

Market Reports.

TORONTO.

From Our Own Correspondent.

JUNE 9.—Retail men report trade satisfactory as regards the quantity going out, but owing to excessive competition only a small margin of profit. Many young men having no experience of the lumber business, having been a few months in a lumberman's office, perhaps, and some not having gained even that much knowledge gained by contact with a lumberman, go into selling on commission or otherwise, and prices get cut so low that a living profit is not left for the men of mature experience having to bear the expenses connected with a yard. There is more building in course of erection at the present time than at any previous time in my recollection, and yet the individual benefit to lumbermen is not felt by reason of the large number engaged in the business.

Short bill stuff on the opening of the spring sold in many cases for \$11.50 per M on car here and will not bring more than \$11.00 now, and a corresponding drop at the yards, so that 16 feet and under may now be quoted at \$13.00 from yard. There is no scarcity of any kind of lumber, except it may be said that dry 1½ cut up and better is hard to obtain except in small quantities.

There is but little going over the docks for the sufficient reason that there is but little fit to ship, last season's stock being nearly exhausted. A number of vessels have left here for other ports light, not being able to obtain cargoes.

During the last week considerable lumber has arrived here from Ottawa by the G. T. R., on a 9 cent. rate, making the car of 24,000 pounds \$21.00, only the same figure as from Gravenhurst, as between the C. P. R. and G. T. R. scrimmage the lumbermen are likely to derive some benefit—so mote it be. The latter have been under bonus long enough and anything that will help them from the former will not be amiss. If we could only have competition between the N. & N. W., or at least some other road constructed that would come into competition with that road, lumbermen would be well pleased, as between high rates of freight, excess loading and damage for detention of cars, the lumbermen have no very smooth travelling. The present cutting in rates between the C. P. R. and G. T. R. will, however, be some slight compensation.

Mill cull boards and scantling.....	\$10 00
Shipping cull boards, promiscuous widths.....	12 00
Stocks.....	14 00
Scantling and joist, up to 16 ft.....	13 50
" " " " 18 ft.....	14 50
" " " " 20 ft.....	15 50
" " " " 22 ft.....	16 50
" " " " 24 ft.....	17 00
" " " " 26 ft.....	18 00
" " " " 28 ft.....	19 00
" " " " 30 ft.....	20 00
" " " " 32 ft.....	21 00
" " " " 34 ft.....	22 50
" " " " 36 ft.....	24 00
" " " " 38 ft.....	25 00
" " " " 40 to 44 ft.....	30 00
Cutting up planks to dry.....	24 00
Round dressing stocks.....	18 00
Picks Am. inspection.....	28 00
Three uppers, Am. inspection.....	35 00

MONTREAL.

From Our Own Correspondent.

JUNE 9 As was expected there has been a considerable extension in the output of lumber during the past two weeks, but now there has been rather a falling off and business has become decidedly dull, especially for the building trade, but shipping, shows a good deal of activity and a considerable number of rafts have been passing down to Quebec. Stocks are ample for all requirements, and prices remain steady as last quoted, viz., ex yard:—

Pine, 1st quality, # M.....	\$25 00
Pine, 2nd " " ".....	22 00
Pine, shipping culls.....	14 00
Pine, 4th quality, # M.....	10 00
Pine, mill culls, # M.....	7 00
Spruce, # M.....	10 00
Ash, run of log culls out, # M.....	9 00
Bass, " " ".....	12 00
Oak, # M.....	40 00
Walnut, # M.....	60 00
Cherry, # M.....	60 00
Elm, # M.....	25 00
Birch, # M.....	20 00
Hard Maple, # M.....	25 00
Lath, # M.....	1 50
Shingles, 16 # M.....	3 00
Shingles, 2nd, # M.....	2 50

SHIPPING.

