

## Market Reports.

## TORONTO.

From Our Own Correspondent.

MAY 9.—There is considerable activity in the building trade in this city at present, although the boom is not yet up to the mark anticipated by many persons previous to the opening of the spring. Why this should be so it is difficult to say, when we take into account the fact that the demand for houses is brisk, and real estate agents say they have never had a better demand for property both for rental and purchase, and it is not going too far to say that more real estate has changed hands at remunerative figures during the last month past than during any previous month in the history of our city. This being the case, it may fairly be concluded that the opinions held by parties best fitted to judge in such matters that the remainder of the season will be one of increasing activity in building operations will prove correct.

On making inquiries of the various retail lumber dealers throughout the city, I find that nearly all give the same answer, viz., fairly busy.

In the wholesale market here the same condition of things exist to which I referred in my last letter—a continued glut of certain lines and grades of lumber, and I presume it is of but little use for one individual like your humble correspondent to reiterate, from time to time, through the medium of this journal, or otherwise, the advantage that might be gained, by wholesale dealers more especially, by organized action in all matters pertaining to their business interests. I need not go further than to point to the present position of the trade here, in order to illustrate the folly of continuing to act in a haphazard style. One dealer takes a notion and ships forward from the mills to this market 200 or 300 M. of stock boards, another dealer does the same thing, and this is repeated in one or two other classes of lumber, and the consequence is a glut in the market, and no inconsiderable portion of such shipments have to be disposed of at a sacrifice. And yet how easy it would be to avoid this loss by united action amongst all the dealers, and which can only be obtained by a knowledge of the stocks held by each dealer and the wants of the market; in fact, call it by what name you like, there must be some means whereby interchange of opinions and matters of vital interest to the trade can be discussed, and if such is not the case things will go on in the same happy-go-lucky style as heretofore. Quotations at the yards remain the same.

Mill cull boards and scantling	\$10 00
Shipping cull boards, promiscuous widths	14 00
Stocks	14 00
Scantling and joist, up to 10 ft.	14 00
" " " 12 ft.	15 00
" " " 14 ft.	15 50
" " " 16 ft.	16 50
" " " 18 ft.	17 50
" " " 20 ft.	18 00
" " " 22 ft.	19 00
" " " 24 ft.	21 00
" " " 26 ft.	22 00
" " " 28 ft.	24 00
" " " 30 ft.	25 00
" " " 32 ft.	27 00
" " " 34 ft.	28 00
" " " 36 ft.	29 00
" " " 38 ft.	30 00
" " " 40 to 44 ft.	32 00
Cutting up planks to dry	24 00
boards	19 00
Sound dressing stocks	18 00
Picks Am. Inspection	28 00
Three uppers, Am. Inspection	35 00

## B. M.

11-inch flooring, dressed	32 00
" " " rough	10 00
" " " dressed	25 00
" " " undressed	15 00
" " " dressed	22 00
" " " undressed	10 00
Beaded Sheeting, dressed	22 50
Clapboarding, dressed	14 00
XXX sawn shingles, 1/2 M.	3 00
Sawn lath	3 00

## MONTREAL.

From Our Own Correspondent.

MAY 9.—Monday last was the day appointed by the Lieutenant Governor of Quebec as "Arbor Day" for this section of the Province, and was pretty well observed by the Corporation and the schools in the city, the former planted some 600 trees, and, as might have been expected, in places and under conditions where they were not wanted. In country districts, and where planting was really wanted and would be a decided benefit, the day was quite ignored, and on making enquiries of nurserymen and others who have forest trees for sale we could not hear

of a single plant having been sold. Our country population will require to be schooled into this sort of work before they will enter heartily into the matter.

Business here has been rather dull the past two weeks, owing to the boats with lumber being so slow in coming to hand. The Export Lumber Company have received seven boat loads, but this is all that has arrived so far this season. The building demand has been fair and it is expected that a rushing trade will be done this spring! The difficulty in supplying American buyers with the kind of lumber they wanted, which was experienced in the winter, seems to prevent the same class of buyers from coming near us now, but as large quantities of lumber for that trade has been manufactured this winter, they will soon find ample stocks to select from when they again pay us a visit.

