

well. It is believed the present season will be the best which has been experienced for many years.

**BRITISH COLUMBIA AND MANITOBA.**

Shipments of lumber from British Columbia to foreign countries are being made constantly, and the mills are running full time. The Moodyville Saw Mill Company have given a contract to cut timber on a berth of 925 acres, situated on St. Vincent Bay, in anticipation of an increased demand. The mills are also shipping largely to the eastern markets, and in addition to this a good local trade is being done. In Manitoba also is experienced no little activity, and a fair season's trade is anticipated.

**UNITED STATES.**

During the past week the lumber business has exhibited more life than for some time past, yet the volume of trade done is far from what might be expected at this season of the year. Dealers have been enabled to dispose of special lots, but for many lines which should be moving freely the demand cannot be said to be encouraging. It is a known fact that the retail yards are lightly stocked, which will result sooner or later in a replenishment. But for the present dealers are assuming a hand-to-mouth policy with respect to purchases, and no orders are being placed beyond those for actual requirements. One reason for this state of affairs is no doubt the uncertainty which exists regarding the condition of the national finances. Prices, nevertheless, have been well maintained, dealers refusing to drop in order to effect sales. This is strengthening the market, and if carried out a remunerative business may be expected when conditions improve. At Michigan points some sales of white pine have been effected to Chicago dealers at good figures. At Boston the situation is also improving; inquiries are increasing, and prices are firm. Oak holds the first position in the hardwood field, followed by basswood. Quarter-sawn white oak is scarce, and is not equal in all cases to the demand. Building operations in Philadelphia are especially brisk, creating a demand for considerable material. Maple flooring is meeting with some call in Michigan, and an advance in price is said to be under consideration.

**FOREIGN.**

The British market, which has been quiet of late as regards actual purchases of lumber, is looking up again, and contracts have been closed at good prices. Consumers of lumber who have been holding off from placing orders in the hope of a decline in values, now realize that the firm tone of the market is likely to be maintained for the balance of the season, and consequently are stocking freely. Favorable weather for building operations is also stimulating business in deals and boards, and the market is bare of many sizes. Shipments, however, are daily expected. J. M. Bennett & Sons, of Man-

chester, have sold the whole of their existing stock of spruce deals at a substantial advance. The situation is much superior to the same time last year, when shipments were sold much lower. The mahogany market retains its firm position, and available stocks are small. Birch, ash and maple are receiving some call, Quebec birch finding a ready sale at 95s. for good medium average, about 10s. in advance of last season's prices. Some recent sales of 20 in. have been made as high as 115s. A noticeable feature of the British market is the request this year for the small-sized goods, such as 2x3 and 2x4, which meets with ready consumption. Formerly it was difficult to get any quantity of boards and battens narrower than 6 inch. Reports from the French market tell of an increased consumption and a probable advance in values.

**THE SITUATION.**

REFLECTED THROUGH CORRESPONDENCE OF THE "WEEKLY LUMBERMAN."

Macpherson & Schell, Alexandria, Ont.: The past winter was not very favorable for getting out logs. The prospects for sales look favorable, and we have placed considerable of our season's cut on contract.

Keewatin Lumbering and Manufacturing Co., Keewatin, Ont.: Trade so far this spring has been ahead of last year, and we look for larger sales during this season. Stocks, on the whole, are not so heavy as what have been carried, but we expect there will be plenty to meet the requirements of the west. The total sales from this quarter in 1895 were about forty millions.

Bronson & Weston Lumber Company, Ottawa, Ont.: There is as yet no active movement of lumber from this section. We anticipate, however, that the better grades will be in most demand when movement commences, but we hear of no recent sales of importance. Our stock here is probably slightly under the average in the aggregate, with perhaps a little larger percentage of the common grades than a year ago.

J. E. Murphy, Hepworth Station, Ont.: Dry hemlock is going off briskly, and I am receiving a fair supply of orders in hardwood at good prices, especially for rock and soft elm of choice grades. I find it extremely difficult to find a place for common and cull hardwoods. I have recently loaded seven cars of fairly good common and cull birch and maple at the mere cost of handling, in order to get it out of the way of new stock.

W. W. Carter, Fesserton, Ont.: Am shipping four cars a week. Oak and elm are in most demand. Oak is scarce, and mill men are glad to see elm moving more actively. Have recently sold to the American market two million shingles at a fair price, and a large quantity of elm and pine lumber. Stocks of 1 1/4 and 2" cuts and better are scarce, but 1 1/2" plentiful. Pine and basswood are also in large stock. Higher grades are firm in price, and other grades nominal, with good average of inquiries.

