

WOOL PROSPECTS.

IN his last report Agricultural Commissioner Capron asserts that the late comparatively unprofitableness of the wool business has led, in many instances, to a serious neglect of sheep, resulting in leanness, weakness, and the insidious approaches of disease. Where they have been partially cared for, however, they are healthy. Mr. Capron adds:

"Were it not for the culling process, by which several millions of the poorest (sixty-six thousand in some cases in a single county) have been remorselessly slaughtered for their pelts, and the small medium of fat that could be drained by hydraulic pressure from their juicy carcasses, the ravages of disease would have proved far greater. This weeding out of the victims of poverty will result beneficially in elevating the average of health and condition. Wool-growers, whose fears have overcome their judgment, and caused the depreciation of their flocks or the abandonment of their business, will ere long regret their hasty action. Already a reaction has commenced; prices of wool are stiffening, and the value of sheep is slightly advancing. If there is no legislative interference with the growth and manufacture of wool, a better day will soon dawn, and the time will prove auspicious for enlarging rather than abandoning the production of wool.

From a copy of the monthly report for April of the Bureau of Agriculture, we obtain the following estimate of the wool in the country (exclusive of the Pacific States) unsold on the 1st of April last obtained by deductions from the county returns:

States.	Pounds.
Maine.....	15,000
New Hampshire.....	143,000
Vermont.....	510,000
Massachusetts.....	46,000
Rhode Island.....	13,000
Connecticut.....	75,000
New York.....	2,510,000
New Jersey.....	26,000
Pennsylvania.....	820,000
Delaware.....	2,000
Maryland.....	91,000
Virginia.....	134,000
North Carolina.....	97,000
South Carolina.....	27,000
Georgia.....	54,000
Alabama.....	35,000
Mississippi.....	75,000
Louisiana.....	87,000
Texas.....	188,000
Arkansas.....	11,000
Tennessee.....	44,000
West Virginia.....	178,000
Kentucky.....	276,000
Missouri.....	434,000
Illinois.....	849,000
Indiana.....	839,000
Ohio.....	1,381,000
Michigan.....	570,000
Wisconsin.....	519,000
Minnesota.....	88,000
Iowa.....	533,000
Kansas.....	45,000
Nebraska.....	8,000
Total.....	10,711,000

CANADIAN CONTRACTORS.

OUR neighbours south of the Lake are given to swagger a little respecting the go-aheadativeness of the American character and the comparative supineness and inactivity to be found up here in the cold. A curious commentary, however, upon their self-satisfaction is the readiness which they display to award work to be done in their very midst to Canadian contractors. We are assured that a decided preference is exhibited by Presidents of Railroads, States' Engineers, and influential capitalists, for Canadians who may compete for undertakings of any magnitude. Is it that when the tug of war comes the Canadian perseveres under circumstances to which the voluble Yankee would succumb? Or is it that British pluck, and determination to succeed, finds a place in the hearts of our men higher even than the almighty dollar? We are not disposed to doubt similar characteristics in American contractors who have come among ourselves. Perhaps it is human nature to look abroad for excellence. The contract of the Messieurs Shanly, at the famous Boscoe tunnel, it is said, will turn out most fortunately to all concerned: whereas it had been the grave of many American predecessors in the venture. Messieurs John Worthington and Donald Robertson are contractors too who have gained the confidence of "big men" in the States. The latest award of an important piece of work is to a firm of Canadian contractors, who threaten to carry all before them in the way of public works between Baltimore and Pittsburg. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company have determined upon an extension of their line, involving the expenditure of over a million of dollars, and Messrs. Ralph Jones McGreevy, Shanly and Walsh have signed the contract for the work. These gentlemen are among the best representatives of Ontario in their line of business. Combining skill, capital and experience, the new firm is likely to sustain the credit of the Dominion among our Southern neighbours; and we heartily wish them every success. -Globe.

Our contemporary might have added the names of Mr. A. P. Macdonald, Mr. Alexander Macdonell, Mr. Eille, and many others among successful Canadians in competing for and carrying out contracts in the United States. -Ottawa Times.

REVIEW OF THE ST. JOHN, N.B., MARKETS.

ST. JOHN, N.B., June 8, 1893.

**MONEY.**—The market has been very animated during the past week, with a large amount of domestic business doing.

The demand for sterling bills is not quite so active as when we last reported, for which reason the rate has settled down to 109½ for 60-day's drafts. Our latest New York advices note Sterling Exchange as steady at from 169 to 109½ for first class bank drafts.

We quote:—

BUYING RATES.

Sterling Bills, 60-days sight.....	8½	premium.
Do. 90-days sight.....	8½	"
Drafts on Canada.....	dis.	to par
Do. Halifax.....	3½	dis.
Drafts on New York and Boston.....	27	par
Currency, do. do.....	27	discount.
Nova Scotia Notes.....	3	"
Prince Edward Island Notes.....	5	"
St. Stephen Bank Notes.....	3	"
Commercial Bank Notes.....	10	"

SELLING RATES.

