

The production of the mills of the Ottawa Valley for 1902 and 1903 was as follows:

OTTAWA VALLEY PRODUCTION.

	1902—Feet.	1903—Feet.
J. R. Booth, Ottawa.....	125,000,000	115,000,000
W. C. Edwards & Co., Rock- land and New Edinburgh ..	85,000,000	95,000,000
McLachlin Bros., Arnprior..	70,000,000	70,000,000
Hawkesbury Lumber Co., Hawkesbury	50,000,000	50,000,000
St. Anthony Lumber Co., Whitney	50,000,000	33,000,000
Gillies Bros., Braeside	40,000,000	32,000,000
Gilmour & Hughson, Hull...	40,000,000	28,000,000
Hill Lumber Co., (using Ritchie mill, Aylmer) ..	40,000,000	15,000,000
Gilmour & Co., Trenton ..	13,000,000	8,000,000
Pembroke Lumber Co., Pem- broke	14,000,000	12,000,000
G. H. Perley Co., Calumet...	21,000,000	18,000,000
James McLaren Co., Buck- ingham	25,000,000	25,000,000
J. R. & J. Gillies, Arnprior..	3,000,000	3,000,000
A. & F. White, Pembroke ..	5,000,000	4,000,000
McLaren & McLaurin, East Templeton	27,000,000	27,000,000
Rideau Lumber Co., Ottawa ..	5,000,000	5,000,000
Shepard & Morse, Ottawa...		12,000,000
Fraser & Co., Deschenes...		5,000,000
Davidson & Thackray, Fort Coulange		5,000,000
Total	608,000,000	562,000,000

A. Hagar & Company, of Plantagenet, sawed this year almost exclusively on contract for the Rideau Lumber Company.

QUEBEC.

The lumber manufacturers of the Province of Quebec suffered inconvenience and loss during 1903 owing to extreme drouth through the spring and summer, and, in fact, continuing well into the fall. Many logs were hung up, and consequently the mills were not kept in constant operation. There was a good demand for spruce lumber throughout the year, and, on the whole, prices were slightly higher than in the previous year. Almost without exception manufacturers placed their production of British deals under contract early in the season, so they were not affected by the temporary decline in spruce prices which occurred in Great Britain about mid-summer. Clapboards were exported largely to the United States, and prices continued high until near the close of the year, when there was a drop of about \$3 per thousand feet, part of which was subsequently recovered. Cedar shingles sold slightly higher than in 1902. Stocks at the close of the year were exceptionally light, and conditions are favourable for another good season.

The trans-Atlantic shipments from the St. Lawrence ports show an increase of 5,698,345 feet. This increase is due to the expansion in trade at the way ports, as the exports from Montreal and Quebec show decreases of 9,243,418 and 6,500,285 feet respectively.

The exports from Montreal in 1903, in comparison with the previous year, were as follows:—

MONTREAL LUMBER SHIPMENTS.

	1902. Ft. B. M.	1903. Ft. B. M.
Watson & Todd	51,311,775	51,801,668
W. & J. Sharples	42,344,225	41,845,282
Dobell, Beckett & Co.	40,711,000	35,594,600
R. Cox & Co.	30,326,457	24,162,470
J. Burstall & Co.	20,066,117	22,105,969
Charlemagne & Lac Ourcau Lumber Co.	14,428,674	10,289,247
McArthur Export Co.	13,508,543	15,412,472
McLaurin Bros.	7,000,000	7,478,000
Cox, Long & Co.	4,997,726	8,941,100
E. H. Lemay	2,335,000	1,815,000
Railway, small shippers, etc.	11,442,566	11,782,947
Total	240,472,113	231,228,695

The shipments from Ottawa via Portland, Boston and

other ports, which were of considerable volume, are not included in the above.

FROM PORTS EAST OF MONTREAL.

From ports east of Montreal the trans-Atlantic shipments were:

Shippers	Quebec. Feet.	Three Rivers and Pigeonville. Feet.	Other Ports. Feet.
Dobell, Beckett & Co.	28,803,800	34,171,200	
W. & J. Sharples	27,394,643	10,429,870	3,505,200
Price Brothers & Co.			50,658,178
McArthur Export Co., Ltd. ..	12,953,511		
J. Burstall & Co.	2,313,381		
I. R. Goodday & Co.	16,054,341		
King Bros., Ltd.	15,833,139		
Harold Kennedy	6,336,000		
Total 1903	109,688,817	44,601,070	60,163,378
Total 1902	116,189,102	27,583,200	55,440,200

It will be seen that of the Quebec exporters Messrs. Dobell, Beckett & Company head the list with a total of 102,974,800 feet from St. Lawrence ports, followed by Messrs. W. & J. Sharples with 76,669,795 feet.