There has been a good deal of activity shown in the trade for the past fortnight. A good demand exists for freight room at steady rates, although vessels are plentiful. There, however, have been no vessels loaded as yet for South America. Since our last the following clearances have been made at the Custom House: Per SS Carmona, for London, 24,861 pcs. deals; per SS Sarnia, for Liverpool, 25,520 pcs. deals; per SS Bristol, for Bristol, 13,795 pcs. deals; per SS Ocean King, for London, 5,600 pcs. boards and 232 pcs. deals; per SS Lake Huron, for Liverpool, 3,795 pcs. deals and 4,890 pcs. boards; per SS Coreau, for London, 916 pcs. deals; per SS Oxenholme, for Liverpool, 19,879 pcs. deals, 1,330 keel ends and 4,825 pcs. boards; per SS Siberian, for Glasgow, 9,854 pcs. deals; per SS Escalona, for London, 5,280 deals; per SS Lake Superior, for Liverpool, 3,821 pcs. deals; per SS Scotland, for London, 21,898 pcs. deals and 1,635 pcs. Walnut; per SS Toronto for Liverpool, 16,129 pcs. deals; per SS Avalara, for London, 14,510 pcs. deals; per SS Somerset, for Bristol, 2,706 pcs. deals; per SS Norwegian, for Glasgow, 61,572 pcs. deals; per SS Lake Champlain, for Liverpool, 1,353 pcs. deals and 2,510 pcs. lumber; per SS Suffolk, for London, 37,425 pcs. deals, 9,200 pcs. boards and 1,152 ends; per SS Earl King, for London, 2,760 pcs. deals; per SS Cynthia, for Glasgow, 8,870 pcs. boards and 5,587 pcs. deals; per SS Lauderdale, for Barrow, 32,885 white pine deals, 952 ends and 9,436 pine boards; per SS Hanoverian, for Liverpool, 2,939 pcs. boards and 7,481 pine deals; per SS Montreal, for Liverpool, 12,637 pcs. boards and 6,393 deals; per SS Glenmarvon, for London, 66,192 pcs. deals, 7,232 pcs. boards and 2,716 ends.

CORDWOOD.

There is a very slow demand existing at present for firewood. Prices are steady and are considered fair if there was only a demand. Stocks are getting heavy and a good deal of inferior quality is still coming in by the boats. Dealers are not sanguine of doing much this summer as coal is likely to be reasonable. We still quote wharf prices ex cartage as under:

Long Maple.....	\$ 5 00
Long Birch.....	4 50
Long Beech.....	4 00
Tamarack.....	3 50

CHICAGO.

THE CARGO MARKET.

The Northwestern Lumberman of June 6th says:—The number of cargoes arrived in port during the week was 185, as compared with 184 last week, and about 200 for the corresponding week last year. The over Sunday fleet numbered 54 vessels, about 30 of which were found in the market on Monday morning. Since then the daily arrivals have numbered from 15 to 25, and the market has not been overcrowded with offerings. On Thursday, when this report was closed, the wind was in the west, blowing a stiff gale, so that the prospect for another fleet right away was not bright, while there was nothing but a cargo of shingles on the market.

The commission men had a small tussle with the Monday fleet. A large majority of the offerings were dry No. 2 inch, and the yard dealers elevated their noses at it, and talked low prices or nothing. But the commission men spread their legs apart and braced themselves against the bearish influence. The yard merchants clamored for piece stuff, and the little they got was to all intents piece stuff, when it had been meagerly piced out among the hundred yards—there was just about enough to give each one a piece to carry off on the shoulder. Of course when a man goes down to the market to buy dimension, and finds only coarse inch lumber, of which he already has enough, he does not bite eagerly at the bait that is offered him. But the Monday fleet was disposed of without a very long delay. The No. 2 stock dragged a little at weak prices, but the few cargoes of pine stuff went off without much trouble.

While it cannot be said that a lower price for No. 2 stock has been established, it is true that lumber sold on Monday and Tuesday at a range of 25 to 50 cents a thousand lower than previous prices. This was effected on account of the pressure of the large fleet. But after a clearance

of the market of its load, it is doubtful if fair to good No. 2 stock could have been bought any cheaper than it was the week before. The bottom of the range is still at \$9.00, but more has sold as low as that during the week than previously. A desirable cargo of No. 2 stock will bring \$10 a thousand, and very good, more. Our highest figures on No. 2 stock—namely, \$11, is intended to include all that can be classed as No. 2, which embraces very good common lumber. But it must not be inferred that much that is sold on the market here is of that grade that sells above \$10 a thousand.

