

STOCKS AND PRICES.

CANADA.

Canadian hardwoods are finding a considerable market in Ohio.

Ottawa lumbermen say that the South American market for lumber is now duller than ever.

The schooner Falcon has left the Brunette Saw Mills, New Westminster, B. C., for Southern California, with about 300,000 ft. of rough and dressed lumber.

A Boston correspondent of Hardwood says that quite an influx of soft maple, hard elm and birch from Canada is expected during the coming season.

The privilege of cutting timber on 60 square miles of Indian reserve on Lake Temiscamingue for ten years has been sold to Geo. E. Kidd, Ottawa, for \$21,000.

About 30 car loads of wood pulp from the new pulp mill at Sissiboo Falls have gone forward from Port Gilbert, N. S., to Halifax for shipment by steamer to England.

Coleman & Evans, of Vancouver, B. C., have purchased 1,000,000 shingles from W. A. Wooden, of Fairhaven, Wash., which they will remove by their own scows and steamers.

G. H. Steiner, a Chicago lumberman, has contracted for a large quantity of the output of the Fort William and Rat Portage lumber mills, providing freight rates can be made favorable.

The forest rangers of the Quebec government in the Upper Ottawa district have reported to the crown timber agent in Hull, that 2,000,000 logs have been cut in that district, being about the same quantity as last winter. Half a million feet of square timber has been made.

The effort being put forth by southern lumbermen to find a profitable market for their product in Ontario is again evidenced in an announcement made in the advertising columns of this issue of the WEEKLY LUMBERMAN, by a large manufacturer of the southern states.

Canadian woods offered at a late auction sale of Foy, Morgan & Co., London, Eng., were as follows: Ex lona, at Quebec 3 x 11, 3rd pine at £9 10s to £9 15s; holders are asking £10 10s for smaller goods, privately. Spruce 11 x 13 feet 3 x 9 2nds at £7, ditto £6 7s 6d.

Lumber exports from St. John, N. B., for February are valued at \$48,063, as against \$104,622 in corresponding month of last year, a depreciation in sales of more than half. Exports from this point the past week were rather better than 1,000,000 feet of long lumber, and 1,300,000 lath, going largely to Boston and New York. A cargo of 200,000 feet of long lumber and other stuff was shipped to the Canary Islands and a small lot of birch went forward to the British market.

UNITED STATES.

Lath has experienced another drop on the New York market, and slab stock is being sold at \$1.75.

Good lumber is firm in Saginaw. Log run is quoted at \$13.50 to \$18: box at \$10 to \$10.50, and Norway at \$8.50.

Good lumber, thick and wide, is scarce on the Buffalo market. Box and coarse common are in good supply.

Spruce culls are decidedly scarce on the Albany market. Box stuff is in good demand at firm prices, also prices of white pine generally in Albany are firm.

The largest shipment of lumber to Australia since the Baring failure is being filled by the St. Paul and Tacoma Lumber Co., of Tacoma, Wash. It aggregates 3,000,000 feet

A sale of 2,500,000 feet of hemlock piece stuff is reported from Manistee, Mich. The price is believed to be \$5.50 on dock for 16 feet and under, and an advance on this price for 18 feet. Long hemlock at Manistee ranges from \$5.50 to \$7.50 on dock and inch hemlock from \$6 to \$7.50.

UNITED KINGDOM LUMBER CONDITIONS.

In their March wood circular Farnworth & Jardine, of Liverpool, Eng. say:

The arrivals from British North America during the past month have been 1 vessel, 350 tons, against 1 vessel, 1,393 tons the corresponding month last year, and the aggregate tonnage to date from all places during the years 1893, 1894 and 1895 has been 6,267, 6,446 and 6,481 tons respectively.

We have no change in our market to report, business continues very quiet, and the deliveries have been affected by the severe frost that has prevailed during the past six weeks. Stocks are all ample.

