

are asking for renewals, on account of the heavy stocks of winter goods being carried over. Nearly all the buyers for the Montreal houses have left for the English market, to select Fall stocks.

FLOUR AND GRAIN.—The tone of the English breadstuffs markets has been quiet and firm all week, with values steadily growing stronger. To-day Liverpool and London markets are cabled firm and unchanged, while the American wheat markets are firmer, with an advance in Chicago of 1½c for No. 2 Spring and of 1c for corn; New York is also quoted 1c higher for wheat. Imports in the United Kingdom for the week show an increase of 60,000 qrs. wheat, and a decrease of 35,000 qrs. corn and 35,000 brls. flour, as compared with those of the week previous. The local grain market has been more active during the week, considerable business having been done for May delivery, at advancing prices. Cargoes of Upper Canada Spring wheat have been sold at \$1.41 to \$1.43, and of Canada White do, at \$1.36. Large sales of pease have transpired at 96c to 97½c for May delivery, and heavy cargoes of oats have changed hands at 41c to 42c May. The demand for oats is rather active, as this is said to be the cheapest market just now for this grain on the continent. Corn has been selling at 80c to 82c, in small lots, and a few car lots barley have sold at 65c to 67c. The flour market has ruled very firm, with a steady tendency upward in values, as will be seen on comparison of our prices current to-day with those of a week ago. An active demand is anticipated at the opening of navigation, and local dealers are laying in stocks for this event.

GROCERIES.—*Sugars.*—The activity in this staple has continued, and a further advance is to be noted. Granulated is now held 9½c to 10½c. Yellows are also higher, say 8c to 9½c. Porto Rico Sugar held 7½c to 8½c. *Teas.*—Firmness for good to choice Japans is maintained. Prices not changed specially. Low qualities both of Japans and China Teas not in request. *Molasses.*—Barbados is in small supply and firm, a further advance has taken place with both Sugar and Molasses in Barbados. *Rice* quiet. *Coffees.*—Mocha is asked for, Java in moderate demand. Other Coffees rather more doing. Prices all through show little change. *Spices.*—White Pepper at the moment is scarce, Black Pepper is firm, as also good Nutmegs. *Fruits.*—Valencias are in small supply, and held at 10c for good fair, some of low quality 9c to 9½c. Malaga fruit is quiet. Pigs dull. Sultanias little wanted. Currants steady. Nuts and Almonds firm.

DAILY PRODUCE.—With more liberal receipts the local butter market has exhibited considerable weakness during the past few days, and values have declined to 28c to 30c for new Townships, and 28c for new Morrisburgs. Transactions are generally confined to small jobbing lots, as buyers of every class are loth to take hold with a falling market. There has been some enquiry for old butter on lower ports account, and a few lots of Western have changed hands, one carload at 15c, and another of 50 pkgs. low grade at 14c. Stocks are light, and a very few orders would clear the market. Several lots of fresh rolls have been placed at 26c. A carload of California grass butter received in New York this week was quoted at 30c to 40c. Stocks of butter in Liverpool on the 1st inst. were 8,000 pkgs, against 30,000 at like date last year. The local cheese market rules steady, jobbing lots selling at 13c to 14c for fair to choice grades; Liverpool continues steady at 64s per cwt, with a stock of 91,000 boxes on 1st April, against 91,459 boxes on the like date last year. It is reported that production of new cheese has been commenced in the Ingersoll, Ont., district, and that a leading factory there has disposed of its April make at 14c, considered a good figure. New York butter market has

been somewhat demoralized this week, values having dropped 4c to 5c per lb. on Tuesday for the fine grades, in consequence of much fuller receipts of the new article. Yesterday's N. Y. Bulletin says: There is at the best only a barely steady market for any class of goods, and the business proves somewhat slow. Butter has been taken principally in small lots suited to immediate wants, and, under the gradual pressure of increasing supplies, values favored the buyer on all grades, with holders rather anxious to realize on goods not well up in quality. Cheese of fancy quality peddled out to the home trade fairly, and sellers were enabled to exact former rates, but the other grades have continued to drag, and some concessions have had to be made. Holders appear somewhat anxious, especially since new cheese has commenced to show itself. Quotations for good to fancy butter are 35c to 40c, and for state factory cheese, 13c to 13½c.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—There has been considerable activity in this line during the week, and business is expected to be lively for the next few weeks. No particular change to note in prices.

FREIGHTS.—Engagements for both grain and lumber have already been made at this port; several sailing vessels have been chartered for Rio Plata at \$14 per 1,000 feet for lumber, and steamers have been engaged to carry grain to Liverpool at 1s. 4½d per qr. The first grain charters last year were made at 3s 6d to 3s 6d to Liverpool. Cattle space also has been taken by steamer from this port at £3 per head. New York grain freights have further declined to ¾d per bushel by steamer to Liverpool, or 6d per quarter and primage.

