

are no worse, and it affords a very good evidence of the soundness of our banking system. The Banque d'Hochelaga has it in contemplation to retire from the field, and it is to be hoped a few more will follow the example.

ASSES.—Receipts the past two days have been rather liberal, owing to opening of the canals, but with good demand for first steamers, the smaller lots have all been taken at \$3.62½ to \$3.65. 60 brls of Second Pots sold on p.t. There are no Thirds coming in. **Pearls.**—The only lot received, 32 brls, were sold at: 26 brls Firsts \$5.62½, 6 brls Seconds \$4.50. The supply is small. Receipts since 1st January, 2723 brls Pots and 157 brls Pearls. Deliveries, 1832 brls Pots and 303 brls Pearls. Stock in store at six o'clock on Wednesday evening, 2014 brls Pots and 92 brls Pearls.

APPLES.—The demand is quiet, and sales are only in a retail way to city jobbers with sales at \$2.50 to \$3.00 per barrel. **Dried Apples.**—There has been more enquiry for good bright quarters from Eastern buyers, and prices have slightly advanced, ranging sales at 4½c to 5½c. Common and old lots are plentiful, and offering at 3c to 3½c.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—Some enquiry for sorting-up continues, and a few buyers from the back districts have been in town during the past week. A moderately fair trade is expected for the present month.

COAL.—Anthracite coal has fallen 50 cents a ton under the influence of new arrivals expected in a day or two. **Stove and Egg** are now offered at \$7; **Chestnut** at \$6 to \$6.50.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—A good many shipments of orders have been made this week, West and East, and orders are still coming in pretty freely. With a revival of spring ships there has been some movement in heavy chemicals, but we have not heard at what prices transactions have taken place. In **Salt** and **Bicarb Soda** there is no change; **Flour Sulphur** offering at \$2.75; **Alum**, \$1.65, in lots ex-ship. **Potass Iodid**, much firmer at \$5.25 to \$5.50; **Quinine** firm at \$4.00.

DRY GOODS.—The sorting-up trade is not equal to expectations. Retailers complain that, owing to the cold and backward season, they have not sold their early purchases, and that they have sufficient on hand for all present requirements. There is no change in Canadian Cottons and other domestic goods since our last review. Although the mill prices given are for large lots, retailers appear to have little difficulty in getting their wants supplied at the figures we quote.

EGGS.—Receipts are large, but with a decline in prices the demand has picked up, and at the close our market rules more steady with sales ranging at 9½c and 10c per doz.

FLOUR AND GRAIN.—The navigation by sea and canal having been opened, we have to note a rather active movement in grain and flour during the past week. The available stock of flour in store and to arrive is so small and well held that although the English markets have been depressed, and that the Fisheries agents are under bid from New York, prices have been slightly advanced on the week, say, 5c to 10c on Spring Extra, and 15c on Superiors, the latter for export to Glasgow. At present export prices of wheat it would seem impossible that our millers could grind to any advantage. **Wheat.**—The arrivals have been large from Lake Ontario and prices have been tolerably maintained, Spring wheat having been sold to the extent of over 200,000 at 95c for ungraded, 96c for No. 3, 99c for No. 2, and \$1.03 for No. 1, at all which prices transactions have been made. No. 2 White is offered at \$1.06 without attract-

ing buyers, its great drawback being the smut it contains. There is still a large quantity of Spring Wheat in Ontario, probably over 750,000, for export. It is rumored some of our city millers are importing No. 3 and 4 Chicago and Milwaukee Spring Wheats for bonding purposes, which may probably relieve a large quantity of Canada Spring. **Peas** have been sold in large quantities, say over 100,000, at 79c, 80c, 80½c and 81c, according to position in store or to arrive about this week. The lowest prices were Lower Canada's. There appears to be a diversity of opinion as to the quantity of peas remaining in the hands of farmers, most inclining to the belief that, when the spring seed has been put in, the deliveries will increase. **Outs** have been sold to the extent of about 60,000 bushels, at 31½c to 32c, but are now weaker, and it would be difficult to place them at over 30c, there being no shipping demand to the United Kingdom and the quality too poor for Ontario. **Corn, in bond,** has been very active for future delivery, 350,000 having been sold at only 43c, 43½c, 44c and 44½c for prompt shipment from Toledo, the high freights from Chicago having precluded shipment thence. Old corn crop, 1877, has been sold moderately at 50c, duty paid. **Rye** enquired for, shipment to Antwerp direct at 57½c f.o.b. **Barley.**—The mulling season being over there is no demand, save for feeding, and it has been taken at 42½c to 43½c for local use. **Freights** are depressed owing to the Welland Canal not having been open for traffic till this morning. All steam engagements to London 3s 6d, 3s 9d, 3s 10½d and 4s. Glasgow, 3s 9d and 4s. Liverpool, 3s 6d. Order vessels offered at 5s 6d. Flour, 2s to 2s 3d.

