

very largely in keeping with that for lumber generally. At Saginaw, Mich., white pine shingles are bringing \$2 and \$3 in wholesale lots, and cedar shingles 25 cents less. There is practically a famine in the supply of lath. The quotation on No. 1 white pine, in Chicago, is \$2.20, No. 1 mixed, \$2, and No. 2 \$1.85.

FOREIGN.

The position of the British market is somewhat peculiar. While the stock of timber and deals is steadily diminishing, owing to an active consumption, importers and dealers are buying only very cautiously. They apparently hope that Canadian shippers of spruce and pine will lower their asking prices, but this, as we have before remarked, is improbable. Shippers' prices are based, of course, upon the figure asked by manufacturers, who, wearied of doing business with no margin of profit, have decided to sell only at a price which will leave an average profit. Failing this, they will hold stock until such times as the market improves. Birch timber is selling in the British market at a fair price, and parcels per steamers from St. John have been readily disposed of.

Favorable reports come to hand from South America, and it would appear that a considerable quantity of Canadian lumber will be shipped to that market this year. The Barbados market is also improving.

NEW BRUNSWICK CEDAR SHINGLES.

Since our last report there has been no material change in the shingle situation. The weather is still backward, and as a consequence the demand is slow for this season of the year. If anything, there are less shingles at producing points than there were one week ago, and prices are being fully maintained. Inquiries are numerous, and as a result the manufacturers are not losing courage, but are gaining still more faith in higher prices. Ruling Boston quotations are as follows: Extras, \$2.50 to \$2.90; clears, \$2.45 to \$2.50; clear whites and 2nd clears, \$1.85 to \$1.90.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

The Gold Medal Furniture Manufacturing Co., of Toronto, want a quantity of dry 2-inch maple and beech.

It is reported that Parrsboro parties have bonded about seventy thousand of timber lands in Nova Scotia for pulp mill promoters.

At Pittsburg, Pa., lath prices have advanced during the past week. Pine lath is now selling at \$2.50 per thousand, with seconds at \$2.25.

At Alpena, Mich., sales of basswood mill culls have been made at \$10, log run at \$16, black ash at \$17.50, elm at \$15, and maple at \$12.

It is said that the Dickson Co., of Peterboro, took out about 12,000,000 feet of logs during the past winter, and that the McDonald Company have banked 3,000,000 feet.

Alger, Smith & Co., of Detroit, Mich., have taken out about 14,000,000 feet of logs on the Pigeon River, in northern Minnesota. It is still uncertain where these logs will be sawed.

The immovable property of the Caspacia Pulp & Lumber Co. was sold at Quebec last week. The purchasers were Carrier, Laine & Co., of Levis, and H. R. McLellan, of St. John, N.B.

The town council of Gananoque, Ont., has accepted the tender of the Rathbun Co. for the annual supply of lumber, at the price of \$13.50 per M. feet delivered. The Pembroke Lumber Co. tendered at \$12 at Pembroke, or \$16 delivered at Gananoque.

Buchanan Bros. & Huff, of Thamesville, Ont., have purchased several car

loads of maple logs at Onaway, Mich. These logs will be shipped by rail to St. John, N.B., and thence to England by water. Another lot of maple has also been purchased in the same vicinity for shipment to Europe.

Many of the mills at Marinette, Wis., have contracted for their 1899 production. Last week two cuts, amounting to nearly 50,000,000 feet, were sold to Chicago parties. J. M. Martin sold 600,000 feet of basswood to the H. M. Tyler Lumber Co., of Tonawanda, and Ira Carley sold his cut of 500,000 feet to English & Co., of New Haven, Conn.

An estimate has been made of the cut of logs during the past winter on the Tobique river, in New Brunswick. It appears that the cut has been in excess of last year, the figures being as follows: Hale, 4,000,000 feet; McCallum, 1,500,000; McNair, 2,500,000; Estey, 4,000,000; Baird, 3,000,000; Beveridge, 3,000,000, and Upham, 1,500,000. The logs are all ready for the streams.

Mayor Bingham, of Ottawa, who is interested in lumbering operations, recently returned from a tour of inspection along the Gatineau river. Regarding to output of logs, he says: "It will not be great this spring; not nearly so large as last spring, and that was a very short season. The timber output I should say would be fully as much as 50 per cent. less than in 1898. Red and white cedar will be a very short crop. The cedar for telegraph poles will be 25 per cent. less than last year, while the railway ties will be 40 per cent. less."

