$21; 24 feet long, \$23; hemlock timber, 12x12, Arthur Bryce, 12 feet long, \$16; 16 feet long, \$16; 20 feet long, \$17; 24 feet long, \$18.

TO HOLDERS OF BIRCH LIMITS.

Can you cut birch into Squares, &c. We can also take birch cut on the sweep with a jigger or small band saw. Large quantities required. Write in first instance to "Finance," c/o CANADA LUMBERMAN.

GREATEST TIMBER SALE ON RECORD.

The sale of timber limits held by the Ontario Government on December 9th was the most successful on record. The receipts were far in excess of any previous sale and much greater than were expected. The attendance of lumbermen was also the largest ever known and the bidding was quite spirited. Altogether 26½ square miles were disposed of, the receipts being \$3,687,337.50, or an average price of \$4,461.38 per square mile. This compares with the highest previous average of \$3,657.18 reached at the sale of 1892. The record for the highest price per mile was also made, when Mr. T. Mackie, M.P., paid at the rate of \$31,500 per mile for 3¼ square miles comprising Berth No. 5 in the Township of Hammell, Nipissing District. The previous high price was \$17,500, which was paid by the Gilmour Company in 1892.

The purchasers of berths in the Nipissing and Algoma districts are allowed to cut the red and white pine only, while in the Rainy River district the purchasers are entitled to cut the pine, spruce, cedar, tamarac, and poplar, except as to Berths G19, G21, G23, G29 and G38, on which red and white pine only can be cut. The stumpage dues on all the pine timber is fixed at \$2 per thousand feet.

Several transfers of claims have been made since the sale. These are recognized in the details of the result which follow:

TOWNSHIP OF HUTTON.

Berth 1—8½ sq. miles, \$4,500 per mile, A. T. Mackie, Pembroke, total \$38,250. Berth 2—8¼ sq. miles, Duncan Graham, Renfrew, \$2,000 per mile, \$16,500. Berth 3—8½ sq. miles, J. C. Spry, Chicago, \$1,400 per mile, total \$45,900. Berth 4—5¼ sq. miles, Dr. Spohn, Penetanguishene, \$1,500 per mile, total \$13,125.

TOWNSHIP OF CREELMAN.

Berth 1—8½ sq. miles, C. Beck, Penetanguishene, \$5,000 per mile, total \$42,500. Berth 2—8¼ sq. miles, C. Beck, \$6,000 per mile, total \$53,500. Berth 3—8¼ sq. miles, Wm. Ryan, North Bay, \$500 per mile, total \$4,375. Berth 4—8½ sq. miles, C. Beck, \$4,000 per mile, total \$34,000.

TOWNSHIP OF PARKIN.

Berth 1—8¼ sq. miles, D. Inglis Grant, Orillia, \$2,900 per mile, total \$23,925. Berth 2—8¼ sq. miles, D. Inglis Grant, \$3,500 per mile, total \$28,875. Berth 3—8¼ sq. miles, Duncan Graham, \$350 per mile, total \$3,062.50. Berth 4—9½ sq. miles, Duncan Graham, \$2,000 per mile, total \$19,000.

TOWNSHIP OF AYLMER.

Berth 1—8¼ sq. miles, W. J. Sheppard, \$7,000 per mile, total \$61,250. Berth 2—8½ sq. miles, W. J. Sheppard, \$4,000 per mile, total \$34,000. Berth 3—9 sq. miles,

W. J. Sheppard, \$6,250 per mile, total \$56,250. Berth 4—8¼ sq. miles, C.G. Marlatt, Toronto, \$10,250 per mile, total \$84,562.50.

TOWNSHIP OF MACKELCAN.

Berth 1—8 sq. miles, C.G. Marlatt, \$10,250 per mile, total \$82,000. Berth 2—8¼ sq. miles, D. Inglis Grant, \$1,100 per mile, total \$9,350. Berth 3—8¼ sq. miles, W. J. Sheppard, \$4,000 per mile, total \$33,000. Berth 4—8 sq. miles, C. Beck, \$1,700 per mile, total \$13,600.

TOWNSHIP OF MCCARTHY.

Berth 1—7¼ sq. miles, W. J. Sheppard, \$14,000 per mile, total \$105,000. Berth 2—8¼ sq. miles, C. Beck, \$7,000 per mile, total \$61,250. Berth 3—8¼ sq. miles, C.G. Marlatt, \$9,000 per mile, total \$78,750. Berth 4—10¼ sq. miles, C. Beck, \$10,500 per mile, total \$112,875.

TOWNSHIP OF MERRICK.

Berth 1—4 sq. miles, Duncan Graham, \$1,200 per mile, total \$4,800. Berth 2—4 sq. miles, Duncan Graham, \$3,700 per mile, total \$14,800. Berth 3—4¼ sq. miles, D. Inglis Grant, \$4,100 per mile, total \$17,425. Berth 4—4 sq. miles, Duncan Graham, \$3,700 per mile, total \$14,800. Berth 5—4 sq. miles, C. Beck, \$6,000 per mile, total \$24,000. Berth 6—4¼ sq. miles, Thomas Mackie, \$8,000 per mile, total \$34,000. Berth 7—4 sq. miles, T. G. Brigham, Ottawa, \$6,100 per mile, total \$24,400. Berth 8—4 sq. miles, Thomas Mackie, \$10,000 per mile, total \$40,000. Berth 9—4¼ sq. miles, Arthur Hill, Saginaw, \$7,250 per mile, total \$30,812.50.

TOWNSHIPS OF MULOCH AND FRENCH.

Berth 1—5¼ sq. miles, Dr. Spohn, \$900 per mile, total \$4,950.

TOWNSHIP OF MULOCH.

Berth 2—6½ sq. miles, Dr. Spohn, \$1,500 per mile, total \$9,750. Berth 3—3¼ sq. miles, Herbert Brennan, \$900 per mile, total \$2,925. Berth 4—4 sq. miles, M. Brennan & Sons, \$1,100 per mile, total \$1,400. Berth 5—4 sq. miles, Duncan Graham, \$3,600 per mile, total \$14,400. Berth 6—4 sq. miles, Duncan Graham, \$4,600 per mile, total \$18,400. Berth 7—4¼ sq. miles, Duncan Graham, \$4,750 per mile, total \$20,187.50.

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