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—A letter posted at Charlottetown, P.E.I., on 13th August, 1875, for St. John, N.B., has just been returned to the place of mailing through the dead letter office. The date of mailing, 13th August, 1875, is followed by the date of delivery, 15th May, 1888.

—The assignment of William T. Coleman & Co. has not caused, the New York Times learns, a dissolution of the Borax Trust. Coleman's firm controlled two companies, and their mills are not in operation. The remaining mills, however, are at work, and their product will be increased to make up the deficiency. One effect of the assignment is that prices have advanced an additional quarter of a cent. The Boston Commercial Bulletin says, "By the arrangements now perfected all the borax in this market controlled by the syndicate will be held at corresponding values, thus placing the entire market in the strongest possible position. This is under the price that would admit foreign borax, which cannot be placed here at less than nine cents a pound."

WOMEN IN BUSINESS.

WHAT A WOMAN SAYS OF THEM.

Women who go into business, from either choice or necessity, should acquire business habits, adopt business methods, and possess themselves of all knowledge of details and general information. There should be no sentiment about it; they should expect no immunity from disagreeables on the score of being "ladies;" their prospect of marriage should have no more effect on their work than it has on that of men. Their dress should suit the requirements of the occupation. In no dress does a girl look neater, prettier, or more graceful than that adopted for gymnastics or lawn tennis, both of which give fullest play for all movements. How much better would many working girls look and feel and work in such dresses than in the gaudy, tawdry finery so many of them wear. These should have their business suits just as men do. Women should also realize that in obtaining employment weak backs and pale faces and general debility are at a discount. They should expect no favors on the score of sex; they should call for no privileges; they should call for no foolish notions as to chivalry and deference, and all that. Business is business, and this is not an age of chivalry, but an age of political economy and the survival of the fittest.—Bessie Bramble, in Pittsburg Dispatch.

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, June 6th, 1888.

ASHES.—Since last writing the market has taken quite an upward jump, partly due to a more active export movement, and first quality pots are now quoted at \$4.30 to \$4.40, while for seconds \$3.90—the price at which firsts were selling a week ago—is being paid. What few pearls are coming in all go to one dealer at prices which have not transpired, but \$7.25 would be paid for them by other operators. Receipts were light during May, and 170 brls. behind May 1887, but they have been more liberal last few days.

BOOTS, SHOES, AND LEATHER.—Travellers in the boot and shoe trade who did fairly well in the eastern provinces, and who are now in the west, report business with them as poor, dealers being apparently averse to order any quantity of fall goods until the prospects of the crops are better assured. In leather, business in very dull; prices are not notably weaker, but fair buyers could obtain concessions; stocks are full in most lines, though there are hardly so many cheap splits offering. The English market remains quiet and weak. We quote:—Spanish sole, B. A., No. 1, 24 to 25c.; do. No. 2, B. A., 19 to 20c.; No. 1 ordinary Spanish, 21 to 23c.; No. 2 do., 18 to 19c.; No. 1 China, 20 to 21c.; No. 2, 17 to 18c.; hemlock slaughter, No. 1, 23 to 26c.; oak sole, 40 to 45c.; waxed upper, light and medium, 30 to 35c.; ditto, heavy, 28 to 33c.; grained, 32 to 36c.; Scotch grained, 33 to 37c.; splits, large, 16 to 24c.; do., small, 12 to 18c.; calf-splits, 32 to 33c.; calfskins (35 to 46 lbs.), 55 to 65c.; imitation French calfskins, 70 to 80c.; russet sheepskin linings, 30 to 40c.; harness, 24 to 33c.; buffed cow, 12 to 14c.; pebbled cow, 10 to 14½c.; rough, 22 to 25c.; russet and bridle, 54 to 55c.

CEMENTS, FIRECLAY, &c.—There is a very fair business doing in cements at the moment, with prices of Portland ranging from \$2.25 to 2.60 as to brand for round lots, in smaller quantities \$2.50 to 2.75; firebricks, \$18 to 20 in fair lots ex-ship; fireclay, \$1.50 per bag.

DRY GOODS.—Wholesale trade is assuming a quiet phase; some travellers are already back from the sorting trip, and the majority will be home in course of a week or so. They nearly all report that it has been more than usually hard to pick up orders, and some are forty per cent. behind their sales of last year. In spite of this, wholesale stocks do not seem disproportionately large for the season, and this is partly accounted for by the fact that importations have been judiciously restricted. City trade has also been unusually good, and rather more than the usual number of country buyers from adjacent districts now make it their habit to run in to make their sorting selections. Money is not coming in very well as a whole, though fairly well from some sections, but much activity in this respect is not looked for about the beginning of the month.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—Trade in these lines shows signs of slackening with the advancing season. There are no notable changes in prices with the exception of glycerine which is easier; opium and quinine remain very flat, and are exciting little interest. We quote:—Sal soda, 85c. to \$1.00; bi-carb soda, \$1.80 to 2.00; soda ash, per 100 lbs., \$1.70; bichromate of potash, per 100 lbs., \$11.00 to 13.00; borax, refined, 10 to 11c.; cream tar crystals, 34 to 36c.; do. ground, 36 to 38c.; tartaric acid, crystal, 54 to 55c.; do. powder, 55 to 60c.; citric acid, 65 to 70c.; caustic soda, white, \$2.40 to 2.60; sugar of lead, 10 to 11c.; bleaching powder, \$2.50 to 2.60; alum, \$1.65 to 1.70; copperas, per 100 lbs., 90c. to \$1.00; flowers sulphur, per 100 lbs., \$2.10 to 2.40; roll sulphur, \$2.00 to 2.25; sulphate of copper, \$6.00 to 6.50; epsom salts, \$1.25 to 1.40; saltpetre \$8.25 to 8.75; American quinine, 55 to 60c.; German quinine, 55 to 60c.; Howard's quinine, 60 to 70c.; opium, \$4.50 to 5.00; morphia, \$2.25 to 2.50; 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, \$5.25 to 5.75; iodoform, \$5.75 to 6.25. Prices for essential oils are:—oil lemon, \$2.00 to 2.50; oil bergamot, \$3.00 to 3.50; orange, \$2.75 to 3.00; oil peppermint, \$3.50 to 4.50; glycerine, 25 to 35c.; senna, 15 to 25c. for ordinary. English camphor, 40 to