The demand in Chicago for dry basswood is as pronounced as ever. First and second inch sells readily out of the yard at \$23, white box boards bring \$26 and 1 x 6 strips \$22. The price for common basswood ranges from \$17.50 to \$18. In ash, soft elm and rock elm there is also a shortage of dry stock. At Michigan points like conditions exist. A report from Manistee states that black and white ash are both exhausted, birch is an unknown quantity, and rock elm and basswood have been cleaned out. There is a little soft elm for sale, the price being \$18 for log run on dock.

At Saginaw, Mich., there is an extraordinary demand for coarse lumber. Canada log run is quoted at \$14 to \$18, and Michigan at \$18 to \$22. Box lumber is very scarce and brings from \$12 to \$13, while Norway is selling from \$9.50 to \$12. The Saginaw Lumber & Salt Co. three weeks ago sold 2,000,000 feet of Norway to be cut this season at an advance of \$1.50 over last year's quotations, and the same concern has just closed a deal for another 2,000,000 feet at a substantial advance. At Lake Huron shore points \$18 is asked for 18 feet Norway piece stuff. Mill culls are said to be selling at \$9.50 and \$10, and while the starting of the mills may cause a slight drop, it is probable that the price throughout the season will be far ahead of last year.

MICHIGAN LOGGING CONDITIONS.

A correspondent of the American Lumberman, of the conditions prevailing in the Saginaw valley, says:

Until within a day or two there has been from twelve to eighteen inches of snow on the ground, and last Thursday a train on the Mackinaw division of the Michigan Central was seven hours late in reaching the valley by reason of snow blockade north of Grayling. There is heavy snow up in that section at the present time, and considerable ice in the rivers and lake. During the last two weeks there has been fairly good sleighing and a large quantity of logs have been hauled. If Canada logs do not come over, which is as yet not definitely determined, there will of course be a shortage, but more Michigan logs will be cut on this river this year than was cut last season. Nearly if not quite 100,000,000 feet of Michigan logs will come to this river this season. The cut at Alpena last season was \$3,500,000 feet, and it is believed that it will reach 65,000,000 feet the coming season. The writer is informed by trustworthy people that at Cheboygan the mills will all have a full stock, and some of them will run day and night. At Tawas, Prescott & Son will have a stock of about 14,000,000 feet, whereas last year their

mill did not cut a board. The Tawas Bay Lumber Company cut only a 10,000,000 feet last year, and will have only a partial stock this season. Some small mills have been put in along the line of the northern extension of the Detroit & Mackinac, and these will be stocked. In the aggregate quite a quantity of logs cut on decided and Indian reserve lands in Canada will come over if no other stock shall be obtained from that region. The weather has been favorable during the last two weeks for getting in logs and cedar.

CANADIAN TIMBER IN THE BRITISH MARKET.

At an auction sale held by Foy, Morgan & Co., London, Eng., on March 29th, Canadian goods realized the following prices:

SPRUCE.—Ex Castlemoor, from Quebec, 9-13 ft. 3 x 8 and 9 in., 3rd quality, £6 17s 6d; ex Stratford, from Be, Que., 12 ft. 2 x 6 in. unassorted, £7 7s 6d; ex Hazelmoor, from Quebec, 10-11 ft. 3 x 9-11 in. 3rd quality, £6 17s 6d; ex Fernmoor, from Quebec, 10-13 ft. 2 x 5 in. unassorted, £8; 14-16 ft. 2 x 7 in., £8 5s; ex Britannia, from Quebec, 6 ft. 3 x 9 in. 1st quality white, £14 10s; 6 ft. 3 x 8 in., £13 10s; 6 ft. 3 x 7 in., £13 5s.