CANADIAN WOODS. The deliveries have been small as is usual at this season of the year, there is no change in value to report, and the stock is quite sufficient. Red pine moves off slowly and prices are slow. Oak.—There has been little enquiry during the month, and the deliveries have been small, prices are unchanged, and the stock is too heavy. Ash has been imported rather freely from the United States ports; there has been more enquiry, but the stock is now too heavy. Elm is in fair request, prices are steady, and the stock is moderate. Pine deals have moved off slowly, prices are a little firmer, but the stock is much too heavy.

NEW BRUNSWICK AND NOVA SCOTIA SPRUCE AND PINE DEALS.—Only one small parcel has arrived during the month, although several cargoes are at sea; there is no improvement in the demand or change in value, and the stock is still much too heavy.

BIRCH.—Neither logs or planks have been imported during the month; for the former there is more enquiry and the deliveries have been fair, prices are steady. Planks move off slowly, and values are unchanged; the stock is still too heavy.

UNITED STATES OAK.—Of logs there has been no import, the demand is very dull, and prices rule low, the stock is still too heavy. Planks have arrived freely, but have chiefly gone into consumption; prices are fairly steady, but the prospects of an early advance are not encouraging.

PITCH PINE.—The arrivals during the past month have been 1 vessel, 750 tons, against 2 vessels 2,273 tons during the like time last year. Of hewn there have been no arrivals; the deliveries have been small, and there is no improvement in value, though the stock is now in a reasonable compass. Of sawn, the only arrival has been a cargo which has gone up to Manchester; the consumption has not been satisfactory, and prices continue as low as ever; only one public sale has taken place, viz, a yarded cargo, which realized about the lowest prices ever recorded; the stock is very excessive. Planks and boards have only moved off

slowly, prices have been lower, and stocks are heavy.

SEQUOIA (CALIFORNIA REDWOOD).—There has been no import, the deliveries from the yard have been quite of a retail character, prices continue very low, and the stock is heavy.

BRITISH COLUMBIA AND OREGON PINE. The demand for this wood continues very dull and the stock is heavy considering the very limited demand.

UNITED STATES SLAVES continue to arrive freely, and they have generally been sold ex quay on arrival, and for some descriptions values are a shade firmer; stocks are heavy.

BALTIC AND EUROPEAN WOODS.—The arrivals during the past month have been 11 vessels, 4,381 tons, against 6 vessels, 3,336 tons, during the like time last year. Of fir timber, there have been no arrivals; the deliveries have been on a very limited scale, and for such a small consumption stocks are ample. Red and white deals keep very quiet; there has been no import, and stocks are heavy compared with recent previous years. Flooring boards have also been quiet, prices, however, continue fairly steady, prospects are fairly encouraging, and stocks are by no means excessive. Of masts and spars there has been no import, and stocks in dealers' hands are sufficient for this limited demand.

The sales of colonial woods reported during the month are very light. Of Quebec pine, red pine, oak, elm, ash, hickory, birch the remark is "no wholesale transactions to report." Quebec pine deals by auction were as follows: 1st quality board deals at £24 per standard, 3rd quality strips at £7 5s to £8 per standard. No sales to report in spruce deals, nor yet in scantlings, boards or palings.

THE BRITISH DEAL MARKET.

It has been something of a conundrum lately to accurately define the market in deals. The Timber Trades Journal, London, Eng., finds it not an easy task to reconcile the various reports coming from important centres of operation of the state of business at the present time. "While sellers," says our contemporary, "are endeavoring on the one hand to explain the quiet attitude of importers on the assumption that they all want to buy, but are waiting to see if they cannot get prices down, and shippers, fully aware of this are laughing up their sleeves with a belief that a demand will spring into existence shortly, the big merchants in the British market profess to be in no hurry to buy, on account of the difficulty of quitting goods with which they are already encumbered. In fact the reverse side of the position is presented when we discuss the market with the buyers, who invariably announce their impression that shippers have the goods and must sell them sooner or later, and as the stocks here are moving into consumption very slowly buyers will wait, judging by experience that shippers will rush their goods on the market as the time for open-water draws near."

