

STOCKS AND PRICES.

The Department of Public Works of Ontario desires tenders by noon of the 17th inst., for the supply of a considerable quantity of white pine and hemlock timber.

Donald Fraser & Son, of Fredericton, N.B., are reported to have purchased the timber property of the late James Miller at Temiscouata, Que. The property contains some 700 acres.

The January price list issued by the British Columbia lumber manufacturers shows an advance of one dollar on four inch grained fir flooring. Three inch fir flooring and ceiling has been dropped from the published list.

A number of Ontario lumbermen, including George McCormack, M. P., Angus McLeod, and W. J. Sheppard, have gone to British Columbia. It is said that they have entered into a contract for taking out timber for the C. P. R.

Mr. Joseph Tate reports that in the township of Anson, where A. McPherson & Co., of Longford Mills, Ont., are operating, the snow is very deep. Notwithstanding, it is expected that some forty thousand pieces will be on the ice in a few days. The camp will probably break up early in March.

Pelton & Reid, of Cheboygan, Mich., have closed a deal with Munro & Gordon, of Pembroke, Ont., for the purchase of 15,000,000 feet of pine logs which are being put in this winter on Lake Wahnapitae. These logs are being taken from Indian lands. Pelton & Reid are also getting out 10,000,000 ft. of logs in the upper peninsula of Michigan.

Mr. W. C. Herbert, of the Manhattan Car and Carriage Manufacturing Company, of New York, has been making a tour of Ontario for the purpose of purchasing hardwood lumber. He states that the scarcity of cars of all classes is very great throughout the United States, and that the large manufacturers are crowded with orders for rolling stock.

The lumber production of the State of Michigan in 1898 was 2,158,343,122 feet, about 200,000,000 less than the output in 1897. At the close of the manufacturing season, there was about 100,000,000 feet less in manufacturers' hands than at the close of 1897. Last year the shingle production was 1,683,205,500, or about 400,000,000 more than was manufactured in the previous year.

A feature of the pine trade of the northern States is the scarcity of lath at all markets. The condition of the lath market is becoming so noticeable that northern wholesalers are getting out new lists, advancing the price of lath from ten to twenty-five cents a thousand, and it is expected that the selling price will shortly reach \$1.75 for No. 1 white pine and \$1.25 for No. 2, on a Minneapolis basis.

The Paepcke-Leicht Lumber Company, of Chicago, recently purchased 12,000,000 feet of lumber from the Kirby-Carpenter Co., of Menominee, Mich., and about 3,000,000 feet from Duluth and other points in the Lake Superior district. The Edward Hines Lumber Company, of same city, have purchased the cut of the mill of the Garth Lumber Company, at Garth, upper Michigan, amounting to 28,000,000 feet.

An exchange gives the following estimate of the quantity of logs to be rafted from the French river in the spring: Georgian Bay Lumber Co., Waubauskene, 21,000,000 feet; Victoria Harbor Lumber Co., Victoria Harbor, 2,000,000 feet; Tanner Bros., Waubauskene, 5,000,000 feet; C. Beck Mfg. Co., Penetanguishene, 4,000,000 feet; Chew Bros., Midland, 4,000,000 feet; Holland & Emery Co., 20,000,000 feet; Hardy Lumber Co., 5,000,000 ft.; Fisher & Turner, 7,000,000 feet; Munro & Gordon, 12,000,000 feet. This makes a total of 119,000,000 feet.

During the month of January there were shipped from the port of St. John, N. B.,

the following quantities of lumber: To Great Britain and Ireland, 3,238,212 feet of deals, etc.; to the United States, 3,313,636 feet of long lumber and 6,810,000 lath; to Buenos Ayres, 2,074,342 feet of boards and 2,018,000 shingles; to the Spanish Islands of Penneriffe, 278,848 feet of long lumber, 40,000 lath, 18,750 pickets, and 225,950 slats; to Bermuda, 45,000 feet of long lumber and some lath, shingles, box shooks and spars; to Canary Islands, 316,036 feet of long lumber, 218,500 lath and 29,975 pickets.

THE GLASGOW MARKET.

Messrs. Allison, Couland & Co., in their monthly report, review the Glasgow market as follows:

The amount of business transacted during February has been moderate. As shippers are asking advanced prices, values are steady and inclined to stiffer, but the larger buyers being well stocked, it may be some time before there is any improvement. Several shippers of Quebec and Lower Port goods are here at present, but as yet no great business is reported. All consumers of timber are well employed, so there is good reason to expect that shippers ideas may be realized.

