

bushels. These figures should leave a surplus of about 180 to 200 million bushels for export.

Our opinion regarding the immediate future is hopeful, and favorable to a moderate improvement in the business conditions.

STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, June 24th, 1891.

STOCKS.	Highest.	Lowest.	Total.	Sellers.	Buyers.	Average.
M. Montreal	220	218½	124	220	218½	223
Ontario	92½	91	11	92½	91	117
People's	154	154	4	154	155	160
Molson's	219	219	8	224	218	217
Toronto	95	95	2	98	94	96
J. Cartier	145	144½	65	145½	144½	144½
Merchants	128½	127½	130	128½	127½	127½
Commerce	106	104½	559	106	104½	99
Union	55½	55½	1	56½	56	61
Mon. Teleg.	19½	190	25	195	189	194
Rich. & Ont.	181	181	25	188	184	184
Street Ry.	204	204	5	204½	204	204½
do. new stock ..	79½	79	1154	79½	79½	82½
do. new stock ..	73	73	5.0	73½	73	76½
O. Pacific	110	109	40	110	109	109
do. land g. b'ds ..						
N. W. Land						
Bell Telephone ..						
Montreal 4%						

A DIPLOMATIC BEATER.

He called at the house and asked if she had any carpets to beat, adding that he had been in the business over twenty years. When she asked "How much to beat the parlor carpet?" and he replied, "one dollar," she cried: "Why, that's awful! There was a man here yesterday who offered to do the job for fifty cents." "Exactly, madam; but how was he prepared?" "He had a club in his hand." "I presume so. He intended to take the carpet out on a vacant lot, didn't he?" "Yes, sir; our yard is too small, you know." "Exactly. That is a tapestry Brussels carpet. It is badly worn. It has numerous holes in it. He would make a great show in getting it out and in there. Out on the lot he would give you away to every one who asked who the carpet belonged to. Is that the way to do a job of this sort?"

She looked at him and asked, "How do you do?" "I take the carpet out through the alley. I wheel it home. I beat it in a yard surrounded by a high board fence, and while I am returning it, all nicely rolled up and covered with a cloth, if any one asks me what I have, I reply that it is a velvet carpet for 224 Blank street. If no one asks me any questions, I call at houses on either side of you and ask if they have just ordered a new Wilton. They watch me, and see me come in here. Madam, in the language of the Greek, do you twig?" He got the job.—*Dry Goods Journal.*

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, June 24th, 1891.

BOOTS AND SHOES AND LEATHER.—The week has developed but little improvement in these lines, and the market for leather remains very sluggish. Some shoe men report slightly better orders, but as a rule there is not much enthusiasm over the situation. It is said some 100,000 sides of sole were shipped to Britain last week, and more likely to follow, as some Western tanners are at present in England arranging to that end. We quote:—Spanish sole, B.A., No. 1, 22 to 23c.; do., No. 2, B.A., 16 to 17c.; No. 1, ordinary Spanish, 19 to 20c.; No. 2, ditto, 15 to 16c.; No. 1, China, none to be had; No. 1 slaughter, 20 to 23c.; No. 2 do., 18 to 20c.; American oak sole, 39 to 43c.; British oak sole, 38 to 45c.; waxed upper, light and medium, 30 to 35c.; ditto, heavy, 26 to 33c.; grained, 26 to 30c.; Scotch grained, 32 to 37c.; splits, large, 16 to 24c.; do., small, 12 to 15c.; calf-splits, 32 to 33c.; calfskins (35 to 40 lbs.), 50 to 60c.; imitation French calfskins, 65 to 80c.; russet sheepskin linings, 30 to 40c.; harness, 20 to 26c.; buffed cow, 11 to 14c.; pebbled cow, 11 to 14c.; rough, 20 to 25c.; russet and bridle, 45 to 55c.

BREADSTUFFS.—The accounts from Manitoba and Ontario as to the condition of the cereal crops are very comforting. There is very little doing here in grain, the spirit in oats, which was last week the exception, being about over. Wheat is dull at \$1.13 to 1.14 for No. 2 hard, and \$1.05 to 1.06 for No. 3. Peas quiet at 85c. to 86c. per 66 lbs. afloat. Manitoba barley is quoted 55c. to 56c. in store, and Ontario No. 3 64c. to 65c. Oats are held at 53c. to 54c. for Quebec No. 2; Manitoba white, 55c.; Ontario white, 56c., and mixed of either sort at 56c., but buyers do not wish to pay these prices. For flour there is but very slight request locally, and the too stiff views of holders interferes with export, in which, otherwise, something might be done. Prices of city strong bakers continue firm at \$5.50; spring patents are held at \$5.25 to 5.35. There is some business in straight rollers on a \$5 basis, but other brands are quiescent. Oatmeal is very quiet, small parcels only moving. We quote \$6 per brl., and \$2.95 per bag for rolled and granulated; \$5.90 per brl. and \$2.90 per bag for fine and standard. Barley meal quiet at \$4.15 per brl. for pot and \$7.25 for No. 1 pearl, and \$6.75 for No. 2; split peas, \$4.75. Gold meal, \$4.25 to 4.50.

