

quality of their butter and eggs. Better refuse an order for these articles than to send poor stuff, which will return to plague the sender. "Don't send them."—*St. Louis Grocer.*

THE CONFESSION OF AN IDIOT.

I bought some stock, one luckless day,
Which I'd been told was "sure to pay";
"The capital was all paid in";
The company would soon begin—
Not in the way that others do,
With lack of funds and credit, too;
It would make "money very fast,"
And "dividends be sure to last."
The managers were all great men—
Before their names wrote Col. or Gen.,
Or Maj., or, at the least, wrote Hon.;
A basis good to build upon
Such names to me did surely seem
When I went into that grand scheme.

I was "let in" at "bottom price,"
And thought I'd "picked up something nice";
The stock most surely would advance
Without the fear of a mischance.
I held the stock—I hold it still,
Knowing it is not worth a mill.
The managers had "placed the shares"—
This was the greatest of their cares.
The "cash paid in" then disappeared,
And all too close the lambs were sheared.
The "bottom price," on which I'd built,
Dropped out, and all my milk was spilt.
The profits large were all a dream,
Except to those who worked the scheme;
But my investment, in a sense,
Has one great merit—permanence.
—*Buffalo Commercial Advertiser.*

THE SEA HARVEST.—The number of seals brought in this year to St. John was very large, some 140,000, of which six Dundee steamers took alone over 63,112, so that not quite one-half of the whole catch was taken by steamers. The use of steam for the seal fisheries points to the fact that, sooner or later, steam vessels will prosecute the catching of fish. It is useless to endeavor to prevent the progress of enterprises of this character. If it can be found that cod or mackerel, or any other kind of fish, can be caught more readily by vessels propelled by steam power as have been the moss-bunkers, such steam fishing smacks will be used. It is not alone the facility with which shoals of fish are reared by means of steamers, which is an advantage, but, as it is an important item to market the fish promptly, the time gained by steamers is very much in their favor. It does not seem likely that with present methods of catching sea fish, even with steam vessels, the quantity of fish would be diminished. What sea fish man takes is infinitesimal when compared with the natural destruction by other fish and birds. At present, off the Newfoundland coast, what is called the caplin school of cod has made its appearance. The caplin is the favorite food of the cod, and is devoured by the million. As the cod is gorged at times with this food he refuses to be caught by fishermen using the hook, and fish are accordingly netted. Now, the hook-and-line men, catching few, if any, fish, are inclined to lay the blame on the netters, who, they declare, are driving away the fish. There is always a compensation about this kind of thing when the aggregate number of fish are determined, but to the individual it makes a great difference. The netter earns his living, while the hook-and-line man starves.

Regular fykes, as in the United States, are now being used on the Newfoundland coast for cod. For 1881 the entire cod fisheries of Newfoundland were estimated to be worth \$6,406,635. The Norwegian fisheries having been poor last year, the value of the North American fish were enhanced.

If argum't won't bring a man over to your side ob de qeshun, knockin' him down won't do any good. De man who can run up a bill at the butcher's an' dodge him for six months am not necessarily a statesman. De man who takes up de moas' sidewalk am not allus de pusson ob de moas' consequence. A 15-cent drunkard wants mo' room in dis world dan a Judge ob de Supreme Court.—*Bro. Gardner.*

Financial and Commercial.

MONTREAL WHOLESALE MARKETS.

THURSDAY, 28th Sept., 1882.

Business is fairly active in all leading departments, the distribution of goods for the week being generally satisfactory. In dry goods there is the usual lull after Exhibition week, but in groceries, hardware and metals, dairy produce, etc., there has been an increased movement, and at advanced prices in some instances. The leading features of the week have been the advance in prices for iron, consequent upon higher freights and the impending strike in England, and the upward movement in values for refined sugars, indirectly caused by the loss by fire of an extensive refinery in Philadelphia. The money market in New York has been somewhat excited during the week, the rate for call on stock loans rising on Monday to 8 and 9 per cent., or 1/4th per day, but the stringency is said to have been mostly artificial. The action of Secretary Folger, ordering the payment of called bonds without rebate of interest at the rate of five millions per week, beginning on Wednesday last, has considerably eased the market, but the sale of mercantile paper was practically stopped by the operation of the call loans. The rate dropped to 4 and 5 per cent. on call on Wednesday. The effect upon the local money market by the Dominion Government's redemption of the six millions of 5 per cent. stock on the 30th inst., has not yet been defined. As much of it is held by insurance companies and like corporations, in accordance with the law enforcing such investments as reserves in Canada, it is probable that there will be some effect upon the price of extra choice securities suitable for re-investment, and it is not improbable that the market may feel the effect of so much money seeking an outlet. Sterling Exchange is firmly held at 108½ between banks, 109 over the counter, 109½ for demand. Drafts on New York scarce and firm, at 4 prem. The tone of the stock market has improved during the last couple of days, and a fair business has been done at stronger quotations. No afternoon Board meeting to-day.

