

and green country hides, No. 1 Toronto inspected were reported purchased for 8½c. From Chicago, March 1, comes this: "There was a fairly firm tone to the market, as tanners were showing increased interest; prices were without change at 11 to 11½c. for native steers; 9-4 to 10c. for light Texas; 10 to 10½c. for heavy do.; 10c. for butt brands; 9½c. for branded cows; 9 to 9½c. for Colorados; 10-5-8c. for heavy native cows and 11c. for light do.

LEATHER.—The first two months of the year have not been without their bright features. A number of tanning firms report the business as fully up to the movement in the same months last year. There are no large accumulations of splits here, although tanners are unanimous in reporting that within the past several years there has been a falling off in the call for this stock. The season for splits will scarcely open for six weeks yet, and until that time the trade must be satisfied to jog along at a moderate rate. Grain leathers are moving fairly well. For colored leathers there has been somewhat less enquiry this year than last.

PROVISIONS.—Local receipts of dressed hogs have been very large since our last report. It is reported that offerings last week were the largest of any week during the present season. Advices point to large spring offerings. The hogs coming forward are, for the most part, light weights. Some of them are far lighter than packers desire, running so low as 75 lbs., and are quite unfit for packing purposes. The only explanation for the marketing of these hogs is that feed must be running short. Peas have sold up to 58c. per bushel, and both buckwheat and corn have been used in its place. There is a strong demand for provisions, especially long clear bacon; while smoked meats are in fair request.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, 2nd March, 1898.

ASHES.—The situation is unchanged. We have seen an English letter from a prominent English firm, which states that the demand over there is very quiet, and there is certainly little doing here. We quote first quality pots at \$3.45 to 3.50; seconds, \$3.15 to 3.20; pearls, about \$4.75 per cental.

CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.—Little movement is reported in cements, and the enquiry for quotations for spring delivery is very limited. The market in both Britain and Belgium is reported a very firm one, at the advanced quotations lately noted. For present delivery from store, figures are: for British, \$2.10 to 2.20; Belgian \$1.95 to 2.05. Firebricks are moving in small lots at \$17.00 to 22.00 per thousand.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.—The cheese market is still marked by inactivity, and it seems a hard thing for buyers and sellers to get together, 7½c. per lb. being the outside idea of the former for fine makes, while holders decline to take less than 7½c. In the demand for butter there is some improvement, and values show some stiffening; fall made creamery of good quality is firm at 19c., while for new-made 19½ to 20½c. is quoted, with increasing receipts of the latter. Good roll butter is in demand at 16 to 16½c. and good dairy makes quote at 16 to 17½c. per pound. New-laid eggs sell fairly at 20 to 21c., No. 1 limed and candled at 15 to 16c. per dozen.

DRY GOODS.—With the fine bright weather now prevailing, general country orders show improvement, and general collections also show a betterment, owing to the more settled state of country roads. The 4th inst. is a fair-sized day for payments in this line, and it is calculated that a good average of customers' paper will be retired. City retail trade cannot be reported in a very satisfactory shape, and several more failures are reported of men of moderate calibre, further evidence, it is generally allowed, of the growing attraction of the departmental store. The attendance at the millinery openings is the largest for years; all the millinery houses and most of the dry goods houses are busy.

FISH.—Matters are quiet in this line, the demand may be called somewhat slow and prices barely steady. We quote:—Green cod, No. 1, \$3.25 to 3.50; No. 1, large, \$4 to 4.25; dry cod, \$3.25 to 3.75; No. 1 herrings, \$4.25 to 4.50;

N. S. salmon, \$12 to 13.00; B. C. ditto, \$11.00 to 11.50; sea trout, \$6.50 to 7.50; haddies, 6 to 6½c.; bloaters, \$1 to 1.25 per box; boneless cod, 4½ to 5c. per lb.; whitefish, \$4.75 to 5.00 per barrel.

FURS.—Some buyers report rather better receipts of mink, fox and rats this week, but all of them agree that the total offerings so far this season have been much smaller than usual. Quotations are without change; some revision is possible after the London March sales, which begin on the 14th inst. We quote:—Mink, large dark, \$1.50; small, do., \$1.00 to 1.25; marten, \$1.75 to 2.25; fisher, \$4.50 to 7.00; lynx, \$1.00 to 2.00; otter, \$1.00 to 12.00 for dark; pale, \$5.00 to 7.00; red fox, large, \$1.30 to 1.50; small, \$1.00; cross fox, \$3.00 to 6.00; bear, cubs, \$3.00 to 7.00; medium, \$7.00 to 10.00; large, \$12.00 to 15.00; skunk, 15 to 70c., as to color and stripe; coon, 20 to 75c.; rats, fall, 7c. to 10c. kits, 2 to 5c. Beaver, not quoted, killing being forbidden by law.

