

is placed, aggravated as it is by the small class of vessels, apparently diminishing week by week in capacity, which you are sending out to Portland.

I repeat what I have previously said, that I desire, if it is possible to do so, to complete arrangements with your Company, which should be entirely and mutually satisfactory, and desire again to make the offer which I made to your Mr. Allen, to enter into arrangements at once to provide for two steamers a week, (at least 300 cars a week) at Portland, during the season of Winter navigation, and to become responsible, under a proper agreement, for any deficiencies of cargo,—you, on the other hand, being responsible for any deficiency of vessels at Portland.

As I have said more than once of late, we shall be ready next winter to probably double our capacity of taking freight to Portland, beyond what we have shown we are able to do this winter.

I regret, also, the position in which the matter has been placed, because it prevents the shippers in Canada from getting forward property which they desire to send. I am doing my utmost to relieve them from the embarrassment, and have now no doubt of being able to get vessels which will enable us to forward from Boston or Portland, freight from Canada on through bills of lading.

I should have preferred very much to have confined our arrangements for this business with your Company, but as you decline to provide the facilities which are necessary, I am bound in the interest of my own Company to get those facilities wherever I can. I have already made a contract to transport a large quantity of grain from Western Canada through Boston.

As I have said at the beginning of this letter, I shall avoid, as far as possible, anything in the way of expression which may be calculated to form an embarrassment in our future relations; and I can only say that so far as I am personally concerned, nothing would give me greater pleasure than to be able to conclude with your Company such an arrangement as I have indicated, and thus put an end to the difficulties which now exist.

Yours truly,

(Signed)

C. J. BRYDGES.

Messrs. H. & A. ALLAN.