

Ashes, pot	\$ 578,814	Deal ends	\$ 227,602
" pearl	59,430	Planks & boards	8,527,249
Ash timber	68,499	Spars	25,913
Birch	173,945	Masts	13,225
Elm	229,849	Handspikes	149
Maple	4,429	Laths	161,145
Oak	1,280,420	Lathwood	9,490
White pine	4,155,974	Firewood	469,781
Red pine	3,77,970	Shin. les	240,730
Tamarac	9,720	Shingle bolts	31,408
Walnut	51,003	Stave bolts	7,440
Hickory &c.	24,510	Oak logs	8,028
Staves	812,828	Spruce logs	27,556
Battens	2,838	Pine logs	28,763
Knees, &c.	3,433	Sleepers, ties &c.	194,698
Scantling	256,343	Oars	2,451
Deals	5,113,978	Other woods	496,665
Total,			\$23,685,382

Before proceeding to notice the countries which purchase our lumber, we may say that our imports thereof are insignificant. They consist almost exclusively of mahogany, rosewood, walnut, cherry and pitch pine, and the total value last year was only \$96,137. As in all other articles, Great Britain and the United States absorb the greater portion of the produce of our forests, the lion's share being taken by the former. It is gratifying to know, however, that this branch of annual trade has been largely extending to other countries, and that in the event of our not being satisfied with the markets of our two principal customers, we have a wide field in other, if more distant nations. With better means of communication, there can be little doubt that there might be a great expansion of our lumber trade with the West Indies, South America, France, Portugal and other parts of continental Europe, as also the Sandwich islands, China and other oriental lands. British Columbia has most valuable forests, which contain vast stores of wealth to enterprising operators, and when lumbering is entered upon comprehensively and with large capital in that province, as it ultimately will be, our Pacific lumber trade with the Australian colonies, China, Peru, Chili and the islands of Polynesia, must assume handsome proportions. In order to bring before our readers concisely the different parts of the globe to which our immense annual shipments of lumber find their way we have made up the following statement, which shows the different countries, and how much each purchased, of our lumber exports last year:—

France	\$64,525	Spanish Indies	\$294,605
British Indies	603,007	Canary Islands	24,742
Great Britain	12,776,684	Africa	5,006
St. Pierre Mig.	15,745	United States	9,164,038
B. N. A. Provinces	131,413	New South Wales	10,326
Spain	4,016	Victoria (Aus.)	10,770
Portugal	42,787	New Zealand	5,100
B. lium	39,101	Sou. America	477,205
Holland	6,376	Chili	55,700
Gibraltar	6,124	Peru	50,473
Foreign Indies	37,52	Sandwich Islands	10,124
San Domingo	3,842	China	49,711
Madeira	10,637	Val. araiso	2,350
Bermu a	2,294		

The Province of Quebec takes the first place as the exporter of lumber, but it must be borne in mind, just as in the case of cereals, that a large proportion of the lumber and timber ostensibly shipped from

Quebec, was really grown and manufactured in Ontario. Taking the returns as they stand, however, the Province of Ontario sold last year to the value of \$6,109,742; Quebec, \$13,059,684; the Maritime Provinces, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, \$1,159,827 and \$3,356,229 respectively, and British Columbia to the extent of \$214,377.

Nothing further need be added to show the immense importance of the lumber trade of the Dominion, and it is matter for deep regret, and one closely affecting the general business of the country, that this important interest should be somewhat under a cloud at the present time. This circumstance must inevitably affect production this winter. Fewer men have been sent to the shanties up the Ottawa than usual, and with large stocks on hand, all over the country, in which millions of capital are locked up, it is more than probable that operations will be generally restricted. We have strong faith, however, that the prevailing depression will be but temporary, and it is a satisfaction to know that no class can better stand a pinch than our lumbermen, and that whilst some financial pressure may exist from carrying over part of this season's stock, the lumber will keep without depreciating in value. Some inconvenience is doubtless felt by the banks, as also by the business public generally, by the locking up of so much capital. But a little patience will bring matters round. Before many months, we feel assured the clouds will break and roll away, and our truly great lumber trade once more attain that condition of prosperity which it has so long and steadily enjoyed.

#### WORKING CLASSES OF BRITAIN AND CANADA.

A great deal has been said and written of late, particularly in Great Britain, in regard to the working classes, and the best means of elevating them intellectually and morally, and improving their circumstances. We had a visit in Canada a few weeks ago from Mr. Joseph Arch, the chosen representative of the English farm labourers, whose scheme for the benefit of the class to which he belongs, is only one of many advocated for the good of the "toiling millions" of Great Britain whose labour barely secures them a scanty subsistence. These efforts merit the warmest approbation and most active assistance, for with higher wages and more comfortable circumstances, not only would there be more intelligence, more virtue and more sobriety among the working classes but society at large would be vastly benefitted.

We are forced to confess, however, that we can discover only very faint hopes for improvement to the British working man except in one way—emigration. The wages there for labour, both skilled and unskilled, are so low, and the cost of living so high, that even in prosperous times there is a constant struggle among working families to make ends meet, and if work slackens or sickness intervene, the wolf, poverty, enters the door. In the large cities like Glasgow, Manchester, Newcastle and Birmingham, tens of thousands of families occupy single rooms, the heads of them see little or no hope of improvement in their position, and the result too often is, drink, misery and crime.

The contrast between the position of the working classes in Britain and in Canada, is at once marked and suggestive. Here the working man is hopeful and rising; there, despondent, and at best stationary. Here he is in a great measure independent; there, dependent and harrassed by extreme poverty. Whence this difference between men of the same race and class separated by less than three thousand miles of ocean? The answer is chiefly to be found in two causes: 1st, labour is worth more in Canada, and 2nd, living is cheaper. It is said that ship-building on the Clyde was seldom ever more prosperous than last year, and that the wages of workmen were better by 15 per cent. than usual. But how would our Canadian mechanics like to work for the following rates per week, which are quoted as those paid on the Clyde last season:—

Pattern-makers	27s 10d	equal to	\$6.96 gold
Carpenters	28s 8d	"	7.16 "
Turners and Fitters	26s 6d	"	6.62 "
Planers and Finishers	25s 6d	"	6.37 "
Smiths	28s 0d	"	7.00 "
Smiths' Finishers	24s 8d	"	6.16 "
Platers	32s 0d	"	8.00 "
Rivet ers	28s 8d	"	7.16 "
Caulkers	28s 9d	"	7.18 "
Ship Carpenters	28s 8d	"	7.16 "
Ship Joiners	26s 6d	"	6.62 "
Unskilled labourers average	18s 0d	"	4.50 "

Compare these wages with those paid last summer, and which are now being paid throughout this country. Ordinary unskilled labourers in our cities and towns earn from \$1.25 to \$1.50 per day, and, therefore more than the best skilled Scotch mechanics, whilst the British labourer has to sustain a family on what is made by hundreds of young girls in our factories, say \$3.50 to \$4.00 per week. As the rate of wages differs in different localities, it is difficult to ascertain the average wages obtained by those following the leading trades throughout Ontario; but in several places first-class Masons here lately commanded \$15. Carpenters \$12, Plasters \$15, Moulders \$12, and Blacksmiths \$10.50 per week. These figures are considerably in excess of