

stocks immediately, as they will certainly sell to better advantage now than later. We noted a probable decline in several lines last week, and would add lynx to the number; it is expected that next sales will develop a falling off in values of from 25 to 35 per cent. in this fur. We quote Beaver \$2.00 to \$2.50 per lb.; Bear \$8 to \$12; do. cub \$4 to \$6; Mink 40c to 50c.; Muskrat 5c. to 7c.; Otter \$7 to \$9; Skunk 30c. to 40c.; Fox 60 to 75c.; martin 60 to 75c. Fisher \$3.00 to \$5.00; Lynx, \$2.00 to \$3.00; Raccoon 25 to 50c.

GROCERIES.—The business continues fair for the season, and though there is no rush, a steady distribution goes on. Snow roads are now pretty general and if they hold, the next several weeks will be busy ones. A healthy feeling prevails and values generally are looking up. Sugars are firmer from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$, and light stocks are reported in all quarters. Granulated is firm at $\frac{6}{8}$ in large lots at refinery, and in yellows $\frac{5}{8}$ is the lowest figure. Molasses steady at 29 to 31c. for Barbadoes, sugar house 19 to 21c.; some large sales of syrups are reported. Teas generally show strength. The New York market is higher, the English market also, while in Japan prices are decidedly higher. Transactions locally have not been so numerous, as their seems to be a disposition to await further developments as to anticipated change in the tariff. In tobaccos, Tuckett & Billings have reduced price of Myrtle Navy 3c. a pound, and it is probable that other makers will follow suit with competing brands. In coffees, Java continues firm, finer grades being quoted at 20 to 25c.; Rio 9 to 10c.; Jamaica 10 to 11c. There is little change in dried fruits and values are fully maintained, while stocks in all lines are within narrow compass. Western stocks seem fuller than here, and some shipments from the West have been received here within last few days. Aside from some shipments of filberts, supplies of new nuts are yet wanting, for filberts prices asked are 6 to 7c.

LEATHER AND SHOES.—Leather men report business fairly good, and some large lots of sole and splits have gone into consumption since last report. Upper leather generally is in only moderate supply, and values all round are firmly held; hides are slightly advanced, and there is no prospect of leather values becoming any easier in the near future. Shoe manufacturers are looking forward to a good spring trade, and travellers in the Lower Provinces are now sending in very fair orders. We quote:—Spanish sole B.A. No. 1, 25 to 27c.; ditto, No. 2 B.A. 21 to 24c.; No. 1, Ordinary Spanish, 24 to 25c.; No. 2, ditto, 22 to 23c.; No. 1 China, 23 to 24c.; No. 2, 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 23c.; ditto, Buffalo Sole, No. 1, 21 to 23c.; ditto, No. 2, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 21c.; Hemlock Slaughter, No. 1, 26 to 27c.; oak sole, 45 to 50c.; Waxed Upper, light and medium, 33 to 39c.; ditto, heavy, 32 to 36c.; Grained, 34 to 37c.; Scotch grained, 36 to 42c.; Splits, large, 22 to 28c.; ditto, small, 16 to 24c.; Calf-splits, 28 to 32c.; Calfskins, (35 to 46 lbs.), 70 to 80c.; Imitation French Calfskins, 80 to 85c.; Russet Sheepskin Linings, 30 to 40c.; Harness, 24 to 33c.; Buffed Cow, 13 to 16c.; Pebbled Cow, 12 to 15c.; Rough, 23 to 28c.; Russet and Bridle, 45 to 55c.

METALS AND HARDWARE.—Business in these lines is seasonably quiet. An advance of \$1 a ton is reported in American iron, and furnace men in the Pittsburg and other iron producing districts are said to be declining orders just now. This state of affairs if continued will naturally affect the British market, but thus far there has been no notification of change in makers' quotations there, and warrants are quoted at 42/10d. In bar iron there is nothing specially new; higher freights give local prices some degree of firmness, though at home there seems to be a disposition to weakness. Cable advices with regard to tin plates indicate values very firm in Britain, and local stocks being very much reduced there is no disposition to concede on prices. There has been rather more enquiry for Canada plates of late showing that outside stocks are light; values are unchanged. Pig lead is stronger at home. English being quoted at £12 7s. 6d. to £12 10/-. Spanish £12 7s. 6d. The English market for copper has ruled pretty strong for the week, easing off a little latterly, and last quotation is £41 15/. We quote:—Gartsherrie and Summerlee \$18 to \$19; Langloan, and Coltness, \$18.50 to \$19; Shott, \$18 to \$18.50; Eglinton and Dalmellington, \$16.50 to \$17; Calder, \$17.50 to \$18.00; Carnbroe, \$17 to \$18; Hematite, \$18 to \$20; Siemens, No. 1;

