

THE FIRST WOOLLEN MILL IN AMERICA.

According to an interesting account recently given in a contemporary, says the *Iron Age*, measures to establish a woollen mill in Connecticut were first taken in March, 1788, and the proposed capital was £1,250, in 125 shares of £10 each. On May 2nd of the same year the company announced their establishment under the title of the Hartford Woollen Manufactory, located in Hartford. In January, 1789, enough cloth had been manufactured to make a consignment to a New York merchant. Coincident with the establishment of the Hartford woollen factory was that our constitutional government, and the suit of clothes worn by President Washington at his first inauguration is said to have been made from a very quality of brown cloth turned out by the Hartford woollen factory for the occasion. The clothes made at first were brown and gray, and designated as "Hartford gray" and "Congress brown" from the fact that the suits worn by the delegation in Congress were of the latter color. These cloths sold at prices varying from \$2.50 to \$5 per yard, single width. From September, 1788, to January, 1790, there had been made somewhat over 10,000 yards of cloth, and the factory seemed to be in a flourishing condition. To further its interest, and to increase the machinery, implements and stock, a lottery was created early in 1791, and some 6,000 tickets were sold, of which 2,096 were to draw prizes to be paid in cloth. The success that followed the lottery scheme, however, was short lived, as in November, 1792, the production had accumulated to such an extent that an auction was resorted to in order to get rid of the goods. This was again repeated in 1793. Toward the latter part of 1794, the company declared a dividend of fifty per cent. payable in cloth, which is the only one mentioned, and, therefore, considered the only one. On August 24 1795, it was announced that, as the time for which the corporation was formed had expired, a final settlement was necessary, and notice was given that the property would be sold at auction. The property at that time consisted of 140 pieces of cloth, 4,000 pounds of wool, eight looms, two carding machines, one spinning-jenny, one twister, and several other implements, dyestuffs, etc.

—The directors of the Midland Railway of Great Britain report that the traffic carried upon the railway for the half-year ending 30th June 1884, as compared with the corresponding half-year of 1883, shows an increase from coaching, £50,233; a decrease from merchandise, £12,052; an increase from cattle, £4,683; and a decrease from minerals, £1,235. Net increase £41,629. The gross receipts from traffic amount to £3,520,031, and the miscellaneous receipts to £69,674, making a total for the half-year of £3,589,705; less working expenses, equal to 53.89 per cent. of the receipts £1,897,017; the net total thus being £1,692,688.

—The Grand Trunk receipts for the week ending August 30, 1884, were as follows:—Passengers, mails, and express, \$143,041; freight and live stock, \$220,005; total, \$363,046. For the corresponding week last year the receipts were for passengers &c., \$167,073, and for freight \$220,793, making a total of \$387,866. The increase this year is therefore \$24,820. The aggregate receipts for nine weeks were \$3,010,681, against \$3,248,747 for the corresponding period in 1883.

—Mr. Brown Chamberlain, Queen's Printer, and Mr. Josiah Blackburn, proprietor of the *London Free Press*, have been appointed a commission by the Dominion Government to inspect the Government Printing Bureau, at Washington with a view to reporting on the probable cost of equipping a Canadian Bureau of printing. They will also inspect the working of the State Bureau at Albany.

Commercial.

ENGLISH MARKETS.

LONDON, Sept. 17.—Beerbohm reports—Floating cargoes—Wheat, dull; maize, none offering. Cargoes on passage—Wheat and maize slow. Mark Lane—Wheat and maize, inactive. Imports into the United Kingdom the past week—Wheat, 480,000 to 435,000 qrs.; maize, 65,000 to 100,000 qrs.; flour, 145,000 to 155,000 bbls. Liverpool—Spot wheat, quiet and steady; maize, firm. Paris—Wheat and flour, quiet.

LIVERPOOL, Sept. 17.—Flour, 10s. to 11s. 6d.;

spring wheat, 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d.; red winter, 6s. 8d. to 6s. 11d. No. 1 California, 7s. to 7s. 3d.; No. 2 California, 6s. 8d. to 6s. 10d.; corn, 5s.; barley, 5s. 6d.; oats, 5s. 6d.; peas, 6s. 9d.; pork, 75s.; lard, 38s. 3d.; bacon, 48s. to 49s.; tallow, 35s. 6d.; cheese, 52s.; breadstuffs, quiet, little doing.

AMERICAN MARKETS.

CHICAGO, Sep. 17th, 1884.

