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give comparatively small sorting orders, awaiting further developments before ordering larger quantities.

Flour and Meal.—Flour is fairly steady at about \$2.90 for 90 per cent. patents, in buyers' bags, though holders usually want rather more. Millfeed and oatmeal are both steady at last week's quotations, and the former is rather scarce. Cornmeal, for cattle feed, is quoted at \$30 per ton, and gold-dust (domestic), at \$4 per barrel.

Fruit.—No special feature is to be noted in the fruit market. Trade is nominally active. Prices are quoted at follows: Oranges, California, Washington navels, \$3 to \$3.50 per box; Florida, \$3 to \$3.50; Mexican, \$2.25; Valencia, \$3.50 per case; Jamaica, \$2.25 to \$2.75; lemons, new Messina, \$2.75 to \$3; Malaga, \$2.75 to \$3; grapes, Almeria, \$5.50 to \$6 per keg; apples, \$3.50 to \$4.50 per barrel; bananas, \$1.50 to \$1.75 per bunch; cranberries, \$9 per barrel; onions, Spanish, \$3.50 per case; Canadian, \$1.10 per bag.

Grain.—The grain markets are very dull owing to the break in the United States market and the failure of some leading speculators. Wheat has gone down 1 to 2c., and is dull at the decline. Barley is nominally unchanged. Oats are 1c. lower, while rye, corn, buckwheat and peas all remain the same as last week.

Groceries.—Sugar of all grades made a considerable decline this week, and from appearances they may go lower yet. There is little movement. Trade in most other lines is fairly active. Some lines of canned goods are quite firm, especially tomatoes, which are scarce.

Hardware.—At this time of the year business is usually a little slack, and this state of things prevails now, though not to any greater extent than usual. There has been another advance in rope, owing to the scarcity of hemp, and it may go higher before the opening of the spring season. The price of wire nails has been reduced by manufacturers, not because of any reduction in the price of raw material, but more to lack of agreement among themselves. The tendency in the United States is towards higher prices, and it is not by any means likely that prices will here remain long as low as at present. Prospects for spring trade in general lines are bright. In metals, business is quite brisk, as it also is in most lines across the line. Copper is still declining, and pig tin is also a little lower. Iron and steel are selling very briskly. The latest intelligence from Glasgow stated that Scotch pig iron warrants had improved about 7d. per ton, and that Cleveland warrants also had gone a fraction higher.

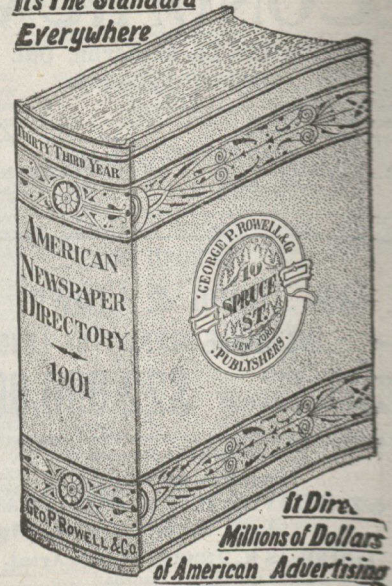
Leather.—Improvement of roads throughout the country has led to a somewhat brisker demand for leather for harness, etc. Prices, in consequence, are a shade higher.

Live Stock.—A brisk trade was carried through at the cattle market this week, the demand for nearly all classes of cattle being excellent. Export cattle were steady at the prices which prevailed last week, as also were butchers' cattle. Sheep and hogs were a little easier.

Provisions.—Choice butter offerings are still quite small, and for a strictly choice article, there is a keen demand. Creamery also is in good request, partly owing to the scarcity of dairy. The cheese market has improved, and is pretty steady. Few new laid eggs are offering, and as a consequence, choice limed are in request. Poultry is not coming forward in very large quantities, and the market is steady.

Wool.—There is no improvement to record, as export demand amounts to nothing.

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