

Market Reports.

TORONTO.

From our own Correspondent.

MAY 8th.—Prices at the yards remain firm at last quotations, and trade is exceedingly flat. I question indeed if retailers have ever experienced a duller month than the one just closed. The carpenters' strike is now over and the men have returned to work, at least such as were able to regain their places, but the masters had the advantage, and refused to take any men but the poorest men are left out in the cold, but the inevitable result of all such strikes is now being felt by all who are in any way interested in the building trade.

Shipping at the docks is quite active, and shippers have little to complain of as regards car accommodation. The average weekly shipments for the last two weeks has been about 3,000,000 feet from the N. & N. W. R. Docks, which is quite a respectable showing, but it is extremely doubtful if shipments will continue at this rate for any length of time, as the total cut for the season is largely dependent on June freshets, and the quantity of logs now at the mills is comparatively small, and the balance of last season's cut will soon be all forward.

I hope that in my next letter I may be able to give you a more hopeful statement as regards building operations and the state of the retail trade here.

In my last letter the name of the firm of John Kennedy & Co., of McDonnell Square, was incorrectly given as Kincely.

QUOTATIONS, FROM YARDS.

Mill cull boards and scantling.....	\$10 00
Shipping cull boards, promiscuous widths.....	12 00
Stocks.....	14 00
Scantling and joist, up to 16 ft.....	14 00
" " " 18 ft.....	14 50
" " " 20 ft.....	15 00
" " " 22 ft.....	15 50
" " " 24 ft.....	16 00
" " " 26 ft.....	16 50
Scantling and joist, up to 28 ft.....	17 00
" " " 30 ft.....	18 00
" " " 32 ft.....	20 00
" " " 34 ft.....	22 50
" " " 36 ft.....	25 00
" " " 38 ft.....	30 00
" " " 40 to 44 ft.....	30 00
Cutting up planks to dry.....	22 50
Boards.....	20 00
Sound dressing stocks.....	10 00
Picks Am. inspection.....	25 00
Three uppers, Am inspection.....	35 00
B. M.	
1 1/2-inch flooring, dressed.....	80 00
1 " " " rough.....	16 00
1 " " " dressed.....	23 00
1 " " " undressed.....	16 00
1 " " " dressed.....	24 00
1 " " " undressed.....	17 00
2 Beaded Sheeting, dressed.....	22 50
Clapboarding, dressed.....	12 50
XXX sawn shingles, 3/4 M.....	2 50@3 00
XX sawn shingles.....	2 75
Sawn lath.....	2 50

OTTAWA.

From our own Correspondent.

MAY 8th.—All the saw mills hereabouts are in full operation, a number of them having already commenced running at night. This augurs well for a busy season, which no doubt will be the case, as the demand is very good. Everything at present is favorable to the lumbermen, and providing no unforeseen obstacles arise, the cut this season will surpass that for many years past. No complaints are made of scarcity of men. Wages are somewhat higher than last year. In the House of Con. a few nights since a subject was brought up which is of vital importance to the lumbermen of the Ottawa. Mr. Rochester, the member for Carleton county, who is also a saw mill owner, urged upon the Government the necessity of building a DAM ACROSS THE OTTAWA

at the foot of Lake Temiscamingue, in order that a reservoir might be made to hold back the spring freshets and utilize the water later on in the season, when it is actually required for navigation. There is no doubt but that the Ottawa River requires some more improvements in order that the lumber trade may have more than the present conveniences; and the Government's complying with Mr. Rochester's request would be a big step in this direction. The lumbermen at present are compelled to, and have for years, built dams on smaller lakes to regulate navigation, but it is found almost impossible to erect dams of sufficient strength to withstand

THE SPRING FRESHETS.

