

year ago, and wages in the woods are about \$22 per month for men and \$35 to \$45 for teams. It is probable that in Nova Scotia the cut this season will be increased to a greater extent than in New Brunswick. Several manufacturers have already sold their entire production of lumber. In the Quebec market some advance in prices have taken place. First class waney pine, 18 inch average, is quoted at 37 to 45 cents, 14 inch ash at 23 to 28 cents, and 16 inch at 26 to 30 cents.

MANITOBA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Trade in lumber in Manitoba and the Territories is growing steadily, and when spring operations shall open out in full force an active movement will certainly result. Manufacturers and dealers are preparing for a season of as great activity as that of 1899. Like conditions prevail in British Columbia. Many new buildings have already been commenced, and there are indications of absolute faith in the lumber demand. It is expected that in future better returns will be secured from an equal volume of business, the accomplishment of this being one of the objects of the formation of the British Columbia Lumber and Shingle Manufacturers' Association.

UNITED STATES.

Eastern wholesale dealers have contracted for a considerable quantity of stock to be cut at upper lake mills during the coming season, and the prices paid give little encouragement to those who hope for a decline in quotations. Some of these purchases are referred to in another column. An average of \$12.50 per thousand for No. 4 boards is almost unprecedented, while it is predicted that before the opening of navigation these boards will sell at \$13 and No. 3 boards at \$25 on dock. Tonawanda and Buffalo dealers report moderate sales and numerous inquiries, from which it is deduced that the east is short of lumber and must enter the market for active buying in the near future. There is an improved demand for good lumber, and on some grades an advance in price has been put

into effect. Box lumber is still wanted in excess of the supply, and the probability is that this class of stock will be scarce throughout the summer. Attention is directed to the changes in our Buffalo and Tonawanda quotations published elsewhere.

The hardwood market is in a healthy condition. Some dealers at Buffalo are asking \$28 for inch maple of first quality, while others quote as low as \$25. Inch-basswood is being held at from \$26 to \$28. At Boston inch maple of good quality brings from \$28.50 to \$30, 1 1/4, 1 1/2 and 2 inch, \$32, and 3 and 4 inch \$36 to \$38. Elm is in moderate request at \$32 for one inch, \$33 for 1 1/2 and 1 1/2 inch, and \$34 for 2 inch.

FOREIGN.

A large consumption and firm prices are the characteristic features of the British wood market. In sympathy with the high prices asked by shippers, the prices at which brokers and importers are offering stock are considerably higher than one year ago. So far as Canadian and United States trade is concerned, the British buyers realize that if they are to secure their average quantity of stock it can only be done by meeting the advanced prices, which are now firmly established. In the Liverpool market spot goods are selling liberally at £20 to £24 for first quality Quebec pine deals, £16 10s to £17 10s for second quality, and £10 10s to £11 10s for third quality. These figures show an advance within one month of £1 in the price of second quality and £1 5s in third quality. New Brunswick spruce has advanced about 10s, now selling at £7 15s to £8. In square and waney timber the most important changes have been in respect to waney board pine and elm. Quebec waney has advanced to an average of 2s 6d, while elm sells at from 2s 4d to 2s 10d per cubic foot. This latter is an advance since January 1st of about 6d. Birch is also slightly higher.

Daniel Sullivan, saw mill and general store, Redbank, N.B., has been burned out.

NEW BRUNSWICK CEDAR SHINGLES.

There has been during the past week a slightly increased inquiry for shingles. Not many orders are being placed, but dealers are awakening from their winter lethargy and are showing some degree of interest as to prices and market conditions. The manufacturers are manifesting absolutely no anxiety as to spring prices, perceiving that as soon as consumption awakens, remunerative prices will be in vogue. There is no reason to question this judgment, as competitive varieties of shingles, such as Michigan and Ontario white cedars and Washington and British Columbia red cedars, are in extremely scant supply and promise further price advances. With a fair spring demand and a united movement amongst the New Brunswick manufacturers prices on N.B. extras could be raised to a basis of \$3.25 on Boston freights without giving up the market in any degree to Western producers, for as stated in our article of last week, New Brunswick shingles are invariably given the preference over the western products by purchasers in the Eastern States at equal or even slightly higher figures. Washington shingles are now quoted at \$3.20 to \$3.30. The general prosperity now prevailing in the United States and the extreme scarcity of dry lumber, with the high prices such lumber is commanding, must inevitably have a sympathetic influence upon all wood goods. Confidence is abroad in the land, and considering all conditions we believe in firmly maintained quotations for the present, and advances just as soon as shingle consumption begins. There is absolutely no change in quotations from last week.

The assets of the estate of Andrew Clanan, lumber dealer, Glencoe, Ont., were sold recently at 42 cents on the dollar.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

The St. Anthony Lumber Co., Whitney, Ont., expect to cut about 50,000,000 feet of lumber this year.

It is estimated that the log cut on the Penobscot river, in Maine, this winter will be 200,000,000 feet.

Wm. Argue is taking out over 1,000,000 feet of logs on Moon Island for a lumber company at Midland.

Halcombe Bros., of Thessalon, Ont., have about 700,000 feet of logs cut and ready for drawing to the mill.

C. M. Betts & Co., of Buffalo, are reported to have purchased a lot of 10,000,000 feet of pine at Marinette, Wis.

It is learned that Toner & Gregory, of Collingwood, have been given a contract by Playfair & White, of Midland, to cut

(Continued on page 4.)

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