

and all lines of provisions meet with ready trade. The city trade has been especially brisk the past few weeks. The new pack will be commenced soon, and will probably open at remunerative prices. The weather of the past few days has been fairly favorable to hog shipments, and if it continues cold will cause the season to be opened early. Choice weights of butchers' hogs, in a butcher's way, are selling on the local market at \$0.50 to \$0.75 per cwt.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, Sept. 6th, 1899.

CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.—The import business in cements is not as brisk as usual this year. The big Government contracts of last year, for works on the Soulanges and Trent canals, aggregating some 16,000 barrels, are missed this year, and though the general consumption throughout the country is increasing, still the output of domestic-made cements is becoming larger, and the quality, on the whole, is good. A 10,000 barrel sale of German cement was reported last week, this is for the new electric plant at the Chaudiere, Quebec. Another good sale of 4,000 barrels has since been made, but apart from these, orders are of moderate jobbing character. Prices continue steady at \$2.45 to \$2.55 for German; English, \$2.30 to \$2.40; Belgian, \$1.95 to \$2.05; firebricks, \$16 to \$21.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.—While cheese has continued to move steadily upwards in price since a week ago, and there is no weakening in foreign advices, the feeling is manifested in some quarters that almost too high prices are being paid for it, and some dealers are apparently disposed to cry a halt. Quebec cheese sold on the wharf this week up to 11¼ to 11½c., and fine Western is generally held at 12½c., though it is claimed it can be bought for less. Butter has eased off since a week ago, and 21½ to 21¾c. is now about the limit for finest creamery. The export movement continues active, the statistics for last week showing cheese shipments at 81,204 boxes, double the figures for same week of 1898, and 21,080 packages of butter went to Britain, as against 6,204 packages for same period last year.

DRY GOODS.—A considerable proportion of dry goods retail paper came due on the 4th inst., being for goods sold four months from 1st May, and general reports regarding payment of same are of a favorable character. At the moment of writing full returns are not complete, but several leading houses approximate the proportion of paper met at 60 to 65 per cent. The school openings, and the few recent cool mornings and evenings have livened up city retail trade somewhat, and wholesalers report more liberal buying from this quarter, while visiting buyers from both the East and the West have been in the city in fair numbers. Reports from wholesale buyers just returned from Europe, also letters from buyers still there, all indicate great firmness in textile markets generally.

GROCERIES.—The sugar market has stiffened 10 cents a hundred since last report. This is due to the action of American refiners in withdrawing all quotations for export last Friday, owing to the scarcity of raw beet sugars, on which they are entitled to a greater export drawback than upon cane sugars, on which their factories are now mainly working. The local refiners were quick to take advantage of the withdrawal of competition from this quarter, and standard granulated is now quoted at \$4.65 in wholesale lots and the lowest in yellows is now \$3.75, with a range up to \$4.40. Molasses is steady at old figures. The tea market is not over active, but values are steady in all lines.

New Ping Suey gunpowders, and the cheaper lines of new green teas generally are reported to show quite a strong advance over last year. New Japans of third crop at 14½ to 15c. are reported to show a poor leaf and liquor. The market is about swept clean of old Valencia raisins, and good demand is expected for new fruit. A few small lots of new crop are now here, but the first direct steamer, "The Escalona," which was to have left Patras on the 28th ult., is not yet reported at Denia, and is hardly expected before about the 1st of October.

HIDES.—As anticipated in last report lambskins have been advanced this week to 50c. each. This is the only change; dealers are still buying beef hides at 9c. per lb. for No. 1, and quote 9¼ to 10c. to tanners; for calfskins 11c. per lb. is paid for No. 1, and 9c. for No. 2. Receipts of hides are increasing slightly, but have been light all summer, and there is no stock of moment in warehouse.

LEATHER.—There has been a little better movement the past fortnight. Several 5,000 side-sales of sole leather were reported a week ago, and some very fair sales of splits and buff have been made since, to local shoe manufacturers. Dongolas and fancy leathers are in pretty steady demand. Sole tends to increased firmness, and tanners have established an advance of half a cent on No. 3 Spanish B.A.; manufacturers' No. 2 is very firm at 23c., and jobbers No. 2 at 23½c. We quote: Spanish sole, B.A., No. 1, 24 to 24½c.; No. 2, 23 to 23½c.; No. 1, ordinary, Spanish, 23 to 24c.; No. 2, 21 to 22c.; No. 1 slaughter, 26 to 28c.; No. 2, 24 to 26c.; 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, 21 to 23c.; Quebec do., 16 to 18c.; juniors, 16 to 17c.; calf-splits, 30 to 35c.; calfskins, (35 to 40 lbs.), 60 to 65c.; imitation French calfskins, 65 to 75c.; colored calf, American, 25 to 28c.; Canadian, 20 to 24c.; colored pebble cow, 13 to 15c.; russet sheepskins linings, 30 to 40c.; colored, 6 to 7½c.; harness, 25 to 30c.; buffed, cow, 13 to 15c.; extra heavy buff, 15c.; pebble cow, 11½ to 13c.; polished buff, 12 to 13c.; glove-grain, 12½ to 14c.; rough, 22 to 23c.; russet and bridle, 35 to 45c.