There is very little medium, and next to no No. 1 stock being offered at the market docks. It has been either bought at the mills, or is being held for future sale. One man at Muskegon holds a quantity of strips running a large per cent. to C and better, at \$15.50 a thousand there. Buyers on this side think such a price too high.

The reason why no more dimension is coming to market is simple, and easily understood. The dry stock over the lake, in pile when spring opened, was mostly bought by yard men who had it shipped directly to their docks. They were able to get it at about 50 cents a thousand better than they would have had to pay on the market here; besides they could not have bought it here when they wanted it, or in such quantity or quality as would make it advantageous. It is claimed that green piece stuff that has been sold here at \$3.50 has been bought to arrive at \$3, and that millions of feet have been thus contracted for. This a sufficient reason why there is a meager market supply of piece stuff, and why it is eagerly wanted by those who depend on the market for their purchases.

Short dimension green has sold this week at \$3.50, when the cargo was good. Scalaway stuff has to go as low as \$3.25. Dry lumber is 50 to 75 cents higher, the difference between dry and green narrowing down as the season advances. Long dimension brings 50 cents a thousand more than short.

Standard shingles are coming moderately, and sell at a range of \$1.95 to \$2.05 for brands that anybody wants. Very few shingles of any class but standards are arriving.

Lake freights are flat. Lumber is now being brought from Muskegon for \$1 a thousand, in many instances.

Quotations of cargo prices are as follows, so far as the market has developed them:—

Dimension, short, green.....	\$ 8 25
Dimension, short, dry.....	9 50
No. 2 boards and strips.....	13 00
Medium stock.....	13 00
No. 1 stock.....	16 00
Shingles, standard.....	1 95
Shingles, extra.....	2 05
Cedar.....	2 10

Lake freight rates are quotable as follows:

From Grand Haven, dry.....	\$ 1 12
From Muskegon, by steam.....	1 09
White Lake, dry.....	1 25
Ludington.....	1 37
Manistee.....	1 37
Frankfort.....	1 50
Menominee.....	1 50
Cheboygan.....	1 50
Duncan City.....	1 50
St. Ignace.....	1 50
Alpena.....	1 62
Manistique.....	1 62

AT THE YARDS.

There is no marked change in regard to prices. Sales are being made independently of the printed list, though the range from it is not great on all the more saleable kinds of lumber. In the present jog trot state of business there is no motive to slash prices, neither is there much regard paid to an arbitrary list. Each house, while wishing to sell for all the lumber will bring, does not stick for the last dollar on a thousand when such a course would hinder a sale. It is likely that for some time to come, probably all summer, there will be no variation from the present manner of doing business. Assortments of stock that are now broken will be gradually filled by constant receipts, and the weather will carry on the process by converting green lumber into dry. So it will be seen that during the summer months there will be no reason why there should be a scarcity or advance in prices of a marked character.

Receipts of lumber, shingles, etc., from Jan. 1st to June 4th as reported from the Lumberman's Exchange:—

1885.....	55,922,000	28,090,000
1884.....	54,340,000	29,377,000

FROM JANUARY JAN. 1, 1885, TO JUNE 4, 1885, INCLUSIVE.

	Lumber.	Shingles.
1885.....	305,260,000	97,653,000
1884.....	543,340,000	220,571,000
Decrease.....	241,080,000	122,918,000

STOCK ON HAND MAY. 1.

	1885.	1884.
Lumber & timber.....	334,729,000	289,216,785
Shingles.....	104,710,350	204,567,876
Lath.....	18,004,837	27,063,540
Pickets.....	1,770,573	1,003,416
Cedar posts.....	132,500	235,493

LAKE RECEIPTS FROM JAN. 1 TO JUNE 4.

Lath.....	8,271,000
Wood, cords.....	7,003
Posts.....	764,003
Railroad ties.....	378,474
Slabs, cords.....	4,802
Bark, cords.....	1,004
Poles.....	2,083
Spikes.....	200

BOSTON.

