

Boston, Mass.

BOSTON, April 30th, 1890.

There is a fair demand for western pine, and prices remain firm. The spruce market is especially firm, with prices high all around. Several cargoes from Maine and the provinces, sold readily at \$15 to \$15.50 which is from \$1.50 to \$2 more than the same stock sold for in the fall. Dry boards are much wanted. Hemlock boards are scarce, eastern boards selling \$12 to \$13 rough and \$13 to \$14 planed. Clapboards are scarce and high with an active demand. The shingle trade is fairly good, and prices fully maintained. Lath is steady at \$2.10 to \$2.20, by cargo, and 10 cents a thousand extra by car load.

Western Pine—by car load.

Uppers, 1 in	\$15 00	3 in	\$15 00
1 1/2 in	15 00	4 in	15 00
2 in	15 00	5 in	15 00
2 1/2 in	15 00	6 in	15 00
3 in	15 00	7 in	15 00
3 1/2 in	15 00	8 in	15 00
4 in	15 00	9 in	15 00
4 1/2 in	15 00	10 in	15 00
5 in	15 00	11 in	15 00
5 1/2 in	15 00	12 in	15 00
6 in	15 00	13 in	15 00
6 1/2 in	15 00	14 in	15 00
7 in	15 00	15 in	15 00
7 1/2 in	15 00	16 in	15 00
8 in	15 00	17 in	15 00
8 1/2 in	15 00	18 in	15 00
9 in	15 00	19 in	15 00
9 1/2 in	15 00	20 in	15 00
10 in	15 00	21 in	15 00
10 1/2 in	15 00	22 in	15 00
11 in	15 00	23 in	15 00
11 1/2 in	15 00	24 in	15 00
12 in	15 00	25 in	15 00
12 1/2 in	15 00	26 in	15 00
13 in	15 00	27 in	15 00
13 1/2 in	15 00	28 in	15 00
14 in	15 00	29 in	15 00
14 1/2 in	15 00	30 in	15 00
15 in	15 00	31 in	15 00
15 1/2 in	15 00	32 in	15 00
16 in	15 00	33 in	15 00
16 1/2 in	15 00	34 in	15 00
17 in	15 00	35 in	15 00
17 1/2 in	15 00	36 in	15 00
18 in	15 00	37 in	15 00
18 1/2 in	15 00	38 in	15 00
19 in	15 00	39 in	15 00
19 1/2 in	15 00	40 in	15 00
20 in	15 00	41 in	15 00
20 1/2 in	15 00	42 in	15 00
21 in	15 00	43 in	15 00
21 1/2 in	15 00	44 in	15 00
22 in	15 00	45 in	15 00
22 1/2 in	15 00	46 in	15 00
23 in	15 00	47 in	15 00
23 1/2 in	15 00	48 in	15 00
24 in	15 00	49 in	15 00
24 1/2 in	15 00	50 in	15 00
25 in	15 00	51 in	15 00
25 1/2 in	15 00	52 in	15 00
26 in	15 00	53 in	15 00
26 1/2 in	15 00	54 in	15 00
27 in	15 00	55 in	15 00
27 1/2 in	15 00	56 in	15 00
28 in	15 00	57 in	15 00
28 1/2 in	15 00	58 in	15 00
29 in	15 00	59 in	15 00
29 1/2 in	15 00	60 in	15 00
30 in	15 00	61 in	15 00
30 1/2 in	15 00	62 in	15 00
31 in	15 00	63 in	15 00
31 1/2 in	15 00	64 in	15 00
32 in	15 00	65 in	15 00
32 1/2 in	15 00	66 in	15 00
33 in	15 00	67 in	15 00
33 1/2 in	15 00	68 in	15 00
34 in	15 00	69 in	15 00
34 1/2 in	15 00	70 in	15 00
35 in	15 00	71 in	15 00
35 1/2 in	15 00	72 in	15 00
36 in	15 00	73 in	15 00
36 1/2 in	15 00	74 in	15 00
37 in	15 00	75 in	15 00
37 1/2 in	15 00	76 in	15 00
38 in	15 00	77 in	15 00
38 1/2 in	15 00	78 in	15 00
39 in	15 00	79 in	15 00
39 1/2 in	15 00	80 in	15 00
40 in	15 00	81 in	15 00
40 1/2 in	15 00	82 in	15 00
41 in	15 00	83 in	15 00
41 1/2 in	15 00	84 in	15 00
42 in	15 00	85 in	15 00
42 1/2 in	15 00	86 in	15 00
43 in	15 00	87 in	15 00
43 1/2 in	15 00	88 in	15 00
44 in	15 00	89 in	15 00
44 1/2 in	15 00	90 in	15 00
45 in	15 00	91 in	15 00
45 1/2 in	15 00	92 in	15 00
46 in	15 00	93 in	15 00
46 1/2 in	15 00	94 in	15 00
47 in	15 00	95 in	15 00
47 1/2 in	15 00	96 in	15 00
48 in	15 00	97 in	15 00
48 1/2 in	15 00	98 in	15 00
49 in	15 00	99 in	15 00
49 1/2 in	15 00	100 in	15 00

