

limited, as a result transactions in all cases have not been satisfactory. For the finest grades dealers quote 12 to 12½c., and 11 to 12c. for good butter, and 8 to 9c. for the poorer qualities. At outside markets cheese continues to show considerable strength. Dealers quote 9c. and asking in the jobbing trade 9½c. per lb. The quality of eggs now coming forward is good, and sales are made at 11c., with an advance of 1c. per dozen for stock that can be guaranteed strictly new laid. A number of local dealers are making arrangements this week for the export trade and an increase in shipments abroad may be looked for.

GRAIN.—Trading in wheat is guided entirely by crop prospects. Prices in United States and foreign markets are subject to violent fluctuations according to the superior influences of bear or bull operators. Trading in this market is limited, as the new harvest has not yet come to hand in any quantity, while the old crop is about exhausted. We elsewhere refer in detail to the statistical position of wheat in Canadian and other markets. Oats remain firm and steady. Barley is dull and the quality of the new crop is said to be very inferior. On the whole, the outlook for the barley trade is anything but bright. It is reported that in some districts peas show inferior quality. Rye remains without change.

The stocks in store at Port Arthur on August 14th were 857,118 bushels, and there were received 102,559 bushels, and shipped 157,984 bushels, leaving in store on Aug. 21st, 801,693 bushels.

GREEN FRUITS.—The autumn season movement in Canadian green fruits is now beginning and crop prospects are anxiously discussed. The apple season has not yet opened and movements are not likely to become general until two or three weeks have passed. It is said that in Eastern Ontario merchants are offering from \$1.50 to 2.00 per barrel, prices which are in marked contrast to the range of prices a year ago. The prospects for an abundant yield of grapes are said to be good if warm weather be had during the next few weeks. In past years it has been experienced that a heavy yield of fruit has failed to mature on account of the cold weather in the early weeks of September. A large crop of peaches is expected this year. The market, however, has been injured somewhat by the exhaustive quantity of poor fruit already marketed. According to the statements of fruit dealers, growers have shown bad judgment in planting orchards that yield early peaches. The Crawford peach has on the whole been found to give the best satisfaction in Canada. For imported watermelons there has been a good demand during the season. Prices have been fair, while the movement has been quite up to the average. Trade in lemons has fallen off somewhat on account of the cold weather.

HIDES AND LEATHER.—There has been little change in the hide market during the present week. Dealers are paying 8½ cents for green hides, while the cured are reported at 8½, 8½, 8½ cents, according to quality. Advices from the Western States market stated that comparatively little interest was shown by packers in the general situation, their attention being taken by the active conditions existing in other markets. The close was firm, but quiet, at 10½ to 11c. for native steers, 10½c. for Texas, 10c. for butt brands, 9½ to 9½c. for Colorados and branded cows, 10c. for heavy native cows, and 10½c. for light do. Calfskins are steady at 10c. Tallow remains depressed and prices low.

PROVISIONS.—The local provision trade has continued firm. Stocks of nearly all the heavy goods are within small compass and prices are very firm. Long clear bacon has advanced ½c. during the week, and dealers now quote it at 8½ to 9c. per lb. Several cars of this product have recently been imported here from the United States. The most satisfactory feature of the market, however, has been the advance of ½ to ¾c. per lb. in the price of lard. For some time the movement in lard has been very slow and prices depressed. It is, therefore, satisfactory to notice the improvement.

WOOL.—Values in the wool market remain firm, and the conditions of trade are generally unchanged. Dealers report a limited movement, and say that the domestic mills are not anxious buyers. The course of the market in the United States is observed carefully by the Canadian dealers, as a number of them are holding a quantity of wool at different centres awaiting improved conditions.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, 25th Aug., 1897.

ASHES.—The market is described as lifeless, and for the past three weeks there has not been a shipment to Europe of any consequence; a few small lots are being shipped this week. Receipts continue limited, and in this fact alone are the main chances of an advance, there being little apparent prospect of an improvement in demand. The stock in store stands at about 160 brls. of pots, and 20 pearls. Quotations remain at \$3 to 3.05 for No. 1 pots; seconds, \$2.80 to 2.85; pearls, about \$4.30.

CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.—For the week ending to-day, the receipts of cements have been 13,800 brls. of Belgian, and 1,050 English; last week's receipts were nil. There have been some enquiries for one or two large lots; but so far no actual business has resulted, and there is just an ordinary jobbing trade passing at the moment. Quotations are \$2 to 2.10 for British, and \$1.90 to 2.00 for Belgian. Of firebricks, the receipts this week are 66,000; prices range from \$15 to 21 as to quality.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.—Within the week there have been several advances in English cable quotations for cheese, the latest figure being 43 shillings, a gain of 1s. 6d. on last week. The local market is also proportionately stiffer, and fine Ontario is now quoted at 9½ to 9½c.; Townships, 9½c.; fine Quebec, 9½ to 9½c. Shipments last week were 88,256 boxes, being 5,086 boxes ahead of the same week last year. Shipments of butter last year were fairly large, amounting to 15,625 packages. The market developed considerable strength within the week, with good demand, and choice creamery is quoted up to 19c.; seconds, 18c.; Townships dairy, 14 to 15c.; Western, ditto, 11 to 12c.

DRY GOODS.—The placing trip has been pretty well completed, and in a good many cases travellers are at home to attend to wants of buyers who have been attracted to the city by the Exhibition, etc. A fair number of these are reported to have visited the warehouses during the week, and though no large buying is reported, still a fair aggregate of business has been done. A cheap excursion has been arranged for the dates ranging from the 27th to the 30th inst., with privilege to return up to the 20th prox., which will cover the millinery openings fixed for about the 7th Sept., and will likely bring in a goodly number of country dealers.

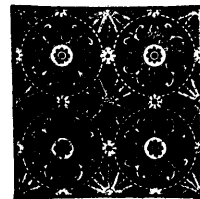
GROCERIES.—The demand for goods in these lines is reported as rather improved, though orders are still reported on the moderate side. Quite a few country merchants are reported in town this week, as visitors to the exhibition, and have taken the opportunity to sort up their stocks. Sugars are very steady at the slight advance, both refineries quoting 4 1-16c. as the very lowest for standard granulated, and 3 5-16c. the lowest in yellows; 2nd grade granulated 3 11-16c. at the factory, being just a sixteenth below the calculated laid down cost of German refined beet sugars. The molasses market is, if anything, a little firmer, and holders are asking 24 to 25c. for Porto Rico in lots; Barbadoes, 23 to 24c. in a jobbing way, a cent less for car lots. It is said this year's imports are not larger than last year's, and as some 5,000 puncheons have been taken by sugar refiners, some holders think prices should advance. Teas are dull at the moment, and no advices of interest are reported from primary points. It seems as if canned vegetables were bound to advance, and local agents for several leading packers say they have been instructed to withdraw quotations. Canned salmon continue to be quoted on the coast at \$3.35 to 3.50 as to brand. Some further moderate lots of new Valencia raisins are reported near at hand via Liverpool, and the small stocks on spot at the

moment are being jobbed at about 6½c. for fine off-stalk, and 7½c. for selected. Currants will be dearer this year. A cable just received from Patras quotes Provincials in brls. at 15s. 6d., which means a cost of nearly a cent and a-half more than last year. Sultana raisins will also be higher.

HIDES AND TALLOW.—At the usual weekly meeting of the hide association held yesterday there was no change made in the general quotation for green hides, which remains on the basis of 8c. for No. 1, to butchers, though really higher figures are being paid in some cases as the result of competition from the tanners' buyers. Negotiations are, however, in progress which will likely lead to the doing away with the unhealthy rivalry in buying that has prevailed of late. Lambskins are quoted at 35 to 40c., and calfskins 8 and 6c. Tallow continues dull and depressed at 1 to 1½c. for rough, and 3 to 3½ for rendered.

LEATHER.—Some houses profess to find business a little better, but the general demand from shoe manufacturers is not materially enlarged. Fair shipments of Quebec and Western splits and glove, also sole, continue to go forward to England, where a steady market and fair demand are reported. The American market is also reported stiffer for both sole and black, and the trust has just advanced union crop a cent, though some speculation in the trust stock was indulged in, in the expectation that the advance would be two cents. We quote:—Spanish sole B.A. No. 1, 22 to 23c.; do. No. 2, 21c. to 22c.; No. 1 ordinary Spanish, 21c.; No. 2, 19 to 20c.; No. 1

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