

Market Reports.

TORONTO.

From Our Own Correspondent.

MAY 9.—Shipments to Oswego from the docks here are now fairly active. The principal shippers at present are Mossa, Christie, Kerr & Co., of this city and Rathbun & Son, of Deseronto. The writer noticed some splendid lumber being loaded on vessels by the latter firm, all clear and picks. The agent employed by this firm is a thorough inspector of lumber, some say, who have sold to him, slightly too much so, at all events he holds nearly all the good lumber held over here during the winter and spring months.

The lumber now being placed on the local market is far from being dry, so that in order to have lumber fit for immediate use, consumers will have to resort to the use of their dry kilns, of which most of the factories here have one or more in connection with their establishments.

Dealers have been much harassed by the R. R. companies lately, in the matter of weighing lumber, and contentment will not come until the companies adopt the system of carrying by the thousand feet. The G. T. R. Company have tried rather a novel plan latterly. Their agent at Midland requires the shipper to give him the quantity on the car, and then estimates the load at 2,700 pounds per 1,000 ft. of lumber, so that some shippers are enabled to get down half dry lumber as cheaply as the man whose lumber is thoroughly dry. To take a fair view of the whole question, I think that there should not be any complaints as to carrying by weight, and that the entire load be carried at the same rate. This the G. T. and C. P. roads carry out in all cases, but the N. & N. W. tries to take undue advantage of their customers by not furnishing any means to weigh the load at point of shipment, and then charging 4th class rates for all the excess over 24,000 pounds weight, which method of computation means more than double freight on the excess portion of the load. Of course all do not pay this charge, not being quite green enough in the business to accede to such demands, but, doubtless, there are many who grumble first and pay afterwards, not being thoroughly up to the laws and regulations made and provided in such cases.

The retail yards in the most westerly portion of our city complain of dull times, others, in the centre and easterly portions, say they are full, although complaints of the scarcity of money are general. Car load lots pass off readily, more especially if comprised of 1 in. dressing and 1½ in. cut up. 2x4 scantling and joisting 18 to 22 feet long, are also in good demand. It is rarely a car load of the latter has to be piled off for want of a purchaser. Figures for short bill stuff are not firm at more than \$11.00 per M. by car load.

Mill cut boards and scantling.....	\$10 00
Shipping cut boards, miscellaneous widths.....	12 00
Stocks.....	14 00
Scantling and joist, up to 16 ft.....	13 50
" " " " 16 ft.....	14 00
" " " " 18 ft.....	14 50
" " " " 20 ft.....	15 00
" " " " 22 ft.....	15 50
" " " " 24 ft.....	16 00
" " " " 26 ft.....	17 00
" " " " 28 ft.....	18 00
" " " " 30 ft.....	19 00
" " " " 32 ft.....	20 00
" " " " 34 ft.....	21 00
" " " " 36 ft.....	22 00
" " " " 38 ft.....	23 00
" " " " 40 to 44 ft.....	24 00
Cutting up planks to dry.....	25 00
Good dressing stocks.....	26 00
Picks Am. Inspection.....	28 00
Three uppers, Am. Inspection.....	35 00

1½ in. flooring, dressed.....	30 00
" " " " rough.....	16 00
" " " " dressed.....	25 00
" " " " undressed.....	15 00
" " " " dressed.....	22 00
" " " " undressed.....	16 00
Beaded Sheeting, dressed.....	22 50
Clapboarding, dressed.....	14 00
XXX sawn shingles, M.....	2 00
Sawn lath.....	2 75

MONTREAL.

From Our Own Correspondent.

