

A SHARP TRICK.—On Saturday morning two young men went to a leading confectioner's store, and ordered 300 tarts, saying that they required them for a party that evening. The confectioner not having the number on hand, said he would start in at once and make them. The tart gentlemen paid him down the full amount, and then went to a well-known tailoring establishment on Princess street and ordered \$65 worth of ready-made clothing. They told the head of the establishment that they had not sufficient money to pay, but if he came to the confectioner they would arrange matters. The confiding knight of the scissors went. One of the youths on calling the tart baker, said, "Will you give Mr. So and So 65 at three o'clock?" "Certainly," replied the confectioner, thinking that tarts were alluded to. The youths got the clothes and left for far away, and the tailor had all day on Sunday to smack his saddened chops over 65 toothsome tarts.—*Kingston News.*

MARKING UP.—Proprietor—"Have you marked up everything, so as to conform with the new tariff?"

Cashier—"Yes, sir; all but one thing."

Proprietor—"What's that?"

Cashier—"My salary, sir."

Proprietor—"Oh, that's one of the few things McKinley didn't raise, an' it can remain in *statu quo* for the present."—*Harper's Weekly.*

M. R. BURLINGHAM removed from Trenton to Picton, where he kept a hotel a year. He started in the same line in the latter place, but afterward went into the liquor business and made a failure. The sheriff is now in possession of his premises.—In 1878 Richard Howse, dealer in stoves and tinware, at St. Catharines, compromised at 65 per cent. Since then he has not been able to make any progress, and an assignment has been made to E. R. C. Clarkson.

—The merchant may know nothing of the pugilist, but he has daily struggles with the price-fighters.—*Boston Courier.*

STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, April 1st, 1891.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Total.	Sellers.	Buyers.	Average. 1890.
Montreal.....	223 1/2	223	7	236	233 1/2	226 1/2
Ontario.....	117	117	117	117	117	117
People's.....	97	97	5	100	97	100
Molson's.....	157 1/2	157 1/2	157 1/2	157 1/2	157 1/2	157 1/2
Toronto.....	919	919	919	919	919	919
J. Cartier.....	100	100	100	100	100	100
Merchants.....	143	143	5	144 1/2	143 1/2	144 1/2
Commerce.....	128 1/2	128	65	128 1/2	128	128 1/2
Union.....	106 1/2	106 1/2	23	104 1/2	106 1/2	106 1/2
Mon. Teleg. x'd.	61	59 1/2	265	60	59 1/2	60
Rich. & Ont.....	189 1/2	189 1/2	75	190	189 1/2	190
Street Ry.....	179	178 1/2	58	180	179	179 1/2
do. new stock	212 1/2	212 1/2	25	190	179	190
Gas.....	205 1/2	205 1/2	275	204	202	204 1/2
do. new stock	77 1/2	77 1/2	217 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2
Gas x'd.....	110	110	110	110	110	110
C. Pacific.....	74	74	74	74	74	74
do. land g. b'ds	77	77	77	77	77	77
N. W. Land.....	74	74	74	74	74	74
Bell Telephone	95	95	95	95	95	95
Montreal 4%.....	95	95	95	95	95	95

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, April 1st, 1891.

ASHES.—Very few sales have transpired since last writing, and values have continued to go off, first quality pots now being quoted nominally at \$4.80, but this would probably be an outside figure; seconds, say \$3.70; pearls, nothing doing. Some fair sized lots are looked for by first boats. Present stock in store, 86 brls., 20 pearls.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—The factories are as a rule still busy, but their buyers are not buying very freely of Canadian leather. The feeling is in favor of a moderate trade, which, in some quarters at least, is being done with caution.

CEMENTS, &c.—Trading has not become very active yet in a general way, but there have been some fair transactions between houses at \$2.50 for Belgian, and \$2.65 for English; small jobbing lots would beat higher figures. Bricks \$23 to \$30 per M., as to quality.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—Quinine is very flat and low, indeed American and German have about touched the lowest point they have ever reached; Howard's about holds its price; morphia also weaker; citric acid and tartaric acid dearer; roll and flower sulphur much advanced owing to the large demand and great scarcity, local stocks are very light indeed; sulphate of copper weaker; Chilies have doubled in price owing to the Chilean insurrection, and Norwegian cod liver oil has advanced 25%. We quote:—Sal soda, \$1.15 to 1.25; bicarb soda, \$2.50 to 2.60; soda ash, per 100 lbs., \$2.00; bichromate of potash, per 100 lbs., \$11.00 to 13.00; borax, refined, 8 to 10c.; cream tartar crystals, 27 to 28c.; do. ground, 29 to 31c.; tartaric acid, crystal, 46 to 48c.; do. powder, 48 to 50c.; citric acid, 65 to 70c.; caustic soda, white, \$2.50 to 2.75; sugar of lead, 10 to 12c.; bleaching powder, \$2.25 to 2.40; alum, \$1.75 to 2.00; copperas, per 100 lbs., 90c. to \$1.00; flowers sulphur, per 100 lbs., \$2.75 to 3.00; roll sulphur, \$2.50 to 2.75; sulphate of copper, \$5.50 to 6.00; epsom salts, \$1.65 to 1.75; salpêtre, \$8.25 to 8.75; American quinine, 40 to 45c.; German quinine, 35 to 40c.; Howard's quinine, 45 to 50c.; opium, \$4.50 to 5.00; morphia, \$1.75 to 2.00; gum arabic, sorts, 60 to 80c.; white, 90c. to 1.10; carbolic acid, 85 to 55c.; iodide potassium, \$3.75 to 4.00 per lb.; iodine, re-sublimed, \$4.75 to 5.00; commercial do., \$4.25 to 4.75; iodoform, \$5.75 to 6.25. Prices for essential oils are:—Oil lemon, \$2.50 to 3.00; oil bergamot, \$3.75 to 4.50; orange, \$3.00 to 3.50; oil peppermint, \$4.00 to 5.00; glycerine, 20 to 25c.; senna, 12 to 25c. for ordinary. English camphor, 70 to 75c.; American do., 65 to 70c.; insect powder, 30 to 35c.