At a recent auction sale held by Singleton, Dunn & Co., Greenock, Scotland, the result was as follows: 52 logs prime waney boardwood, 15 3/4d per cubic foot; 20 logs 1st class waney boardwood, 15 9/4d and 15 9d; 19 logs, 15 8/4d; 53 logs, 15 7/4d; 20 logs square board wood, 15 3d; 20 logs prime Quebec oak, 2s 2 1/2d; 20 logs Quebec oak, 1s 6 1/2d; 3 logs 1st class Quebec red pine, 1s 3/4d; 256 pieces 2nd quality Quebec pine ends, 5s 11 x 3, 13 1/4d; 261 pieces 6 x 11 x 3, 10 3/4d; 1,650 pieces 3rd quality Quebec pine ends, 6-11 x 3, 9 1/4d; 300 pieces 1 x 9 x 3, 9 1/4d; 207 pieces 11-15 x 8 x 3, 8 3/4d; 469 pieces, 12-16 x 6 x 3, 8d; 463 pieces 6-11 x 8 x 3, 7 1/4d; 394 pieces 13 x 11 x 3, 8d; 2,000 pieces 13 x 11 x 1, 7 1/4d and 7 1d; 522 pieces 3rd quality spruce battens, 12-17 x 5-13 x 2, 9d; 1630 pieces, 12 x 6 x 2, 8 1/4d; 625 pieces 4th quality spruce battens, 13-18 x 5-12 x 2, 7 1/4d; 1,803 pieces 10-12 x 5-10 x 2, 7 1d; 1,301 pieces, 12 x 6 x 2, 7 1d.

THE BARBADOS MARKET.

From the semi-monthly report of Clairmonte, Man & Co., the following particulars of the Barbados market are obtained:

Since last report there have been three arrivals with white pine and spruce lumber, and dealers are fully supplied. Recent sales have been made at \$19.77 for first quality white pine and \$14.47 for second quality, \$15.47 for first quality spruce, and \$12.47 for second quality.

For Gaspe cedar shingles the demand continues good, late sales being made ex steamer at \$5.25 to \$5.41. Halifax cedar shingles have sold at \$3.16, cedar laying at \$2.07, spruce laying at \$1.98 and cypress at \$9.11 for 6 inch hearts and \$6.50 for saps.

Sales of stock have been made as follows: Per schooner Eureka, from Halifax, N.S., 34 M. feet white pine lumber at \$13.69, 18 M. spruce at \$14.25, and 78 M. long cedar shingles at \$3.16; per schooner Stella E., from Lunenburg, N. S., 30 M. white pine lumber at \$19.11 and 50 M. second quality at \$13.25; per schooner Taymouth Castle from St. John, N. B., 65 M. long Gaspe cedar shingles at \$5.41, 75 M. at \$5.25, 6 inch at \$6.50, 5 inch at \$5.50, 4 inch at \$4.50, and 3 inch at \$3.50; per schooner Lizzie, from Weymouth, N. S., 19 M. white pine lumber at \$19.77 for first and \$14.47 for second quality, 28 M. spruce at \$15.47 and \$12.47, and 6 M. spruce laying shingles at \$1.98.

HARDWOOD LUMBER PRICES.

A large furniture dealer has declared that prices of hardwood lumber have, within a year, advanced 75, and in some cases even 100 per cent. He explained that it was only the way of the trade. Hardwood did appear to be getting more difficult to obtain, and consequently there was a tendency to advance the

price, but as a matter of fact, prices were not any, or very little, higher than they were seven or eight years ago. Every few years prices had gone up and down, and that wave-like motion had continued during the 25 years he had been in the business. With better times prices advanced, and when dull times came again the bottom fell out of trade, and prices slumped back.

BOX SHOOKS WANTED.

Messrs. Baker & James, 164 Corporation street, Birmingham, England, advise us that they are open to negotiate for regular supplies of Canadian box shooks and similar goods cut from spruce and pine. They will be pleased to hear from manufacturers or exportees who can ship by regular steamers to English ports, and who are prepared to undertake deliveries the year round. Canadian manufacturers desirous of extending their trade in this direction should communicate with the above firm.

WANTED

Rock Elm, cut to order.
Soft Elm, all thicknesses.
Black Ash, all thicknesses.
State quantity you can supply, with lowest prices.
JAS. G. CANE & CO.,
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Who have desirable lots of 1 to 3" firsts and seconds Soft Elm and 1 to 3" firsts and seconds Brown Ash ready for immediate shipment, will please send full description of stock, stating dryness, lengths and widths, with best cash price f.o.b. cars and freight rate to Boston, to

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Wholesale Lumber Dealers - 55 Kilby Street, BOSTON, MASS.