MAY 9.—We have no change of any importance to note in this market which is still dull although a good deal inquiry exists, which makes dealers very hopeful for the future. All

desirable goods maintain their value, and stocks of all descriptions are pretty full, but now that navigation is completely open it is expected that a good deal will be moved. Our quotations are unchanged with the exception of laths which are now quoted at \$1.60. The following are now the prices ex yard:

Pine, 1st quality, M.....	\$35 00
Pine, 2nd " " M.....	32 00
Pine, shipping culls, M.....	12 00
Pine, 4th quality deals, M.....	10 00
Pine, mill culls, M.....	7 00
Spruce, M.....	10 00
Hemlock, M.....	9 00
Ash, run of log culls out, M.....	20 00
Bass, M.....	12 00
Oak, M.....	40 00
Walnut, M.....	60 00
Cherry, M.....	60 00
Butternut, M.....	25 00
Birch, M.....	20 00
Hard Maple, M.....	25 00
Lath, M.....	1 00
Shingles, 1st, M.....	3 00
Shingles, 2nd, M.....	2 50

SHIPPING.

Navigation is now fairly open from the sea to the lakes and yesterday two ocean steamers arrived in port. Barges are passing up the canal and some are loading for this port at Ottawa, so that in about another week things will be livelier. We hear of no change in the rates of freight given in our last.

CORDWOOD.

There has been little demand except in a retail way and the market is overstocked for wholesale dealers, while the opening of navigation is likely to help to make it more so. We quote wholesale prices ex cartage at the wharves unchanged as under:

Long Maple.....	\$ 5 00
Long Birch.....	4 50
Long Beech.....	4 00
Tamarack.....	3 50

WINNIPEG.

The Commercial of May 5th says:—As the season advances disappointments become more numerous in the lumber trade, and it is very probable, that many contracts contemplated early in the season will not be carried out this summer, and some will not be touched until the whole western troubles are settled. The business now being done is of a scattered character, and promises to be anything but a prosperous one this season.

CHICAGO.

THE CARGO MARKET.

The Northwestern Lumberman of May 9th says:—During the week ending on Wednesday, 94 cargoes of lumber and shingles arrived at this port. Last year during the week that ended May 7th, 198 cargoes arrived, or 104 more than put in an appearance within the week just ended. The smallness of the number of cargoes arriving now, as compared to a corresponding time last year, is worthy of note. Of the lumber coming, only a few cargoes stop on the market, the majority having been purchased over the lake, or of commission men to arrive. Such lumber goes to the yards of the heavier shippers who are obliged to keep up their stocks, and is partly dry stock from the piles carried over the winter at the mills.

On Monday there was a fleet of 12 to 15 vessels, and on Wednesday morning there was a considerable fleet. Most of the stuff offered has been green piece stuff. It is evident that the dry lumber over the lake, of which we have heard so much, is being taken care of by the larger yards, whose stocks were broken up seriously by the March and April trade.

The green piece stuff sold on the market, where sales have been reported, has changed hand at \$8.50 a thousand. One house reports sales of four cargoes at that price. A load of half dry stuff was sold by another house at \$9, a large proportion being Norway. Dry, all soft dimension is held over the lake at \$10 a thousand delivered here, but does not come forward liberally at that price. The half dry stuff at the mills is selling at \$8.50 to \$9.00, according to quality, size, and proportion of Norway in it. The statement has been current for some time that the stock of piece stuff held over by the Ford River Lumber Company was all sold to arrive at \$10 a thousand; one lot of soft pine is reported as held at Ludington at \$10.25.

Last year at this time short, green dimension was selling at \$9 to \$9.50, and No. 2 boards and strips at \$11 to \$13. It will be seen that prices this spring are 50 cents to \$1 a thousand

lower than they were last year at a corresponding time.

Not enough inch lumber has yet been offered on the market to really establish prices. One cargo medium stock was held on Wednesday at \$13.50, which was said to be green. Another dock load remained unsold because the holder and the party offering to buy differed in their views.

Few shingles have arrived, the condition in this respect being the reverse of what it was last spring. A load of Muskegon standards sold at \$2. Sales of Boyd & Akeley stock, to arrive, have been made at \$2.50 a thousand, and Muskegon brands have been sold at \$1.95. The market price of standard shingles here ranges from \$1.90 to \$2.05.

