

farmers are just finishing harvesting operations, and the fall demand for lumber has only commenced. With a scarcity at the present time, it is to be expected that prices will advance in the near future. It is understood, however, that retail dealers are carrying quite liberal stocks, in the expectation of a brisk fall trade. The Rat Portage Lumber Co. are reported to have sold 6,000,000 feet of lumber within the past two months. Building and mining operations in British Columbia are moving very freely, calling for a large quantity of material. A few days ago a meeting of the saw mill men in the interior of southern British Columbia was held to discuss the amalgamation of the mills. This was not effected, however, although there is some prospect of it being accomplished in the near future.

UNITED STATES.

A firm market and somewhat weaker demand explains the condition of the white pine trade of the United States. Prices have now reached a point where retail dealers and consumers refuse to buy except for immediate requirements. They believe that prices will go no higher. On the other hand, there are some who predict that before the opening of navigation next spring there will be a famine in white pine lumber. Another condition which has checked the demand is the most unprecedented high freight rates. From Duluth to Lake Erie points the rate is now \$4, the result being that no sales can be made to the eastern trade for this year's delivery. From the above remarks it must not be premised that prices show any tendency to weaken. Dealers in the Buffalo and Tonawanda markets report prices as very firm, with a prospect of a further advance. From the Saginaw valley comes the same report. In that district mill culls are selling at from \$12 to \$14, and log run at from \$16 to \$24. Spruce lumber is selling readily at recent quotations, \$17 being paid for frames.

The hardwood market displays many elements of strength. Every variety is in short supply, while there does not seem to be any abatement in the demand. At Buffalo sales of cull elm and basswood have been made at \$17, and thick elm is quoted at \$32. A sale of low grade logs for boxes is reported, which is another indication of the scarcity of ordinary box lumber.

FOREIGN.

The position of foreign markets generally is satisfactory. From Great Britain comes the report of a steadily increasing demand and a tendency towards higher prices. Spruce deals particularly are improving, and sales of large cargoes have been made at £6 15s c.i.f. London and Liverpool. At the latter port there was received during the month of August 21,211 standards, the deliveries being 22,252 standards, or upwards of one thousand standards in excess of receipts. The packing case makers are very busy, and building operations in the cheaper class of houses, in the construction of which spruce deals and battens enter so largely, have not been so active for some time.

The advance in pine referred to in former reports has been maintained, the high rates of freight contributing in some measure to this end. The stock of wood goods in London docks this year shows a shortage of about 18,000 standards, the exact figures being 17,339,119 pieces, against 18,014,260 pieces in 1898. All classes of woods, with the single exception of flooring, is in lighter stock than last year.

In timber, birch, either in the log or plank, is very scarce, the stock at Liverpool at end of August being only 150,000 feet, as compared with 314,000 feet in August, 1898. In view of this condition an increase in price is looked for.

The trouble in South Africa does not appear to have any influence on the wood trade of Great Britain. Merchants there are buying all they can of stock on which the South African demand might have some effect, and it is only in respect to next year's business that the question is brought under consideration at all.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

Mill culls are selling at \$10 a thousand at Ashland, Wis., No. 3 boards at \$11.50, and No. 2 boards, 6, 8, 10 and 12 feet, at \$13 to \$13.50.

The ship Guilla R sailed from St. John, N.B., last week for Marseilles, France, with 1,168,157 feet of deals, shipped by W. M. Mackay.

Wm. Allen, of Perth, Ont., has purchased the Muirhead property in Beckwith township, and will take out about 1,000,000 feet of logs this winter.

At Midland, Ont., the schooner Geo. Westley loaded lumber last week for Bay City, the United Lumberman for Tonawanda, and the Ellen Murton for Buffalo.

J. L. Reaume & Co., of Essex, Ont., have bought the timber on lots 14 and 15, of the 14th concession of Colchester North, also that on a 50 acre berth and a 30 acre berth in Maidstone.

The Hull Lumber Co., of Hull, Que., again started their mill last week, which had been shut down for a fortnight owing to scarcity of logs. The company have now 150,000 logs floating down the river.

The R. Laidlaw Lumber Co. are handling a considerable quantity of Canadian pine through their Buffalo yard. The business card of this firm, whose head office is in Toronto, appears in this issue.

The Dominion government is about to construct a telegraph line from Dig Roumaine, Que., to a point in Labrador, a distance of 315 miles. The contract for supplying the necessary poles has been given to C. J. Bickerdike, of Montreal.

Lumbering operations in the vicinity of Owen Sound are very brisk. Maitland, Rixon & Co. estimate their cut this year at between 4 and 5 million feet. Pickard & Rowan will cut over 2,000,000 feet, Henry Pedwell 1,500,000 feet, and J. S. Findlay 3,000,000 feet.

Pelton & Reid, of Cheboygan, Mich., have just received a raft of Canadian logs containing about 4,000,000 feet. They have still two other rafts on the Georgian Bay, but having all the logs they can cut this season, will not take them over to Michigan until next spring.

In this issue Messrs. Geo. Perry & Co., packing case manufacturers, Dublin, Ireland, ask for quotations for the supply of poplar, cottonwood, beech or white pine timber. If suitable for their requirements, as regards price and quality, they are prepared to purchase very large quantities.