Prices are steady and unchanged as under:

Pine, 1st quality, 1/2 M.	\$35 00	\$40 00
Pine, 2nd " " 1/2 M.	23 00	24 00
Pine, shipping culls, 1/2 M.	14 00	16 00
Pine, 4th quality deals, 1/2 M.	11 00	12 00
Pine, mill culls, 1/2 M.	10 00	12 00
Spruce, 1/2 M.	10 00	13 00
Hemlock, 1/2 M.	9 00	10 00
Ash, run of log culls out, 1/2 M.	20 00	25 00
Bass, " " 1/2 M.	17 00	20 00
Oak, 1/2 M.	40 00	45 00
Walnut 1/2 M.	60 00	100 00
Cherry, 1/2 M.	60 00	100 00
Butternut, 1/2 M.	35 00	40 00
Birch, 1/2 M.	20 00	25 00
Hard Maple, 1/2 M.	25 00	30 00
Lath, 1/2 M.	3 00	4 00
Shingles, 1st, 1/2 M.	3 00	4 00
Shingles, 2nd, 1/2 M.	2 50	3 00

## FREIGHTS.

So far as the season has gone there have been no vessels taken up, either here or in Quebec, to load lumber for the River Platte. The rate of freight for deals to the United Kingdom is 60s. @ 67s. 6d., according to the port, 67s. 6d., has been paid to London and 65s. to Liverpool.

## CORDWOOD

Has been in rather slack demand since the date of our last report. There has not been much brought in by boats, and what has come is chiefly soft wood, so that prices are well maintained, but it is expected that a fall of 50 cents per cord will take place during the next two weeks, although Upper Canada dealers are asking more for their wood than they did this time last year. We quote ex cartage:—

Long Maple	\$ 6 50
Short " "	5 00
Long Birch	5 50
Short " "	5 00
Long Beech	5 00
Short " "	4 75
Long Tamarack	4 50
Short " "	4 00

## WINNIPEG.

The Commercial of May 8th, says:—The trade in lumber has not been so brisk during the past week as might have been expected. There still remains an unsettled idea in the minds of contractors and a belief that lower prices will be secured ere long. On the other hand the dealers have a heavy stock on hand, and some are feeling the pressure of the same. The same unsatisfactory state of affairs noted in our last report exists regarding prices. There is yet no regular scale, and quotations of a reliable nature cannot be given. Prices are fixed according to the anxiety of the dealer to sell, and the purchasers have to search for who will sell at the lowest figures. The opening of the C. P. R. to Thunder Bay will no doubt do away with a great share of this cutting and bring matters to a regular system of reliable quotations.

## CHICAGO.

The Northwestern Lumberman of May 5th, says:—An opinion has got abroad that lumber last year was too high in comparison with other commodities, which have settled in value, and there is a general inclination to sell for less money, and a determination to buy for less or not at all. One note is sounded on this question from the salt sea to the mountains beyond the plains. The distributing trade has already lowered the value of yard stocks from \$2 to \$3 below last year's prices, and apparently intends to sell at that range, in any event. Now it demands that the holders of bulk supplies shall do the same. Really the latter have conceded a lower level of values, though they make a show of demanding last year's figures. In this market the drop on piece stuff between the two Mays is from \$11.75 to \$10, and as much as \$1 on boards and strips. This is in actual transac-

tions on this market, and is a foregone conclusion. In the Northwest the logic of events has decided that lumber is cheaper than it was last year, and it will do nobody any good to stout it out against that conclusion.

Receipts of lumber, shingles, etc., for the week ending May 3, as reported by the Lumberman's Exchange:

RECEIPTS.	
Lumber, Shingles.	
1883.....	15,522,000 29,053,000
1882.....	29,017,000 15,053,000

FROM JANUARY 1, 1883, TO MAY 3, 1883, INCLUSIVE.

RECEIPTS.	
Lumber. Shingles.	
1883.....	58,610,000 80,151,000
1882.....	282,080,000 89,209,000

Inc.....	128,570,000	3,088,000
Dec.....		

