

Market Reports.

MONTREAL.

From our own Correspondent.

MAY 23rd.—The heavy rain which this region has been visited with during the past 24 hours seems to have put new life into all kinds of business, and will help the movement of logs in some of the streams running into the Ottawa, which it was feared would not be got out on account of the lowness of the water. The consumptive demand in our local market has been moderately active and considerably larger than last year at this time. Prices are well sustained, as dry seasoned stock is not by any means in over supply. The cut in the lumber districts this season has been pretty large, and stocks are expected to be fully maintained here. We quote prices steady as follows for sound lots, ex yard:—

Pine, 1st quality, $\frac{3}{4}$ M	\$35 00@40 00
Pine, 2nd " " $\frac{3}{4}$ M	22 00@24 00
Pine, shipping culls, $\frac{3}{4}$ M	14 00@15 00
Pine, cull deals, $\frac{3}{4}$ M	8 00@12 00
Pine, mill culls, $\frac{3}{4}$ M	8 00@10 00
Spruce, $\frac{3}{4}$ M	10 00@11 00
Hemlock, $\frac{3}{4}$ M	9 00@11 00
Ash, run of long culls out, $\frac{3}{4}$ M	10 00@18 00
Bass, " " " " $\frac{3}{4}$ M	16 00@17 00
Oak, $\frac{3}{4}$ M	35 00@45 00
Birch, $\frac{3}{4}$ M	17 00@20 00
Hard Maple, $\frac{3}{4}$ M	18 00@25 00
Lath, $\frac{3}{4}$ M	1 50@2 00
Shingles, 1st, $\frac{3}{4}$ M	3 00@3 00
Shingles, 2nd, $\frac{3}{4}$ M	2 00@2 00

SHIPPING.

Large quantities of lumber are arriving awaiting shipment by the first chartered vessels. The delay caused to shipping by so much ice in the Gulf has kept vessels back, although not much later than last year, when the first vessel to the River Plate sailed on the 9th of June. As there are a large number of vessels to load, shippers will soon be very busy. No rafts have as yet passed the city.

FREIGHTS.

There has been several engagements of ships for lumber to South America since the date of our last report, at \$14, while steamships for direct ports in the United Kingdom get from 55s. to 60s.

CORDWOOD.

Wood is plentiful just now, but as little wood was got out this season in Upper Canada, the prospects are that it will be scarce and prices at this moment are very firm, but the demand is poor, as is usually the case at this season of the year. We advance some of our quotations this week for wood on the wharf, ex cartage:—

Long Maple	\$7 00
Short " "	6 50
Long Birch	6 50
Short " "	6 00
Long Beech	5 50
Short " "	5 00
Tamarack	4 50@5 00

TORONTO.

From our own Correspondent.

MAY 22nd.—Sales have assumed a brisker aspect since I last wrote you, and most of the yards are now fairly active and prices remain firm, with a decided scarcity of dry lumber, in fact 1½ in. dry picks and cut up cannot be got in any quantity, factory men being the only ones possessed of any stock of this description; but the quantity of building material to be used in this city this season will be far below the two preceding years, as speculative building has been most effectually choked off, and is now being carried on by only two or three individuals whose credit remains as yet unimpaired, and lumber dealers have now come to the conclusion that if they undertake to deliver a bill of lumber they have a clear right to know when and by whom they are to be paid. Heretofore in numerous instances the lumber has been delivered and used in the buildings, the bricklayer and carpenter, and in fact all tradesmen whose labour had gone into the buildings, made themselves secure by lien, and if the speculator failed to complete his contracts, the mortgagee steps in and takes possession, and the lumber dealer may whistle for his money. This, I venture to say, is a state of things that has no right to exist in any country. The lumber has gone into the buildings, and the mortgagee has value, if not, the fault is his own, but in any case the one who delivers any material that goes into the construction of any building should be able to collect from someone for that material.

Shipping over the docks is still fairly active, but a prevalence of east winds during the last two weeks has somewhat retarded vessels from making speedy trips, and one noticeable feature in present shipments is the small quantity of good lumber going forward, which may be partially accounted for by the fact that owing to the good prices offered last fall, nearly all the good lumber fit for shipment went forward before the close of the season, and some by rail during the winter months, so that we need not look for much clear and picks to go forward until this season's cut is fit for removal, and the percentage of good lumber obtained from a season's operations is far below that formerly obtained from stocks cut on the frontier to-morrow.

QUOTATIONS, FROM YARDS.

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

OTTAWA.

From our own Correspondent.