The C. Beck Manufacturing Co., of Penetanguishene, have three camps in the woods, and will make a large cut during the coming winter. The Holland & Emery Co., Byng Inlet, have two camps in, and will put in others. Pelton & Reid, of Cheboygan, Mich., have one camp on the Indian Reserve.

At a recent sale held by Foy, Morgan & Co., London, Eng., Canadian spruce, ex Highfield, from Quebec, sold as follows: 9-15 ft. 3 x 10 in. first quality, £10 10s; 12-18 ft. 2 x 7 in., £8 5s; 6-11 ft. 2 x 7 in., £8; 12-17 ft. 2 x 7 in. unsorted, £7 10s; 18-20 ft. 2 x 6, £7 5s; 10-16 ft. 2 x 4, £6 15s; 10-18 ft. 2 1/2 x 6 1/2, £6 15s; 9 ft. 3 x 9, £6 7s 6d.

Following is a comparative statement of timber, &c., measured and culled at Quebec 10 September 19th, 1899.

	1897.	1898.	1899.
Waney white pine, cu. feet.	3,891,933	815,975	1,774,268
Square white pine, cu. feet.	798,605	1,060,634	587,070
Red pine, cu. feet.	151,805	217,708	159,937
Oak, cu. feet.	1,320,163	948,044	522,178
Elm, cu. feet.	602,547	474,194	455,841
Ash, cu. feet.	131,974	34,735	56,546
Basswood, cu. feet.	15	955	
Butternut, cu. feet.	673		60
Tamarac, cu. feet.	348		415
Birch and Maple, cu. feet.	171,174	112,500	244,530

Homan & Puddington, in their circular of September 9th, review the New York lumber market as follows: "During the last week several cargoes of spruce randoms were sold on our market at good prices. Demand is good and likely to be better. We quote 10 and 12 inch at \$18 to \$19; 9, 10 and 12 inch, \$17 to \$18; 6, 7 and 8 inch, \$15 to \$16.50; and scantling, 2 x 4 and 2 1/2 x 4, 10 to 20 feet long, \$14.50 to \$15. Laths have had quite a flurry—

about 15,000,000 came in, and about all sold at all kinds of prices, ranging from \$2.25 to \$2.75, but \$2.50 is the cargo price at which bulk of receipts were sold for. We think present prices can be held for balance of season, unless shipments are greatly increased."

The result of the action of the provincial legislature in prohibiting the exportation of saw logs has been to revive the lumber industry in the Parry Sound district. Camps are already in operation in many sections. It is said that the Parry Sound Lumber Co. will take out 25,000,000 feet, of which 10,000,000 feet has already been contracted for. The company will put in two camps at Deep Bay and Blind Bay, both in the township of Carling. In addition to these two camps, the company will let contracts to a number of jobbers. Wm. Peters has four camps in operation, two in Christie township and two in Spence. He will take out about 20,000,000 feet of logs. The Conger Lumber Co. have two camps in operation in Conger township, employing about 150 men. Their cut has been placed at 11,000,000 feet of logs.

It is a little early yet, says the Frederickton Gleaner, to make a definite estimate as to the cut this coming season upon the St. John river in New Brunswick, but the following may be considered a pretty accurate forecast of the amount to be cut upon the upper St. John river: W. J. Nobles and Robt. Nobles, for Cushing, 10 to 12 million feet; Guy McCallum, for C. F. Woodman, 5 to 6 million; John Kilburn, for W. H. Murray, 8 to 10 million; Silas Dickie, for Stetson, 5 to 6 million; John Stevens, for E. L. Jewett, 2 1/2 to 3 million; J. A. Morrison, 3 1/2 to 4 million; Cunliff & Sons, 7 to 8 million; Neil McLean, 3 to 4 million; John R. McConnell, for Ashland Lumber Co., 10 to 12 million; F. H. Hale, 8 to 10 million;

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Rock Elm, cut to order.
Soft Elm, all thicknesses.
Black Ash, all thicknesses.
State quantity you can supply, with lowest prices.
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R. A. Estey, 4 to 5 million; Adam Beveridge, 2 to 2 1/2 million; Geo. Baird, 2 to 3 million; D. McKeswick, 2 million; various other small operators, 10 million.

MANY REPLIES.

Mr. Silas H. Jacobs, saw miller, of Huntsville, Ont., gives his opinion of the WEEKLY LUMBERMAN as an advertising medium in these words: "I was flooded with letters in answer to the advertisement I placed in THE LUMBERMAN." No better proof is wanted that the advertising pages are carefully read.

BUSINESS NOTES.

W. Barrill, sash and door manufacturer, Montreal, is reported to have filed consent of assignment.

On September 7th the lumber and coal yards of the John W. Young & Sons Co., at White Plains, N. Y., was sold by auction, the purchaser being N. M. Smith, of New York, and and the purchase price \$32,700. The lumber and yard of the same company at Tuckahoe, N. Y., was sold to Chas. Dusenberry, jr., for \$12,250.

The saw mill of Robert Prestly, at Ashton, Ont., together with the lumber yard, was completely destroyed by fire on September 11th. The loss is estimated at \$18,000, with no insurance.

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