

been made whereby it will be handled over the branch line of the C. P. Railway from Gordon Creek. At Papineauville, on the Ottawa river midway between Ottawa and Montreal, the bulk of the timber will be placed in the river and rafted for movement to Quebec City. By this rail and river arrangement the tedious all river trip from the limits to the seaport will be cut down considerably both as regards time and distance. The timber should reach the British market weeks if not months before the time of arrival of former years. This will be very desirable to both buyer and seller. The sooner the timber reaches Quebec the sooner the manufacturer gets his money. By the adoption of the rail route the timber will be saved the battering which was experienced in previous seasons in the all river route, a battering which meant a deterioration in value. Mr. Wm. Wade of Grenville, Que., a man of many years experience, will have charge of the rafting of the timber from Papineauville to Quebec.

Every stick of square and waney timber manufactured in the season of 1902-1903 has been sold at an advance ranging from ten per cent. in September to twenty per cent. later on.

Talk about advances in the value of lumber. A lot of good white pine logs were sold in Ottawa this week and the price was a dollar more per M., log measure, than the lumber in the logs would have brought three years ago after being sawn, seasoned and selected. However, when it comes to a matter of advances lath heads the list. In the last four years it has more than doubled in value, showing an increase of over 100 per cent. Four years ago No. 1 white pine lath begged buyers at 95 cents and \$1.00 per M, whereas present quotations for the same stock—where it can be had, are \$2.50 to \$2.75 and even higher.

While the estimate on the portion of the mill cut of 1903 already out of first hands is placed at 50 per cent. it must be remembered that this applies to quantity only. When it comes down to a question of value fully seventy-five per cent. represents the part sold. This is accounted for by the fact that the demand for the high grade timber is, and has been, much better

than for the medium and low grades, and hence has sold easier.

The 1903 output of the Ottawa district mills will, providing the movement of logs during the summer continues free, reach fully 36,000,000 feet, an increase of ten million on the figures for 1902. Every available log will be cut, for the high price of sawn lumber is a great incentive to mill activity.

The movement of lumber from Ottawa district yards to American points is quite active at present, but car scarcity is complained of. A local man who made a state trip through New York last week reports many inquiries for Canadian lumber. If the railway companies were in a position to move the lumber freely the activity would be even more pronounced than it is.

A local lumberman who returned this week from the Sault Ste Marie district states that the lumber activity thereabouts is unprecedented. Hardwood limits which went a begging a few years ago at \$3 to \$5 an acre are now selling at figures rang-

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