

UNITED STATES

There seems no likelihood of an early change in the remarkable condition of the lumber trade of the United States. The incidents of the past week have been in the direction of further strengthening the hands of the holder of lumber. Several large purchases of white pine have recently been made in the Lake Superior district. It is estimated that 150,000,000 feet of the proposed cut on the Menominee river has already been sold. In Chicago all grades of lumber are moving actively. Piece stuff brings \$16.75 delivered in that city. Throughout the Eastern States there is a general complaint of a scarcity of box lumber, and there is a tendency to advance prices on all the coarser items. It is said that the supply of box, mill cuts, and 6 and 12-inch barn boards is so small at Tonawanda that they are likely to be out of the market before new stock arrives. There is a splendid demand for Norway lumber, "C" and better being quoted at \$40. Michigan manufacturers have made another advance in the price of hemlock lumber, for which the demand is much heavier than in usual at this season of the year. Some dealers are shipping green stock to fill their orders.

The entire hardwood list has been helped by the strong position of basswood. The Wisconsin Hardwood Lumbermen's Association has changed its quotations on this lumber, making an advance of \$1 from the list adopted March 25th. The present prices are as follows, f. o. b. Wausau: 1-inch 1x6 and 2x6 clear basswood, 5 to 11 inches, 8 to 16 feet, \$33; 1 1/2 to 2 inches, \$35; 2 inch, \$37. White oak is also stronger, while maple and soft elm are becoming scarce. Good quartered white oak is selling in the eastern market at \$70, while one year ago it could be bought for \$55.

The shingle situation is satisfactory except in respect to Washington red cedars. At a meeting of the Washington Shingle Manufacturers' Association, held last week, it was decided to restrict the production, and it is the general opinion that about two hundred of the Washington mills will be closed down for an indefinite period.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Reports received respecting the condition of the British market are somewhat at variance. Shippers claim that they have succeeded in placing large stocks at their asking prices, while from other sources comes the information that importers have as yet bought sparingly and that they are not inclined to fall in with the views of shippers as to prices. It is perhaps near the mark to say that less than the usual quantity of Canadian lumber has been placed this season with British buyers. The outlook, however, is by no means discouraging, as stocks are as a rule in a healthy condition. There are practically no wide pine deals held in first hands, and shipments are taken at prices ranging from £32 to £39 per standard. The statistical position of red pine is favorable. Taking the Glasgow market as an example, the stock on hand March 31st of this year was 1,140,000 feet, as compared with over 4,000,000

feet at corresponding period last year. Quotations range from £9 5s to £12 per standard. Wassy and square pine timber have appreciated in value, 18 to 19 inch wassy being held at 38 9d to 4d per cubic foot, and first-class square pine, 35 to 40 feet average, at 28 9d to 3s. First-class rock elm is in good demand, but the stock of soft elm is large and prices correspondingly low. Birch is in better inquiry, 15 and 16 inch average ranging from 19 to 21d per cubic foot.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

The City of Winnipeg is asking for tenders up to April 28th for supply of lumber.

No. 1 white pine lath are quoted in Chicago at \$3.60 to \$3.75, No. 1 hemlock and No. 1 Norway at \$3.25, and No. 2 lath at \$2.75 to \$3.

J. D. Carew, of Lindsay, Ont., has received a drive of 10,000 logs from Scogog Lake. Other drives are on the way from the Squaw River and Nogey's Creek.

The Rathbun Company have received the contract to supply lumber for the City of Kingston at \$24.35 per thousand feet and cedar for stringers at 7 cents per running foot.

The New Brunswick government will offer for sale at Fredericton, on April 22nd, four timber berths, as follows: 2 sq. miles on west branch Sables River, Bernard D. McCormick, applicant; 2 1/2 sq. miles at mouth of Six Mile Brook, Cat's River, W. H. Murray, applicant; 6 sq. miles, north-west of Salmon River, W. H. Murray, applicant.

Owing to the early break-up of the logging roads in New Brunswick, W. J. Scott, operating on the Keswick river, was obliged to leave 4,000 logs in the woods. Several operators for Donald Fawer & Sons and the Tobique Manufacturing Company are reported to have also left large quantities of logs in the woods.

According to the United States Consul, the exports of lumber to the United States during the three months ending March 31 were valued at \$185,428.35. Of this amount \$94,616.03 represented Maine lumber manufactured at St. John, and \$90,812.55 provincial lumber. Of the New Brunswick production long lumber was valued at \$10,539.90 and lath at \$25,922.27. Pulp exports represented \$53,500.26, or more than half of the total New Brunswick product.