T. L. Pardo, of Blenheim, Ont., lost 200,000 staves by a recent fire in the store room of his cooperage works.

**STOCKS AND PRICES.**

Upwards of 7,000,000 feet of lumber will be shipped from Jagers Mines, N. S., this season.

About 3,000,000 feet of lumber will be manufactured at Bolton Centre, Que., this season.

Large quantities of birch logs are being shipped to England from the vicinity of Belleville, Ont.

W. Gillespie has disposed of 300,000 feet of basswood at Three Mile Lake, Ont., to the Rathbun Co.

Large quantities of lumber are being shipped from Havelock, N. B. S. H. White & Co. have already shipped 75 carloads.

The steamship Oregon, which sailed from St. John for London, had on board 20,592 bds. box shooks, 15,236 pcs. deals, etc., and 266 pcs. birch timber.

The steamship Frey took from Halifax for Cardiff last week 1,409,331 feet spruce deals, 21,347 feet ends, 556,303 feet birch deals, and 34,262 feet ends.

Harry J. Crowe has purchased from R. Harlow, of Hantsport, N. S., 1,000,000 feet of timber lying at Bishopville, in the eastern portion of King's county.

A syndicate of American capitalists have purchased the lumber lands and logs in connection with Rourke's mill at St. Martins, N. B. The price is stated as \$56,000.

The Beaver line steamer Lake Superior sailed from St. John, N. B., for Liverpool on the 24th inst., with 350 standards of deals, 200 tons of timber, and 23 cars maple blocks.

The steamship Halifax City, from St. John for London, carried 11,920 box shooks and 307 pieces birch timber. From Halifax she took 114,840 ft. deals, 99,712 ft. spruce deals, and 3,509 ft. deal ends.

D. E. Spragge, of Winnipeg, will saw 7,000,000 feet of logs this season at his mill on the Red river in Point Douglas. Brown & Rutherford will also saw a considerable quantity at their mill near the Louise bridge.

The St. Stephen, N. B., Courier states that the lumber cut on that river this season will be the smallest yet made, and is estimated as follows: James Murchy & Sons, 6,000,000 ft.; H. F. Eaton & Sons, 7,500,000 ft.; F. H. Todd & Sons, 2,000,000 ft.

The following vessels are reported from Vancouver: British barque Glenbank, for Buenos Ayres, with 1,119,462 sp. ft. lumber, value \$7,612; British barque Inch Keith, for Iquique, Chili, with 666,275 ft. of rough and 24,717 ft. of dressed lumber, value \$10,945.66.

The following exports of lumber are reported from St. John, N. B., to the United States: For Boston, by W. H. Murray, 619,-

600 laths; by L. M. Jewett, 76,457 ft. pine boards, 72,909 ft. spruce boards, 12,250 pieces clapboards, 23,750 cedar shingles, 8,500 laths; by L. M. Jewett, 157,853 sp. ft. plank; by J. R. McDonough, 430 pcs. piling; by H. W. Kourke, 109,000 ft. boards, 3,000 laths; by J. & L. B. Knight, 9,020 ft. pine boards, 58,631 ft. spruce boards, 44,389 ft. scantling. For City Island, by Stetson, Cutler & Co., 318,000 laths; by Stetson, Cutler & Co., 239,167 deals. For Salem, by Stetson, Cutler & Co., 152,474 sp. ft. plank; by Dunn Bros., 137,465 sp. ft. plank, 61,452 sp. ft. deals; by Stetson, Cutler & Co., 93,683 sp. ft. plank, 86,352 sp. ft. scantling. For New York, by Miller & Woodman, 258,914 ft. deals; by J. H. Scammell & Co., 1,412,000 laths. For Vineyard Haven, by J. R. Warner & Co., 488,500 laths, 29,886 scantling. For Fall river, by Stetson, Cutler & Co., 22,000 deals, 91,400 scantling, 59,000 plank.

**BUSINESS DIFFICULTIES AND CHANGES.**

The sash, door and planing mill factory owned by the late Angus Campbell at Callender, Ont., is offered for sale.

G. R. Archibald, lumber merchant, Lower Stewawick, N. S., is offering to compromise at 50 cents on the dollar. Liabilities \$10,000.

Messrs. Donogh & Oliver, wholesale lumber merchants, Toronto and Buffalo, have disposed of their business in the latter city to Arthur Hill & Co., of Midland, Ont.

The sheriff is said to have taken possession of the business assets of A. Ames & Co., lumber merchants, East Syracuse, N. Y. It is stated that a number of Ontario dealers are interested in the estate.

A planing mill in Toronto, Ont., owned by the Toronto Rubber Co., and leased by Cockshead & Co., was burned last week. Loss \$8,000.

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