WHITE PINE.—Waney.—Prime wood, 19 to 20 inch average, is quoted at 25 5d to 25 8d per cubic foot. 2nd class wood 15d to 25 per cubic foot. Square.—The demand has been very light. 1st class wood 35 to 40 feet average is quoted at 25 3d to 25 6d per cubic foot G. F. A. 18d to 20d per cubic foot.

RED PINE.—There is no business to report, and prices remain unchanged at former figures, 14 1/2d to 15 1/2d for 35 ft. average.

ELM.—The demand has fallen off lately, but sellers are still very firm in their ideas of price; 1st class 45 to 50 ft. is quoted at 25 2d to 25 3d per c. ft.; 2nd class, 22d to 23d per c. ft.

OAK.—The stock on hand is heavy, and little or no business has been transacted. Quotations.—1st class is quoted at 25 6d to 35; 2nd class, 22d to 25 2d per c. ft.

ASH.—The demand continues good, and prices are firm; 15 to 16 inch is quoted at 21d to 23d per c. ft.

BIRCH.—The stock in first hands is very limited and the prices are firm, 16 inch average being quoted at 19d to 21d per c. ft.

DEALS, BATTENS AND BOARDS.—There has been a moderate demand, and a fair amount of business has been done. Prices on the whole are inclined to be stiffer.

PINE.—Firsts are firmer in price for really prime deals. Broaders are quoted at £23 7s. 6d. to £24 15s. Undersized, £17 3s. 9d. to £19 5s. per St. Pet. std. Seconds.—There has been a moderate demand, especially for narrow deals, which are now low in stock. Broad are quoted at £16 10s. to £19 5s. Undersized, £13 1s. 3d. to £13 15s. per St. Pet. std. Thirds.—Regulars are firm in price, and undersized, although not much asked for, have stiffened considerably. Quotations.—Regulars, 11 in. and up, £9 12s. 6d. to £10 13s. 1d. Undersized, £7 18s. 1d. to £8 11s. 10d. per St. Pet. std. Fourth.—With the exception of a slight improvement in 11 inch prices are very low. Regulars are quoted at £6 17s. 6d. to £7 4s. 4d. Undersized at £5 16s. 10d. to £6 10s. 7d. per St. Pet. std.

RED PINE.—There has been a very good demand, and prices have been firm at £8 5s. to £10 13s. 1d., according to specifications.

SPRUCE.—A moderate business has been done, the demand being principally for 9 in. Quotations.—£6 3s. 9d. to £7 11s. 3d. for Thirds and £5 10s. to £6 10s. 7d. for Fourths.

N. B. BIRCH.—In logs no business is reported. Planks are in good demand and should improve. Planks are quoted at 10 1/2 to 11 1/2d per c. ft.

N. B. DEALS, BATTENS AND BOARDS.—A moderate business has been done, but prices have been very low, especially for wide deals, which are very hard to dispose of. Quotations.—£6 3s. 9d. to £7 11s. 3d. per St. Pet. std.

N. B. SPRUCE.—A very moderate business has been done at fair prices. Quotations.—£6 3s. 9d. to £7 11s. 3d. per St. Pet. std. for 2nd quality average.

BARBADOS MARKET REPORT.

Of the Barbados lumber market Messrs. S. P. Musson, Son & Company:

Arrivals have been as follows: Schr. Frances A. Rice, from Weymouth, N.S., 49m. shipping, 18 m. 2nd quality w. pine, 71 m. spruce; schr. Moss Glen from Bridgewater, N.S., 73 m. ft. shipping, 41 m. 2nd quality w. pine, 15 m. spruce scantling; schr. John A. McKie from Windsor, N.S., to selves, 152 m. shipping, 80 m. 2nd quality w. pine—lost part of deck load; schr. Alafetta S. Snare

from St. John, N.B., 97 m. ft. shipping, 70 m. small, 54 m. 2nd quality w. pine; schr. Athlete from Windsor, N.S., 143 m. shipping, 62 m. 2nd qua' w. w. pine, 21 m. spruce scantling; schr. Mercedese from Belliveau Cove, 120 m. shippers, 24 m. plank, 7 m. 2nd quality spruce; schr. Walter Summer from Tusket Wedge, N.S., 34 m. merchantable, 25 m. small, 19 m. 2nd quality w. pine, 12 m. spruce boards, 10 m. plank, and 150 m. laying spruce shingles; schr. Opal from Yarmouth, N.S., 25 m. spruce, 9 m. w. pine, 14 m. hemlock, 128 m. laying cedar shingles.

