

been followed by a heavy demand for lumber of all kinds. The cedar shingle market has not yet shown signs of improvement. There seems to be more shingles offering than the market is capable of absorbing, and until confidence is restored prices are likely to be unsteady. Extras are selling at from \$3.35 to \$3.45 on Boston rate of freight.

MANITOBA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Lumbermen in Manitoba and the Territories have every reason to be satisfied with trade conditions, both present and prospective. On all sides there are signs of prosperity. Harvesting is in full swing and the yield promises to be greater than was estimated one month ago. Building activity in Winnipeg continues. Up to August 31st of this year the aggregate value of new buildings erected was \$4,181,450, an unprecedented record which clearly indicates the large consumption of lumber in that city. Prices generally are firm. The saw mills and sash and door factories in British Columbia are busy, largely on orders for the provincial markets. No decision has as yet been reached as to the resumption of operations by the shingle mills, but it is understood that an agreement has been entered into relative to the allotment of the cut among the various mills. The amount of the daily cut will be fixed according to the capacity of the mills. In this manner it is hoped to prevent a recurrence of an abnormal accumulation of shingles.

UNITED STATES.

Such buying of white pine lumber as has been done during the past fortnight was largely for actual needs. That it has been sufficient to prevent a marked accumulation of stock at the mills signifies an average consumption. When speculative purchases shall become the rule, the consequent increased activity will produce a more hopeful feeling. Given an average yield of wheat and corn as now seems likely, a continuance of the country's prosperity for another year would be assured, and with it a normal demand for lumber at good prices. The high grades of white pine are accumulating to a greater extent than the lower grades, which are selling very readily. At Lake Erie wholesale points the supply of Norway framing dimensions and timber is short and dealers are looking for such stock with some anxiety. Norway lumber has improved in almost every market and there is ground for believing that it will command higher prices in the near future. Mill culls and box lumber are wanted throughout the Saginaw Valley. Buffalo and Tonawanda dealers report bright prospects for future trade. As a rule stocks in these centres are light and general conditions very satisfactory. Any uncertainty which exists is confined to the higher grades of pine, and as these can-

not be produced in large quantities, there is little fear of a heavy accumulation.

All kinds of hardwood lumber are in demand. There does not seem to be a surplus anywhere, the current trade keeping all the available lumber in motion. The demand for basswood, maple, white ash and birch is strong. Basswood brings \$40 in the Buffalo market, and elm \$33. Boston reports a slightly easier market for hardwood, in contradistinction to advices from other places.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The prevalence of wet weather in Great Britain has not been conducive to an expansion in the lumber consumption. Buyers consider offers in an apathetic manner and apparently will only purchase stock when in actual need of it. Predictions are rife, even at this early date, that lower prices will rule during next year, these being based usually on the large stock of Baltic lumber that has not yet passed out of first hands. Nevertheless, nothing but encouraging reports come to hand regarding the present position of Canadian lumber. A Liverpool correspondent states that although the consumption of waney and pine timber has been checked somewhat by high prices, a lower range of values is not likely to be established, but on the other hand prices are likely to advance when the higher rates of insurance for autumn shipments set in. The same remarks apply to Canadian pine deals and boards. The control of these is in few and strong hands. In spruce deals the position is as strong as ever. Shippers have very little stock to offer and indications point to a steady if not an advancing market for spruce deals until the close of the shipping season from the New Brunswick and Nova Scotia ports. At Cardiff spruce deals and floorings are held at advanced figures, in consequence of the quantities offering being much less than is usual at this period. A Bristol report says that the stock of spruce deals is lower there than ever before. At the present time conditions seem to favor the seller, and unless there should be a sharp falling off in the consumption, there seems little reason to expect that prices for Canadian lumber in Great Britain will not be as high next year as they have been during the past.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

The barque Alert is loading lumber at Digby, N.S., for South America, for account of Clarke Bros.
B. Connor, of Alma, N. B., recently purchased timber property from E. Wilson and will operate a rotary mill.
William Button, of Wingham, Ont., has recently purchased a lot of standing timber, chiefly hard maple and hemlock, in the vicinity of Creemore, Ont., which he will likely log during the coming winter.

William Margach, Crown Timber Agent at Rat Portage, Ont., states that lumbering operations in the woods this winter will be larger than ever.

The steamers Ovidia and Drot are loading deals at Montreal for the United Kingdom, the latter being destined for Sunderland and Dundee.

