

the fall trade. In canned goods, peas are moving freely, and present prices will soon change for an advance; prices of vegetables remain unaltered; among fruits, peaches are still on the upward move, and it is feared in a short time none will be in the market; as the present season will be a total failure as to peaches—the only change to note is in 3's Beaver Yellow at \$3.50, an advance of 5c. per lb. In corned beef, Clark's 1's 2-dozen is quoted at \$1.50 per dozen; Clark's 2's 1-dozen at \$2.60; Clark's 14's 1-dozen at \$18.50—this reduction of about 6 per cent. is caused by Fairbank's man coming into the market with a special figure and discount, on hearing of which Armour telegraphed his agent to meet the cut at once. Dried fruits still maintain their high price and are bare in stock, and although the Californian product is large, the prices are too high to effect a lowering of prices here. In prunes alone California is reported as putting up 15,000,000 lbs. prunes; figs to arrive will be much higher in price than last year, in fact the advance is so strong that it is almost prohibitive, as importers will be afraid to bring them along at the price. Coffees are beginning to move, but somewhat slowly yet, with prices unchanged. Sugars are unchanged, at prices as quoted last week. Teas continue very firm, cheaper grades of tea not to be had; low grade hysons and Japans are especially firm. The following extracts, from J. Lewenz & Hauser's London circular of 15th instant may be of interest. " . . . Altogether the market is in a very unsatisfactory state, for the bulk of the new teas to

hand, from China as well as India, is of poor quality, which those engaged in the trade know too well is likely, through quick deterioration, to become "common" very quickly, so that no advance in the exchanges and consequent higher laying down cost of future shipments will compensate for the ensuing depreciation in value of present holdings. Never did the N. S. Foochow teas meet with such a slow sale before. . . . The medium and inferior N. S. Blackleaf teas, of which a large supply has been brought by the last few steamers, cannot be placed either, except through public sale, and the auction room has this week been freely resorted to by importers, who are glad to quit them without serious loss, though the teas were never bought so cheaply in China before. . . . By the side of such a lot of unsatisfactory teas, from China as well as India, the Ceylon teas have come into increased favor with the trade, while shippers have mainly confined themselves to the higher class Blackleaf sorts out of the earlier arrivals."

HARDWARE AND METALS.—A fair degree of activity prevails this week, partly in consequence of the marked advances in British markets affecting iron, tin, and copper, partly because of good harvest news from the North-West and Ontario, which stimulates buying. Heavy goods are moving fairly well for this "between seasons" period, and shelf goods are not dull. Values are pretty firm all over the list. There is no Nova Scotia pig in market, nor is there any Londonderry bar; we quote ingot tin and ingot copper slightly higher; antimony shows a marked advance, the unusual price of 22c. is now asked in New York. We quote 22 to 23c.; tin plates and Canada plates are in active request at advanced prices. See prices current.

HIDES AND SKINS.—There is no change in prices to note in the hide market. Scarcity of hides continues to be the order of the day, with an adequate demand existing to keep the supply short. Hides are selling as fast as

offered at prices quoted as current. The same remarks apply to calfskins. Sheepskins continue the same as before in price, but the demand is not so active for the stock at current high prices, in fact is rather slack, and stocks begin to accumulate. Tallow is unchanged in values and dull.

LEATHER.—Prices continue very firm and tending upward. We advance quotations for a number of sorts: upper is distinctly higher, and domestic kips, veals, and domestic calfskins have advanced during the month from 10 to 15 per cent.; splits, which some time ago were a drug in the market, are now eagerly sought after. Makers of shoe tops and cut soles have advised their customers by circular of an advance in price of these goods. We quote upper No. 1, heavy, 33 to 35c.; light and medium, 35 to 37c.; kip skins, domestic, 55 to 65c.; hemlock calf, 70 to 75c. for (25 to 30 lbs.); for (36 to 44 lbs.), 65 to 75c.; pebble grain, 14 to 16c.; buff, 14 to 16c. We have referred to the general subject editorially.

LUMBER.—The movement locally is limited and sluggish. Prices are with few exceptions firm and unchanged. The improvement is slow in coming, though general; and from reported harvest crops a good fall business is looked for. Farmers in Ontario for the last few years have done almost nothing in the way of repairing, extending, or building, and their premises are now in a condition that they cannot be left in much longer. Since the present good harvest, lumbermen expect to do a good business with them. In Toronto coarse grades of lumber are not selling so rapidly as a few years ago; this is caused by the erection of a better class of houses in the city, which speaks well for the city, but is not so favorable for coarse lumber. The stagnation in the Ottawa lumber trade is caused by the troubles in South America at present, as most of the lumber from that district is shipped thence. Statistics show we import four times as many logs from the States of Minnesota and Maine as we export, and although the lumber export duty is more favorable than it was, lumbermen claim a more favorable

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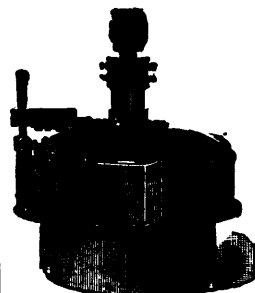
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