

altogether satisfied with the course of business.

WOOL.—Small quantities of fleece wool are coming forward, but the trade movement is slow by reason of the early season and low prices. For unwashed, $8\frac{1}{2}$ c. per lb. is paid, and for washed, 14c. per lb. From London, April 22nd, we are advised as follows: "There was a strong enquiry for wool in the trade during the week, and 3,000 bales were sold. Merinos sold at 10 to 15 per cent. above the last sale. Lower grades, while firm in tone, were not in much request. The arrivals were not in much request. The arrivals for the series, which will open on June 27th, number 101,805 bales, including 38,000 forwarded direct. The imports for the week were as follows: New South Wales, 12,921; Queensland, 299; Melbourne, 11,193; South Australia, 686; New Zealand, 18,380; Cape of Good Hope and Natal, 3,800, and elsewhere, 246."

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, April 26th, 1899.

ASHES.—The usual English orders for shipment by first outgoing steamships have not as yet materialized, and the market is an easy one. Very few recent transactions are reported, and values are more or less nominal at about \$4.15 to \$4.20 for first pots; seconds, \$3.80 to \$3.90, and pearls, \$4.75. There are in store about 110 barrels of pots, and a few pearls.

CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.—Though the weather is now warm and dry, and so favorable to outside operations, business in cements is comparatively moderate. There are a good many enquiries reported, but the high prices doubtless deter people from ordering, in the expectation that lower prices may rule when navigation is fairly open, but as explained last week, this is hardly likely. It is said few import orders have been placed yet, and that arrivals by first vessels will be small. Prices are firm, as quoted last week.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.—The Liverpool cable declined sixpence this morning in both white and colored cheese, but local holders have not relaxed their firm ideas. New fodder cheese continues to sell at 10c. Shipments last week were 3,553 boxes, against none for same period of last year; the total exports since close of navigation are 519,729 boxes, against 441,866 boxes last season. Butter is weaker, and fine creamery does not bring beyond 17c.; Townships dairy, 14 to 15c.; rolls more slowly at 12c. per pound; export business has kept up very fairly, last week's shipments being 2,619 packages.

MONTREAL STOCKS IN STORE.

	Bushels.	Bushels.
	Apr. 17.	Apr. 24.
Wheat	27,557	25,998
Corn	17,601	16,957
Oats	544,397	539,680
Rye	2,509	1,279
Peas	46,814	33,173
Barley	7,229	8,170
• Total grain	646,107	625,257
Oatmeal	382	342
Flour	20,719	22,283
Buckwheat	4,404	54,682

DRY GOODS.—Sorting business, which has been somewhat slack, is improving this last week, and buyers who have been round among the wholesale warehouses, say that stocks are now being more broken into. Money is hardly coming in so briskly as April last year, but the backward season is no doubt largely the reason for this. The advance in cashmere dress goods, noted last week, is confirmed from other sources, and local agents have now got instructions to withdraw quotations for cashmere hose. The local representative of a Belfast

linen house, has also notified the trade of an advance in some lines of these goods.

GROCERIES.—The operator who bought up the available supply of molasses here in first hands, as reported by us last week, has evidently shown good judgment, for cables from the island now advise a stronger market, with first cost quoted at $13\frac{1}{2}$ c., and jobbing prices have been advanced to 32c. Foreign markets for raw sugars are reported very strong, and the advance of last week in refined is firmly held, though the present demand is not active. This, however, will no doubt be remedied, now that navigation is about being fairly opened, and country roads becoming more settled. Japan teas are somewhat flat, but the excitement in blacks, more particularly Indians and Ceylons, continues very marked, and quite a fair aggregate of business is reported in these goods, at stiff prices. We noted last week that the London packet men were scouring Europe for low-priced stock, and now it is reported that enquiries have been received from the same source by Montreal houses. The sale of 500 cases of corn, held for some time by a bank under advances, is reported to a Toronto house at $87\frac{1}{2}$ c.