George McKean, of St. John, is reported to have purchased 7,000,000 feet of lumber from the Nova Scotia Lumber Company at Walton, N.S., probably for export to Great Britain.

The Saginaw Lumber & Salt Company have received 29,000,000 feet of pine logs this season at their mill at Sandwich, Ont., and have another raft of 2,500,000 feet yet to come down.

Eastern spruce boards in the Boston market range from \$13.50 to \$15. Pennsylvania No. 2 boards range from \$15 to \$16, with a decreasing demand for No. 1 at \$18.50 to \$19.

J. P. Mosher, who is manufacturing the cut of logs got out last winter at Musquash, N.B., by Knight Bros., has already sawn 1,200,000 feet of lumber and 800,000 laths. A cargo will be shipped to Great Britain this fall.

In Chicago hemlock short piece stuff is selling at \$12 to \$12.50; long lengths bring from \$1.50 to \$2.50 more than the prices of short. Norway piece stuff is held at \$16 to \$16.50 for short lengths and \$17.50 to \$19 for long. White pine common inch lumber is held by the cargo at \$20 to \$21. Cedar shingles by the cargo are \$2.60 to \$2.70, and standards \$2.20 to \$2.25.

A small quantity of pine and spruce deals were sold at the last auction sale held by Foy, Morgan & Company, London, England, on August 25th, bringing the following prices: Third quality spruce, 3x8, £7 15s per std.; 3x7, £7 10s; 3x6, £7; fourth quality, 3x9in. £8 15s. Pine—13 ft. 1 1/2 x 9in. C quality, £11 15s and £11 10s. Some pine doors from New York, 6 ft. 6 in. x 2 ft. 6 in. x 1 1/2 in., brought 4s 6d each.

A report from Minneapolis, Minn., states that the red cedar shingle situation there is not promising. The dealers had been selling on a five cent. margin, which all declared too low, but when a five cent drop was registered on the coast the Minneapolis market followed suit and in some cases has even gone further. The proposed pool arrangement of the west coast mills is the only thing which can restore strength to the market.

Slack cooperage staves and heading are advancing in price. The supply is very light, considering the demand that is expected soon. The shortage is largely on account of the lack of men to get out logs. At Buffalo the price of hoops is \$9.75 to \$10 for coiled 5 1/2 foot, and \$10.50 to \$10.75 for 6-foot with hickories

\$6.75 to \$7. First-class elm staves are \$10 to \$10.50, and second-class \$7 to \$7.50; basswood heading 7 1/2 cents for first-class, and 5 cents for second-class.

Following is a comparative statement of timber, etc., measured and culled at Quebec up to September 1st as furnished by the Supervisor of Cullers:—

	1901	1902	1903
Waney White Pine	984,375	1,591,600	1,420,000
White Pine	412,112	398,600	318,000
Red Pine	77,790	60,080	52,000
Oak	375,432	527,760	772,000
Hemlock	916,012	527,760	772,000
Ash	334,490	79,240	54,300
Basswood	84	100
Batternut	94
Tamarac	198
Birch and Maple	306,842	164,800	195,600

Several timber berths were sold at the Crown Lands office, Fredericton, N.B., last week, as follows: Two square miles on mouth of Crystal Brook, Nepisquit river, to J. H. Barry, at \$9 per sq. mile; 4 1/2 miles on Never's Brook, branch of Canaan river, to T. B. Winslow, at \$52 per mile; 2 miles at head of Gibson Brook, to George W. Marster, at \$15 per mile; 2 miles on south side Shediac river, to J. H. Barry at upset price; 2 miles on Salmon river, to D. Duffy, at \$17 per mile; 3 miles on north branch of Oromocto river, to South Bros., at \$82 per mile.

The last report of the Barbados lumber market says: "Arrivals have been the "Leity M. Hardy" from Halifax, N. S., with 77,000 feet of white pine, and the "Lady Napier" from St. John, N. B., with 85,000 feet, which, owing to some of the dealers being quite bare, and stimulated by the probable demand from Martinique and Jamaica occasioned by the hurricane which has visited those islands, was sold at the very high price of \$25.40 as it runs. Further receipts would do well. No arrivals of spruce have taken place, but in view of the high price of white pine a cargo should bring good prices. The cargo of shingles by the "Bravo" was sold at \$5.09 to \$5.20

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