

the trade hold that a reaction will take place in the near future, but this is not the general view, as even if projected undertakings should be delayed on account of the high cost of materials, it is improbable that the market so far as prices are concerned would suffer to any great extent. The shortage of logs in Sweden is pointed to as one of the most reliable factors in the substantiation of present values. The reverses of the British army in South Africa have had no visible influence on business enterprises, and although discount rates are high, there is no lack of money. There are indications that freight rates will this year be as high, if not higher, than in 1899, one cause for which will be the high price of coal. Canadian spruce continues to advance in price in all the leading markets. In London it is said that £9 10s is being paid for third quality, and that the quantity of 11 inch in the market is very small. Pine prices are also very firm. The demand for timber is fair, elm being more enquired for than the other classes of wood and selling as high as 2s 10d per cubic foot.

NEW BRUNSWICK CEDAR SHINGLES.

The past week has been one of snow and cold weather, and as a result out-door building operations are at a stand-still and no shingles are entering into consumption. There are, however, a few orders being placed, some exceptional yard dealers showing themselves willing to purchase as against their future needs when they can do so on the basis of the very lowest quotations of to-day, say at \$3.00 for extras on Boston freight. These orders are being accepted by the commission houses for account of the small mills who are unable to hold their product until the spring trade opens. We learn from manufacturing districts that the few orders being placed are of sufficient volume to keep the product of the little mills well cleaned up, and that standard brands are firmly held by all the larger manufacturers in the full expectation of realizing considerably better prices when actual consumption commences in the spring. These manufacturers are presenting such a united front, and seem to be so sure of the strength of their position, that the probabilities point most strongly to their ultimate

success and to an advancing market later on. A strong factor in support of this theory is the recent advance of ten cents per thousand on Washington cedars. These are now quoted at Boston at \$3.20 to \$3.30, and as the New Brunswick shingles are preferred in the New England trade at equal prices, or even in most cases at slightly higher figures, it is plainly apparent that our manufacturers are holding the point of vantage and will secure full prices for their product if they have patience to await the demand before endeavoring to market their goods. Figures generally asked by all standard mills are: Extras, \$3.10 to \$3.15; clears, \$2.70 to \$2.75; 2nd clears and saps, \$2.15 to \$2.20. As stated above, inferior and unknown brands are being sold at ten cents off from these figures, but \$3 seems to be the minimum limit for straight cars of extras.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

A Nova Scotia paper states that 60,000,000 feet of logs will be cut this winter in the counties of Lunenburg, Digby and Annapolis.

It is reported that all the contracts for the erection of the Ogilvie mill and elevator at Fort William, Ont., have been cancelled.

M. Brennan & Sons have secured the contract for the annual supply of lumber for the city of Hamilton, at \$16.14 per thousand for plank.

At Fredericton, N.B., a three mile timber berth at the head of Burnt Brook was sold last week to Wm. Richards & Co., at \$51 per mile.

The Italian bark Elicar sailed from Vancouver, B.C., last week for Callao, South America, with 978,268 feet of lumber, valued at \$3,100.

Wm. Thexton, of Millbrook, Ont., has purchased 80 acres of timber land at Brunswick and is getting out a large stock of logs for his mill.

Barn boards are selling in the Tonawanda market at the following prices: 1 x 6 to 1 x 12 No. 1 barn, \$26; 1 x 4 to 1 x 12 No. 2, \$24 to \$26; 1 x 4 to 1 x 12 No. 3, \$22 to \$25; 1 1/4 x 12, 1 1/2 x 12, 2 x 12 and 3 x 12 No. 3, \$26 to \$27.

The Caledonian Railway Co., of Glas-

gow, Scotland, have placed their order for oak planks required during the year, dividing it between James Kennedy & Co., Edmiston & Mitchell, Singleton, Dunr & Co., Allison, Cousland & Co., and Brownlee & Co. The aggregate amount is 150,000 cubic feet.

BUFFALO AND TONAWANDA.

[Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.]

Snow is coming down and there is a more hopeful feeling in the pine lumber yards. It is quite possible that before this letter is in print there will be sleighing all through the Canadian woods, which will make a wide difference in the outlook. All winter so far there has been the general complaint that there was no snow, and that if it did not come soon there would be a great shortage of logs and that prices would go up nobody knows how high. This market is fighting against a further advance, and though it now looks as though it would have to be made, it will not need to be so sharp if the logs cut is all got to the mills.

It is so strange to hear that there is not snow enough in the Georgian Bay district to make sleighing, but such seems to have been the case until now. The Holland & Emery Company reports that the outlook till now has been entirely against getting any logs, and much concern is manifested everywhere. Duluth lumbermen are sending letters here complaining that the winter is so far gone now that there is small prospect, even with snow through February, of getting a full cut to the mills. How

(Continued on page 3.)

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