

STOCKS AND PRICES.

Shingles are a little stronger in the Saginaw River district, and 18-inch white cedar are quoted 10 cents higher.

C. E. & W. E. Kelsey, of North Tonawanda, N. Y., have recently received large stocks of white pine from Ontario.

Seven tenders have been submitted for building the proposed dry dock at St. John, N. B., for the Imperial Dry Dock Company.

Kastner & Porter, of Warton, Ont., are about to build a wharf at Hoopa Bay, Manitoba Islands, which will require considerable timber.

L. K. Jones, Secretary of the Department of Railways and Canals, Ottawa, desires tenders by the 16th inst. for the supply of timber required for the Sault Ste. Marie canal during the current year.

F. H. Dickenson, of Hamilton, has secured the contract for fencing the right of way for the Toronto & Niagara Power Company's transmission line from Niagara Falls to Lambton Mills, a distance of seventy-five miles. The work will require about 60,000 cedar posts.

There is still considerable shortage of No. 2 elm staves at Buffalo, and the cut in the woods will be light on account of the deep snow. Slack stave prices range from \$9.50 to \$13.50 according to grade, heading 6 to 10 1/2 cents, and coiled hoops \$9.25 to \$9.75.

The Tower Lumber Company, of Duluth, Minn., last week sold to the Soper Lumber Company, of Chicago, about 15,000,000 feet of white and norway pine. The Merrill-Ring Lumber Company, of the same city, have closed out the last of their dry stock, 6,500,000 feet of log run, to White, Gratiwick & Company, of Tonawanda.

E. H. Lemay, of Montreal, has purchased the 1904 cut of white pine of the well-known firm of McLachlin Bros., Arrprior, Ont., which will amount to about 40,000,000 feet. Much of this stock will be distributed through W. M. Crombie & Company, of New York, selling agents for E. H. Lemay.

The Barbados lumber market is thus reviewed by Clairmonte, Man & Company in their last report: "There have been no arrivals with white pine and spruce during the fortnight. Our market is fully stocked, but prices have been fairly maintained. The last sale of white pine for a cargo on the spot was at \$25 per thousand for merchantable and \$20 for second quality; spruce, \$21.17 for second quality. Last sales of Gaspe Long Cedar shingles were at \$6.01; Cedar Laying, \$2.05 1/2. There have been no late sales of Spruce Laying."

The twelve lumber firms on the Saginaw river engaged in lumber manufacturing

cut 97,000,000 feet last year. Two firms manufactured white pine exclusively, and the other firms with a single exception manufactured mixed lumber. W. D. Young & Company manufactured hardwoods exclusively, cutting 18,000,000 feet, and having 12,000,000 feet on hand at the close of the year.

BRITISH COLUMBIA LETTER.

(Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

VANCOUVER, February 1, 1904.—Lumber for export is lower in price as a result of the dissolution of the Pacific Coast Lumber Exporters' Association. The manufacturers in Washington have reduced the price about \$3.00 per thousand feet, and in consequence wages of mill hands have been lowered. The Victoria Lumber and Manufacturing Company, of Chemainus, have reduced the wages of their employees ten per cent. It is not improbable that the manufacturers doing a local trade will follow the example of the export mills and reduce operating expenses.

A representative of A. B. Holloway, a lumber manufacturer of Lacrosse, Wis., has been in Vancouver this week looking over the ground. He was greatly impressed with the possibilities of the lumber industry and will report favorably to the eastern capitalists whom he represented.

It is reported that a local contractor is bringing in a shipment of window and door sashes from Tacoma, Wash. It is said the sashes will be laid down here at an average of 40 cents each cheaper, duty and freight paid, than the same can be bought in Vancouver.

During the month of January the applications for timber lands entered at the office of R. J. Skinner, Provincial Timber Inspector, have been greatly in excess of those made during the corresponding period of last year. Thirty-one applications were made during the week ending January 21. Taking into consideration that each applicant for timber lands pays over \$10 for advertising the same in the Provincial Gazette, and at the expiration of thirty days pays a fee of \$140 for a license, (an increase of \$40 over the fee payable last year), it is not believed by the Government officials that the applications of the amendments of the Land Act is working harm to the logging industry.