## STOCK ON HAND APRIL 1.

1883.		1882.		1881.	
Lumber.....	412,007,033	279,324,058	332,491,234		
Shingles.....	147,002,179	115,263,025	125,648,204		
Lath.....	45,630,232	20,618,308	33,338,890		
Pickets.....	3,497,232	3,802,011	1,689,064		
Cedar posts.....	113,482	145,335	79,887		

## ALBANY.

Quotations at the yards are as follows:—

Pine, clear, 1/2 M.	\$55 00	\$60 00
Pine, fourths, " "	50 00	55 00
Pine, select, " "	40 00	45 00
Pine, good box, " "	22 00	25 00
Pine, 10-in. plank, each, " "	00 42	00 45
Pine, 10-in. plank, culls, each, " "	00 22	00 25
Pine, boards, 10-in., " "	00 23	00 30
Pine, 10-in. boards, culls, " "	00 18	00 20
Pine, 10-in. boards, 16 ft., 1/2 M.	30 00	35 00
Pine, 12-in. boards, 16 ft., " "	30 00	34 00
Pine, 12-in. boards, 18 ft., " "	27 00	29 00
Pine, 11-in. siding, select, " "	42 00	45 00
Pine, 11-in. siding, common, " "	17 00	18 00
Pine, 1-in. siding, select, " "	42 00	45 00
Pine, 1-in. siding, common, " "	16 00	18 00
Spruce, boards, each, " "	00 00	00 10
Spruce, plank, 11-in., each, " "	00 00	00 21
Spruce, plank, 2-in., each, " "	00 00	00 32
Spruce, wall strips, each, " "	00 12	00 12
Hemlock, boards, each, " "	00 00	00 15
Hemlock, joist, 4x8, each, " "	00 00	00 33
Hemlock, joist, 2x4, each, " "	00 00	00 14
Hemlock, wall strips, 2x4, each, " "	00 00	00 12
Ash, good, 1/2 M.	40 00	43 00
Ash, second quality, 1/2 M.	25 00	30 00
Cherry, good, 1/2 M.	60 00	85 00
Cherry, common, 1/2 M.	25 00	35 00
Oak, good, 1/2 M.	40 00	43 00
Oak, second quality, 1/2 M.	20 00	25 00
Hickory, 1/2 M.	25 00	30 00
Hickory, 1/2 M.	40 00	40 00
Maple, Canada, 1/2 M.	23 00	30 00
Maple, American, per M.	26 00	28 00
Chestnut, 1/2 M.	35 00	40 00
Shingles, shaved, pine, 1/2 M.	0 00	6 50
" 2nd quality, " "	0 00	5 00
" extra, sawed, pine, " "	0 00	5 00
" clear, " "	0 00	3 00
" cedar, mixed, " "	0 00	3 00
" cedar, XXX, " "	0 00	4 00
" hemlock, " "	0 00	2 50
Lath, hemlock, 1/2 M.	0 00	2 25
Lath, spruce, " "	0 00	2 50

## BOSTON.

Cotton, Wool and Iron of May 5, says:—There a very good demand for general lumber for building operations, and the market holds along on quite a firm basis, especially on choice western pine. Receipts by rail are closely taken up, and there are not many cars of really good lumber left in store. The spruce mills are quite well supplied with orders, and the market is maintained steadily. Hardwood are receiving a fair inquiry, and desirable and select grades seem to hold their own quite fully. Walnut is mainly in demand for furniture, and receives only a moderate call. Other kinds of hardwood are firm and in steady request.

## CANADA PINE.

Selects, Dressed	\$43 00	\$50 00
Shelving, Dressed, 1st	40 00	42 00
" " 2nds	33 00	35 00
Dressed Shippers	27 00	29 00
Dressed Box	18 00	20 00
Sheeting, 1st quality	42 00	45 00
" 2nd " "	34 00	35 00

## OSWEGO, N. Y.

From Our Own Correspondent.

No particular change in quotations, canals opened on 7th, boats plenty and freight rates low, \$1.60 to Albany and \$2.40 to New York. Lumber market decidedly dull.

