

## ADOPT AMERICAN HABITS AND TAKE IT STRAIGHT.

I have received this week a somewhat amusing letter from a correspondent who wishes to apply an electric current to the purification of well water from iron contamination. His chief objection to the use of this water is that it turns whiskey black. It seems to me that he has by no means proved that the water is at fault, and, although I am not a chemist, I would suggest to him to look to his whiskey as well as his water. Blackening by iron salts is usually due to sulphuretted hydrogen or tannin, and it must be a poor sort of whiskey that contains either of these ingredients.—*London Lightning.*

## STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, 31st Oct., 1894.

Stocks.	Highest.	Lowest.	Total.	Sellers.	Buyers.	Average price 1894.
Montreal .....	925 1/2	925	14	929	925	930
Ontario .....	112	110 1/2	87	112 1/2	109 1/2	110 1/2
People's .....	125	125	5	127	125	115
Molson's .....	165	165	1	170	165	153
Toronto .....				260	251 1/2	
Jac. Cartier .....				192 1/2	118	
Merchants .....	168	167	32	168	167	154
Commerce .....	140	139	93	140 1/2	139 1/2	136 1/2
Union .....				98	98	
M. Teleg. .....	152 1/2	152	162	152 1/2	152	141
Rich. & Ont. .....	84 1/2	84	940	90	85	80 1/2
Street Ry. .....	159 1/2	157 1/2	3246	159	158 1/2	174
do new stock .....	168	156 1/2	1662	157 1/2	156 1/2	
do .....						
Gas .....	185 1/2	183 1/2	1510	185 1/2	184 1/2	181
C. Pacific Ry. .....	65	62 1/2	350	62 1/2	62	72 1/2
Land gr't b'nds .....					109 1/2	109
N. West Land. .....				60	45	
Bell Tele. Co. ....	153	153	34	156	153 1/2	149
do, new stock .....				155	153 1/2	
Montreal 4% .....						

## Commercial.

## MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, Oct. 31st, 1894.

**ASHES.**—There have been some very fair lots—considering the present state of the trade—to hand within the last few days, including 64 brls. from the Perth district in Ontario. The "Laurentian" steamship took out about 50 brls. at the end of last week, but stocks in store are a little increased. First quality pots are quoted at \$4.35, seconds \$3.90 to \$4, according to tare. Pearls nominal at about \$6.20 per cental.

**CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.**—Trading in cements is of quite a moderate character, and sales from wharf are made at a range of \$1.95 to 2.05 for English, and \$1.90 to 1.95 for Belgian. There are still some 15,000 brls. to come forward before the close of navigation, but a good portion of this is to order for works on the Soulages canal. Scotch bricks are still very scarce, and English brands range from \$17.50 to \$20.00.

**DAIRY PRODUCTS.**—Trading in cheese has not been active since last writing, and shipments have eased off under the influence of a weaker market in England. The shipments to the end of last week were 1,439,556, as against 1,430,842 for the same period last year, showing that the large excess of earlier in the season has been mostly lost. Local prices are again easier. We quote: Finest Ontario, 10 1/2c.; Townships, 10 1/4c.; Eastern, 9 3/4c. per lb. In butter there is no export trade at all, and spot business is moderate. We quote: Creamery, 18 to 20 1/2c.; Townships dairy, 18 to 19c.; western, 16 to 17 1/4c. per lb. For eggs there is good demand at 13 to 14c. for packed; boiling stock, 15 to 17c. per dozen.

## MONTREAL GRAIN STOCKS IN STORE.

	Oct. 27, '94.	Oct. 28, '93.
Wheat, bushels.....	695,036	647,391
Barley, " .....	2,443	47,786
Corn, " .....		1,582
Peas, " .....	70,899	247,207
Oats, " .....	86,953	107,566
Rye, " .....	2,936	43,288
Buckwheat, " .....	18,180	200

Total bushels..... 876,447 1,095,020

There is no flour in store at present in Montreal; the stock at like date last year was 30,391 barrels. The quantity of oatmeal held here at present is only 297 barrels, whereas last year at this time there was 1,270 barrels.

**DRY GOODS.**—Under the influence of the fine bright summer-like weather sorting business is found somewhat on the slow side. City retail trade is not in satisfactory shape as a whole; collections thus far this fall have been poor, and failures have been much more numerous than usual at the season. The North-West has braced up a little, and some very fair remittances have been received from that quarter during the last few weeks. In values we hear of nothing fresh.

**GROCERIES.**—The distribution of goods in this line has become again somewhat restricted, and there is not the activity present that marked September. Sugars are not so active, and more competition between refiners is evident. It is said that lower province refiners have been shipping west at cut prices, and, locally, values are easier, granulated being sold at factory at 4 1/2c. per lb. in fair lots; yellows 3 1/2 to 3 3/4c., with some difficulty in getting supplies of lower grades. Mr. Alex. Wills, the broker representing some German refiners, reports sales to date of 2,250 bags of granulated, some of which will be forward about the end of this week, at a cost laid down of about 3 3/4c. Molasses and syrups are unchanged. Coffees are moving off in moderate lots; Maracaibo is notably firmer, and Rios were reported advanced 25 points the end of last week, owing to reports of poor crop. In teas, while there is a lessened country distribution, the demand from jobbers is fairly maintained, and from American points there is still considerable enquiry for Japans. We hear of several car lots being picked up for Chicago. There being some reports current of an

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