

received 199,887 bushels, and shipped 657,824 bushels, leaving in store on July 17th, 1,153,987 bushels.

**HIDES AND SKINS.**—There has been little change in market conditions since our last report. The merchants are paying 8½c. for green hides and quoting cured at 8½c. per lb. It is likely that the imposition of the 15 per cent duty which the United States Congress proposes to place upon hides will effect a decline in prices here. Advices received from the Western States, July 21st, reported that the volume of business transacted was small, but that owing to the prospect of an import duty on foreign hides packers were firmer in their ideas and held for full values. The close was quoted firm at 10 to 10½c. for native steers; 9½ to 9¾c. for butt brands; 10 to 10½c. for heavy Texas; 9c. for branded cows; 8½ to 9c. for Coloadoes; 9½ to 9¾c. for heavy native cows, and 10 to 10½c. for light ditto. Calfskins in the local market are quiet at 8 to 10c. Pelts and lambskins are quoted at 50c. each. Nothing has occurred to relieve tallow from its depressed condition.

**HOPS.**—Trade in the local market is very quiet. Canadian hops, 1896, are scarce, and when of good quality obtain good prices. Merchants here are quoting 10 to 12c. per lb. A grower offered a choice lot of Canadian hops this week in Toronto at 14c. per lb., but it is not likely that at this price he found a buyer. A New York advice of recent date reports that "a fair business only is being effected here, and the interior markets, to all accounts, are rather quiet, aside from the quasi speculative movements in contracts for 1897 crops. Prices are quite steady, however, on stock that will grade prime to choice in quality, but rather weak on the lower grades. Crop advices from most quarters were of a favorable tenor. It is too early to base much upon the reports as to the condition of the Canadian hop yards, but present indications point to an average yield."

**LEATHER.**—The movement in leather during the present month has been full of disappointment. It was thought that the manufacturers would commence to buy supplies for the new season's trade about the middle of the present month, but there are few indications that this movement is beginning. Tanners are quoting leather at the same prices asked when hides were worth 7c. per lb., notwithstanding that an advance of 1½c. per lb. has taken place in raw material. Sole leather remains quiet but firm in price at previous quotations.

**PROVISIONS.**—Active trading in pork products continues and all lines are now getting within small compass. The present price of live hogs, 5½c., warrants, it is claimed, higher prices for provisions. Rols are very firm and have advanced 1c. per lb. during the past ten days. There is a good export demand for Canadian bacon. Exporters look for a better demand in September for Canadian and United States products when the small supply of native hogs in Europe will begin to have its influence on both English and continental markets, both of which relied largely upon those sources last year, and to much more than an average extent; whereas this year they will be more dependent upon us for these supplies than usual.

**WOOL.**—Another week of tariff uncertainty has passed. Advices were received early in the week that shipments should be made to the United States prior to Friday, 25th inst., and the supplies of fleece wool coming forward have been promptly sent across the line. For fleece wool of the best description 21c. has been paid, but should the Dingley tariff bill become law this week, it is likely that a decline of 2 to 3c. per lb. will be made in merchants' buying prices. There is little fleece left in this country as a result of the unusual delay in Congress in regard to tariff matters.

## MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, 21st July, 1897.

**ASHES.**—The market shows no buoyancy or activity, and a cable a few days ago from Bristol reports a decline in prices offered there. Only about 150 brls. are in store here, mainly pots, and though receipts are small, values continue low. We quote first quality pots \$3.00 to \$3.05, seconds about \$2.80, and pearls \$4.30 to \$4.35 per cental.

**CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.**—Business in these lines is now quiet in character, and the total receipts for the week ending to-day are 500 brls.

of English cement and 60,000 bricks. Quotations are for Belgian cement \$1.90 to \$2, English \$2 to 2.10; firebricks, \$15 to 21 00 per thousand.

**DRY GOODS.**—Sorting orders for seasonable goods are still coming to hand in fair number, and some houses are shipping fall goods already, but a good proportion of retailers are apparently not in a hurry to fill up their shelves with these latter goods, and with the present facilities for prompt shipment there is certainly no object in their doing so. Some houses profess to find a little improvement in payments. Advices from Europe would lead some to anticipate a possible stiffening of values in cashmeres and other lines of woolen dress goods, owing to the strong condition of the market for raw wool.

