

Market Reports.

OTTAWA.

From our own Correspondent.

APRIL 7th.—People here are now anxiously awaiting the opening of the Chaudiere and other mills in the vicinity. The numerous repairs and improvements are about completed, and everything is in readiness for the arrival of the first logs. The beginning will be made earlier this season than last; two or three weeks' time will witness the mills in full operation. The hiring of men has not, however, yet begun, this being generally done after the

BREAKING UP OF THE SHANTIES and arrival home of the hands. Wages this year will be as high, if not higher, than last, and more difficulty will be experienced in engaging the full complement of men, as many have left for the States. This will be somewhat severely felt by our lumbermen, as a vast amount of work remains ahead. No doubt the coming summer will be the liveliest in this interest seen since

THE MEMORABLE YEARS

of '69, '70 and '71, when lumbering operations were carried on to their fullest extent. Of the total cut of logs and square timber on the limits on the Upper Ottawa the present season, a pretty correct estimate can now be made. It is generally conceded by parties who are familiar, that the cut this winter will be as large again as that of last year. 1,300,000 pieces passed the Quyon boom during the summer of 1881. This is the point where the

LARGEST NUMBER OF LOGS

pass, coming to Ottawa and vicinity, the operations on this side of that point not amounting to anything great. It requires seven of these logs on an average to make a thousand feet of lumber, so an estimate can be made by this of the amount of lumber cut by the mills here and neighbourhood. It is calculated that there will be manufactured this year about two million and a quarter pieces. Fully 750,000 pieces were

STUCK IN THE OTTAWA RIVER

and its tributaries the past summer, and these, together with this year's cut, will without doubt be safely navigated to their destination, thanks to the many and valuable improvements lately and continually being made by the Upper Ottawa Improvement Co. A new firm has been operating on the Kippewa the past winter, that is, that of W. C. Edwards & Co., of Rockland. They have also taken out timber on the Dumoine, Blanche, Gagneau, Castor and Nation Rivers. Their

CUT ON THE UPPER OTTAWA

limits will amount to about 50,000 logs. Shanties will break up about the fifteenth of next month, that is as soon as the lakes open. Operations are now being carried on as lively as possible. There is plenty of snow and ice on the Kippewa yet, and most other places. Men are now being engaged for the drive, the wages paid this year being from \$20 to \$35. No sales of logs have been reported lately, which is something unusual.

TORONTO.

From Our Own Correspondent.

APRIL 10th.—Lumber shipments by vessel to American ports have now fairly begun, five cargoes having already left here for Oswego, and six more vessels on the way loading, and the average quantity on each has been something like a quarter of a million feet. The demand for all kinds of pine lumber from sound common to clear is excellent, and for desirable dry lots during the earlier part of the season, prices are likely to advance. Good, dry ear sheathing or flooring strips are hard to obtain, and the prices for flooring from the yards have advanced from \$2.50 to \$3.00 per M., although, owing to the carpenter's strike, building has for the present come nearly to a stand, and no work in the architects' offices offering. No doubt this may be partially accounted for in this way, any persons entering into building operations naturally consult with their architect, and as it was well known before hand that labor strikes were likely to be the order of the day for some time to come, they were advised to postpone their asking for tenders until the labor question was settled.

Speculative building, such as we have had going on here for the last two years, has received a sudden check, the stringent Lien Act passed by the Ontario House at the last session has caused loan companies to be extremely cautious as to whom they lend money to, and none but those having a clean record will be able to obtain advances, unless they have other real estate to offer as security, and it is much better for our city that such is the case, as large numbers of houses have been thrown together (I think this is about the right term) during the last three years, and a few years hence the question will be asked, Where are they? Of course this does not apply to all who have been operating, some of them make a point of doing their work substantially, such men will still find plenty of room for capital and energy.

In continuing my list of wood-working factories, I would next call your attention to the large building on the corner of Sheppard and Richmond streets. This factory is not controlled by any single firm. Steam power is furnished to a large number of various trades throughout this large building, but there are two firms who come prominently to the fore, 1st, the firm of R. Philp & Co., manufacturers of coffins and caskets. This firm does the largest business of the kind done in the Dominion, employing from 75 to 100 men, and using up from 25 to 30 M. of lumber weekly, employing a man especially and constantly in getting out new designs for mountings; and in going through the large shops occupied by this firm, and viewing the large quantities of the various sized coffins in all their different stages of completion, we get some conception of the vast numbers of poor suffering humanity who are daily passing away to their long home. The warehouses and offices connected with this firm are situated on Front Street West, near the Queen's Hotel.

The well known building firm of Moir & McCall occupy shops immediately adjoining the coffin factory, where they have all the machinery requisite for the cheapening of labour. This firm has done some of the best work in our city, and they are especially well known in connection with the building of church edifices, and all such work, after passing from their hands, would be a credit to any contractor in any part of the world. This firm employ a staff of first-class workmen, who like all the rest at present, are out on strike, and until this question of wages is settled, trade from the various retail yards will be dull.

