

o the visible supply, and prices are more likely to advance than weaken. Quartered oak has been marked higher at Boston, ash is scarce and moving steadily, and the supply of dry maple is almost completely exhausted. Elm moves more slowly than the other hardwoods, and there does not seem to be any prospect of an immediate revival of demand.

**FOREIGN.**

The British timber market remains firm, with a tendency towards higher prices. It is predicted that there will be an advance of 10 per cent. on the better qualities of pine deals, and 25 per cent. on the lower qualities. Quebec first pine now sells in the Liverpool market at £20 to £24 per standard, second quality at £15 10s. to £16 10s., and third quality at £9 5s. to £10. Quebec spruce brings about £7 15s., and New Brunswick spruce from £7 to £7 5s. The quotations for waney board pine are 2s. 6d. to 2s. 10d. per cubic foot for large average, and 1s. 8d. to 2s. 2d. for second-class wood. Square pine is quoted at 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d. for first quality, and 1s. 8d. to 2s. for second-class. Birch timber is scarce and sells readily at 1s. 9d. to 2s. for 15 to 17 inch average, and 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d. for 13 to 14 inch average. The demand for elm is also good at 2s. 10d. and 2s. 2d. respectively for first and second class timber.

**THE ONTARIO LOG PRODUCTION.**

From information gathered from various sources we are enabled to place before our readers a fairly accurate estimate of the contemplated production of logs in Ontario this winter. The reader will bear in mind, however, that the quantity of logs which will reach the mills may be considerably less than that cut owing to unfavorable logging conditions and the probability of low water in the streams. The figures would seem to indicate that the cut of pine on Crown lands in Ontario will be in the neighborhood of 800,000,000 feet, which is a considerable increase on last year's operations. Taking, first, the north-western section of the province, we find that the cut of pine timber in the Rainy River district will probably reach 40,000,000 feet. There will also be taken out

about 900,000 ties for the Canadian Pacific Railway and 500,000 ties for the Rainy River Railway, in addition to a considerable quantity of telegraph poles and cedar posts. It is learned that the demand for cedar is increasing in the west.

In the Thunder Bay district the cut in the woods will be in the vicinity of 25,000,000 feet, the chief operator in this district being Alger, Smith & Co., whose intention at the beginning of the season was to get out 15,000,000 feet; but it is understood that this quantity may be curtailed owing to a scarcity of labor.

In the western Algoma district the production of pine will be in the neighborhood of 80,000,000 feet, of hardwoods from 3,000,000 to 5,000,000 feet, of spruce pulp wood 50,000 cords, and of railroad ties probably 50,000. According to a correspondent of the Toronto Globe, the cut of pine logs in the eastern division of Algoma will be about 100,000,000 feet, compared with 30,000,000 feet last year, making a total of 180,000,000 feet for the Algoma district.

The most important district in Western Ontario is that of Parry Sound and Muskoka, in which the cut of pine timber will be approximately 200,000,000 feet. In this district the Holland & Emery Co., of Byng Inlet, the Parry Sound Lumber Co., Wm. Peter, of Parry Sound, the Arthur Hill Lumber Co., and the Bank of Toronto, working the Turner & Fisher limits, are the largest operators. The production of these five firms will probably reach 125,000,000 feet. The Parry Sound Lumber Co. are understood to be taking out a quantity of board pine.

The output in the Peterboro district is likely to be in the neighborhood of 100,000,000 feet. The Rathbun Co., of Deseronto, and Gilmour & Co., of Trenton, are the largest operators. Michle, Dymont & Son are reported to be taking out about 100,000 cubic feet of board timber.

Coming to the Ottawa valley, a reliable estimate would seem to place the output on the Ontario side at 175,000,000 feet of pine. Of this about 75,000,000 feet will be taken out in the district between the Petawawa and Mississippi rivers, and the balance in Nipissing and the district adjacent to the Mattawa river.

There will probably be taken out in districts not covered by the above review in the neighborhood of 75,000,000 feet, which brings the total pine production of the province up to 795,000,000 feet. This estimate, of course, only includes the timber cut on Crown lands.

Throughout the province the production of railway ties, cedar posts and telegraph poles is being increased, but there seems to be a diminution in the production of board timber.

The probable production of lumber in the Ottawa valley in the coming season is a matter of some interest. Should all the logs cut reach the mills, it is probable that the mill output will be about 20 per cent. larger than last season. Of this increase 10 per cent. will be attributable to an increased cut of logs and 10 per cent. to the fact that a quantity of last season's logs did not reach the mills, owing to low water in many of the smaller streams tributary to the Ottawa, and are now a reserve for the sawing season of 1900.

**STOCKS AND PRICES.**

A timber limit at Riverside, on Nine Mile River, N.S., has been purchased by James G. Kerr, of Guysboro.

The Southampton Lumber Co. are supplying the timber for the harbor improvements at Port Elgin, Ont.

The steamer Victorias is loading lumber at Chemainus, B.C., for the Fiji Islands. She will take 1,500,000 feet.

The Sheet Harbor Lumber Company, of Sheet Harbor, N.S., expects to cut about 6,000,000 feet of deals during the coming season.

The city of Hamilton desires tenders by Tuesday, February 6th, for the annual

(Continued on page 3.)

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