

**The Lumber Supply.**

When the amount of standing white pine lumber in the country is considered in connection with the annual production of lumber, it becomes apparent that without an unforeseen, unexpected and disastrous business panic amounting to a veritable cyclone in its baneful influence, unsettling all values, there can be but very little prospect of any future decline in the price of white pine lumber, either in the near future or hereafter. The supply of standing timber is gradually and swiftly being reduced, and the demand is constantly and rapidly on the increase, while the capacity and number of mills keep full pace with the demand. The effect of this increased demand and constantly decreasing supply is perceptible in the enhanced value of pine stumpage within the past few years. Standing timber which could have been purchased in Michigan less than a decade ago for \$2 per thousand, would to-day command from \$5 to \$7; and when we consider that a very material portion of it has changed hands at the latter price, within the time specified, it becomes apparent that any material reduction in the price of lumber must involve serious loss to the holders thereof, to which they will not be very liable to submit, as withholding the same from market for a time involves no expense further than the taxes on the lands, and such action must inevitably by the action of the inexorable law of supply and demand, re-establish prices. Only one conclusion can therefore be arrived at in a consideration of this question, and that is, the price of white pine lumber must be maintained.—*Lumberman's Gazette.*

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