

Fur Trade Notes.

The London correspondent of the *New York Fur Trade Review*, writing on Dec. 11, says:—"Since the date of our last letter business has undergone a thorough change. The weather since the middle of November has been decidedly against us, with the result that several of the large houses have canceled most of their orders, so that our furers are very much disappointed with the close of the season; indeed, throughout it has been very disappointing, for after the very severe weather of last winter the trade expected big things, but, in point of fact, the volume of business has been less this year than last. Another item that has also operated against our furers is the almost entire absence of orders from the colonies. The cloak trade is the busiest of any of the departments, but this has also fallen off very considerably the last two or three weeks. Persian lamb has been in moderate request for the West End, but only the best grades have been selling. Squirrel tail boss are selling better now in the "fad" of feather boss is dying out, and is the better qualities of the former that sell the best. Whitecoats. A few more Greenland skins have been offered for sale this week and sold at 5 1 for the large and 4 3 for the small, so that these goods are gradually coming down to their old figures, say 4-6 for large and 3-6 for small. The above quotations cannot be very pleasing to holders of stock bought last year when skins fetched from 15s to 18s in the salt, and it is a fact a lot of these skins yet remain unsold, for although skins are so much cheaper this year the demand is very small. Thibet coats and crosses On the 3rd inst. there were offered for sale 700 crosses and 317 coats. Crosses fetched from 65s to 75s, and coats brought 125s to 135s. These were very nice goods and were mostly bought for the French market. These are now being dyed in various colors, but principally black, and are being largely used for mantle trimmings. There has been a moderate sale for them here, but the bulk have been sold for Paris. Skunk and skunk-dyed opossum are still fashionable, and we predict a good season for them in 1892. Grey fox and Australian opossum will also do well here next year. Lynx, the best grades, will be wanted, and will fetch good prices at the coming sales. As most rough goods will be in better demand next year we should not be surprised if raccoon should sell better. Marten we have a good opinion of and expect to see it advance at the next sales."

Writing on Dec. 12, the Leipzig (Germany) correspondent of the *Fur Trade Review* says: "The weather of late has been quite warm, and reports from England and France state that the temperatures has not been fur-like in those countries. The weather in Russia has been more favorable, but transactions in fine furs have been limited in consequence of poor harvests and actual starvation in many districts. In the Scandinavian countries sales of furs have been moderate on account of unseasonable weather. In Italy and the Balkan countries business has been somewhat better. Business in Asia Minor is prostrated by the cholera. American furs sell only slowly here, owing largely to decreased demand from Russia. Musquash is in very little request; the importation of about 500,000 skins by the Hudson's Bay Company has made a bad impression. Many of these skins will be suitable for linings, and, as such articles have sold slowly here and in Russia, such a large supply must depress prices, probably twenty-five per cent. Skins for dyeing seal color are also in a more moderate demand, as seal-colored articles are not in very good request. Raccoon is dull; no lining skins are used. Good skunk sells for larger towns. American opossum remains in demand at October sale prices. Lynx backs have been taken for America, England, and Berlin wholesale trade. Sea Otter has sold somewhat better; red fox is quiet. Turkey does not buy, and views for this article are not favorable in Russia. Mink would be in good request if prices were not so high. Prime mink

tails sell fairly well, and steadily advance in value. There has been some demand for good colored marten; stocks are not large. Raw squirrels have been quietly purchased by parties who evidently wanted the skins for America. Crossed skins sell slowly; bellies preferred; backlinings abundant. Parcels of white hares have been purchased by French dealers. Our firms do not favor the article, as there are good supplies of black skins which are not generally wanted. Some parcels of moufflons have been sold for England; natural skins are cheap; white skins dear; blue and fancy colored in active request. There has been a lively trade in Thibet lamb boss, coats, crosses and skins. Novelties in colored Thibet have not met with favor. Leipzig firms have lately purchased parcels of raw Persian lambs, including old lots which were of superior quality; in dyed skins only best grades sell now. Prices are easier on Astrakhan, gray krimmer, and black Ultranian lambs. Some Russian bear skins have been purchased for England. Dark fine sable tails are readily taken for France. Black foxes sell well. Trade in European furs is quiet. Black cats, dressed, sell freely; mottled cats are neglected. Stone-marten does not sell, owing chiefly to the new high rate of duty in Russia. Fitch may improve. European foxes are regularly required in Russia, but will not be taken if the spring prices are not moderate."

The Failure Record.

Bradstreet's annual statement shows the following failures in Canada and Newfoundland for 1891, with assets and liabilities. The final cyphers are omitted from assets and liabilities in the figures below, thus 2,143 would read, \$2 143,000.

No. Failures.	Actual Assets.	Liabilities.
Ontario.	843	2,143
Quebec.	680	2,751
New Brunswick.	93	342
Nova Scotia.	122	310
Prince Edward Isl'd	10	73
Newfoundland.	7	50
Manitoba.	51	225
Northwest Territory	17	85
British Columbia. .	23	35
Totals.	1,846	6,014

The record for 1890, for comparison with above, is as follows:—

No. Failures.	Assets.	Liabilities.
Ontario.	837	2,479
Quebec.	491	2,585
New Brunswick.	66	736
Nova Scotia.	114	353
Prince Edward Isl'd	7	23
Newfoundland.	6	96
Manitoba.	53	303
Northwest Territory	17	85
British Columbia. .	35	101
Totals.	1,626	6,741

Failures in the United States were 16 per cent. greater in number, for 1891, as compared with the previous year.

SPECIAL TRADE NOTICE.

When King James the First wrote his "counterblast to tobacco" the royal pendant knew nothing of the "Myrtle Navy." If he had, instead of wasting his brains over his erroneous production, he would have filled his royal pipe with it, and would have taken a royal smoke, he would then have been prepared to admit that with regard to the injurious effect of tobacco, it all depends on what tobacco you smoked.



EXCURSIONS

TO
Ontario & Quebec
\$40.00

And to All Points East of Montreal in
QUEBEC,

NEW BRUNSWICK,
NOVA SCOTIA,

At corresponding Low Rates.

TICKETS

To all parts in the East on
Sale daily from

DECEMBER 1st to 30th
(Inclusive)

GOOD FOR
THREE MONTHS.

With Privilege of Extension for any
time required on payment of a
small additional amount.

STOP-OVERS AT ANY POINT.

Passengers taken through with comfort, and reach destination quicker than by any other route.

Direct trains, no change of cars, no examination of baggage by custom house officers.

Palace Sleeping Cars, Dining Cars, Luxurious First-class Coaches, and Free Colonist Sleepers on all trains.

Tourist Sleeping Cars to Montreal and Toronto weekly.

For rates and full information, apply to W. M. McLeod, City Passenger Agent, 471 Main street or to J. S. Carter, Ticket Agent, C. P. R. Depot.

ROBT. KERR,
Gen. Pass. Agt.,
WINNIPEG.