

specimens exhibited here, and a bronze medal for the same at the Toronto Exhibition.

Mr. J. H. Leblanc, of this city, had a most creditable exhibit of Ostrich and other dress feathers in the main hall, which merited several 1st. prizes.

We have endeavored, in these notices, not to overlook any awards; but if in the great number of exhibits any entitled to our attention have been omitted we shall be pleased to hear from the exhibitors.

Financial and Commercial.

MONTREAL WHOLESALE MARKETS.

THURSDAY, 30TH SEPT., 1880.

The general activity in business and industrial enterprise referred to earlier in the season continues to grow as the Autumn advances. There has been a satisfactory distribution of goods in the various departments of the local wholesale trade during the week, although a less active time was naturally experienced after the extraordinary rush of the fortnight previous. Values show no unusual fluctuation, though on the whole there is probably less buoyancy than was apparent at an earlier stage of the season. Hardware and dry goods have been fairly active, groceries steady and firm, provisions in good request, boots and shoes and leather steady and firm, lumber brisk, breadstuffs and dairy produce more active under an improved demand, and freights firmer and advancing. Hides and skins rule steady and firm, and wool quiet and unchanged. In the local money market there is very little change to note. The supply of loanable funds continues abundant, and commercial paper is readily discounted at 6 to 8 per cent. according to name and date, and stock loans are negotiated at 4 per cent. on call, and about 5 per cent. on time. In sympathy with the New York market Sterling Exchange has declined, and is now quoted at $8\frac{1}{2}$ premium between banks, and $8\frac{1}{4}$ do cash over the counter. Documentary and produce bills are worth $7\frac{1}{2}$ to $7\frac{3}{4}$ premium. Drafts on New York are drawn at 1-16 to $\frac{1}{2}$ premium. The local stock market has been strong but generally inactive since our last reference. The return of the premier, Sir John A. Macdonald, was used by the "bulls," but without the effect anticipated. Had there been an active market, prices would likely have advanced considerably, whereas there are no material advances for any of the stocks compared with last Thursday, and to-day City Gas, which has fluctuated considerably during the week, has fallen about 5 per cent. since morning, when it sold at 15 $\frac{1}{2}$. The books of the Co. were closed to-day, a dividend of 5 per cent. for the current half-year having been declared. Richelieu and Ontario Navigation Co.'s stock has improved, on the receipt of advices from Quebec, stating that the St. Lawrence and Saguenay steamers had gone into winter quarters and no opposition need be feared this year. The St. Lawrence Sugar Refining Co.'s stock has been enquired for at 10 per cent. prem., and for Canada Paper Co.'s stock par was bid, 110 asked. The recorded sales on the Stock Exchange to-day were: Morning Board—50 Ontario at 86 $\frac{1}{2}$; 42 Merchants at 103 $\frac{1}{2}$; 50 Montreal Telegraph at 132 $\frac{1}{2}$; 118 do at 132 $\frac{1}{2}$; 57 do at 132 $\frac{1}{2}$; 20 City Passenger at 121; 5 do at 120; 100 City Gas at 151; 50 do at 151 $\frac{1}{2}$; 50 City Gas ex-div., at 147; 11 do at 146 $\frac{1}{2}$; 250 do at 146 $\frac{1}{2}$. Afternoon Board—50 Montreal at 153 $\frac{1}{2}$; 45 Ontario at 86 $\frac{1}{2}$; 100 Montreal Telegraph at 132 $\frac{1}{2}$; 57 do at 132 $\frac{1}{2}$; 50 City Gas at 146 $\frac{1}{2}$; and 625 do at 146 $\frac{1}{2}$.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—An extra spurt was given to the trade last week by the presence of so many visitors to see the Dominion Exhibition, and this, together with the work on regular fall orders yet unfilled, has made the past an unusually busy week. All the large factories have been taxed to their utmost capacity this season, and many of our dealers are not in a hurry to hear of a break in stocks held in the

country, but, whether or not it is due to the wet and fall-like weather of the last few days, an increased sorting-up demand for heavy goods is being experienced by some of the larger houses; the letter orders now coming to hand would seem to show that stocks of this class of boots in the country are small, and indeed they are rather light in the city. Orders received now for any considerable supply cannot be filled promptly. Travellers will not start out on their next sorting-up trip until probably about the middle of October. Remittances during the past month have been very satisfactory, much more so than during the corresponding month of last year, and on the whole a sounder and considerably larger trade has been done this season than for three or four corresponding periods.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—The local butter trade has improved somewhat since our last report, prices having been reduced to a basis upon which transactions on export account can be made. Canadian farmers have so far this season obtained profitable prices for their dairy produce, but they have recently been holding back supplies with the hope of being able to command still higher prices; they are beginning to discover, however, that it is a mistake to act on the greedy principle too long, for the markets on this continent must necessarily be governed by the English markets, and, as often as goods are held back in America, other countries which are competing for the English butter trade step in and fill the orders, and Canadian dealers have eventually to accept lower, instead of higher prices. During this week a local shipper is said to have bought 1,000 packages Eastern Townships in the country at 20c. to 22c., and since Saturday last about 1,000 additional packages of all grades have been sold to exporters on a basis of 20c. Sales were reported yesterday of a carload of Morrisburg at 21c., and 183 packages of poor Quebec Townships at 15c., and \$10 additional on the total value. Cheese rules steady and firm; 300 boxes of fine Sept. make sold yesterday at 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., but for another lot of 700 boxes, Sept., 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. was the best bid obtained. The range of prices is from 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. to 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., and in Liverpool according to cable advices, choice cheese is quoted at 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ s, equivalent to about 12c. here. At Ingersoll, Ont., on Tuesday, 16 factories offered 16,775 boxes cheese, September and balance of season's make, which represents about all the factories unsold in that district; 1,000 boxes sold, Sept., and October make, at 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. and balance of season's make at 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