FRUITS.—Trade continues quiet; in some descriptions sales have been restricted by the colder weather of the past few days. Oranges scarce, receipts for the week having been only 60 cases per the S.S. *Circassian*; a plentiful supply is expected next week, however. The demand continues good, and prices rule firm at \$4.50 per box, or \$10 per case. Lemons in fair request, and selling at \$4 to \$5 per box, or \$6 per case; receipts for last week, about 2,500 boxes. Apples—Stocks becoming very light and sales few and small; prices steady, at from \$3 to \$5, as to kind and quality. A carload of Bananas arrived this week for Messrs. Hart & Tuckwell, and are selling slowly at \$2.50 to \$4 per bunch. Cocoanuts meet with a fair enquiry, at \$5.50 to \$6 per hundred. Small lots of pineapples, strawberries, peas, beans, lettuce, tomatoes, and asparagus, imported from the Southern States, have been placed on the market this week.

HARDWARE AND IRON.—A good seasonable business continues to be done in general hardware; some large orders from Manitoba for shelf goods are reported this week. Freight rates from Glasgow to this port continue high, at 17s. 6d. for latest engagements, quite unfavorable to free importations. During the week there has been rather more business done in Pig Iron, of which it is stated consumers are unusually bare of supplies, and several hundred tons are reported to have been shipped from this city to Kingston and Toronto. Sales, however, have comprised only small lots at \$25 to \$26 for leading brands of Scotch pig, and about 150 tons Siemens at the same range. For future delivery probably some concessions on these prices could be obtained. In manufacture iron there is a steady movement in car lots reported, at unaltered quotations. Tin Plate steady, in sympathy with the advance of 1s. per box in England, and sales of several thousand boxes of I O charcoal have occurred here at \$5.50 and a lot of cokes at \$4.75. Ingot Copper is very quiet in England, and prices in this market are somewhat in favor of buyers, sales of small lots being reported at 18c for Eng-

lish, and 18½c for Canadian. Ingot Tin continues weak on the other side, and little or nothing doing here.

HIDES AND SKINS.—Under a good demand and scarcity of supply, the local market may be written very firm for native Hides at unchanged prices. Some tanners complain that they are obliged to enter the Chicago market for their supplies, and that market is reported strong, active and advancing, values for Buff Hides having advanced about 1c during the past fortnight. Dealers here are all sold considerably ahead of the native article, consequently a good enquiry prevails for Western States hides, which have sold in carload lots this week at 9½c to 9¾c for No. 1, and 8½c per lb. for No. 2 Buff. Sheepskins are becoming scarce, and are quoted at \$1.35 to \$1.50 each, as to size, etc., while Calfskins bring 13c; offerings of the latter are nearly all purchased by one local dealer, and the supply continues fair for the season.

LUMBER.—Very little lumber will be moved until the canals are open. Retail sales are only moderate. There is little building going on at present, so that sales for local consumption are small.

LEATHER.—Except for Spanish and Slaughter Sole leather, for which the demand continues equal to the supply, the market still rules quiet and uninteresting. It is stated by one or two houses that an improved feeling prevails for black leathers, and that dealers are less disposed to make concessions than they were, but while the market is no weaker, it is difficult to notice any increased strength; bargains in the purchase of Splits Upper or Buff are as easily obtained to-day as a week ago. Reported transactions this week include a round lot of eight tons Splits at about 24c, and one or two lots of Upper, of 400 sides each, at 30c to 37c. Quotations for other kinds unchanged. Manufacturers are said to be looking around for good bargains.

OILS.—Steam Refined Seal is held firmer, in consequence of the anticipated scarcity arising from the unusually small catch so far this season. The first steamer arrived at St. John's, Newfoundland, from the Northern ice fields carried only 5,000 old hooded seals, weighing 300 tons and valued at \$36,000; and her report of the balance of the fleet is quite discouraging. The str. *Neptune* has 4,000 seals and the *Hector* 3,000, aggregating not more than 400 tons, or a value of \$48,000. The whole squadron from Conception Bay, including four steamers and fifteen sailing vessels, have been locked up firmly in the ice, and have not seen a seal for the season. The whole Dundee sailing fleet—six steamers—are reported as clean, and the residue of the St. John's ice hunters are very little better off. The average catch of a season is about 420,000 seals. A despatch from St. John's, dated 10th inst., however, is very hopeful, indeed it quotes a telegram from St. George's Bay to the effect that the sealing fleet are meeting with exceptionally good fortune in the Gulf of St. Lawrence; only three Newfoundland steamers fished in the Gulf this season, and they are reported to have started for St. John's with an aggregate of 27,000 old and young hooded seals, the approximate value of which is \$100,000. It further states that tens of thousands of prime young seals are being hauled on shore this week. Prices here are quoted firm, at 60c to 62½c Imp. There has been some speculative enquiry for Cod oil during the week, and several round lots have changed hands at 52c Imp, and 46c wine gal.; Halifax A. has been sold at 41c wine. Holders are rather firmer at the close, asking 56c to 57c Imp, and 47c to 47½c wine. Lined remains quiet and steady, at unchanged quotations, while Spirits of Turpentine, owing to the small stocks held and the active demand from England, has advanced in both New York and this market, now quoted firm here at \$1 to \$1.05. Stocks of refined Petroleum have been considerably reduced, and values are steadier, at 18c for car lots in store, and 16c f.o.b. at London, Ont.