CEMENTS.—Good English brands of cement are steady at \$2.60 to 2.70; Belgian at \$2.35 to 2.50. Local supplies are fair; there is said to be some scarcity in Toronto and the West, and some large lots for Western houses, which were expected on late steamers, have not yet turned up. Firebricks continue to bring \$18 to \$20 ex wharf.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—The dry weather of May and early June checked supplies and stiffened prices, but also hindered business; dealers are more "chipper" this week, however. Creamery butter of good quality is now in fair stock; it is mostly held at 18 to 18½c., with some choice selections here and there reaching 19c. Township dairy 16 to 17c.; really nice lots will bring the higher figure. Good western we quote 18 to 15c. The cable reports cheese at 46s. 6d. in Liverpool; some dealers who have private advices say there is a weaker feeling with lessened demand. Quotations are for finest, 8½ to 8½c.; fine, 8 to 8½c. per lb. Local transactions have been made at 9c.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—Heavy chemicals generally maintain their strength, with sulphate of copper rather firmer at home. Citric acid shows a disposition to advance, and the upward tendency of Messina essences continues; oil peppermint is easier in the United States, but steady in England. Camomile flowers and lavender are likely to be dearer, the severe frosts which visited Europe this spring having done considerable injury to the plants. We quote:—Sal soda, \$1.15 to 1.25; bicarb soda; \$2.50 to 2.60; soda ash, per 100 lbs., \$2.00; bichromate of potash, per 100 lbs., \$11.00 to 13.00; borax, refined, 8 to 10c.; cream tartar crystals, 27 to 28c.; do. ground, 29 to 31c.; tartaric acid, crystal, 46 to 48c.; do. powder, 48 to 50c.; citric acid, 65 to 70c.; caustic soda, white, \$2.50 to 2.75; sugar of lead, 10 to 12c.; bleaching powder, \$2.25 to 2.40; alum, \$1.75 to 2.00; copperas, per 100 lbs., 90c. to \$1.00; flowers sulphur, per 100 lbs., \$2.75 to 3.00; roll sulphur, \$2.50 to 2.75; sulphate of copper, \$5.00 to 5.50; epsom salts, \$1.65 to 1.75; saltpetre, \$8.25 to 8.75; American quinine, 35 to 40c.; German quinine, 35 to 38c.; Howard's quinine, 42 to 45c.; opium, \$3.90 to 4.25; morphia, \$1.65 to 1.75; gum arabic, sorts, 60 to 80c.; white, 90c. to 1.10; carbolic acid, 35 to 50c.; iodide potassium, \$3.75 to 4.00 per lb.; iodine, re-sublimed, \$4.75 to 5.00; commercial do., \$4.25 to 4.75; iodoform, \$5.75 to 6.25. Prices for essential oils are:—Oil lemon, \$2.50 to 3.00; oil bergamot, \$4.70 to 4.90; orange, \$3.00 to 3.50; oil peppermint, \$4.00 to 5.00; glycerine, 18 to 22c.; senna, 12 to 25c. for ordinary. English camphor, 70 to 75c.; American do., 65 to 70c.; insect powder, 30 to 35c.

DRY GOODS.—Quite a fair proportion of the dry goods travellers have got away with their fall samples, but as far as heard from, they report the demand small, and a general disinclination to order autumn stocks until the season shall be sufficiently advanced to more accurately gauge the crop returns, &c. The slight improvement last noted in remittances still holds, but leaves room for further material betterment. Retail trade and collections in the city are good. We cannot learn of change of value in any line of textiles. Reports from Britain are to the effect that home trade there is very good, and so long as this state of affairs

continues, prices will be maintained in the British market.

FISH.—There is little or no demand for pickled fish, and quotations are merely nominal. Boneless cod is worth 5 to 6c. per lb.; boneless fish, 3½ to 4½c.; finnan haddies, 7c.; fresh salmon, 10 to 13c.

GROCERIES.—Trade has been of a quiet character, there being no active movement countrywards till the new duties were settled. The tariff changes put raw sugars on the free list, with a sufficient duty upon refined to afford a moderate protection to Canadian refiners. With sugars thus cheapened the consumption of granulated will likely be much increased, and the production of yellows probably confined to one or two of the darker grades. Molasses was on Tuesday quoted 42c. for Barbadoes in a jobbing way; the crop on the island is undoubtedly short, and so far only six small cargoes have come to Canada, mostly to Quebec. A leading French Canadian house, through pique at a competitor, has been cutting prices of rice very rashly, and in a very unbusinesslike style, sending out circulars broadcast through the country soliciting orders at under the mill price for 1,000-bag lots; but the rest of the trade seem satisfied to let them sink as much of their money in this way as they want to. Tea is wanted in the country, but retailers are disposed to haggle considerably over prices, which are steadily held. It is said a French house has been offering canned tomatoes in Ottawa at \$1, but from \$1.40 to 1.50 has been paid within the week for good brands. Salmon are advanced 5c. a dozen on the Columbia River. Tobacco and whiskey go up, of course, in consequence of the alterations told by the Finance Minister. It will take a week to get new prices established.

HIDES.—The demand from tanners is but moderate. Dealers quote to them 6½ to 7c. per lb. for No. 1 inspected, while they continue to pay 6c. for No. 1 green hides; calfskins easy at 7c.

METALS AND HARDWARE.—The movement in iron and metals generally is even less than a week ago, the only reported sale of iron since last writing being a 20-ton lot of Eglinton at \$20, and other quotations remain at figures as amended last week. Prices of bar have been cut, sales being reported at \$2, and under existing circumstances this figure will likely soon become the standard price. Hoops and bands have followed suit, and dropped ten cents to \$2.40. Of Canada plates, one fair lot has arrived, and sales of 200-box lots have been made at \$2.90, but our quotations hold for ordinary to small lots. Tin plates as scarce as ever, and the situation is becoming serious for some large consumers; one large can manufacturing concern declare they will have to shut down if supplies are not shortly available. Tin is a trifle firmer. Zinc and spelter are cabled higher in Britain. We quote:—Coltness, \$22; Calder, No. 1, \$21.50 to 22; Calder, No. 3, \$20; Summerlee, \$21.25 to 21.50; Eglinton, \$20; Gartsherrie, \$21.50 to 22; Carnbroe, \$19.50 to 20; Shotts, \$21.50;

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