FURS.—The very large stocks of raw furs held over in Europe has a depressing effect upon prices. A decline is looked for in some kinds of skins. The following is an approximation of the Hudson's Bay Company's fur prices at Edmonton Post:—Robes, \$2.50 to \$3; otter, \$3; fisher, \$3 to \$4; bear, \$3 to \$4; wolf, \$1; lynx, \$1; mink, 50c; beaver, \$1; rat, 5c to 8c; buffalo leather, \$1; moose leather, \$4. In Indian trade in that district and all through the north, the price of furs or goods is not reckoned in money, but in an imaginary unit of value called a "skin." Thus:—A wolf skin is valued at, say a skin and a half, and tea is valued at a skin and a half a pound; therefore one wolf skin is worth one pound of tea. A skin may be worth anything from fifty cents to a dollar, seldom going above or below that average.

GROCERIES.—Moderate activity to report for week in groceries, with prices of goods showing but little change. Assortments are being increased by late arrivals. **Teas.**—The auction sale to-day was fairly attended, and on the whole was, perhaps, as successful as could reasonably be expected. This is the second public sale within a comparatively short time, and we must hope that the trade will appreciate the efforts to supply wants. About 3,000 packages Japans were offered to-day, of which over 2,000 were sold at from 22c to 39c, including some packages of 5 lb. and 20 lb. caddies. Of Congou teas, about 1500 chests and 160 caddies sold at 21½c to 26c. At private sale business is about as usual, with a somewhat higher figure for desirable teas, including Young Hysons. **Sugars.**—Market dull. A slight advance reported in United States and a little lower in Britain, as the cable prices here are about as before. Raw sugars in fair demand. **Molasses and Syrups.**—Dull. **Rice.**—A good deal has arrived and market rather lower, \$4.05 to \$4.40. **Chemicals** firm. **Spices.**—A firm market for most spices. Cloves a little easier. **Fruits.**—Valencia Raisins held firm as before—6½c to 6½c; Malaga fruit and Currants dull.

HARDWARE.—There is no change to note in this department, and prices quoted are well maintained. Messrs. Frothingham & Workman have re-opened their large factory at Utö St. Paul after an interval of six months, while the

water has been out of the canal. Other industries are also stirring up.

LEATHER.—The past week has shown a very moderate state of trade in all lines of leather, and, with few exceptions, the sales have yielded small. The boot and shoe manufacturers are now between seasons, and are busy with fall samples. **Sole Leather.**—The market is overstocked with sole, both Slaughter and Spanish, and very little doing. **Spills.**—Trade in this line dull, except for A 1 crimping spits. **Rough Leather.**—There is a large stock of belting rough in the market, with little or no demand. **Waxed Upper and Grained.**—A fair business has been done in this line, but only superior quality called for. **Buff and Pebble.**—There has been a steady but small trade in this line. Market well supplied.

LIVE STOCK.—The arrivals of live stock last week were 15 carloads of cattle and 7 of hogs. At the St. Gabriel market last Monday prices ranged from 4c to 5c per lb. for cattle. The following are the sales made:—6 steers, at 4½c per lb.; 30 cattle, at from 4c to 5c per lb.; one carload do, at 4½c per lb.; one carload do, at about 4½c per lb.; 10 cattle at private terms, and several hogs at 5c per lb, live weight. At the Viger market last Tuesday there was a good supply of cattle, many of which were very fair beasts, an unusual thing at this market. About 50 cattle were sold. Butchers' animals brought from 3c to 4½c per lb; cows, from \$15 to \$35 each; calves, from \$1 to \$5; lambs, from \$1.75 to \$4; sheep, \$1 to \$7. The Dominion Steamship *Quebec*, which leaves here on Saturday for Liverpool, takes out about 300 head of cattle and 15 horses. The Lake Nipigon is also in port waiting a cargo of livestock. Receipts of Dressed Hogs to-day are small, and market rules firm with a good enquiry at 6½c to 6½c per hundred. Weather is now warm, and shippers will have to use caution when forwarding any to market.

MAPLE SUGAR AND SYRUP.—The demand has been good for fancy small cakes at 9c to 9½c per lb., but large blocks of cakes dark in color rule dull and little enquired for, offering at 8c to 8½c per lb. Maple Syrup is in light supply, and a shade higher, gallon tin selling quick at 90c and larger packages at 75c to 80c. Messrs. Geo. Wait & Co. in their circular of this date give the following sound advice. When cists of Syrup are shipped in boxes, they should be packed in sawdust, or something of the sort, to prevent them from knocking together and springing a leak. When kegs or barrels are used, great care should be taken to have them thoroughly cleansed, as unclean packages are almost sure to impart a bad flavor to the syrup.

OILS.—S. R. Seal oil, for lots held over from last year 45c would be accepted, and there is a feeling that lower prices will prevail as soon as new oil comes into the market. The uncertainty as to price interferes with sales. **Naval Stores.**—In Turpentine a moderate business has been done for actual requirements. Orders are holding off, however, until arrival of shipments by canal to here the price will be lowered. Rosins and Tar are in fair demand at unchanged prices. **Paints** are moving pretty freely, but prices to sellers are not considered satisfactory, competition being too keen. Buyers get the advantage, however, which is, no doubt, satisfactory to them.

POULTRY.—The market is quite bare of good fat turkeys and ducks, and the small lots arriving sell readily at 12c to 14c per lb. Chickens and geese are in fair demand at 8c to 10c per pound.

PROVISIONS.—Butter.—With increased arrivals of new fodder made and the anxiety of holders to keep such moving, the market is depressed; prices decidedly lower. We note sales of finest Eastern Townships at 14c to 15c, and Morrisburg and Brockville at 14½c to 15½c, and new