

full figures: First pots, \$3.30 to 3.35; seconds, \$3.00 to 3.05; pearls, \$4.50 per cental.

CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.—European advices continue to note great firmness among cement manufacturers, and dealers' quotations for the new stocks to arrive by first vessels are ahead of last year's figures, being \$1.80 to 1.95 for Belgian, and \$2.00 to 2.10 for British. For small present wants delivered from store, the figures are \$1.90 to 2.05 for Belgian; British, \$2.05 to 2.15. Firebricks continue steady at \$17.00 to 22.50 per thousand.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.—The cable quotation for cheese remains steady at 56s. 6d. The several hundred boxes of fodder cheese offered so far this week have been sold at from 10½ to 10¾c. There were reported last week about 2,700 boxes, mostly to London. The butter market is easier here, under increasing receipts of new creamery-made goods, for which the quotation is 18 to 18½c.; new Townships dairy, 16 to 17c. Eggs are easy at 9 to 9½c. per dozen.

DRY GOODS.—The late heavy rains, followed by sharp frost on Monday and Tuesday of this week, have tended to check business in this line, both in city and country. Still, on the whole, the flow of sorting orders is fairly maintained. At the moment there is nothing of particular interest to note in the way of changes in values, though there is no knowing what the coming week may develop, especially as the new tariff has yet to be made known. General collections continue slow.

FURS.—The lower prices seem to be affecting the receipts of raw furs, and apart from some fair lots of spring rats, which bring from 17 to 21c., as to quality, there are no special offerings. We quote: Black bear, \$10 to 13.00; cubs and yearlings, \$4 to 5; fisher, \$5 to 7.50 as to color; red fox, \$1 to 1.30; cross do., \$3 to 6, depending on size and beauty; silver do., \$20 to 50; lynx, \$1 to 1.75; marten, \$1.50 to 2 for pale, dark \$2 to 4.00; mink, 75c. to 1.25; muskrat, winter, 10 to 13c.; fall, 6 to 9c.; spring rats, 17 to 20c.; coon, 40c. to 75c.; black, do., \$1.50 to 2.00; black, skunk, 75c.; short stripe, 50c.; long stripe, 20 to 30c.; white, 5 to 15c.

GROCERIES.—The trade of the week, since last writing, has been of a somewhat broken character, and at the moment but little actual business is being done, the feeling of uncertainty with regard to the possible tariff changes preventing any liberal buying, so that there is really little of definite interest to note at present. Singular to say that while currants are firmer, there has been as yet no appreciable advance in them whatever, resulting from the Greco-Turkish war. The demand, however, is very limited, and it is stated by a leading authority with regard to the dried fruit trade generally, that seldom has it been known to be so dull. Sugars have continued without change so far, with refinery quotation for granulated at 4½c., and yellows 3½ to 3¾c. per lb. Some revision of prices is quite likely at the end of the week. Molasses continues easy at the island, the quotation being 8c. first cost. Barbadoes is offered in quantity on spot at 26c. per gal., but jobbing figures have undergone no recent change. Teas are temporarily very dull, but stocks in first hands of any really desirable goods are quite light.

HIDES.—The tone of the market is decidedly easier, and though quotations for green hides to butchers remain on the basis of 9c. per lb. for No. 1, the demand from tanners is very light, and it may be fairly expected that next week will show some break in prices. The American market for both dry and salted hides is reported weaker. Calfskins have already declined a cent, this week's figures being 9c. per lb. for No. 1, and 7c. for No. 2. Sheepskins are, on the contrary, if anything, firmer, being quoted at 90c. to \$1 each; lambskins, 10c. each.

HOPS.—There is a scarcity of stock reported; desirable Canadians are held pretty firmly at 13c., and good yearlings at 4½ to 5½c. the pound.

LEATHER.—Shoe manufacturers are still buying lightly, though still busy on spring footwear, some of the factories not closing down on Good Friday. Cutting on fall stock has not yet begun. The market maintains a very firm tone, though business in the United States and Great Britain does not appear very active, and both dry and salted hides seem rather easier across the line. Splits continue very scarce and firm, as last week noted. We quote:—Spanish sole B.A. No. 1, 22 to 23c.; do. No. 2, 21c. to 22c.; No. 1 ordinary Spanish, 21c.; No. 2, 19 to 20c.; No. 1 slaughter, 23 to 25c.; No. 2 do., 19 to 21c.; common, 17 to 18c.; waxed upper light and

medium, 30 to 35c.; do. heavy, 27 to 30c.; grained, 30 to 35c.; Scotch grained, 30 to 35c.; western splits, 22 to 25c.; Quebec do., 18 to 20c.; juniors, 16 to 18c.; calf-splits, 30 to 35c.; calf skins (35 to 40 lbs.), 60 to 65c.; imitation French calf skins, 65 to 75c.; colored calf, American, 25 to 28c.; Canadian, 20 to 22c.; colored pebble cow, 13 to 15c.; russet sheepskin linings, 30 to 40c.; colored, 6 to 7½c.; harness, 24 to 27c.; buffed cow, 12 to 14c.; extra heavy buff, 15c.; pebbled cow, 12 to 13c.; polished buff, 11 to 13c.; glove grain, 12 to 13c.; rough, 22 to 23c.; russet and bridle, 35 to 45c.