The high water lasts only about ten days and then it begins to recede. In some years in the month of July the water is so low that it is very hard to get the timber and logs down the river, and it is equally difficult for vessels on the Ottawa carrying lumber to find water enough for navigation. If a dam was built at where Mr. Rochester suggested, in order to keep back a certain amount of the spring freshet, there would be navigation during the months of low water. To show the necessity for further

IMPROVEMENTS ON THE OTTAWA,

it might be said that of the logs and timber taken out by the various firms last year not more than one-half was navigated to the mills, and this is a serious loss. The usual cut is about 3,000,000 feet of lumber, but last year it reached to only 1,500,000, or 2,000,000 at the outside. Mr. Rochester clearly proved that the building of this dam would not, as some supposed, interfere with the land surrounding the lake. A dam at the point indicated would enable the mills here to run straight along through the summer, which they cannot at present do, and it would, as said before.

EFFECTUALLY AID NAVIGATION.

It was shown that the average load of a barge in July was 275,000 feet board measure, while from the middle of July to the middle of September it is 107,000, or a difference of 168,000 feet. The expense of taking that barge from this city to Montreal fully loaded would be just as much as taking it with a half load. At low water it costs \$2 more to drive logs than it costs in June. Notwithstanding that the dam at the foot of Lake Temiscamingue would be of great benefit, Mr. Currier, M.P., and also a large lumberman, took some

OBJECTION TO THE SCHEME.

He held that a dam at the foot of the Lake would completely ruin the farming lands around it, and he said it would also submerge the Hudson Bay station. He suggested that a dam be constructed at the foot of Seven League Lake, about thirty miles below Temiscamingue. This would extend the navigation upon that Lake down to a point within thirty miles of the Mattawa, on the line of the C. P. Railway. It is to be hoped that the Minister of Public Works will push this matter through at as early a date as possible, and by so doing he would be conferring an everlasting benefit on the great lumbering interest of the Ottawa.

MONTREAL.

From our own Correspondent.

MAY 9th.—Local trade has been good, and there has been an active demand for building lumber at full prices, but with the large receipts coming in now and expected during the season, it is more than likely that the present high prices will hardly be maintained, but as yet there is no appearance of them giving way, as last year's stock of seasoned lumber here is small. We have no change to make in our price list, and continue to quote as follows:—

Pine, 1st quality, 3/4 M.....	\$35 00@40 00
Pine, 2nd " " " ".....	22 00@24 00
Pine, shipping culls, 3/4 M.....	14 00@15 00
Pine, cull deals, 3/4 M.....	8 00@12 00
Pine, mill culls, 3/4 M.....	8 00@10 00
Spruce, 3/4 M.....	10 00@11 00
Hemlock, 3/4 M.....	9 00@11 00
Ash, run of long culls out, 3/4 M.....	16 00@18 00
Bass, " " " ".....	16 00@17 00
Oak, 3/4 M.....	35 00@45 00
Birch, 3/4 M.....	17 00@20 00
Hard Maple, 3/4 M.....	18 00@25 00
Lath, 3/4 M.....	1 50@1 60
Shingles, 1st, 3/4 M.....	3 00@3 00
Shingles, 2nd, 3/4 M.....	2 00@2 00

SHIPPING.

Nothing has been done yet in the way of shipping lumber, no vessels having yet arrived in port, but shippers are receiving stock both from below and by the canal from Ottawa, so that as soon as ships arrive, loading will be active for a time.

LIGHTS.

There has not been much transpiring in the way of chartering vessels for South America, some engagements, however, have been made at \$14@\$15.00. By the date of our next report business ought to have made a fair start, as it is, we are yet between the seasons, when very little can be said about business.

CORDWOOD.

Some boats with cordwood have arrived both from below and by the Lachine canal. Wood is scarce in the country, and prices are likely to

rule high, as people are asking about \$1 a cord more than they did last year. Demand is improving here, and railway prices are still asked on the wharfs, which we now quote, ex cartage:

Long Maple.....	\$0 50
Short " " " ".....	0 00
Long Birch.....	0 00
Short " " " ".....	5 50
Long Beech.....	5 50
Short " " " ".....	5 00
Long Tamarack.....	5 00
Short " " " ".....	4 50

LONDON, ONT.

From our own Correspondent.

