

thousand is being paid for a specification of 20 per cent. 11 inch, 45 per cent. 9 inch, and balance 8 and 7 inch. The statement of the St. John river cut published in another column indicates a lighter crop of logs in New Brunswick than last year. The market for New Brunswick cedar shingles is quiet, with a slight tendency towards weakness. The large manufacturers are holding out for \$3.50 for extras on Boston rate of freight, but in some instances this price has been shaded about ten cents.

MANITOBA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The lumber trade of the western provinces continue to look for an unusually active season. Preparations are being made to meet the increased demand for lumber which will arise not only from extensive building operations but also on account of the steadily increasing number of settlers. A new wholesale list for white pine is about to be put into effect, which will show advances of from \$1 to \$5 per thousand. Dimension stock will be marked up \$1 and finishing stock and selects \$5. This advance will be general throughout the west so far as Canadian manufacturers are concerned. Representatives of United States mills who are now in Winnipeg are said to be cutting prices and refusing to act in harmony with the Canadian manufacturers.

UNITED STATES.

It is necessary to look beyond the movement of stock to discover the real strength of the lumber market. Trade is not particularly active, being restricted by the usual winter conditions. Prices, however, are surprisingly strong. At Tonawanda there has been an advance in Nos. 1 and 2 cuts, uppers, selects and fine common, with indications of a further advance as stock diminishes. In the Lake Superior district several sales of white pine have been made at prices about \$2 per thousand above those which ruled one year ago. There is renewed agitation for an advance in the price of dimension stock, but no action is likely to be taken before the annual meeting of the Mississippi Valley Lumbermen's Association next month. Retail dealers in the Eastern States are believed to be carrying light stocks, and as soon as they become convinced that prices are not likely to decline an active trade may be expected. Hardwoods show no signs of depression. Since the first of the year they have continued to be in good demand. The feature is the strength of plain and quartered oak. In the Buffalo market the range for inch quartered white oak is \$66 to \$70. Maple has come into greater favor and is being used as a substitute for white ash, which is regarded as too high in price for general use.

The shingle market is stiff. Advice comes from Tonawanda that an advance of ten cents on white pine shingles has taken place, attributed to their growing scarcity at the mills. Lath is quoted in that market at \$4 for No. 1 and \$3.50 for No. 2, with 25 cents less for Norway.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The British timber trade has reached a partial deadlock, and very little business for the coming season has as yet been closed for North of Europe lumber. The prices asked by shippers have reached such a high level that importers decline to purchase. The latter claim that the condition of the trade does not warrant the advanced values. In respect to Canadian lumber the situation is much more favorable the advance being proportionately

moderate. Representatives of Quebec shippers are endeavoring to establish an advance of 10 shillings per standard on last year's prices and have already closed some contracts on this basis. It is believed that no difficulty will be encountered in placing the entire stock of spruce at £9 10s and £9 c.i.f. for 3x9 second and third quality spruce respectively. The parcels of spruce per regular liners from St. John, N.B., are being sold on the basis of \$7 10s. c.i.f. Prices of pine are correspondingly high, with little prospect of any drop in the market in the near future. At a recent auction sale in London both pine and spruce sold readily and brought fair prices. For 2x6 third quality spruce £7 was obtained, and for 2x5 £6 10s. Small lots of 3x11 third quality were taken at the high figure of £9 15s, and some fourth quality at £8 5s. Attention has been turned to spruce on account of the high price of Baltic whitewood. The Bristol Channel ports import annually a large quantity of 2x3, 2x4 and 3x4 whitewood, but this year much of it will be replaced by spruce scantlings, which can be purchased at £7 2s 6d or £7 5s c.i.f.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

It is understood that the Rat Portage Lumber Company will greatly increase their cut of lumber during the coming season.

The New Brunswick Government will offer for sale on February 4th a timber berth of 2 square miles on the east and west branches of Turtle Creek, the applicant for which is M. Dryden.

The Dominion Government is asking for tenders by February 4th for a license to cut timber on Berth No. 323 lying to the west of Harrison Lake, in British Columbia, and containing 960 acres.

Jobbers at Buffalo quote dry elm staves at \$8.50 to \$8.75 for first-class, basswood heading at 5 1/4 to 6 cents, and hoops at \$10.75 to \$11.25 for 5 1/2 foot and \$11 to \$11.50 for 6 foot.

Lumbering in the vicinity of St. Martin's, N.B., is quite active. Townes & White are cutting for Carson Bros. Other operators in the vicinity include the O'Neill Lumber Company, Burchill Bros. and the Prescott Lumber Company.

The schooner "V.T.H." sailed last week from Annapolis, N.S., for the West Indies. The "Brigatine" is loading lumber at Bear River, N.S., the "Edward D" at Annapolis, and the "Aldine" at Weymouth, all for the West Indies.

The Steamer Pretorian sailed from St. John, N.B., on Monday last for Liverpool, her cargo including 400 standards of deals. The steamer Indreni sailed on same day for Glasgow with 125 standards of deals, 100 tons of pulp and other cargo.