**DAIRY PRODUCTS.**—The week ending the 17th inst. was another big week for cheese shipments, the figures totalling 104,478 boxes, almost double the quantity of the corresponding week last year. London topped the list, taking 35,000 boxes, closely followed by Bristol with 33,000 boxes, Liverpool 16,400, Glasgow 9,800 boxes, Aberdeen and Hull about 3,000 boxes each, and small lots to Hamburg, Manchester, and Belfast. Of butter the exports were 3,234 pkgs. Since last writing the cable quotation for cheese has eased off a little; local quotations are 8 to 8½c. per lb. for Western, Townships 7½ to 8c., Quebec 7½ to 7¾c. Creamery butter is steady at 17 to 17½c., Townships dairy 14 to 15c., Western dairy 12 to 13c. per pound.

## THE VISIBLE SUPPLY.

The visible supply of grain in the United States and Canada, with comparisons, is as follows:—

	July 19, 1897.	July 12, 1897.
Wheat, bush. ....	167,242	155,624
Corn .....	36,788	23,970
Peas .....	169,416	194,931
Oats .....	451,660	410,696
Oatmeal .....	121	235
Barley .....	320,297	34,608
Rye .....	41,712	35,165
Buckwheat .....	2,481	4,889
Total grain...	1,209,484	885,690

The stock of flour at Montreal was 19,767 barrels on July 19th, as compared with 25,572 barrels on July 12th.

## THE U. S. WHEAT CROP.

The following table gives the estimate of the United States current wheat crop by the authorities named:—

	Bushels.
Duluth Commercial Record.....	600,000,000
Minneapolis Market Record.....	575,000,000

Orange Judd Farmer .....	575,000,000
Prairie Farmer .....	529,000,000
Cincinnati Price Current .....	550,000,000
Chicago Daily Trade Bulletin .....	550,000,000
Toledo Market Report .....	500,000,000

**GROCERIES.**—The demand for sugars may now be called almost active. Prices remain unchanged at 4c. for standard granulated, at the factory, and 3½c. the lowest for yellows. Further lots of foreign refined beet root sugar continue to arrive, but the local refiners have not as yet done anything to meet the competition from this quarter. Laid down cost for German sugar is calculated at about \$3.60 per cental here; buyers, in some cases, insist on guaranteed weights, which from the nature of the packages, being bags, it is hard to do, as there is liability for the sugar to sift through on frequent handling. Molasses is dull and somewhat easy, with liberal receipts so far, but three or four more cargoes are still expected. Some fancy samples of new machine made China black teas are being shown; they are designed to compete with the Ceylon and Indian goods, and while fairly matching them in style, have not the flavor or drawing qualities of the latter goods. A fair number of sales are reported of new Japan teas at about 16½c. Another C.P.R. steamer is reported on the coast to-day, with further fair shipments for this market. It is said there is a possibility of the Japan Government prohibiting the export of third pickings. A sale of a car lot of gallon apples is reported at \$1.25, and we hear of a 500-case order for new tomatoes being booked at 70c. A Denia cable to hand this week, notes Valencia raisins at 16s. 9d. for shipment first half of August; 14s. 9d. for second half of August, and 12s. 9d. for October. No quotations for currants have yet been received.

**LEATHER.**—There is really no more doing in this line. Shoe orders are not nearly up to last year, and manufacturers are buying only in a limited way. The market is steady, however, at quotations, and the unsettling effect referred to last week has disappeared with the restoration of hide prices to the old level by the local association of hide dealers. We quote:—Spanish sole B.A. No. 1, 22 to 23c.; do. No. 2, 21c. to 22c.; No. 1 ordinary Spanish, 21c.; No. 2, 19 to 20c.; No. 1 slaughter, 23 to 25c.; No. 2 do., 19 to 22c.; common, 19 to 20c.; waxed upper light and medium, 30 to 35c.; do. heavy, 27 to 30c.; grained, 30 to 35c.; Scotch grained, 30 to 35c.; western splits, 20 to 22c.; Quebec do., 15 to 17c.; juniors, 14 to 17c.; calf-splits, 30 to 35c.; calf skins (35 to 40 lbs.), 60 to 65c.; imitation French calf skins, 45 to 75c.; colored calf, American, 25 to 28c.; Canadian, 20 to 22c.; colored pebble cow, 13 to 15c.; russet sheepskin linings, 30 to 40c.; colored, 6 to 7½c.;

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