METALS AND HARDWARE.—Hardware travellers are all out and doing very fairly, though some complain that the fall fairs are absorbing general attention in the country, and interfering with business. Prices of shelf and general hardware show steady advance all along the line, exciting more or less comment from country customers, and some amusing letters are received as to why they should be charged 5c. a lb. for crowbars, when they used to pay only 2½c., and similar numerous queries. Heavy metals all show firmness at late advance. Galvanized sheets are rather stiffer, and for machinery steel the English quotation is £9 a ton. We quote: Summerlee pig iron, \$24 to \$25; Carnbroe, \$20.00 to \$22.00; Hamilton No. 1, \$20.00 to \$22.00; No. 2, do., \$20.00 to \$22.00; Ferrona No. 1, \$20.00; machinery scrap, \$16.00; common ditto, \$20 to \$22; Canada plates—Canadian, \$2 to \$2.10; Canada plates—Pontypool or equal, \$2.60; 52 sheets to Galbox; 60 sheets, \$2.70; 75 sheets, \$2.80; Galvanized Canada plates, \$4.25 per box of 52 sheets; Terne roofing plate, 20 x 28, \$7.50; Black sheet iron, No. 28, \$2.55; No. 26, \$2.50; No. 24, \$2.45; No. 16, and heavier, \$3; tin plates: Charcoal, I.C. Alloway, \$4.80 to \$4.90; do., I.X., \$5.25 to \$5.50; P.D. Crown, I.C. do., \$5.50 to \$5.75; do., I.X., \$4.75; coke, I.C., \$4.40; galvanized sheets, No. 28, Queen's Head, \$4.75; No. 26, \$4.25 to \$4.50; No. 24, \$4 in the case lots; tinned sheets, coke, No. 24, 6c.; No. 26, etc., the usual extra for large sizes. Steel boiler plate, ¼-inch, and up-

wards, \$2.95 for Dalzell and equal; ditto, three-sixteenths inch, \$3; tank steel \$2.90, ¼-inch; three-sixteenths, \$3; heads, seven-sixteenths and upwards, \$2.95; Russian sheet iron, 9 to 9½c.; lead per 100 lbs., \$4.05 to \$4.15; sheet, \$4.50 to \$4.60; shot, \$6 to \$6.50; best cast-steel, 11 to 12c.; toe calk, \$2.75 to \$3; spring, \$2.75 to \$3; sleigh shoe, \$2.50; tire, \$2.50; round machinery steel, \$3 to 3.25, as to finish; ingot tin, 35c. for L. & F. Straits, 34 to 34½c.; bar tin, 36 to 37c.; ingot copper, 18½ to 19c.; sheet-zinc, \$7.50 to \$8; Silesian spelter, \$6.25 to \$6.75; Veille Montagne spelter, \$6.50 to \$7; American spelter, \$6.25 to \$6.50; antimony, 10½ to 11c.

OILS, PAINTS AND GLASS.—September business in these lines has opened up well, and orders are being despatched quite freely. No change in quotations are reported for the week, but all late advances are very firmly held, and it is stated as quite within the range of possibilities that an advance may be established on ground white leads, even before the regular quarterly meeting of the Association in October, owing to the very stiff market for dry lead in Britain. An English letter reports best makers quoting £21 the ton, and there are practically no sellers. We quote: Single barrels, raw and boiled linseed oil, respectively, 57 and 60c. per gal., for one to four barrel lots; 5 to 9 barrels, 56 and 59c.; net 30 days, or 3 per cent., for 4 months' terms. Turpentine, one to four barrels, 75c.; five to nine barrels, 74c.; net 30 days. Olive oil, machinery, 90c.; Cod oil, 34 to 36c. per gal.; steam refined seal, 34 to 36c. per gallon. Castor oil, 8 to 8½c. in quantity; tins, 9 to 9½c.; machinery castor oil, 7½ to 8c.; Leads (chemically pure and first-class brands only), \$6; No. 1, \$5.62½; No. 2, \$5.30; No. 3, \$4.87½; No. 4, \$4.50; dry white lead, 5½ to 6c. for pure; No. 1, ditto, 5c.; genuine red ditto, 5c.; No. 1, red lead, 4½ to 4¾c.; Putty, in bulk, bbls., \$1.65; kegs, \$1.80; bladder putty, in bbls., \$1.80; smaller quantities, \$1.95; 25-lb. tins, \$2.05; 12½-lb. tins, \$2.30; London washed whiting, 37 to 40c.; Paris white, 75 to 80c.; Venetian red, \$1.50 to \$1.75; yellow ochre, \$1.25 to \$1.50; spruce ochre, \$1.75 to \$2. Window glass, \$1.90 per 50 feet for first break; \$2 for second break.

WOOL.—Trade during the past fortnight has been quiet, only a few small transactions being reported. An auction sale of a small lot of damaged Cape wool was held here last week, prices realized ranging from 16½ to 17½c., and the goods were considered cheap, though these were regular prices only a short time ago. Stocks on spot are low, and holders are not anxious sellers. Present quotations are 19 to 21c. for Capes, Australians 25 to 28c., B.A. scoured 40 to 45c. London advices show a very strong market, with expected further advance at the next series of public sales, which open on the 19th inst., offerings at which are calculated at 40,000 bales, under same date last year.

THE WOOL MARKET.

The wool firm of Justice, Bateman & Co., Philadelphia, in their circular dated September 1st, say, concerning the wool situation:

"The continued advance in Merino wools and the firmness of all other grades have been the prominent features of the wool situation during the past month."

"The strong statistical position of Merinos is undoubtedly the cause of the advance since August 1st of 1½c. per pound in the average price of XX. Ohio. Even with this advance, however, fine wools are about 20 per cent. below their importing point price, and owing to the probability of a still further advance, owners are reluctant to sell, and the pro-