

**MARKET CONDITIONS.**

Montreal, April 8th, 1908.

In the United States there are a few lots of pig iron being sold at reduced prices, the urgency of the seller largely controlling the situation. Generally speaking, however, the market is quiet and unchanged, production being limited to immediate demands.

The English market is active, a slight reduction having taken place in the price of warrant iron. This, however, is speculative and does not materially affect makers' brands. Latest reports indicate continued good demand from Germany, and heavy shipments on account of old orders, the result being a further reduction in stocks in store. Home demand is fair, and has shown an improvement, especially in steel making grades which have advanced about 4s. from the February figure. Scotch makers are apparently in a fairly strong position, and prices are being well maintained, with indications of an upward tendency. Generally speaking, the pig iron markets in England and Scotland is in a satisfactory position.

The local demand is improving, and several good sized lots have been arranged for, for delivery commencing upon the opening of navigation. The Ontario market is however being well taken care of by local furnaces which are making heavy tonnage and have fair stocks on hand for immediate disposal. These furnaces are quoting prices which are lower than it is possible to import at, and as a consequence they are booking the bulk of the orders, save in cases where users desire other mills for mixing.

**Antimony.**—The market holds steady at about 10c. per lb.

**Bar Iron and Steel.**—Owing to the fact that there will be arrivals ere long by steamer, the market has declined 10c. all round on bar iron. Business is showing a seasonable improvement. Bar iron, \$1.90 per hundred pounds; best refined horseshoe iron, \$2.15, and forged iron, \$2.05; mild steel, \$2.05; sleigh shoe steel, \$2.05 for 1 x 3/8-base; tire steel, \$2.05 for 1 x 3/8-base; toe calk steel, \$2.50; machine steel, iron finish, \$2.15.

**Boiler Tubes.**—The market holds steady, demand being fair. Prices are as follows: Two-inch tubes, 8 to 8 1/4 c., 3/4-inch, 11c.; 3-inch, 12 to 12 1/4 c.; 3 1/2-inch, 15 to 15 1/4 c.; 4-inch, 19 1/4 to 19 1/2 c.

**Building Paper.**—Tar paper, 7, 10, or 16 ounce, \$2 per 100 pounds; felt paper, \$2.75 per 100 pounds; tar sheathing, No. 1, 60c. per roll of 400 square feet No. 2, 40c.; dry sheathing, No. 1, 50c. per roll of 400 square feet, No. 2, 32c.

**Cement—Canadian and American.**—Canadian cement, \$1.70 to \$1.75 per barrel, in cotton bags, and \$1.95 and \$2.05 in wood, weights in both cases 350 pounds. There are four bags of 87 1/2 pounds each, net, to a barrel, and 10 cents must be added to the above prices for each bag. Bags in good condition are purchased at 10 cents each. Where paper bags are wanted instead of cotton, the charge is 2 1/2 cents for each, or 10 cents per barrel weight. American cement, standard brands, f.o.b. mills, 75c. per 350 pounds; bags extra, 10c. each, and returnable in good condition at 7 1/2 c. each.

**Cement—English and European.**—English cement has advanced of late, and holders are now asking \$1.85 to \$1.90 per barrel in jute sacks of 82 1/2 pounds each (including price of sacks) and \$2.20 to \$2.30 in wood, per 350 pounds, gross. Belgian cement is quoted at \$1.70 to \$1.80 per barrel in bags, and \$2.05 to \$2.20 per barrel, in wood.

**Iron.**—Prices for delivery after the opening of St. Lawrence navigation are approximately as follows: No. 1 Summerlee, on cars, Montreal, \$20.50 to \$21 per ton; No. 2 selected Summerlee, \$20 to \$20.50; No. 3, soft, \$19.50 to \$20; Cleveland, \$18.50, and No. 3 Clarence, \$18; No. 1 Carron, \$22 to \$22.50; Carron special, \$20.25 to \$20.75; Carron, soft, \$20 to \$20.50. Stocks on spot are light. Clarence No. 1 is quoted at \$20.50 to \$21; Clarence No. 3 at \$19 to \$19.50; Carron No. 1 at \$24.50 to \$25, and Carron, soft, at \$22.50 to \$23, cars, Montreal.

**Lead.**—Trail lead is quoted at \$5.95, ex-store.

**Nails.**—Demand for nails is improving, but prices are steady at \$2.30 per keg for cut, and \$2.25 for wire, base prices.