HIDES.—Receipts of green hides are reported very small, but the quality continues poor, and dealers are still paying only $8\frac{1}{2}$ c. per lb. for No. 1. The demand from tanners is reported very good, but they are unable to get all they want on this market, and are understood to be drawing some supplies from Britain. Lambskins are still 10c, but will likely be advanced to 15c. each next week; sheepskins, 75 to 85c. each; calfskins, 10 and 8c. per pound, for Nos. 1 and 2, respectively.

LEATHER.—The firmness noted last week in sole leather has taken more decided shape, and 23c. is now asked by all dealers for mfrs.' No. 2, with quite a fair volume of business reported at the higher prices. Blacks are also very steady, it is said, with good English demand for splits and grain. We quote: Spanish sole, B.A., No. 1, 24c. to $24\frac{1}{2}$ c.; No. 2, 23c.; No. 1, ordinary Spanish, 23 to 24c.; No. 2, 21 to 22c.; No. 1 slaughter, 26 to 28c.; No. 2, 24 to 25c.; common, 20 to 21c.; waxed upper, light and medium, 30 to 35c.; do., heavy, 27 to 30c.; grained, 32 to 35c.; Scotch grained, 30 to 35c.; Western splits, 21 to

24c.; Quebec do., 10 to 18c.; juniors, 16 to 17c.; calf-splits, 30 to 35c.; calfskins, (35 to 40 lbs.), 60 to 65c.; imitation French calfskins, 65 to 75c.; colored calf, American, 25 to 28c.; Canadian, 20 to 24c.; colored pebble cow, 13 to 15c.; russet sheepskins linings, 30 to 40c.; colored, 6 to $7\frac{1}{2}$ c.; harness, 24 to 27c.; buffed cow, 13 to 15c.; extra heavy buff, 15c.; pebble cow, $11\frac{1}{2}$ to 13c.; polished buff, 12 to 13c.; glove-grain, 12 to 13c.; rough, 22 to 23c.; russet and bridle, 35 to 45c.

METALS AND HARDWARE.—The extreme scarcity of pig iron continues, and \$19.50 stiff is quoted for No. 1 Hamilton, while a shade over \$20 is said to have actually been paid for a small lot by a foundryman who needed it badly. For cast scrap, imported railway chairs, it is said as high as \$17 has been asked. Steel boiler plates are higher, and sales of American three-eighths are reported at \$2.90; Scotch plates are offered, however, at \$2.40, to arrive. Terne plates appear to be in rather better supply than stated last week, and though some dealers ask \$6.25 to \$6.50, it is said a fair lot could be done at something under the inside figure. Ingot copper shows signs of further advance, and tin is very firm at the high quotations lately prevailing. We quote: Summerlee pig iron, none here; Hamilton No. 1, \$19 to 19.50, No. 2, do., \$17.50 to \$18; Ferrona, No. 1, \$18.50 to 19; machinery scrap, \$00 to 00.00; common ditto, \$00 to 00; bar iron, Canadian, \$1.50 to 1.55; British, \$2 to 2.15; best refined, \$2.40; Low Moor, \$5; Canada plates—Pontypool or equal, \$2.25; 52 sheets to box; 60 sheets, \$2.30 to 2.35; 75 sheets, \$2.40; all polished Canadas, \$2.45; Terne roofing plate, 20 x 28, \$6.25 to 6.50; Black sheet iron, No. 28, \$2.25; No. 26, \$2.20; No. 24, \$2.10; No. 17, \$2; No. 16, and heavier, \$2.15; tin plates—Bradley charcoal, \$5.60 to 5.70; charcoal, I.C., Alloyway, \$3.40 to 3.50; do., I.X., \$4; P.D. Crown, I.C., \$4 to 4.25; do., I.X., \$4.50; coke, I.C., \$3.25; ditto, standard, \$3 for 100 lbs.; coke, wasters, \$2.70; galvanized sheets, No. 28, ordinary brands, \$4.25 to 4.50; No. 26, \$4; No. 24, \$3.75 in case lots; Morewood, \$5 to 5.10; tinned sheets, coke, No. 24, 6c.; No. 26, etc., the usual extra for large sizes. Canadian bands, per 100 lbs., \$1.65 to 1.75; English hoops, \$2 to 2.15. Steel boiler plate, $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch, and upwards, \$2.75 to 2.90

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