

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, 2nd Nov., 1898.

**ASHES.**—English enquiry is still very fair, but few goods are available here, as Western makers are shipping most of their output to New York, to avoid the somewhat heavy inspection charges at this port, while at New York inspection is not enforced. Quotations are again higher, and \$4.35 to \$4.40 is being paid for first quality of pots, seconds, \$4 to \$4.05; pearls, about \$4.90 to \$5.

**BOOTS AND SHOES.**—Manufacturers agree, as a rule, that orders for spring are coming in well, and that their proportion is greater than at this time last year. There is no accumulation of stocks apparent here, for the houses generally are and have been backward buyers of leather.

**CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.**—No large transactions are reported in cements since last week's letter, but a fair business has been done in small lots, at steady prices. We quote \$1.95 to \$2.05 for Belgian, English, \$2.25 to \$2.35, and German, \$2.35 to \$2.45. Firebricks, \$16 to \$21. Receipts for the week, only 1,850 barrels of English cement, and 61,900 firebricks.

**DAIRY PRODUCTS.**—The decline in cheese appears to be pretty well checked, and a steadier tone is apparent within the last few days, with a little more enquiry noted from England. The important cheese failure, noted in our summary column has had no unfavorable effect upon the market, having been apparently pretty well discounted. We quote 9 to 9 1-16c. per lb. for finest Western, and 8 1/2 to 8 3/4c. for fine Eastern. Last week's exports were liberal, some 88,777 boxes, as compared with 70,840 boxes for same week last year. Butter remains dull and heavy, as far as spot trading is concerned, but exports last week reached to 16,101 packages, quite respectable figures, and exports this season so far are some 42,000 packages ahead of last year. We quote 18 to 18 1/2c. for fine box creamery, tubs, 17 3/4 to 18c.; dairy, about 14 1/2c. per lb.

MONTREAL STOCKS IN STORE.

	Bushels.	Bushels.
	Oct. 25.	Oct. 31.
Wheat .....	87,395	107,344
Corn .....	18,481	36,788
Oats .....	417,775	380,148
Rye .....	29,856	22,932
Peas .....	94,080	62,143
Barley .....	14,714	12,547
<b>Total grain .....</b>	<b>662,301</b>	<b>621,902</b>
Oatmeal .....	213	230
Flour .....	10,354	11,307
Buckwheat .....	1,041	4,180

**DRY GOODS.**—General conditions are about as last week. The weather has ruled mild for the season of the year, and country letters complain of cut-up muddy roads, as proving somewhat unfavorable to trading. City retailers, however, despite untoward weather, report that shoppers are turning out in very fair number, and that business is quite up to last fall. General remittances keep up well, and the indications are that a goodly proportion of 4th November payments, which run up to quite a fair aggregate, will be regularly provided for. A prominent buyer, just returned from England, reports general firmness in the woolen market, and a good many of the Huddersfield coating manufacturers have withdrawn prices. There has hardly been the stiffening in English dress goods that was expected, as the Americans are very light buyers at present, but any active enquiry from that quarter would doubtless lead to advance. In the silk market, stocks of black surahs and peau de soie are reported to be well cleaned, up, and these goods are scarce and dear. Velvets are being largely used for millinery effects, and will likely be in larger demand. It is regrettable to learn that the demand for cheap lines is causing manufacturers to use quite consider-

able quantities of cotton in the production of Belfast goods, and the proportion of really pure linens, now being turned out, is said to be much smaller than in former years.

**GROCERIES.**—Business continues brisk with the country, and collections thence generally good. The last direct Mediterranean steamer is reported from Halifax; she left that port this morning, and will be here about Sunday. She has a large cargo, considerably larger in fact than the "Escalona" brought. She has on board the main supply of Malaga raisins, figures for which are not yet to hand. Of currants she brings 900 barrels, 1,100 half barrels, 575 quarter cases, 8,594 half cases, and 2,885 cases; of Valencia raisins 55-437 half boxes, 3,500 quarter boxes, and 1,630 eighth boxes, besides a large miscellaneous cargo of nuts, wines, from Cadiz, etc. Currants are advanced at primary points, and 13s. 6d. is now quoted as the lowest Denia quotation for Filiatras. Nuts are in good demand; almonds continue to advance, and Tarraconas, if imported to-day, would cost 12c., prices have advanced from 33s. 6d. at opening of the season to 39s. Walnuts are very firm, with active trading in last year's goods, owing to late crop this year, and those goods of 1897, which have been well kept in cold storage, will compare well with this year's crop. Mail advices, under date 14th Oct., regarding filberts, say that prices have advanced through covering by shorts, and fresh export demand; present quotations are 39s. 9d. c. & f., New York. Sugars are unchanged, and refiners report good Western demand, though local jobbers are rather light buyers just now. Trading in teas between jobbers and importers is not very active, as regards large lots, purchases being confined to present wants, apparently. Japans may be called steady. Ceylons are reported firm both in London and Colombo. The crop of China blacks in the Foochow district is now reported from 50 to 60 per cent. short. A very fair English and German enquiry is reported for gallon apples, which packers quote at \$2 to \$2.10. New evaporated apples are quoted about 8c. f.o.b., factory.