MAY 24th.—Everything hereabouts is practically "booming," and the lumbering industry presents a hopeful outlook. Already a number of the season's cut have been disposed of. Very little lumber remains on hand unsold, and there is none of last year's cut but what is sold and is being shipped. Lumber is in good demand and mills are in full operation. Mr. Huntley, the obliging agent in this city for the New York & Lake Champlain Transportation Company, informs me that shipping just now is exceedingly lively, but there is a scarcity of boats.

SHIPPING RATES.

at present are as follows:—

To New York, stocks and sidings	\$3 50
To Albany, " "	3 25
To Whitehall, " "	3 25
To New York, strips and shorts	3 75
To Albany, " "	3 50
To Whitehall, " "	3 50

MILL RUNS.

For season's mill run, including all that a fair average quality of logs will make (mill culls out), are selling at from \$15 to \$17 per M. 1x12 good stocks, 12 to 16 feet. \$20@22 per M. 1x12 " cull " " 13@16 " 1x10 good stocks, " " 18@20 " 1x10 " cull " " 12@14 " 1 in. good stocks " " 30@35 " 1½ and 2 in. cull " " 30@35 " 1 in. cull sidings " " 10@11 " 1½ and 2 in. cull sidings " " 12@13 " 1½ and 2 in. good strips " " 12@23 " Cull strips " " 7@9 " Good strips, 6 to 11 feet long " " 10@13 " Cull strips " " 7@9 "

The above mentioned prices vary as regards the quality and width.

DIMENSION LUMBER.

Size.	Length.	Price.
12 in.	12 to 16 feet.	\$13 per M.
" "	16 " 19 "	14 "
" "	20 " 24 "	15 "
" "	25 " 29 "	17 "
" "	30 " 34 "	19 "
" "	35 " 39 "	21 "
" "	40 " 44 "	25 "
" "	45 " 49 "	30 "

In larger sizes the prices increase in proportion.

RUNNING THE SLIDES.

Square timber rafts have already commenced running the slides at this city. Mr. O. Latour is now being brought down. It is a splendid looking raft, some of the timber having a prime appearance. Considerable improvements have been made to the slides, which will be a great saving to the lumbermen in preventing accidents, which in the past were numerous.

A NEW ADVENTURE.

Heretofore the idea of navigating the lakes

above the Ottawa was not even thought of, but the remarkable progress of the day has brought a wonderful change, and this summer witnesses steamboats plying on Lakes Temiscamingue and Kippewa. This gratifying innovation is due to the enterprising spirit of Mr. Oliver Latour, who has constructed two crafts to navigate those large bodies of water. These boats will prove a great boon to the limit owners in that part of the country, who will save three week's time in bringing the timber to the mills and markets. One remarkable incident connected with this enterprise is worthy of notice. The two engines and boilers and other machinery of one of these boats had to be transported a distance of seventy miles over a very mountainous country. The task was considered as almost impossible, but the energy of Mr. Latour overcame all obstacles, and the work was completed satisfactorily.

SEASON OF LOW WATER.

Local millowners again this year fear a repetition of last spring's low water, and consequent impossibility of navigating the logs cut the past winter on the limits, and also those stuck last year, down to the mills. In some cases it is reported that certain jobbers had to drag the logs over the ground a considerable distance, the creeks having dried up. This will entail an extra expense. If heavy rains do not soon fall, things generally will have a rather blue outlook. The timber that has reached the main stream will reach its destination all right. Nearly every bay on the Temiscamingue from the Kippewa up to the Fort is full of logs or timber, sometimes both. Mr. Latour, Captain Young, and Mr. Sireney occupy the east shore, and Mr. Hickey the west.

CANADA'S PINE WOODS.

Mr. James Little, of Montreal, well known as having devoted many years' services in regard to forestry, was in the city a few days ago on business with the government. Mr. Little was one of the invited delegates to the American Forestry Congress, which was held some time ago at Cincinnati, O., and the next session of which will be held in Montreal in August next, about the same time as the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. During a conversation with Mr. Little, that gentleman expressed gratification that the papers of this country had so generally taken up the question of forestry, and dwelt upon the rapid consumption of our supply of pine timber.

LONDON, ONT.

From our own Correspondent.

MAY 23rd.—There is nothing of great interest to report in the lumber business of this city since my last letter. You will remember that some weeks ago the merchants held a meeting and entered into a compact to sell only at uniform figures. This would appear to have been the most equitable and reasonable method of self-protection and protection to the lumber business of the city generally, but it has been elicited that parties to the compact made have broken their obligations, and have succumbed to the tempting tenders of cash down. These cases, however, mostly apply to small lots purchased by farmers and carried out to their farms in their own wagons. The principle, however, is a dead letter, so far as any agreement in prices is concerned, and some of the honorable dealers who have striven hard to maintain the integrity of this agreement, have resolved to pay little or no attention in the future to these explosive consolidations.