QUOTATIONS, FROM YARDS.

Mill cull boards and scantling	\$10 00
Shipping cull boards, promiscuous widths	12 00
Stocks	14 00
Scantling and joist, up to 16 ft.	14 00
" " " 18 ft.	14 50
" " " 20 ft.	15 00
" " " 22 ft.	15 50
" " " 24 ft.	16 00
" " " 26 ft.	16 50
Scantling and joist, up to 28 ft.	17 00
" " " 30 ft.	18 00
" " " 32 ft.	19 00
" " " 34 ft.	20 00
" " " 36 ft.	21 00
" " " 38 ft.	22 00
" " " 40 to 44 ft.	30 00
Cutting up planks to dry	22 50
boards	20 00
Sound dressing stocks	16 00
Picks Am. inspection	20 00
Three uppers, Am. inspection	35 00
It. M.	
11-inch flooring, dressed	30 00
" " " rough	16 00
" " " dressed	20 00
" " " undressed	10 00
" " " dressed	23 00
" " " undressed	17 00
1/2 headed sheeting, dressed	22 50
clayboarding, dressed	12 50
XXX sawn shingles, 1/2 M.	2 50
XX sawn shingles	2 75
Sawn lath	2 50

MONTREAL.

From Our Own Correspondent.

APRIL 10th.—Since the date of our last report there has been considerable change in the state of the ice on the river. The ice bridge has gone and there is open water from here down to the lake, and market steamers and ferry boats are expected up to-day or to-morrow from winter quarters. There is a good deal of activity going on preparing for the opening of navigation. Imports are expected to be large, as the stocks in the yards are by no means heavy, and a large number of new buildings are about to be commenced; till then business will likely rule quiet, and by that time people will be better able to judge what will be wanted, and get it down by the first canal boats. The export of lumber is expected to be fully equal that of last year,

while freights to South America are not expected to be any higher than last year, although we have not been able to hear of any engagements as yet. The first cargoes are to be sent off early in May. Prices in the yards here are firm and likely to go higher in a couple of weeks. In the meantime we continue to quote, ex yard:—

Pine, 1st quality, 1/2 M.	\$25 00
Pine, 2nd " " 1/2 M.	18 00
Pine, shipping culls, 1/2 M.	14 00
Pine, cull deals, 1/2 M.	8 00
Pine, mill culls, 1/2 M.	6 00
Spruce, 1/2 M.	8 00
Hemlock, 1/2 M.	8 00
Ash, run of long culls out, 1/2 M.	10 00
Bass, " " 1/2 M.	10 00
Oak, 1/2 M.	35 00
Birch, 1/2 M.	17 00
Hard Maple, 1/2 M.	18 00
Lath, 1/2 M.	1 50
Shingles, 1st, 1/2 M.	3 00
Shingles, 2nd, 1/2 M.	2 00

CORNWALL.—Owing to the advance of freights by the Q. M. O. & O. R. there has been very little cordwood coming in, and we do not expect much till navigation is fairly opened by river and canal. A brisk business is looked for all summer, the rate of freight by water being so much cheaper than railway. The demand here has improved considerably lately, although prices are much advanced and dealers here have been obliged to advance prices fully fifty cents all round. We now quote prices at the railway depot, ex cartage, as follows:

Long Maple	36 50
Short " "	6 00
Long Birch	6 00
Short " "	5 50
Long Beech	5 50
Short " "	5 00
Long Tamarack	5 00
Short " "	4 10

LONDON, ONT.

From Our Own Correspondent.

APRIL 10th.—Since my last letter there is no important change to report in the lumber market of this city. It is thought, however, that the price of material and the strike for higher wages by the carpenters and other workmen will seriously affect the amount of building to be done through the summer.

All grades of lumber remain firm at last quotations, and if any change is to be noted, it may be that hard lumber is an exception. The opinion prevails among our merchants here relative to the elm log export duty now being agitated, that it should be imposed. Shingle bolts are taxed \$1 per cord, and spruce and pine logs \$1 per M. feet. Elm is an important factor in our manufacturing and productive interests, and when our internal manufacturing privileges are in a measure monopolized, something should be done to protect them. I may in a future letter have something more to say on this subject.

The erection of a very large brick skating rink will shortly be commenced here. It is to be 190 x 80, and will be a very handsome structure.

The cedar block pavement on Richmond street will now shortly be proceeded with, and there is also a movement gotten up by a "local" newspaper reporter here to have the market square paved with the same material. The plan of the scheme is a novel one, every donor to give so many blocks, or the price of them.

Our yards are beginning to fill up again, in anticipation for the spring demand.

QUOTATIONS.

