GROCERIES -Business is good. Retail mer-GROCERIES.—Business is good. Retain inter-chants are ordering freely, and jobbers are quite satisfied with trade conditions. In dried fruits there is considerable movement in choicest Gulf currants at  $7\frac{1}{2}c$ . Some shipments of Gulf currants at 7½c. Some shipments of Mocha coffee are expected here soon, and as the market is almost bare of choice stock, they will be well received. Rice is moving freely. The movement in sugars is good and the market strong. In London flavoring Ceylon teas and Indian Deleges are accordingly from strong. In London flavoring Ceylo Indian Pekoes are exceedingly firm.

HARDWARE AND METALS.—Jobbers univer-sally regard trade as good. A fair number of orders are being received, and the country retailers are buying more freely than at the corresponding period last year. Orders received cover general lines of hardware and tinware. The principal demand, however, is for such seasonable goods as screen doors and windows, green wire cloth, poultry nets, churns, spades and should have been polyaged rough and shovels, harvest tools, horse pokes and rope. Trade in cut and wire nails is exceptionally 1 rade in cut and wire nails is exceptionally good, although shipments are not in car-lots, but rather in 10-keg lots. Trade in metals is fairly good. Galvanized iron is in strong de-mand. Outside of the reduction in Manilla rope, there has been no change in prices of con-sequence. Manilla rope is now selling on an Manilla rope is now selling on an sequence. 81c. basis.

HIDES AND SKINS.-We had scarcely gone to HIDES AND SKINS.—We had scarcely gone to press last week when the hide merchants met and decided to advance prices 50c. a hundred. This action was not taken without some ob-jection, but, as it was wisely pointed out, so long as tanners were willing to purchase at the advance, hide merchants should not standin the advance, hide merchants should not stand in the way. Dealers are now paying 6c. to tanners for fresh green hides. The Chicago situation was from last reports holding firm. A mer-chant returning from the United States, how-ever, expressed his opinion that the top notch had been reached. A number of American firms are carrying large stocks of hides, for al-though deliveries are small, consumption has also been greatly reduced. Tanners are not though deliveries are small, consumption has also been greatly reduced. Tanners are not anxious buyers at present values, and until the market loses some of its present feverish excitement they will hold aloof until their necessities drive them to make purchases. The tenarch president is well described in the their necessities drive they min host under their necessities drive them to make purchases. The tanners' position is well described in the following paragraph from the Chicago Review : "The continued strength of hides is a serious matter to the tanners. Leather values advance slowly, but are far from agreeing with the prices of hides. The packers have no compunctions. They are determined to get every cent out of their hides that the market will stand. Light cow hides are 131 per cent., and native steers are 76 per cent. higher than they were a year ago, and all the other grades show similar increases in value. Leather quotations have advanced less than 5 per cent. Local dealers have also advanced calfskins in sympathy with hides. For a long time the conomic dealers have also advanced caliskins in sympa-thy with hides. For a long time the economic law of substitution has been in play in this market, and hides have been taking the place of calfskins in the manufacture of a number of commodities, but the higher price of hides has restored the old demand for calfskins, and with it comes higher values. Sheepskins are not offering freely. Prices range from 90c. to \$1, according to quality.

PAINTS AND OILS .- There is a good general PAINTS AND OILS.—Ihere is a good general movement in both paints and oils. Values re-main fairly steady. Since our last report, how-ever, turpentine has taken a sudden drop and stands at 424c., as compared with 52c. a fort-night ago. This is due to speculative influ-ences in the Southern States.

PROVISIONS.—Trade is fairly active. Butter continues much depressed, rolls are offering at 10 to 12c., and at these prices are accumulating. A sale of tub butter was made at  $4\frac{1}{2}c$ . this week. The quality was as inferior as the price would indicate. New cheese is offering on the would indicate. New cheese is offering on the market, and jobbers report sales at  $9\frac{3}{4}$  to 10c. per lb.; the quality is fairly good. There is a firm feeling in hog products, partially because of the recent sharp advance in beef; some dressed hogs continue to offer and bring \$6.25 to 6.50. Eggs are easier at 10 to 104c. the dozen; stocks are not small, and the public are experiences the still determine the statement of the recent sharp advance experiences. dozen; stocks are not small, and the public are apparently satiated after Easter experiences. Dried apples are quiet and steady. Evapor-ated apples are not active and the market is devoid of life. A quantity of maple syrup is offering here, fair in quality, with sales at 60 to 65c. per wine gallon measure.

SEEDS.—The weather is now favorable in nearly every district of the country for all kinds

of cultivation. Trade in seeds is active, and, as usual, delay in ordering has led to a rush at the last moment. Some quotations have advanced, while others have sagged off a little since our last report. Red clover is worth \$6.40 to 6.75, alsike \$4.50 to 6.30, and timothy \$3 to 3.50. These prices are for jobbers' stock.

I nese prices are for jobbers' stock. Wool.—There is nothing new to say of fleece wool, and indeed at this season of the year no one expects anything interesting in this market. The market is well cleaned up, and the new clip a month hence will find a good reception. For pulled wools the mills are making their usual enquiries, but there is nothing more than a normal demand. Stocks of domestic nulled wools are not large and of domestic pulled wools are not large and prices hold steady.



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