Stock boards which were firm at \$16 are known to have been sold at \$15 and \$15.50.

Shingles also show an easier tendency, though at the mills prices are actually hardening.

The block pavement is progressing satisfactorily. There is no waiting for blocks, they are coming in by the train about twice each day, and are discharged into the very hands of the workmen. Mr. Cathro, the contractor, seems to understand his business.

Building here is very dull, there being nothing of importance going forward with the exception of Birrell's new wholesale warehouse; other properties will, however, be proceeded with as soon as ever brick begins to come in.

Though prices may be said to be somewhat easier, I could not, with any certainty of being

correct, make any change from those last given.

QUOTATIONS.

Mill cull boards and scantling	\$12 00
Shipping cull boards, promiscuous widths	13 00
" " " " 10 and 12 in. stocks	15 00
Common boards, promiscuous widths	16 00
Scantling and joist, up to 16 ft.	16 00
" " " " 18 ft.	16 50
" " " " 20 ft.	17 00
" " " " 22 ft.	18 00
" " " " 24 ft.	20 00
Common stocks	16 00
Common 2 in. plank	15 00
Cutting up plank and " "	20 00
Sound dressing stock	15 00
Clear and picks	25 00
Three uppers, Am. inspe. on	35 00
1 inch dressed and matched flooring	23 00
" " " " " "	23 00
" " " " " "	23 00
XXX sawn shingles, $\frac{3}{4}$ M	3 50
Lath per 1000 feet	5 00

ST JOHN, N. B.

From our own Correspondent.

MAY 20th.—Since last report very little of special interest has occurred in connection with the wood trade. The continued cold, dry weather keeps the freights in the rivers and streams at a moderate pitch, and the driving and rafting of logs are in steady progress.

DEALS.

There is no change in the deal market. The demand shows no signs of abatement, and prices are firm at our last quotations. There is no accumulation of stock, shipmen's keeping pace with the production.

STEAMSHIPS.

With regard to steamships, the cry is, "still they come." The following steamers have arrived since the date of last report, and several others are chartered to arrive:—

Victoria, 2,031,	Rhiwindda, 1,329,
Panama, 1,357,	Stanmore, 1,369,
Juliet, 1,364,	Italia, 1,451,
Cid, 976,	Coronella, 875.

FREIGHTS.

The freight market is still controlled by steam. Rates have fluctuated between 47s. 6d. and 50s.; we quote 49s. as about the market rate to-day. We hear of no exclusively deal charters by sailing ships.

SHIPMENTS.

The shipments of deals and other sawn lumber are as follows:—

For Europe	12,554,000 Sup feet
" United States	2,848,000 "
" West Indies	164,000 "

SHIPPING.

The following is a list of the vessels in port, with their tonnage and destinations:—

Antwerp, 573, E. C. Ireland or W. C. England.
Serrano, 594, Waterford.
Orontes, 740, W. C. England.
Henry, 1,064, Liverpool.
Rurik, 831, United Kingdom.
Minnie Swift, 1,150, Liverpool.
Low Wood, 1,091, W. C. England.
Crown Jewel, 716, W. C. England.
Melbourne, 621, Limerick.
Maori, 656, discharging.
Bertie Biglow, 1,142, Liverpool.
Syringa, 605, Galway.
Nordcap, 475, United Kingdom.
Panama, (s), 1,357, France.
Juliet, (s), 1,364, Liverpool.
Cid, (s), 976, United Kingdom.
Frisk, 619, United Kingdom.
Rhiwindda, (s), 1,329, Bristol Channel.
Anna P. Odell, 379, —
Dorott Dubrovnicki, 640, Liverpool.
Stanmore, (s), 1,369, Bristol Channel.
Italia, (s), 1,451, Glasgow.
Coronella, (s), 875, United Kingdom.
Kate Barrie, 691, W. C. Ireland.

ALSANY.

The *Argus* says dealers in pine lumber report a steady trade throughout the week at unchanged prices. New York dealers, with whom stocks of all kinds of lumber are very light, are not as yet free buyers in our market, yet they cannot go to the mills in Michigan or Canada and buy stock at the price they can obtain it here. The moderate receipts by canal are to be ascribed to the advanced freights at Buffalo and Tonawanda to \$2.50 per M. feet to Albany; but few boats are to be had at that figure, and a still further advance is looked for by some houses here.

Very little, if any, dry lumber is to be had in Michigan or Canada; large sales of new cut are being made.

Hardwoods are firm in price and in steady demand.

Coarse lumber receivers report no change in