Interest is added to the discussion in the publication in the columns of the Timber Trades Journal of an article of considerable weight, translated from the Swedish newspapers. The tone of the article is considered less confident than the views which have, up till now, been

promulgated, in the United Kingdom on behalf of shippers, and quoting again from our contemporary, "it appears to us to be based on the assumption that prices can not stand at their present value, although even in the face of a forced market we think the writers in placing the supposed fall of £1 all around have erred on the side of pessimism. It is estimated in the article under notice that without a severe drop in prices there will be a reduction on the year's sales from Sweden of something like 200,000 standards, which would very likely be the case, and it is urged that the proper course for shippers is to continue by agreement to maintain present prices and carry over the unsold stock. But would this be done, even if an agreement were again entered into? From the point of view of English buyers, we decline to believe that such an agreement would have the slightest effect in upholding prices. It will take the market more than one year to get over the shock it received by the sudden lowering of red deal prices last autumn, and there is a firm conviction in the minds of most English continental buyers that an over stock is going to be produced this year, and that it will end its way to these markets sooner or later and at one price or another before the importing season is closed. The importers are trading anxiously this year, to safeguard themselves against any tumbling down of prices, and in this action they are more likely to help the market than if they went in for purchasing on the usually liberal, too liberal, we might say, scale, and run the risk of losing money on part of their purchase."

BUSINESS DIFFICULTIES AND CHANGES.

Beland & Martineau, lumber merchants, Quebec, Que., have dissolved.

Amedee J. Auger and Armond J. Auger, have been registered as proprietors of Auger & Son, lumber, Quebec.

L. J. Badaur, of Oso, Ont., has purchased the Laurie saw mill with water power, from Peter McLaren, for \$3,700.

The Laurentian Lumber Company of Canada was incorporated at Albany, N.Y., with a capital of \$350,000, to carry on a general lumber business.

Re Toronto Wood and Shingle Co.—Judgment upon special case. Order declaring that the Bank of Toronto, as assignees of Kieley, are entitled as against the liquidator to hold possession of the mill premises in question. Costs to the bank in the liquidation proceedings. W. R. Riddell and R. McKay for the Bank of Toronto and Kieley. C. H. Holman for the liquidator.

SHIPPING MATTERS.

The Stirling has arrived at Puget Sound from San Diego to load lumber, foreign.

The schooner Francis will load a cargo of hard pine at Darian, Ga., for Halifax, N.S.

The American barques, Olga and C. C. Funk, are due at Westminster, B. C., to load lumber at the Brunette Saw Mills for the south.

The schooner Mary E. Amsden, owned by James Murchie & Son, of Calais and St. Stephens, N.B., and bound from Calais to Barbados with lumber, has been lost.

The British ship Verajan has arrived at Alexandria, Egypt, with 1,600,000 feet of lumber from Hastings' mill, Vancouver, B. C. Another cargo from the same mill has arrived at Amsterdam.

A fortnightly service of steamers is to be inaugurated from Montreal and Quebec to Manchester direct, via the ship canal. Owners, Furnace, Withy & Co., and Siveright, Iowa & Co.

The Furness Line steamer Madura, at present loading at Antwerp for St. John, N. B., has been chartered to load deals at that port for Mr. Geo. McKeen for Dublin at 39s. The steamer will be due there about April 1st.

Amongst the vessels coming to the Hastings mill, Vancouver, B. C., are the British ship Earl, of Hope Town, and the British ship Blaugowrie. Several other vessels are loading at the Hastings and also at the Brunette Mills.

Lumber freights from British Columbia or Puget Sound are quoted as follows: Valparaiso for orders, 42s. 6d.; Sydney, 34s. 6d.; Melbourne, direct, 42s. 6d.; Port Pirie, direct, 40s.; United Kingdom, calling at Corf for orders, 65s.; Shanghai, 50s.; Tientsin, 55s. nominal; South Africa, 63s. 9d., nominal.