

blouse silks have had a good run and stocks are being replenished. Tartan dress goods are in good request, both of wool and silk-and-wool mixed, and stocks are adequate of American, German and Bradford makes. Fancy black dress goods are selling fast, especially in high-priced stuff, \$1 per yard or thereabout; lustres, both plain and fancy, are moving freely. Navy blue lustres are a favorite dress material in the States. It has appeared in Canada, too, and will likely be one of the leading textures for ladies' skirts for the rest of the season. Braid effects are seen in lustres and other goods, they are popular abroad. In men's wear the demand for fall is in the direction of suitings, brown, green brown, olive mixtures, etc. A distinct movement is observable in favor of better class and higher priced goods. People say, "Don't send us any more cheap stuff at very low prices, let the ready-made clothing people buy that if they want to, our customers want the durable goods." Whipcords are the thing for trousers and overcoats, and, indeed, for suits, they are seen in plain and stripes and are attractive goods of sound quality.

GROCERIES.—A moderate and steady business is reported at wholesale, scattered over almost every department. There are not, perhaps, many large orders, but there are a great many small ones. Travelers report the feeling among country retailers generally cheerful. The war does not seem to have greatly disturbed values, although the war tax on teas in the States made a flurry here for a while and coffees are rendered firmer through the status belli. Certain spices, notably allspice and pepper, are affected, as our corrected prices current show. Sugars are easy and in adequate supply. All grades of our Canadian sugars hold their own well against imported, the value appears to be maintained in them. Canned goods are a shade easier with the advancing season, that is fruits and vegetables are. A slight decline in corned beef has taken place, but all other meats remain firm at the advance which took place in early May. Rice is somewhat scarce, and will continue so until the arrival of the first vessel from Burmah, which is expected at Montreal in mid-August; prices have advanced 10 to 15 per cent. There is an extreme scarcity of medium and low grade hyson teas in this market, such goods are worth 10c. more in the United States than here and our market is almost bare of anything desirable in these lines, which have been largely diverted across the lines, so as to get in there before the war tax came into play. Japans are firm and good value; one feature of great moment to consumers is, that there are no undesirable stocks; for the most part they are good clean leaf, free from loading or facing, probably largely the result of our legislation. Ceylons and Indians are both in good supply and becoming steadily more popular.

HARDWARE AND METALS.—Business in these lines is decidedly active, in shelf goods and harvest tools especially so, in the last-named line it is impossible to get the goods from the factories fast enough to supply the demand; of all seasonable goods the like may be said. Values are steady in iron and steel, bar iron active but not advancing at all; there are some changes to be made in quotations, however in copper and tin, ingot copper being quoted 14c., ingot tin 18½c.; boiler tubes, 3-inch, are advanced to 11½c.; Hamilton bar iron \$1.50 to \$1.55; there is less doing of late in steel boiler plates for the reason that fewer small steam boilers are used nowadays than there used to be, their places being taken by electric motors. Manilla rope is higher, as we have noted, the Spanish-American war being responsible for the advance in Philippine Islands hemp.

HIDES AND SKINS.—The market for hides is firm; 9c. per lb. is being paid by merchants for green and the local tanners take them all at 9½ to 9¾c., grumbling all

the while that it is too much. Such prices disturb business, however. It is true that there are American buyers running up and down the province buying hides at a flat rate, which a dealer tells us often equal 9¾c. if not 10c. per pound, when quality is taken into account, but they get them across the lake or river and into the United States market. The calfskin season is nearly over and there is scarce anything done; local tanners continue to pay 10c. per lb. for those that offer.

HOG PRODUCTS.—There has been a good steady market all week for pretty much everything in the list, orders though frequent are not large, and the condition on the whole is healthy and showing improvement from the somewhat unsettled values caused out of sympathy with American weakened markets of later June. Canadians are now freer buyers. Dressed hogs have gone up, for light singers \$5.37½ is paid, which is an advance of 17½ cents.

WOOL.—Views of wool holders in country districts of Ontario differ considerably from those of dealers in Hamilton and Toronto as to values of domestic wool. The city dealers contend, and not without reason, that they cannot pay 17c. for combing and 18c. for clothing wool when advices from American markets show that 15c. is the highest price that will enable them to export without loss. Besides it is to be borne in mind that foreign wools are to be had of equivalent quality at 1½c. to 2c. per lb. less than prevailing figures asked for domestic combing and clothing.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, June 29th, 1898.

