

Commercial

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, May 9th, 1900.

ASHES.—The English demand is reported slow, and first outgoing steamers have taken out but small lots. Values are easier than a fortnight ago, quotations for No. 1 pots ranging from \$4.50 to \$4.60; seconds, \$4.10 to \$4.15; pearls, nominal, about \$5, with no recent transactions reported.

CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.—No important public works are now in progress, and the general demand is just of moderate character. First steamers last week brought in some good lots of cement and bricks, receipts for the week ending today being 11,677 barrels of Belgian and German cement; 1,950 barrels of English, and 255,000 firebricks. Ex-wharf quotations are now: Belgian cement, \$1.90 to \$2.10; English, \$2.30 to \$2.40; German, \$2.45 to \$2.55; firebricks, \$18 to \$24.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.—The first week's direct shipments are reported as follows: Cheese, 8,881 boxes, as against 7,930 boxes opening week last year; butter, 182 packages, as against 3,738 last year. Butter prices are firmer for creamery at 17 to 17½c.; dairy is not in much demand, and quotes at about 14c. Cheese is easier at about 10¾c. for fine white, and colored at 10½ to 10¾c.

DRY GOODS.—The weather has ruled decidedly cool, with frosty evenings, and retailers' sales suffer in consequence, but travellers are reported as doing very fair business. Payments are well sustained on the whole, and one large house, who had some \$50,000 of customers' paper falling due on the 4th, reports that 80 per cent. was provided for, a remarkably good showing.

FURS.—The market for raw furs is quiet, and apart from some fair lots of spring rats, being bought at 16 to 18c., receipts are light. We quote, for prime skins: Mink, dark, \$2 to \$2.50; pale ditto, \$1 to \$1.50; marten, dark, \$5 to \$10;

large pale ditto, \$3 to \$3.50; small pale, \$2 to \$2.50; fisher, \$4 to \$7; lynx, \$3 to \$5; otter, dark, \$10 to \$13; pale, \$5 to \$7; red fox, \$3 to \$4; cross ditto, \$4 to \$10; silver, \$20 to \$150; skunk, 30c. to \$1; coon, 20c. to \$1; large fall rats, 10c.; medium, 7c.; kits, 2 to 5c.; winter rats, 11 to 14c.; spring ditto, 16 to 18c.

MONTREAL STOCKS IN STORE.

	Bushels.	Bushels.
	May 1.	May 8.
Wheat	145,956	192,711
Corn	64,544	28,782
Oats	795,650	746,101
Rye	24,351	21,302
Peas	152,593	186,311
Barley	50,620	58,715

Total grain	1,233,714	1,233,922
Oatmeal	771	756
Flour	27,684	28,405
Buckwheat	30,561	53,908

GROCERIES.—Trade this month is decidedly ahead of last month, and wholesalers appear to be pretty well satisfied with the volume of orders. Molasses is again reported firmer at the island, 19c. being now the cabled first cost quotation, figured as meaning nearly 40c., laid down cost. The crop is figured at about 33,000 puncheons, about the same as last year, but Porto Rico will furnish only about half a crop, it is said. Sugars maintain last week's five cents advance. Tea importers and brokers report a very quiet market, no sales of note taking place. No further advices are to hand regarding the Japan market for new teas. Coast quotations for new salmon have been announced at \$5.50 for flats, and \$5 for tallis. All the large factories are in combination, only five smaller concerns being outside. In other lines nothing special is reported.

LEATHER.—The only feature of the week is the altogether unexpected suspension of the Thompson Shoe Co. The demand rules quiet, and will probably not improve very appreciably until cutting of fall stock becomes general in June. We quote: Spanish sole, B.A., No. 1, 26c.; No. 2, B.A., 24½ to 25½c.; No. 3, B.A., 23½ to 24c.; No. 1, ordinary Spanish, 24 to 25c.; No. 2, 22½ to 23c.; No. 1 slaughter, 28 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, 22 to 25c.; Quebec ditto, 18 to 20c.; 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.—No further revision of prices in manufactures of iron are reported on spot, though cables have been received reporting a decline in Britain of 5 shillings a ton on black sheets, Canada plates and coil chain. Some moderate lots of Summerlee pig iron have come to hand, but quotations rule steady at \$25.50 to \$26, ex-wharf, and supplies are not readily available in any quantity. Tin, copper and lead are all said to be pretty steady at the quotations. We quote, as follows: Summerlee pig iron, \$25.50 to \$26.00; Carnbroe, \$26; Calder, \$26; Hamilton, No. 1, \$26.00 to \$26.50; No. 2, do., \$26.00 to \$26.50; Ferona, No. 1, \$26; machinery scrap, \$19 to \$20; common do., \$20 to \$21; bar iron, Canadian, \$2.35 to \$2.45; Canada plates—Pontypool or equal, 52 sheets to the box, \$3.10 to \$3.15; 60 sheets, \$3.20; 75

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