Two saw mills for the cutting of cedar are in course of erection by Americans on the mainland coast. One is being built by Garfield & Schaffer on Sechart Inlet, and the other by the Gower Point Timber & Logging Company on Keats Island, Howe Sound. The latter will have a capacity of about 15,000 feet per day. It is reported that several other small saw mills will be built in the Howe Sound cedar belts this spring. The American millmen have evidently found that they can cut their

cedar in British Columbia, export it to Puget Sound ports, paying duty and transportation charges, and still have a larger margin of profit than if they bought Washington cedar and manufactured it at home. The duty on rough cedar entering the United States is \$2 per thousand feet.

Mr. Merrill, a wealthy lumberman of Wisconsin, is said to have decided to build a large saw mill in British Columbia. Mr. Merrill owns 40,000 acres of choice timber lands in this province which he bought in 1881 at \$1 an acre. They are located on Valdez Island, Thurlow Island, Desolation Sound, Humphrey's Channel and Johnston's Straits. These lands have increased enormously in value, as is shown by the fact that two months ago Mr. Merrill was offered \$50 an acre for a certain portion of his holdings.

A deal involving the transfer of the timber lands and the saw-milling interests of J. C. Keith to a syndicate of Scottish and English capitalists, in return for an amount stated to be \$100,000, is reported to be in process of negotiation. Mr. Keith is reputed one of the largest individual holders of British Columbia timber lands resident in Vancouver. He is also a large stockholder in the Urquhart Mills, Limited, a corporation owning a mill on False Creek, the cut of which averages 50,000 feet of lumber per day. His land holdings in North Vancouver are also extensive. It is understood that negotiations for the purchase of Mr. Keith's holdings have been in progress for some time, and that there is every prospect of them being carried to a successful conclusion.

One of the most important deals that has taken place in the last few months was consummated a few days ago, when the Provincial Government accepted the tender of McLean Brothers, of Vancouver, for 27,000 acres of timber lands on

Klaarch river, Vancouver Island. The limits are composed of fir and cedar and are situated in what is known as the Rupert District. The lease is for twenty years. It is probably the largest block of timber in one place that could have been secured from the Government. Under the terms of the lease a large mill will be erected, and it is the intention of McLean Brothers to manufacture lumber for sale in the local markets, and probably for foreign shipment.

CANADIAN LUMBER SHIPMENTS.

From Bear River, N.S.: Schorner Neva, for West Indies, cargo lumber, by Clarke Bros.

From Weymouth, N.S.: Barque J. W. Bowers, for Buenos Ayres, cargo lumber, by G. D. Campbell & Co.

From Halifax, N.S.: Str. Pro Patria, for St. Pierre, 21,530 ft. spruce deals, value \$323. Str. Ulunda, for Liverpool, 304,906 ft. spruce deals, value \$3,618, 915 pcs. sleepers, value \$285.

From St. John, N.B.: Str. Silian, for Liverpool, 861,235 ft. deals, 14,927 ft. scantling, 95,983 ft. ends, 7,504 bundles box shooks. Str. Gulf of Venice, for Cape Town, South Africa, 231 bundles rough lumber. Str. Manchester Trader, for Manchester, 305,039 ft. deals and oattens, 26,988 ft. scantling, 7,277 ft. ends. Str. Monford, for Liverpool, 416,807 ft. deals.

SHIPPING MATTERS.

The barque J. H. Bowers, loaded with lumber from Weymouth, N.S., for Buenos Ayres, went ashore on Weymouth river on February 1st.

The following charters are reported: Str. Angar, Halifax, N.S., to w.c. England, deals, 34, March loading; str. Pontiac and Micmac, Bay of Fundy ports to w.c. England; deals, 35, April and May loading.

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