

## Market Reports.

## TORONTO.

From Our Own Correspondent.

MARCH 10.—Continued snow and frost is keeping building operations at a standstill, and dealers are asking the question, if it is possible that this winter will ever have an ending. Numerous building contracts have been commenced, and it was fondly hoped that the business of the season would go steadily on, wheels had commenced to rumble over our streets, but the sleighing is better than at any time during the winter, and the appearance of our streets at present is that of midwinter, and from the outlook at time of writing this letter, our bay may not be open for navigation before the beginning of May. This state of things naturally makes our lumber dealers feel somewhat impatient. During the past winters building has progressed continually during the entire season, but during the present winter it became next to impossible to work at outside contracts. This state of trade has led to considerable competition for the filling of such small bills as were offering, and a consequent cutting on prices; so much so that for the present I feel justified in altering my former quotations, although I am firmly of the opinion that present prices will not remain for any length of time. Retail men have had horses and manille for a good portion of this tedious winter, and therefore feel like doing business for a very small margin of profit sooner than to be entirely idle, hence the cutting on previous rates.

The railway companies dependent on the lumber traffic as their main stay are also feeling the effects of our long winter and have been holding out inducements to shippers, for months' shipments, at a considerable reduction on standing rates. This, however, has not been taken advantage of to any great extent, who-ale men did not feel like making shipments to dull or nearly stagnant market. Liberality on a more extended scale will have to be adopted by the railway companies, otherwise, after long severe winters like the present, the water routes will, on the opening of navigation, absorb a large part of what would otherwise become part of their traffic. If a distiller, or the owner of a grist mill, desire their cars of grain shunted it is done at once and no charge made, but the unfortunate lumberman, if he requires his car of lumber moved 50 rods westward, must pay for the service. Such is the treatment received by these men who deserve the most liberal treatment at the hands of those companies whose lines have been fostered and enriched nearly solely by the lumbermen.

Mill call boards and scantling	\$10 00
Shipping call boards, promiscuous widths	12 00
Stocks	14 00
Scantling and joist, up to 16 ft.	13 00
" " " 18 ft.	11 00
" " " 20 ft.	15 50
" " " 22 ft.	16 00
" " " 24 ft.	17 00
" " " 26 ft.	17 50
" " " 28 ft.	18 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
boards	18 00
Sound dressing stocks	18 00
Picks Am. inspection	23 00
Three uppers, Am. inspection	35 00
B. M.	
11-inch flooring, dressed	32 00
" " " rough	18 00
" " " dressed	26 00
" " " undressed	13 00
" " " dressed	22 00
" " " undressed	16 00
Beaded Shetling, dressed	22 50
Clapboarding, dressed	14 00
XXX sawn shingles, 1/2 M	3 00
Sawn lath	2 75

## MONTREAL.

From Our Own Correspondent.

MARCH 8.—Some little stir has been caused here by the action of the House Committee, who reported favorably to Congress upon the Morrison Tariff Bill, which provides that after the 1st of July the following articles shall be placed on the free list, viz. Timber, sawn boards, hubs for wheels, staves, pickets, laths, clapboards, etc. At present spruce imported from Canada into the United States has to pay a duty of \$1 per 1,000 feet and pine \$2 per 1,000. Should this bill be sanctioned by Congress it

will have the effect of raising the value and increasing the demand of the coarser grades in Canada, as our market will be much nearer and more convenient than the Michigan. Business here is still quiet, but prices are certainly not weakening and they may be stiffening a little. It is reported that owing to the large quantity of snow on the Ottawa, especially on the north side, a large proportion of the logs cannot be hauled to the streams, and if such is the case they cannot be brought down this year. We repeat our late quotations:

Pine, 1st quality, 1/2 M	\$35 00@40 00
Pine, 2nd " " " "	22 00@24 00
Pine, shipping culls, 1/2 M	14 00@16 00
Pine, 4th quality deals, 1/2 M	11 00@12 00
Pine, mill culls, 1/2 M	10 00@12 00
Spruce, 1/2 M	10 00@13 00
Hemlock, 1/2 M	9 00@10 00
Ash, run of log culls out, 1/2 M	20 00@25 00
Bass, 1/2 M	17 00@20 00
Oak, 1/2 M	40 00@50 00
Walnut 1/2 M	60 00 100 00
Cherry, 1/2 M	60 00@80 00
Butternut, 1/2 M	35 00@40 00
Birch, 1/2 M	20 00@25 00
Hard Maple, 1/2 M	25 00@30 00
Lath, 1/2 M	2 50@3 00
Shingles, 1st, 1/2 M	3 00@3 50
Shingles, 2nd, 1/2 M	2 50@3 00

## CORDWOOD.

The recent cold weather has caused quite a brisk demand for wood and large quantities are being brought in by the G. T. R. from townships where there is plenty cut, and waiting for cars to bring it to the city. The C. P. R. supplies are very limited. We have no change to make in our quotations which are ex cartage at the railway station.

Long Maple	\$ 7 00
Long Birch	7 00
Long Beech	5 50
Tamarack	5 50

## WINNIPEG.

"Business in the lumber line," says the Commercial of March 4, "is still in a very slow state, its volume for the week being very light. As there are heavy building contracts to be commenced as soon as spring opens up, it may be considered that the trade is at the darkest hour before the dawn. Quotations are:

Pine lumber, 1st, 1000 boards, dressed	\$30 50
do, 2nd, do do	25 50
do, 1st dressed rough	20 50
do, 2nd do do	25 50
Shooting, rough	25 00
Timber 16 feet and under	24 00
do, over 16 feet, for each additional 2 feet	1 00
Dimension and joists 16 feet and under	24 00
do, do, over 16 feet for each additional 2 feet	1 00
Fencing	25 00
2 and 3 in. battens	20 00
A stock boards, all widths	50 00
A, do, do	45 00
C, do, do	40 00
D, do, do	35 00
1st clear, 1, 1 1/2, 2 and 2 1/2 inch	60 00
2nd do, do do	55 00
Window and door casings	50 00
Base boards, dressed	50 00
1st plan flooring, siding and ceiling	40 00
2nd do, do do	35 00
3rd do, do do	30 00
1 inch split siding, dressed	30 00
Spruce lumber—timber 16 feet and under	22 00
do, do, over 16 feet for each additional 2 feet	1 00
Dimension and joists, 16 feet and under	23 00
do do, do, over 16 feet, for each additional 2 feet	1 00
Boards	22 00
1st flooring, siding and ceiling	23 00
XX shingles	5 25
Star A shingles	5 25
Shingles	5 00
do	4 50
Lath	4 50

## OTTAWA.

From Our Own Correspondent.

MARCH 8.—The severe snow storms that have so frequently occurred this winter militated greatly against the taking out of lumber in the shanties on the upper Ottawa. The storms have been almost unprecedented in their severity. All communication between the isolated parts up north and the settlements and villages has been for long periods altogether cut off. Jobbers and others have experienced the greatest difficulty in forwarding supplies to the scene of operations. One or two shanties have been broken up. The total output will not be, it is generally estimated, as large as last season. Danger is apprehended from the high water that will likely follow the thawing season.

## THE BUDGET.

Very little reference was made in Sir Leonard Tilley's Budget speech to the lumbering industry. The Finance Minister in the commencement of his speech stated that "Owing to the depreciation in the value of lumber, which is one of our principal exports, owing to over trading in certain branches of the Dominion as

well as over imports, we have a depression at the present time, etc."

## NO CHANGE.

In the House of Commons a few days ago the Hon. Mackenzie Bowell, Minister of Customs, in reply to a member, stated that the Government would not this year change the excise duty on spruce and pine logs.