METALS AND HARDWARE.—The week has been a very quiet one indeed, all consumers deferring orders till after the budget is brought down, and we can learn of very little of novelty or activity with regard to either trade or prices. English advices indicate an easier feeling in the market for Canada plates, but local figures will likely be firmly held until the arrival of new stocks. We quote:—Summerlee pig iron, \$20 to 20.50, ex-store; Carron, \$19.50; Ayrshire, \$18.50; Shotts, \$19.00 to 19.50; Carnbroe, \$18.50 to 19.00, ex-store; Siemens pig No. 1, \$16.50 to 16.75; Ferrona, No. 1, \$16.50 to 16.75; Hamilton No. 1, \$18.25 to 18.50; No. 2, ditto, \$18.00; machinery scrap, \$15.00; common do., \$12.00 to 13.00; bar iron, Canadian, \$1.40 to 1.45; British, \$2.00 to 2.15; best refined, \$2.40; Low Moor, \$5; Canada plates—Pontypool, or equal, \$2.55 to 2.60; 52 sheets to box; 60 sheets, \$2.70; 75 sheets, none here; all polished Canadas, \$2.60; Terne roofing plate, 20x28, \$6.25; Black sheet iron, No. 28, \$2.25 to 2.40; No. 26, \$2.15 to 2.20; No. 24, \$2.05 to 2.10; Nos. 17 to 20, \$2; No. 16 and heavier, \$2.30; tin plates—Bradley charcoal, \$5.60 to 5.70; charcoal, I. C., Alloyway, \$3.25; do. I.X., \$3.90 to 4.00; P. D. Crown, I. C., \$3.60 to 3.75; do. I.X., \$4.50; Coke I.C., \$3.00 to 3.10; coke, wasters, \$2.70; galvanized sheets, No. 28, ordinary brands, \$4.25; No. 26, \$4.00; No. 24, \$3.75 in case lots; Morewood, \$5.00 to 5.10; tinned sheets, coke, No. 24, 5½c.; No. 26, 6c.; the usual extra for large sizes. Canadian bands, per 100 lbs., \$1.75; English ditto, \$2; hoops, \$2.15. Steel boiler plate, ½ inch and upwards, \$1.85 to 1.90 for Dalzell, and equal; ditto three-sixteenths inch, \$2.50; tank iron, ½ inch, \$1.50; three-sixteenths do., \$2.00; tank steel, \$1.75; heads, seven-sixteenths and upwards, \$2.45 to 2.50; Russian sheet iron 9c.; lead, per 100 lbs., pig, \$3.25 to 3.40; sheet, \$4 to 4.25; shot, \$6 to 6.50; best cast-steel, 8 to 10c.; toe calk, \$2.25; spring, \$2.50; sleigh shoe, \$1.85; tire, \$1.90; round machinery steel \$2.25; ingot tin, 16½ to 17c. for L. & F.; Straits, 15½ to 16½c.; bar tin, 16½ to 17c.; ingot copper, 12½ to 13c.; sheet zinc, \$5 to \$5.25; Silesian spelter, \$4.65 to 4.75; Veille Montagne spelter, \$4.75 to 5.00; American spelter, \$4.60 to 4.75; antimony, 8½ to 9c.; bright iron wires Nos. 0 to 8, \$2.60 per 100 lbs.; annealed and oiled do., \$2.65; galvanized, \$3.15; the trade discount on wire is 25 per cent. Barb and twisted wire and staples, \$3 per hundred for Quebec province, freight paid on half-ton lots; for Ontario points, \$2.85, freight paid up to 25c. per hundred.

OILS, PAINTS AND GLASS.—The edge is taken off the activity which set in with the advent of spring rail freights at the beginning of the month, but there will be another fair spurt when the river boats make their first trips. There was an advance in England, since last report, in linseed oil, equal to a cent a gallon, but prices have made no recovery locally from the late decline. Letters from the South report some shortage in the yield of turpentine, but the market shows no change as yet. There is some local scarcity of whitening. We quote: Turpentine, one to four brls., 44c.; five to nine brls., 43c., net 30 days. Linseed oil, raw, one to four brls., 43c.; five to nine brls., 42c.; boiled, one to four barrels, 46c.; five to nine brls., 45c., net 30 days; olive oil, machinery, 90c.; Nfld. cod, 38 to 40c. per gal.; Gaspe oil, 36 to 88c. per gal.; steam refined seal, 50c. per gallon in small lots. Castor oil, 8½ to 9½c. as to quantity. Leads (chemically pure and first-class brands only), \$5.00. No. 1, \$4.62½; No. 2, \$4.25; No. 3, \$3.87½; No. 4, \$3.50; dry white lead, 4½ to 4¾c.; genuine red do., 4 to 4½c.; No. 1 red lead, 3½ to 4c.; putty, 1.60 to \$1.65 in bulk, \$1.75 to 1.80 in bladders, \$2 to 2.10 in tins; London washed whitening, 40 to 45c.; Paris white, 85 to 90c.; Venetian red, \$1.50 to 1.75; yellow ochre, \$1.25 to 1.50; spruce ochre, \$1.75 to 2.00; window glass, \$1.35 per 50 feet for first break; \$1.50 for second break; third break, \$3.30.

LIVERPOOL PRICES.

Liverpool, Apr. 15, 12.30 p. m.

	s.	d.
Wheat, Spring	6	3
Red Winter	0	0½
No. 1 Cal.	6	1½
Corn	2	7
Peas	4	2
Lard	22	3
Pork	51	0
Bacon, heavy	26	1
Bacon, light	25	6
Tallow	18	6
Cheese, new white	57	0
Cheese, new colored	57	0

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Cash Income for 1896.....	760,403
Assets, December 31, 1896.....	3,404,907
Reserve for security of Policy-holders, Dec. 31, 1896, Actuaries' 4 per cent	3,176,711
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