

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, June 17th, 1885.

In all lines of trade quietness prevails and we can name no feature of special interest. Payments continue slow as a whole. Failures have been rather more numerous of late. From some sections of the province some complaints of lack of rain.

DRY GOODS.—The summer-like weather has been favorable to the sale of prints and muslins, lawns, &c., and not a few retailers report a satisfactory business in seasonable goods. Travellers who are out with samples of tweeds, flannels and underclothing have sent in moderate orders, but wholesale trade is generally quiet. Cotton in both whites and greys, is very firm in prices, and certain grades of white are quite scarce. Late letters from buyers in Britain announce that the advance in linens is very marked and will average from 10 to 12½ per cent. while in some lines it is far in excess of these figures.

ASHES.—The market is dull and values easier; quotations for No. 1 pots are \$3.65 for seconds; pearls, no transactions for some time past.

FISH.—Very little doing and stocks light. Dry cod \$3.75 to \$4 for Gaspe; American \$2.50 to \$3; North Shore salmon, for No. 2 about \$18; British Columbia about \$12, but prices all around nearly nominal.

FURS.—Nothing is coming in, and prices are nominal. Next week advices of the London summer sales will be in.

GROCERIES.—Since last report business remains quiet. Sugars have recovered the slight decline of 12th last week; refiners' prices for granulated are 7½ strong with a possibility of an advance; refinery yellows 5½c. upwards. Raw grocery sugars are in the market at 5½c. for Porto Rico and Barbadoes. Molasses is stronger and held at 80c in fair lots; some large sales of 800 or 900 hogsheads were reported a few days ago at 28½ to 30c., dark syrups are selling at about 19c., also sugar house molasses at 17½c. Advices from Japan indicate that teas below fine are selling freely at \$2 a picul higher than last year; finer grades dull; very little doing in blacks or greens. Coffee more active, with reported sales of 200 bags O. G. Java at 17 to 21c., Mocha at 20c., and some East India, on English account, at equivalent to 18 to 16c. Rice about as before, prices at Hull, in 1,000 bag lots, \$3.20. There has been a rise in pearl tapioca, which can not be had under 5c. A sale of 1,500 boxes of Valencia raisins was reported some days ago, this is the only lot of reliable fruit here, and holders want 7½c; in layers there is nothing lower than black baskets at \$3 50; currants 4 to 6c. in brls., 6 to 7c. in cases. The demand for tobacco has slackened off somewhat. Spices unchanged at 18c. for black pepper; cassia 7c.; cloves 19 to 20c.

LEATHER AND SHOES.—These lines are quiet as is usual in June. Boot and shoe manufacturers are not generally busy; orders are light from what travellers are out, and some houses are running on staple lines to keep hands together. Leather, as a consequence moves slowly, but prices hold up pretty well. Shipping is light at the moment as the English market is not favorable. We quote: Spanish sole B. A. No. 1, 24 to 27c., ditto, No. 2 B. A. 21 to 24c.; No. 1, Ordinary Spanish, 24 to 25c. No. 2 ditto, 22 to 23c.; No. 1 China, 23 to 24c., No. 2 22 to 22½c., ditto Buffalo Sole, No. 1, 21 to 22c., do No. 2, 19½ to 21c.; Hemlock Slaughter, No. 1, 25 to 27c.; Waxed Upper, light and medium, 83 to 87c., ditto heavy, 82 to 85c.; Grained, 84 to 87c.; Splits, large, 22 to 28c., ditto small, 16 to 24c.; Calf-splits 28 to 32c.; Calf-skins (85 to 46 lbs.) 70 to 80c.; Imitation French Calfskins, 80 to 85c.; Russet Sheepskin Linings, 80 to 40c.; Harness, 24 to 32c.; Buffed Cow, 12½ to 16c.; Pebbled Cow, 11 to 15c.; Rough, 23 to 28c. Russet & Bridle, 45 to 55c.

