

standard quotation is 8c. per dozen, while at some places purchases are made at 7½c. per dozen.

GRAIN.—Transactions at the close of last week were limited, but the past few days has shown marked improvement. Wheat values have gained some strength. Oats are steady and unchanged in value. For barley there is steady demand. Peas are in active request. There is little doing in rye, and that market remains dull. Corn is unchanged. The New York "Journal and Bulletin," April 4th, remarks: "The stocks of wheat, corn, oats and rye at the seaboard and in transit have not only been exhausted, but everything offered to be shipped at or soon after the opening of navigation has been competed for by exporters at a premium, that has increased with the nearness of delivery, so urgent has been this demand, coming from all Continental, as well as United Kingdom markets. That there should be this unusual urgency, even for this unusually urgent export year, there is no cause apparent in supply and demand that has not existed all the crop, for stocks on the other side are not generally lower than they have been, and in some cases are larger, while the Argentine and Indian are nearly due, and crop outlook in Europe as well as here is more than usually favorable after an unusually mild winter on both sides of the Atlantic."

GREEN FRUIT.—The weather has not been all that could be desired. Oranges, however, are selling well. California seedlings have been scarce for some time, but a few cars are now coming forward. California green fruit now arriving is subject to refrigeration charges, which amount to about 30c. per box. We quote: Washington Navels, choice, 96s, 112s, 126s, \$3.25 per box; do., 150s, 176s, 200s, 216s, \$3.50 per box; do., fancy, 96s, 112s, 126s, \$3.50 per box; do., do., 150, 176s, 200s, \$3.75 per box. Stock is very fine and prices will advance rapidly. California Seedlings, 150s, 176s, 200s, 216s, \$2.50 per box; do., 126s, 250s, \$2.25 per box. Lemons are about unchanged; the first sale of fruit arriving via Montreal will probably not be held until May 1st. We quote: New Messina, fancy, 300s, 360s, \$2.75 to \$3; do., choice, 300s, 360s, \$2.50 to \$2.75. There is a fair demand for bananas, and trade in the province is reported as expanding. There is a moderate business doing in Louisiana strawberries, imported via Chicago.

HARDWOODS.—Trade is more active, and conditions are gradually assuming a better position. For two and three-inch cuts of elm and one and two-inch cuts of oak there is a brisk export demand. The United States markets offer a good consumptive demand, especially for supplies suitable to the manufacture of office desks, furniture and similar goods. Supplies are not large and manufacturers maintain that they will be insufficient to meet anything but a moderate consumption. As a result, in the case of urgent demand, fancy prices are reported as having been paid for special cuts. Values are steady, and the whole tendency of the market is one of strength.

PROVISIONS.—The receipts of dressed hogs are phenomenally large for the season of the year. It is thought that deliveries are quite as large as at any time during the year, indicating that farmers have gone into the hog-raising industry with considerable earnestness. In view of these heavy receipts, prices are somewhat easier and dealers quote a fraction less for both selected and standard weights. Provisions are selling well. The Easter trade in smoked meats has been exceptionally good. Several large transactions in long clear bacon are reported to have taken place. Chicago stocks of hog products show a net reduction of all kinds of 20,000,000 lbs. for March, making them 7,000,000 lbs. less than last year; while the world's stock of lard is expected to show 175,000 tierces less than last year. This showing also helps the growing bullish feeling in all hog products.

WOOL.—There is nothing new to report of the market. Small shipments of unwashed fleece wool are coming forward for which dealers are paying 11 to 11½c. per lb. There is every prospect that the coming season will be in marked contrast to that of last year. Whereas a year ago the clip came into the market with a rush, and the season, as a result of the impending Dingley Bill, had a short and glorious career, the movement this year promises to be slow. The market depends entirely upon the situation in the United States, where a phenomenal development in strength is not improbable. The present series of the colonial wool sales closed April 1st, with a smaller number of buyers present. The offerings aggregated 12,534 bales, and consisted of a good selection. Prices were well maintained. A fine lot of Kaffirian clothing sold 10 per cent. above the last sales, and was chiefly taken by the home trade. The bidding was brisk, with medium and faulty selling quickly to the Continent. During the series 202,000 bales were sold, of which 89,000 were taken by the home trade, 113,000 by the Continent, and barely 200 bales by American representatives. The advances noted during the first week of the series were maintained to the close. Following are the sales in detail: New South Wales, 3,700 bales; scoured 9½d. to 1s. 6d.; greasy 7 to 7¾d.; New Zealand, 4,400 bales, scoured 1s. 1½d. to 1s. 6d., greasy, 6¾d. to 10d.; Victoria, 1,300 bales, greasy 5¾d. to 11½d.; South Australia, 200 bales, greasy 7 to 7¾d.; New Zealand, 4,400 bales, scoured 7½ to 11d., greasy 5¾ to 11d.; Cape of Good Hope and Natal, 1,100 bales, scoured, 8½d. to 1s. 2d., greasy 5¾ to 8d.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, 6th April, 1893.

