

ELM—Has been in good demand throughout the season. With active shipbuilding this will no doubt continue. Unless production is overdone, the market is promising.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1895.....	596,137.....	537,120.....	218,871
1894.....	528,761.....	528,880.....	244,145

ASH. The stock is quite ample for any present demand. Large wood may sell to a moderate extent if of fine quality and color.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1895.....	149,077.....	146,360.....	118,127
1894.....	183,626.....	134,920.....	99,659

BIRCH Throughout the season has sold slowly, having suffered from competition with cheap African mahogany. The prospects for this wood are now decidedly better, and unless too much is manufactured, birch should meet with a ready sale at fair prices.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1895.....	240,818.....	200,160.....	156
1894.....	131,191.....	189,920.....	242

STAVES. The business has left Quebec, being diverted into other channels.

PINE DEALS Are now almost altogether produced above Montreal, and largely shipped from that port, though the business remains to a very great extent in the hands of Quebec houses. The opening of new railroad connection between western points and this port, and possibly some readjustment of cargo freight, may later on bring back a portion of the business to Quebec, if merchants and ship laborers both work with that end in view. The cuttings for next season have been eagerly secured by shipping merchants at about last year's prices, in expectation of an advance in value.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1895.....	823,665.....	501,200.....	135,489
1894.....	647,408.....	479,700.....	63,624

SPRUCE DEALS—Have been throughout the season disappointing and unprofitable, but a great advance has recently taken place in value at the chief centres of consumption. As yet there has been no marked change in prices here, but that must certainly follow. The removal of the United States duty of equal to about sixteen shillings and sixpence per Petersburg Standard Hundred, the alteration in the French duties, equivalent to five shillings for same, and the extent to which spruce is now used for the great and growing industry of pulp manufacture, must shortly have a very marked effect on the value of this wood.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1895.....	3,878,142.....	3,471,700.....	736,216
1894.....	3,447,856.....	3,462,800.....	579,774

In regard to the manufacture of pulp for paper and the many purposes for which it is now being adapted, it is generally admitted by those in the trade that spruce wood produces the best and strongest pulp, and the demand for paper manufactured exclusively from pulp wood is now very great. It is not a new industry we admit, for wood for many years has been converted into pulp, but the demand of late has enormously increased, more so than any other branch of the timber or wood business. We hear of mills being built or enlarged wherever good spruce is to be found. A large mill such as the one at Grand'Mere, St. Maurice River, will turn out about ten carloads of pulp per day. Most of the output of this extensive establishment is intended for paper mills in the United States. It looks, therefore, as if spruce is likely to be in the very near future a much more valuable wood than it has been in the past.

SAWN LUMBER. South American Lumber. The market this season has been very active in spruce, especially from the Saguenay and other Lower St. Lawrence ports, and from the Maritime Provinces, the shipments having aggregated 18,000,000 feet more this year than last. Prices have ruled from \$9.00 to \$11.00 for rails and \$13.50 for twelve-inch boards in the Maritime Provinces, and from \$11.50 to \$12.00 for rails and \$13.50 to \$14.00 for boards in the Province of Quebec.

Shipments of white pine have considerably fallen off on account of the change in the United States customs tariff, which reduced duties on pitch pine from \$10.50 to \$5.25, which reduction militated very strongly against the use of white pine.

Prices range about the same as last year, say \$17.50 for common shippers, \$27.50 for good shippers, \$37.50 for selected and \$45.00 to \$47.50 for clear.

FREIGHTS Have ruled without much change on last year's figures, being the bottom rates at which vessels can be sailed: Clyde, 16 shillings; Liverpool, 18 shillings, for timber cargoes by sail, with proportionate rates to other ports. By steam, 40 shillings for deals from Montreal to safe ports in United Kingdom, with 65 shillings for timber for Quebec, have been current rates. Liners from Montreal were obliged, during summer, to take lower rates for deals to fill up, though the difference was by no means so marked as previous seasons, and rates closed firm at an advance.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF SAILING VESSELS CLEARED AT THE PORT OF QUEBEC FOR SEA, LUMBER LADEN, 1880 TO 1895, FROM THE OPENING TO THE CLOSE OF NAVIGATION.

(COMPILED BY MR. F. JOHNSTON, QUEBEC EXCHANGE.)

	Vessels.	Tons.
1880.....	634	555,451
1881.....	459	380,186
1882.....	426	359,025
1883.....	487	416,169
1884.....	366	291,398
1885.....	369	294,789
1886.....	325	250,035
1887.....	271	206,172
1888.....	227	195,928
1889.....	275	240,892
1890.....	250	238,162
1891.....	205	182,615
1892.....	244	225,008
1893.....	177	146,970
1894.....	136	115,639
1895.....	86	70,960

OCEAN STEAMSHIPS.

	Steamers.	Tons.
1894.....	51	72,531
1895.....	58	87,749

STATEMENT SHOWING THE QUANTITY AND VALUE OF WOOD EXPORTED FROM THE PORTS OF MONTREAL, THREE RIVERS, BATISCAN AND SOREL, FROM MAY 1ST TO NOVEMBER 30TH, 1895.

