

## MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, 4th Jan., 1899.

**ASHES.**—Values have declined quite notably, in fact ashes do not seem to be wanted, and the only transaction reported since last writing was a small lot of No. 1 pots, at \$4.05. On this basis, seconds would only fetch about \$3.70 to \$3.75. Pearls are very dull, and nominal at about \$4.75 to \$4.90 per cental.

**CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.**—Some moderate jobbing business is reported in firebricks for the usual winter repairs in large manufacturing establishments; prices are very firm at \$18 to \$24. Cements are seasonably dull, but values are steady, from \$2 to \$2.10 being asked for Belgian; \$2.45 to \$2.50 for English,

**FISH.**—There is a fair demand for salt fish, and values generally are steady, with a tendency to advance in green cod, supplies of which are really light. Fresh fish in better supply, and prices easier. We quote: No. 1, green cod, \$5.50; No. 1 large, do., \$5.75 to \$6; N.S. salmon, \$15; B.C. salmon, \$13; dry cod, \$4; Nova Scotia herring, \$4.50 to 4.75; No. 2 mackerel, \$14 to 15. Lake trout, \$4.50 a keg. Sea trout, \$9.50 to \$10. Haddies, 6½ to 7c.; smoked herrings, 8 to 10c. a box; bloaters, \$1 to 1.10. Oysters, \$5 to \$6 for choice hand-picked Malpeques. Fresh haddock, 6c.; fresh cod, 5c.; fresh herrings, \$2 to \$2.50 per hundred.

**FURS.**—The market is a quiet one, and will probably continue so until the results of the London sales, to be held this month, be known. We quote: Mink, \$1 to 1.75; marten, \$1.50 to 2.50; fisher, \$4 to 6; lynx, \$1.50 to 2; otter, \$5 to 13; red fox, \$1.25 to 1.60; cross ditto, \$3 to 7; silver ditto, \$20 to 60; skunk, 20 to 75c.; coon, 20 to 80c.; fall rats, 5 to 10c; winter, 10 to 14c. The catching or buying of beaver is still illegal in both Ontario and Que.

**GROCERIES.**—Business in wholesale circles is seasonably quiet, and there is really little of interest to be noted. Sugars are very dull, there being little demand, and the local refineries are shut down, as is usual about this season. There has been no further weakening in local quotations, which are from \$3.70 to \$4.20 for yellows, and \$4.40 for standard granulated, but outside markets are all weaker, and granulated declined a sixteenth in New York yesterday. Molasses occupies rather a peculiar position, as while single puncheons are being jobbed at 31c. per gal. by houses in the Guild generally, round lots cannot be bought below 32c. from first hands, it is claimed. Some tea importers report that they find a better demand springing up for good medium Japans, but business in this line is far from brisk. Dried fruits are dull, with stocks reported somewhat large for the season, and there is some tendency to weakness in values.

**HIDES.**—Business has been very dull the past fortnight, the demand being light, and receipts small. Calfskins are lower, 9c. per lb. being now the figure for No. 1, as paid by dealers; beefhides are unchanged at 9c. per lb. for No. 1, and lambskins 70c. each. The association of leading hide dealers, which it was announced some weeks ago would be dissolved at the close of the year, has been renewed, and even extended in its sphere, as the principal wool and sheepskin dealers will be included in the new organization.

**LEATHER.**—At the moment business is dull, but the shoe factories will get actively to work after this week, on spring footwear, and good demand is looked for. The English market is more active and stronger, and a large local sole leather house, as well as some Western men, have received very fair cable orders at good prices, and parties predict firmer values.

We quote: Spanish sole, B.A., No. 1, 24c.; No. 2, 21½ to 22½c.; No. 1 ordinary Spanish, 23 to 24c.; No. 2, 20 to 21c.; No. 1 slaughter, 26 to 28c.; No. 2, do., 24 to 25c.; common, 20 to 21c.; waxed upper, light and medium, 30 to 35c.; do., heavy, 27 to 30c.; grained, 32 to 35c.; Scotch grained, 30 to 35c.; Western splits, 21 to 23c.; Quebec do., 16 to 18c.; juniors, 16 to 17c.; calf-splits, 30 to 35c.; calfskins, (35 to 40 lbs.), 60 to 65c.; imitation French calfskins, 65 to 75c.; colored calf, American, 25 to 28c.; Canadian, 20 to 24c.; colored pebble cow, 13 to 15c.; russet sheepskins linings, 30 to 40c.; colored, 6 to 7½c.; harness, 24 to 27c.; buffed cow, 13 to 15c.; extra heavy buff, 15c.; pebble cow, 11½ to 13c.; polished buff, 12 to 13c.; glove-grain, 12 to 12½c.; rough, 22 to 23c.; russet and bridle, 35 to 45c.

