

THE GROCERY TRADE.

Recent mail advices from Marseilles are to the effect that the crop of Princess paper-shell almonds has been lost. There is still a trifling quantity of old crop left, for which the holders want a price equivalent to 28c in New York.

Since last week there has been no change to speak of in the molasses market. Cable advices from primary points are exceedingly strong in tone, and still higher prices are anticipated in the near future, owing to the fact that the output for the month of May has been about sold up, and for what has not, holders are demanding 1c more than present prices, which is 18c to 18 1/2c first cost.

All kinds of black teas, it is claimed, are especially strong throughout the world and in London they are scouring the European continent for black teas, and numerous shipments have been made from this country, not only of China black tea, but even Indias and Ceylons, which were imported for consumption here. Again, it is claimed that "teas for price" has been the cry, but that nothing desirable can now be bought from first hands under 25c duty paid. It is argued that as long as inquiry comes from abroad it is fair to suppose that prices here will advance to something like uniformity with values abroad.—Toronto Globe.

THE HARDWARE TRADE.

The white lead manufacturers met in Toronto this week to discuss an advance in prices.

United States makers of cast iron hardware have notified their Canadian customers that these goods have been again advanced in price to the extent of 10 per cent.

The iron moulders' strike at Montreal has seriously affected the iron trade in that city. Thirteen foundries are affected and about 2,000 are off work directly or through the influence of the strike.

Tin continues to advance in the European markets. The visible is much less than a year ago and the market is in strong hands. The visible supply on April 30 was 19,504 tons, as against 20,534 tons on the same date last year.

Iron prices retain and threaten to increase their high range. Abroad the advances and excited state of the market are remarkable. In America the situation is no less interesting. At New York old rails have gained another 50c per ton, and No. 1 wrought scrap iron \$1 per ton. Bessemer pig iron gained 10c at Pittsburg last week, billets gained 50c, sheet steel bars 75c and muck bars 75c per ton.

THE IMPLEMENT TRADE

THE TWINE MARKET.

The twine market, as far as prices are concerned, remains unchanged and the general situation is practically that of last week. Some of the jobbers who are holding unsold stocks of fair proportions have opened negotiations with others with a view to cleaning up entirely, but as far as we can learn no concessions in the jobbing price have been made to effect such deals. It simply shows a prevailing feeling that twine will be unsafe property to carry until the season of 1900, and while some of those who are seek-

ing relief in the direction referred to, claim to be confident that their trade and second orders will consume all twine now on hand, they, at the same time, consider "discretion the better part of valor" and are taking no chances. It should prove that their later orders require more twine, it will undoubtedly be available, possibly at higher prices than were paid for present stocks, but still at a rate by which a fair margin may be made.

From all appearances it is advisable for the dealers to use the utmost caution in the matter of purchases, buying only what the harvest promises to demand and selling as fast as possible, keeping in view the prospect, recognized by all twine men, that next year's prices may be much lower.

The fears of lower prices before the end of the coming harvest are not entirely dissipated, but the general opinion continues firm that no drop in fiber prices will effect those of twine. Crop failures that develop later may cause a break but there would be no reason in it, since, in the event of extensive crop damage, little more twine could be sold, so much having already been placed. Fiber has several degrees to fall before the ruling quotations on twine may be called disproportionate.

Prices are as follows f.o.b. Chicago, L. C. L.:

Sisal... .. 9 1-2
Standard... .. 9 1-2
Manila (600-foot)... .. 10 1-2
Pure Manila... .. 11

Car lots, 1-4 cent less. Five ton lots, 1-8 cent less. Fall terms.—Farm Implement News, May 4.

IMPLEMENT TRADE NOTES.

It requires the product of 3,200 trees to make one gross ton of manila fibre. One man prepares about fifteen pounds a day, earning in the neighborhood of 20 cents.

