Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, Feb. 26th, 1902.

Ashes.-Some few small parcels of pot ashes have been marketed at prices ranging from \$4.40 to \$4.45 for firsts, and frcm \$3.95 to \$4 for seconds, but receipts are still very light. Not a transaction has been reported in pearls for some

Cements and Firebricks.—There is still an absence of business in these lines, though some little enquiry is reported regarding opening prices for spring shipments. It is said European manufacturers are disposed to make lower quotations than a year ago, though no definite quotations have been yet received.

Dairy Products.—The Liverpool cable advanced to-day from sixpence to a shilling, with improved English demand, and some good business has been reported, several large firms being reperted pretty well sold out. Quotations are firmer at 101/4 to 101/2c. for finest Western; Townships, 10 to 101/4c,; Quebecs. 93/4 to 10c. The butter market is rather firmer, wtih good demand for fine creamery. The general quotation for best goods is 211/2 to 22c., though it is claimed half a cent more has been realized; seconds, 19 to 20c.; good dairy, 16 to 17c.

Dry Goods.—A good many travellers are getting through the first spring trip, and are striking for Montreal and Toronto to meet customers attending the spring millinery openings, which are fixed at Montreal for the 4th, 5th and 6th of March, and at Toronto for the 3rd, 4th and 5th. Quite a few letters received from retailers, both in the West and this prevince, complain of business still being affected by heavy roads, but remittances as a whole do not show any noteworthy falling off, and failures are gratifyingly few. The indications of a stiffening in cettons, alluded to last week, have taken more definite shape, as three of the leading mills have issued circulars that orders will only be received subject to advance at any moment.

Furs.-It is now considered a pretty well established fact that the season's catch of Canadian furs will be a small one. Receipts thus far have been quite light, and dealers are not apparently looking for any large parcels. Quotations remain as lately revised. 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, \$3 to \$5; marten, fine, British Columbia, \$3.50 to \$7; eastern, \$2 to \$4.50; mink, eastern, \$3.25 to \$4; western, No. 1, \$2.50 to \$3.50; fall rats, 8 to 10c.; winter, ditto, 10 to 15c.; 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, \$1 to \$1.50;

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Abstract of Accounts for 1901 INCOME 279,067 02 Total.....\$ 1,277,686 08 DISBURSEMENTS Death Claims, Endowments, Profits, etc..... 493,532 45 All other Payments Total.....ASSETS 709,209 39 Loans on First Mortgages. Loans on First Mortgages. \$2,648,066 61 Municipal Debentures and Bonds. 2,019,949 03 Loans on Company's Policies Real Estate, including Company's Office Cash in hand and in Banks. 643,361 93 123,729 01 18,325 75 Other Assets 309,389 84 Total.....\$ 5,757,822 17 LIABILITIES Reserve, 4 and 3½%. \$5,301,100 41 All other Liabilities. 76,751 23 76,751 23\$ 5,377,851 64 Total....\$ 379,970 53

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