

—The following was quoted in the Yorkshire *Evening Post* recently: "Looking back along the trackless pathways of the future, he described the footsteps of an invisible hand."

—England worries us here in the States. First she insisted on our turning our pants up at the bottom, and now she gets us to turn down our stockings at the top.—*Wichita Eagle*.

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, 6th May, 1896.

ASHES—Some moderate lots of pots are going to Europe by first outgoing steamers, and values in this line are rather firmer if anything, though practically unchanged at \$3.55 to 3.60; seconds are still easy at \$3.25 to 3.30, and pearls also at \$4.65 to 4.75 per cental.

CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.—There are already fair receipts of cements, there being reported on wharf 4,200 barrels of English, and 5,300 barrels of Belgian. Quotations have been revised, and are, for English, \$1.95 to 2.05; Belgian, \$1.80 to 1.95. No large orders are reported; but there is a fair aggregate of moderate transactions. Of firebricks, the arrivals are 37,000, and prices are without change, ranging from \$16 to \$22 per thousand.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.—No activity to chronicle. The state of the butter market is very unsatisfactory to makers in the country; values are much depreciated, and it is hard to realize more than 14c. per lb. for new creamery in a wholesale way, or 13 to 14c. for fine dairy. The cheese market is dull and nominal, with little or no fine cheese offering; some white fodder cheese is offering at about 8c. English advices are to the effect that stocks are well reduced, and the outlook for new make is considered fairly encouraging. Eggs are in fair demand at 9½ to 10c. per dozen.

DRY GOODS.—Enquiry among some half-dozen representative houses in the dry goods and clothing trade, would indicate that customers' paper maturing on the 4th inst., was almost surprisingly well met. They report from 70 to 85 per cent. provided for, figures which could hardly be anticipated considering the many complaints heard of late regarding bad roads and the apparent lack of money in the country. Several houses say it is the best 4th of May they have had for several years. With some of the smaller dry goods houses, results were not so good, but on the whole there is ground for encouragement from the above facts.

FURS.—Some fair lots of spring rats are offering, and for some extra choice skins, wanted for special purposes, 22c. has been paid, but the ordinary range is below this. Some beaver and bear are also coming in, but the latter are realizing poor prices. The next London auction sales are fixed for June 8th, when a general selection will be offered. We quote for prime pelts:—Beaver, \$3 to 3.75 per lb.; bear, \$10 to 15; cub, \$5 to 8; fox, red, \$1 to 1.15; cross do., \$3 to 5; silver do., \$20 to 75; fisher, \$5 to 6; marten, \$1 to 1.75; mink, \$1 to 1.25; lynx, \$1.50 to 2; coon, 50 to 75c.; fall rats, 5 to 10c.; winter do., 10 to 12c.; spring do., 18 to 20c.; otter, \$9 to 12; skunk, 25 to 90c.

GROCERIES.—The movement cannot be called an active one; orders are characterized by caution, and everyone appears disposed to go slow until after the elections are over, and that unsettling element be done away with. In both teas and sugars the demand is limited, and easier values are reported in some lines of the

former article. The Japan market opened lower. From London there is reported an improvement in low and medium grade Ceylons of from a penny to a penny halfpenny. Sugars have not developed change of any kind. The demand is poor, and the quotations so long prevailing are undisturbed. Some shipments of raw German beet sugar are already to hand. The molasses card is still in force for deliveries from stock, but Barbadoes to arrive is quoted at 32c. per gal. by the puncheon, and 31c. in car lots. Frosts are reported as having done some damage in the fruit districts of Asia Minor, as well as in California. Sultana raisins are reported advanced in New York, and dried fruits generally are firm. A large sale of Tarragona almonds to arrive is reported at 9½c., freight and duty paid, called an extremely low figure. Bathbricks are reported firmer, as a facetious commission man puts it in his weekly circular, "on account of demand from South Africa; good thing to knock the Matabeles on the head with."

MONTREAL GRAIN STOCKS IN STORE.

	April 27, '96.	May 4, '96.
Wheat, bushels.....	926,888	844,235
Corn, "	75,335	14,621
Oats, "	432,900	432,835
Rye, "	6,484	6,484
Peas, "	12,094	22,253
Barley, "	65,085	64,235
Total grain.....	1,516,786	1,384,663
Oatmeal	5,680	5,666
Flour	36,796	37,209
Buckwheat.....	57,883	62,774

HIDES AND TALLOW.—The demand from tanners for hides is in no way improved, and the depreciated values in beef hides still prevail, with little apparent prospect of change for the better in the near future. Advice has been received of the arrival in France of the shipment referred to in last issue, but no sale is reported yet. Lambskins have been advanced to 15 cents; calfskins are 6c. per lb. for No. 1, and 4c. for No. 2. Tallow rules dull, with but slight demand.