MONTREAL STOCKS IN STORE.

	Feb. 21, 1898.	Feb. 28, 1898.
Wheat, bushels.....	95,562	111,823
Corn, "	55,536	54,693
Oats, "	747,811	751,693
Rye, "	24,903	33,463
Peas, "	101,624	99,201
Barley, "	45,987	51,284

Total grain	1,071,423	1,102,151
Oatmeal	63	63
Flour	15,913	18,075
Buckwheat	39,140	32,063

GROCERIES.—Travelers are again on the move pretty freely, and business may be called good. Teas are in a little better request, and local transactions are reported aggregating a few hundred pkgs., principally low to medium-grade Japans and Congous. A transaction is also reported covering some 1,700 half chests of Japans, controlled by a Montreal house, but in store at Hamilton, which have been shipped to Chicago. This deal is reported to be due to the withdrawal of the ten per cent. duty by the United States on teas coming from Canada, but this point lacks confirmation. Sugars are moving fairly; factory prices are 4½c. for standard granulated in quantity; Austrian granulated, 4 to 4½c. as to quality; yellows, 3½ to 4c. Cable advices from the island quote Barbadoes molasses now at 7c. first cost, but there is no stock available yet, nor any cargo orders placed yet. On spot, quotations are firmly held. This is the month during which prices are generally arranged for the yearly supply of rice by the milling company; no fresh contracts have been apparently made as yet, but there is some expectation that slightly lower figures may be made. With regard to canned vegetables there is a feeling in some quarters that values may ease off a little; country buyers are not disposed to accept the present high figures, which are to some extent due to speculation, and there is some disposition to humor them. Sicily filberts are scarce, and firmer at 7½ to 7¾c. in lots.

HIDES.—The market is unaltered since a week ago. The advance in calfskins to 10c. per lb. for No. 1 is maintained and hides are firm at 9½c. for No. 1, though the quality is generally poor, the grub being now about at its worst. Receipts are small, however, Lent being now current, and stocks on hand are decidedly limited. Quite a few English-killed hides are being brought in for the making of belting leather, and it is claimed can be laid down at the tannery fully as cheaply as Canadian hides. Lambskins continue to be quoted at \$1 each.

HOPS.—While there is no special activity in the demand the market shows firmness at 15 to 18c. for Canadians, as to quality; yearlings, 7 to 9c. per lb.

LEATHER.—The market continues very firm. Exports of sole have been very large of late, and one large house is said to have handled £21,000 of English money the past month. Some tanners are declining further orders from that quarter at present, as they will want all their stock for local wants. Some moderate business is reported in glove, buff and pebbled leathers, all at firm prices. We quote:—Spanish sole B.A. No. 1, 24 to 25c.; do. No. 2, 22 to 23c.; No. 1 ordinary Spanish, 22 to 23c.; No. 2, 19 to 20c.; No. 1 slaughter, 26 to 28c.; No. 2 do., 22 to 24c.; 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, 22 to 25c.; Quebec do., 20 to 21c.; juniors, 18 to 20c.; calf-splits, 30 to 35c.; calf skins (35 to 40 lbs.), 60 to 65c.; imitation French calf skins, 65 to 75c.; colored calf, American, 25 to 28c.; Canadian, 20 to 24c.; colored pebble cow, 13 to 15c.; russet sheepskin linings, 30 to 40c.; colored, 6 to 7½c.; harness, 24 to 27c.; buffed cow, 12 to 14c.; extra heavy buff, 15c.; pebbled cow, 13 to 13½c.; polished buff, 11 to 13c.; glove grain, 12 to 13c.; rough, 22 to 23c.; russet and bridle, 35 to 45c.