Eastern Pine—Cargo or Car Load.

Nos. 1, 2 & 3	40 00	Clapboards, 4 ft. sap	40 00
4	25 00	Clear	40 00
5	23 00	Sap, 2nd clear	33 00
Ship's bds & coarse	16 00	Heart extra	50 00
Refuse	12 00	Heart clear	45 00
West'n pine clapbds	45 00	Bevel siding 6 in. clear	24 00
4 ft. sap extra	45 00		

Spruce—by Cargo.

Scantling and plank, random cargoes	14 00	Coarse, rough	12 00
Yard orders, ordinary sizes	15 00	Hemlock bds., rough	12 00
Yard orders, extra sizes	15 00	" dressed	12 00
Clear floor boards	19 00	Clapbds., extra, 4 ft.	35 00
No. 2	16 00	Clear, 4 ft.	35 00
		Second clear	25 00
		No. 1	10 00
			14 00

Lath.

Spruce by cargo	2 10	2 20
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Shingles.

Spruce	1 25	50 Cedar, sawed, extra	3 25
Pine, 18 in. extra	4 00	Clear	3 00
Pine, No. 1	3 00	Extra, No. 1	3 50
		Cypress, No. 1, 18 in.	5 00

Oswego, N. Y.

OSWEGO, April 30, 1890.

Three uppers, 1 1/2, 1 1/2 & 2 inch	\$13 00	\$15 00
Pickings, 1 1/2, 1 1/2 & 2 in.	35 00	35 00
No. 1 cutting up, 1 1/2, 1 1/2 & 2 in.	30 00	31 00
No. 2 cutting up, 1 1/2, 1 1/2 & 2 in.	19 00	21 00
1 in strips, 4 to 8 wide, selected for moulding strips, 14 to 16 ft.	31 00	33 00
1x6 selected for clapboards	32 00	33 00

Siding.

1 in siding, cutting up	30 00	1 1/2 in selected	35 00
1 in dressing	19 00	1 1/2 in dressing	17 00
1 in No. 1 culls	14 00	1 1/2 in No. 1 culls	14 00
1 in No. 2 culls	13 00	1 1/2 in No. 2 culls	13 00
		1 1/2 in No. 3 culls	9 50

1x12 Inch.

12 & 16 ft. mill run	20 00	23 00
12 & 16 ft. No. 1 & 2, barn boards	15 00	19 00
12 & 16 ft. dressing and better	25 00	30 00
12 & 16 ft. No. 2 culls		15 00

1x10 Inch.

12 & 13 ft. mill run, mill culls out	19 00	20 00
12 & 13 ft. dressing and better	25 00	27 00
12 & 13 ft. No. 1 culls	16 00	17 00
12 & 13 ft. No. 2 culls	14 00	15 00
14 to 16 ft. mill run mill culls out	20 00	22 00
14 to 16 ft. dressing and better	25 00	27 00
14 to 16 ft. No. 1 culls	16 00	17 00
14 to 16 ft. No. 2 culls	14 00	15 00
10 to 13 ft. No. 3 culls	9 50	10 00

1x12x10 Inches.

