

Toronto Hardware Prices.

The market for pig iron is virtually in a state of suspension, an occasional desultory movement constituting the whole of its activity. The week's record contains a few orders of 50 ton lots. Manufactured iron and steel manifest considerable life, as enquiry is developing and expectations of a good trade are entertained. Bar iron is firmer, though unchanged in quotation. Manufactured iron and steel have prospects that are both bright and near at hand. All the above named lines are steady at last week's prices. Copper has declined abroad very slightly, but is unaffected here. Tin is in active demand. Lead is featureless. Zinc and spelter are very firm. Tin plates are not in much larger stock, but as business will not be active till September or October there is a feeling that the change looked for may be a less important one than present signs would warrant the expectation of. There are no cokes yet. Prices of charcoal are unchanged at quotations. Galvanized sheet iron is very firm and in large demand.

Makers are from four to six weeks behind with their shipments of cut nails, which quote from a cash basis of \$2.20 to \$2.35 on four months. Manufacturers are not at one upon the arrangement of prices for horse nails. Binding twine, the season being over for jobbers and is now a sorting up time, is in a very demoralized condition. Manufacturers are selling to retailers, and United States houses are striving to do business by concessions which are taking the bottom out of the market. In glass there is still a shortage of sizes.

Antimony—Cookson's, per pound, 15 to 15½; other makes, 14 to 14½.

Tin—Lamb and flag, 56 and 28-lb. ingots per pound, 23 to 24c; Straight's, 100-lb. ingots, 23 to 23½; strip, 25 to 27c.

Copper—Ingot, 14½ to 15½; sheet, 18 to 20c.

Lead—Bar, 4½ to 4½c; pig, 3½ to 4c; sheet, per roll, \$4.75 to \$5.25; shot, Can. dis. 7½ per cent.

Zinc—Sheet, 6½ to 6½c; zinc spelter, 4½ to 5c; solder, hf and hf, 19½ to 21.

Brass—Sheet, 21 to 29c.

Iron—Bar, ordinary \$2 to \$2.10; bar refined, \$2.60 to \$2.65; Swedes, 1 in. or over, \$4 to 4.50; Lowmoor, 5½ to 6c; hoops, coopers, \$2.65 to \$2.80; do, band, \$2.60 to \$2.75; tank plates, \$2 to \$2.25; boiler rivets, best, \$4.50 to \$5; sheet, 11 to 20 gauge, \$2.75 to \$3; 22 to 24 do, \$2.75 to \$3; 26 do, \$3 to \$3.25; 28 do, \$3.50 to \$3.75; Russia, sheet, per pound, 10 to 12c.

Galvanized iron—16 to 24 gauge, 5½ to 5½c; 26 do, 5½ to 6c; 28 do, 5½ to 6c.

Iron wire—Market bright and annealed Nos. 1 to 16, net list from stock; 7½ per cent. discount from factory; market, tinned per pound, 4½ to 5c; galvanized fence, 5 per cent. advance on list; barbed wire, 4½ to 4½c; coil chain ½ in., 4½ to 4½c; 7-16 in., 5½ to 5½c; iron pipe, off list, 55 p.c.; do, galv., off list, 30 p.c.; boiler tubes, 2 in., 13c; do, 3 in., 18½c.

Steel—Cast, 13 to 14c; boiler plate, ½ in. \$2.75; 5-26 do, \$2.60; ¾ do, \$2.50; sleigh shoes, \$2.50 to \$2.75.

Nails—3 in. and upwards, \$2.20 net cash; brads and mouldings, dis. and 10 p.c.; wire, 70c and 5 p.c. to 70c and 10 p.c. dis.

Horse nails—Can. dis. 50 and 10 p.c. off to 60.

Horse shoes—Per kog, \$3.60.

Canada plates—Blain, \$3.20 to \$3.25.

Tin plates 1C ea' \$0.00 to \$0; 1C charcoal, \$1.75 to \$2.00; 1N charcoal, \$5.75 to \$6.00; 1XX charcoal, \$6.75 to \$7.00; 1C charcoal, \$4.50.

Gunpowder—Can blasting, per keg, \$3.25 to \$3.50; can sporting, FF, \$5; can sporting, FFF, \$5.25; can rifle, \$5.25.

Rope—Manilla, 12½ basis; visal, 9c basis.

Axes—Per box, \$7 to \$12

Twine—Binder, blue ribbon, 14c; red cap, 12c; crown, 11c; composite, 9c.

Glass—Fourth quality star, 1st break, \$1.40 to \$1.50; 2nd do, \$1.50 to \$1.60; 3rd do, \$3.65 to \$3.75; 4th do, \$3.95 to \$4, 5th do, \$1.25 to \$1.30.

