

The present movement indicates an active trade later in the season, to meet which retail dealers are now stocking up quite heavily. Green lumber is being shipped from Duluth, not only of the best grades, but of the poorer qualities also. The features of the past week have been an increased scarcity of piece stuff and an improved demand for low grade boards. At Buffalo cuts, barn boards and box are strong and moving in considerable quantities, with prospects of an advance in price before long. Dealers in Norway say that they are getting fully one dollar more than a month ago, and believe that the demand will be good enough to maintain it. Wholesale and retail dealers are stocking up for fall and winter and are contracting wherever they can find suitable stock almost regardless of price.

At a meeting of the price list committee of the North-western Hemlock Manufacturers' Association, held at Marshfield, Wisconsin, last week, all items of short piece stuff were advanced from fifty cents to \$1 per thousand, 3 inch hemlock plank \$1, and timbers 50 cents. A price of \$3 was established on No. hemlock lath f.o.b. Wausau.

The hardwood trade continues steady. White ash is quiet temporarily, while on the other hand oak and birch are quick sellers at firm prices. A considerable quantity of timber is being used at Buffalo for piling.

Shingle prices have improved. The Duluth price for red cedar shingles is \$2.50. There is a heavy call for white pine shingles, XXXX being quoted at \$3.60 at Buffalo, where the stock is very light. Eighteen-inch hemlock shingles are selling at Pittsburg at \$3.10. Pine lath are not so firm.

#### GREAT BRITAIN.

The tone of the British market is decidedly firm, and while all classes of Canadian lumber are in good demand, exceptionally favorable reports are heard regarding spruce deals. At a recent auction sale 3 x 9 third quality brought £9 15s per standard, and 3 x 6 unassorted £7 10s. A large firm of Irish importers recently made inquiry for a cargo of New Brunswick spruce deals and were asked £8 f.o.b. for 11-inch, 18 to 20 feet average. With freight added, the price delivered at a British port would be at least £10 per standard, an unusually high figure. Owing to the light import this season, higher prices are predicted for the fall months, with possibly a still higher range of values next year. First quality Quebec waney pine is almost unobtainable, and importers having any stock are asking fancy prices. It is probable that the production of square and waney timber in Canada during the coming winter will show an increase over last season, although on this point nothing definite is yet known. Should the production be greatly increased, it would prevent the advance which will otherwise take place.

It is reported that Hon. John Charlton, M. P., recently purchased from Hale & Booth, of Pembroke, extensive timber limits in the Wainipitac district, paying therefor a price in the neighborhood of \$300,000.

#### STOCKS AND PRICES.

A raft of 3,000,000 feet of hemlock logs left Parry Sound last week for Detroit, consigned to the Detroit Lumber Company.

A raft of 2,000,000 feet of pine logs, cut from deced lands, has arrived at Saginaw, Mich., for the Palmerton Wooden-ware Works.

The Saginaw Lumber & Salt Company last week sold to Detroit parties 1,000,000 feet of common lumber cut at the Sandwich mill.

The New Brunswick Government will offer for sale on September 3rd two miles of timber lands on Rider's Brook, a branch of the Canaan River.

The steamer Holmlen sailed last week from Montreal for Hull, with a cargo of deals. The steamer Petunia is loading a cargo of deals for London.

Bucknam Bros., of Severn Bridge, Ont., have purchased a timber limit at Rock Lake from the Canada Land Company and are about to build a saw mill there.

#### THE OTTAWA VALLEY.

(Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

Interest in local lumber circles is divided between the limits and the mills; perhaps the former obtain a shade the better of the situation. It is now a settled fact that the operations on the different limits during the coming autumn and winter will be more extensive than for several years past. It does not need a search-light to locate the reason for this. Stocks standing in the yards are sold close to the saws, and a study of economic conditions indicates a continued prosperity. Lumbermen have not been compelled to wander far from their offices in search of customers, indeed it has been but a question of making the supply meet the demand. A local dealer who recently returned from a trip through Ottawa Valley towns, remarked yesterday that he never before saw such active and extensive preparations for operations on the limits. A. & P. White, the Pembroke Lumber Company, and the Munro Estate, of Pembroke, Chas. McCool, M. P., Nipissing, McLachlin Bros., Armprior, and Gillies Bros., Brasidre, will all reinforce their gangs on the limits. Extra territory will in several cases be cut over. The Ottawa firms are following the same lead and the probabilities in short point with satisfactory natural conditions to an increased log output.