ASHES.—Very little interest appears to be taken in the market just now, and both the demand and receipts are very restricted in character. Values are more or less of a nominal character. We quote: No. 1 pots \$3.65 to \$3.75, seconds \$3.40 to \$3.45, pearls \$4.75 per cental.

CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.—There is a considerable enquiry about cements, which will probably result in business later, but at the moment actual sales are not very large; prices, however, rule firm at \$2.20 to \$2.30 for British makes, and \$1.80 to \$1.90 for Belgian. Firebricks are quoted at \$16 to \$21 per thousand. Receipts since last report are 1,100 brls of English, 2,800 brls. of Belgian, and 82,000 firebricks.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.—The cheese market has been showing further gain since last report; cable quotations have by several rises of 6d. each, crept up to 37s., and this week's sales of Quebec cheese have realized 7¼ to 7¾c. per lb., with quotations for Western at about 8c. Exports are increasing, and for the first time this season last week's shipments show a gain over those of the corresponding week in 1897, the figures being 79,577 boxes as against 78,400. The total shipments since May 1st are 262,350 boxes as compared with 375,013 for same period last year. Butter shipments continue active, last week showing an increase of 1,336 pkgs. over the same week of 1897, and the total gain this season so far is 16,097 pkgs., and the receipts are pretty liberal, the market rules steady at the basis of 16½ to 17c. for fine creamery.

DRY GOODS.—General reports of wholesalers in this line continue to be of a cheerful tone. There is still quite a fair volume of sorting orders reported by some houses and business in fall lines of goods is satisfactory. Free deliveries of domestic lines of fall goods are being made, but shipments of imported fabrics are being deferred till July, as most of the arrivals in these latter lines are being left in bond till after the 1st prox., so as to benefit by the reduced duties. Payments continue to come in well from country districts, and city payments in particular are favorably reported on.

MONTREAL STOCKS IN STORE.

	June 20.	June 27.
	Bushels.	Bushels.
Wheat	177,268	108,979
Corn	85,051	203,555
Oats	1,052,937	1,117,430
Rye	13,087	14,023
Peas	222,437	276,127
Barley	30,342	30,432

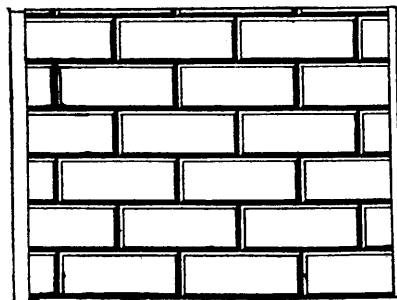
Total grain.....	1,581,122	1,750,513
Oatmeal	42	186
Flour	19,257	20,555
Buckwheat	53,374	49,586

GROCERIES.—Refiners report the demand for sugars as still somewhat disappointing, considering the season and the reported abundance of small fruit, but are building on an active business during July. Factory prices continue on the basis of last week, namely 3½ to 3¾c. per lb. for yellows, standard granulated 4¾c. Dutch, ditto., 4¼c., Austrian, 4¼c. Orders are being booked for new pack of salmon; first sales of Clover Leaf brand and equal were made at \$3.50 on coast, but there has been a meeting of canners, acting in harmony with large English importers, and brokers here have now instructions to quote \$3.65, while letters say that the situation is a strong one, with further advance probable. Quotations for new pack tomatoes are now being made by Western canners at 75 to 80c., peas and corn 65 to 70c. The molasses market in Barbadoes is about closing, orders have now been pretty well all placed, and according to last advices there are not more than about 2,000 puncheons available on the island, with the market easy at 11c. per gal., first cost, equal to about 28c. laid down. The present demand for teas is not an active one, being mainly confined to moderate lots of medium grade Japans. Receipts of new crop Japans have as yet been small, and have not attracted much attention, but samples of third steamer's teas are now to hand, ranging from 16 to 18c., in which more business will likely be done. Some local dealers who made speculative shipments of teas into the United States, just prior to the war duty going into effect, have done very well on the same, one broker reporting sales of some 1,500 pkgs. for his principals at an advance of from 5 to 6c. a lb.

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