**HIDES.**—Dealers report continued fair demand from tanners, and stocks in the association warehouse show some diminution. The general quotation by dealers

lb.; Spanish onions, \$1 to \$1.10 per box; Canadian onions, 80 lbs., red and yellow, \$1 per bag; Lima beans, per lb., 6c.

**GRAIN.**—As compared with last week, quotations remain unchanged. During the week, as was scarcely to be expected, from the war rumors, the market has been steady, showing, however, no signs of weakness. Receipts from country points are still rather limited, and farmers are evidently busy with their root crops and fall ploughing. Merchants here estimate that not 10 per cent. of the crop has yet left the farmers' hands. There has been an advance of 2c. per bushel in the price of barley; ranging now from, No. 3 extra at 38c., to No. 1 at 51 to 52c. per bushel. Oats are quiet and unchanged. Peas remain quoted at 60 to 61c. Rye is steady, with quoted price of 44 to 45c. per bushel. Of corn and buckwheat there is nothing new to say.

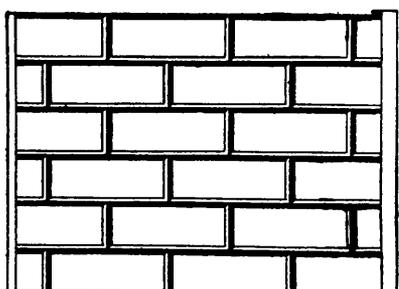
**GROCERIES.**—General trade is active, and a large movement of supplies is taking place. In values there have been no changes of importance to note. Sugars find fairly good demand at former quotations. New Japan teas are coming forward, and are going into consumption. London mail advices are to the effect that the past nine months have shown a remarkable increase in the quantity of tea exported from Ceylon, direct to markets outside the United Kingdom, viz.: 1898, 17,037,941 lbs., and 1897, 11,911,213 lbs. Progress has been most important in Australia, North America and Russia. Considering the export of Ceylon tea from Great Britain, during the above period, has also materially increased, the quantity now taken abroad has become a very important factor. With a rather lighter auction, and a strong general demand, prices of Indian tea were firm, occasionally showing an upward tendency; Pekoes and broken Pekoes of good liquor sold well. The official telegram from Calcutta gives exports to United Kingdom, for first half of October as 10,300,000 lbs., against 8,790,000 lbs. for the corresponding period of last year, making the quantity from the 1st April to the middle of October as 80,217,000 lbs., against 77,840,000 lbs. last year. In dried fruits there is activity in the market as a result of the new crop coming forward. We quote: Prunes, 90-100, 50-lb. boxes, per lb., 6c.; 90-100, 25-lb. boxes, per lb., 6 1/4c.; 70-80, 50-lb. boxes, per lb., 7 1/4c.; 70-80, 25-lb. boxes, per lb., 7 1/2c.; 50-60, 25-lb. boxes, per lb., 9 1/4c. Figs, glove boxes, 20c. per box; 6-crown, 10-lb. boxes, per lb., 22c.; 4-crown, 10-lb. boxes, per lb., 20c.; 6-crown, 24-lb. boxes, per lb., 22c.; 7-crown, 56-lb. boxes, per lb., 28c.; tannets, per lb., 4c. In nuts trade is beginning to show more life and will continue to develop.

**HIDES AND SKINS.**—The hide market is not as strong as it was a week ago. The weakness showing itself in the cured market, although as yet green hides remain unchanged. Dealers for the past few weeks have been quoting cured at 9 1/4c., and some say they are sold ahead at this figure. A car-load was reported sold this week at 9c. per lb., and it is doubtful if any higher price could be realized at present. Butchers still receive 8 1/2c. for green hides, which is 1/2c. too much. It is probable that a decline will take place in green hides soon. Sheep skins advanced 5c. this week, and are now quoted at 75 to 80c. each. Tallow is quiet and unchanged.

**WOOL.**—Business in wool circles is rather quiet. The demand from the factories has apparently fallen off the past week, and pulled wools and imported foreign wools are not in as good request. The fleece market still remains lifeless; dealers paying only 15c. per lb. for the few lots coming forward. It is cause for little remark that at this price, holders prefer to keep their wool and wait the developments of the future, which can offer them nothing worse than the present.

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