Sales to-day: Morning Board—60 Montreal at 210½; 41 do at 210½; 75 Toronto at 190½; 75 do at 190½; 25 Merchants at 129½; 85 Commerce at 142½; 25 Richelieu at 72; 100 do at 72½; 50 City Passenger at 153½; 25 City Gas at 193; 275 do at 193½; 10 do at 193½; 25 St. Paul at

160½; 25 do at 160; 50 City Gas x. d. at 187; 100 do at 187½; 150 do at 187; 175 do at 186½.

ASHES.—Receipts are again growing light. Large sales of Pots were made the past week at \$5.50 to \$5.70, but are worth at the close \$5.80 for first sort. Seconds \$5.25, Thirds \$4.65. There are very few left in first hands. **PEARLS** purely nominal, stock nearly exhausted. Receipts since 1st January, 6035 brls Pots, 391 brls Pearls. Deliveries, 6331 brls Pots, 684 brls Pearls. Stock in store at six o'clock on Wednesday evening, 443 brls Pots, 13 brls Pearls.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—Trade continues active. Sorting up purchases by visitors to the Provincial Exhibition, together with back-orders yet unfilled, keep the manufacturers busy; and little new business is expected until the travellers start out on their sorting-up trip, about a fortnight hence. Payments fair, and improving as the season advances.

CATTLE, ETC.—The offerings at the local markets last Monday comprised about 2,200 head of cattle, the largest number ever seen at this season of the year. Sales of shipping cattle were made at from 5½c to 5¾c per lb., live weight, the quality being only medium; choicer grades would bring higher prices. **SHEEP** for export were quoted at from 5½c to 5¾c per lb., live weight, and **HOGS** ranged from \$7.75 to \$8 per 100 lbs. The supply of butchers' cattle, although unusually large, sold at former figures. Fair to medium sold at from 5c to 5½c, and coarser grades at from 3½c to 4c. About 600 sheep and lambs were on the market, the former selling at from \$4.50 to \$8.50 each, and the latter from \$2 to \$4, as to size. A few extra choice sheep brought \$12 each. Shipments of live stock from Canada to Great Britain for week ending September 20th, 1882, as reported by C. H. Chandler, insurance and shipping agent, are as follows:—SS. "Carmona" to London, 559 cattle; SS. "Lake Manitoba" to Liverpool, 273 cattle, 1,414 sheep; SS. "Quebec" to Liverpool, 270 cattle, 150 sheep. From Boston—SS. "Kansas" to Liverpool, 336 cattle; SS. "Missouri" to Liverpool, 187 cattle; SS. "Scandinavian" to Glasgow, 222 cattle. New York—SS. "Virginia" to Liverpool, 100 cattle; SS. "Grecian Monarch" to London, 200 cattle. Total this week, 2,147 cattle, 1,564 sheep. Total last week, 1,371 cattle, 240 sheep. Total to date, 36,151 cattle, 64,470 sheep. Total same date last year, 37,512 cattle, 53,332 sheep.

DRY GOODS.—Business at wholesale continues fair, but, as usual after the exhibition, the trade are not nearly so busy as during the week previous. Still a fair number of buyers from the Ottawa district, Eastern Ontario points and from the Townships have been in the market purchasing sorting-up parcels, while the few travellers yet out are always forwarding a little new business. Stocks are still well assorted and quite heavy enough, but indications favor a continued good fall and winter trade; the aggregate of sales for September in some houses show a gratifying increase as compared with September of last year. The city retailers are nearly all busy this week, the weather having been favorable to their interests. The leading houses are much inconvenienced by the protracted delay on the part of the Canadian mills in filling orders for shirts and drawers, and other lines of woolen goods wanted to supply customers; some complain of not having received a single dozen yet of lines purchased nine months ago. Payments continue tolerably good, and in some quarters improving.