\$17.50 to \$18; Bar Iron, \$1.60 to \$1.65; Best Refined, \$1.90; Siemens bar, \$2.10; Canada Plates, Blaina \$2.30 to \$2.40; Penn &c. \$2.45 to \$2.50. Tin Plates, Bradley Charcoal, \$5.75 to \$6.00; Charcoal I.C., \$4.35 to \$4.75; do I.X., \$6 to \$6.25; Coke I.C., \$3.75 to \$4; Galvanized sheets, No. 28, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 7c, according to brand: Tinned Sheets, coke, No. 24, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; No. 26, 7c, the usual extra for large sizes. Hoops and Bands, per 100 lbs., \$1.90 to \$2; Boiler Plate, per \$100 lbs. Staffordshire, \$2.25 to \$3.00; Common Sheet iron, \$2.00 to \$2.10; Steel Boiler Plate, \$2.50 to \$2.75; heads, \$4; Russian Sheet Iron, 10 to 11c. Lead, per 100 lbs.:—Pig, \$3.50 to \$4; Sheet, \$4 to \$4.25; Shot, \$6 to \$6.50; best cast steel, 11c to 13c, firm; Spring, \$2.75 to \$3.00; Tire \$2.50 to \$2.75; Sleigh shoe, \$2 to \$2.25; Round Machinery Steel, $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{8}$ c. per lb.; Ingot tin, 23 to 25c; Bar Tin, 27c; Ingot Copper, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 14c; Sheet Zinc, \$4.50 to \$5.00; Spelter, \$4 to \$4.50; Bright Iron Wire, Nos. 0 to 6, \$2.75 per 100 lbs.

OILS AND PAINTS.—Trade in paints and colors is very dull, and is likely to continue so for some weeks; oils also are rather quiet. Linseed is still quoted at 60 to 61c. for raw, and and 63 to 64c., for boiled. There is an enquiry for castor oil for future delivery, and sales of considerable lots have been made at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.; smaller lots are worth 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 9c.; olive unchanged. Steam refined seal is said to be concentrating in one firm's hands, and 50c. would now be lowest price in lots; Nfld. seal 56 to 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.; Gaspe do 52 to 54c.; Halifax 48 to 50c.; cod liver oil dull at 80 to 85c. for new. Leads and colors show no change, and we quote:—Leads (genuine and first-class brands only) \$6 to \$6.25; No. 1, \$5.50; No. 2, \$5.00; No. 3, \$4.50 to \$4.75. Dry white lead, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.; red, do. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ c. These prices for round lots, London washed whiting, 50 to 60c.; Paris white, \$1.25; Cookson's Venetian red \$1.75, other brands Venetian red \$1.50 to \$1.60; Yellow ochre, \$1.50; Spruce ochre, \$2 to \$3. Glass \$1.70 per 50 feet for first break.

PROVISIONS.—The butter market shows no improvement, is rather weaker in fact, prices being in the main nominal. We quote creamery 18 to 20c; good to choice Townships 14 to 17c.; Morrisburg do 12 to 45c.; Western 10 to 13c. Cheese remains dull and prices nominal. Eggs 20 to 21c. for fresh, 18 to 19c. for pickled. Dressed hogs are quoted at \$5.50 to \$5.60; western mess \$12.25 to \$12.75; short cut \$13.50 to \$14; lard 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ c.; hams 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 12c.; bacon 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 11c.

SALT.—Business has assumed its usual winter phase, and prices will likely remain as follows till opening of navigation:—Elevens 55c.; twelves 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.; factory-filled \$1.15 to \$1.20; Ashton's and Eureka \$2.40; Turks Island 30c. per bushel; rock salt 50c. per cwt., special quotations for ton lots.

Wool.—We cannot report any change. Business is rather quieter but values are unchanged, and we still quote:—Canadian A supers 27 to 28c.; B ditto 22 to 23c.; unassorted 21 to 22c.; black 20 21c.; Cape 16 to 18c.; fleece 22 to 23c.

TORONTO MARKETS.

Toronto, Dec. 10th, 1885.

Bank shares have been in good demand and prices have steadily improved. Ontario leading with a rise of 2 $\frac{1}{2}$, followed by Commerce and Montreal, which improved 1 $\frac{1}{2}$, while the balance of the list is unchanged or fractionally better.

British America Assurance has jumped from 88 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 95 bid, Western being steady at the old rates. Dominion Telegraph and Consumers Gas have been easier. A decline of 4/- occurred in Canada North West Land to 53/- from which it advanced to 58/6 closing at 58/- Loan Societies' shares are practically unchanged with small purchases for investment.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—Our first real winter week of the season brought with it numerous orders from the country boot and shoe dealer for overshoes, rubbers and felt boots. Staple leather goods are for the most part neglected, only small parcels being purchased. Until stocks of winter goods commence to sell well the country merchant will not be disposed to pay much attention to spring wares.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—Gum arabic has advanced about 50% and quotations are now 50

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