MAY 10th.—The lumber business here since my last letter has not shown any movement towards activity, on the contrary, it is remarkably quiet for this season of the year. Little building is going on, and the season continues very backward. The only important operations going on is the laying of the cedar block pavement on Richmond street, from Dundas street to the G. W. R. station. The contractor for this job is Mr. Wm. Outhro, of this city. He is obtaining the posts from Wingham, where he has purchased one hundred acres of cedar. The posts are all peeled and the blocks cut in Wingham, previous to shipment down here. It is estimated that the covering with blocks of the portion of Richmond street now contracted for will take about 12,000 posts.

Prices of lumber remain firm at my last quotations, which are as follows:—

QUOTATIONS.

Mill cull boards and scantling.....	\$12 00
Shipping cull boards, promiscuous widths.....	13 00
" " " " 10 and 12 in. stocks.....	13 50
Common boards, promiscuous widths.....	15 00
Scantling and joist, up to 16 ft.....	16 00
" " " " 18 ft.....	16 50
" " " " 20 ft.....	17 50
" " " " 22 ft.....	18 50
" " " " 24 ft.....	20 00
Common stocks.....	16 00
Common 2 in. plank.....	15 00
Cutting up plank and boards.....	20 00
Sound dressing, stocks.....	19 00
Clear and picks.....	23 00
Three uppers, Am. inspection.....	35 00
1/2 inch dressed and matched flooring.....	22 00
" " " " " " " ".....	22 00
XXX sawn shingles, 3/4 M.....	3 25
Lath per 1000 feet.....	5 50

ST. JOHN, N. B.

From our own Correspondent.

MAY 6th.—The weather continues cold and backward for this season of the year. The river became sufficiently clear of ice for the resumption of navigation only in the present week, the first steamer reaching Fredericton on Tuesday, the 2nd May; last year the same trip was accomplished on the 11th of April; that, however, was exceptionally early. From all the indications that have come under our notice, the presumption is that stream driving is progressing favorably, the cool, dry weather preventing excessive floods, which are sometimes more embarrassing than a short supply of water.

STEAMSHIPS.

With the return of spring we are again strongly impressed with the rapidity with which the steamships are supplanting sailing vessels in our wood trade. Since the first of April no less than fourteen of these great steamships have already entered our harbor for deal cargoes, making an aggregate tonnage of 17,171 tons, and, estimating from the quantity carried by those already cleared, they will carry over 16,000,000 feet of lumber. The following is a list of the steamships, with their tonnage:—

Altmore, 1,352,	Crest, 1,093,
Cherubini, 1,161,	Autocrat, 993,
Jothington, 1,290,	Parklands, 1,133,
Brooklyn City, 1,122,	Ashburne, 1,613,
Benledi, 999,	Fitzroy, 1,064,
Jas. Turpie, 1,140,	Galatea, 1,330,
State of Alabama, 1,511,	Broomhaugh, 1,562,

DEALS.

The deal market is still very firm. \$11 per M. superficial foot is now the price for good deals. Some sales are reported of special specification lots as high as \$12, but these rates are exceptional. There appears no prospect of prices being lower for some time to come.

FREIGHTS.

There is no material change to note in deal freights, the steamships continuing to monopolize the market for the time being; two of them, to arrive, were recently placed at 47s. 6d. and 50s. respectively.

SHIPMENTS.

The shipments of deals and other sawn lumber are as follows:—

For Europe.....	14,092,000 Sup. feet.
" United States.....	3,687,000 "
" West Indies.....	257,000 "

No shipments of sugar box shooks since last report.

SHIPPING.

The following is a list of the vessels in port, with their tonnage and destinations:—

John Black, 645, W. C. England, E. C. I., or Glasgow.
Kate Crosby, 690, E. C. I., W. C. E. or Glasgow.
Chrysolite, 1,097, Liverpool.
Antwerp, 573, —
Albueras, 655, W. C. England.
Ophir, 813, Liverpool.
Serrano, 594, —
M. A. Palmer, 290, —
Orontes, 740, W. C. England.
Altamaha, 314, W. C. England.
Arklow, 740, Liverpool.
State of Alabama, (s), 1,611, United Kingdom.
Ashburne, (s), 1,613, United Kingdom.
Fitzroy, (s), 1,064, United Kingdom.
Henry, 1,095, Liverpool.
Georgie, 646, W. C. England.
Galatea, (s), 1,330, United Kingdom.
Rurik, 881, —
Minnie Swift, 1,160, discharging.
Broomhaugh, (s), 1,562, United Kingdom.
Low Wood, 1,091, W. C. England.
Endrick, 325, —
Crown Jewell, 710, W. C. England.
Melbourne, 621, —
Maori, 656, discharging.

