

hardware lines are more encouraging and the prospects for a good spring trade are brighter. The result of the corner in copper has been that the imports into Great Britain and France during the past year amounted to 120,500 tons against only 84,110 tons in 1887. The high prices, moreover, have not only added immensely to the supplies, but have also greatly reduced consumption, especially in the east. The "visible supply" has in consequence increased from 43,670 tons to 100,500 tons in the present year. It is estimated that in all the syndicate cannot have acquired much less than 120,000 tons of copper, or enough for eighteen months' consumption at the past year's rate. Part of this was acquired at low prices, but the cost for interest and other charges must have added largely to the original cost. On the other hand large quantities of copper have been bought at much above current prices, and the tendency of prices has been in a downward direction for some time past, owing to the inability of the syndicate to support the market. This, if it continues, as seems probable, will continuously add to the syndicate's difficulties.

BREADSTUFFS.—There has been a good demand for flour and the market is firm with a larger volume of business accomplished in some grades. Strong bakers' is well enquired for. The latest advices from Adelaide estimate the average yield of the new crop at only three bushels to the acre. This means that this colony will have practically nothing to spare for Europe this year. The surplus of old wheat carried over, with the 60,000 tons supposed to be available from the new crop, being nearly all required for intercolonial markets, whose wants are likely to be larger than usual this year. In Victoria also the crops are deficient, but not to an equal extent as is apparently the case in the sister colony.

PROVISIONS.—No change has transpired in the local provision market. The demand has continued good for small lots of pork, and the movement has been fair at steady prices. Lard was well enquired for. The enquiry for hams and bacon has been good, and values were well maintained. There has been some demand for green hams, while flanks, of which the offerings were fair, have been slow.

BUTTER.—There is a great scarcity of choice table butter in this market. In fact this class is practically exhausted and buyers are, therefore, compelled to take the best qualities to be had, which range from fair to ordinary. New butter is anxiously awaited and the first lots, which are expected to come to hand shortly, will be picked up readily.

CHEESE.—The market rules quiet but steady, and the opinion obtains that prices have touched bottom. The Liverpool cable remains at 56s. per cwt.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES.—The sugar market has ruled quiet and steady at the recent decline. The demand has been slow and only a small volume of business has been accomplished. Factory prices range at about 7c. to 7½c. for granulated, and at 5c. to 5½c. for yellows as to quality. A weaker feeling has prevailed in molasses. There seems to be a disposition on the part of holders to shade prices in anticipation of the receipt of new stock shortly. The Lenton season will probably bring an improved demand, which may have a steadying effect on prices. London sugar cables quote Java cargoes at 16s. 6d.; best firm at 14s. 1½d.; cane steady; fair refining 14s.

TEA AND COFFEE.—The tea market has been active under a brisk demand, and a considerable volume of business, both on local and country account, has been accomplished. The feeling in the market continues firm, and holders are looking for better prices in the near future. Japan seems to be specially in demand. The call for coffee has been fair, and considerable business has been transacted at steady prices.

