

tends to all countries, stocks having apparently run very low in the long period of depression. They have reasons to be satisfied with the condition of trade, for prices are advancing steadily. Exports from Manchester to the United States have also doubled over those of the corresponding period last year, the increase being especially noticeable in cotton piece goods, cotton velvets, fustians, linen damasks and handkerchiefs. Every cotton mill is running on full time and they leave all the work they can do. A passenger just out on the Parisian confirms this as regard to a class of fancy dress goods made by his firm, the demand, he reports being far ahead of several past years.

The Watchman satirizes the railway officials as governed by a code of ethics not applied to other business transactions. They arrive at a common agreement to restore and maintain rates upon a sound and permanent basis. A few weeks later they meet again and discover that the roads have never kept or intended to keep the preceding agreement. They intended it to bind their competitors, while cutting rates themselves. The Watchman thinks "these high officials must find it difficult to look each other seriously in the face." That is the great railway problem; all the roads know that rates are too low to pay expenses and leave any profit, yet the American roads have not honor enough to keep engagements entered into for their mutual protection.

In connection with our suggestion that Canadian merchants should secure business in that section, it is interesting to note that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company have decided to extend the Nakup and Slocan Railway from Three Forks to Sandon. Work will be commenced immediately and it is hoped that the road will be completed before the winter sets in. By means of this extension, the railway will tap the district in which the Slocan Star and other important mines are situated. The extension of the Arrow Lake branch to the head of Upper Arrow Lake would afford a transportation service for the whole of the year and a very important step will have been taken towards securing

for Canadian merchants and traders that share of the business of West Kootenay which they may legitimately aspire to control.

A contemporary says: "The St. James' Gazette, in a leading editorial, asks the question: 'How does Great Britain stand with the United States in regard to the Nicaraguan Canal?'"

Pursuing the subject, the paper adds: "It would be well for George Curzon, Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, to put the question in the House of Commons and obtain a clear answer. As far as can be seen we are heading straight for a crisis, and there will be either a diplomatic deadlock between the two countries or an English surrender of important treaty rights." This is puzzling. The Hon. Mr. Curzon, as Under Secretary of Foreign Affairs, is the man to be asked such a question, not to ask it. Under Secretaries are always put up to answer such questions on behalf of the Government.

Montreal Wholesale Markets.

THURSDAY, Aug. 29, 1895.

The distribution has been moderate in volume and little disposition is shown to stock up at the moment. The farming class is fully occupied with harvest and field work and will be for several weeks to come. The weather has been wet but, in general, favorable with no more frost scares to cause anxiety not only to farmers but to all people engaged in trade. Prices are but slightly changed and may be called steady so far merchandise is concerned. The fall fairs will soon be engaging attention all over the country.

DRY GOODS.—There has been no noticeable change in the condition of business this week and orders are not likely to be large until we have some cooler weather and a demand for fall wraps and clothing. The opening of the schools next week should cause some stir as it will induce many families to return to town from country resorts. Liverpool cotton, irregular, American middlings, 13-13d. New York cotton, spots, steady. Uplands, 7 15 16; Gulf, 8 3 16c. Futures, steady; Aug. 7.71c; Sept. 7.71c; Oct. 7.78c; Nov. 7.81c; Dec. 7.90c; Jan. 7.96c.

IRON AND HARDWARE.—The tendency in certain lines of manufacture, such as bar iron, wire, etc., is upwards. Manufactures are sold largely ahead in the States, and this condition appears likely to be reflected here, holders being firm. Pig iron steady, and spot iron firm. We quote the latter as follows:—18 to 16, \$2.20; 17 to 21, \$2; 26, \$2.10; 28, \$2.20. Canada plates, \$2.10 to \$2.25; tire steel, \$2; pig lead, \$3.25; sheet zinc, \$4.50; spelter, \$4.50; block tin, 16c to 16 1/2c; ingot copper, 15c; sheets, 15c to 20c; fencing wire, \$3.50. Galvanized iron is selling as follows:—Morewood's Lion, No. 28, \$5; Queen's Head, or equal, \$4.15. There has been a good local demand for plumbers' supplies, as binders are now hurrying up their work. Scotch warrants are cabled from Glasgow at 46s 9d, closing at 47s; Midd., No. 3 foundry, 37s 7 1/2d; closing 37s 10 1/2d. In the States pig iron is firm and unchanged; orders, though small, aggregate a fair tonnage. In no quarter is pig iron offered freely. New York commercial bar silver, 66 1/2c per oz.; London quotation, 30 1/2d. G.M.B. copper, spot, £47 5s; closing £47 7s 6d. Spanish lead, £10 18s 9d; English, £11 1s 3d. Antimony, Cookson's, \$8 to \$8.12 1/2; Hallett's, \$7.20 to \$7.25. London quotation for Hallett's, £33. Quicksilver, New York wholesale quotation in flasks, 76 1/2 lbs., \$39.25. London cables:—Tin, spot, £55, 7s 6d; 3 months, £55, 15s. Tin plate s.f.b. Wales, 9s 7 1/2d, G.M.B. spelter, £15 8s 9d. Pittsburgh advices report spelter firm at the advance; sales at \$4.20 delivered Pittsburgh. Aluminum per lb., in New York, in ton lots, No. 1 to be over 98 p.c.; No. 2 to be over 94 p.c. pure. No. 1 rolling ingots, 58c; No. 1 for re-melting, 53c; No. 2, 50c.

GROCERIES.—Since last week there cannot be said to be much change in the position. Teas and coffees are but little wanted, but we are glad to notice a slightly better enquiry for refined sugars. Dried fruits dull and not asked for at the moment. Market for rice is higher in Japan, and advancing, owing to unfavorable weather. July is quoted at \$5.70, August, \$9.17, and September, \$9.37. New York advices report rice steady; domestic, 3 1/2c to 6c. Molasses firm at 26c to 32c. Coffee, options, quiet; sales, including September, 14.75c to 14.80; Nov., 14.80; Dec., 14.75. Spot, steady at 16c. Sugar, steady; standard A, 4 3 1/2c to 4 1/2c; confectioners' A, 4 1 1/2c to 4 1/2c, cut loaf and crushed, 4 3 1/2c to 5c, powdered, 4 7 1/2c to 4 3/4c, granulated, 4 3 1/2c to 4 1/2c. A London cable says:—Sugar centrifugal, 96-test, 11s 3d to 11s 5d; Muscovado, fair refining, 8s to 8 1/2d; beet, Aug., 9s 1 1/2d; Oct. and Dec., 9s 1 1/2d. From Yokohama we learn that prices of low grade teas remain firm, but the better qualities are cheaper than they have been for some time past. Third crop leaf is just beginning to arrive, and compares favor-

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