

of these are hard at work upon Canadian and Australian orders. Costume cloths and union coatings are no cheaper, although the outlet for them has narrowed considerably. For mantle novelties, astrachans, friezes, saltaras, and ordinary unions there is but limited sale. Habit and covert cloths are confined to a few makers, who are full of orders. The rise in the price of fine wools has led to an uncertainty which has somewhat hampered business in the United Kingdom.

GRAIN.—The wheat market has been rather dull during the week, and values are easy. In oats prices are a fraction lower, at 31c. per bushel. Corn is steady but without special feature, at 34 to 35c. per bushel. Peas remain quiet with 64 to 65c. quoted.

The world's wheat export from the principal countries:

Bushels.	Last week.	Last year.
United States	3,284,182	3,682,542
Argentina	2,960,000	824,000
Russia	1,392,000	3,800,000
India	456,000	856,000
Danubian	184,000	344,000
Australia	352,000	
Total	8,628,182	9,506,542

Visible supply in the United States and Canada:

Bushels.	May 13, 1899.	May 14, 1898.
Wheat	26,028,000	21,986,000
Corn	19,180,000	22,460,000
Oats	7,733,000	8,704,000
Rye	827,000	1,427,000
Barley	1,519,000	583,000

HIDES AND SKINS.—The hide market has been steady and firm. Deliveries are seasonably large, and begin to show an improvement in quality. The grubs are disappearing, and offerings are running a larger percentage of No. 1's. Butchers are receiving 8½c. for No. 1 Toronto inspected, while merchants are asking 9c. for cured, and we are told that sales have been made at this figure during the week. Calfskins are steady and unchanged. Deliveries of lambskins are larger in volume. Sheepskins are quiet and steady. Considerable interest is being turned to the movement on the part of tanners to secure uniform compulsory inspection of hides. From Chicago, May 16th.—A firmer market was reported for packer hides. Demand continued fairly general, tanners being ready buyers and sales were made at higher prices. Business reported included 3,000 Texas at 12½c., and Colorados at 11½c. The close was firm at 12¼ to 12½c. for native steers, 12¼ to 12½c. for Texas, 11½ to 11¾c. for butt brands, 11 to 11¼c. for Colorados, and 11c. for branded cows.

LIVE STOCK.—The total amount of live stock received for the week ending May 13th, was: Cattle, 3,329; sheep and lambs, 395, and hogs, 3,241. The attendance was large, and the quality coming forward very good. The range of values was generally well maintained. We quote: Milch cows, \$30 to \$50 each; export cattle, \$4 to \$4.85 per cwt.; butchers' cattle, inferior to choice, \$3 to \$4.50 per cwt.; bulls, \$2.50 to \$4 per cwt.; stockers, \$4 per cwt.; yearling, \$5 to \$5.65 per cwt. The demand for sheep and lambs showed improvement this week, and supplies being limited, prices were slightly firmer. Sheep quoted \$3.50 to \$4.25 per cwt., and lambs, \$2 to \$4.75 each. Trading in hogs was active, and transactions more numerous on advanced prices. We quote light and choice bacon, hogs, \$4.37½ and \$4.75 per cwt. Fat hogs were quoted \$4.25 per cwt.

SEEDS.—The season is about over, and the movement is limited. Prices remain nominal.

WOOL.—In the Western peninsula sheep-washing commenced some days ago, but had to be discontinued on account of cold weather. Nothing but unwashed and tub-washed fleece wool has so far come to hand this season, and very little of that. The season promises to be dull, and the new clip is certain to come forward slowly unless prices improve. At present there is little prospect of this much-to-be-desired result, although some optimists predict that the market will gain strength as the season advances. The N. Y. Journal and Bulletin of Commerce, May 15th, says: "Growers are watching the developments at seaboard markets, and it would take but little of a favorable character to enhance values in the West and to stiffen prices on consigned wools held here. Speculative deals are still out of the question, and while most grades of wool are admitted to be quite as low in valuation as could reasonably be expected, any intimation of desire to secure an advance is very apt to be an impediment to whatever negotiations may at that time be under consideration. The assortment here does not fill out very rapidly, and possibly that narrows the scope of trading to some extent."

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, May 17th, 1899.

ASHES.—The market presents no notably new features. The demand remains of an indifferent character, with the result that values tend to easiness. We quote first quality pots, \$4.10 to \$4.20; seconds, \$3.80 to \$3.90; pearls, \$4.75.

CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.—Business is moderately good, but not as brisk as the season would lead one to expect. Prices continue firm at the higher figures for some time prevailing, with no indications of any relaxation in the near future. Receipts are now coming forward pretty freely, and for the week ending to-day, 12,490 barrels of Belgian and German are reported, and 1,300 English; for the same period receipts of firebricks are 37,720.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.—Cheese exports last week were quite large for the season, footing up to 16,421 boxes, while last year's figures for the same week were only 5,532 boxes. Receipts of fodder cheese are fairly liberal, Tuesday's receipts figuring at 3,659 boxes, and prices range from 9 to 9½c. Butter shipments are also good for the season, last week's exports being 4,019 packages, as against 1,706 packages last year at same date. Values in butter are still easy, fine creamery being quoted at 15½ to 16¼c.; Townships' dairy, 14 to 15c.; Western, 13 to 13½c.

DRY GOODS.—Money is reported to be coming in well, and the volume of business, as last reported, is sustained. Following the big advance in merino wools, crossbreds are also up, and the bright yarns necessary for the manufacture of alpacas and similar goods are much dearer, with the result that Bradford manufacturers are reported refusing cable orders except at higher figures. In fact all European advices are of pretty much the same tenor. Silks keep firming up, and a letter just to hand from a Belfast firm, acknowledging an order for cream damasks and rough-finished goods, states the impossibility of filling further orders at old prices.

FURS.—Business continues about as last week, and quotations are as follows: Mink, dark, \$2 to \$2.50; pale, \$1 to \$1.25; marten, large, \$3 to \$3.50; dark, from \$4 to \$6; fisher, \$4 to \$6.50; lynx, large, \$2.50; small, \$1.50 to \$2; otter, \$8 to \$13; large red fox, \$2; small, \$1.80; cross fox, \$3 to \$7; silver fox, \$20 to \$75; choice bear,

\$12 to \$18; medium, \$10 to \$14; small, \$5 to \$9; skunk, 20c., 40c., 60c., and 90c.; coon, 20c., 40c., 60c., and 90c.; fall rats, 8c. to 12c.; kitts, 2c. to 6c.; winter, 12c. to 14c.; choice spring, 15 to 18c.

MONTREAL STOCKS IN STORE.

	Bushels. May 8.	Bushels. May 15.
Wheat	100,573	155,283
Corn	90,393	33,768
Oats	484,984	520,931
Rye	2,595	3,726
Peas	44,042	89,136
Barley	13,551	13,551
Total grain	736,138	816,395
Oatmeal	257	368
Flour	20,709	20,548
Buckwheat	10,410	41,787

GROCERIES.—The molasses situation is firmer than ever, and first cost at the island is now cabled at 17c., a further gain of two cents since last week. A cable offer of 20½c., invoice gauge, made by a local broker for a round lot, was declined to-day, and enquiries made in Newfoundland and St. John, N.B., show that dealers there are all short, and have nothing to sell. A meeting of the Grocers' Guild was being held this afternoon, to consider a further advance in jobbing prices, but up to six o'clock the result of their deliberations was not known. Sugars are firm at last advance, with fair demand, and comparatively few American goods now coming in. Advices are to hand that the Japan market is now fairly supplied with new teas at reasonable prices, though some dealers think there may be an advance. A cable quotes fair medium teas at about 17c. cost here. More favorable weather conditions have prevailed in Ceylon, and the London market shows a decline of about a penny in these goods, but they are hardly expected to go lower. The Foochow market for China blacks has opened high, as compared with last year. Importers report a few fair lots of currants moving, and Filiatras are a shade firmer. In other lines of dried fruits, there is but a limited movement. Advices from Malaga just to hand report the crop prospects as promising. The Tarragona almond crop is reported as practically ruined, owing to heavy frost.

LEATHER.—Trade is rather quiet, as boot and shoe men have not begun any general cutting on fall stock, though orders are reported coming in well. All outgoing steamers are taking considerable quantities of sole leather, and local commission men are complaining that their principals are so busy in this direction that home business is said to be suffering from the delay in filling orders. We quote: Spanish sole, B.A., No. 1, 24c. to 24½; No. 2, 23c.; No. 1, ordinary Spanish, 23 to 24c.; No. 2, 21 to 22c.; 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 24c.; 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 13c.; rough, 22 to 23c.; russet and bridle, 35 to 45c.

METALS AND HARDWARE.—A satisfactory movement is in progress, and all values are strong. A metal broker reports sales this week of 500 tons of railway chair scrap at about \$17, and also about 1,500 tons of skelp for local iron pipe manufacturers at £7 9s. Pig iron