FISH.—Easter comes in and finds stocks of pickled fish well cleaned out; what remains can be bought pretty much at nominal figures. Boneless cod is steady at .7 to 8c.; boneless fish, 4 1/2 to 6c.; finnan haddies, 7 1/2 to 8 1/2c.

FURS.—The partial mail advices thus far received, of the late London sales, confirm the results as reported by cable, and there have been no further changes in quotations since the general revision made a week ago. Local trade still rules quiet. We quote:—Beaver \$4.50 to 5.00; bear, \$12 to 18; ditto cub, \$6 to 10; fisher, \$3.50 to 6.00; red fox, \$1.15 to 1.40; cross fox, \$2.50 to 5.00; lynx, \$1.50 to 2.50; marten, 60 to 80c.; mink, \$1 to 1.75; winter rat, 15c.; spring ditto, 20c.; otter, \$8 to 10; raccoon, 25 to 60c.; skunk, 25c. to \$1, according to stripe and quality.

MONTREAL GRAIN STOCKS.—The stocks of grain and flour in store in Montreal were as follows on the dates mentioned:—

	March 28, 1891.	March 29, 1890.
Wheat, bush.....	407,133	152,096
Corn ".....	8,480	74,308
Peas ".....	126,956	403,962
Oats ".....	234,837	103,855
Barley ".....	56,402	82,742
Rye ".....	30,030	51,245
Flour, brls.	58,891	61,600
Oatmeal ".....	260	344
Corn 'n' ".....	108	108

GROCERIES.—It can hardly be said that there is much increase in actual business in this line, but a fair proportion of orders are reported for shipment when lower spring freights come into force. Sugars are moving slowly in only a hand to mouth way, and no improvement looked for until the uncertainty regarding duties is dispelled. Granulated, 6 1/2c. at refinery. Yellows, 5 1/2 to 5 3/4c. The stocks of molasses here have all passed into one hand, the Boston lot included, and the figure for Barbadoes is now 35c. solid; it is a question if less than 34c. would buy a round lot. Advices from Barbadoes quote the price for new crop at 21c. on the island. There is a little growth in the country demand for teas, and some considerable trading is reported between city houses, notably one lot, 1,300 packages Japans, a little below medium, at a good price. The reported troubles in Assam may affect the price of blacks. Dried fruit hardly wanted at all, but Valencia rule fairly steady at 6 to 6 1/2c., and currants about the same figure. Rice firm matocoes firm; \$1.25 has been freely offered for lots, and there has been some considerable buying for the West. We quote \$1.30 to \$1.40 as to brand. Corn has also stiffened, packers now asking \$1.10, as against 95c. a few days ago. Salmon, \$1.35; lobsters scarce at \$7.75 to 8.00. Spices, generally, are reported rather upish in England.

HIDES.—There is little new in this line; dealers are paying on the basis of 6 1/2c. for No. 1 green hides, and asking 7c. from tanners, who are light buyers. Calfskins and sheepskins as before.