The Toronto Mill Stock and Metal Company quote dealers paying prices as follows: No. 1 heavy scrap, 65 to 67½c per 100 lbs.; stove cast scrap, 45 to 50c; No. 1 wrought scrap, 62½ to 70c; No. 2 including sheet iron, hoop iron and mixed steel, 20 to 25c; new scrap copper, 9½c to 10c; heavy scrap copper, 10½c; old copper bottoms, 8½c to 9c; light scrap brass, 5½c; heavy yellow scrap brass, 7½c; heavy red scrap brass, 8½ to 9c; scrap lead, 2½ to 2½c; scrap zinc, 2½ to 3c; scrap rubber, 2½ to 2½c; country mixed rags, \$1 per 100 lbs.; clean dry bones, 60c per 100 lbs.

Grain Freight Rates.

A Toronto telegram of August 7th says: "The secretary of the board of trade has been notified by the general freight agent of the Canadian Pacific that by an agreement with the Grand Trunk, rates to Montreal on grain for export will be advanced on Monday, August 17th, as follows: From points now taking a rate of ten cents per 100 pounds, the new rate will be twelve and a half cents; from points now taking a rate of 12½ cents per hundred pounds the new rate will be fourteen cents; and from points now taking a rate of 14 cents, the new rate will be sixteen cents. The rates will, as before, be exclusive of Montreal elevator and floating charges. Grain will be forwarded to Montreal at published tariff rates and reduced to above mentioned special rates after exporting. This refers to grain from Ontario points.

It was reported from Port Arthur on August 7th that the steamer Myles had cleared to load wheat from Duluth to Kingston at three and a half cents. This is an advance over July rates. The bountiful harvest in the States, the promising prospects in the Canadian west and the increasing demand for iron ore, all point to a good fall's business for lake craft.

Montreal Live Stock Markets.

The latter part of July is looked upon as the turning point of the cattle export trade and the present is about as good a time as any for a short review of the season's business. As will be seen by the figures published below, the exports from this port are about equal to those of last year, but when it is remembered that about 3,000 head of Canadian cattle have been sent forward by way of U. S. ports the statement for 1891 looks more prosperous. It is generally conceded that the Canadian shippers made money during the months of May and June, while the American syndicate lost heavily. This assertion may appear strange to an outsider, but it is nevertheless a fact. In the first place they paid too much money for

their cattle, and from the date of purchase to the time of selling on the other side they were systematically swindled. The cattle were weighed out of the distilleries, stuffed as full as possible with slop and in an unfit condition to go on the cars. The brother of one of the firm who watched their interests here had evidently never been in the business before, and as a result they paid about double as much as anyone else to get their stock out of the country. A man who is supposed to know whereof he speaks says their losses are not less than \$30,000, and would have been larger had not the English market held up so long. The month of July has not been a very prosperous one. During the first week or two shippers "let out," but during the last three weeks there has been a steady decline, amounting to \$3 to \$5 per head. Several reasons are advanced for this decline which is owing no doubt to the very heavy receipts of both American and Canadian stock and to the fact that the shipments during the past few weeks have not been equal to those which preceded them.

The shipments since the opening of navigation were 48,910 cattle and 21,407 sheep.—*Gazette*, Aug. 4.

Macaroni and Vermicelli.

Macaroni, vermicelli, sea biscuits, pilot bread, plain crackers and common bread are all alike, in composition and nutriment. Macaroni and vermicelli differ only in size of the tubes, both being made alike, and both are simply dried dough made of flour and water only, the same as pilot or sea bread and plain crackers. The wheat grown in Southern Europe contains more gluten and less starch than any other, and therefore makes better macaroni. This gluten is nitrogenous, like lean meat, casein, or curd of milk, etc., and strengthens one's muscles more than the more starchy flour from Northern Europe. Starch is carbonaceous, supplying material for producing fat and for promoting warmth in the system. Millions of people in Italy use macaroni as their chief, if not sole food the year round—the gluten answering for the lean meat consumed by other people to produce muscular strength or working power. Sea biscuits, pilot bread and plain crackers, those without any "shortening" of butter, lard, or any other grease, are simply flour and water, worked into tough dough and baked, instead of being air or sun dried as macaroni and vermicelli are. They are usually made of the more starchy wheats of Northern Europe.—*Exchange*.

Canadian Coinage.

The necessity of establishing a Dominion mint, capable of coining a sufficient quantity of gold, silver and copper to meet the commercial demands of Canada, has frequently been urged upon parliament. We are, therefore, pleased to note that this question is likely to come up for consideration at an early day, a motion having recently been made in the senate for a select committee to consider the matter, and collect information regarding the expediency and probable costs of such a departure. It is doubtful whether any great progress will be made during the present session. A very considerable length of time will be required to make a thorough report, satisfactory to the committee and to the House, and prorogation cannot be far off. For this reason we would not be surprised to see the motion withdrawn, and discussion deferred until parliament again sits. The proposed committee will consist of the Hon. Messrs. Vidal, Power, Macdonald (B. C.) McClellan, Bellerose, and the mover, Hon. Mr. McInnis, of British Columbia.—*Merchants' Magazine*.