Mill cull boards and scantling	\$11 00
Shipping cull boards, promiscuous widths	12 00
Stocks	12 50
Common boards, promiscuous widths	14 00
Scantling and joist, up to 18 ft.	15 00
" " " 20 ft.	15 50
" " " 22 ft.	16 00
" " " 24 ft.	16 50
Common stocks	15 00
Common 2 in. plank	14 00
Cutting up plank and boards	19 00
Sound dressing stocks	18 00
Clear and picks	23 00
Three uppers, Am. inspection	35 00
1 inch dressed and matched flooring	21 00
" " " "	21 00
XXX sawn shingles, 1/2 M.	3 00
Lath per 1000 feet	4 50

ST. JOHN, N. B.

From Our Own Correspondent.

APRIL 6.—The prominent feature of the period embraced in this report is the continuation of the cold, winter-like weather described in last report, enabling the lumbermen to extend their supplementary operations in an unusual degree. Conversing with some of the large operators this week, they say that they are doing better work now than at any time during the winter;

the chief difficulty they have to encounter is to keep their men; like the wild geese, when the time arrives at which they usually leave camp, they think they should "be off," and become very uneasy if longer detained.

DEALS.

There are no sales of deals yet reported this spring, the views of buyers and sellers appearing too divergent thus far. Manufacturers are holding very firmly at \$11 per ft., superficial feet, and shippers are unable to see their way to pay such a price; much will depend on circumstances as to which party can hold out the longest.

FREIGHTS.

There was quite a boom in the freight market last week; some eleven ships were chartered for the West Coast of England or the East Coast of Ireland at 60s., and three steamships for the United Kingdom on private terms. These vessels were chiefly taken by one shipper. The market has since been quiet, with a downward tendency; we quote 57s. 6d. out the market rate.

SHIPMENTS.

The shipments of deals and other sawn lumber are as follows:—

For Europe	3,300,000 Sup. feet.
United States	2,213,000 "
West Indies	90,000 "

The number of sugar box shooks shipped for Cuba is as follows:—

Sept. 1 to March 22	69,040
Since	6,432

Total..... 75,472

SHIPPING.

The following is a list of the vessels in port, with their tonnage and destinations:—

John Black, 545, W. C. England, E. C. 1., or Glasgow.
Herbert Beech, 1,061, Liverpool.
Brothers, 537, W. C. E. or E. O. I.
Kentlgren, 824, Liverpool.
Maggie Taylor, 347, —
Bonito, 593, W. C. E. or E. C. I.
Argyle, 1,222, W. C. England.
Alex. Campbell, 475, —
Alma, 630, W. C. England.
Herlot Herloesen, 766, —
Oxo, 230, —
Cedar Craft, 1,698, W. C. England.
E. W. Gale, 298, —

ALBANY.

APRIL 8th.—Quotations at the yards are as follows:—

Pine, clear, 1/2 M.	\$25 00
Pine, fourths	50 00
Pine, selects	45 00
Pine, good box	22 00
Pine, 10-in. plank, each	00 35
Pine, 10-in. plank, culls, each	00 19
Pine boards, 10-in.	00 20
Pine, 10-in. boards, culls	00 18
Pine, 10-in. boards, 16 ft., 1/2 M.	25 00
Pine, 12-in. boards, 16 ft.	25 00
Pine, 12-in. boards, 13 ft.	20 00
Pine, 11-in. siding, select	38 00
Pine, 11-in. siding, common	15 00
Pine, 1-in. siding, select	40 00
Pine, 1-in. siding, common	16 00
Spruce, boards, each	00 00
Spruce, plank, 11-in., each	00 00
Spruce, plank, 2-in., each	00 00
Spruce, wall strips, each	00 11
Hemlock, boards, each	00 00
Hemlock, joist, 4x6, each	00 00
Hemlock, joist, 2x4, each	00 00
Hemlock, wall strips, 2x4, each	00 00
Ash, good, 1/2 M.	35 00
Ash, second quality, 1/2 M.	25 00
Cherry, good, 1/2 M.	00 00
Cherry, common, 1/2 M.	25 00
Oak, good, 1/2 M.	38 00
Oak, second quality, 1/2 M.	20 00
Hickory, 1/2 M.	36 00
Maple, Canada, 1/2 M.	26 00
Maple, American, per M.	25 00
Chestnut, 1/2 M.	33 00
Shingle, shaved, pine, 1/2 M.	00 00
" 2nd quality	00 00
" extra, sawed, pine	00 00
" clear	00 00
" cedar, mixed	00 00
" cedar, XXX	00 00
" hemlock	00 00
Lath, hemlock, 1/2 M.	00 00
Lath, spruce	00 00
Lath, pine	00 00

BOSTON.

APRIL 8.—The Journal of Commerce says that there is no change in the general situation since our last report. Everything points to a good future for the market. In New York there are many large building operations in contemplation or actually being prosecuted. In our own market builders are not far behind, and there promises to be an immense amount of lumber consumed. The only drawback seems to be in the matter of values. If lumber does not increase in price so as to discourage builders and