## DEPRESSION AT ALGOMA MILLS.

Reports have been received here of a serious depression existing among the residents at Algoma Mills. The condition of things is described as distressing. The mills being shut down, the employees are in straitened circumstances owing to their being little other work. The large number of families that were enticed there by inducements in regard to railway work are said to be next door to starving, and those who are fortunate enough to have sufficient money to take them away are leaving the place. There is no work for anybody, and able-bodied men are chopping wood in the bush for their board and clothes.

## ALBANY.

Quotations at the yards are as follows:—

Pine, clear, 1/2 M	\$55 00@60 00
Pine, fourths	50 00@55 00
Pine, selects	45 00@50 00
Pine, good box	22 00@23 00
Pine, 10-in. plank, each	00 42@00 46
Pine, 10-in. plank, culls, each	00 23@00 25
Pine, boards, 10-in.	00 23@00 32
Pine, 10-in. boards, culls	00 18@00 21
Pine, 10-in. boards, 16 ft., 1/2 M	23 00@32 00
Pine, 12-in. boards, 16 ft.	30 00@34 00
Pine, 12-in. boards, 13 ft.	27 00@29 00
Pine, 12-in. siding, select	45 00@47 00
Pine, 12-in. siding, common	18 00@20 00
Pine, 1-in. siding, select	43 00@45 00
Pine, 1-in. siding, common	15 00@18 00
Spruce, boards, each	00 00@00 18
Spruce, plank, 12-in., each	00 00@00 20
Spruce, plank, 2-in., each	00 00@00 30
Spruce, wall strips, each	00 12@00 12
Hemlock, boards, each	00 00@00 14
Hemlock, joist, 4x6, each	00 00@00 33
Hemlock, joist, 2x4, each	00 00@00 14
Hemlock, wall strips, 2x4, each	00 00@00 11
Ash, good, 1/2 M	40 00@43 00
Ash, second quality, 1/2 M	25 00@30 00
Cherry, good, 1/2 M	60 00@65 00
Cherry, common, 1/2 M	25 00@35 00
Oak, good, 1/2 M	40 00@43 00
Oak, second quality, 1/2 M	20 00@25 00
Redwood, 1/2 M	25 00@30 00
Hickory, 1/2 M	40 00@40 00
Maple, Canada, 1/2 M	23 00@30 00
Maple, American, per M	23 00@23 00
Chestnut, 1/2 M	33 00@40 00
Shingles, shaver, pine, 1/2 M	0 00@0 60
" 2nd quality	0 00@0 50
" extra, sawed, pine	0 00@0 40
" clear	0 00@0 30
" cedar, mixed	0 00@0 30
" cedar, XXX	0 00@0 40
" hemlock	0 00@0 20
Lath, hemlock, 1/2 M	0 00@0 25
Lath, spruce	0 00@0 30

## BUFFALO.

We quote cargo lots:—

Uppers	\$46 00@48 00
Common	18 00@22 00
Culls	13 00@15 00

## CHICAGO.

The Northwestern Lumberman of March 8, says:—The general condition of the lumber trade, East, West and South, does not vary in any marked degree from that of last week. The principal movement has been west of the lakes, and that mainly from this city to Nebraska, under the stimulus of the low freight rate, which was declared off, and a rate of 15 cents a hundred substituted on March 5. On this account it is expected that the movement westward from this market will fall off for the few days to come, though the increasing building activity of the season will doubtless insure a fair trade at this point from this time onward. Since St. Paul and Minneapolis now have the same rate as that from this city to Missouri river points, it may be anticipated that the demand on stocks at those places will increase. Interior points in Wisconsin report a fair trade. On the whole the condition west of Lake Michigan is improving, so far as the actual demand is concerned. The promising outlook for building improvements in this city, St. Paul, Minneapolis and other large cities of the Northwest, together with prospect of considerable railroad building, a large immigration and improvement in Dakota, Kansas and Nebraska, give encouragement to expect a large consumption of lumber. There is no reason why the same may not be expected in the East, though the lateness of the season in that section of the country is procrastinating the revival of demand in a way that causes some impatience on the part of holders of heavy stocks. The indica-

tions of a heavy consumption of lumber at New York and contiguous points are as obvious as they were last year. The same is true of Boston and New England, though it is probably true that, on account of a certain degree of depression in eastern manufacturing the demand for lumber in New England may not be as strong as it was last year.