FISH.—There has been no change in the local fish situation since our last report. The receipts of fish of all sorts have been very small. No shore codfish are offering, but some small lots of bank have come to hand which, we understand, have been placed at about \$3. This class of fish realized \$4.30 last fall. No haddock or hake are coming to market. Herring, in consequence of reports of considerable catches on the Newfoundland coast, have dropped materially in price. Sales have been made at \$2.75 to \$3 for split. The January price was \$3.50. There is little or no enquiry for round herrings. This week closes with very little demand for any kinds of fish. A slight improvement in fish values in some of the West Indian markets has had no material effect on figures here. Our outside advices are as follows:—Montreal, March 5—"There has been a brisk demand for fish, owing to the fact that the Lenton season is near at hand, and dealers generally have had free buyers. The market has been active with a large volume of business and the bulk of off-ering have been taken. The stock of Labrador herring has been well reduced and only a few lots are now offering on the market. The demand has been good and sales of 100 bbl. lots have been made at \$3 to \$3.25 with smaller quantities up to \$3.50. Some small lots of Cape Breton herrings have been sold at \$3.75. Dry cod have been moving fairly well at \$4.50 per quintal. There has been a good demand for green cod, and sales have been freely effected at \$5 for No. 1, \$5.50 for No. 1 large, and \$6 for drafts." Gloucester, March 5—"We quote new Georges codfish at \$4.75 to \$4.87½ for large, and small at \$3.50 to \$4.25. Bank \$3.37½ for large and \$3.25 for small. Shore \$4.50 and \$3.75 for large and small. Dry Bank \$4.50 and \$4.25. Nova Scotia dry cured \$5.50. Cured cusk at \$3.25 per qtl.; hake \$2.50; haddock \$3; heavy salted pollock \$2.50. Nova Scotia herring \$6.75; pickled codfish \$6; haddock \$5.50. Extra shore mackerel are quoted at \$30 per bbl. in jobbing lots; No. 1 \$26 and \$27; No. 2 \$22 and \$23; No. 3 \$19 to \$21; Bay 1's \$25; Block Island 1's \$28 to \$29; Mess do \$32." Havana, March 5th, (by cable via New York).—"Codfish \$6.75; haddock \$5.50; hake \$5.25." Demerara, February 20—"Against all expectations prices have been fairly maintained, but further heavy arrivals seem only to intensify the threatened collapse. Codfish—150 casks Newfoundland have been sold on private terms—probably \$18 ex ship. Halifax \$22 to \$23; boxes \$4.50 to \$5.50 as to quality; hake \$20; haddock \$21. Herring \$4.50 for split. Salmon \$24 for tierces; \$16 for barrels."

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 Loaf	8
Granulated	7½
Circle A	6½ to 6¾
White Extra C	5½ to 5¾
Extra Yellow	5½ to 5¾
Yellow C	5½ to 5¾

TEA.	
Congou, Common	17 to 19
" Fair	20 to 23
" Good	25 to 28
" Choice	31 to 33
" Extra Choice	35 to 36
Oolong, Choice	37 to 39

MOLASSES.	
Barbadoes	35
Demerara	36 to 40
Diamond N.	45 to 48
Porto Rico	36 to 39
Cienfuegos	32
Trinidad	33
Antigua	35
Tobacco, Black	38 to 44
" Bright	42 to 58

BISCUITS.	
Pilot Bread	3.25
Boston and Thin Family	7
Soda	7
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	12.50 to 13.00
" Am. Plate	13.00 to 13.50
" Ex. Plate	14.00 to 14.50
Pork, Mess. American	17.50
" American, clear	19.00
" P. E. I. Mess	17.00 to 17.50
" P. E. I. Thin Mess	15.50 to 16.00
" Prime Mess	14.00 to 14.50
Lard, Tubs and Pails, P. E. Island	13 to 14
" 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	20.00
No. 1	19.00
" 2 large	16.00
" 2	none
" 3 large	11.00
" 3	11.00
HERRING.	
No. 1 Shore, July	4.50 to 4.75
No. 1, August, Round	3.75 to 4.00
" September	3.75 to 4.00
Labrador, in cargo lots, per bbl	4.00 to 4.50
Bay of Islands, Split	3.25 to 3.50
" Round	2.75 to 3.00
ALBACORE, per bbl	5.00
CODFISH.	
Hard Shore, new	4.25 to 4.50
New Bank	4.25
Bay	4.12 to 4.25
SALMON, No. 1	15.50 to 16.00
HADDOCK, per qtl	3.00 to 3.25
HAKE	2.50 to 2.75
CUSK	3.00
POLLOCK	2.25
HAKE SOUNDS, per lb	30
Cod Oil A	26 to 27

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

WOOL, WOOL SKINS & HIDES.

