

n all other departments of business. There is reported to be a slight improvement in demand, however, from the Eastern States market, which is regarded as an indication that wholesalers have reached the point where stocking up must be done, and also that they have ceased to expect a drop in values. Bradstreet's reports go to show that the business of the country is in a prosperous condition, there being fewer failures than for many years past. This fact coupled with the prospect of good crops in most parts of the country and the resumption of building consequent upon a settlement of the labor disputes which paralyzed operations earlier in the season, should certainly largely increase the demand and maintain the strength of the market. The consumption for the first six months of the year is far behind that of 1899, notwithstanding prices have not declined to any considerable extent. It is therefore reasonable to expect that with the strengthening of the demand there will be no further decline. As a result of recent rains many of the logging streams in the North West have risen to an extent sufficient to allow of the drives being brought down to the mills, and manufacturing operations have recommenced. For more than a month, however, many of the mills have been idle, so that there is certain to be a decrease in their output. The demand for hardwood for the export trade is improving, but for home consumption there is but little request, although it is not expected that prices will fall much below present figures.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The consumption of timber in the British market for the first half of the present year shows a deficiency, as compared with the first six months of 1899, of 20,408 standards of sawn and planed goods, and 4,713 loads of floated timber. Notwithstanding the arrival of numerous vessels since the date of last report the market shows no sign of weakness. Deal sizes, especially 11 inch, are usually scarce, and some merchants are obliged to buy at second hand and high prices from other dealers who were fortunate enough to lay in a stock early in the season before tonnage became so difficult to secure.

The market for spruce continues remarkably strong, many specifications call for 6 to 8 inch, of which the market is at present quite bare. Unless heavy shipments arrive late in the season there is little reason to anticipate a drop in values. Up to the present time the indications point to a decrease in supply as compared with last year. At a recent auction sale in London of North Europe and Colonial deals there was keen competition among the purchasers. Many consumers are now taking stock for the first six months of the year. When this is completed the condition of demand will become more clear.

An auction sale of spruce and pine deals, comprising 150 standards of the former and 120 of the latter, forming a shipment from St. John, N. B., was held at Liverpool recently. The stock is said to have been of poor quality, being hard and knotty and irregular in thickness. 3x11 sold at £9; 3x10 at £8; and 3x9 at £8 1s 3d. 3x8 and 3x7 sold at £7 15s; 2½x7 at £7 per standard. £7 6s 3d was offered and refused for 3x7 and 3x8 red pine deals, as was also a bid of £7 for 2x5 and 3x6 scantling. Cargoes of 1,500 to 1,750 standards New Brunswick spruce deals, full specifications, are selling at £7 15s c.i.f. Liverpool. Floorings are reported to be selling well on the London market, the favorite dimensions being 1 inch and ¾ inch. There is also a good demand for ¾ inch matching. Tonnage is difficult to procure from Canadian ports, unless vessel owners' demands are promptly agreed to. From the bay of Fundy 58s 9d to 60s is quoted, and from the St. Lawrence 60s to 62s 6d.

The Fred Robinson Lumber Co., of Kevel stoke, B. C., is experiencing considerable loss through high water. Their kevelstoke mill will probably close down for a short time, being unable to get logs from the Wingham camp.

THE GLASGOW MARKET.

Messrs. Allison, Causland & Co., in their trade circular dated June 30th, say:

"The market during the past quarter has been in a sound condition, the amount of business transacted being considerable. Importers are well through their stocks. Arrivals have been light and chiefly on contract, and with the present high rate of freight, it is improbable that there will be heavy consignments. On the other hand consumers still hold heavy stocks. The present outlook is not at all clear, as, with the high prices prevailing for coal and all raw material, general trade is no doubt falling away rapidly; in fact, it is said that not one new shipbuilding contract has been booked in the Clyde during the past month. As will be observed from the tables, the stock compares very favorably with past years."

The condition of stocks and demand for Canadian timber is given as follows:

YELLOW PINE.—WANEV.—Prime wood, the demand is limited, but is firmly held. 2nd class timber has been more in request; the reductions in the stock is largely in this grade. Quotations.—Prime wood, 19 to 20 inches average, 2s 8d to 2s 10d. 2nd class, 18d to 2s 2d per c. ft. SQUARE.—The stock is almost entirely in importers' hands. The demand is limited, and little business has been done.

RED PINE.—Stocks are heavy, with little enquiry. 1st class is quoted at 22d to 2s 2d. F. A. Q. 17d to 19d per cubic foot.

ELM.—The stock is exceedingly small. Prices are very firm. Quotations—45 to 50 feet average, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per c. ft.

OAK.—The stock is considerably reduced, but is still quite sufficient for the demand.

ASH.—The stock of Quebec wood is practically nil.

BIRCH.—The demand has been moderate. Several lines have changed hands at fair figures. Quotations—18d to 21d for 14 to 16 inch average.

PINE.—FIRSTS.—Stocks are small and prices very firm, but sales have been rather limited. Quotations.—Broad, £26 16s 3d to £29 11s 3d. Undersized, £20 12s 6d to £22 13s 9d per Std. Pet. St. Seconds.—There is little or no stock in importers' hands. Quotations.—Broad, £19 18s 9d to £22 13s 9d. Undersized—£15 16s 3d to £17 3s 9d per Std. Pet. St. Thirds.—Are in moderate demand at good prices. Regulars are quoted at £12 7s 6d to £13 1s 3d. Undersized, £9 12s 6d to £9 19s 4d per Std. Pet. St. Fourth.—Eleven inch and Undersized are in more request than Broad, but all are firmly held. Quotations.—Regulars, £9 12s 6d. Undersized, £8 5s to £8 18s 9d per Std. Pet. St.

