

—The United States Minister to Russia will, it is said, resign the post, the reason being that he finds the salary of \$17,500 a year totally inadequate to keep up the position in the style in which it should be maintained by the ambassador from the United States. On the same day last month a bill was to be introduced in Congress by Mr. Richardson (Dem., Tenn.) appropriating \$1,000,000 to provide a suitable residence for the President of the United States. If the telegraph has not put a cypher too many into the sum mentioned, what becomes of the "republican simplicity" we hear so much about in the United States?

—Who is the greatest benefactor of the legal profession? Prof. Wood, of the Edinburgh chair of conveyancing, told his students how at a dinner of English country solicitors the oldest practitioner present was asked to propose the greatest benefactor of the profession as a toast, and how he arose and said: "Gentlemen, fill up your glasses. Here's to the man who makes his own will!"

—The great quantity of 246,603 bushels of oats was loaded aboard the big steel steamer "S. S. Curry" by Chicago elevator men before removing to her winter quarters. Up to this time the "Onoko" held the record with 187,657 bushels.

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, Feb. 6th, 1895.

ASHES.—Business has been very dull of late, and the English market weaker. Shipments

during January were only 59 brls. pots and one brl. pearls. Receipts for January were 110 brls. pots. Values are easy at \$4 to 4.05 for No. 1 pots, and \$3.65 to 3.70 for seconds; of pearls there have been none sold lately.

CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.—The season is of course not favorable to any movement in cements, and prices are more or less nominal at \$2.05 to 2.15 for English and \$1.95 to 2 for Belgian. There is a fair movement in firebricks for repairs at \$17.50 to 22 for ordinary brands and \$25 for Glenboig.

DRY GOODS.—Customers' paper was fairly provided for on the 4th inst., which is usually a "big month." Anticipations in some quarters were not altogether favorable as to the results, but after weighing reports of different merchants, it may be reasonably stated that the 4th inst. was an average one, and no notable defaults, resulting in failure, have as yet been reported. There is no particular activity in sales just at the moment, and nothing new to be said as to values.

FISH.—The Lenten demand has not yet set in very actively, and prices are not greatly altered from last week. We quote: No. 1 green cod, \$4.25; No. 1 large, \$5.25 to 5.50; dry cod, \$4.25 to 4.50; herrings, \$3.75 to 4.50, according to brand; N. S. salmon, \$13 to 14 for No. 1; B. C. ditto, \$10.50 to 11; sea trout \$9 to 10; fresh herring, 90c. to \$1 per hundred; cod and haddock, 3 to 4c.; finnan haddies, 6 to 7c. per pound.

FURS.—The results of the London fur sales are reported as follows: Muskrat skins sold 15 per cent. lower than last March, mink 10 per cent. higher, red fox same as last March, lynx

15 per cent. lower, wolf 5 per cent. lower, martens 60 per cent. higher, black bear 5 per cent. lower, beaver 10 to 15 per cent. lower. Receipts at the moment are small, only some odd droppings coming in. Quotations, as revised for strictly prime pelts, are as follows: beaver, \$3.25 to \$4; black bear, \$15 to \$25; cub do., \$5 to \$10; red fox, \$1.25 to \$1.50; muskrat, 7 to 10c.; lynx, \$1.50 to \$2.50; marten, \$1.25 to \$1.75; mink, \$1 to \$1.50; skunk, 50c. to \$1.25; otter, \$8 to \$12; fisher, \$5 to \$7.

GROCERIES.—The heavy storm of last week was very general, resulting in heavily drifted country roads, which has interfered somewhat with the current of business and with the movements of travellers in the interior. The local movement in teas is not very active, but we are told of a sale of 700 pkgs. of low grade Japans to Chicago, with offers from the same quarter for other fair lots. London advices report continued firmness in blacks. Raw sugars keep strengthening, but local prices for refined continue on the same low level, namely, 3½c. for standard granulated at the refinery, and from 2½c. up for yellows. German refined seems out of the market entirely for the present. The jobbing price for Barbadoes molasses has at last been advanced to 32½c., with first hands still holding firm at 33c. in lots. Coffees are in moderate request at 18 to 21c. for Rio, Java 26 to 30c., Mocha 27 to 30c., Maracaibo 20 to 24c., Jamaica 19 to 22c. Dried fruits are dull. Further advance is advised from Europe in currants, Russia being reported a heavy purchaser. For prunes there is some moderate demand at 4½ to 5½c. Dried apples are generally quoted at 5½ to 6c., and evaporated apples are in pretty full supply at comparatively low prices, namely, 7½ to 8c.