ASHES.—No improvement can be noted here. The English demand is still poor, and there is said to be some stock of Canadian ashes in Liverpool, now two years old. Receipts continue very light. We quote: \$3.45 to \$3.60 for first pots, as to tares; seconds, \$3.15 to \$3.25; pearls, nominal at about \$4.75 per cental.

CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.—The local demand for cements in small lots continues very fair, and stocks will be pretty well exhausted by the time new supplies by first steamers are due. The awarding of the Government tenders for 120,000 bbls., which is to be decided next Saturday, is looked forward to with much interest. Prices remain at \$2.10 to \$2.20 for British, \$1.95 to \$2.05 for Belgian. Bricks, \$17 to \$22 per thousand.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.—There is nothing of special interest in the cheese situation, except that the Liverpool cable quotation has declined a point to 37 shillings. On spot there is no trading, and quotations for finest range about 7½c. There was a shipment last week of some 8,000 boxes by one house, on which it is said there would be a probable shrinkage of \$2 or more a box. For new-made butter there is good enquiry, with some scarcity of stock; fine fresh creamery is quoted at 21 to 22c., and 19 to 20c. for under-grades, dairy makes, 17 to 19c. per lb.

DRY GOODS.—The frosty spell of the past few days has affected city retail trade a good deal, but wholesalers generally still report good business, and remittances are favorably reported on. Some of the larger importing houses report that the improvement in collections over last spring is even more marked than the improvement in extent of business. The auction sale, in lots, of the insolvent retail stock of Boisseau Freres, amounting to some \$90,000 to \$100,000, has attracted some active competition from Western buyers, and good prices are reported.

FURS.—Some fair receipts of raw furs are reported during the past week or two, principally spring rats, fox, skunk, and a

sprinkling of mink, marten and bear. Dealers are not paying any larger prices, the advances at the late sales having been pretty well anticipated earlier in the season. We quote: Mink, large dark, \$1.50; small, do., \$1 to \$1.25; marten, \$1.75 to \$2.25; fisher, \$4.50 to \$7; lynx, \$1 to \$2; otter, \$1 to \$12 for dark; pale, \$5 to \$7; red fox, large, \$1.30 to \$1.50; small, \$1; cross fox, \$3 to \$6; bear, cubs, \$3 to \$7; medium, \$7 to \$10; large, \$12 to \$15; 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.

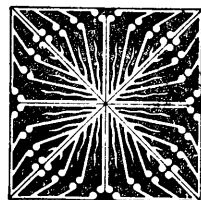
GROCERIES.—With somewhat improved country roads reported, and spring rail freights in effect, the movement in groceries shows some improvement over recent weeks. With regard to sugars the probable effects of the tariff changes, just brought down in Parliament, have not yet been fully figured out by refiners and there has been so far no change made in factory quotations, which remain exactly as stated last week. The demand in this line has shown appreciable movement within the last few days. There has been some stiffening in molasses in the Island, where first cost has been advanced from 7c. to 8c. Buying for this market has yet been very moderate, only two moderate cargoes being reported for Montreal outside the one thousand puncheon lot bought some time ago by the Canada sugar refinery. Rather a better demand exists for Japan teas, and the possible imposition of a war duty by the American Government seems to have caused some demand from across the line. One sale of five hundred packages Japans is reported to New York, also a few smaller lots. The direct Mediterranean steamer "Ganges," timed to sail last Saturday from Patras, is still there loading currants for this port, and will likely leave in a day or two with some two hundred and fifty tons consigned to a Montreal house, but the bulk of shipment is to fill Winnipeg and British Columbia orders.

HIDES.—No change of any kind has been made in quotations this week, and dealers are paying 9c. for No. 1 hides, 10 to 11c. for No. 1 calfskins; 8 to 9c. for No. 2 do., 10c. each for lambskins, and \$1 to \$1.05 each for sheep. Receipts of hides have been small, but are expected now to increase, owing to the Easter kill. Calfskins are coming in pretty freely.

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