LEATHER.—One of our largest shoe manufacturers is reported to have bought a 10,000 side lot of manufacturers' sole, at a figure which has not transpired, and also a similar lot of light glove, it is reported, at about 8c.; but general trade shows little improvement. The export movement in sole is steady. We quote:—Spanish sole B.A. No. 1, 20 to 22c.; do. No. 2, 18 to 20c.; No. 1 ordinary Spanish, 19 to 21c.; No. 2, 17 to 18c.; No. 1 slaughter, 20 to 22c.; No. 2 do., 18 to 19c.; common, 17 to 18c.; waxed upper light and medium, 27 to 30c.; do. heavy, 25 to 28c.; grained, 25 to 30c.; Scotch grained, 25 to 30c.; western splits, 16 to 18c.; Quebec do., 12 to 14c.; juniors, 13 to 16c.; calf-splits, 30 to 35c.; calf skins (35 to 40 lbs.), 60 to 65c.; imitation French calf skins, 65 to 75c.; colored calf, American, 25 to 28c.; Canadian, 20 to 22c.; colored pebble cow, 13 to 14c.; russet sheepskin linings, 30 to 40c.; colored, 6 to 7½c.; harness, 24 to 27c.; buffed cow, 11 to 13c.; extra heavy buff, 14c.; pebbled cow, 10 to 12c.; polished buff, 10 to 12c.; glove grain, 10 to 11c.; rough, 20 to 22c.; russet and bridle, 35 to 45c.

METALS AND HARDWARE.—Some improved demand is reported in a small way, but there are few important transactions to be reported. Some moderate sales of domestic pig iron are noted at \$16.50 to 17.00, the latter figure being quoted for small lots; Summerlee, \$18.50 to 19.00 to arrive. The only noteworthy change in quotations is an advance in wire nails, the discount on list being reduced 2½ per cent. Tin, lead and copper are all dull, and easier, if anything. We quote:—Coltness pig iron, none here; Calder, 1, none here; Calder, No. 3, none here; Summerlee, \$20.00 ex store, to arrive \$18.50 to 19.00; Eglinton, \$18.00; Gartsherrie, none here; Carnbroe, \$18.50; Shotts, \$19.50 ex-yard; Middlesboro, No. 3, \$17.00; Niagara, No. 2, \$21.00; Siemens pig, No. 1, \$16.50 to 17.00; Ferrona, No. 1, \$16.50 to 17.00; machinery scrap, \$16.00 to 18.00; common do., \$12 to 13.00; bar iron, Canadian, \$1.55 to \$1.60; British, \$2.00 to 2.15; best refined, \$2.40; Low Moor, \$5.00; Canada plates—Blaina, or Garth, \$2.10, 52 sheets to box; 60 sheets \$2.15; 75 sheets \$2.20; all polished Canadas, \$2.30 to 2.75; Terne roofing plate, 20x28, \$5.75 to 6.00; Black sheet iron, No. 28, \$2.40; No. 26, \$2.30; No. 24, \$2.30; Nos. 17 to 20, \$2.10; No. 16

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As at
December
31st, 1895:

ASSETS:

\$3,136,012

RESERVE (Actuaries 4%):

\$2,933,283

INCOME:

\$731,302

SURPLUS (Actuaries 4%):

\$196,736

SURPLUS (Hm. 4½% Government Standard)

\$315,000

INSURANCE:

\$19,312,477

Tenders Wanted.

Tenders addressed to the undersigned will be received up to eight p.m. of Monday, May 25th, for Consolidated Debentures of the Village of Tilbury, amounting to \$6,724.27, running for a term of twenty-five years, from December 1st, 1895, and bearing interest at five per cent. per annum. An equal amount of principal and interest payable annually, on the 1st day of December in each year for twenty-five years, commencing on December 1st, 1896.

Said Debentures will be issued under authority of "The Village of Tilbury Debenture Act, 1896," and will be dated June 1st, 1896.

The highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

WILLIAM C. CRAWFORD,
Reeve of said Village.

Dated April 29th, 1896.