The commission men say that the yard dealers and the manufacturers in Michigan are apart in views as to prices. The yard merchants are indifferent to buying lumber, and the mill men are determined to hold the bottom in the market if they have to hold all their lumber for a time to do it. On account of this difference of view and purpose the commission men do not expect a very active market immediately. The present dull state of trade at the yards is tending to a slow cargo market.

Lake freights sympathize with the market. Charters are made from Muskegon and Grand Haven, by steam, at \$1.25 at thousand; from White Lake, at \$1.23 by steam, and \$1.37 by sail; from Ludington, at \$1.50; from Manistee, at \$1.62, and Menominee \$1.50 for dry lumber.

AT THE YARDS.

A degree of quietude has settled upon the yard trade since May 1. One can now endorse the statement of the dealers that trade is exceedingly dull. The trains being daily pulled out are unusually few and light, and but little waggon traffic is prevailing. The planing mills are not crowded with work, and there is an absence of loaded waggons standing in front of them. The telephone calls are less frequent than they were in April. In fact there seems to have been a sudden halt in the demand, which must be accounted for in some way.

A canvass of the price list, that has stood unaltered since February, among the yards, develops no heavy average cut below the figures named in the list, excepting in the higher grades, several items of which are seriously mangled. The cutting on dimension and common lumber is mainly on special lots that happen to be in oversupply in certain yards, or in stocks that are being forced off for removal or closing up of business. This latter cause for cutting is now about over. While that was going on all attempts towards steady values would have been futile.

Receipts of lumber, shingles, etc., from Jan. 1 to May 7th as reported from the Lumberman's Exchange:—

	Lumber.	Shingles.
1885.....	30,510,000	5,382,000
1884.....	57,340,000	32,350,000
FROM JANUARY JAN. 1, 1885, TO MAY 7, 1885, INCLUSIVE.		
1885.....	92,857,000	22,345,000
1884.....	208,244,000	74,152,000

	1885.	1884.
Decrease.....	108,417,000	51,848,000
STOCK ON HAND APRIL 1.		
1885.....	438,442,084	570,461,916
Shingles.....	221,422,800	270,041,250
Lath.....	25,073,175	35,522,846
Pickets.....	1,865,142	1,169,558
Cedar posts.....	167,614	221,225

	1885.	1884.
Lumber & timber.....	6,570,000	1,200,000
Shingles.....	1,200,000	24,000
Lath.....	90	20
Wood, cords.....	57,425	14,000
Posts.....	400	1,000
Slabs, cords.....	1,000	150
Bark, cords.....	1,000	150

FAIRPORT RATES TO EASTERN PORTS.
In effect from Nov. 15th, 1884, to March 31st, 1885, on pine, hard and soft lumber, lath, shingles and logs, in car loads, per 100 pounds.
Chicago to—

New York and common points, per 100 pounds.....	30c
Albany.....	28c
Roseton and common points.....	26c
Philadelphia.....	25c
Baltimore.....	27c
Washington.....	27c
Buffalo and Pittsburgh.....	17c
Erie, Pa.....	17c
Dunkirk, N. Y.....	17c
Troy.....	20c
Schenectady.....	20c
Wheeling.....	17c

BOSTON.

The Journal of Commerce of May 9th says. Business is moving rather quietly as a general rule. Spruce, however, is in active demand at firmer prices, with large orders being placed. Pine is quiet and about the same as of late. Southern pine about holds its own. Choice walnut and cherry find a good call at firm prices. Ash remains very quiet.

