

English Capital in American Railways.

Europe now holds about seventy thousand shares of Mexican Central stock, or a little more than 20 per cent. of the whole issue. The talk about Europe having secured control is moonshine. Some day it may be a fact; but what of it? Europe owns a majority of the stock of the stock of the Pennsylvania road, of the Louisville and Nashville, and, it is believed, of the New York Central, not to mention various other railroads in North America. But one and all of them are operated under local laws and by citizens of the United States. English capital is as likely to develop a given section of this country as United States capital. It is more likely to develop Mexico than United States capital, and the development of Mexico will rebound to the advantage of the United States, no matter whose money brings out the development. If the English or Germans want a majority of the stock and bonds of the Mexican Central road, and are willing to pay for them, no sentiment will stand in the way of their acquiring them.—*Journal of Commerce.*

Raw Furs.

Buffalo skins are practically out of the market. Proportionate to their scarcity is the price. A few years ago, good buffalo skins could be bought for five or six dollars. Now they are worth eight or nine dollars for the same quality of skin. There has been only about one thousand skins collected against fifty thousand or sixty thousand a few years ago.

Bear skins have been doing fairly well this year. The extensive use of skins for rugs, which has been in fashion for some time, strengthened the market for bear skins to quite an extent. Bear skins are now worth all the way from five dollars to twelve dollars, as to quality, with cubs selling at prices ranging from two dollars to four dollars, as to both size and quality.

Beavers are in good demand. This skin has been very fashionable for the last three or four seasons and consequently the demand has been much improved. Russia supplies a very superior quality of beaver fur. The demand continues good this year, although perhaps it is not quite up to last year's figures. The price ranges from three dollars to seven dollars, the variance being due to difference in size.

There is not much call for fox skins. Occasionally a few are sold for rugs but the majority go for robes and for dress trimmings. The price varies from seventy-five cents to forty dollars as to size, quality, color and variety.

Otter skins have been receiving a fair share of patronage. A great deal of otter has been used for muffs, collars and dress and coat trimmings. They vary in price from four dollars to six dollars.

Skunks have been in good call. They have been used very extensively for dress trimmings and a great many have been sold. The costliest skins are those that have the least white to them. Some white will be found on every skunk but it is cut out when the skin is dressed. These skins range from ten cents to one dollar, according to quality.—*New York Commercial Bulletin.*

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