

\$1.25 to 1.50 for best, with arrivals light. Lambskins command 15 to 20c. Dulness is still the dominant feature in calfskins. Prices to butchers are 5 to 6c. per lb., but no sales are reported. Tallow remains quiet. Dealers are paying 5½c. and selling at 6c. per pound.

LEATHER.—We hear of no large transactions of any kind and prices are rather weak. Payments are reported slow and are expected to be so for some time to come. Tanners are again advised to be very careful as to what stock they are working in. They are cautioned not to rush after hides, there being plenty for everyone, and the price it is said ought to be low.

LUMBER.—Although building operations are fairly under way trade is somewhat sluggish, no particular activity in any line being noticeable. It is, however, generally thought that what trade is now being done is of a much better class, and consequently more profitable than a larger turnover has sometimes been. Dealers are evidently taking seriously to heart some of their past bitter experience and exercising more caution as to the granting of credits. Among the saw mills orders for bills to cut are fairly numerous, but by no means brisk. Stocks are going to be decidedly smaller this season, large quantities of logs are "hung up" owing to the shallowness of the streams this spring. Very few of the larger concerns have more than half their stocks out to deep water. This will very likely have a tendency to make firmer prices, but up to the present no advance is noticeable.

PROVISIONS.—The transactions taking place in this line are not large nor of especial interest. Another decline in butter is to be noted, and sales are now made at 16c. per lb., with fairly large arrivals. Cheese steady at 10½c. per lb., and eggs are firm and unchanged from 12 to 12½c. per doz. In hog products there is only a jobbing trade doing with prices unaltered from last report. Holders of dried and evaporated apples are beginning to feel the depression in this article.

PETROLEUM.—Business has settled down to the quietude usual at this season of the year. For 5 to 10-barrel lots of Canadian refined 13 cents per gal. f.o.b. Toronto is still the figure, and ½ cent added will represent the quotation for single barrels. Carbon safety sells at 16c. to 17c., and the two grades of American bring 23 and 24 to 25c. per gal. respectively. For photogene 27 cents is paid.

SEEDS.—Sales of Hungarian grasses, millet, and ensilage corn are fairly numerous, and constitute the bulk of the business now being done. Prices are as last quoted.

WOOL.—Some few lots of the new clip have been offered on this market, and 20c. per lb. has been paid. The feeling here is quiet and reports from foreign markets give no encouragement to hope for any immediate improvement. There has not been much doing in pulled wools, but the market is bare of stocks and prices are strong. Foreign advices are unimportant, and a cable to-day from Liverpool says that the auction for East India grades opened steady.

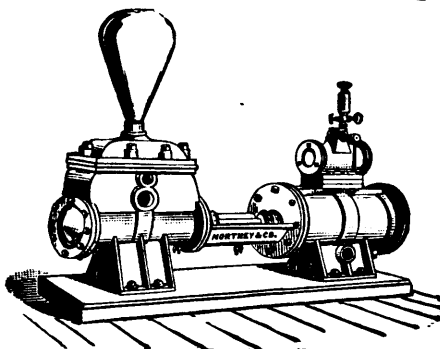
BRITISH TIMBER MARKETS.

The arrivals from Canada at London up to 4th inst. were :

Pine deals, &c., 19,000 pieces against Nil pieces in '88
Spruce 25,000 " " 30,000 "
Birch planks... 9,000 " " Nil "
Birch timber ... 550 " " "

The stocks of pine and spruce deals are exceedingly light, and the demand good ; although

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The half-yearly interest due on the 1st of June next on the Five per Cent. Debenture Stock of this Company, will be paid at the Office of Messrs. Morton, Rose & Co., Bartholomew House, London, England, on and after that date, to holders on the register on the 28th instant.

Interest for the same period, on the Common Stock of the Company, at the rate of Six per Cent. per annum, will be paid on and after the same date, at the Bank of Montreal, Montreal, or at the Office of Messrs. Morton, Rose & Co., London, England, at the option of the holder, to shareholders on the register on the 28th instant.

Warrants for these payments will be remitted to the registered holders.

The Debenture Stock Transfer Books will close in London and in Montreal on the 29th instant, and the Common Stock Transfer Book will close in Montreal on the same day.

The Books at both places will be re-opened on the 3rd June next. By order of the Board.

CHARLES DRINKWATER,

Secretary.

Montreal, April 18th, 1889.

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GAINS IN 1887 AND 1888.

The following shows the progress and comparative gains made by the **ETNA LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY**, in its several departments, in the years 1887 and 1888. It will be observed that the gains during the past year exceed considerably the gains made in 1887. These figures indicate that the **ETNA** is conservatively, yet actively managed. Its growth is substantial.

	1887.	1888.
A gain in membership of.....	2,192	2,264
A gain in market values of.....	\$ 26,157 66	\$ 46,553 15
A gain in interest income of.....	22,541 10	89,587 63
A gain in surplus of.....	77,753 04	138,431 84
A gain in premium receipts of.....	171,152 43	202,865 47
A gain in income of.....	193,693 53	292,453 10
A gain in assets of.....	1,074 746 99	1,198,358 21
A gain in new business of.....	1,352,456 00	1,714,138 00
A gain in insurance of.....	5,109,365 00	5,531,969 00

Policies in force Jan. 1st, 1889.....	67,749 insuring	\$102,904,303 00
" issued in 1888.....	8,083 "	16,094,687 00

Insurance in force in the Dominion of Canada.....	\$18,248,768 00
Government deposit at Ottawa for Canadian policy-holders nearly.....	2,500,000 00
Paid to widows and orphans in Canada the past year.....	194,917 00
Paid to living policy-holders, matured endowments, the past year.....	150,070 00

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For Rate Tables or an Agency of the Company address the

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