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Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, June 20th, 1900.

ASHES.—The movement is a slow one, and values are not materially changed. We quote first pots at \$4.55 to \$4.60; seconds, \$4.10 to \$4.15 per cental.

CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.—In cements, there is a better business reported this week. A sale of a 5,000-barrel lot is reported to the East, and a better general demand exists. Receipts for the week ending to-day, are, Belgian, 956 barrels; English, 1,690; firebricks, 118,000. We quote: Belgian cement, \$1.90 to \$2.10; English, \$2.30 to \$2.40; German, \$2.45 to \$2.55. Firebricks, \$18 to \$24 per thousand.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.—There has been a steady upward move in butter since last report and 20½c. to 21c. is reported as being paid in the country for finest creamery, while 22c. has been charged to grocers. Cheese has also moved upward, though at the moment, business is not reported brisk at the higher prices. We quote fine Western at 10½ to 10¾c.; Easterns, 10¼ to 10¾c. Free shipments of cheese were again made last week, exports aggregating 103,427 boxes, as against 93,467 boxes same week of 1899. Butter shipments also show an increase, having been 12,144 packages, the largest figures this season.

DRY GOODS.—City retail trade is reported good, and light summer textiles and fancy dry goods are in very fair demand in a sorting way. Travellers' orders for fall stuff are coming in fairly well, and the wholesale warehouses exhibit considerable bustle in the unpacking and putting to stock of fall lines. Values continue steady to firm. Letters by last British mail announce an advance in Victoria lawns.

MONTREAL STOCKS IN STORE.

	Bushels.	Bushels.
	June 12.	June 19.
Wheat	454,887	524,980
Corn	84,662	122,571
Oats	511,116	590,011
Rye	15,548	16,397
Peas	170,311	141,767
Barley	66,392	74,927

Total grain....	1,302,916	1,470,653
Oatmeal	801	742
Flour	23,491
Buckwheat	29,967	31,121

GROCERIES.—The sugar market rules very firm, with local demand stimulated by the recent advances and the approach of the preserving season. A European cable to-day reports a stronger market for raw beet sugars, owing to active American demand. Factory quotations are \$4.75 for standard granulated, and from \$4.05 upwards for yellows. Barbadoes prices current, received to-day, quote molasses 16c., first cost. The season's crop is estimated at 32,000 puncheons, some 6,000 puncheons ahead of last year. Local quotation remains at 38 to 39c. The strong advance in currants, noted last week, is maintained, and later advices indicate that the rise is due to the fact that mould or blight has attacked the vines. The tea market is showing increasing firmness in other lines besides Japans. Young hysons and gunpowders are being held at stiffer prices, and there is nothing now available under 10c. in these lines. There seems to be a general anticipation of a higher tea market.

HIDES.—The market is a dull one, as butchers are not killing much; nor are tanners buying much. No further decline has developed, and dealers are buying beef hides at the basis of 8c. per lb., for No. 1 calfskins, and 9 and 7c. for Nos. 1

and 2, respectively; lambskins bring 25c., and sheepskins, \$1.10 each.

LEATHER.—No buying of consequence is yet reported. The American market is off a cent on sole, and the English market is not reported so favorable to the sale of black leathers. Local quotations are nominally unchanged, but there is a pretty strong feeling, it is said, that dealers would be disposed to concede on fair lots. We quote: Spanish sole, B.A., No. 1, 26c.; No. 2, B.A., 24 to 25c.; No. 3, B.A., 23 to 24c.; No. 1, ordinary Spanish, 24 to 25c.; No. 2, 22½ to 23c.; No. 1, slaughter, 27 to 29c.; No. 2, ditto, 25 to 27c.; common, 20 to 21c.; Union crop, 32c.; waxed upper, light, and medium, 30 to 35c.; ditto, heavy, 27 to 30c.; grained, 32 to 35c.; Scotch grained, 30 to 35c.; Western splits, 20 to 23c.; Quebec, ditto, 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, 31 to 33c.; buffed cow, 13 to 15c.; extra heavy buff, 15c.; pebble cow, 12½ to 14c.; polished buff, 12 to 13c.; glove-grain, 12½ to 14c.; rough, 22 to 23c.; russet and bridle, 35 to 45c.

METALS AND HARDWARE.—The market is developing easiness in quite a few lines and large buyers are disposed to still hold back in the expectation of doing better later. Black sheets are now offered in an ordinary way at \$3.05 for No. 28 gauge, and Canada plates at \$3; boiler plate is easier at \$2.75 for quarter-inch, and tank

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