

30cs. November cuts, \$4.50 to \$4.75; new Messina, extra fancy, 300s. \$4 to \$4.25. Poorer stock is selling down as low as \$3.50 per box. As a rule, however, the stock is of good quality, most of the wasty stuff having been exhausted. Small fruits are not in large supply, prices fluctuating each day. Bananas are scarce and wanted. Pines are not to be had. A carload of California fruit will be here Saturday.

**GROCERIES.**—The wholesale houses are busy and a large movement of staple lines is taking place. The cut of  $\frac{1}{8}$ c. per lb. in the price of sugar has stimulated buying and large quantities are going into consumption. The recent frosts in some parts of the country have injured the coming industries, how seriously cannot yet be determined. Tomatoes, it is said, will be dearer as a result of this cold snap. Teas find fair movement. A merchant on the street received advice this week, from what he considers a good source in Japan, that the market there had been established on a basis of  $\frac{1}{2}$ c. per lb. higher than the previous quotations. Collections are fairly satisfactory.

**GRAIN.**—Although the week has not been devoid of events, the situation is now about as described a week ago. Values are unchanged. World's wheat shipments last week were 4,194,000, or a sharp reduction again, against 7,452,000 last week, and 4,755,000 last year. Corn shipments 3,539,000, against 3,737,000 the week before and 3,534,000 last year. Wheat on passage decreased 3,200,000 bushels, against 640,000 bushels last year. Corn decreased 1,360,000 bushels, against 1,520,000 increase a year ago. Crop prospects for 1898 will soon be a thing of the past. Wheat harvest is being commenced. All that is wanted to make a banner yield is fine gathering weather. The recent frost caused, it is said, some injury to peas, while rain in Kent county is reported to have injured corn, but outside of these two disturbing features nothing has happened to mar the development of the cereals. Values in this step between the old and the new seasons are naturally unsettled. Our quotations remain nominally unchanged.

**HIDES AND SKINS.**—The hide market is a shade weaker than at our last report. This loss of strength has not shown itself in a reduction in green hides. For cows 9c. and for steers  $9\frac{1}{2}$ c. is still paid. No. 1 Toronto inspected. Sales of cured cow hides were made at  $9\frac{1}{2}$ c. this week which, it will readily be seen, allows no margin to the dealer. From Chicago, July 13th.—Business was slow in the market for city slaughter hides. Tanners continued to hold back, but as there were no supplies pressing for sale, values held to a steady basis, closing at 12 to  $12\frac{1}{4}$ c. for native steers,  $11\frac{1}{4}$  to  $11\frac{1}{2}$ c. for Texas,  $10\frac{1}{4}$  to  $10\frac{1}{2}$ c. for butt brands,  $9\frac{3}{4}$  to 10c. for Colorados,  $10\frac{1}{4}$ c. for branded cows, 11 to  $11\frac{1}{8}$ c. for heavy native cows and  $11\frac{1}{8}$  to  $11\frac{1}{4}$  for light do. There is nothing new in skins. Shearlings are quoted at 40c. and lambskins at the same price.

**LEATHER.**—Trade is quiet. Dealers and tanners report that all the business usually expected at this season of the year is being done. Values remain about as last quoted. Collections are fairly good.

**PROVISIONS.**—There continues to be a fair movement in all lines of provisions. The season's average turn-over is being made, and merchants appear to be well satisfied with trade conditions. Values are not changed. Dealers quote long clear bacon at  $8\frac{1}{2}$ c., breakfast, smoked, at 11c., hams at  $10\frac{1}{2}$ c., and rolls at 8 to  $8\frac{1}{2}$ c. per lb. In lard there is no change.

**WOOL.**—Buyers and sellers are apart in their views, and transactions in this market are limited. The market, compared with this time a year ago, presents a holiday appearance. In the country, however, both west and east, we are told

competition is keen and 16c. and over is willingly paid. It may be that the producing centres are in a position to force the hand of consumers. Already the activity in the country has caused manufacturers and wholesale merchants to closely scrutinize developments. In the United States speculation, except in wool-growing sections, has not yet begun. Buyers of both goods and wool are purchasing strictly within their immediate requirements, and while manufacturers are waiting for orders from buyers of goods, the latter in turn are waiting for the expected improvement in the demand for clothing. The London auctions continue at about the opening rates, which are about the same now as the average of 1892 on all fine and fine medium grades, while coarse wools (viz.: Common and quarter blood), are somewhat below 1892 prices. Next week's offerings amount to 73,000 bales. The arrivals for the fifth series total 78,569 bales, including 1,000 forwarded direct. The imports last week were: New South Wales, 660 bales; Melbourne, 254; South Australia, 169; New Zealand, 6,678; Cape of Good Hope and Natal, 3,574; Havre, 1,298; elsewhere, 596.

### MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, 13th July, 1898.

**ASHES.**—No improvement is reported in either demand or receipts, and the market is distinctly a quiet lagging one. For the small lots of first pots, offering from \$3.65 to \$3.80, has been paid according to quality and tare, seconds quote at \$3.35 to \$3.40, and pearls \$4.75 to \$4.90 per cental.

**BOOTS AND SHOES.**—Business in this line is hardly as brisk as would naturally be expected considering the reported improvement in general business. City manufacturers of footwear, who cater direct to the retail trade, are, as a rule, well employed on fall orders, but houses both here and in Quebec, who manufacture for jobbers, report dull business, as their usual customers are very backward in the placing of their orders, evidently calculating upon getting lower prices. But lower prices are hardly likely in view of the cost of leather, and in the meantime the season is getting well on. Quebec shoe manufacturers say they seldom knew trade so dull at the season, and some factories there are only running two or three days a week.

**CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.**—Receipts of cements have been heavy since last report, and include 21,279 brls. of Belgian and German cement, and 900 brls. of English. Business at the moment is not over brisk. Quotations continue at \$2.20 to \$2.30 for British, and \$1.80 to \$1.90 for Belgian. Receipts of firebricks for the week were only 9,650; prices range from \$16 to \$21 as to quality.

### MONTREAL STOCKS IN STORE.

	July 4.	July 11.
	Bushels.	Bushels.
Wheat . . . . .	114,558	9,500
Corn . . . . .	204,669	124,157
Oats . . . . .	1,118,242	1,104,968
Rye . . . . .	13,171	13,376
Peas . . . . .	297,474	268,829
Barley . . . . .	30,342	16,817
Total grain . . . . .	1,78,447	1,537,647
Oatmeal . . . . .	285	373
Flour . . . . .	15,760	23,481
Buckwheat . . . . .	49,201	38,524

**DAIRY PRODUCTS.**—The cheese market shows no recovery as yet on spot. The cable yesterday was sixpence stronger, but requires several similar advances to reach the position of two or three weeks ago. Receipts of French country cheese this week have realized  $6\frac{1}{2}$  to 7c. per lb., and quotations for Western would be about  $7\frac{1}{2}$  to  $7\frac{3}{4}$ c. Last week's exports were liberal, some 80,270 boxes, but they

were 18,000 boxes short of the same week of last year, and there is a total shortage this season of 131,000 boxes. In butter there is also an easier feeling. Receipts have been large, and though shipments have been considerably ahead of last year, stocks put into cold storage are reported to reach to quite material figures. From 16 to  $16\frac{1}{2}$ c. seems about the present limit for fine creamery.

**GROCERIES.**—A mutual understanding has been arrived at between the refiners with regard to the terms on which sugars are to be sold in the future, with the view of preventing the selling of goods to the retail trade at refinery price, as has been done by some jobbers. Instead of the discount heretofore allowed, purchasers of 80 brls. and up to 250 brls. will be allowed a rebate of 3c. per 100 lbs., and for 250 brls. and upwards, a rebate of 6c. per hundred pounds. A discount of one per cent. for cash within 10 days will also be allowed. The card of quotations remains at  $4\frac{3}{8}$ c. for standard granulated, Dutch ditto,  $4\frac{1}{4}$ c., and Austrian ditto,  $4\frac{1}{8}$ c.; yellows range from  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to  $3\frac{3}{8}$ c. There have been large recent importations of raw beet sugars for the local refineries, prices of which are lower than for cane sugars, a late Hamburg steamer also brought some 5,000 bags of German refined. The tea market rules very firm and higher, and buyers are quite shy at the moment; one large house, that has a number of orders booked for 17 cent Japan teas, finds it impossible to get the goods under 20 cents. Coffees rule rather quiet, the only recent business reported being a few moderate sales of Maracaibo at 11 to 16c., and Santos at  $8\frac{1}{2}$  to 12c. per lb. Molasses is dull, but jobbing prices are very firm at 30c. per gal. for car lots, and 31c. for single puncheons, with the usual advance for brls. and half-brls. It is said the new pack of tomatoes have been offered as low as 65c., but this was not a standard brand, and some of the best packers still decline to make a price. Old corn was sold to-day in a wholesale way at 70c., and old tomatoes at \$1.

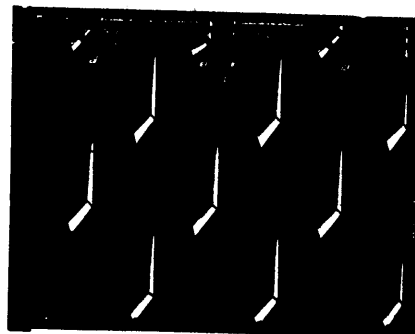
**HIDES.**—In this line the situation is entirely unchanged from a week ago. The market for hides is steady at the decline of a cent and a half then noted, dealers buying No. 1 at  $9\frac{1}{2}$ c. per lb. Calfskins are quoted at 10c. per lb. for No. 1, and 8c. for No. 2; lambskins, 25 to 30c. each.

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