Dry Goods.—After the great rush of the two weeks previous, trade during the period under review has been comparatively quiet; of course a calm is always expected after a storm. Dealers, however, are kept fairly busy attending to orders, received chiefly by mail, although there have been a few customers from the Eastern townships and other parts of the Province in the market this week. Purchases made now are of course all for sorting-up, although during last week a good many ordinary fall parcels were sold to merchants from the Ottawa district who had deferred their orders. A good many representatives of European houses have been here this week, soliciting orders for the coming spring importations. Stocks in our wholesale houses are now pretty well reduced, with the exception of heavy woollens, and a good demand for these goods is expected before the present month closes, when the cold weather commences to be felt. Trade for this season has been very satisfactory so far, sales averaging about 20 per cent. more than during the fall season of the past couple of years. Payments continue quite favorable, and during the next three months, which are considered the best period in the year for remittances, money is expected to come forward very freely, as the grain becomes marketed. The new cotton crop in the south has been damaged by late rains, and the estimated yield now is at least over half a million bales less than was anticipated earlier in the season, and the market in the south has advanced about $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ per lb., but no effect is

noticeable here yet. There are no further developments in the "winey war," beyond the fact that the trade are endeavoring to induce the Government to cancel the additional duty of 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ per lb. on even Aberdeen winecys, as they contend that all winecys are essentially alike, and that under the customs tariff any additional duty over and above the 20 per cent. ad valorem is illegal. Among the liberties taken by fashion is the introduction of hooks and eyes for the outside of dresses in place of buttons. The hooks are about an inch in length, of various styles and designs. Some are brilliantly enameled on metal, others are steel cut in glittering facets, gay iridescent steel, steel and jet. Very handsome styles are inlaid with mother-of-pearl.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—There has been a little lull in business since the closing of the Exhibition. Quite a number of country customers were in the city during exhibition week and there was consequently considerable activity in business. This week has been rather quiet but travellers from the various houses having now started on their fall trip, orders may be expected to increase steadily between now and close of navigation. In prices there is no change of importance to note, leading lines being all steady, and any tendency to change being in the way of an advance. Reports from England show rather a quiet market there, except in Caustic Soda, for which there has been an active demand, principally for 76 p. c. which has advanced 5s per ton, and £11 is now paid for that quality. 60 p. c. has only advanced 2s. 6d. Bicarbonate Soda is quite firm and is quoted at £9 15s to £10.

FISH.—The demand is increasing, as the cold weather approaches. No Labrador herrings have yet arrived, but shipments are expected shortly; No. 1 split herrings are selling at \$4.75 to \$5. Green Cod fish is rather scarce, and held firm at \$1.50 for No. 1, and \$3 for No. 2. Dry Cod unchanged, quoted at \$4.25 to \$4.50, as to size of lot. Salmon is very scarce, and prices remain firm and unchanged, at \$19, \$18 and \$17 respectively for Nos. 1, 2 and 3. Mackerel still quoted at \$6 and \$5 respectively for Nos. 2 and 3.

FREIGHTS.—Are much firmer than at our last reference, the demand having materially improved. Vessel owners are feeling better, and now ask for heavy grain to the United Kingdom 6s to 6s 6d, while 5s 6d to 5s 9d are the rates bid. A vessel was chartered yesterday at 5s 6d per qr. for heavy grain direct to a U. K. port, and 6s. has, it is reported, been bid and refused for a steamer wanted some time this month. We understand that 5s 6d and 5s 9d, have been refused in some instances, ship-owners preferring to remain in port rather than accept these rates. On the regular liners contracts for heavy grain can now be made at 4s to 4s 6d, an advance of 3d to 6d per qr. on the rates obtainable last week. Deal freights continue low, rates being still quoted at 6s to 6s 6d, as to size of vessel and its destination. There are very few orders in the market for River Platte freights, which are quoted at \$14 to \$16 per M. In Chicago grain freights have advanced to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ c and 4c on corn to Buffalo, and the tone of the market there is firm.

FLOUR AND GRAIN.—The imports of breadstuffs into the United Kingdom during the week ending Tuesday last show a decrease of 120,000 qrs. wheat and 25,000 qrs. corn, and increase of 35,000 brls. flour. The amount of wheat on passage to the continent has increased during the week by 100,000 qrs. and of corn by 200,000 qrs. Advices from Great Britain and the continent show a strong tendency to higher prices; the English markets have advanced 6d. per qr. for certain kinds of wheat, and orders have been received in this market with higher limits. On the continent a rise has already taken place, and orders, especially for white Michigan wheat, are in the market. The