

BUTTER—The market continues quiet except in one specialty—choice butter—for this the demand is eager, and holders are pretty independent. Indeed it is quite probable that in some cases really fancy lots would not be parted with except at sellers' prices, as operators seem to have every faith in the future of this article. Owing to this and the quiet feeling in medium grade business has been mostly of a jobbing character.

CHEESE—The cheese market continues uninteresting, and nothing but quietness is spoken of everywhere. A further decline of 6d. in the public cable has naturally occasioned some comment and has given the trade something to talk about. The tone of the market in Canada is about the same, and it is certain that holders have not materially shifted their position from the ground that they have occupied all through the fall.

FRUIT—The only noteworthy feature in the Canada fruit market has been a decided activity in currants. These have fractionally advanced and considerable business has been done. No changes have occurred in other dried fruits, raisins being steady at quotations. The following is a report from Liverpool on the market for Canadian and American apples for week ending 7th December, 1889:—The bulk of the arrivals this week have been Canadian, many parcels having come via New York. Taken all round the condition has been poor, as a glance at the catalogues will show. Anything sound and tight we quote 1s. to 1s. 6d. per bbl. better, but slack and out of condition have only been sold with difficulty, and in many cases at a sacrifice. Maine Baldwins have sold up to 19s, but on the other hand there is lot of inferior apples under this brand, which only brought from 12s to 13s per barrel. Boston continue to show up soft and wasty, and sell at from 11s. to 17s. We anticipate that the present demand will continue until the holidays, after which we would see higher prices, if the arrivals are small. We quote apples:—Canadian—Baldwins, 17s. to 20s; Greenings, 16s. to 18s 6d.; Spies, 17s. to 18s. 6d.; Russots, 18s. to 21s 6d.; Canada Reds, 18s to 20s; Phoenix, 19s to 21s; Kings, 23s. to 25s; Lion Davies, 17s. to 19s.; sundries, 16s. to 18s. American—Baldwins (Maine) 13s. to 19s.; Baldwins (Boston), 11s. to 17s.; Spies, 13s. to 16s.; Russots 14s. to 18s.; Kings, 20s to 24s."

SUGAR—The sugar market still shows strength and a fair business has been done all round. Cane sugar was cabled in London weak and lower at 14s 9d for Java and 13s for fair refining. Beet has also sold down to 11s. 7½d. but at the decline is steady. Stocks in the four principal sugar ports in the United States are 176,000 tons against 153,000 tons a year ago.

MOLASSES here is very quiet, holders and buyers being apart in their views, but some activity has developed at Montreal, where the sale is reported of about 800 puncheons of Barbadoes—chiefly for Quebec account—at prices ranging from 43½c to 44c. Smaller quantities are there quoted at 45c to 47c. The recent bad failure of Messrs. Tiffin Bros. of Montreal has caused the market to lapse into a depressed condition, owing to the fact that the firm holds a considerable quantity that will have to be realized on.

TEA—The tea market has been dull during the week and little or no business has been transacted. In London teas are very low as English houses are anxious to reduce stocks and in consequence are offering them very cheaply.

COFFEE has been quiet with not much doing. We have not heard of any transactions having taken place. Quotations have not varied and only a small and sluggish jobbing and retail trade is in progress.

FISH OILS—Our Montreal report is as follows:—Newfoundland Gaspe cod oil, 33c. to 35c, and Halifax at 13c. Steam refined seal oil has been brought up by one firm at 46c. to 47c., and is now held at 50c. to 52c.; cod liver oil dull; Newfoundland 55c. to 60c."