Receipts of lumber, shingles, etc., for the week ending March 6, as reported by the Lumberman's Exchange:—

	RECEIPTS.	Lumber.	Shingles.
1884.....	4,355,000	80,000	
1883 .....	1,933,000	3,702,000	
FROM JANUARY 1, 1884, TO MARCH 6, 1884, INCLUSIVE.			
	RECEIPTS.	Lumber.	Shingles.
1884.....	3,889,000	5,449,000	
1883 .....	1,248,000	14,851,000	
Increase.....	12,141,000		
Decrease.....		11,402,000	
STOCK ON HAND FEB. 1.			
1884.	633,223,000	600,572,673	471,850,103
1883 .....	437,745,250	273,004,760	200,509,847
Lath .....	67,556,098	65,176,314	46,691,923
Pickets.....	1,516,999	3,044,799	3,082,823
Cedar posts .....	453,436	87,280	183,460

## BOSTON.

Cotton, Wool and Iron of March 8, say:—

Business is moving along quietly, as the weather is still unfavorable for entering upon outside operations. Prices seem to be quite steadily maintained on most kinds of desirable pine lumber. Southern pine is quiet and unchanged. Hardwoods are having a very fair call at steady prices for desirable lots of walnut, ash and cherry.

## CANADA PINE.

Selects, Dressed	\$48 00@50 00
Shelving, Dressed, 1sts.	40 00@42 00
" 2nds	33 00@35 00
Dressed Shippers	27 00@29 00
Dressed Box	18 00@20 00
Shedding, 1st quality	42 00@45 00
2nd	34 00@35 00

## TONAWANDA.

CARGO LOTS—SAGINAW INSPECTION.

Three uppers	\$45 00@46 00
Common	18 00@24 00
Culls	12 00@14 00

## GLASGOW.

The Timber Trades Journal, of Feb. 23 says: An auction sale of log timber and pine and spruce deals took place at Greenock on the 16th inst. There was a good average attendance, and transactions were to a fair extent, about 400 logs being disposed of, and several parcels of deals.

There is a public sale to note at Glasgow since last writing. Arrivals of wood goods at Clyde ports continue very light; there have been no cargo imports during the week, only a few parcels of oak planks and staves per steamer Liners.

While referring to arrivals per steamers it may be noted that for some time past there was no import of States walnut logs, parcels of which usually keep dropping in pretty frequently, and recent deliveries from the yards here have reduced the stock to a low point. There is some inquiry also for square whitewood logs of good lengths and about 18 and 24 in. square.

The stock of deals has undergone considerable diminution since the beginning of the year. The deliveries in January last from Yorkhill Yards Glasgow, amounted to 72,006, pieces, as against 63,939 pieces in both of log timber and deals, have also been going on actively of late.

## TYNE.

The Timber Trades Journal of Feb. 23 says: In American goods' stocks are large—much too large for the prospect. This remark applies to all except yellow pine deals, which are becoming scarce, and are held very firmly at advanced rates. Of pit-prop and mining timber the stock is still much too heavy, and prices do not improve. The Gothenburg steamers are bringing forward good large parcels of pit-prop, which keep the stock still too large. These boats appear to find abundant employment, though at the low rate of 15s. per standard freight it cannot be a very profitable trade to run them.

There is so far little improvement to note in the general state of trade. House building is brisk, and property appears to sell at remuner-