

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, Nov. 24th, 1897.

CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.—The movement in cements is now a light one. At the moment of writing, prices remain as last quoted, namely, \$1.90 to 2.00 for Belgian; \$2.10 to 2.20 for English; but as the wharves are being cleared, and all stocks will shortly have to be delivered from store, prices are likely to go up 5 to 10c. a brl. any moment. Firebricks are also liable to similar advance, and \$17 will likely be the lowest figure next week.

DRY GOODS.—Business is rather quieter, and in most of the warehouses preparations for the stock-taking among importers, usual at this season, are in order. Retail business in the country seems relatively better than in the city, and quite a fair number of letter sorting orders are still coming to hand. The improvement in payments is still sustained, and people seem to think they have some reasons for Thanksgiving.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.—The cheese shipments of last week, by last outgoing direct steamships, footed up 76,862 boxes, as compared with 55,539 boxes for the corresponding week of last year. This brings total shipments from the 1st May up to 2,035,586 boxes, as against 1,707,571 boxes for same period of 1896. Cable quotations dropped sixpence Saturday, bringing the Liverpool market down to 42s. 6d., but Monday's advices recorded a recovery to the old level. The local market at the moment is dull, with fine Ontarios quoted at 8 to 8½c., Townships 7½ to 7¾c., and Quebec 7½ to 7¾c. per lb. Good dairy makes of butter are scarce, with prices ruling firm at 15 to 16c.; for creamery there is fair local demand, at about 18c. for fine. Last week's shipment of butter from this port were 9,884 pkgs., making the total for the season 216,458 pkgs., as compared with 157,969 pkgs. last year.

FISH.—There have been some very fair transactions reported in green cod, and as stocks both here and in Quebec are reported in small compass some advance has been developed. Herrings continue to be firmly held. We

quote:—For green cod, No. 1, large, \$4.50 to 4.75; No. 1, ordinary, \$4.00; No. 1 herring, \$4.00 to 5.00 for brls; \$2.50 half brls.; N.S. salmon, \$12.00 to 12.50 for No. 1; British Columbia salmon, \$10.50; sea trout, \$7.00 to 7.50; dry cod, \$3.50 to 4.00; finnan haddies, 6 to 6½c; kippered herrings, \$1.25 per box; Yarmouth bloaters, 90c. to \$1.00 a box. Oysters are high in price: Malpeques, \$3.50 to 3.75 for ordinary hand-picked, ditto, \$4.50 to 5.50.

FURS.—Receipts of raw furs are yet small, and can hardly be expected to increase much until fair snow roads set in in the interior. We quote:—Mink, large dark, \$1.25; small, ditto, 75c.; marten, \$1.50 to 2.00; fisher, \$4.00 to 6.00; lynx, \$1.00 to 2.00; otter, \$10.00 to 12.00 for dark; pale, \$4.00 to 7.00; red fox, large, \$1.30 to 1.40; small, \$1.00; cross fox, \$2.00 to 5.00; 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, 15 to 75c.; rats, fall, 8c.; kits, 2 to 5c. Beaver, not quoted, killing being forbidden by law.

GROCERIES.—With the stoppage of the running of Western river steamers, there has been a slackening of the active distribution in this line recently noted, still there is a very fair movement for the season. The demand at refinery for sugars is naturally not so brisk, but the strength in the market, noted last week, is firmly held. Granulated is quoted at 4 1-16 to 4¼c. as to lot, at the factory, and yellows run from 3¾ to 3¾c. per lb. In New York raw centrifugals are now quoted up to 3 15-16c., this figure covering all goods testing 96 per cent. pure, and the European markets for raw beet are firm and somewhat excited. Of the large lot of German refined beet sugar, which arrived last week a considerable proportion has been placed. We hear of one 1,500-bag lot being bought by a large confectionery manufacturing concern, and a 1000-bag lot has been bought on speculation. Molasses is in fair demand at the firm prices quoted last week. Teas have developed no special activity of late, but we hear of a sale of 500 packages of cheap congous to the lower provinces, and offers for some 800 or 1000 packages from the same quarter are reported to be

under consideration. Stocks of Japans are low on spot, and some recent moderate sales have realized an advance of a cent on former prices. The market in Japan is said to be in sensitive shape, and liable to advance. Ceylons in London are reported up a halfpenny on low grades. The situation as regards dried fruits, canned goods, etc., has been fully covered in late reports.

HIDES.—The increased firmness, which we reported last week, is fully sustained, and strong markets abroad are also reported. On spot the regular market quotation is 8½c. for green No. 1 hides, tanners being asked 9½c. for cured. A sale of one car lot for the West is announced, and other Western tanners are reported to have been looking for stock here. Lambskins continue to be quoted at 80c. each.

HOPS.—The demand is a little better, with some shortness of crop reported, and values are a shade firmer. Transactions have taken place in good to choice Canadians at 13 to 15c., and in British Columbians at 18 to 19c. Yearlings continue dull at 6 to 8c., and old olds 1 to 2½c. per pound.

LEATHER.—Further fair sales of dongolas are reported at firm prices, also moderate business in manufacturers' B.A. sale at 22c. Of black leather there is really little stock on spot, nor, as far as can be learned, in the hands of tanners, who are disposed to be stiffer in their views, owing to the advancing tendency in hides, though no actual business is reported at higher 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, 25 to 27c.; No. 2 do., 21 to 23c.; 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., 17 to 20c.; juniors, 15 to 17c.; 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 22c.; 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, 12 to 13c.;

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