Flour—Dull. Wheat—Higher; October, 75½ to 77c.; December, 79½ to 80½c.; No. 2 Chicago, spring, 75½ to 75¾c.; No. 2 red, 79½c. Corn—Excited; cash, 58½c.; September, 55½ to 59c.; October, 51½ to 53½c.; year, 38½ to 39c. Oats—Firm at 25½c.; year 25½ to 25¾c. Rye—Firm at 53½c. Barley—55c. Pork—Dull; \$16.75 to \$17; September, \$16.75; October, \$17; year, \$11.10 to \$11.25. Lard—weak; \$7.10 to \$7.15; October, \$7.05 to \$8.25; year, \$6.90. Bulk meats—Shoulders, \$7.75; short ribs, \$9.50; short clear, \$10.05. Freights, corn 1½ cents.

NEW YORK, Sept. 17th 1884.

Cotton—Dull and unchanged. Flour—dull; superfine, \$2.40 to \$2.85; choice State, \$3.55 to \$5.60; others unaltered. Rye flour—Easier, at \$3.40 to \$3.75. Cornmeal—Unchanged. Wheat—Firm; No. 2 red, 86½ to 88c.; No. 1 red State 92c.; No. 2 for October, 86 to 87½c.; for November, 87½ to 89½c. Rye—Steady; State, 70½c. Barley—Steady. Corn—unsettled; No. 2 60c.; for September, 58½ to 59½c.; for October, 57½ to 59½c.; for November, 56½ to 57½c. Oats—Firm; mixed 30 to 34c.; No. 2 32 to 32½c.; white, 35 to 41c.; No. 2, for September, 31½ to 32½c. Pork—Dull; new mess, \$16.75 to \$17. Beef—Quiet. Cut meats—Steady; pickled bellies, 9½c.; hams, 12c. Lard—Unsettled, at \$7.70. Butter—Firm; State, 19 to 28c. Cheese—Very firm, at 8½ to 11c.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, Sept. 17, 1884.

Now that the hurly-burly attending the Science Association meetings, and the Exhibition, is over, the city is assuming once more its normal appearance. But though people have all their time now to devote to business, trade is very quiet as a whole especially is this the case in pig iron, metals and hardware. Remittances in some lines show a slight improvement from last week. The money market does not show much activity, the demand for discounts, &c., being comparatively light, and rates are easy at 4½ to 5 per cent. on call, discounts 7 per cent. The stock market is more active, but at considerably lower rates, Tuesday's markets showing quite a break; Gas and Richelieu declined 2½ to 3 per cent., while all stocks showed a fall of from ½ to 1 per cent.

PROVISIONS.—Choice grades of butter are still in good demand, and the supply is comparatively light, causing prices of these goods to hold firm. We quote creamery, 22c. to 23½c.; Eastern Townships, 18c. to 20c.; Morrisburg, 17c. to 20c.; Western, 14c. to 16½c. for new. In cheese, operations are generally marked by caution, and there is not very much doing. We quote July make, 8½c. to 9½c.; August make, 9½c. to 10c. Some lots of extra choice might bring 10½c. In pork business is light, but prices rule steady at former quotations. Eggs are in excessive supply, and are weak at 14c. to 15c.

ASHES.—Receipts last week were almost ridiculously small, and business has been quiet and dull. Stocks in store have gone down some and are now about 1,400 bbls. No. 1 Pots are quoted at \$3.80 to 3.90, though some sales of extra fine tares have been made at slightly higher figures, seconds \$3.40 to 3.50. No transactions in Pearls reported for last two weeks, last sale at about \$4.55, and present quotations are purely nominal. Receipts so far this week are rather more full.

DRY GOODS.—Trade is quiet, with some houses very dull. Travellers generally are lying off. The sales made are small and mostly to buyers from the Ottawa district and Eastern Townships, and the spirit of caution is still strong. Remittances show some improvement, and city payments are rather better, probably a result of the money spent by our country visitors during

the exhibition. In cottons there are no new or noteworthy features.

CEMENTS.—Portland Cement continues steady at \$3.25 per bbl.; round lots, \$2.90 to \$3; Roman, \$2.75; Canadian, \$1.75; Fireclay, \$2 per bag; Firebricks, \$20 to \$30, as to brand.

FISH.—Business in this line is not particularly active, and values are rather easier, if anything; Dry Cod is still in light supply, and is quoted at \$4.25 to \$4.50; Quebec absorbs all available supplies of Green Cod; Cape Breton Herrings, \$5.12½ to \$5.50, according to lot; no direct advices as to Labradorers yet to hand, but it has been reported that the fish this year are of much better size; North Shore Salmon, \$17 for No. 1, \$16 for No. 2; British Columbia Salmon, \$14.

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