The Journal of Commerce of June 6th says: There is a fair trade in supplying the demand for the many building operations in progress, but there is a very close competition for business, and prices in general rule very low. Spruce is in active demand and scarce and cargoes meet with a ready sale firm prices. Hemlock boards are also firm. Western pine is quiet and steady, Southern pine is quiet but rather firmer. Desirable walnut, cherry, and quartered oak are quite firm. Poplar is arriving freely, much of it being of poor quality.

CANADA PINE.

Selects, Dressed.....	\$48 00
Shavings, Dressed, 1st.....	40 00
" " 2nd.....	33 00
Dressed Shippers.....	27 00
Dressed Box.....	18 00
Shathing, 1st quality.....	42 00
" " 2nd.....	34 00

ALBANY.

Quotations at the yards are as follows:—

Pine, clear, # M.....	\$50 00
Pine, fourths.....	45 00
Pine, selects.....	40 00
Pine, good box.....	22 00
Pine, common box.....	13 00
Pine, 10-in. plank, each.....	00 22
Pine, 10-in. plank, culls, each.....	00 22
Pine, 10-in. boards, 16 ft., # M.....	23 00
Pine, 10-in. boards, 18 ft., # M.....	23 00
Pine, 12-in. boards, 16 ft., # M.....	23 00
Pine, 12-in. boards, 18 ft., # M.....	23 00
Pine, 14-in. siding, select.....	40 00
Pine, 14-in. siding, common.....	15 00
Pine, 1-in. siding, select.....	40 00
Pine, 1-in. siding, common.....	13 00
Spruce, boards, each.....	00 00
Spruce, plank, 12-in., each.....	00 00
Spruce, plank, 2-in., each.....	00 00
Spruce, wall strips, each.....	00 12
Hemlock, boards, each.....	00 00
Hemlock, joist, 4x8, each.....	00 00
Hemlock, joist, 2x4, each.....	00 00
Hemlock, wall strips, 2x4, each.....	00 00
Black walnut, good, # M.....	100 00
Black walnut, # M.....	80 00
Black walnut, 2-in. thick.....	00 00
Scaymore, 1-in. thick.....	23 00
Scaymore, 1-in. thick.....	23 00
White wood, 1-in. thick and thicker.....	33 00
White wood, 1-in. thick.....	23 00
Ash, good, # M.....	40 00
Ash, second quality, # M.....	25 00
Cherry, good, # M.....	60 00
Cherry, common, # M.....	25 00
Oak, good, # M.....	40 00
Oak, second quality, # M.....	20 00
Basswood, # M.....	25 00
Hickory, # M.....	40 00
Maple, Canada, # M.....	23 00
Maple, American, per M.....	23 00
Chestnut, # M.....	33 00
Shingles, # M.....	0 00
" " 2nd quality.....	0 00
" " extra, sawed, pine.....	4 00
" " clear.....	4 00
" " cedar, mixed.....	0 00
" " cedar, XXX.....	0 00
" " hemlock.....	0 00
Lath, hemlock, # M.....	0 00
Lath, spruce.....	0 00

OSWEGO, N.Y.

From Our Own Correspondent.

We change quotations on shingles and lath. Cheap railroad freights have enabled Michigan dealers to deliver shingles and lath in this vicinity at very low figures.

Three uppers.....	\$12 00
Picking.....	32 00
Cutting up.....	24 00
Fine Common.....	22 00
Common.....	14 00
Culls.....	11 00
Mill run lots.....	10 00
Shingles, selected, 1 in.....	30 00
" " 1½ in.....	32 00
Mill run, 1x10, 13 to 16 ft.....	15 00
Selected.....	21 00
Shippers.....	14 00
Mill run, 1x10.....	17 00
Selected.....	21 00
Shippers.....	14 00
Mill run, 1x11, 13 to 16 ft.....	15 00
Selected.....	22 00
Culls.....	11 00
127 selected for clapboards.....	25 00
Shingles, XXX, 18 in. pine.....	3 50
Cedar.....	2 50
Lath, No. 1.....	1 50
No. 2.....	1 00