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MONETARY TIMES is rep-
resented by Mr. W. H.
BOFFEY, 44 Fleet Street,
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The director of the works in Lyons gave me particulars about the business here and in other parts of France. There are twenty factories in France—three in Paris, and the others in the large cities. In 1899, they employed 17,184 hands, 15,732 of whom were women and girls. Besides these, there are 714 persons employed as directors, overseers, foremen, etc. The State tobacco factory at Lyons will next year manufacture 5,500,000 cigars, that sell for 2 cents, and 1,250,000 1-cent cigars, 20,000,000 cigars to sell at 1½ cents, and many millions of cigarettes.—United States Consular Reports, December.

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, Dec. 25th, 1901.

Ashes.—There is practically nothing being done at the moment, and quotations are more or less nominal at \$4.40 to \$4.50 for pots of first quality, seconds, \$4 to \$4.05. There has not been a recent transaction in pearls to establish a quotation.

Cements and Firebricks.—No demand is looked for at this season, though some moderate enquiry for firebricks is anticipated in January for the usual seasonable repairs. Prices remain as revised last week. We quote: Belgian cement, \$1.90 to \$2; German, \$2.35 to \$2.50; English, \$2.30 to \$2.45; American, \$2.35 to \$2.50; Canadian, Beaver brand, \$1.90; Star, \$2.20; Silicas, \$2.10; firebricks, \$17.50 to \$23.

Dairy Products.—There has been a good demand for fine cheese since last writing, and holders are reported very firm in their quotations for choice goods, some predicting higher values shortly. We quote fine Ontarios, 10 to 10¼c.; fine Township, 10 to 10¾c.; Quebec, 9¾ to 10c. Good grades of creamery butter are in steady request at 20¼ to 20¾c.; under grades, 19 to 19¼c.; dairy makes, 14 to 16c. the pound.

Dry Goods.—The week has been an uneventful one in this line, and little is doing in a wholesale way, but city retail business has been excellent, and though a lack of snow in the country generally has somewhat affected traffic, remittances do not show any material degree of impairment. Travelers are all at home this week, and are having samples and price lists fully revised, preparatory to taking the road again after the holidays.

Furs.—Receipts of raw furs are still reported quite limited, presumably due to a lack of snow in the country parts. The London January sales are announced to take place from the 20th to 24th, inclusive. In some quarters there appears to be an expectation of lower prices. We quote for prime skins: Black bear, \$18 for large, \$13.50 for medium, \$7.50 for small; badger, 10 to 50c. wild cat, 10 to 35c.; fisher, \$4 to \$6 for northern; western ditto, \$3 to \$5 for No. 1; red fox, \$1.50 to \$3 for northern; silver fox, \$50 to \$100; cross fox, \$5 to \$10; wolverine, \$1.50 to \$5; lynx, \$2 to \$4; marten, fine British Columbia, \$3.50 to \$7; eastern, \$2 to \$4.50; mink, eastern, \$2.25 to \$3.50; western, No. 1, \$1.50 to \$2.50; fall rats, 8 to 10c.; winter ditto, 10 to 13c.; otter, \$12 to \$18 for fine north eastern; No. 1, western, \$8 to \$12; coon, No. 1, black, \$1.50 to \$2.50; No. 1, dark, 80c. to \$1.35; skunk, 20c. to \$1.35 for prime, according to stripe, etc.

Groceries.—Sugars continue to be the all-prevailing topic in this line, and the market is about at the lowest point ever known. Raw beet sugar rules very low, latest cable quotations being 6s. 9d., and, New York prices having shown further decline, the local refineries reduced quo-

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