Another feature is the increased attention being paid the production of square timber. On reliable authority it is estimated that fully 2,000,000 cubic feet of square timber will be taken out during the season just opened. This will be an increase of over 500,000 feet on last season's cut, the largest in years.

The following firms, amongst others, will engage in the square timber business: Robert Hurdman, Rideau Lumber Company, Chas. McCool, M. P., Hull Lumber Company, Shepard & Morse Lumber Company, Fraser & Company, J. R. Booth and Edward Moore, of Ottawa, and R. H. Klock, Mattawa. Several of these firms will enter the square timber line after an absence of several seasons from that business.

Considerable difficulty is being experienced in securing men capable of working on square timber. The decline in the demand in recent years has caused the bush and axe men to neglect the fine points of scoring, marking and hewing, and now that the services of experienced men are again in demand the number is

reduced and wages have advanced accordingly.

While opinions conflict in some degree as to the state of the local lumber markets, it is agreed that prices have suffered no change with the exception mentioned in the last letter of hardwood. Ash and basswood have gained additional favor and prices have advanced a degree.

Although some of the dealers complain of vacation slackness, officials of both the Canadian Pacific and Canada Atlantic Railways report business good, the movement of lumber, lath and shingles from all mill points being large. The New York market is drawing heavily on the mills of the Ottawa district, and almost the entire output of lath is finding its way to points in Pennsylvania and Ohio. The prospects for the fall business are good.

Over \$300,000 was involved in a recent deal whereby the W. C. Edwards Company purchased limits in the Temiscamingue country, previously owned by the Arthur Hill Company. The Edwards Company will conduct operations on the newly purchased limits this season. The limits are said to contain valuable timber, including large areas of pine, maple and spruce. The Edwards Company have an output for its hardwoods in its factory in Ottawa, where the finest lines of office furnishings are turned out.

As was predicted in a recent Ottawa letter in the CANADA LUMBERMAN, the Upper Ottawa Improvement Company has decided to extend its territory of operations from Des Joachims, above Pembroke, to the head of Lake Temiscamingue.

Heretofore this work has been done exclusively by the line of steamers owned and operated by Alexander Lumsden, ex. M. P. P., and run in connection with the Upper Ottawa Company's boats. If the latter concern cannot secure control of the Lumsden line, it will purchase and operate boats on a new line. It was at the request of the lumbermen that the company decided to extend its operations. Hereafter the work of handling the logs and supplies will be conducted with greater expediency.

Ald. Chas. D. Amour, of Hull, recently secured a large contract of supplying timber for use as "piling" in the Montreal harbor improvement work. He has disposed of over 6,000 telephone and telegraph poles this season. His latest sale was made to the Sydney, C. B., Electric Company, to whom he sold 1,500 poles.

OTTAWA, August 23rd, 1902.

#### DOORS AND MOULDINGS.

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#### BRITISH COLUMBIA LETTER.

(Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

During the past six months a number of American lumbermen have had their cruisers in the unoccupied timber lands of British Columbia, presumably for the purpose of securing limits to supply the mills which they contemplated building on this side of the line or to provide a supply for their mills in Washington should the Provincial Government revoke the act prohibiting the exportation of logs from British Columbia. Although these cruisers found considerable areas of timber lands accessible to the water, very few limits were taken up or purchased, as there was no likelihood of the act above spoken of being revoked, and the mills now in operation in British Columbia are more than sufficient to supply the Canadian market. If new mills were built their product would for the most part have to find a market in the United States, and the tariff, now almost prohibitory, might in the future be raised and the mills would then be thrown out of business. If British Columbia manufacturers had free entry into the United States markets it is safe to venture the assertion that the number of mills in operation here would be quadrupled within two years, and plenty of accessible cedar would be found to supply them for many years.

By "accessible cedar" is meant that now adjacent to salt water and which can be put in the water under the present system of logging and the prices prevailing for logs. Under present prices which mill men are able to pay for logs, the latter must be so near the water that donkey engines and horses are sufficient plant to put them in at a profit. As prices advance railroads will be added to the plant and large areas of timber inaccessible under present conditions will become accessible. A large portion, in fact the greater portion of the best timber areas now accessible to the water, is held by the large mill companies here, and although there is a large amount of timber lands not taken up, they are individually of small area and scattered.

The statement recently published that American lumbermen were unable to find any quantity of accessible cedar in British Columbia is largely incorrect. The real

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