ments to the east. There has been an excessive demand for 12-inch box lumber, especially for export. This grade is quoted at $20 in Tonawanda, the highest price ever paid for it in that market. Hardwoods are firm, with a small supply. Ash is seasonably active, although orders are usually for small lots. The shingle market is somewhat stronger, the recent weakness having passed away. Lath is more plentiful. No. 1 pine sells in the Buffalo market at $3.75 to $4, and No. 2 at 50 cents less. There is considerable demand for cheap lath, but it is hard to find.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Dullness prevails in timber circles in Great Britain, and there is not likely to be much life to the market until after the holiday season. Prices have been well maintained. Canadian deals are decidedly firm, spruce being about ten shillings per standard higher than it was one month ago. Pine is also held at a slight advance owing to the fact that the quotations of shippers for spring delivery are above the autumn closing figures. Importers, however, are by no means unanimous in their opinions that shippers will be successful in obtaining asking prices. In another column will be found the results of an auction sale held in London, at which second quality spruce brought £10 10s per standard, against £10 5s one week earlier. A cargo of British Columbia pine from Chemainus brought splendid prices. It is a difficult proposition to analyze the British market at the present time. Shippers are holding prices very firmly, while importers are refusing to contract until a lower basis is reached. Which factor will be successful will depend to some extent upon the consumption during the next few weeks and upon the demand experienced from the Continent and South Africa. Germany has placed orders for some stock, but has not taken as much as usual.

STOCKS AND PRICES.

The Upper Woodstock Wood Manufacturing Company, of Woodstock, N. B., recently received an order for about 300,000 broom handles.

J. & W. Duncan, of Montreal, have purchased the cut of L. Villeneuve & Company's mill at St. Jerome, Que. It will be sawn for the New York market.

A timber berth of two square miles, situated on the north-west branch of Swan Creek, in New Brunswick, will be offered for sale by public auction at Fredericton on December 31st.

The East Kootenay Lumber Company, of Cranbrook, B. C., have secured the contract to supply the C. P. R. with 725,000 railway ties. This is one of the largest contracts for ties ever let in Canada.

The W. & A. McArthur Company, of Little Current, Ont., will put in about 30,000,000 feet of logs this winter. It is reported that they have sold fully one-half of the cut of the mill for next season.

The Edward Hinds Lumber Company are endeavoring to make arrangements to have 20,000,000 feet of logs sawn at Duluth, Minn., this winter. There is more winter sawing in the Duluth district this season than usual.

George Gordon & Company, of Cache Bay, Ont., had 3,000,000 feet of logs sawn at Little Current, Ont., the past season, in addition to that manufactured by their own mills. Their red pine was sold for export to England.

At the Crown Lands office, Fredericton, N. B., there were sold on December 17th a timber berth of 2½ square miles, situated between Little and Middle rivers, Gloucester county. The purchaser was J. H. Barry, of Fredericton, at $277 per mile, and the applicant was Frank J. Morrison. A two-mile berth at Lower Bay Du Vin was sold to M. Salter at the upset price.

Under date of December 6th Messrs. S.P. Musson, Son & Company say of the Barbadoes market: "There have been no arrivals of either white pine or spruce since we last wrote, and both are wanted. First receipts should command full rates. There is little or no inquiry for shingles, and no arrivals have taken place."

An advance of fifty cents on 16-foot hemlock boards was recently made at Buffalo. In New York City 50 cents was added to the price of 10 and 16-foot lengths No. 1 boards, 8, 10 and 12 inches, either rough, single surfaced, or tongued and grooved, which makes a difference now of $1 between the stock in question and 12 and 14-foot lengths.

The lumber cut on the St. Croix river, in New Brunswick, this winter will amount to about 27,000,000 feet. H. F. Eaton & Sons and James Murchie & sons will cut 6,000,000 feet each; Granville Case will cut 2,000,000 feet, and the Eastern Pulp Wood Company 3,000,000 feet. On the west branch Mercier & Sons are operating for Todd & Sons, and McLellan & Hill for Eaton & Sons.

J. Fred Ritchie is reported to have taken up a timber limit along the Arrow Lakes, in British Columbia, containing 150,000,000 feet of cedar, fir, spruce, and pine, with cedar largely predominating. The timber is easily accessible for logging purposes and can be floated down the Columbia river to Arrow Head, where a shingle mill will likely be built.

Messrs. Wright, Graham & Company, Glasgow, quote the following as ruling prices for pine deals and sidings:—White pine deals, 1st quality, broad, £33 to £35 15s per standard; 11 in., £26 10s to £28 10s; 7 in. to 10 in., £22 to £23 7s 6d; 7 in. and up by 6-9 ft., £18 11s 3d to £19 18s 9d. 2nd quality, broad, £21 6s 3d to £22 13s 9d; 11 in., £19 18s 9d to £20 12s 6d; 7 in. to 10 in., £15 2s 6d to £15 16s 3d; 7 in. and up by 6-9 ft., £12 7s 6d to £13 15s; 3rd quality, broad, £13 15s to £14 8s 9d; 11 in., £11 13 9d to £12 7s 6d; 7 in. to 10 in., £10 to £11; 7 in. and up by 6-9 ft., £8 5s to £9 12s 6d. 4th quality, broad, £10 6s 3d to £11; 11 in., £9 12s 6d to £10 6s 3d; Narrows, £8 5s to £8 18s9d. Sidings—1½, 1¾ and 2 inch, £23 7s 6d to £26 2s 6d per standard. Red pine deals are quoted at: 9 and 11 in. by 3 and 4 in., £9 12s 6d to £11 13s 9d per standard; 7 to 10 in. by 3 in., £8 18s 9d to £9 5s.

PIECE STUFF AND BOARDS.

While there has not been much change in white pine prices in the last few weeks, there are some price features that are of interest. Good lumber, says the American Lumberman, seems to be steady with no particular advance, present or immediate prospect, and with no decline for that matter, but the scarcity of piece stuff, which has been a feature of the market during the year, is more accentuated and is leading to some serious discussion as to the advisability of a slight advance. In the Wisconsin valley there is noted decided strength in No. 4 boards and strips and an advance of $1 a thousand is being strongly recommended, but such action would only accentuate the anomalous condition of the piece stuff market and make an advance in the latter the more necessary.

It is said that in the Minneapolis district wholesalers who are short of this class of stock are actually paying a premium of from 25 to 75 cents and yet selling to the retail trade at the list prices, thus incurring a positive loss. Such a situation is intolerable and unless the official list is advanced it seems likely that individual lists will be gotten out recognizing the actual advance in the wholesale market on piece stuff of 14-foot and up in length—for there seems to be a plenty of the short.

The cause for the piece stuff shortage this year seems to be found in the disposition of the mill men to cut their coarse stock into boards rather than 2-inch, and the situation in low grade boards and strips in the Wisconsin valley would indicate a continuance of the practice.

Nevertheless there promises to be a larger output of piece stuff in proportion to the total cut next year than this. Almost certainly the yellow pine people will be influenced by the firm price of that part of their list this year as contrasted with the weakness in upper grades and dressed lumber. Again, the white pine people, especially in Minnesota, are cutting more closely than ever before. That might hardly seem possible, but everything that will make a 2x4 is likely to be brought in and that process will not be confined to pine but will extend to tamarack, spruce or anything else that is found upon the land.

There should be an easier situation in piece stuff in 1903 than there has been this year, and yet we have seen so many expectations fail of realization and the lumber market has so belied experience and attempt at control that it is hardly safe to predict with assurance the outcome of next year's operations.

BIRCH SQUARES AND SEATS.

A large buyer of Birch chair seats and of Birch squares is open to contract with a mill for their output. Also open for Broom Handles and Dowels in large quantities. Write in first instance to "Finance," care of CANADA LUMBERMAN.

B. C. LUMBER SHIPMENTS.

The lumber shipments from British Columbia up to November 31st of this year were as follows:

From	For	Cargo—Ft.
Chemainus	South Africa	1,300,611
Chemainus	Melbourne	1,137,861
Hastings	China and Japan	142,516
Hastings	Yokohama	95,404
Hastings	Shanghai	653,109
Hastings	Wilmington, Del	875,843
Hastings	Ostend, Belgium	956,449
Chemainus	Sydney	1,166,082
Hastings	Sydney	1,251,010
Hastings	Fremantle	595,669
Hastings	Iquiqui	879,090
Hastings	Sydney	[illegible],082,568
Hastings	Taku	[illegible]0,414
Chemainus	Adelaide	1,3[illegible],381
Hastings	U. K.	[illegible]
Hastings	Japan	[illegible]7,612
Hastings	Taku	171,611
Hastings	Delagoa Bay	1,000,935
Chemainus	South Africa	1,666,061
Chemainus	Adelaide	1,508,401
Chemainus	Sydney	731,419
Chemainus	Sydney	869,487
Hastings	Cardiff	940,095
Hastings	Sydney	36,911
Hastings	Kobe	4,011
Hastings	Yokohama	7,796
Hastings	Sydney	38,976
Hastings	U. K.	1,412,650
Hastings	Melbourne	1,179,206
Chemainus	U. K.	1,161,839
Hastings	Fremantle	1,113,464
Chemainus	Sydney	1,072,234
Hastings	Hamburg	38,033
Hastings	Sydney	116,675
Hastings	Delagoa Bay	1,358,714
Hastings	Yokohama	29,078
Hastings	Taku	1,914,772
Hastings	Sydney	53,129
Hastings	Yokohama	20,162
Chemainus	Sydney	1,393,099
Chemainus	Sydney	1,151,219
Hornby Isl, B.C.	Santa Rosalia	905,876
Hastings	W Coast S. A.	671,737
Hastings	Delagoa Bay	974,760
Chemainus	Adelaide	1,304,967
Hastings	Japan	160,571
Hastings	Suva, Fiji	20,751
Hastings	Taku, China	401,370
Hastings	Sydney	361,404
Hastings	Iquiqui	681,947
Chemainus	West Coast S.A.	965,735
Hastings	Greenock	1,178,754
Hastings	London	1,[illegible]9,949
Hastings	Sydney	1,1[illegible],190
Hastings	Kobe	[illegible],820
Chemainus	Cape Town	1,2[illegible]57
Chemainus	West Coast S. A.	737,[illegible]
Chemainus	West Coast S. A.	859,[illegible]
Hastings	Japan	52,[illegible]
Hastings	Japan	16,7[illegible]
Chemainus	West Coast S. A.	772,219
Chemainus	West Coast S. A.	869,053
Hastings	Freemantle	942,261
Hastings	Yokohama	17,260
Chemainus	Valparaiso	768,573
Hastings	Iquiqui	1,234,488
Chemainus	U.K.	1,388,279
Chemainus	Mollendo	844,545
Chemainus	South Africa	725,696
Chemainus	Cape Town	1,505,031
Hastings	Yokohama	6,990
Hastings	Sydney	Loading