

Fur Trade Matters.

C. M. Lampson & Co. announce that the next London sale of fur seals will be held on October 26; the sale of other furs will commence the following day. There will be offered, on the 20th of October, 13,500 Alaska, 5,807 Copper Island, about 3,500 Cape Horn and South Sea, and about 10,000 Northwest coast seals. On the same date, Culverwell, Brooks & Co. will offer about 15,000 Northwest coast seals. The new catch of Copper Island seals, about 35,000 skins, will be offered in January next.

The London, England, correspondent of the New York Fur Trade Review writes on Sept. 10: "Only one article has come to the front since our August letter, namely, white Thibet lamb crosses dyed black, which at present is in strong demand, making an effective trimming; quantity limited. About 300 coats and crosses were offered at public sale to-day; the coats brought from 75 shillings to 102½ shillings; the crosses from 70 to 72½ shillings, which are pretty high prices for such goods. Another article which has experienced a great change since our last, but in an opposite direction to the previous article, is mouflon, for to-day one scarcely knows what the price is, as since the white are no longer required on your side the price has tumbled down from 6s to 4s 6d for blue, and from 18s to 10s for white. This, of course, is very unsatisfactory to the holders of this article. Skunk is still greatly favored and is one of the best articles, and will without a doubt sell well to the end of the season."

Squirrel lock linings are in as great demand as ever, and now that the Nijni Fair is over and prices having ruled there very firm, there is no fear of any drop in prices on these goods. Grizzly Bears—The demand is much greater than the supply, especially for Russian goods. The prices ruling at Nijni for this article were extremely high, and in some cases most extravagant prices were paid. The principal use that this fur is being put to now is that of being manufactured into boas and long Idalias, and when made from good silvery skins look very effective. Australian Opossum—This humble article just now is in very good request, both natural and dyed black and brown. The enormous stocks which have been placed on the market during the last two years are now exhausted, so that at the forthcoming sales these skins will advance in price."

The correspondent of the Fur Trade Review, at Leipzig, Germany, writes on Sept 10: "Business has improved somewhat within the past few weeks; the market has been visited by a number of buyers, including Berlin and Dresden furriers, who desired supplies of cheap nutria, fine colored brown bear and cheap mink (?); Danish buyers, who wanted musquash, hamster and squirrel linings and other specialties; Galician and Roumanian firms, who required white lambs, dyed Persians and rabbits and lower grades of Australian opossum; the Italian dealers purchased American opossum and skunk, imitation black cats and Persian lambs, and the Austrians took seal-colored musquash and squirrel belly linings. Prices of American furs are not now really firm, owing to limited demand for the United States and unfavorable reports from Nijni Novgorod. Raccoon of lower and medium grades are neglected, and large firms hold considerable stocks;

full-furred skins are more in demand, owing to the continued sale of dyed skins. Skunk is offered in rather small quantity, and prices are firm; mantle makers have taken some parcels. Considerable transactions have been noted in prime musquash; some parcels have been purchased on speculation for English and American account; lower sorts, suitable for linings, are scarce; seal-colored skins have sold slowly of late. There is very little call for beaver. Our previous reports of the sale of mink have induced dealers to consign parcels of dressed skins to this market, which are now offered, but of course at advanced prices. Full sized pale marten has sold to some extent; it is thought this article will sell as mink advances in favor. Dark American otter has sold well throughout the summer, and the limited stocks here will probably be sold out by the close of the Michaelmas Fair. There has been some inquiry from America for lynx; backs have been secured very cheaply by Berlin trimming houses. Pale red fox for Galician consumption is scarce. Stocks of American opossum are much reduced, the skunk imitations selling well. Lower sorts of Australian opossum have sold fairly. Trade in European furs, as usual at this time, has been dull; stone marten tails are firmer in price than one month ago; dark selected mink tails are in good request for France. Russian dressed squirrel sacs have been purchased for England and France; the German dressed linings have sold continuously; boa manufacturers have taken parcels of squirrel tails. French dyers have purchased some white hares, but prices are still depressed; there has been some improvement in the sale of black skins for Berlin and the United States; the demand for astrakhan has continued, but it is not as strong as formerly; our Leipzig dealers have signed new contracts with Russian collectors for supplies of natural skins. Gray Krimmer lambs are offered only in small lots; black Ukrainian lamb skins have been purchased by German firms for dyeing; prices paid were lower than ruling last spring."

The Washington Post, of Sept. 19, considering the Russian seizure of the United States scaler, Hamilton Lewis, asks: "What is the Government going to do about this case? It may be that the Lewis was sealing where she was captured, many miles from the Copper Islands, and, if the Russian Government were to justify the seizure on that ground, the Government of the United States would be estopped from interfering by its own doctrine and precedents."

A Montreal correspondent writes: "It is still too early to give any accurate ideas of prices as they may prevail for new catch of furs, but it may be said that the general condition of the market is not only healthy, but strong. An active demand already exists for mink, and it is pretty certain that good figures will prevail for beaver, skunk and otter. Country dealers are urged to discountenance and discourage as much as possible the too early catching and killing of fur-bearing animals. Of late years especially, numerous consignments of un-prime, ill-conditioned pelts have been early sent to this market, which in some cases have not realized sufficient to pay charges, while if trapping had been deferred two or three weeks, fair prices might have been realized."

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