HIDES AND TALLOW.—A good demand from tanners for cured hides is noted, with continued scarcity of stock, and the quality poor, owing to grubs. Dealers are buying No. 1 light hides at 5c., heavies at 5½c. per lb., with sales to tanners of cured at 5½c. and 6½c. respectively. Lambskins 60 to 65c. each. Tallow continues slow of sale at 5 to 5½c. per pound.

LEATHER.—A little more business is reported and a more active month is looked for, as shoe manufacturers will have to begin shipping spring goods in March. We hear of a contract made the other day for 5,000 sides of No. 2 Spanish sole at 17c. per pound, and there are fair exports of sole to England all the time. Splits, buff and grain all rule very firm, with low stocks. We quote:—Spanish sole B.A. No. 1, 18 to 20c.; do No. 2 to B.A., 17 to 18c.; No. 1 ordinary Spanish, 17 to 18c.; No. 2, 16 to 17c.; No. 1 slaughter, 19 to 21c. No. 2 do., 17 to 18c.; common, 15 to 16c.; American oak sole, 39 to 43c.; waxed upper, light and medium, 24 to 26c.; do. heavy, 20 to 24c.; grained, 24 to 26c.; Scotch grained, 25 to 27c.; splits, 14 to 17c.; do. juniors, 11 to 12c.; calf-splits, 27 to 30c.; calf-skins (35 to 40 lbs.), 50 to 60c.; imitation French calfskins, 60 to 70c.; colored calf, American, 23 to 27c.; Canadian, 19 to 21c.; colored pebble cow, 12½ to 13½c.; russet sheepskin linings, 30 to 40c.; harness, 18 to 23c.; buffed cow, 10 to 12c.; extra heavy buff, 12½c.; pebbled cow, 9 to 12c.; polished buff, 9 to 11c.; glove grain, 9 to 10c.; rough, 16 to 17c.; russet and bridle, 40 to 50c.

METALS AND HARDWARE.—The rev va of trade is slow in coming, especially in the line of heavy metals. Apart from sales of a few car lots of domestic pig iron at \$17, there has been little done, and foundrymen report very slack business. Scotch warrants are cabled easier at 41s. 2d. Coke tins may be called easier at \$2.65 to 2.80, and we understand a 500-box lot was done a few days ago at something under the inside figure. A round lot of galvanized iron could be done at \$4.15 for No. 28. Tin showed a temporary spurt in New York last week, but has fallen back again. Copper and lead are without change. Canadian band iron is selling at \$1.85, English \$2.00, hoops \$2.10. We quote: Coltness pig iron, none here; Calder, No. 1, none here; Calder No. 3, none here; Summerlee, \$21.00 to 21.50; Eglington, \$19.50; Gartsherrie, none here; Langloan, none here; Carnbroe, \$19.00 to 19.50; Shotts, none here; Mid-dlesboro, No. 3, \$17; Niagara No. 2, \$18.00 to 18.50; Siemens, pig, No. 1, \$16.75 to \$17.00; Ferrona, No. 1, \$16.50 to 17.00; machinery scrap, \$15.00; common do., \$12.00; bar iron, Canadian, \$1.60; British, \$2 to 2.15; best refined, \$2.40; Low Moor, \$5.00; Ca.

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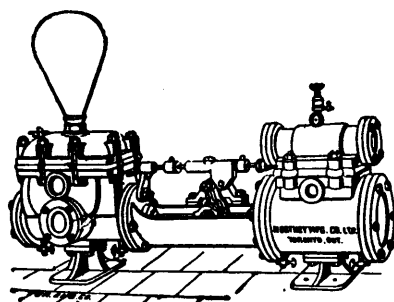
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