

meeting, fill the hidehouses of the country and empty your leather lofts and stores, I predict the happiest gathering the trade has experienced.

This result will not be accomplished at the expense of your associates of the hide and the leather trades; they have wisely observed, and will, no doubt, in the future fully protect their interests in adjusting values, by continuing to observe that unerring law of trade—supply and demand. They are each indispensable aids to your business; they should, and no doubt will, continue to make—whatever standard of values may rule—a legitimate profit, thus properly participating in your prosperity, when you prosper, but avoiding your risks, when, as of late, you insist on buying hides to be taken from animals which are still roaming the plains of Texas and the distant valleys of the Rocky Mountains, to make leather for which there is no present demand.

The packers and hide dealers naturally charge prices suggested by the exigency of the demand made on them for hides, while the leather dealers and consumers truthfully reason that, while all the hides from the rapidly increasing supply of cattle are, through that sublime faith in the future, which for several years has prompted the tanners, transformed into leather as soon as they leave the animals' backs, that there is no danger of a scarcity, and therefore serenely pursue the even course of their business."

Mr. W. D. Beardmore, of this city, upon the motion of Judge Shultz that "our Canadian friends should be admitted as honorary members," said: "Mr. Chairman, we, in Canada, take very much interest in this question of hides. Our concerns in this respect are identical with those of the tanners in the United States. We would like to stand on a level with them as far as the convention is concerned." The president then submitted a proposition that those present from Canada be entitled to all the privileges of the convention except the payment of dues, when Mr. Beardmore desired its reconsideration, adding, "We would rather stand right in unless there is objection to our entering the scope of your Association." It is understood, adds the report of the gathering, that Canada will "stand right in."

At the banquet in the Grand Pacific Hotel, about 300 gentlemen sat down. Among those at the table allotted to speakers was Mr. Beardmore, who, when called upon to respond for Canadian tanners, did so with much warmth of feeling. We hope to give, in subsequent issues, some extracts from the very pertinent remarks of various speakers at the Convention.

IRON, STEEL AND OTHER METALS.

The latest mail advices from Britain announce that steel blooms are being shipped to the United States in increased quantities, and indeed there is a rise of \$2.00 per ton at New York for steel rails, consequent on recently improved demand. British demand for mild steel is active on the part of engineers and shipbuilders; but finished iron and steel are quiet and steady in Glasgow as well as London. Export merchants in Liverpool, however, show a disposition to make forward contracts, manufacturers on their part quoting higher rates except for immediate delivery.

In Canada, the feeling is in the direction of firmness in iron and other metals. Little indications from the other side of the Atlantic show that they begin to perceive American competition in Canada. This is most apparent in steel. For example, certain grades of cast

steel for machinery, tire steel, mould board steel are brought here regularly. With reference to American mould boards for ploughs, which are brought in in large quantities, a large dealer tells us they are better and more neatly finished than the British, and readily bring a higher price. "The American manufacturers in metals," he adds, "are fast getting into shape for successful competition with Great Britain." And when it is remembered that, in consequence of new economies in manufacture, steel has dropped in the U. S. from four cents per pound two years ago, to less than two cents to-day. (\$1.75 we even hear quoted) a great expansion of the steel trade may easily be foreseen.

An improved tone is observable in the metals market this week, and less anxiety on the part of manufacturers and dealers in England to force sales. This has had some beneficial effect here. Tempting prices were apt to stimulate our imports, which means additional effort to push business in Canada, and this results in low figures. Stocks at the moment are not heavy, and orders cannot be placed at lower than our quotations, although on special lots for import to an A 1 buyer, a shade better might be done. Galvanized iron is in active demand in Ontario in consequence of the present favourable weather for out-door work; the pike will apply to almost all articles used in the building trade. A firmer feeling is manifested in tin plates, and much better grades appear to be obtainable this fall than formerly. We are told of an unusual demand for large sizes for roofing purposes. Metal would seem to be obtaining preference of late over all other roofing material. In Canada plates the wants of consumers throughout the country appear to be well supplied. The supposition is that any large order for shipment from stock could be placed at a favourable figure, as there is an impression that the imports into Montreal early in the season have been somewhat in excess of the requirements, although country buyers have probably not anticipated their wants largely, and stocks will be rapidly reduced before the close of the year. Pig lead shows some signs of weakness in the English market, but the effect here has been slight for the reason that the recent advance was not followed in Canada. The high price of ingot tin has in a measure helped to keep stocks low in this city and in Montreal; but the figure which it has been bringing, leaves, it is said, very little margin of profit. If travelling salesmen did not appear to make a point of using this article as a "leader," better prices might be obtained. There is no change to note in the price of domestic manufactures of hardware, and the belief is entertained that quotations will remain the same until the next year.