CANADA PINE.

selects, Dressed.....	\$48 00
Shelving, Dressed, 1sts.....	40 00
" " " " 2nds.....	33 00
Dressed Shippers.....	27 00
Dressed Box.....	18 00
Sheeting, 1st quality.....	42 00
" " " " 2nd.....	34 00

OSWEGO, N.Y.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Navigation both lake and canal is now fairly open. Boats are clearing to day for Albany and New York. Lake rates from Port Hope and Trenton, 80 to 85 cents; canal freight rates to Albany, \$1.65, to New York \$2.15. Quotations remain about the same, though there is a better demand for dry stock, and sales have increased since our last. Shingle are dull and lower.

Three uppers.....	\$44 00
Picking.....	34 00
Cutting up.....	24 00
Wine Common.....	20 00
Common.....	14 00
Culls.....	11 00
Mill run lots.....	16 00
Sidings, selected, 1 in.....	30 00
" " " " 1½ in.....	32 00
Mill run, 1x10, 15 to 16 ft.....	16 00
Selected.....	21 00
Shippers.....	14 00
Mill run, 1x10.....	17 00
Selected.....	21 00
Shippers.....	14 00
Mill run, 1 & 1½ in. strips.....	15 00
Selected.....	22 00
Culls.....	11 00
1x7 selected for clapboards.....	22 00
Shingles, XXX, 15 in. 1 in.....	4 00
Cedar.....	3 00
Lath, No 1.....	2 00
No 2.....	1 75

ALBANY.

Quotations at the yards are as follows:—

Pine, clear, M.....	\$55 00
Pine, fourths.....	50 00
Pine, selects.....	45 00
Pine, good box.....	22 00
Pine, common box.....	13 00
Pine, 10-in. plank, each.....	00 42
Pine, 10-in. plank, culls, each.....	00 23
Pine boards, 10-in.....	00 24
Pine, 10-in. boards, culls.....	00 16
Pine, 10-in. boards, 16 ft., M.....	28 00
Pine, 12-in. boards, 16 ft.....	23 00
Pine, 12-in. boards, 13 ft.....	23 00
Pine, 11 in. siding, select.....	40 00
Pine, 11-in. siding, common.....	20 00
Pine, 1-in. siding, select.....	42 00
Pine, 1-in. siding, common.....	15 00
Spruce, boards, each.....	00 00
Spruce, plank, 14-in., each.....	00 00
Spruce, plank, 2-in., each.....	00 00
Spruce, wall strips, each.....	00 12
Hemlock, boards, each.....	00 00
Hemlock, joist, 4x6, each.....	00 00
Hemlock, joist, 2x4, each.....	00 00
Hemlock, wall strips, 2x4, each.....	00 00
Black walnut, cull, M.....	100 00
Black walnut, 1 in.....	80 00
Black walnut, 1 in.....	00 00
Saymore, 1-in.....	20 00
Saymore, 1-in.....	23 00
White wood, 1-in and thicker.....	33 00
White wood, 1-in.....	30 00
Ash, good, M.....	40 00
Ash, second quality, M.....	25 00
Cherry, good, M.....	60 00
Cherry, common, M.....	25 00
Oak, good, M.....	40 00
Oak, second quality, M.....	20 00
Hickory, M.....	40 00
Maple, Canada, M.....	23 00
Maple, American, per M.....	25 00
Chestnut, M.....	33 00
Shingles, shaved, pine, M.....	0 00
" " " " 2nd quality.....	0 00
" " " " extra, sawed, pine.....	4 00
" " " " clear.....	0 00
" " " " cedar, mixed.....	0 00
" " " " cedar, XXX.....	0 00
" " " " hemlock.....	0 00
Lath, hemlock, M.....	0 00
Lath, spruce.....	0 00

BUFFALO.

We quote cargo lots:—

Uppers.....	\$45 00
Common.....	17 00
Culls.....	12 00

TONAWANDA.

CARGO LOTS—MICHIGAN INSPECTION.

Three uppers.....	\$45 00
Common.....	15 00
Culls.....	12 00

LONDON.

The Timber Trades Journal of May 2nd says. Messrs. Churchill & Sim's sale was marked by an unusual degree of animation, and it was evident from the disposition of those