William Whitmer & Sons, of Philadelphia, have discontinued the lumber yard which they have conducted on Tonawanda Island for some years. The remainder of their stock, about 1,000,000 feet of white pine, was sold to L.H. Swan & Co., of North Tonawanda.

It is reported that Moore, Keppell & Company, of Port Wing, Wisconsin, have sold the entire stock of their mill this year, amounting to about 17,000,000 feet of Norway and white pine, the purchasers being the Nicola, Stone & Myers Company and Potter, Teate & Company, of Cleveland, Ohio.

It is a significant fact that the market

at St. John, N. B., for English deals is now quoted very firm at \$14.75 f. o. b. vessel at St. John, which is a clear advance of from \$2 to \$2.50 per thousand over the ruling price of one year ago. Lath are quite steady at \$3.20 to \$3.25 for one and one-half-inch, and \$3.45 for one and five-eighth-inch, Boston delivery. Clapboards are scarce and very firm at previous figures.

During the week ending January 17th W. H. Gilbert of Duluth, Minn., sold about 20,000,000 feet of log run lumber. As an indication of the advance, this stock brought between \$17.50 and \$18, compared with \$16 for the same quality last year. The Red Cliff Lumber Company, McCall & McClure and others have also sold a considerable quantity of lumber at prices from \$1.50 to \$1.75 better than one year ago.

NEW BRUNSWICK CEDAR SHINGLES

Eastern cedar shingles are a trifle easier, though the large operators and shippers of standard grades are holding out for a basis of \$3.50 for extras; it is admitted on all sides that this price is being shaded somewhat, though it is current belief in the market that shingle values will work back to a strong basis before the spring orders commence to come in. The logging operations in the north and east are progressing favorably, with a fair supply of snow at nearly all points for getting logs over to the streams. It is conceded that the input of logs will be limited only by the number of woodsmen which it is possible for the operators to secure for their crews. Up-to-date they have been seriously handicapped by the unusually small number of capable men available, but now that the water mills are all closed the mill employees have gone into the woods, thus materially improving the situation.

THE ST. JOHN RIVER LOG PRODUCTION.

The cut of logs on the St. John river and its tributaries in New Brunswick this winter will be less than last season. Last year 141,000,000 was rafted and came through the booms, and 10,500,000 was rafted below the booms. Of the cut of last year the logs were largely American. This year there will be more province logs than last. The estimated cut this year is 134,000,000.

The season has been very favorable and the men have been able to do good work. The estimate of the cut by the parties on the different streams is as follows:

	Feet.
W.J. Noble; Baker Branch....	6,000,000
H. A. Atkinson, South West...	5,000,000
John Kilburn, North West....	7,000,000
J. A. Morrison, Depot Stream..	3,000,000
Flavien & Chiouard; Black River.....	2,000,000

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John Sweeney, Brown Bank	3,000,000
Clair & Leveque, Chimintook..	4,000,000
Charles Jones, Little Black River	2,000,000
Neil McLean, Little Black River.....	1,500,000
Thos. Clair, new and old, Little Black River.....	4,000,000
John R. McConnell, Little Black River.....	6,000,000
Oliver Studdy, Little Black River.....	1,000,000
John R. McConnell, St. Francis	1,500,000
Holmes Morrison, St. Francis	6,000,000
Thomas Clair, St. Francis....	1,000,000
W. H. Cunliffe Sons, Allegash..	9,000,000
J. McAllister Bros., Allegash..	3,000,000
John Stevens, Allegash.....	2,000,000
Sye Dickey, old logs, Allegash.	3,000,000
Deucet Landry, main St. John.	1,000,000
R. A. Estey, Baker Branch....	1,000,000
Oliver Gavotte, Madawaska...	1,000,000
R. A. Estey, Rockway.....	4,000,000
James Lynch, Green River...	1,000,000
Purvis & Murchie, Green River	2,000,000
Randolph & Baker, Grand River	4,000,000
Patterson Co., Salmon River...	4,000,000
Hilyard Bros., Tobique.....	10,000,000
Tobique Mfg. Co., D. Fraser & Sons, Tobique.....	10,000,000
R. A. Estey, Tobique.....	3,000,000
Geo. T. Baird, Tobique.....	1,000,000
Price & Scott, Keswick.....	5,000,000
Smaller parties on main river below Grand Falls, hemlock, spruce, and hardwood.....	10,000,000
In addition to the above the St. John River Lumber Company will get out.....	7,500,000
Total.....	134,000,000

A representative meeting of lumbermen from different parts of Nova Scotia was held in Truro on January 21st. The object of the meeting was to place before the railway officials a petition for reduced freight rates for lumber. Messrs. E. Tiffin, general manager, and D. A. Storey, district freight agent of the I. C. R., were present, but could not make any definite promises to the lumbermen. A committee was appointed to draw up a petition, stating in full the request of the lumbermen, and to present it to the railway department.

DOORS AND MOULDINGS.

A large buyer of Canadian white pine doors and mouldings is open to contract with a mill for their entire output of No. 3 and 4 qualities of doors and all their mouldings during 1902. Write in first instance to "Empire," CANADA LUMBERMAN.

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