

\$15.50 to \$16.50 for verces. Until the Lenten demand sets in no important movement is expected in pickled fish.

**PETROLEUM.**—The market is unchanged, 17½¢ being still the quoted rate for refined oil in this market. Broken lots have been placed at 18¢ and single barrels at 18½¢ to 19¢.

**PROVISIONS.**—The market for pork is firmer in sympathy with recent stronger developments in Chicago, and prices here are fully 25¢ per bbl. higher. Chicago short cut clear pork being now quoted at \$15.50 to \$16.00, and Chicago mess pork at \$15.00 to \$15.50. Lard is steady at 10½¢ to 10¾¢ per lb. for Western in pails, and at 10¢ to 10½¢ for Canadian. Regarding the recent upturn in the market, New York advices state: "As far as the relation of supply and legitimate demand is concerned, nothing is presented that would induce buying, and the attitude of the large operators, being somewhat sphynx-like, is certainly not elating to outsiders, who are looking for 'straws.' The only new point coming to the surface was the allegation of Chicago purties that hogs are falling off in quality and weight, and that the latter averages 40 lbs. per head less than it did a short time ago. When the cheapness of corn and the liberal manner in which it is being fed to hogs is taken into consideration, this statement is, however, open to criticism." In this dressed hogs have stiffened in price during the week, and quotations are now \$6.25 to \$6.50 per 100 lbs. Tallow is quiet at 7¢ to 7½¢ per lb.

**RAW FURS.**—Quite a number of lots of miscellaneous furs have arrived during the week but, as the only demand is on export account, dealers are very cautious in their operations, as advices from England are very discouraging. Quotations are as follows:—Beaver, fall, per lb. \$2.75 to \$3.25; beaver, winter, per lb. \$3 to \$3.50; bear, large, per skin, \$8 to \$12; bear, cub, \$4 to \$7; fisher, \$4 to \$7; red fox, \$1 to \$1.25; cross fox, \$2.50 to \$5; mink, large dark, \$1 to \$1.25; mink, small, 50¢ to 75¢; muskrat, 8¢ to 10¢; otter, large

dark, \$10 to \$12; otter, small, \$7 to \$9; marten, \$1 to \$1.25; raccoon, 40¢ to 60¢, and skunk, 25¢ to 60¢. Skins not prime may be valued at fully 25 per cent less than these quotations.

**SEEDS.**—The market is quiet and unchanged, very few lots of red clover, if any, having arrived here yet, and prices are quoted as follows: Red clover \$5 to \$5.50 per bushel; Alsike \$3 to \$9, and Timothy \$2 per bushel.

**WINES AND SPIRITS.**—The usual jobbing demand is all that is reported at the following prices: Brandy in cases, \$10.75 to \$11 for Hennessy's, \$10.75 for Martell's, and \$10.75 for Otard, Dupuy and Co.'s; claret, \$3 upward, ports, \$1.10 to \$6; sherries, \$1.10 to \$6, as to quality; and champagne, \$11 to \$25 per dozen as to quality; Jamaica rum, \$2.50 to \$2.99 for 16 o. p.

**WOOL.**—During the past week very little has transpired in the way of business. A part cargo of Cape wool has just arrived at Boston, but very few sales have as yet been made therefrom. Quotations are as follows:—Greasy Cape 16½¢ to 17¢, Australian 19¢ to 30¢, Canadian A Supers 26¢ to 27½¢, B Supers 22¢ to 24½¢, unsorted pulled 18¢ to 21¢, fleece 17¢ to 19¢.

#### TORONTO WHOLESALE MARKETS.

(Revised by Telegraph.)

Toronto, Dec. 24, 1884.

If it were possible for hard weather to operate in the way of increasing the movement of goods and produce the result should be felt instantly. And in some way or other the keen cold will have an effect. There will be more goods bought, whether they are paid for or not. There is even now a growing discontent among the wholesale trade at the delayed payments of accounts that are many months overdue. Renewal notes have become sickening. The retail dealers are help-

less. The trade in cities and towns has been dull, and money has been scarce. It is expected that money will be scarcer in the coming months than it was even in the past. And the farmers have not responded in full, in the way of settlement, the excuse is the low price of wheat. This excuse will have to give way before the pressure for cash. The trade cannot keep from loss by the delays in customers paying their bills. It is difficult for the small dealer to keep his interest account straight, and murmurs are coming in from the country. Still the insolvent statement does not show any alarming proportions. The abundance of money and a robust confidence on the part of the banks have carried commercial affairs along in a most grateful fashion. This confidence is reasonable. The bulk of the wheat crop is yet to be sold. Clover seed is still to come forward, and the hay crop will realize largely. The trouble does not seem to be so largely with what goods are in the small dealers' hands as with what is left on wholesale shelves. In this way the wholesale business in some branches is embarrassing, and, taking it altogether, trade for the next five months will bear to be described as barely profitable. Financial affairs are without change in feature. Lending institutions continue to offer abundant means. Banks also are available. Rates of discount are nominally unchanged, commercial paper being taken at 6½ to 7½ per cent. Loans on debentures and such first-class paper are easy at 5 to 5½ per cent. Sterling Exchange is dull at 108 3-16 to 108½ between banks and ¼ higher across the counter for 60 days. Demand bills ¼ higher. County and township debentures are not offering on the market to any considerable extent, and it is difficult to quote. But good 6 per cent debentures would fetch a premium. The local Stock Exchange has been quiet. Bank shares have been generally unchanged and quiet, Commerce and Fede-

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