REDS.—There is a good demand, but sales are limited owing to the high prices asked by sellers. Quotations—£15 2s 6d to £16 10s per Std. Pet. St.

SPRUCE.—There is still a fair stock, but much reduced since last quarter. Prices are good. Quotations—£7 11s 3d to £9 5s 7d per Std. Pet. St.

DEALS, BATTENS AND BOARDS.—There has been a good consumption, and values remain very steady at £7 11s 3d to £10 6s 3d per Std. Pet. St.

BIRCH.—There has been practically no import of logs, but planks have come on freely, most parcels being sold ex quay. Prices however are now somewhat weaker.

SPRUCE.—Any consignments meet with a ready sale at good prices. Quotations—£7 11s 3d to £9 19s 4d per Std. Pet. St. for 2nd quality average.

THE OTTAWA VALLEY.

(Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

Local lumber operations have assumed the energy characteristic of them before the disastrous fire, and shipping is becoming brisker. J. R. Booth's mill is working night and day, and all available piling ground is being utilized. Considerable lumber is being shipped to American points by rail, but owing to a slow movement in building operations across the border this feature of the business is not as brisk as it otherwise would be.

The Hull Lumber Company is cutting steadily in three mills, and shipping to American points by rail direct from the saw. Gilmour & Hughson's steam mill is turning out a large cut, the W. C. Edwards Company is cutting night and day, and Bailey's mill in Aylmer is also being operated with two shifts.

As yet no delay has been caused at the local mills by the non arrival of logs.

Despite the fact that building operations in the burnt districts of both Hull and Ottawa are brisk, the local lumber market shows no bullish tendencies. In Ottawa several contractors look for an easier movement in prices, and hence the building operations in some quarters have been delayed. Prices will ad-

vance, as the local and outside demand is bound to increase. Last week the first shipment by water was made from the Booth mill at the Chaudiere the river yard having been filled with the cut. Men are engaged putting the large piling ground along the Quebec side of the river in shape to receive the new cut.

Considerable lumber is being shipped to Hull from the small mills of the Gatineau, and building operations are much brisker in the Quebec city than in Ottawa. The fire by-law gives the ratepayers a year in which to make their buildings fireproof, and the city, with the exception of Main street, is being built up solid, with wooden shells, to be enclosed later in brick, etc.

Ottawa is to have another new and large wood working establishment. The W. C. Edwards Company has secured control of the Capital Planing Mills and Ottawa Specialty Company. The premises in the latter concern were swept clean in the fateful fire, but the business, manufacturing office and bank fittings, etc., will be conducted in the large stone grist mill on the Edwards premises at New Edinburgh, which has been unoccupied for some time. The rougher class of work will be turned out in the Capital planing mill as before, but on a larger scale. The Ottawa Specialty Company did a large local and export business and employed 50 hands. About 150 will be employed in the new establishment. Machinery to the value of \$10,000 will be installed, and about \$50,000 will be invested in the business altogether. The concern is to be one of the largest of its kind in eastern Canada.

Large numbers of river and shanty men are returning to Ottawa from the drives. The clerks who have been working on the Hull Lumber Company's limits have also returned. They report that many logs are stranded on the smaller streams of the Kippewa and Ostoboning districts.

Recently Mr. J. R. Booth, the millionaire millowner of Ottawa, advanced the wages of his men, having in mind the losses they sustained in the recent fire.

Building operations on the E. B. Eddy Company's establishments are well advanced. The machine shop is completed, and work on the woodworking establishment and match factory is being pushed ahead. The paper mills are being rebuilt on a larger scale than before, and the foundations for the immense paper mills are being laid. The saw mill will also be built on a larger scale than before, and on the same site. Extensive limits have been secured by the E. B. Eddy Company, and the wood working and paper making branches promise a larger output than before the fire. Considerable delay was experienced in removing the large amount of machinery and debris. Fully 500 men are now engaged about the works.

The Ottawa city council at its last meeting adopted the fire by-law thrown out at a previous meeting. The clauses of the by-law limit the piling of lumber in residential areas to 500-000 ft. and a distance of at least 10 ft. must be allowed for in the proximity of streets and buildings. In the more thickly populated parts this distance is increased to 60 feet. The by-law

also provides that buildings must be made fire-proof, and roofs covered with fire-proof shingles or other materials.

From advices received by Ottawa firms from their American agents, it would seem that there is a deadlock between the manufacturers and wholesale dealers and the retail dealers in building materials at American points. As a result business is slack, thus affecting the shipments and the local business in export lines.

OTTAWA, July 9, 1900.

SHIPPING MATTERS.

The bark Launberga, 1,218 tons, arrived at Yarmouth to load lumber for South America, on April 17th, and did not get away until the 30th of June. The custom of the port only being 20 M. per working day, actually gave this vessel 55 lay days. The facilities for loading at Yarmouth are far behind the age, which makes it a very undesirable place for large vessels.

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