ALBANY.

MAY 10.—Quotations at the yards are as follows:—

Pine, clear, 3/4 M.....	\$25 00@30 00
Pine, fourths.....	50 00@60 00
Pine, selects.....	45 00@55 00
Pine, good box.....	22 00@25 00
Pine, 10-in. plank, each.....	00 35@00 44
Pine, 10-in. plank, culls, each.....	00 19@00 22
Pine boards, 10-in.....	00 20@00 32
Pine, 10-in. boards, culls.....	00 18@00 19
Pine, 10-in. boards, 16 ft., 3/4 M.....	25 00@30 00
Pine, 12-in. boards, 16 ft.....	25 00@30 00
Pine, 12-in. boards, 13 ft.....	20 00@23 00
Pine, 11-in. siding, select.....	33 00@40 00
Pine, 11-in. siding, common.....	15 00@19 00
Pine, 1-in. siding, select.....	40 00@42 00
Pine, 1-in. siding, common.....	18 00@19 00
Spruce, boards, each.....	00 00@00 16
Spruce, plank, 11-in., each.....	00 00@00 20
Spruce, plank, 2 in., each.....	00 00@00 30
Spruce, wall strips, each.....	00 11@00 12
Hemlock, boards, each.....	00 00@00 13
Hemlock, joist, 4x8, each.....	00 00@00 31
Hemlock, joist, 2x4, each.....	00 00@00 13
Hemlock, wall strips, 2x4, each.....	00 00@00 10
Ash, good, 3/4 M.....	33 00@40 00
Ash, second quality, 3/4 M.....	25 00@30 00
Cherry, good, 3/4 M.....	00 00@70 00
Cherry, common, 3/4 M.....	25 00@35 00
Oak, good, 3/4 M.....	33 00@43 00
Oak, second quality, 3/4 M.....	20 00@25 00
Basswood, 3/4 M.....	22 00@25 00
Hickory, 3/4 M.....	30 00@40 00
Maple, Canada, 3/4 M.....	20 00@30 00
Maple, American, per M.....	25 00@28 00
Chestnut, 3/4 M.....	35 00@40 00
Shingles, shaved, per M.....	0 00@0 00
" 2nd quality.....	0 00@0 40
" extra, sawed, pine.....	0 00@0 40
" clear.....	0 00@0 30
" cedar, mixed.....	0 00@0 25
" cedar, XXX.....	0 00@0 00
" hemlock.....	0 00@0 25
Lath, hemlock, 3/4 M.....	0 00@1 02
Lath, spruce.....	0 00@1 87
Lath, pine.....	0 00@2 70

BOSTON.

The Journal of Commerce, of May 6th, says: Since our last report there has been a fair and steady movement. At the same time buyers are taking hold very cautiously, and are careful how they order, especially in a large way. Values remain about the same, with the exception of spruce, which is a little weak and can be bought somewhat lower (by the cargo) than last week in the New York market. Here prices remain about the same as before quoted, with a fair demand. Pine is in good demand, as are clapboards and shingles also. This fact is accounted for by the large amount of alterations which is going on. As regards hard woods, there is not very much that is new to say. The demand is fair, and pretty evenly divided. Walnut and cherry may be said to be in good demand, with ash, whitewood and oak called for in about the order named. There is considerable trouble at the west among the loggers and mill hands concerning wages. Should their demands be acceded to it would have a tendency to further stiffen values all around. The following quotations are for carload lots:—

CANADA PINE.

Selects, Dressed.....	\$13 00@15 00
Shedding, Dressed, 1st.....	40 00@42 00
" 2nd.....	33 00@35 00
Dressed Shippers.....	27 00@29 00
Dressed Box.....	18 00@20 00
Shedding, 1st quality.....	42 00@45 00
" 2nd.....	34 00@35 00