**OILS, PAINTS AND GLASS.**—Travellers are out again, and business is expected to soon show revival from the holiday quiet. The feature of the trade is the continued upward climb of turpentine, which was again advanced 3 cents a gallon the end of last week, and which is expected to go still higher before new crop is available about the end of March. Linseed is firm at quotations. The lead association meets on the 5th inst., but no revision of prices is looked for, though dry leads are very firm in Britain, with manufacturers not anxious to book orders. We quote: Single barrels, raw, and boiled linseed oil, respectively, 50 and 53c. per gal.; two to four barrels, 49 and 52c.; 5 to 9 barrels, 48 and 51c.; net 30 days, or 3 per cent., for 4 months' terms. Turpentine, one to four barrels, 65c.; five to nine barrels, 64c., net 30 days. Olive oil, machinery, 90c.; Cod oil, 34 to 36c. per gal.; steam refined seal, 37½ to 40c. per gallon. Castor oil, 8½ to 9c. in quantity, tins, 9½c.; machinery castor oil, 7½ to 8c.; Leads (chemically pure and first-class brands only), \$5.62½; No. 1, \$5.25; No. 2, \$4.92½; No. 3, \$4.50; No. 4, \$4.12½; dry white lead, 5c.; genuine red do., 4¾ to 5c.; No. 1 red lead, 4½ to 4¾c.; Putty, in bulk, bbls., \$1.65; kegs, \$1.80; bladder putty, in bbls., \$1.80; smaller quantities, \$1.95; 25-lb. tins, \$2.05; 12½-lb. tins, \$2.30. London washed whiting, 35 to 40c.; Paris, white, 85 to 90c.; Venetian red, \$1.50 to \$1.75; yellow ochre, \$1.25 to \$1.50; spruce ochre, \$1.75 to \$2. Window glass, \$1.80 per 50 feet for first break; \$1.90 for second break.

**WOOL.**—The market has been a dull one for the past fortnight, but values show no weakening, and for desirable grades of Cape wool the range is from 15 to 16½c., Natal about 18c., and B.A. scouring, 33 to 36c. A cargo of Cape wool is about being loaded for this market, but it will be at least a couple of months before it reaches here.

## ELECTRICAL RULES.

At the sixth annual meeting of the Electrical Committee of the Underwriters' National Electric Association, the rules embraced in the national electric code were slightly modified.

The matter of specifications for tests on approved rubber covered-wires and other questions were referred to a committee, comprising W. H. Merrill, Jr., Chicago, E. V. French, of the Factory Mutual; Wm. McDevitt, of Philadelphia; A. M. Schoen, of Atlanta, Ga.; J. C. Forsyth, of New York; James E. Cole, of the Boston fire department, and Mr. Elliott, of Chicago, who are to meet at Chicago at an early date.

In view of the fact that the committee is of the opinion that the publication of the list of approved electrical fittings by the National Board of Fire Underwriters has been of great value, and that its usefulness can be largely increased if it is more uniformly enforced, the following resolutions were adopted:

"Whereas, the attention of members of the sub-committees, in consulting with

manufacturers, has been repeatedly called to the fact that the establishment of standard specifications and the publication of our list of approved fittings and materials, which is intended to be, and if lived up to, is capable of being of great value and assistance not only to the insurance interests, but also to the electrical manufacturing supply and construction interests, becomes, if not lived up to, as great an injustice to the last-named parties, as it might have been a benefit, and

Whereas, we believe it to be the duty of insurance interests, in justice to such persons as are engaged in the manufacture and distribution of such devices and materials, to give them our easiest support when they endeavor to furnish the market with reliable goods; and

Whereas, the uniform support of all of the inspection departments in approving only such devices and materials as properly designed for the use to which they are put, is the quickest and surest way of ridding the market of poor and undesirable articles; and

Whereas, it would seem that the strict enforcement of the list of approved fittings and materials will be of benefit to and is desired by not only the insurance interests, but also by all reputable parties connected with the electrical interests, and that it will work no injustice nor hardship to any interested parties:

Therefore be it resolved, that it is the sense of this meeting that on and after July 1st, 1899, all inspectors should refuse to accept any devices or materials on new work not enumerated in the edition of the list of approved devices and materials of the above date.

Resolved, that the secretary of this committee be instructed to correspond with the various underwriters' associations, asking that they agree to adopt the above resolutions.

Resolved, that we, each and all, pledge ourselves to urge upon our respective associations the prompt adoption of these resolutions.

Resolved, that the secretary of this committee be instructed to give these resolutions the greatest possible publicity by furnishing them to the electrical and insurance press, and by furnishing copies of the same to all inspectors for distribution in their respective territories.

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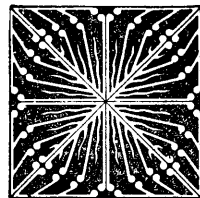


Plate No. 230—Sample Pattern.

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