METALS AND HARDWARE.—Business very slack, sales of pig iron and metals are very light. The hardware travellers are starting out on a mid-summer run, but orders are likely to be limited. Warrants "at home" are lower, being cabled at 40/11d. Makers' brands are also weaker, but local quotations are unaltered. Sales of bar iron are mostly made on the bases of \$1.65. Tin is again stronger at home, and shows a gain of 230 the ton within 4 weeks. Prices of steel show demoralization and have undergone quite a revision lately. We amend quotations gener-

ally. We quote:—Gartsherrie and Munmerlee \$17.50 to \$18; Langloan, and Coltness, \$18.50 to \$19.00; Ezlinton, \$16.00 to \$17; Dalmellington, \$16 to \$17; Calder, \$17.50 to \$18; Hematite, \$18.00 to \$20; Siemens, No. 1, \$17.50 to 18; Bar Iron \$1.65. Best refined \$1.90 Siemens bar, \$2.10; Canada Plates about 2.65 to \$2.70. Tin Plates, Bradley Charcoal, \$5.50 to \$5.70; Charcoal I. O. \$4.25 to \$4.40; do. I. X. \$6.00 to 0.00; Coke I. O., \$3.75 to 4.00; Galvanized sheets, No. 28, 5½ to 7c. according to brand; Tinned Sheets, coke, No. 24, 6½c., No. 26, 7c., the usual extra for large sizes. Hoops and Bands per 100 lbs., 1.90 to \$2.00; Sheets, Boiler Plate, per 100 lbs. Staffordshire, \$2 to \$2.25; Steel Boiler Plate \$2.75 to 0.00; heads, \$4.00; Russian Sheet Iron, 10 to 11c. Lead per 100 lbs.:—Pig, \$3.50 to \$4.00. Sheet, \$4.00 to \$4.25; Shot, \$6 to 6.50; best cast Steel, 11 to 12c.; firm; Spring, \$2.50 to \$2.75; Tire, \$2.30 to \$2.50 firm; Sleigh Shoe, \$2.00 to 0.00; Bound Machinery Steel, 3½c. per lb. Ingot tin, 24 to 25c. Bar Tin, 26c.; Ingot Copper, 14 to 15c.; Sheet Zinc, \$4.50 to 4.60; Spelter, \$4.00 to 4.50; Bright Iron Wire, Nos. 0 to 6, \$2.75 per 100 lbs.

OILS AND PAINTS.—Lined oil has again advanced in Britain and is stiffer here, being quoted at 60 to 61c. for raw, 63 to 64 for boiled; the supply is limited. New steam refined seals in the market, but meets with little demand, quotations are 50c. for large, and 52½c. for small lots; no pale vat or straw; cod oil is very scarce and held at 60 to 62½c. for Newfoundland; cod liver 90c. to \$1.00. Turpentine pretty firm at 54 to 55c. Leads (Genuine and first-class brands only) \$6 to \$6.25; No. 1 \$5.25 to \$5.50; No. 2, \$4.75 to \$5.00; No. 3, \$4.25 to \$4.75. Dry White Lead, 5½ to 6c.; Red do. 4½ to 5c. London Washed Whiting, 50 to 60c.; Paris White, \$1.25; Cookson's Venetian Red, \$1.75; Yellow Ochre, \$1.50; Spruce Ochre, \$2 to \$3.

SALT.—A regular business is being done; there was some expectation of higher prices, but thus far no advance is obtained. We quote eleven ex-whf. 50c.; twelves 47½c.; factory-filled \$1.12½ to \$1.15; Eureka \$2.40.

WOOL.—There is still a great dearth of domestic wool, and we have heard of several orders that could not be filled. A good deal of fleece is selling at 20 to 22c. A super 27 to 28c.; B do. 23 to 24c.; black 21 to 22c.; unsorted none in market; cape 17½ to 19c. These prices would not be shaded a decimal.

TORONTO MARKETS.

Toronto, June 18, 1885.

With a strong tone in general to the stock market, some weak spots have developed. All bank shares are now selling ex dividend, allowing for which Imperial has declined 4, while Commerce has gained 1½ and Standard ½. The Imperial statement was regarded as unfavorable, which was likewise the case with Federal and Merchants, the former declining 1 and the latter ½. Hamilton has risen 2½, Montreal 1½ and Ontario, Molsons, and Toronto 1 each. Dominion is unchanged at 193 bid. Insurance stocks have not been dealt in. Consumers' Gas sold 8½ up to 159½, closing 158½ bid. The only feature among the Loan Societies stocks has been an advance of 3 to 187 for Western Canada (new stock).