LEATHER.—While the shoe factories are generally busy, they are not buying much, because in the making of spring goods they use a good deal of American oak and Union crop leather for bottoms, and kid and Dongola leather for uppers, therefore they are not yet buying very freely of domestic stock. Prices, however, hold fairly steady, and the English market still warrants shipments there, which are steadily going forward. An offer from a Montreal house to a western tanner for a considerable lot of leather was declined the other day, as last English account sales showed slightly better figures than the Montrealers offer. We quote:—Spanish sole, B.A., No. 1, 21 to 23c.; do., No. 2, B.A., 17 to 18c.; No. 1, ordinary Spanish, 19 to 20c.; No. 2, ditto, 16 to 17c.; No. 1, China, none to be had; No. 1 slaughter, 22 to 25c.; No. 2 do., 21 to 22c.; American oak sole, 39 to 43c.; British oak sole, 38 to 45c.; waxed upper, light and medium, 30 to 35c.; ditto, heavy, 28 to 33c.; grained, 32 to 34c.; Scotch grained, 32 to 37c.; splits, large, 16 to 24c.; do., small, 12 to 15c.; calf splits, 32 to 38c.; calfskins (35 to 40 lbs.), 50 to 60c.; imitation French calfskins, 65 to 80c.; russet sheepskin linings, 30 to 40c.; harness, 23 to 29c.; buffed cow, 12 to 14c.; pebbled cow, 12 to 15c.; rough, 20 to 25c.; russet and bridle, 45 to 55c.

METALS AND HARDWARE.—Enquiries are perhaps more frequent, but actual business is hardly more active than it has been for the last several weeks, consumers looking for lower prices generally with advent of fresh supplies. Pig iron is offered for May and June delivery at following prices in quantity. Coltness, \$22.50; Gartsherrie and Summerlee, \$21.75 to 22.00; Carnbroe, \$19; Eglinton, \$19.25; Middlesboro, No. 1, \$18.50, No. 3, \$18. Tin plates are also offered low, charcoal for August delivery at 15s. 6d., and cokes, July delivery, 13s. 6d. Bar iron is lower at \$2.10 for Canadian, best refined, \$2.35, and hoops and bands \$2.50 to 2.60. Copper is no stronger, and a fair lot might probably be bought at 13c. We quote:—Coltness, no stock, to import, \$22.50; Calder, No. 1, \$23.00; Calder, No. 3, \$21.50; Summerlee, \$23.00 to 24.00; Eglinton, \$21.50; Gartsherrie, \$23.00; Carnbroe, \$21.50 to 22.00; Shotts, \$22.50 to 23.00; Middlesboro, none here; cast scrap railway chairs, &c., \$20.00; machinery scrap, \$19.00; common ditto, \$13; bar iron, \$2.10 for Canadian, British \$2.30; best refined, \$2.35. The products of the Londonderry Iron Company we quote as follows: Siemens' pig No. 1, \$22.50 to 23.00; Maple bar, \$2.05 to 2.10; Siemens' bar, \$2.15 to 2.25; these figures for round lots. Canada Plates—Blaina, \$3.10; Swansea, none; Penn., \$3.35. Terne roofing plate, 20x28, \$8.00 to 8.50. Black sheet iron, No. 28, \$2.75 to 2.80. Tin plates—Bradley charcoal, \$6.50 to 7; charcoal I.C., \$4.75 to 5.25; do. I.X., \$5.25 to 6.00; coke I.C., \$4.50 to 4.60; coke wasters, \$4.40; galvanized sheets, No. 28, ordinary brands, 5 1/2 to 5 3/4c.; Morewood, 7c.; tinned sheets, cokes, No. 24, 6 1/2c.; No. 26, 7c.; the usual extra for large sizes. Hoops and bands, per 100 lbs., \$2.50 to 2.60; Staffordshire boiler plate, \$2.75 to 3.00; common sheet iron \$2.75 to 2.90 according to gauge steel boiler plate, \$3.00; heads, \$4.00; Russian sheet iron, 10 1/2 to 11c.; lead per 100 lbs., pig, \$3.75 to 4; sheet, \$4.75; shot, \$6 to 6.50; best cast steel, 11 to 12c.; spring, \$2.50; tire, \$2.50 to 2.75; sleigh shoe, \$2.50 to 3.00; round machinery steel, \$3.25; ingot tin 22 1/2 to 23 1/2c.; bar tin, 26c.; ingot copper, 13 1/2 to 15c.; sheet zinc, \$6.50 to 7.00; spelter, \$6.25; antimony, 00 to 20c.; bright iron wires Nos. 0 to 8, \$2.75 per 100 lbs.; annealed do., \$2.75. Coil chain, 1/2 inch, 5 1/2c.; 3/4 in., 4 1/2c. 7-16 in., 4 1/2c.; 1/2 in., 4 1/2c.; 3/4 in., 3 1/2c.; 1 in., 3 1/2c.; and upwards, 3 1/2c.

OILS, GLASS AND PAINTS.—The favorable news concerning the seal fishery has caused some weakening in values, and refined could now be bought, in a jobbing way, at 51 to 52 1/2c. Newfoundland cod still 40 to 42c. Linseed steady at 64c. for raw; boiled, 67c. Turpentine, 61c. in single brls. Castor and olive as before. Leads without change, also colors and glass. We quote:—Leads (chemically pure and first-class brands only) \$6; No. 1, \$5 to 5.50; No. 2, \$4.75; No. 3, \$4 to 4.50; dry white lead, 5 1/2 to 5 3/4c.; red do., 4 1/2 to 4 3/4c.; London washed