In the Chicago market tierce hoops are firm in price and scarce, quotations ranging from \$15.30 to \$16, while pork hoops are quoted from \$11 to \$12. In stack coopersage stocks are light and demand not urgent. Basswood heading for flour barrels is quoted at about 5 1/2 cents a set, with sugar barrel heading at 6 1/2 cents. The high price of hardwood lumber is making it difficult for purchasers of stack barrel stock to secure material with which to fill their orders.

Under date of March 18th, S. P. Musson, Son & Company refer to the Barbadoes lumber market as follows: "There has been no arrival of either white pine or spruce during the fortnight, but a mixed

cargo of about 20,000 feet shipping and 30,000 feet second quality white pine, 40,000 shipping hemlock and 20,000 feet second quality spruce, said to be near by, has been sold at \$26, \$21, \$19 and \$18 respectively. Consumption is only moderate, and although stocks are not large there is not much inquiry, the impression being that prices will decline later on. There is hardly any inquiry for shingles."

Continued rains in the province of New Brunswick have caused freshets and resulted in considerable damage to logging booms. The boom at the mouth of the Nashua river gave way and 500,000 feet of logs belonging to Jas. M. Scott, of Dunfries, went adrift in the river. Most of them have been recovered, but at considerable expense. James Humphrey, of Moncton, lost 1,000,000 feet of logs and the top of his mill dam was washed away. By the breaking of the boom at Apohaqui, 5,000 logs belonging to Jones Bros. went adrift. A. H. Peck, of Hopewell Hill, suffered a slight loss in the same manner.

A better movement of shingles at North Tonawanda has not been noted this year, demand being exceptionally good. Red cedars are being quoted at 10 cents less than a week ago, attributed to a surplus and the disposition of consumers to secure other shingles that may be brought for less money. White pine manufacturers are reported somewhat behind in orders. There is a fair supply of them with dealers but the excellent movement makes more of them most desirable; consequently orders are being placed with producers right along.

A scarcity of dry hardwood is restricting the movement to consumers. During the month of March, says the Mississippi Valley Lumberman, a larger quantity was sold and shipped than in the three preceding months, and supplies of the most desirable woods have been reduced to unusually low proportions. Prices on white quartered oak continue extremely high, and for the time being there is little prospect of any reduction. Common and cull are being absorbed more readily and \$36 to \$40 is obtained. A scarcity of basswood and cottonwood enable holders to obtain high prices, and cottonwood box guards have sold up to \$44, and culls at \$23, free on board, Cairo. The top price paid on basswood at Wisconsin points is \$32 for firsts and seconds.

BIRCH SQUARES AND SEATS.

A large buyer of Birch chair seats and of Birch squares is open to contract with a mill for their output. Also open for Broom Handles and Dowels in large quantities. Write in first instance to "Finance," care of CANADA LUMBERMAN.

CANADIAN LUMBER SHIPMENTS.

From Halifax, N.S.: Steamer Florence, for London, 265,607 feet spruce deals, value \$3,183, 135,221 feet birch plank, value \$1,458. Steamer Manchester City, for London, 306,787 feet spruce deals, value \$1,366, 30,887 feet birch plank, value \$542. Steamer London City, for London, 83,003 feet spruce deals, value \$977. Barque Nora, for London, 970,799 feet spruce deals, value \$11,140.

From St. John, N. B.: Steamer Lucia, for Cape Town, South Africa, 100,000 feet deals, by Troop & Son. Steamer Peconic, for Mersey, 883,036 feet deals, 84,502 feet scantling, 26,337 feet deals, 29,420 feet boards, 97,194 feet birch plank, 14,883 feet birch ends, 16,979 feet hemlock deals, 177 feet hemlock scantling, 315 feet hemlock ends, by W. M. Mackay. Steamer Bavarian, for Liverpool, 279 tons birch timber, by W. M. Mackay; 783,208 feet spruce deals, 506,096 feet scantling, 59,143 feet ends, 60,084 feet boards, 44,000 feet birch deals, 150 feet birch scantling, 5,295 feet birch ends, by George McKean; 594 pieces elm timber, by Keenan Bros.; 13,980 maple blocks, 1,094 pieces oak, 338 pieces ash, by William Thomson & Company. Schooner Pawnee, for Mersey, 888,312 feet deals, 23,922 feet scantling, 45,752 feet ends, 157,934 feet birch plank, 13,391 feet birch ends, 2,807 feet birch squares, by W. M. Mackay. Steamer Lake Erie, for Liverpool, 467,071 feet deals, 324 feet scantling, 45,107 feet ends, 427 tons birch timber, by W. M. Mackay; 3,932 bundles box shooks, by C. Culling & Company; 15,065 maple blocks, 50 maple logs, 3,573 feet oak plank, 210 tons birch timber, 9,480 doors, by Troop & Son. Schooner Romeo, for City Island, 86,121

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