

time at Sydney, and all they carried was wanted and would go into consumption at once. After a long period of depression things have taken a decided turn for the better, and building operations promise to be brisk. From the Argentine Republic also comes a promise of increased demand.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

Tenders are asked for the right to cut timber on berth 713, Dominion lands, Province of Assiniboia.

The lumber camps about Thessalon, Ont., are all running full blast, with large gangs of men, and the winter's cut is progressing rapidly.

The saw mill at Linwood, Ont., is being put in order for winter sawing. Mr. Fish has secured the services of Mr. Chas. Hawke, of Listowel, to run it.

The property of the Stewart Lumber Company, at Bathurst, N. B., has been purchased by the Sumner Company, of Moncton, and operations will begin in the spring. The sum paid was \$10,000.

Messrs. Stevens & Godard and E. P. Eastman are operating quite largely this season on Pollet River, N. S. Alex. Geldart and others will ship birch. The Messrs. Graves are getting a large quantity of birch in New Ireland, which they will ship to St. John next spring.

Mr. T. G. McMullen's new band saw mill at Ellerhouse Station, N. B., has been tested and works very satisfactorily. It is operated by water power, a little Giant wheel of 200 horse power being used. It will employ more men and turn out more lumber than the old one.

An Alma, N. B., letter says the lumbermen have all gone into the woods. Point Wolfe River will put in about 5,000,000 feet, F. O. Talbot about 4,000,000, and on the Salmon River, Albert E. Smy about 400,000 feet of logs and 3,000 railway ties, and 100 cords of hardwood by Albert Luther.

Australian advices state that present stocks of Pacific coast lumber are ill-sorted and insufficient for requirements. Half of the cargo of the bark Nonantrim, which arrived at Melbourne from Port Blakeley on Oct. 2nd, was sold prior to her arrival at £7 to £7 10s per 1,000 feet super. At the same time about 200,000 feet of old stock was placed privately at £6 10s ex-store.

The Midway, B. C., saw mill is shut down, although there is a great demand for lumber. This is in consequence of the boom breaking last spring and letting the logs float down the river. What few were left, together with the small stock of lumber on hand, are now exhausted, and building operations have come to a standstill. The nearest point at which lumber can be procured is at Grand Forks, 30 miles away, or at Okanagan Falls, some 60 miles distant.

Mr. John Wells, of the lumbering firm with which John Charlton, M.P., is connected, says that lumbermen in the section tributary to the head of Lake Huron are not satisfied with the turn the weather has taken. It hinders large logging operations. Two weeks ago there was just enough snow and the ground was frozen hard enough to make the conditions favorable in the woods. Should mild weather prevail between now and February it will

be expensive to the logging contractors, as they will be obliged to keep a large force of workmen waiting for colder weather. The only work which can be done now is felling trees. The firm has 75 men at work and about 45,000 logs on the skids.

BUFFALO.

If the reports of the unusual firmness of the English lumber market continue, there is likely to be considerable indifference in Canadian lumber circles over the condition of the market on this side, and as to the proposed new tariff of from \$1 to \$2 on all imported lumber, it will merely catch the Americans who are in control of stumpage in Canada.

It is to be hoped that there is a good effect felt in Canada over the prospect of a steady demand from abroad, for there is considerable lack of such a feeling here, though there has been some selling both to South America and South Africa within the past week or two. At home, the demand is slack enough. It is nothing out of the way, however, for this month to develop a slow trade, for the last lake cargoes are coming in, and there is a disposition to unload them slowly and make most of the chance given for a careful grading of everything as it comes from the boat.

After everything is in the yard there is another delay for the annual inventory, and dealers rather welcome than otherwise the orders that come in now for delivery next month. There is rather more than the usual amount of good pine in the last receipts, and dealers are inclined to hold it firmer than they have their summer stocks, for what goes now cannot be replaced till spring. Cheap grades cannot be very firm in the nature of the case. There is too much indifferent lumber left in the lurch at the mill docks that was to have been sold last summer. What that will bring next spring it is hard to say, but no one looks for it to sell for what was asked for it when it was sawed out.

Buffalo will have the average amount of pine in stock this winter, and Tonawanda will have more than for a long time. There is no appearance of a shortage in any high grades yet, and it may be that the experience of last winter is not going to be repeated. It is a long time since the grades were in such bad shape.

There is a large lot of lumber well filled with Canadian sand on sale here. Pfahl & Son have bought and shipped here by rail more than 100,000 feet that went ashore at Sarnia from a tow bound here, and 40,000 feet came off the schooner Hattie Wells, and went ashore above Port Colborne.

The shipments here of basswood, birch and other hardwoods from Georgian Bay continued unusually late this fall and the amount was comparatively large, though it has been sometime since so little pine has come in from there. Fred. M. Sullivan has been bringing quite large quantities of mostly elm from the Georgian Bay district by rail, and finds a ready supply of it. Scatcherd & Son have not sent their Canadian man back there since he was withdrawn some months ago, but may do so later.

There is a rather uneven market for hardwood at present. There is no differ-

ence of opinion as to the demand everywhere for oak, both red and white, but other hardwoods are not very steady, and there is no very uniform price. With this condition of things there is not the generally good feeling in hardwoods that has prevailed for some time. Stocks are somewhat broken as regards single yards, but there is plenty of most sorts here somewhere. If the reports of wide variation in price are correct there should be some speedy understanding arrived at, so that this market can stand up as a whole, and not be at work at cross purposes.

The latest report of the Holmes situation is that the planing mill that was bought in the name of George Rung, will soon be running by Rung Brothers and Julius Dietz, of the Holmes firm, the co-operative idea having been laid aside, and that the lumber yard and lumber, which was bought by Nelson Holland for \$100,800, will be used by Holland, Graves & Montgomery for a town yard. The casket works is doing very little, but the maple flooring plant is being run by the preferred creditors of the firm at full capacity.

The demand for southern woods is again quiet. The mills that are working large amounts of cypress and some poplar are well stocked, and the receipts of southern pine are not large, though the prices are without change.

Donogh & Oliver leased a part of their dock at Black Rock to T. N. Willcox for his late receipts of Michigan pine and hardwood. He has two or three large cargoes there, one that will not be unloaded till well into the winter, as his Louisiana street yard is full of available stock.

There is complaint of the low price that builders are willing to take work at in order to keep from lying idle. Early in the spring there was an army of builders from Canada, most of them with very little money, ready to take this work almost at any price, but the mill men would not carry them to any great extent, and not much is heard of them now, but the home builders seem to have gone into the same style of business, and are taking houses to build at prices that will hardly cover the actual cost.

The Goodyears appear to be the only hemlock dealers that are able to report business at all brisk. It moved very late in the fall and ought to have opened the way for the use of an unusual amount of pine.

CANADIAN WOODS IN ENGLAND.

In Farnworth & Jardine's Liverpool circular of 1st Dec. we find the following relating to Canadian woods:

The import has consisted of one steamer cargo, the bulk of which will probably go direct into consumption. For waney there is a fair enquiry, and prices are firm. Squate is difficult to move even at low rates, the stock of both is moderate. Red pine has not been imported; there is no change in value to report, and the stock is light. Oak.—The import has been ample, still 1st class wood is in fair request and maintains its value; the stock is sufficient. Elm has been imported moderately; there is a good demand and prices are firmer. Ash has come forward too freely; the deliveries have been good, but the stock is too heavy. Pine deals have moved off fairly well, and values have slightly advanced; the stock is ample.

NEW BRUNSWICK AND NOVA SCOTIA SPRUCE AND PINE DEALS.

Of sprucethe import has again been moderate, viz., 8,159 standards, against 13,830 standards in the corresponding month last year, and 8,430 standards in the previous year. The deliveries, although less than last year, have kept pace with the arrivals, and the present stock is moderate; values generally have ruled steady; latest sales showing a still further slight advance. Of pine deals there are no sales to report.

BRITISH COLUMBIA AND OREGON PINE.

There have been no arrivals; there is little improvement in the demand to record and no change in value; the stock is too heavy.

WOODSTOCK NOTES.

The Woodstock Lumber Co. said to our representative that business the past year had been fairly good but had fallen off to great extent this fall. Bill stuff was in good demand. No. 1 culls sold for \$10, No. 1 cull stocks \$12, No. 1 stock boards \$18. Bill lumber, pine \$15. They do a good business in shingles, and handle a lot of British Columbia cedar shingles. XX pine and cedar shingles sell at \$1.50; xxx \$2.40. Prospects for spring do not look promising.

Leishman, Maundrell & Co., wholesalers and retailers, report wholesale trade not so good the past year, but the retail trade has been very good. The spring trade does not promise much. Their shingle trade has been good, and they say that home cedar will soon supplant British Columbia cedar. They have supplied the new market sheds, the cold storage building, and the large addition to the Anderson Furniture Co.'s buildings. Prices are cut low and the margins are small. Barn boards sell at \$14, general pine bill stuff at \$15, hemlock at \$10.50, xxx pine and cedar shingles, at \$2.40; xx at \$1.50; British Columbia cedar at \$2.60 and lath at \$2. They do a large rough lumber business and dress very little. Their wholesale trade extends from Hamilton to London. Branch offices at Galt and Stratford report trade good.

BUSINESS CHANGES.

Mr. Playfair having decided to devote all of his time and energy to his lumbering interests at Midland, has sold his hardware stock at Collingwood.

The valuable mills and timber property at Point Wolfe, N. B., owned by Geo. J. Vaughan has, been sold to Chas. T. White, of Apple River for, it is said, in the vicinity of \$70,000.

The Wood flour and saw mills at Smith's Falls, Ont., have, it is rumoured, been leased for a term of years to Mr. Wm. Robinson, of New Boyne, and Mr. Fred Crate, of Smith's Falls. The former is a wealthy farmer and cheese man, the latter has for years been a foreman in the mills.

LUMBER FREIGHT RATES.

Lumber freight rates on the Canada Atlantic Rail. way are as follows: Ottawa to Toronto, 10 cents per 100 lbs.; Ottawa to Oswego, \$1.90 per M ft., (3,000 lbs. and under per M ft.); Ottawa to Montreal, \$1.25 per M ft., (3,000 lbs. and under per M ft.); Annapolis to Montreal, \$1.75 per M ft., (3,000 lbs. and under per M ft.); Ottawa to Quebec, \$2.25 per M ft.; Annapolis to Quebec, \$2.75 per M ft.; Ottawa to Buffalo, 12 cents per 100 lbs.; Ottawa to Port Huron and Detroit, 14 cents per 100 lbs. Ottawa to New York, 15 cents track delivery 17 cents per 100 lbs lightered; Annapolis to New York 17 cents track delivery 19 cents lightered; Ottawa to Boston, Portland and common points, local 15 cents; exports 13c. per 100 lbs.; Annapolis to Boston, Portland and common points, local 17 cents; export 15 cents per 100 lbs.; Ottawa to Burlington, 6 cents per 100 lbs.; Ottawa to Albany, 10 cents per 100 lbs.,