

A SHORTAGE IN SPRUCE.

With a view to advising British timber merchants, the Timber News publishes the following regarding the spruce supply.

It seems as if at last merchants were beginning to realize that a shortage of spruce deals is an assured fact, and the few cargoes which are being offered find ready purchasers at improving prices. The Liverpool market does not for the moment respond so eagerly to this condition of things as the markets around the coast, because, several large cargoes having recently arrived, there is some desire to meet the demand. Fleetwood is short in stock, and cargoes are greatly wanted for Garston and the Canal. Large lower port cargoes can now be sold at £6 15s. c.i.f., with an advance for St. John deals, but even at such figures for later loading sellers are gaining very little advantage over earlier sales. Freight rates are higher, 48s. 9d. having been paid for steamers from St. John and 50s. to 52s. 6d. for fair-sized sailers from some of the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick ports. The tendency of steam freights seems toward a further rise, and the small supply of sailing vessels should prevent any serious fall in freights for such tonnage. Insurance rates will shortly begin to mount up, and as the terms for sailer cargoes for October sailing touch 10 guineas per cent., or, say, 10s. to 12s. 6d. per std., there is very little inducement for business except at a considerable advance upon present prices.

The stock abroad available for shipment is admitted to be extremely light. At St. John several of the mills have shut down, and it is reported that the further cut there will not much exceed 10,000 stds. In Nova Scotia there is very little obtainable, and elsewhere the quantity of lower port deals offering is only small. From the St. Lawrence there is a greater supply on the market, but such specifications are only suitable for certain districts. Altogether the season promises to close with considerable scarcity and higher prices. It is

probable that should such prove the case, the production during the coming winter will be greatly stimulated, and the merchants should watch carefully all indications in this direction, as experience teaches that the tendency is to go from one extreme to the other, and for a small production to be followed by an excessive output. The South American and West Indian markets continue important buyers, and this demand is likely to increase rather than otherwise.

SHIPPING MATTERS.

The following charters are reported: Steamship Thynhill, St. John, N.B., to w.c. England, 50s; Nyassa, 1,786 tons, Hopewell Cape, N.B., to w.c. England, 50s, if Bristol, 52s 6d; bark Trinidad, Annapolis, N.S., to Buenos Ayres, lumber, \$10.50, option Rosario, \$11.50, bark Treacle, St. John to Glasgow, box shooks, £300 lump sum; str. Anaxo, St. John to w.c. England, deals, 50s; str. Basuto, 1,839 tons, Miramichi to Greenock or Glasgow, deals, 50s, August; str. Mendota, 1,656 tons, St. John, N. B., to Glasgow, 47s 6d.

LUMBER FREIGHT RATES.

CANADA ATLANTIC RAILWAY.
Lumber freight rates on the Canada Atlantic Railway, according to the summer schedule effective April 1st, are as follows: Ottawa, Rockland, Hawkesbury and intermediate points to Toronto, 10 cents per 100 lbs.; Parry Sound to Toronto, pine 10 cents, hardwood, 11 cents; Ottawa to Oswego, \$1.90 per M ft., Ottawa to Syracuse, \$2.30 per M ft., (3,000 lbs. and under per M ft.), Ottawa to Montreal, \$1.00 per M ft., lath 20 cents per M pieces; Quebec, \$1.05 per M ft., lath 20 cents per M pieces; Amprior to Montreal, \$1.55 per M ft., lath 30 cents per M pieces; Quebec, 12 cents; Pembroke to Montreal, \$1.75 per M ft., lath 35 cents per M pieces; Quebec, \$2.75 per M ft., lath 45 cents per M pieces; Ottawa to New York, \$2.00 per M ft., lath 25 cents per M pieces; Amprior to New York, \$2.50 per M ft., lath 35 cents per M pieces; Pembroke to New York, \$3.75 per M ft., lath 70 cents per M pieces; Parry Sound to New York, \$4.00 per M ft., lath 80 cents per M pieces; Ottawa to Buffalo, 12 cts. per 100 lbs., Ottawa to Port Huron and Detroit, 14 cents per

100 lbs.; Ottawa, Rockland and Hawkesbury to Boston and common points, local 15c.; exports 11c. per 100 lbs.; Amprior to Boston and common points, local 17 cents, export 15 cts. per 100 lbs.; Parry Sound to Boston and Portland and common points, local 21 1/2 cents, export 20 cts. per 100 lbs.; Ottawa, Rockland and Hawkesbury to Portland, N.S., 15 cts.; Amprior to Portland, 17 cts.; Ottawa to Burlington, 6c. per 100 lbs.; Ottawa to Albany, 10 cts. per 100 lbs.; Amprior to Albany, 12 cts. per 100 lbs.; Parry Sound to Albany 17 cts. per 100 lbs.; Ottawa to Scranton and Wilkesbarre, Pa., also Hinghamton, N. Y., 11 cents per 100 lbs. from Amprior 15 cents, from Parry Sound 20 cents per 100 lbs.; Ottawa to St. John, N. B., and common points, 20 cents per 100 lbs.; Ottawa to Halifax, N.S., and common points, 21 cents per 100 lbs. Minimum carload weight for shipment of lumber, lath, shingles, etc., is 30,000 lbs., and rates quoted above are in cents per 100 lbs., except when quoted per M ft.; minimum carloads 10 M ft., lumber not exceeding 3,000 lbs. per M ft., lath 50,000 pieces, not exceeding 600 lbs. per M ft.; Ottawa rates apply on shipments from Rockland and Hawkesbury.

CANADA ATLANTIC RAILWAY

Ottawa, Amprior & Parry Sound Ry.

OTTAWA & NEW YORK LUMBER LINE
OTTAWA & BOSTON LUMBER LINE
CANADA ATLANTIC FAST FREIGHT LINE
H. B. MUSSON, Contracting Agent.
M. A. OVEREND, Foreign Freight Agent, 115 Board Trade, Montreal

Shortest and Quickest Route from . . .
OTTAWA, ROCKLAND, HAWKESBURY, AMPRIOR, PEMBROKE, PARRY SOUND and other Lumber Centres, TO BOSTON, PORTLAND, NEW YORK, DETROIT, TONAWANDA, ALBANY, &c., MONTREAL, TORONTO, QUEBEC, HALIFAX, ST. JOHN, &c.
W. P. HINTON, Asst. General Freight Agent, Ottawa.
C. J. SMITH, General Traffic Manager, Ottawa, Ont.

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Red and White Oak Bills cut to order.

Correspondence Solicited from British Importers.

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Dimension Timber in White or Red Pine, Spruce, Hemlock, or Cedar. Cedar Shingles, Cedar Tiles, Posts and Poles, Pine Lath, Etc., Etc.

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Pays Cash for all shipments.

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LUMBER, LATH, TIES, POLES, SHINGLES, ETC.

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WE SHIP BY C.P.R., G.T.R. AND BY WATER

Flooring from \$12.00
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WANTED: MAPLE SQUARES—Free of knots, splits and defects, and three parts dry, of the following sizes: large quantities could be used; price to be c.f.i. Liverpool; quality guaranteed: 10 per cent. 12 1/2 x 2 1/2 square; 25 per cent. 12 1/2 x 3 1/2 square; 25 per cent. 9 1/2 x 1 1/2 square; 15 per cent. 9 1/2 x 2 1/2 square; 5 per cent. 9 x 1 1/2 square; 5 per cent. 9 x 1 1/2 square; 5 per cent. 12 x 1 1/2 square; 5 per cent. 12 x 1 1/2 square; 5 per cent. 10 1/2 x 1 1/2, or multiples of these lengths.