DRY GOODS.—The movement of goods from the shops of country retailers is provokingly slow, and payments are in consequence unsatisfactory. Reports from old country textile markets show firm prices to rule, as we show elsewhere, but New York advices of Monday state that cotton and print cloths there declined a shade. "The dry-goods market was especially excited by the great sales of flannels, and, although the prices obtained averaged 10 per cent. below agents' quotations, the results are said to have been as good as were expected. Cotton sheetings were also sold in large quantities and at very low prices."

FLOUR.—The dullness here seems to be, if anything, more intense, and quotations consequently weaker. Superior extra can be bought for \$4 to \$4.05; extra is worth about \$3.90. Spring wheat extra quotes at \$2.75 to \$3.80 and superfine at \$3.25 to \$3.80. For oatmeal the price is now \$4.25 to \$4.40. Cornmeal unchanged at

\$3 to \$3.25, bran also remains at last week's figures i. e. \$10.25 to \$10.50.

GRAIN.—During the last day or so there has been no change in prices of wheat, but those of last week will have to be shaded from 1 to 2c in order to represent the market. Say for No. 1 fall, 91 to 92c; No. 2, 89 to 90c; No. 3, 85 to 86c; spring No. 1, 89 to 90c; No. 2, 87 to 88c; No. 3, 85 to 86c. Barley is nominally unchanged. Peas weaker, 65 to 66c. There is no enquiry for oats at 83 to 84c., and nothing doing in corn or rye.

GROCERIES.—The usual demand exists for teas and coffee, while sugars are strong. The refiners are very stiff in their views, the St. Lawrence factory, indeed, would not recede a sixteenth in an offer for 600 barrels. The feeling in N. Y. is also very strong. Some houses here report an improvement in remittances as compared with last month.

HARDWARE.—There appears to be more activity in the metal market of late. The low price of tin plates has helped to stir up this branch, and expecting a rise dealers have been anticipating their wants. The increased price of ingot tin—which is strong and advancing—round lots of straits having changed hands at 22c. in New York, has had a tendency to strengthen the price of plates and it is doubtful if any contract could be booked with makers at the figures ruling, a few weeks ago. The state of affairs is principally due to speculation, but the stoppage in the Suez canal may also be a factor. Ingot copper too is stronger in the American market and the effect is felt here. Attention is just now largely directed to Canada plates prices favor the buyer. Makers of choice brands are at present, however, filled up, and do not wish to make further contracts. Since the wreck of the *Helvetia* the stock of window glass has been pretty low but some houses have already received supplies, and back orders will be at once despatched. Pig lead appears to be in moderate request and quotations are a little higher in sympathy with recent advance in the English market. The general sorting up trade in shelf hardware is considered fairly active and dealers are disposed to maintain present figures. Payments are slightly improved.

PROVISIONS.—A dull market and no prospect of a change. Butter, of a really choice kind, is salable at 12 to 14c., but anything inferior finds no buyers. A firmer feeling is evident in cheese, sales having been made at the cheese markets as high as 8c. The cable quotes 38/6. Hog products are unchanged and only a jobbing trade doing. Eggs are easy at 12c.

WOOL.—Fleece is being brought into market by the farmers in fair quantities. They are getting from 16 to 17c. for the usual selection. For pure-bred Southdown 22 to 24c. would be paid. Other grades unchanged.

HIDES AND SKINS.—Steers are plentiful and command our figures. Cows are not in over supply and are worth 7½ to 8½c. The receipt of lambskins is free and 30c. is the ruling price.

—For the month ending April 30th three vessels cleared from Burrard Inlet with lumber, going to Shanghai, Melbourne and Buenos Ayres, and carrying 2,066,930 feet rough, 20,345 feet timber and green lumber, 920 bbls. lath, and 31,555 feet pickets, of the value in all of \$22,542.37.

J. A. CHIPMAN & CO.,

Millers' Agents and Commission Merchants, Halifax.

Markets weak. Holders still trying to get \$5.00 to \$5.80 for roller flours, and \$5.25 to \$5.40 for unrollers, but these prices can't be maintained, as there must be considerable to arrive. We have scarcely any stock on hand, and but little to arrive, but beg to caution consignors against anticipating high prices.

Maitland & Rixon,

OWEN SOUND,

Forwarders and Commission Merchants,

Dealers in Pressed Hay, Grain & Supplies.

Lumbermen and Contractors' Supplies a specialty
J. W. MAITLAND. H. RIXON.