FISH—The local market has remained in the same quiescent state that we have had to report for some weeks past. Receipts of bunk cod are an average but little of other kinds have come to hand. There is no outside demand at present and the state of the American and West Indian markets will not warrant speculative shipments, especially that at this season of the year return cargoes cannot be obtained at remunerative rates. Our outside advices are as follows:—Montreal, December 23—"The fish market has shown very little activity during the past week, in fact business has been at a standstill so far as the wholesale trade is concerned, and few, if any round lots have changed hands. On the other hand, a fair jobbing business has been transacted, there being a moderate demand for small parcels. Some round lots of Labrador herrings have been offered as low as \$3.50 in store, but it was stated that the quality of the fish was poor. In a small way sales have been made at \$4 to \$4 25. Cape Breton herrings have sold at \$5 to \$5 25. No. 1 green cod have changed hands in small lots at \$5 50, but round lots could be bought at lower figures. B. C. salmon have sold at \$11 25, and Newfoundland do at \$14 to \$15 in a jobbing way. There has been an active demand for finnan haddies, and the turn over has been large in a jobbing way at 7c. to 7½c. per lb. The receipts of fresh fish have been larger, but the demand is limited owing to the mild weather. Haddock and cod have sold at 3½c. to 4c. per lb., smelts at 5c., tommy-cods at \$1 75 per barrel, and herring at \$1 75 per 100." Gloucester, Mass., December 23—"We quote New Georges codfish firm at \$6 00 a qtl. for large, with some lots held at \$6 25, and small at \$4 75; Bank \$4 50 to \$5 00 for large and \$4 00 for small; late caught hand line Western Bank \$5 50; Shore \$5 and \$4 for large and small; cured cusk at \$3 25 to \$3 50 per qtl., hake, \$2 25; haddock \$3 25; heavy salted pollock, \$2 25, and English-cured do. \$3 per qtl. Labrador herring \$5 75 bbl.; medium split \$5; extra No. 1 do. \$7 50; Newfoundland do \$5; Nova Scotia do. \$5; Eastport \$4; split Shore \$4 25; round do., \$3 50; round Eastport, \$3 25; pickled codfish \$7; haddock \$6 00; halibut heads \$3 50; sounds \$13; tongues and sounds \$11; longues \$10 00; alewives \$4 00; trout \$1, California salmon \$17; Halifax do. \$23; Newfoundland do. \$20."

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

WHOLESALE RATES.

Our Price Lists are corrected for us each week by reliable merchants, and can therefore be depended upon as accurate up to the time of going to press.

GROCERIES.

SUGARS.	
Cut Leaf	8
Granulated	7½ to 7¾
Circle A	6½
White Extra C	6¼
Extra Yellow C	5½ to 5¾
Yellow C	5¼ to 5½
TEA.	
Congo, Common	17 to 19
" Fair	20 to 23
" Good	25 to 29
" Choice	31 to 33
" Extra Choice	35 to 36
Oolong, Choice	37 to 39
MOLASSES.	
Barbadoes	4½
Demerara	40 to 41
Diamond N.	48
Porto Rico	40 to 42
Cienfuegos	38
Trinidad	39 to 40
Antigua	38 to 39
Tobacco, Black	38 to 44
" Bright	42 to 58
FRUITS.	
Pilot Bread	3.15
Boston and Thin Family	6½
Soda	6½
do. in 1lb. boxes, 50 to case	7½
Fancy	8 to 15

The above quotations are carefully prepared by a reliable Wholesale House, and can be depended upon as correct.

PROVISIONS.

Beef, Am. Ex. Mess, duty paid	10.25 to 10.50
" Am. Plate	10.75 to 11.25
" Ex. Plate	11.50 to 11.75
Pork, Mess, American	15.10 to 15.30
" American, clear	15.50 to 16.00
" P. E. I. Mess	14.50 to 15.00
" P. E. I. Thin Mess	13.50 to 14.00
" Prime Mess	11.00 to 11.50
Lard, Tubs and Pails, P. E. Island	11 to 12
" American	12 to 13
" Cases	13.50 to 14.00
Hams, P. E. I., green	8 to 9
Duty on Am. Pork and Beef \$2.20 per bbl.	
Prices are for wholesale lots only, and are liable to change daily.	

These quotations are prepared by a reliable wholesale house.

FISH FROM VESSELS.

MACKEREL.	
Extra	15.00
No. 1	14.00
" 2 large	13.00
" 2	11.50
" 3 large	12.00
" 3	12.00
HERRING.	
No. 1 Shore, July	4.50 to 5.00
No. 1. August, Round	2.50
" September	2.50
Labrador, in cargo lots, per bl.	4.00 to 4.50
Bay of Islands, Split	none
" Round	none
Alewives, per bbl.	2.50 to 3.00
CODFISH.	
Hard Shore	4.25 to 4.40
Bank	3.25 to 3.50
Bay	3.50 to 3.75
SALMON, No. 1	18.00 to 19.00
Haddock, per qtl.	2.25
Hake	2.00
Cusk	1.50
Pollock	1.50
Hake Sounds, per lb.	12½
Cod Oil A	23 to 25

The above are prepared by a reliable firm of West India Merchants.

POULTRY.

Turkeys, per pound	15 to 16
Geese, each	60 to 75
Ducks, per pair	70 to 80
Chickens	50 to 70

The above are corrected by a reliable victualer.

LIVE STOCK—at Richmond Depot.