On London, 60-days.....	10½	premium.
On London, short sight.....	10½	"
New York and Boston, sight.....	2	discount
Halifax, sight.....	2	"
Canadian Cities.....	2½	premium.
Currency drafts on N. Y. and Boston.....	2½	"
Nova Scotia Notes.....	3	discount.

**BREADSTUFFS.**—The flour market remains the same as last week, prices ranging from \$5 to \$5.25 for Superfine to very Choice. There is no life in the trade, stock being full, and sellers very willing to meet the demand. Ample supplies are on the way both from Canada and the United States, and there is every probability of our market being over stocked during the next two months. The country is trying less flour than usual, farmers seeming to have a supply of their own production.

Cornmeal \$3.60 to \$3.75.

**SUGAR AND MOLASSES.**—We notice the arrival of the "Premier" from Barbadoes, to J. Donville; and the "Helen Hastings" from Cienfuegos, to J. C. Brown, the former with a cargo of Molasses and Sugar, the latter with Molasses sold to arrive. We note but few transactions, the quotations remain nearly the same.

**COAL.**—No arrivals to report. Market is dull. We give quotations with a few slight changes.

**FRIGHTS.**—Little tonnage is offering. The Cuban freights which we quote are merely nominal. We give last week's quotation unchanged, except in American freights. -News.

HALIFAX MARKET REPORT.

HALIFAX, June 8.

**THE** weather continues fine. Business during the week has been dull. No change to note in prices of staple articles of trade.

**BREADSTUFFS.**—Owing to the small fare by the Carlotia, there is a better feeling for flour and prices are firm at quotations. Canada No. 1 \$5.25 to \$5.50. Strong Bakers, \$5.40 to \$5.60; Extra State \$5.25. Rye, dull at \$4.50 to \$4.60. Oatmeal dull, at \$3 to \$3.65. Corn Meal, 4½, \$3.65 to \$3.75 for kiln dried, and \$3.50 to \$3.60 for fresh ground. Imports from January 1st to June 8th, 1893 and 1892:—

	Bbls. Flour.	Bbls. Cornmeal.
1893.....	6878	1350
1892.....	77068	25401

**FISH.**—We have no change to note in fish—stock of Cod Light. Large Codfish may be quoted at \$4.50; Small \$3.50 to \$3.60; Labrador, none; Haddock dull and unchanged at \$2.25 for good hard cured Arlohat. Mackerel, no fat in market. A few barrels (new) No. 3, large, sold during the week at \$5.50. Several cargoes of Magdalen Island Herring have arrived lately, and are selling at 75c. to 80c. in bulk. Shore Split Herring none offering. Round dull at \$3.70. Bay Island Round in little demand at \$3. Salmon—none in market. Exports from January 1st to June 8th, 1893 and 1892:—

	Codfish.	Tras	Lrams	Boxes	Hf-Boxes
1893.....	17815	3899	9384	6881	
1892.....	21783	10390	12620	6588	

	Scale Fish.	Tras	Drums	Boxes	Hf-Boxes
1893.....	3223	391	558	407	
1892.....	4233	3100	681	510	

	Salmon.	Mackerel.	Herring.	Alowives
1893.....	1986	13774	22961	2183
1892.....	2063	33108	22335	422

**OILS.**—Cod scarce at 55c. Kerosene, American firm at 48c to 50c for Standard White. Canada dull at 35c to 38c.

**PRODUCE.**—Butter casier, at 21c to 22c. for choice Oats, 48c. for Prince Edward Island Black. Lard 16c. to 17c.

**PROVISIONS.**—Pork firm and in good demand at 25.00, for P. E. Island Moss; Prime Moss \$19.00 to \$20; Nova Scotia \$14 to \$15. Beef dull and without change, at \$10.00 for American Moss, and \$7.00 for Prime Moss.

**WEST INDIA PRODUCE.**—Sugar and Molasses continue without change in prices. Stocks light and

prices dull at our quotations. Vacuum Pan Sugar in bond 7½ to 8c; Porto Rico 7½; Cuba 7c; Barbadoes 6½ to 7c in bond. Molasses Cienfuegos 3½ to 4½. Imports from January 1st to June 8th, 1893 and 1892:

	Molasses.	P. U. S.	Tras.	Bbls.
1893.....	6971	705	629	
1892.....	7955	875	683	

  

	Sugar.	Tras.	Bbls.	Bxs.	Puna.
1893.....	11411	246	1033	60	760
1892.....	1411	678	2169	—	871

**FINANCIAL.**—Bank Drawing rates London 60 days 13 per cent. prem; New York 60 days at sight 4 per cent. prem. Currency drafts 2½ per cent. discount Montreal sight drafts 4 per cent. prem. New Brunswick sight drafts 3 per cent. prem. Newfoundland sight drafts 5 per cent. prem. Private bills ½ to 1 per cent. lower than bank rates. Discount on American in voices at Customs this day, 30 per cent.