At a meeting of the National Association of Wood Pump Manufacturers, held in Indianapolis, Ind., the latter part of March, it was decided to abolish discounts existing at that time. It was further decided to list wood pumps in three grades, classified as first, second and third, the discounts applying in each grade to be as follows: First grade, 50 and 10 per cent; second grade, 60 per cent; third grade, 65 per cent; terms, 60 days; 2 off 10 days. The next meeting of the association will be held in Chicago, June 14.

RAW FUR ITEMS.

From the Fur Trade Review.

Dorchester is entitled to the proud distinction of being the greatest muskrat-producing county of the state of Maryland. Two hundred and fifty thousand muskrats in one year is the record, and no other county can approach it. Not only is there profit in the peltries, but the flesh of the muskrat is said to be by some of the local epicures an excellent substitute for diamond-back terrapin.

When trappers throughout the country learn that a single silver fox skin brought \$340 at London in March, they will conclude that all foxes are worth about \$300, and will "hold out" for something like that price. It will be worse than that when the daily papers discover the fact of the high price.

HIGH PRICES FOR FURS.

Many very remarkable prices were realized at the London March sales

for single choice skins, making the sales unexampled in this respect in their history. Following are some of the top prices:

Sea otter. One skin, the choice of the collection, brought \$260; 175 skins brought from \$100 to \$150, and 32 skins brought from \$150 to \$200, five skins bringing the latter price.

Silver fox. A single skin, secured by a French firm, brought the really wonderful price of \$340; eleven skins brought from \$80 to \$100; ten skins from \$100 to \$120; two skins brought \$100 each.

Marten. The highest priced very dark marten brought 190 shillings each.

Russian sable. The highest price paid was \$47 per skin, and was a very high price.

Mink, 30 shillings each for 250 firsts, extra large skins; the next priced, consisting of firsts and small firsts, brought 29 shillings.

Bastard chinchilla, 175 shillings.

Real chinchilla, 510 shillings per dozen, this price was realized for two lots, 240 dark and also 219 pale skins.

Raccoon, 38 shillings per skin for 32 firsts.

Skunk, 9.6 shillings per skin for 672 black firsts.

Ermine, 85 shillings per timber, 40 skins.

Wolf, 38 shillings per skin for two extra large firsts and two extra large firsts blue.

Gray fox, 10.6 shillings per skin.

Kitt fox, 8 shillings per skin.

Blue fox, 250 shillings per skin for 8 skins.

Red fox, 27 shillings per skin for 51 dark skins.

Cross fox, 180 shillings per skin for 16 dark skins.

White fox, 32 shillings per skin for 28 firsts and seconds.

Fisher, 52.6 shillings per skin for 31 extra large skins.

Black bear, 190 shillings per skin for first and seconds, rough.

Brown bear, 125 shillings per skin for 20 firsts and seconds.

Grizzly bear, 160 shillings per skin for 11 fine specimens, with claws.

White bear, £28 per skin for 4 extra large skins, with skulls.

Musquash, 12 pence; black musquash, 21 pence per skin.

American opossum, 33 pence for 1,039 extra large firsts.

Grebe, 26 pence per skin.

Copper Island fur seals, 74 shillings.

Northwest Coast fur sealskins, 56 shillings.

Capo Horn fur seals, 47 shillings.

In the sundries, the finest lion skin, with skull, brought 640 shillings, the highest priced tiger skin 600 shillings, the highest price leopard skin 40 shillings, snow leopard 35 shillings.

THE LIVE STOCK TRADE.

BY-PRODUCTS.

To such an extent has the utilization of by-products been carried in the stock yards of Chicago that now the only waste in a steer is the gastric juice, and what was formerly the waste is now worth more than the meat. As a result of this care and economy, the financial returns from a steer, as estimated by one in the business and quoted by the Boston Journal of Commerce, are: "From the meat and compounds of meat, \$10; from the hide, hair, horns and hoofs, \$25; from the fats, blood, sinews and bones, \$15; from all other waste, \$15; or \$55 received from the by-products."