PORTS.	ARTICLES.	QUANTITY.	VALUE.
Montreal.....	Pine Deals.....	69,730 Std. H.	\$2,374,711
	Spruce Deals.....	3,526 "	85,248
	Deal Ends.....	5,422 "	269,383
	Planks, Boards, &c.....	11,970 M. ft.	311,717
	Other Headings.....		245,302
	Square Timber.....	7,820 Tons.	99,620
	Total value.....		\$3,385,981
Three Rivers and Batiscan.....	Pine Deals.....	31,755 Std. H.	\$1,275,516
	Spruce Deals.....	3,627 "	87,194
	Deal Ends.....	428 "	7,170
	Planks, Boards, &c.....	30,813 M. ft.	293,639
	Spruce Pulp-Wood.....		138,910
	Total value.....		\$1,694,435
Sorel.....	Deals.....	3,375 Std. H.	\$135,000
	Planks, Boards, &c.....	2,814 "	60,000
	Total value.....		\$295,000

MARITIME PROVINCES.

Trade in the maritime provinces has been helped to some extent by a free lumber tariff between the United States and Canada, and this fact, coupled with the increased demand at home and in Great Britain for spruce wood, enabled operators to hold their own during 1895. The early part of the year was quiet, but a brisk demand towards its close balanced matters up to a fair proportion. An advance in the European market came too late to be of much benefit, owing to the extra freight rates and fall insurance. A firmer feeling was evidenced at all spruce producing points as this year was ushered in, and stocks are held at advanced prices.

The following particulars, taken from the annual wood circular of Mr. J. B. Snowball, of Chatham, N. B., will show the prevailing conditions during 1895:

The winter, so far, has been the most unfavourable for logging for the past twenty years—a cold, wet, disagreeable fall followed an unusually dry summer; snow came without frost in the

ground, and low lands, which have been the stay of operations for the past few years, are not accessible, while late extensive thaws and the disappearance of snow, combine to make operations more difficult and expensive than for many years.

The export from Miramichi has been 82 millions superficial feet, against 96 millions in 1894, which is 5 millions below the average of the past twelve years; that from St. John, 126 millions against 153 in 1894, or 19 millions less than the average of the past twelve years. The total shipment from the Province of New Brunswick for the year was 291 millions superficial feet, against 326 millions superficial feet in 1894. The reductions were from St. John, Miramichi, Richibucto and Sackville.

The stock of merchantable spruce deals wintering here is 6,630 St. Petersburg standards, against 3,600 standards last year, and 7,000 standards in 1893, the average for the past 10 years being 8,580 St. Petersburg standards.

South American business has slightly increased this year, and results were satisfactory. There are several orders already in the market for next season's shipment, and this business will be largely increased as soon as our shippers understand it, and get over existing prejudices. The size of each cargo is from 350 to 450 standards, and the stock must be fairly weather-seasoned.

The export to France increased in anticipation of the import duty being reduced in that country. The minimum tariff on Canadian products only came into force on the 14th October of this year, so that the trade on this side has not benefitted much by it, but a more extended business is looked for next season.

Operators in the province of Nova Scotia, being exempt from crown land or stumpage tax, find more profit in their business than do the producers from the New Brunswick forests, and although the quality and specification of their exports are generally inferior to ours, still their stock finds a ready market at a price, and they, for years, had been forcing their production to its utmost limit.

SHIPMENTS FROM MIRAMICHI FOR 12 YEARS, FROM 1884 TO 1895, INCLUSIVE.

Sup. Feet.	Sup. Feet.	Sup. Feet.
1884—108 millions.	1888—73 millions.	1892—95 millions.
1885—87 "	1889—110 "	1893—83 "
1886—72 "	1890—88 "	1894—96 "
1887—68 "	1891—72 "	1895—82 "

SHIPPERS FROM PORT OF MIRAMICHI, SEASON OF 1895.

Shippers.	No. Vessels.	Tons.	Sup. ft. Deals, Scantling, Ends and Boards.	Palings Per.
J. B. Snowball.....	38	28,781	26,727,735	160,910
W. M. McKay.....	29	27,397	28,049,169	46,000
D. & J. Ritchie.....	21	12,920	12,343,805	89,300
Ernest Hutchison.....	8	6,602	5,342,490	
F. E. Neale.....	11	6,499	5,917,376	
Geo. Burchill & Sons.....	6	4,520	4,077,000	26,400
Clark, Skillings & Co.....	3	3,052		
Jas. Aiton.....	Part.			

\$ Shippers... 116 89,771 82,457,575 322,610

Laths—J. B. Snowball, 268,900. Spool wood—W. M. McKay, 653,146 sup. ft.; Clark, Skillings & Co., 2,577,137 sup. ft.; Jas. Aiton, 519,093 sup. ft.

DISTRIBUTION OF MIRAMICHI SHIPMENTS.

COUNTRY.	No. Vessels.	Tons.	Sup. ft. Deals, Scantling, Ends and Boards.	Palings Per.
Great Britain.....	55	47,753	42,540,813	145,950
Ireland.....	42	29,072	27,892,435	163,650
France.....	14	9,409	9,114,586	1,760
Spain.....	2	1,334	1,078,379	11,250
Africa.....	2	1,299	1,126,616	
Australia.....	1	901	794,746	

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116 89,771 82,457,575 322,610

Spain, 268,900 laths; Great Britain, 3,749,376 sup. ft. spool wood.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SHIPMENTS OF DEALS, &c., TO TRANS-ATLANTIC PORTS, DEC. 1ST, 1894, TO DEC. 1ST, 1895.

Shippers.	No. of Vessels.	Tons reg. &c.	Sup. ft. Deals, Timber (Tons)	Pine Birch
Alex. Gibson.....	50½	65,249	67,047,435	1544
W. M. McKay.....	50½	65,914	50,262,501	324 6368
George McKean.....	9	10,005	6,640,461	
Others.....	7	8,058	2,499,310	462

Totals..... 117 149,226 126,449,707 324 8374