Mill run, mill culls out 20 00	23 00	No. 1 culls	16 00
Dressing and better 25 00	30 00	No. 2 culls	14 00

1x14 Inches.

Mill run, mill culls out 17 00	19 00	No. 1 culls	13 00
Dressing and better 23 00	27 00	No. 2 culls	11 00

1x15 Inches.

67 or 8 mill run	19 00	21 00
67 or 8, drsg & better 24 00	25 00	

Shingles.

XXX, 18 in pine	3 50	3 70
Clear batts, pine, 18 in.	2 50	2 70
XXX, 16 in pine	3 10	3 30
Stocks cedars, 5 or 6 in.	5 00	

Pickets.

No. 1, 1 1/2x1 1/2	15 00	No. 2, 1 1/2x1 1/2	9 00
No. 1, 1x3	20 00		

Lath.

No. 1, 1/4	2 20	No. 2, 1/4	2 00
No. 1, 1/4	1 60		

Forest Fires.

There is in Canada, running from Labrador to the Rocky Mountains and on into Alaska, a timbered belt, mainly coniferous, some seven hundred miles broad by four thousand miles long. Black and White Spruces and Tamarack prevail in the northern edge of this belt, but going south one finds these mixed with Banksian Pine, Balsam, Fir, Cedar, (in the eastern section) and finally Red and White Pine. At one

time or another, says Robert Bell, assistant director of the Geological survey of Canada, in *Forest Leaves*, fire has run through this vast tract, whose composition specially exposes it to destruction. The trees are rather small, and when they stand a sufficient distance apart the limbs grow all the way down to the ground. Open spaces are covered with reindeer mosses, as inflammable as tinder in summer, and among the trees equally dry yellow mosses help to spread the flames.

Indian hunters and other wild Indians, knowing how destructive forest fires are to the game, upon which they live, are very careful not to cause them. Yet everywhere evidences of former fires occur. Mr. Bell thinks these are often caused by lightning, or by spontaneous combustion of iron pyrites, which have been known to set fire to lignite beds in the Saskatchewan region, and believes them to have been a benefit in the long run to the forests.

He says they facilitate rotation in species, prepare soils needed for certain species, and, in the case of Banksian Pine, are essential to the opening of its hard cones, which will remain obdurately closed long enough for the tree to fall and rot, but, when a fire passes over, will immediately gape open and allow the seeds to be scattered by the wind.

It may be that naturally set fires in a region where there are thousands of years for the working out of results may be favorable to the diversification and the improvement of a vast continental forest belt. But when there is now and is need and use of forest products by civilized man, in the present time or in a near future, then forest fires are quite another matter. And in view of the vast and rapidly growing part which wood products and industries are taking in the world's work, it would seem that the resources of great governments could find no better employment than in preventing these conflagrations.

EXCHANGE ECHOES.

Southern Lumberman.

The universal expression of saw mill men, lumber dealers, iron makers, railroad people, and others, is to the effect that we are to have an exceedingly prosperous year, and this fact alone is cheering, for nothing conduces so materially to a healthy condition of trade as the hopeful expressions of business men, and it is a well-known fact that the voice of one croaker may be heard further than a fog horn.

Southern Lumberman.

Dry houses are being more extensively used now than ever before. Indeed, they have become an absolute necessity, for it is the custom of buyers in this country to defer placing orders until the lumber is actually needed, and without dry kilns it would be impossible to fill the orders with promptness. The manufacturers of dry-kilns have made improvements and perfected the kilns until the drying of lumber has been reduced to a science. No well-equipped mill is now without dry-kilns and planing mills, and many of the small mills of the south, cutting not more than 15,000 or 20,000 feet daily, are adding planers and dry houses of some kind.

New York Commercial Advertiser.

