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MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, Jan. 8th, 1890.

ASHES.—Very little business doing, and no gain in values can be reported. A few offers from the other side of the Atlantic are so low as not to be considered, even in face of the present very weak quotations. We quote first quality pots \$3.35 to 3.40, seconds \$3.00 to 3.05, pearls \$4.85 to 4.90.**BOOTS, SHOES, AND LEATHER.**—There are a few sales of leather reported, but there is not as yet any general looking around for stock on the part of shoe manufacturers, some of whom report that they are short-handed, owing to the prevalence of "La Grippe," which is probably made to father ill not altogether legitimate. The shoe trade seem to be satisfied with orders coming in. Leather stocks are full but not unduly so. English market steady but not advanced. We quote:—Spanish sole, B.A., No. 1, 19 to 22c.; do., No. 2, B.A., 16 to 19c.; No. 1, ordinary Spanish, 19 to 20c.; No. 2 ditto, 16 to 17c.; No. 1, China, 18 to 19c.; No. 1 slaughter, 22 to 23c.; No. 2 do. 20 to 21c.; American oak sole, 39 to 43c.; British oak sole, 40 to 45c.; waxed upper, light and medium, 30 to 34c.; ditto, heavy, 24 to 30c.; grained, 28 to 32c.; Scotch grained, 30 to 33c.; splits, large, 16 to 22c.; do. small, 12 to 18c.; calf-splits, 32 to 33c.; calfskins (35 to 46 lbs.), 35 to 55c.; imitation French calfskins, 65 to 75c.; russet sheepskin linings, 30 to 40c.; harness, 20 to 25c.; buffed cow, 11 to 13c.; pebbled cow, 10½ to 14c. rough, 16 to 21c.; russet and bridle, 45 to 55c.**DRY GOODS.**—Travellers are all "on the wing" again with spring samples, and some fair sales are already reported, but results cannot be judged as yet. From city retailers quite a few good orders have been already booked. New goods are coming forward very rapidly, much more so than in former years, and some houses have a large proportion of their spring goods already forward. The 4th of the month was not a very heavy day in the trade, and from what we can glean the proportion of paper met must have been something under fifty per cent. With the beginning of the week there was some noticeable improvement in remittances, two or three houses reporting fair receipts, others have not been favored to the same extent, but still say that money is a little better. It is to be hoped the improvement may continue. All letters from European manufacturers show great firmness in the markets there. From Vienna advices have just been received that the Turners' Guild have advanced pearl buttons 10 to 20%; from Leipzig, an advance is announced in piano covers and embroidered table clothes of from 5 to 15 per cent.**DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.**—While trade during the holidays has been of course quiet, it has not become so deadened as usual at the season, and there has been a moderate sprinkling of orders all along. At present there is a great run for antipyrine to combat the "Grippe." All heavy chemicals are tending to increased firmness owing to the general advance in iron, coal, and timber. Quinine a little firmer; in opium, the New York market shows some disposition to respond to the advance in Smyrna and London. There is some expectation of a combination among glycerine producers, when an advance is certain, at the moment crude is proportionately dearer than refined. We quote:—Sal soda, \$1 to 1.15; bi-carb soda, \$1.90 to 2.00; soda ash, per 100 lbs., \$1.70; bichromate of potash, per 100 lbs., \$11.00 to 13.00; borax, refined, 9 to 10c.; cream tartar crystals, 30 to 31c.; do. ground, 31 to 35c.; tartaric acid, crystal, 48 to 50c.; do. powder, 50 to 53c.; citric acid, 60 to 65c.; caustic soda, white, \$2.35 to 2.50; sugar of lead, 10 to 12c.; bleaching powder, \$2.75 to 3.00; alum, \$1.50 to 1.60; copperas, per 100 lbs., 90c. to \$1.00; flowers sulphur, per 100 lbs., \$2.25 to 2.40; roll sulphur, \$2.10 to 2.25; sulphate of copper, \$6.00 to 6.50; epsom salts, \$1.75 to 1.90; saltpetre, \$8.25 to 8.75; American quinine, 45 to 50c.; German quinine, 45 to 50c.; Howard's quinine, 60 to 65c.; opium, \$4.25 to 4.75; morphia, \$1.90 to 2.10; gum arabic, sorts, 80 to 90c.; white, \$1.00 to 1.25; carbolic acid, 55 to 65c.; iodide potassium, \$4.00 to 4.25 per lb.; iodine, re-sublimed, \$5.00 to 5.25; commercial do., \$4.25 to 4.75;