TOBIN & CANNING.  
Brokers.

The United States agricultural report for 1893 is nearly completed, and will soon be in the hands of the printer. It is said that it will be one of the most valuable that has ever emanated from the department. The essay system has been abandoned and the matter confined to the legitimate workings of the Bureau. This volume will be practical, giving reliable statistics and positive data upon a large number of subjects peculiarly valuable to agriculturists and interesting to the public generally.

STOCK MARKET.

	Current Price.	Prev. Price.
<b>BANKS.</b>		
Bank of Montreal.....	100 a 100½	100 a 102
Bank of N. A.....	100 a 100½	100 a 102
City Bank.....	100 a 100½	100 a 102
Banque du Peuple.....	100 a 100½	100 a 102
Molson Bank.....	100 a 100½	100 a 102
Ontario Bank.....	100 a 100½	100 a 102
Bank of Toronto.....	100 a 100½	100 a 102
Quebec Bank.....	100 a 100½	100 a 102
Bank National.....	100 a 100½	100 a 102
Gore Bank.....	100 a 100½	100 a 102
Banque Jacques Carier.....	100 a 100½	100 a 102
Eastern Townships Bank.....	100 a 100½	100 a 102
Merchants Bank.....	100 a 100½	100 a 102
Union Bank.....	100 a 100½	100 a 102
Mechanics Bank.....	100 a 100½	100 a 102
Royal Canadian Bank.....	100 a 100½	100 a 102
Bank of Commerce.....	100 a 100½	100 a 102
<b>RAILWAYS.</b>		
G. T. R. of Canada.....	13 a 14	13 a 14
A. & St. Lawrence.....	13 a 14	13 a 14
G. W. of Canada.....	13 a 14	13 a 14
C. & St. Lawrence.....	13 a 14	13 a 14
Do. preferential.....	13 a 14	13 a 14
<b>MINES, &amp;c.</b>		
Montreal Consols.....	\$3.00 a \$3.10	\$3.10 a \$3.20
Canada Mining Company.....	30 a 45	30 a 45
Huron Copper Bay.....	30 a 45	30 a 45
Lake Huron S. & C.....	30 a 45	30 a 45
Quebec & L. S.....	130 a 137	130 a 137
Montreal Telegraph Co.....	130 a 137	130 a 137
Montreal City Gas Company.....	130 a 137	130 a 137
City Passenger R. Co.....	130 a 137	130 a 137
Richelles Navigation Co.....	130 a 137	130 a 137
Canadian Inland Steam S. Co.....	130 a 137	130 a 137
Montreal Elevating Company.....	130 a 137	130 a 137
British Colonial Steamship Co.....	130 a 137	130 a 137
Canada Glass Company.....	130 a 137	130 a 137
St. Lawrence Glass Co.....	130 a 137	130 a 137
<b>BONDS.</b>		
Government Debentures, 5 p.c. 1897.....	100 a 101	100 a 101
Do. 6 p.c. 1897.....	100 a 101	100 a 101
Do. 7 p.c. 1897.....	100 a 101	100 a 101
Dominion 6 per cent. stock.....	100 a 101	100 a 101
Montreal Water Works 6 per cent.....	100 a 101	100 a 101
Montreal City Bonds, 6 per cent.....	100 a 101	100 a 101
Corporation 7 per cent. stock.....	100 a 101	100 a 101
Montreal Harbour Bonds, 6½ p.c.....	100 a 101	100 a 101
Quebec City 6 per cent.....	100 a 101	100 a 101
Toronto City Bonds, 6 per cent, 1890.....	100 a 101	100 a 101
Kingston City Bonds, 6 per cent, 1872.....	100 a 101	100 a 101
Ottawa City Bonds, 6 per cent, 1860.....	100 a 101	100 a 101
Champlain R. R., 6 per cent.....	100 a 101	100 a 101
County Debentures.....	100 a 101	100 a 101
<b>EXCHANGE.</b>		
Bank on London, 60 days.....	109½ a 109½	109½ a 109½
Private.....	109½ a 109½	109½ a 109½
Private, with documents.....	109½ a 109½	109½ a 109½
Bank on New York.....	27½ a 27½	27½ a 27½
Private do.....	27½ a 27½	27½ a 27½
Gold Drafts do.....	27½ a 27½	27½ a 27½
Silver.....	135 a 135	135 a 135
Gold in New York.....	135 a 135	135 a 135

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

Traffic for the week ending May 21, 1893

Passengers.....	\$28,115.33
Freight.....	\$2,855.33
Mails and sundries.....	2,320.08
Total receipts for week.....	\$73,331.26
Corresponding week, 1892.....	70,130.23
Increase.....	\$3,191.03

NORTHERN RAILWAY.

Traffic receipts for week ending May 23, 1893

Passengers.....	\$3,327.44
Freight and live stock.....	12,628.97
Mails and sundries.....	2,715.43
Total.....	\$14,671.84
Corresponding week, 1892.....	17,116.23
Increase.....	\$2,444.39