Wool—clean washed, per pound	15 to 22
" unwashed	12 to 15
Salted Hides, No 1	5 to 6
Ox Hides, over 60 lbs, No 1	5
" under 60 lbs, No 1	5
" over 60 lbs, No 2	5
" under 60 lbs, No 2	5
Cow Hides, No 1	5
No 3 Hides, each	4
Calf Skins	25
" Deacons, each	25
Lambskins	25 to 75
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 do	14.00 to 17.00
" No 2, do	10.00 to 12.00
" Small, per m	8.00 to 14.00
Spruce, demension, good, per m	9.50 to 10.00
" Merchantable, do do	8.00 to 9.00
" Small, do do	6.50 to 7.00
Hemlock, merchantable	7.00
Shingles, No 1, sawed, pine	3.00 to 3.50
" No 2, do do	1.00 to 1.25
" spruce, No 1	1.10 to 1.30
Laths, per m	2.00
Hard wood, per cord	4.00 to 4.25
Soft wood	2.25 to 2.50

The above quotations are prepared by a reliable firm in this line

BREADSTUFFS.

The advance is checked, the pool makers are evidently not yet fully agreed so that prices have taken a halt for the time, but still hold by the miller at the advance recently obtained.

Oatmeal and oatmeal are easy and quiet. The weather has been against business since March came in though the volume of trade on the whole is still up to the average of the season.

We make no change in quotations.

Flour	
Graham Flour	5.75 to 6.10
Patent high grades	6.10 to 6.20
90 per cent. Patents	5.75 to 6.00
Superior Extra	5.60 to 5.75
Extras from Patents	5.25 to 5.50
Low grade in sacks	3.50 to 3.40
" " barrels	3.65 to 3.60
Oatmeal, Standard	4.50 to 4.75
" Granulated	5.00 to 5.15
" Rolled	5.00 to 5.10
Corn Meal—kiln dried	2.85 to 2.95
Brn, per ton	21.00 to 22.00
Shorts	23.00 to 23.50
Middlings	24.50 to 25.00
Mill or Mixed Feed, per ton	29.00
Oats per bushel of 34 lbs.	43 to 45
Barley of 48	nominal
" of 60	1.00 to 1.10
White Beans, per bushel	1.60 to 2.00
Pot Barley, per barrel	5.55
Hay per ton	14.00 to 16.02
Straw	11.00 to 12.00

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

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Prints	30
" in Small Tubs	25
" Good, in large tubs	21
" Store Packed & oversalted	14
Canadian Township	22 to 24
" Western	17 to 19
Cheese, Canadian	11 to 12

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

LOBSTERS.

Per case 4 doz. 1 lb cans.	
Nova Scotia (Atlantic Coast Packing)	5.00 to 5.40
" T. Cans	4.80 to 5.00
" F. "	6.20 to 6.40
Newfoundland Flat Cans	6.35 to 6.50

The above quotations are corrected by a reliable dealer.

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

Apples, No. 1, new, per bbl	1.50 to 2.75
Oranges, per bbl, Jamaica (new)	6.50
Lemons, per case	3.50 to 4.50
Cocoanuts, per 100	3.30 to 4.00
Onions	2 to 2½
" American Silver Skin	5½ to 7
Dates, boxes, new	6½ to 7
Raisins, Valencia, new	12
Figs, Eleme, 5 lb boxes per lb	13
" small boxes	5½ to 6
Prunes, Stewing, boxes and bags, new	7.00
Cranberries	4.00 to 4.50
Foxberries	6.50 to 7.00

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

POULTRY.

Turkeys, per pound	13 to 14
Geese, each	50 to 72
Ducks, per pair	70 to 80
Chickens,	40 to 55

The above are corrected by a reliable victualer.

LIVE STOCK—at Richmond Depot.

Steers best quality, per 100 lbs. alive	4.00 to 4.25
Oxen	3.50 to 4.00
Fat Steers, Heifers, light weights	3.00 to 3.50
Wethers, best quality, per 100 lbs	4.00 to 4.50
Lambs	4.00 to 5.00

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualer