

active. Seven vessels are loading lumber at Vancouver for export, shippers evidently wishing to take advantage of the present low freights. Large orders have been placed with Vancouver mills for piles for shipment to the Philippine Islands, but it is feared that the exportation of piles is prohibited by the recent legislation. There is an active demand for cedar logs and prices have advanced \$2 per thousand feet. The price of shingles is also firmer, although no sustained advance is looked for.

## UNITED STATES.

The probability of an early opening of navigation is regarded favorably by wholesale dealers in the Eastern States, whose stocks of white pine have become broken and who feared that they would not have a sufficient supply for their customers. The demand in the east is showing considerable activity, even the lower grades being more inquired for than for some time. Further advances have been made in the price of uppers, which are now selling in the Buffalo market at \$70 for 1 to 2 inch and \$75 for 2½ to 4 inch. Loch No 1 cutting-up stock has been advanced to \$40 at Buffalo and Tonawanda. Our Bay City list this week shows an advance of \$2 in 1 to 2 inch uppers and 1 to 1½ inch selects, and \$4 in No. 2 inch cutting-up stock. Twelve-inch barn boards in all grades are marked up \$2. There is a great scarcity of 12-inch boards. Manufacturers in the Lake Superior district will endeavor to make a large cut in the sawing season now approaching, but the short supply of logs will likely restrict the production. The spruce situation is gaining strength. Special frames for immediate delivery are quoted fifty cents higher, while randoms are a little weaker. Hardwoods are going into consumption quite freely. Dry stocks have become nearly exhausted and the outlook is encouraging for higher prices for all kinds of hardwoods. Basswood and oak are particularly scarce. Birch is in good demand, but ash and maple are moving slower than the other varieties. The recent advance in the price of hemlock lumber has been maintained and has apparently not affected the consumption, as the demand continues strong. The manufacturers in Michigan recently made an advance of \$1.50 per thousand.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

The desire of importers to reduce their stocks before the new goods arrive is responsible for a large quantity of lumber being offered at auction during the past fortnight. Spruce and pine deals comprised almost the entire catalogue of a sale by Foy, Morgan & Company, London, on March 12th. Prices on the whole were well maintained, although odd sizes did not sell nearly as well as regulars, the quantity of which is quite limited. First quality Quebec pine 3x11 brought £24 15s for 11 feet and 3x9 inch £18. Second quality 3x11 sold at \$16. Quebec spruce was well taken on the basis of £9 5s for 3x9 inch third quality. The red pine was in little demand, and it is said that the prices realized in many cases represent a loss to the importers.

There is considerable buying of square timber. Oak suitable for wagon making is in demand, particularly in Scotland,

where stocks are low. For prime timber 25 to 25 ½ d per cubic foot is readily obtainable. Good ash logs are likewise in request, the quotation for them being about 25 per cubic foot.

So far as buying of this year's production is concerned, we are told that little progress has been made, and that shippers and importers must come nearer together in their ideas of prices before there will be much life to the trade. Nevertheless, Canadian shippers are said to have met with fair success. It is reported that they have reduced their prices in some instances and have made sales at £9 c. i. f. for 3x9-second quality spruce and £8 10s for third quality. A report from Belfast, Ireland, states that there has been considerable business done in Canadian spruce for spring shipment at advanced prices, although it is believed that the market will weaken towards mid-summer. Sales of waney board pine have been made at very satisfactory figures.

## STOCKS AND PRICES.

Gilmour & Company will have a quantity of lumber cut this season at Carew's mill at Lindsay, Ont.

The Rathbun Company, of Deseronto, took out some 35,000 logs and railway ties in Cavendish township during the past winter.

Present quotations for shingles at Buffalo are \$2.50 for the best grade of 18-inch pine and \$4.25 for red cedar Perfections.

The Revelstoke Lumber Company, Revelstoke, B. C., have secured a stock of about 3,500,000 feet of logs for this season's sawing operations.

James Ludgate, of Seguin Falls, has taken a contract to drive all the logs for the William Peter Estate and the Parry Sound Lumber Company that go down the Seguin river.

The Saginaw Lumber & Salt Company, of Sandwich, Ont., put in 200,000 feet of board pine last winter in the Georgian Bay district, which has been sold to Quebec parties for export.

It is reported that J. & T. Charlton, of Collingwood, have sold their entire season's cut, the last sale reported being 6,000,000 feet of white pine to Fish, Bradley & Company, of Bay City, Mich.

The cooperage market does not show the normal amount of activity for this season. Stock is offered freely. In the Minneapolis district some strength is exhibited and \$8.50 is being asked for No. 1 Michigan staves.

Tonawanda and Buffalo dealers are reported to have purchased about 10,000,000 feet of white pine from the Ontario Lumber Company, to be manufactured this season, at the company's mills at French River, Ont.

Twenty-seven car loads of square timber have been shipped this spring by Mooney & McDougall from Almonte to Quebec. The timber is pine, oak, ash and rock elm and is destined for the Liverpool market.

Destructive floods occurred last week in several sections at New Brunswick. By the breaking of a dam at Lepreaux 3,000,000 feet of logs owned by J. A. Gregory, of St. John, were carried away.

They had been cut and hauled along the river banks ready for the spring drive. Mr. Gregory estimates his loss at \$15,000.

The following vessels are loading lumber at Vancouver: "Reuce," for Sydney, Australia; "Andromeda," for Callao; "Rose," for Geraldton; "Amaranth," for Taku; "Adderley," for Sydney; "Prince Louis," for Cardiff.

Keenan Bros., of Owen Sound, Ont., have purchased the mill of the Goderich Lumber Company at that place, together with their stock of dry lumber now in the yard, amounting to about 1,500,000 feet of hemlock, cedar and pine. They have also secured about 3,000,000 feet of hemlock and hardwood logs for this year's supply, and expect to have the mill in operation very shortly.

At a recent auction sale held by Churchill & Sim, London, England, oak timber sold at a range from 82s 6d per load for 12½ x 18½ inch, 14 to 29 feet long, to 105s for 10 x 16 in., 31-47 ft. Ash timber from Quebec sold at the following prices: 13-21 in., 12 to 14 ft. long, 36s per load; 12½ x 15 in., 14 to 30 ft., 55s; 12 1/2 x 15 in., 14 to 29 ft., 47s; 11 1/2 x 15 1/2, 10 to 17 ft., 45s; 12½ x 15 1/2, 15 to 30 ft., 47s; 12½ x 16, 8 to 21 ft., 45s. A small quantity of elm timber, 11½ x 12 1/2 in., 26 feet long, brought 41s per load of 50 cubic feet.

It is estimated that the cut of logs last winter on the South-west Miramichi, in New Brunswick, was a little more than one-half that of the previous winter, the shortage being due in a large measure to the scarcity of men and the high price of supplies. The cut of the different firms is given as follows: William Richard & Company, 11,000,000 feet; T. Lynch, 7,000,000 feet; M. Welsh, 5,000,000 feet; H. Bentley, 3,000,000 feet; E. Hutchinson, 500,000 feet, a total of 26,500,000 feet. The cut on the Restigouche river will be about 20,000,000 feet, as compared with 30,000,000 feet one year ago.

## THE OTTAWA VALLEY.

(Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN.)

Business is dull in local lumber circles, shipments by rail being light. The American inquiry is not as active as it was a month ago, but better things are expected with the resumption of operations at the mills.

It is now a settled fact that the new mill talked of for several months will not be built before the autumn months at the earliest, and perhaps not till next spring. Difficulty over the question of transportation has caused a delay. The mill will probably be built at Deschenes.

All last year's mills will be operated again this season, and the small mill on the Bronson property at the Chaudiere, may be fitted up for a season's cutting. Gillies Bros. will operate four mills, one Braside, one at Black Point, one at Sandy Hook, and one at Folger.

A gentleman who has just returned from the Kippewa and Temiscamingue districts confirms the report that the recent thaw has placed several of the lumber operators in a tight corner as regards the movement of their logs. All, however, hope to get most of this season's cut out of the woods before the roads break-up. One feature of the winter's operations was the amount of square timber produced. It was equal to that of

any year in the previous decade. Fully 1,500,000 cubic feet of square timber will be rafted and floated down the Ottawa during the coming summer. Thomas Munro, of Pembroke, has four rafts, and Robert Hurdman, of Ottawa, three rafts, the combined cut amounting to about 900,000 cubic feet. The Rideau Lumber Company got out a couple of smaller rafts and other operators gave the square timber attention. Mr. Munro will be able to get his logs down early, as they are piled on the bank of the main stream of the Ottawa. The early break-up has made the transfer of fodder and supplies to the limits a difficult matter. Most of the operators were actively engaged in this branch of the work when the roads were broken by the thaw. They will have to complete their delivery by wagon and jumper at double the cost.

A feature in the market is the good prospects for spruce. This lumber was looked on for some time past as a poor seller at low price. Reports from New York show that it is in increased demand and likely to command better prices. This will prove gratifying news to mill owners who are going to cut any considerable quantity of spruce. The only hardwood that is in active demand is basswood.

The Rideau Lumber Company will cut considerable stock at Hagar & Company's mill at Plantaganet during the coming season.

Mr. Robert Hurdman's output of logs for the season just closing was between 82,000 and 100,000.

The best sale of the past few days was that made by Mr. T. A. Low, of Renfrew, who sold 3,000,000 feet of Barnet Low's stock cut at their mill at Little Current to a North Tonawanda firm.

No change in quotations is reported on the local market. Lath, shingles and deals remain firm in price.

Mr. Wm. B. Bartram, late sergeant of Strathcona's Horse, and now representing Davidson & Thackray, of Ottawa, in Cape Town in the lumber business, has been elected a member of the Chamber of Commerce for South Africa.

The government has changed the position of the slides at the Chaudiere Falls on the Ottawa River in order to improve the water power and facilitate the passage of timber.

Ald. Charles Desmarais, of Hull, contractor for telephone and telegraph poles, reports the last winter's cut below the average. The deep snow and the short season combined to make the work in the bush difficult. Ald. Desmarais had 80 men at work and secured about 4,000 poles in the Gatineau and Pontiac districts. The supply, he states, is far short of the demand and he has had half a dozen offers for his entire stock. He looks for an advance in price.

Mr. Wm. Mackey, the veteran lumberman who recently sold his limits to Mr. J. R. Booth for \$655,000, has presented St. Patrick's R. C. Church with a new altar costing \$5,000. It was consecrated on St. Patrick's Day. A tablet bearing mention and appreciation of Mr. Mackey's generosity will be placed in position in the church shortly.

The prospects for the season's building in Ottawa are good. Rumors of strikes furnish the only dark streak in the prospect. All the mill owners look for an active local demand. Shingles are exceedingly scarce and are bound to advance in price with the resumption of building operations.

OTTAWA, March 23rd, 1902.