

THE BOSTON MARKET.

The outlook for spruce lumber at Boston very strong indeed. The supply is certainly cut short, and promises to be short all the season. There was a meeting of the retail dealers on March 27th to consider the plan of advancing prices. It reported that all the dealers agreed to advance but one of the largest, and his assenting defeated the rise for the present. His idea was that to advance prices now must result in a check to building. Hence quotations are exceedingly firm as they are: Ten and 12 inch dimensions, \$20; 9 inch and under, \$18; and 12 inch random lengths, 10 feet

and up, \$19.50; 2x3, 2x4, 2x5, 2x6, 2x7 and 3x4, 10 feet and up, \$16.50; all other randoms, 9 in. and wider, 10 feet and up, \$17.50; 5-inch and up, merchantable boards, \$16; matched boards, \$18 to \$19; out spruce boards, \$13; bundle furring, \$16 to \$17.

Hemlock is very firm, with the demand pretty good. Boards, 12, 14 and 16 feet stock, \$15 to \$15.50 for good eastern; Vermont, \$13.50 to \$14.50; random, eastern, \$13.50 to \$14.50; Pennsylvania, No. 1, \$16 to \$17; No. 2, \$14.50 to \$15.

White pine continues to be advanced as rapidly as occasion offers, with the reports

indicating a positive shortage at all points: Uppers, 1-in. \$75 to \$80; 2 1/2 and 3 in. \$80 to \$85; 4-in. \$95 to \$88; select, 1 to 1 1/2 in. \$68; 2-in. \$69 to \$70; 2 1/2 to 3 in. \$74 to \$76; 4-in. \$79 to \$80; fine common, 1-in. \$56 to \$58; 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 in. \$62 to \$66; 2-in. \$68 to \$70; 2 1/2 and 3 in. \$69 to \$71; 4-in. \$80; barn boards, \$23 to \$33; coffin boards, \$27 to \$32.

Hardwoods are very steady with prices strong: One-inch, whitewood, \$38 to \$40; thicker, \$39 to \$42; 3/4 inch, \$30 to \$35; saps, inch, \$25 to \$30; common, \$23 to \$25; quartered oak, \$56 to \$65; fancy, \$70 to \$75; plain oak, \$40 to \$47; black ash, \$40 to \$50; white ash,

\$45 to \$55; cherry, \$90 to \$130; plain, \$35 to \$40.

Shingles are in small supply, with the demand also limited. The position is firm: Extra cedar, \$3.30 to \$3.35; clear, \$2.85 to \$2.95; extra No. 1, \$1.75 to \$1.90; Washington and British Columbia red cedar, 16-inch, five butts to 2 inches, \$3.75 to \$3.80; 18-inch, \$4.25 to \$4.50.

Clapboards continue in decidedly limited supply, with the market very firm. At the same time, the demand is also limited: Extra spruce, \$38 to \$40; clear, \$36 to \$38; second clear, \$33 to \$35; extra No. 1, \$24 to \$26.

Laths are firmer and higher at \$3.10 to \$3.15 for 1 1/4 inch; 1 1/2 inch, \$2.90 to \$3.

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