

TO HOLDERS OF BIRCH LIMITS.

Can you cut birch into Squares, etc. We can also take birch cut on the sweep with a jigger or small band saw. Large quantities required. Write in first instance to "Finance," care CANADA LUMBERMAN.

NEW BRUNSWICK LETTER.

(Correspondence of the CANADA LUMBERMAN, ST. JOHN, N.B., September 15, 1904.)

The lumber trade has shown no great activity in this vicinity during the last month. Shipments from this part of all kinds of lumber have been very light. This means, of course, an increase in stocks, which are not yet, however, large enough to cause their owners any inconvenience or uneasiness. The market for short lumber has shown no improvement since last writing. Shipments during August and so far during September have been very light compared with the same period last year.

Laths are quite plentiful and promise to continue so. Sales are only fairly brisk

and enquiries are fewer than they have been. It is generally felt by dealers here that a rise in price is about due, but the chances are that it will be late in the fall before any increase in demand will affect prices, owing to the stocks which must be got rid of. Provincial laths are worth at present about \$1.85 per M, and American \$2.15 per M, L.o.b. St. John. Freight to New York on laths are quoted at 65 cents per M.

Cedar shingles are moving quite briskly, although prices have shown weakness during the past two months. Stocks of high grades are only moderate, while the lower grades are practically cleaned up. It is generally felt by those interested that shingles have now reached the rock-bottom figure, and that the next change will certainly be in favor of the manufacturers. This expectation is based on the fact that shipments of shingles have been light and also that the supplies at the lumber yards throughout the Eastern States must be accordingly small. American cedar shingles are worth L.o.b. St. John Extras, from

\$2.65 to \$2.95; clears, \$2.40 to \$2.45; 2nd clears, \$1.90; No. 1, 90 cents. Freight rates on shingles to Boston are quoted at 22 1/2 cents per M.

Spruce boards are moving slowly. The demand for them is less than has been the case for several seasons past. They are plentiful at \$9.75 to \$10 for Provincial and \$11.50 to \$12 for American, all on wharf at St. John.

The outlook is now that large quantities of all kinds of lumber will be wintered at this port, and in some cases it may mean that a cessation of operations will be necessary before the winter sets in, owing to lack of wharf room. With one or two exceptions, the mills on the St. John usually close down about the middle of December, resuming again early in March, but, owing to the conditions mentioned above, the chances are that many mills in this vicinity will have ceased sawing by mid-November.

The barquentine Lovisa will load lumber at Weymouth, N.S., for Buenos Ayres or Rosario at \$9.

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