METALS AND HARDWARE.—A moderate movement is reported at generally steady prices. A few fair sales of No. 1 Hamilton iron have gone through at \$16.50, but Scotch brands seem quite neglected, in fact stocks of the latter are confined to but a few tons in two hands. Last cabled quotation for Glasgow warrants is 46s. 5d. Domestic bars are still quoted at \$1.40, mill price, for lots, but as there is no combination in this line, the figure might be shaded. There is no marked enquiry for plates of any kind, but values hold steady. Tin shows some further signs of stiffening. We quote:—Summerlee pig iron \$18.00 to 18.50; Carron, No. 1, \$18; No. 3, \$17.25; Ayrshire, No. 1, \$17.00; No. 3, \$16.50; Shotts, \$17.25 to 17.50; Carnbroe, \$17.00, ex-store; Siemens pig No. 1, none; No. 2 Siemens, none; Ferrona, No. 1, \$15.00 to 16.00; Hamilton No. 1, \$16.00 to 16.50; No. 2, ditto, \$15.50 to 16.00; machinery scrap, \$14.00 to 15.00; common ditto, \$12.00 to 13.00; bar iron, Canadian, \$1.40 to 1.50; British, \$2.00 to 2.15; best refined, \$2.40; Low Moor, \$5; Canada plates—Pontypool, or equal, \$2.10 to \$2.15; 52 sheets to box; 60 sheets, \$2.25; 75 sheets, \$2.35; all polished Canadas, \$2.40; Terne roofing plate, 20x28, \$5.90 to \$6.00; Black sheet iron, No. 28, \$2.25; No. 26, \$2.15; No. 24, \$2.05; Nos. 17, \$2; No. 16 and heavier, \$2.15; tin plates—Bradley charcoal, \$5.60 to 5.70; charcoal, I. C., Alloway, \$3.15 to 3.25; do. I. X., \$3.90 to 4.00; P. D. Crown, I. C., \$3.60 to 3.75; do. I. X., \$4.50; Coke I. C., \$2.90 to 2.95 for standard, \$2.75 to \$2.80 for 100 lbs.; coke, wasters, \$2.70; galvanized sheets, No. 28 ordinary brands, \$4; No. 24, \$3.75; No. 24, \$3.50 in case lots; Morewood, \$5.00 to 5.10, tinne sheets, coke, No. 24, 5½c.; No. 26, etc.; the usual extra for large sizes. Canadian bands, per 100 lbs., \$1.75; English ditto, \$2; hoops and bands, \$1.90 to 2.00. Steel boiler plate, ½-inch and upwards, \$1.85 to 1.90 for Daltzell, and equal; ditto three-sixteenths inch, \$2.50; tank iron, ½ inch, \$1.50; three-sixteenths do., \$2.00; tank steel, \$1.75; heads, seven-sixteenths and upwards, \$2.45 to 2.50; Russian sheet iron, 9c.; lead, per 100 lbs., pig, \$3.50 to 3.55; sheet, \$4 to 4.25; shot, \$6 to 6.50; best cast-steel, 8 to 10c.; toe calk, \$2.25; spring, \$2.50; sleigh shoe, \$1.85; tire, \$1.90; round machinery steel \$2.25; ingot tin, 16 to 16½c. for L. & F.; Straits, 15½ to 16c.; bar tin, 16½ to 17c.; ingot copper, 12½ to 12¾c.; sheet zinc, \$5 to \$5.25; Silesian spelter, \$4.75; Veille Montagne spelter, \$4.50 to 4.75; American spelter, \$4.50; anti-mony, 8 to 9c.

OILS, PAINTS, GLASS, ETC.—Business continues to be reported good in these lines. As regards values the only change reported is a further advance of a cent in turpentine, which was forecast in a recent issue. We quote:—Turpentine one to four barrels, 52c.; five to nine barrels, 51c., net thirty days. Linseed oil, raw, one to four barrels, 46c.; five to nine barrels, 45c.; boiled, one to four barrels, 49c.; five to nine brls., 48c., net 30 days; olive oil, machinery, 90c.; Nfld. cod, 35 to 37c. per gal.; Gaspe oil, 30 to 32c. per gal.; steam refined seal, 45 to 47½c. per gallon in small lots. Castor oil, 9 to 9½c. as to quantity. Leads (chemically pure and first-class brands only), \$5.37½; No. 1, \$5.00; No. 2, \$4.67½; No. 3, \$4.25; No. 4, \$3.87½; dry white lead, 4½ to 5c. genuine red do., 4½c.; No. 1 red lead, 4c.; London washed whiting, 40 to 45c.; Paris white, 85 to 90c.; Venetian red, \$1.50 to 1.75; yellow ochre, \$1.25 to 1.50; spruce ochre, \$1.75 to 2.00. Paris green, 50 and 100 lb. drums, 15c.; 25 lb. drums, 15½c.; 1 lb. cartons, 16c.; pound tins, 16½c.; window glass, \$1.40 per 50 feet for first break; \$1.50 for second break; third break, \$3.10.

WOOL.—The long overdue cargo of Cape wool for this market is now being discharged at New York, and will be forwarded here by rail. Business continues much as last reported, and quotations are steady at last figures.