Three uppers.....	\$46 00	\$48 00
Pickets.....	36 00	38 00
Pine, common.....	20 00	22 00
Common.....	14 00	17 00
Culls.....	12 00	15 00
Still run lots.....	19 00	22 00
Singles, selected, 1 inch	34 00	38 00
" 1 1/2 inch	35 00	40 00
M. L. run, 1x10, 12 inch	19 00	22 00
" selected	22 00	25 00
Shippers.....	16 00	17 00
Strips, 1 and 1 1/2 inch mill run	14 00	18 00
" culls.....	10 00	13 00
1x2 selected for clapboards	25 00	30 00
Shingles, XXX, 18 inch, pine	4 00	4 50
" XXX, 18 inch, cedar	3 50	4 00
Lath.....	2 00	2 50

## BUFFALO.

We quote cargo lots:—

Uppers.....	\$46 00	\$48 00
Common.....	18 00	19 00
Culls.....	13 00	14 00

## TONAWANDA.

CARGO LOTS—BAGINAW INSPECTION.

Three uppers.....	\$45 00	\$48 00
Common.....	18 00	24 00
Culls.....	12 00	14 00

## LIVERPOOL.

The Timber Trades Journal of April 28th, says:—There has been little worthy of notice since your last issue concerning the general condition of trade. There is still the same monotonous cry of the want of life in the market, which is not relieved by the dry and open weather so necessary for the prosecution of building operations, although one would naturally assume from the numerous buildings that are being run up in this neighborhood, especially in the northern suburbs of the city, that some spirit would be infused into the trade. This, however, does not seem to be the case, although it cannot be denied that there is a firm consumption of timber going on.

The auction sales of last week included amongst others that of Messrs. A. F. & D. Mackay, who on Thursday last offered one cargo of St. John, N. B., spruce deals lying in store, and one cargo of St. John, N. B. birch timber and deals "to arrive," and in addition other parcels of spruce and pine deals from various port already on hand. There was a moderate attendance of buyers present, but the competition throughout was only languid, and consequently a large portion of the stored cargo of spruce deals was withdrawn. The St. John, N. B., birch timber consisted of two parcels, one brought down from the woods by railway, and one rafted down in the customary manner. Both lots sold fairly well, but prices were upon the whole easier all round than in the previous sales. Prices were somewhat irregular, as will be seen from the following particulars:—

St. John, N. B., birch timber unloaded—			
20 to 21 1/2 in. deep	25d.		per ft.
17 1/2 " 19 1/2 "	23d.		
18 1/2 " "	21d.		
18 " "	20d.		
17 " 17 1/2 "	20d.		
16 " 16 1/2 "	19d. to 19 1/2 d.		
15 1/2 " "	18d. to 19d.		
14 " 15 "	18d.		

The ordinary timber sold as follows:—

St. John, N. B., birch timber floated—			
under 14 in. deep	16d.		
20 to 23 " "	25d.		
19 " 19 1/2 "	21d.		
18 1/2 " "	20d.		
19 " "	19d. to 20d.		
17 1/2 " "	19d.		
17 " "	19d.		
16 " 17 " "	18d. to 18 1/2 d.		
15 " "	17d. to 18d.		
14 " "	17d. to 17 1/2 d.		
under 14 " "	16d.		

Do. ash—			
13 to 17 1/2 " "	24d.		
Do. maple—			
13 to 16 " "	16d.		
Do. spruce deals—			

12 to 15 ft.	3x11	8 0 0	per std.
12 " 15 "	3x9	7 5 0	
9 " 11 "	3x11	7 2 6	
9 & 7 chiefly 9 & 7			
9 to 24 ft.	3x13	7 2 6	
9 " 24 "	3x12	7 2 6	
9 " 24 "	3x10	7 0 0	
9 " 24 "	3x8	6 17 6	
deal ends		6 15 0	
palings 6 ft.	3x1	4 10 0	per M.
" 4 "	3x3	3 0 0	

## GLASGOW.

The Timber Trades Journal of April 28th, says:—Pitch pine timber has during the past few weeks has been arriving at Greenock pretty freely, and this year's import to date is now coming close on last year's total for corresponding period, the figures being: 1882, tonnage employed, nineteen vessels, 14,387; and 1883, fifteen vessels, 12,497 tons. The stock on hand at the end of March last was, of hewn timber, 4,639 loads; sawn, 10,734 loads; and planks, 240 loads. A cargo of pitch pine planks is included in the Glasgow imports of the past week. The arrivals of teak timber to Clyde