LUMBER NOTES.

An Ottawa dispatch of Monday last, informs us that the quantity of sawn lumber shipped by barge from that city to Quebec and Montreal, was larger than usual. One line, the Blanchard & Williamson Barge Co., had sixty barges employed all summer long in that business, where it had only twenty in commission during the previous summer season.

An important sale of timber limits is reported from Ottawa, Messrs. White, of Pembroke, being the sellers, and Sherman, Lord, Herdman & Co., the purchasers. The price is understood to have been in the neighborhood of \$300,000. Timber limits within easy reach are rapidly getting into what may be called "last hands," being sought after by millmen,

who require them for the maintenance of their log supplies.

The fine timber limits of the Pope estate, situated in Megantic county, have been bought in by the bank at sheriff's sale for \$27,000, according to the Montreal Star. The limits are worth at least double that amount, and the bank expects to realize about fifty cents on the dollar on the claim.

A Miramichi correspondent writes to the St. John Globe as under:—Timothy Lynch is already employing men at Boiestown for his winter lumbering operations on the head of the Miramichi waters; he is paying \$20 per month to good men. Alex. Gibson is also preparing to operate as extensively as ever, making a cut of about 50,000,000 feet. Oats, wheat and other grains were never heavier on the Miramichi and Nashwaak than this season, but buckwheat has suffered considerably from the early frosts.

THE HAMILTON AND OTHER FAIRS.

The Great Central Fair held at Hamilton last week, is declared by the press of that city to be, in number of entries and quality of exhibits, ahead of any former year of the Fair in almost every department. The attendance was noticeably large, for by 11 a.m. of Thursday, the third day, 11,000 people had entered the grounds, and the weather being admirable, more continued to come up to 3 p.m.

We have already had occasion to notice the artistic skill of the ladies of Hamilton and vicinity, as annually displayed at this fair in such work as carving, modelling, painting on leather, china, wood or silk, embroidery, crewel, arrasene and applique work. On the present occasion, a fair proportion of such articles was shown, and they were well worthy of attention.

In the department of castings and metal goods generally, a satisfactory display may always be looked for in Hamilton, which is head-quarters in the province for these goods. The re-tinned, pressed and stamped ware of the Burn & Robinson Manufacturing Company, was quite a feature in this department, taking silver medal and first prize at the Industrial Fair, Toronto, and at the Hamilton Grand Central. The bird-cages of this company, brass and japanned, their tubular lanterns, sash-locks, tanners' supplies, Rochester lamps and other goods, were displayed so effective and so commended themselves as to carry off medals and a diploma.

Gurneys were of course in the front rank with respect of stoves and furnaces. Their hot water boilers and other descriptions of economic house-heaters, have before been described in these columns. The prominent article in their Hamilton display, was the Harris coal and wood Furnace, which will run with only thrice looking at during a day and night. It is dustless, simple and economical of both space and fuel, and easily cleaned out. D. Moore & Co., J. M. Williams & Co., Bowes, Jamieson & Co., are other exhibitors. The last named firm shewed the "Angelo" cook stove, the "Burdette" cook stove, the "Sterling" range, the "Surprise" stove, besides the new, low, round baseburner, called the "Art Garland," which we have described in a previous issue.

One hundred and thirty odd thousand persons in six days is a great number to be attracted to a Canadian Fair. This figure represents the aggregate attendance at the Toronto Industrial Fair in this city on the last six days. The total receipts, from sales of