The cargoes of the Synara and B. B. Hardwick, mentioned in our last, were sold, former at \$21.10 shipping, \$14.60 2nd quality, and \$13.40 small white pine; \$11.40 2nd quality spruce, \$15 scantling 2 x 3; latter at \$21.26 shipping, \$15.26 2nd w. pine; \$16.60 shipping spruce. For the Frances A. Rice's cargo we were able to obtain same rates, viz: \$21.26 shipping, \$15.26 2nd quality w. pine; \$16.00 shipping spruce. The market was well stocked with these previous receipts, and the arrival of over half a million w. pine by the Moss Glen, McKie, and Snare, had a most depressing effect. The first named, being a small cargo, was sold at \$20.50 shipping, \$13.50 2nd quality, cargo to be delivered at Speightstown and Bridgetown. The Snare's and the McKie's cargoes were placed at \$20.10 shipping, \$13.10 2nd quality, and \$15.10 small, deliverable at Bridgetown. The Athlete we despatched to Demerara under valuation of \$20 merchantable, \$13 2nd quality, bond. All these arrivals have depressed dealers, who now anticipate a sharp break in the prices, not only for w. pine, but for spruce as well, and it was difficult to induce them to make any offer for the Mercedese's cargo, which, however, we succeeded in placing at \$16 for shipping, and \$14 for plank. The Walter Summer's cargo has been sold at \$18.75 shipping, \$12.50 2nd quality w. pine, \$16 spruce boards, \$12.50 plank; and we learn that the Opal has gone to St. Vincent.

Shingles.—Long Gaspe.—The S. S. Taymouth Castle brought 196 m., which have been sold at \$5.53. In laying cedar the 500 m. by the Synara were in part fulfillment of contract at \$2. The Taymouth Castle has 500 m., which were also contracted for; and the Opal has 125 m., which have gone on in vessel; other lots are expected. In spruce laying the Wapiti, from Yarmouth, brought 264 m., of which we placed 200 m. at \$2.35; the Walter Summer had 150 m., which were sold at \$1.90. We have done nothing so far with the Cypress, ex Knowlton, and Saw yer, mentioned in our last.

AUSTRALIAN CONDITIONS.

The monthly timber report of Fraser & Co., Melbourne, Australia, reviews that market as follows:

Operations during the past four weeks have been very important, due in a measure to the intervention of the holidays, and partly owing to the fact of the trade holding off from buying to any extent until after business has become more settled in the new year. With the exception of flooring, lining, and weather boards, there are practically no alterations in values to advise in other descriptions of timber, but in the lines just named quotations have been given for shipments shortly "to arrive" upon a reduced basis, though, for the reason already mentioned, but few sales have been arranged. Since the resumption of business after the holidays, a shipment of this class of timber just in port has changed hands in a line at prices not transpired, and it is the intention of the importers of the cargo per Fernanda, also lately arrived, to test the market to-morrow by submitting this shipment to public auction, along with other kinds of timber importations now upon the market.

It is probable that an increased consumption will be shown during the current year, and later on values of the lines chiefly in demand are more than likely to improve, but at present, owing to near supplies appearing to be sufficient to meet requirements, we hardly anticipate any

early change for the better, even though cost and freight prices at ports of shipment for many important kinds have but recently advanced.

SPRUCE AND BALTIC WHITE DEALS.—Imports: 1,175,308 feet super. Arrival: Invermay, from St. John. Recent supplies have been in poor enquiry, as the principal buyers of these lines are well stocked. Values are weak, and are nominally 2 1/2d. to 2 5/8d. per foot of 9 x 3.

OREGON PINE.—Imports: 1,539,238 feet super. Arrivals: J. C. Potter, from Tacoma; Novelty from Astoria. Lumber stocks have been dealt in to a slight extent only, but we understand that a portion of the Novelty shipment just arrived has been placed at about the market rate of £5 10s. per 1,000 feet super. for an average specification. The J. C. Potters' cargo has gone into the part of the importers, no business being concluded while at the wharf.

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