It is stated that a practicing attorney of Sella, Ia., has made a large amount of money not only for himself but for the Iowans by buying up the stray walnut logs of the state and shipping them direct to Germany and England. Last year between 1,200 and 1,500 car loads were shipped, nearly all being picked up in Iowa. Few among the early settlers of the state ever dreamed of the value that walnut trees would possess, and that within a quarter or a half of a century after settlement. Thousands of fine trees were cut down, burned, or allowed to rot on the ground, or split up for old-fashioned rail fences. Now buyers rummage every mile of territory in the state to find logs, and put them on the cars to be carried thousands of miles across the ocean to be worked up in fine furniture for the adornment of European Palaces.

Northwestern Lumberman.

The lumbermen of the world should not lose sight of the fact that the great Columbian exposition will be held in this city in 1893. Certain legislative processes requiring time are necessary before the World's fair bill is finally passed and signed, but it is not possible at this stage of the matter for anything to arise to defeat or cripple the enterprise. Although New York and St. Louis champions stood as obstructionists in the house, and a policy of delay has been adopted by New York Senators, the question was permanently decided when Chicago won the fight on the ballot for location. The bill, when passed by the senate, as it is almost certain to be, is expected to be amended slightly, and will then be passed in its new form by the house. That the president will sign it is a foregone conclusion. Accepting the matter as already settled, the lumbermen and machinery makers in this country, and in foreign countries, may go ahead with their plans for making exhibits at Chicago in 1893.

Southern Lumberman.

In the prairie or open country the farmers would find it a most profitable investment to plant black locusts, as there is nothing that promises such returns for so little labor. The fencing on a farm is perhaps the most expensive part to keep up, and farmers who own no timber lands have to pay a considerable amount annually for fencing posts. There is no post that will last so long or give such satisfaction as the black locust, and the planting is the only cost, as there is no cultivation or other care of the trees necessary. The seeds can be procured at a nominal cost, and the trees reach a size suitable for fencing posts in ten or fifteen years. The posts should be put in the ground unpeeled, for if cut during the winter months, the bark adheres close to the wood and acts as a shield from the weather. Black locust grows on almost any soil and in any climate, and can be planted to advantage on the waste places of the farm. The cutting of the post in no wise lessens the crop, for the trees are reproduced from the stumps; in fact, it is about as difficult to destroy a black locust thicket as to get rid of hungry creditors.

Northwestern Lumberman.

The question of the tariff on lumber is again being agitated. At the last session of congress the senate committees which labored upon tariff matters were breezed a great deal about lumber, and heard so much on both sides of the question that a vacillating policy was pursued. There was a clamor for a reduction of the duty on lumber in the interest of cheaper building and manufacturing material, and a remonstrance to that proposition by various senators and congressmen who treated the matter from a business, rather than a theoretical or political standpoint. The import duty on soft lumber was placed at \$1 in the proposed bill, but pressure was brought to bear, by which it was increased to \$1.50. Precisely the same course is reported to have been lately pursued in committee deliberations over the lumber clause in the tariff bill. The figure is said to have lately been changed from \$1 to \$1.50. There is, of course, a difference of opinion as to the propriety of making any change in the lumber tariff, yet a reduction of 50 cents is not great enough to cause much apprehension or complaint. If congress will take action by which the amount of the Canadian log export duty will be added to the import lumber duty collected by this country, the lumbermen of the United States, or those interested in Canadian logs, will evince little dissatisfaction with the proposed tariff change on lumber. The lumber schedule of the new tariff bill shows several changes. Hewed timber has been reduced in duty from 20 to 10 per cent., and squared timber from 1 cent to 1/2 cent a cubic foot. Mahogany, rosewood and other cabinet woods are placed at 35 per cent. *ad valorem*, unfinished house furniture is enumerated at 30 per cent., and chair cane, not made up, is fixed at 10 per cent. The duty on lumber from unenumerated woods remains at \$2 a thousand.

Exchange.

The superintendent of the Keokuk and Hamilton Bridge company has lately visited the Pacific coast and purchased a large bill of cedar and fir. The amount required is 250,000 feet; of this 165,000 will be yellow fir and the remainder red cedar. The order for the fir was given the St. Paul & Tacoma Lumber company, at Tacoma; The cedar to the Buckley Lumber company, at Buckley, Washington. The Keokuk &