

years past. The flannelette war continues and disorganizes the whole trade. As we have previously noted, the cut prices refer only to one line 32-inch flannelettes, but the demand is largely centred upon this particular line, the other eight lines of flannelettes are to a certain extent neglected. Reports from the different country points indicate a good movement in retail circles. Farmers have, in adversity, earned to be provident and saving, and as a consequence are in a better position to buy the necessities of life.

**GRAIN.**—The events of the week have been distinctly toward strength. The markets abroad have given to the local holders great encouragement. The demand for wheat from Canadian millers has been very active, and prices have advanced one to two cents per bushel. Barley is firm, and considerable export movement to the United States is taking place. There has been some demand from lumber camps for oats, but this trade has not been as good as it should at this season of the year. The export demand has, however, had the effect of maintaining prices. Merchants started the season paying fifteen cents for oats, but through the foreign demand values have advanced to 50c. per bush. Rye is firm, and there is also a good export demand for this cereal. Peas are in active demand, and merchants get 43 to 44c. per bush.

The stocks of grain in store at Port Arthur on October 3rd were 1,193,794 bush. During the week there were received 233,277 bush., and shipped 382,466 bush., leaving in store on October 10th, 1,444,605 bush.

**HIDES AND SKINS.**—No change has taken place in prices during the week. Dealers continue to pay 6½c. for green hides to butchers. The quality is uniformly good. The warm weather has, however, affected the killing, which is not large, and until the condition of the pastures deteriorates no improvement can be looked for. It is impossible to give a quotation for cured hides that will represent the market. There is at present a difference in the ideas of buyers and sellers. Dealers are holding off temporarily and it is difficult to sell the hide at market quotations. It is almost unquestioned that the market has lost strength during the week. Dealers quote cured hides at 7c., but it is almost impossible to make sales at this figure. The season for calfskins is now well over; dealers are paying 60c. for good fresh skins. There is some improvement in tallow, and consumers are enquiring more freely for stock; quotations are as quoted in last week's issue.

**HOG PRODUCTS AND POULTRY.**—The supply of dressed hogs has during the week been scarcely up to the demand of packers. The winter packers are now at work, and in competition for supplies prices have been forced upwards, and dealers now quote \$5 to 5.10 for selected weights. The warm weather has had effect of preventing farmers from killing the usual quantity at this season of the year. The receipts by rail have been especially short. Heavy weights are now wanted and bring about 50c. per cwt. less than selections. There has been a good demand for barreled pork and long-clear bacon. During the season the consumption of lard has been unprecedentedly large. The low price has prevented compounds from selling. A slight falling off has taken place in the movements of smoked meats. This may be attributed to the increase in supplies of fresh meats and poultry. The poultry market has been fairly well supplied, and dealers quote chickens 25 to 40c. per pair; ducks, 40 to 60c. per pair; geese 6 to 7c., and turkeys 7 to 9c. per lb.

**PAINTS AND OILS.**—The demand for prepared paints is seasonably good. Dealers quote white lead at 5c. per lb., but this price is not maintained, and sales have been made at under this figure. Putty is holding firm at \$1.85 per cwt. in barrels. There is a fair demand for castor oil at 8c. per lb. in case lots. Turpentine has advanced steadily for some days past on receipt of stronger advices from the primary market in the Southern States. Supplies in primary markets are said to be small, and there is a scarcity of freight room from the South in consequence of the large movement in cotton. Varnishes, which have been easy for some time past, in sympathy with turpentine, are gaining strength. Trade in linseed oil has been dull, but with improvement in the statistical position in flax seed in the United States, there is now some improvement. There is a moderate demand for glass, with first break quoted \$1.25.

Judging from the enormous quantities of plate glass sold to various parts of the country, there must be a fairly brisk movement in plating circles. The low prices of plate glass have had a depressing effect upon the trade in heavy window glass in the large sizes.

**WOOL.**—It is pleasing to report a slight improvement in the wool market after so long a period of extreme depression. The present series of London wool sales have given better results than was expected. The competition has been good and prices fairly well maintained. Recent cables indicate that a number of cable purchases have been made on American account. The advance has come too late to be of benefit to country holders. Late wool is now held in first hands. It is said, however, that in the wool centres of Ontario good stocks of fleece wool are still in store. We are told of a sale to a large mill in the United States amounting to 150,000 lbs. last week. For the few lots that are coming in from the country, merchants are paying 19 to 20c. per lb. Pulled wools are quiet, and prices remain as reported in our last issue.

#### MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, 14th Oct., 1896.

**ASHES.**—The market is duller, but small receipts are reported, and few transactions have gone through since last report. First quality pots and pearls may be called easier, the former at \$3.45 to 3.50, the latter at \$4.45, which is the reported figure of last transaction; second pots are fairly steady at \$3.05 to 3.10 per cental.

**CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.**—Business is brisker in cements. We hear of a sale of a 2,500 barrel lot to a contractor for canal work, also of a 500 barrel sale, and a fair aggregate of car lots. Receipts for the week have been more liberal, comprising 4,100 barrels of English, and 5,800 Belgian. Prices are \$1.90 to 2.00 for English, and \$1.80 to 1.90 for Belgian. Firebricks, \$15 to 21 as to lot.

**DAIRY PRODUCTS.**—With the approaching close of the season of navigation more briskness is shown in the export of cheese. The business with London was extra large last

week, the shipments to that port being 94,261 boxes, while Liverpool took 13,972 boxes, and Glasgow 2,390 boxes. The present demand runs mainly to summer makes, ranging from 9 to 9½c. per lb.; fine late made Western quotes at 10½ to 10¾c., and Quebec, 10 to 10½c. Holders of butter are inclined to be firmer in their views, and in some cases are asking 20c. per pound for finest creamery in cases; but 19 to 19½c. is a more reasonable quotation. Eggs are in fair request, with 13 to 13½c. per dozen as the quotation for candled stock; for strictly new laid, grocers will pay 16 to 17c. per dozen.

**DRY GOODS.**—The wholesale trade report a fair proportion of seasonable sorting business with the country, but the majority of city retailers complain of dullness. The continued wet weather up to the end of last week interfered with ladies' shopping, but the fine bright days of this week so far are helping sales. Some houses report slight improvement in remittances. With regard to values we hear of nothing new.

**FURS.**—The regular October sales begin in London to-day, and we will be able to give results in next issue, with probably approximate quotations for new catch of raw furs. At the moment matters are dull locally, and the only receipts at this point consist of a few early fall musk rats, for which 10 and 5c. each are paid, for large and small respectively.

#### MONTREAL GRAIN STOCKS IN STORE.

	Oct. 12, '96.	Sept. 28, '96
Wheat, bushels.....	511,806	457,678
Corn, " .....	26,206	27,335
Oats, " .....	279,337	227,772
Rye, " .....	9,656	4,622
Peas, " .....	217,414	173,408
Barley, " .....	42,504	25,978

Total grain..... 1,086,923 895,914

**GROCERIES.**—A rather better general distribution is reported. The "Avlona," with a full cargo of currants and Valencia raisins, arrived in port to-day; the figures from her manifest are not available at the moment of writing. It is said that nearly all her cargo is ordered goods, and that consignments will probably not exceed 2,000 to 3,000 boxes of Valencia raisins. The market for both the above-named

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