

The St. John river has fallen fully five feet from the highest level reached this spring. Estimates of the quantity of logs which may be hung up range from 30,000,000 feet to 60,000,000 feet. While there is so much uncertainty as to the log drives, there is little possibility of lumber prices going any lower, while in the natural course of events they should improve somewhat.

UNITED STATES.

The developments in the United States lumber market during the past week call for no lengthy comment. The country demand continues very slow. In some districts there is a disposition to crowd stock on buyers, with the result that prices have an easier appearance. Dealers are not buying in large lots, believing that this is the safest course to pursue until general business conditions improve. Under the influence of warm weather the crops are looking better. Corn planting has been completed and the growth is beginning to make headway. The demand for low grade pine lumber is quite up to the mark, but other grades are dull. Hardwoods are moving in moderate volume, maple, basswood and elm furnishing the most activity. The latter is scarce in the Tonawanda, Buffalo, and other eastern markets, and prices on this lumber are likely to remain very firm throughout the summer. Thick maple sells well.

The demand for shingles is only moderate. Red cedars have declined fifteen cents within the past three weeks. White pine shingles are scarce on account of the lake tie-up, which has kept prices firm. Lath is picking up as the amount of building increases.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Contracting for the future is still being conducted by British lumber merchants upon most limited lines. While there has been some improvement in the demand, there still exists a feeling that existing conditions will prevent more than a very moderate rise in prices from the present basis. Without wishing to inspire false hopes, however, it may be said that prices are not likely to go much lower. The consumption is making considerable inroads upon yard stocks, and as the quantity contracted for is exceptionally small, it is quite possible that when the dealers enter the market to replenish their stocks it will bring about an advance in prices. Representatives of Canadian spruce shippers have experienced a little more success of late in closing contracts, the prices being about £9 10s and £8 12s c.i.f. London for 320 inch second and third qualities. Red pine is, if anything, lower in price, sellers having in some instances offered to meet Baltic quotations.

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CANADIAN LUMBER SHIPMENTS.

From St. John: Schooner James L. Maloy, for Providence, 35,187 ft. plank, 25,011 ft. scantling, 570,000 laths. Schooner Lena Maud, for Quincy, 1,446,000 cedar shingles. Steamer Manchester Merchant, for Manchester, 558,334 ft. deals, 61,040 ft. scantling, 12,687 ft. ends, 110,260 ft. birch plank, 6,151 ft. birch ends, 6,600 box shooks. Steamer St. John City, for London, 422,983 ft. deals, 159,610 ft. birch plank, 24,517 ft. birch ends, 838 pieces blocks.

From Halifax, N.S.: Steamer Orinoca, for West India Islands, 34,900 ft. spruce lumber, value \$654; 30,622 ft. pine lumber, value \$653. Steamer Sarmatian, for Glasgow, 178,579 ft. spruce deals, value \$2,132; 101,488 ft. hemlock deals, value \$894. Brigantine Culdoon, for Wales, 404,269 ft. spruce deals, value \$4,258. Steamer Sicily, for Liverpool, 205 tons: birch timber, value \$1,640; 61,128 ft. birch squares, value \$976; 153,805 ft. hemlock deals, value \$1,379. Steamer Benedick, for Manchester, 2,278,768 ft. spruce deals, value \$26,204.

From Montreal: Steam Sicilian, for Glasgow, 984 pieces deals, by W. & J. Sharples. Steamer Milwaukee, for Liverpool, 157 pieces timber, by McLaren Bros.; 11,363 pieces timber, by Cox, Long & Co.;

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6,000 pieces timber, by Charlemagne Lumber Co.; 13,367 pieces lumber, by W. & J. Sharples; 260 pieces lumber, by J. Kennedy & Co.; 8,148 pieces lumber, by Canadian Pacific Railway. Steamer Teutonia, for Newcastle, 1,561 pieces boards, 18,821 pieces deals and ends, by Watson & Todd. Steamer Bray Head, for Dublin, 5,704 pieces deals, by Watson & Todd; 2,167 pieces deals, by Dobell, Beckett & Co. Steamer Canada, for Liverpool, 9,268 pieces deals, by R. Cox & Co.; 4,209 pieces deals, 7,645 pieces boards, by Watson & Todd. Steamer Montreal, for Antwerp via London, 500 pieces timber, by McLaren Bros.; 837 pieces timber, by W. & J. Sharples; 22,118 pieces timber, by McArthur Export Co.; 14,866 pieces timber, by Cox, Long & Co.; 18,333 pieces timber, by Dobell, Beckett & Co. Steamer Marina, for Glasgow, 3,694 pieces deals, 2,446 pieces boards, 2,746 pieces ends, by J. Hurstall & Co.; 1,491 pieces boards, by R. Cox & Co.; 74 pieces timber, by Dobell, Beckett & Co. Steamer Buenos Ayrean, for Glasgow via Liverpool, 1,416 bundles lumber, by Grand Trunk Railway; 8,912 pieces deals, by W. & J. Sharples. Steamer Mexican, for Antwerp via London, 4,652 pieces deals, 11,731 pieces boards, by Watson & Todd; 817 pieces walnut lumber, 192 bundles walnut lumber, 936 pieces timber, by Grand Trunk Railway.

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