Steers, best quality, per 100 lbs. alive	4.25 to 4.50
Oxen	3.50 to 4.00
Fat Steers, Heflers, light weights	3.00 to 3.50
Withers, best quality, per 100 lbs.	4.00 to 4.50
Lambs	2.50 to 3.50

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualer

LOBSTERS.

Per case 4 doz. 1 lb cans

Nova Scotia (Atlantic Coast Packing)	5.25 to 6.00
Tail Cans	4.50 to 5.00
Flat	6.50 to 7.00
Newfoundland Flat Cans	6.50 to 7.00

BREADSTUFFS.

There has been an advance in the rates of freight of 5 cents per bbl., and as an evidence of the tone of the market West, millers are contending for and obtaining the advance. Manitoba reports a scarcity of wheat and certainly prices are from 7 cts. to 10 cts. a bushel higher. The Ontario crop is maintained to be less than last year. It looks as though we should buy more or less of our supplies from the United States before the new crop season. Cornmeal and oatmeal are unchanged, we therefore make no change in our quotations.

FLOUR.	
High Grade Patents	5.00 to 5.15
Good 90 per cent Patents	4.65 to 4.70
Straight Grade	4.41 to 4.43
Superior Extras	4.40 to 4.43
Good Seconds	4.10 to 4.15
Graham Flour	4.00 to 4.25
American Supr. Extras, in bond	4.15 to 4.25
American 90 per cent in bond	4.50 to 4.60
American Patents, Pillsbury's Best	6.40
Oatmeal	4.00 to 4.10
" Rolled	4.10 to 4.25
Cornmeal, duty paid	2.70 to 2.80
Cornmeal, in bond, Boston	2.10 to 2.15
Relief Wheat	5.20
Wheat Bran, per ton	15.00 to 15.25
Shorts	18.50 to 19.00
Middlings	20.00 to 22.00
Cracked Corn	27.00 to 27.50
Ground Oil Cake, per ton	35.00
Moulie	28.50
Split Peas	3.75 to 4.00
White Beans, per bushel	1.75 to 1.85
Pot Harley, per barrel	4.30 to 4.50
Canadian Oats, choice quality	38 to 40
P. E. I. Oats	38 to 40
Hay per ton	11.50

J. A. CHIPMAN & Co., Head of Central Wharf, Halifax, N. S.

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

Apples, Cravensteins	4.50
Apples, No. 1, per bbl.	2.10 to 3.50
Oranges, Jamaica, per bbl., repacked	7.00
Lemons, per case	5.50
Cocoons, new, per 100	5.00
Onions, New American, per lb.	2½ to 3½c.
Dates, boxes, new	6½ to 6
Raisins, Valencia, new	7
Figs, Elme, 6 lb boxes per lb.	11
" small boxes	13
Prunes, Stewing, boxes and bags, new	5½ to 6
Bananas, per bunch	1.75 to 2.5
Cranberries, per bbl.	8.50

The above quotations are furnished by C. H. Harvey, 10 & 12 Sackville St

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Prints	25
" " in Small Tubs	22 to 25
" " Good, in large tubs	20
" Store Packed & oversalted	14
Canadian Township	19 to 20
" Western	17
Cheese, Canadian	10
" Antigonish	10½

The above quotations are corrected by a reliable dealer in Butter and Cheese.

WOOL, WOOL SKINS & HIDES.

Wool—clean washed, per pound	15 to 22
" unwashed	12 to 15
Salted Hides, No. 1	5
Ox Hides, over 60 lbs., No. 1	5½
" under 60 lbs., No. 1	5
" over 60 lbs., No. 2	4½
" under 60 lbs., No. 2	4
Cow Hides, No. 1	4
No. 3 Hides, each	25
Calf Skins	25
" Deacons, each	10 to 15
Lambskins	15 to 3
Tallow	3

The above quotations are furnished by WM. F. FOSTER, dealer in Wool and Hides, Connors' Wharf.

LUMBER.

Pine, clear, No. 1, per m.	25.00 to 28.00
" Merchantable, do.	14.00 to 17.00
" No. 2, do.	10.00 to 12.00
" Small, per m.	8.00 to 10.00
Spruce, dimension, good, per m.	9.50 to 10.00
" Merchantable, do.	8.00 to 9.00
" Small, do.	6.50 to 7.00
Hemlock, merchantable	7.00
Shingles, No. 1, sawed, pine	8.00 to 9.25
" No. 2, do.	1.00 to 1.25
" spruce, No. 1	1.10 to 1.35
Laths, per m.	2.00
Hard wood, per cord	4.00 to 4.25
Softwood	2.25