**Pipe—Cast Iron.**—Trade dull and prices steady at \$36 for 8-inch pipe and larger; \$37 for 6-inch pipe, \$38 for 5-inch, and \$39 for 4-inch at the foundry. Gas pipe is quoted at about \$1 more than the above.

**Pipe—Wrought.**—The market is firm but dull. Quotations and discounts for small lots, screwed and coupled, are as follows: 1/4-inch to 3/8-inch, \$5.50, with 54 per cent. off for black and 38 per cent. off for galvanized. The discount on the following is 66 per cent. off for black and 56 per cent. off for galvanized: 1/2-inch, \$8.50; 1-inch, \$16.50; 1 1/4-inch, \$22.50; 1 1/2-inch, \$27; 2-inch, \$36; and 3-inch, \$75.50; 3 1/2-inch, \$95; 4-inch, \$108.

**Spikes.**—Railway spikes are in better demand, \$2.60 per 100 pounds, base of 5 1/2 x 9-16. Ship spikes are steady at \$3.15 per 100 pounds, base of 5/8 x 10 inch and 5/8 x 12 inch.

**Steel Shafting.**—At the present time prices are steady at the list, less 25 per cent. Demand shows an improvement.

**Steel Plates.**—Demand is good, and the market steady. Quotations are: \$2.55 for 3-16, \$2.40 for 7/8, and \$2.30 for 1/4 and thicker, in smaller lots.

**Tar and Pitch.**—Coal tar, \$4 per barrel of 40 gallons, weighing 575 to 600 pounds; coal tar pitch, No. 1, 75c. per 100 pounds, No. 2, 65c. per 100 pounds; pine tar, \$4.35 to \$4.50 per barrel of about 280 pounds; pine pitch, \$4.25 per barrel of 180 to 200 pounds.

**Tin.**—The market is unchanged at 34 1/2 c. per pound.

**Tool Steel.**—Demand is light, but the market is firm. Base prices are as follows: Jessop's best unannealed, 14 1/2 c. per pound, annealed being 15 1/2 c.; second grade, 8 1/2 c., and high-speed, "Ark," 60c., and "Novo," 65c.; "Conqueror," 55 to 60c.; Sanderson Bros. and Newbould's "Sabon," high-speed, 60c.; extra cast tool steel, 14c., and "Colorado" cast tool steel, 8c., base prices. Sanderson's "Rex A" is quoted at 75c. and upward; Self-Hardening, 45c.; Extra, 15c.; Superior, 12c.; and Crucible, 8c.; "Edgar Allan's Air-Hardening," 55 to 65c. per pound.

**Zinc.**—The market is unchanged, at 5 1/4 to 5 1/2 c. per pound.

\* \* \* \*

Toronto, 9th April, 1908.

A better feeling exists in the building trade. More jobs are being projected, and money shows signs of greater ease. Merchants and manufacturers say that improvement is on the way, their customers talking and writing in better spirits. Balmy days this week have had their share in bringing about this better state of feeling, but there is still much snow to be cleared away, especially in Northern Ontario.

Metal markets are in fair shape, as a rule, pig iron being firm and looking upward in Britain; the bar iron market has not really fallen, notwithstanding that some cutting is being done in Toronto, and that we reduce prices slightly in consequence. Other structural materials are dealt with in our prices current.

The following are wholesale prices for Toronto, where not otherwise explained. Higher prices are quoted for broken quantities:—

**American Bessemer Sheet Steel.**—Fourteen-gauge, \$2.45; 17, 18, and 20-gauge, \$2.60; 22 and 24-gauge, \$2.65; 26-gauge, \$2.80; 28-gauge, \$3.

**SECOND-HAND FOR SALE**

Hoisting Engines, double cylinders & drums. 6 1/2 x 8" & 7 x 10" with boilers  
Robinson Steam Shovel, 2 1/2 yards capacity.  
Saddletank Locos, 36" and standard gauge.  
Concrete Mixers, Smith, Ransome, Champion, all sizes.  
Crushers, gyratory and jaw, various sizes, some portable.  
Switch Engine standard gauge.  
Pumps, Derricks, Engine Boilers, &c., &c.

PRICES ON APPLICATION.

NEW MACHINERY OF EVERY DESCRIPTION

**THE HARTLAND COMPANY**

332 Board of Trade Building, MONTREAL.