We are again indebted to E. J. Dalkin for the following particulars relating to the Quebec trade, extracted from the annual timber circular of J. Bell Forsyth & Company.

WHITE PINE.—The stock of waney and square together is under that of any recorded year, except the preceding one. Prices reported paid for rafts now making show a very considerable advance over any previous figures. No doubt present values are fully justified by the greatly increased value of standing white pine, but the continued advance demands caution, as it will certainly eventually affect consumption.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1903 { Square .. 419,600			{ 413,469 Square
{ Waney .. 1,865,560	2,181,961		{ 406,038 Waney
1902 { Square .. 384,440			{ 395,962 Square
{ Waney .. 1,830,120	2,445,548		{ 61,363 Waney

RED PINE.—The supply and stock are again under all previous records, and business in this wood as square timber is rapidly disappearing.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1903	57,360	34,292	53,225
1902	71,160	80,150	66,995

OAK.—The wintering stock shows a decided increase over the low figures of recent years, owing to advanced prices having stimulated production. There is every certainty of a great reduction in the manufacture this winter, and it is well there should be.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1903	926,680	651,969	491,851
1902	652,520	578,121	192,162

ELM.—The supply continues to fall rapidly in face of advanced prices freely given. First-class rock elm of good average girth and cube is within measurable distance of becoming a thing of the past. Stock figures are swollen by a large quantity of soft elm that remains unshipped from year to year, and include very little real rock elm.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1903	417,800	477,217	419,659
1902	561,920	586,777	539,183

ASH.—Seems rapidly going out of consumption in the United Kingdom, no doubt under the influence of changed fashion in furniture. There is no present appearance of an improved demand.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1903	57,200	59,441	47,035
1902	79,920	49,970	49,818

BIRCH.—The export of this wood from Quebec steadily tends to diminish, Montreal, from various reasons, taking a larger proportion of the shipments.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1903	196,240	201,521	11
1902	260,200	247,390	5,739

SPRUCE DEALS.—Export from Quebec and Lower St. Lawrence has somewhat exceeded last

year's shipments, and a small wintering stock remains in the port. The returns of stocks wintering do not include those at the various mills below Quebec. The shipments made from Montreal, Three Rivers and other ports above Quebec are not included in export figures. Values seem likely to be fully maintained. The cost of production has materially increased.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1903	4,919,710	5,060,053	157,213
1902	4,735,657	4,691,149	297,556

PINE DEALS.—A further advance of ten per cent is being held for by the Ottawa millowners for coming season's production, and has been paid in some instances. Following the similar advance established last year, this brings these goods up to prices which, though they may be quite justified by Canadian conditions, will be reluctantly paid by United Kingdom importers. Export from Quebec has become very inconsiderable.

	Supply.	Export.	Stock.
1903	41,890	49,730	2,570
1902	116,432	114,480	10,410

SAWN LUMBER.—A considerable quantity of spruce lumber has been shipped this season to the River Platte, the market there having improved. Local consumption has been large, and the demand for the United States has been greater than for some years past. The available stock of spruce lumber in first hands is in consequence nil.

FREIGHTS.—Opened for Montreal liners at 30s. 3d. London, 35s. Glasgow and 32s. 6d for Liverpool, became weaker as season advanced, and only rallied to higher figures quite at the end of shipping season. Quebec rates for timber ruled at about 60s. for leading ports, with higher rates for surplus hardwood.

THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

No expansion of the lumber business of the Maritime Provinces occurred during 1903. On the contrary, shipments show a considerable falling off owing to two causes—first, an inadequate supply of logs to keep the mills constantly in operation, and secondly, the somewhat unsettled condition of the British market. The log shortage was perhaps a blessing in disguise, for it is doubtful whether the markets could have absorbed much more lumber than was manufactured without bringing about a decline in prices. As it was, the manufacturers realized fair prices and net profits were nearly as great as in the previous year.

The log cut on the Miramichi river in the winter of 1902-1903 was 125,000,000 feet, against 123,000,000 feet the year before. Lack of sufficient water was a great drawback to stream driving operations, and as a consequence a portion of the log output was hung up. On the St. John river, also, 40,000,000 feet of logs failed to reach the mills on account of drouth. The logs hung up will, in all probability, come out next spring and be available for early sawing. The estimated cut of logs on the Miramichi river this winter is 200,000,000 feet. The stock of logs wintering on the Miramichi is 5,000,000 feet more than last year, and the sawn lumber 10,000,000 feet greater.

It will be seen from the statistics below that the total trans-Atlantic shipments of lumber from the province of New Brunswick were 391,000,000 feet, a decrease of 61,000,000 feet as