

Scoured merinoes were from $\frac{3}{4}$ d. to 1d. down. Greasy crossbreds were well competed for, especially coarse, the price of which was unchanged. Medium and fine-haired sold at from par to $\frac{3}{4}$ d. lower. Scoured was down 1d. Superior Cape snow whites were $\frac{3}{4}$ d. higher, while medium to inferior were from $\frac{3}{4}$ d. to 1d. lower. Good greasies were $\frac{3}{4}$ d. down. Wasty was $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to $\frac{3}{4}$ d. lower. The next series of sales will begin November 24th. The list closes on November 20th.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, 21st Oct., 1896.

ASHES.—Some fair recent sales are reported, and the market shows some gain in stiffness. A fair range of values in first quality pots would be from \$3.45 to 3.55; seconds, \$3.05 to 3.10; \$3.25 was recently paid for an extra good lot of seconds; but the extra value was there, as they showed only about 8 per cent. of salt, instead of the usual 15 per cent. or more. Pearls are quoted at \$4.50 nominal.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—The recent frequent spells of cold, wet weather, have helped business in the shoe line, and some of the factories in this city are reported quite busy on sorting orders. Not a great deal has yet been done in the booking of commands for spring footwear, and some manufacturers are reported to be considering the advisability of recalling travelers to revise price lists, in view of the marked stiffening in values of leather. Some of the manufacturers in the city of Quebec, who make altogether for the jobbing trade, are reported to have already advanced prices 5 per cent. for their product.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.—The exports of cheese last week footed up 101,080 boxes, as against 74,017 boxes for the same period of last year. Of butter, there were shipped 12,729 packages, as against 5,890 packages for same week of 1895. Cheese prices remain steady at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. for fine Western makes, and 10 to 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. for Quebec. Butter rules firm at a range of from 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. for fine creamery. Eggs are in steady request at 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 14c. for choice candled stock.

FURS.—Full cable reports of the Lampson & Co. raw fur sale in London last week are to hand, and show that the general tendency in values is downwards. The decline on last March prices is shown as follows: Black bear, 5 per cent. lower; grizzly, 10 per cent.; lynx, 20 per cent.; otter, 15 per cent.; mink, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; marten, 5 per cent.; stone marten, 10 per cent. Fox, wolf and raccoon sold at same figures as last March, and brown bear 15 per cent. higher. Spring rats sold 20 per cent. lower than last January, and winter rats 10 per cent. lower than January; beaver, 15 per cent. lower than January, and ermine at same figures as at June sale. Local dealers will hardly publish quotations for new catch of Canadian furs till the beginning of November.

GROCERIES.—Further improvement is noted in the general demand, and the distribution may be called a very fair one. There is also a general stiffening in values, with the exception of sugars, which remain easy at the late decline. Refiners' nominal quotation for standard granulated in round lots is 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ c., but it is claimed business can be done a shade under this, and it is even reported that some of the houses most prone to cutting are quoting 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ c. in the country. Molasses is steady at 30 to 31c. for Barbadoes in puncheons; barrels, 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.; half barrels, 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. A few small lots of German refined sugar are being again brought in in bags, and is understood to have sold at about 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ c. Teas show growing firmness; a cable yesterday to a commission house from their London principals quoted an advance of a cent and a half in common and good medium gunpowders. All lines of dried fruits are still tending upwards, and any stocks of Valencias and currants in first hands are firmly held, late cables showing further advance at producing points. It is said some importers are holding fine off stalk and selected Valencias at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ c., layers in boxes 6c., quarter boxes 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., and fine Filiatra currants at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., net price in quantity; the general jobbing quotation for off-stalk Valencias is 5c.; fine, ditto, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.; selected, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. In ordinary provincial currants, in cases, there is nothing under 4c.; Patras, 5c. Sultana raisins are also advancing. There are no Bosnian prunes here yet; French 100 to 110's are jobbing at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.; 95's at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. Some moderate deliveries of California loose muscatels are now being made, and for 4-crown 8c. is being asked, and 7c. for 3-

crown; California dried peaches are also in stock, and are quoted at 10c.; dried pears, 9c. New evaporated apples are being offered to the trade at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., and new gallon apples at \$1.40 to 1.50 as to brand. Tomatoes are conceded a light pack, and sales of standard brand, in quantity, are reported at 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

HIDES AND TALLOW.—Receipts of beef hides are more liberal, as killing has increased with the advent of colder weather. Prices remain steady at the advance of last week, dealers buying on the basis of 7c. for No. 1, with sales to tanners reported at 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. A few odd calf-skins still come in, and are bought at 6c. for No. 1, and 4c. for No. 2. Lambskins, 50c. Tallow dull, and butchers only realize 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ c. for their rough stock.

LEATHER.—There has been further marked stiffening in the leather market, and quotations for sole may again be considered as advanced a cent all around. Several Quebec shoe manufacturers have been looking for sole in this market, and some fair sales are reported in that direction, including one 4,000 side lot of slaughter, at 23c. it is said. Splits are also firmer, and best makers in Ontario are said to be asking 22c. In other lines there is some indefiniteness, dealers hardly knowing what to quote just yet, and tanners' agents awaiting instructions from their principals, but it is pretty safe to advance quotations for buff, pebble, glove grain, etc., a cent all round. Chicago buff hides are now quoted at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. The English market is also reported firm and active, warranting continued steady exports of sole, splits and buff. We quote:—Spanish

sole B.A. No. 1, 22 to 23c.; do. No. 2, 21c.; No. 1 ordinary Spanish, 21c.; No. 2, 19 to 20c.; No. 1 slaughter, 22 to 24c.; No. 2 do., 19 to 21c.; common, 17 to 18c.; waxed upper light and medium, 26 to 29c.; do. heavy, 24 to 27c.; grained, 25 to 30c.; Scotch grained, 25 to 30c.; western splits, 18 to 22c.; Quebec do., 14 to 16c.; juniors, 13 to 15c.; 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 14c.; russet sheepskin linings, 30 to 40c.; colored, 6 to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.; harness, 24 to 27c.; buffed cow, 12 to 14c.; extra heavy buff, 15c.; pebbled cow, 11 to 13c.; polished buff, 11 to 13c.; glove grain, 11 to 12c.; rough, 22 to 23c.; russet and bridle, 35 to 45c.

METALS AND HARDWARE.—The only noteworthy change we hear of since last report is a strong advance in tinplates equal to 15c. a box all around. Canadas are very firm at the recent rise, and as importers do not expect to have more than half their orders here before the close of navigation, further advance is not unlikely, as extra freight will have to be paid from Portland. Terne plates are firm at quotations, with some prospects of scarcity, as recent enquiries for round lots could not be satisfied. We hear of a sale to Montreal parties of a lot of 250 tons pig iron from the Hamilton blast furnace, to be delivered before close of navigation. We quote:—Summerlee pig iron, \$20 to 21.00, ex-store; Carron, \$19.50; Ayrshire, \$18.50; Shotts, \$18.25 to 18.50; Carnbroe, \$18.50 to 19.00, ex-store; Siemens pig,

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