

NEW BRUNSWICK LETTER.

(Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

ST. JOHN, N.B., August 15th, 1904. The lumber trade in this vicinity has shown little variation since this time last month. All the mills are running at their full capacity and logs are plentiful. Shipping has been somewhat less brisk during August so far than was the case during July, and the result is apparent in the increasing stocks on the wharves, although the surplus is not yet so great as to cause any inconvenience.

Taken altogether, the outlook for English deals has not changed materially since last writing. The same indifference on the part of buyers, the same lack of stimulus generally, continues. Few orders are being booked and practically no contracts are being made. Careful enquiry leads to the conclusion that orders for September delivery are very small. Whether or not this condition of affairs will continue throughout the Autumn is a question, but the situation looks decidedly that way.

A specification containing the usual percentages of usual widths would be worth on wharf at St. John, from \$11.00 to \$11.50 per M s. ft., price for fourths and ends.

Freights have shown no change from

those mentioned last month, viz., 32s 6d. to 35s. per standard to West Coast of England.

Provincial merchantable boards are plentiful and the demand is not at all brisk. They are worth, at St. John, from \$0.75 to \$0.85 per M. s. ft. These are mostly disposed of in Boston and vicinity.

American deals are scarcer at this port than has been the case for many seasons, as most of the American manufacturers obtained their logs from Quebec and New Brunswick limits. The few that have American logs have been sawing only a few weeks and for this reason very little American lumber is available here as yet. To date the trade in this line has been quite brisk and prices good. Shipments from Maine have been very heavy and whether the market will hold its own or not during the next month is a question. While the dealers here are quite optimistic, the probabilities are that by mid-September prices will not be as firm as they have been.

American deals are usually shipped separately, in two classes, wide and narrow. A specification containing 20 per cent. 6s and 8s per cent. 8s would probably be worth from \$13.00 to \$13.50 per M s. ft. f.o.b. St. John, and a specification of wide containing say 25 per cent. 12s, 65 per cent. 10s and 10 per cent. 12s

should bring from \$15.00 to \$15.50 per M.

As the American logs are small this year compared with other years past, the proportion of widths in the above specifications would probably be quite hard to obtain, and of course any increase in the percentage of narrow deals would mean a lower price.

Freight to New York from St. John are offering freely at \$2.75 per M.

BRITISH COLUMBIA LETTER.

(Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

VANCOUVER, B.C., August 15, 1904. The saw mills are fairly busy just now, an improvement on the conditions which have existed all along this spring and summer. "If we have not trade at this time of the year when will we have?" is the interrogated way in which a well-known lumberman expressed himself this morning. "It is due, of course, not to any cessation of American importations, but to the increased demand from the Territories. There are a great many people settling there this year, and it is all bringing trade to our mills."

In the Kootenay district the industry is fairly active. There the manufacturers enjoy better rates, and just at present there is a number of mills projected. Timber is being taken up also. Thomas Mc-

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