

the market a complexion which the state of trade of itself may not warrant. Chicago has undergone numberless light fluctuations, attaining a fair degree of steadiness at the close of each day, and continuing to act independently of the foreign market. The daily closing prices for May delivery have been as follows: Friday, \$1.13; Saturday, \$1.13; Monday, \$1.13; Tuesday, \$1.14; Wednesday, \$1.13; and to-day at 1.03 p.m. 1.11½. Some interest is awakening in coarse grains with the approach of the season for the opening of navigation, and quotations for May delivery are more frequent. Pease for that month are 86c bid, 87c asked; Oats, 33c to 34c; and Corn in bond 49c to 50c. Nothing doing in coarse grains on the spot. Flour is exceedingly dull, with prices fully maintained. The business of the week is the lightest recorded for a long time past. Sales are reported of Strong Bakers at \$6.60, \$6.70 and \$6.75; the last figure for choice; Spring Extra at \$6; Superfine at \$5.90. Pollards at \$4.00, and Ontario bags at \$3.00.

FRUITS.—A very fair local jobbing trade is doing in apples, lemons and oranges. The demand for apples has enabled dealers to put up prices and \$3.50 is now the lowest figure named for good fruit, with choice to fancy stock running up to \$5.00. Quebec is reported quite bare of this fruit, and inquiries are already making that foreshadow a lively demand as soon as the river opens. The latest accounts of foreign shipments have quite a different complexion. The range of prices obtained for sound fruit March 28th was from 10s to 20s. We hear of one consignment turning out so badly that not only were the proceeds of the apples eaten up by expenses, but the shippers have to make a remittance to meet the deficit. Lemons are easier, owing to over-supply in the New York and Boston markets, where prices have broken down. Here they are quoted at \$5 to \$6 the box and \$7 to \$8 the case. Oranges meet with a fair demand, and remain steady at about \$6.50 per case.

GUINAEAS.—The tea seizure referred to in last report is over, at least as far as lots sold for this city are concerned. While on the surface there may appear justification of the 10 per cent. additional tea duty on United States purchases, or, as is sought to be now interpreted, on Teas from original points of shipment offered or intended to be offered in the United States, on the national grounds, the imposition of discriminating duties against any country cannot be justified. If the United States singled out Canada to levy such discriminating duties upon, we would have just ground for complaint. Tea market is not active, prices are not specially changed during week for all kinds. **SUGARS.**—Easier on Granulated. Yellow, Refined and Raw Sugars are to be noted as fairly steady. **MOLASSES.**—A reduction of 2 cts. from the extreme price on Barbadoes is reported, say 22c against 24c, still too high to import safely here. Price here is 37c to 40c for Barbadoes, 29c to 34c for Trinidad, 32c to 38c for Porto Rico. **Syrups** firm. **Rice** continues dull. \$4.15 to \$4.45. **Coffee** quiet, 30c to 35c for Mocha; 26c to 30c for Java; 23c to 24c for Maracabo; 18c to 20c for Jamaica. **Spices.**—Pepper, 10½c to 11½c; Pimento, 13c to 15½; Jamaica Ginger, 17c to 21c; Cloves, 36c to 47c; Nutmegs, 60c to 95c. **Fruits.**—Valencia Raisins still scarce, 8½c to 8½c. Malaga Fruit unchanged. Currants slightly easier.

HARDWARE.—It is no longer possible to conceal the real heaviness which has overtaken this market, although as yet changes in prices downward are confined to the raw material, and pretty much to wholesale lots at first hands. Dealers in this market claim not to be overstocked, and refuse to make new prices based on the extreme low figures of late cabled from abroad. Since our late report sales have been effected of 100 tons of Gartsherrie at \$25

and a fraction, and 400 tons of other brands at better figures. Holders will not offer their stock openly at the prices indicated by this sale, and, as it is not competent to us to make prices for them, quotations are for the present withdrawn. The market is specially depressed by the offer of 1,000 tons, one-half Gartsherrie, the rest mixed and inferior, by an English salesman recently arrived, at \$20, in bond, c. f. i. This offer is, of course, for cash against documents, and is mentioned not as a true index to prices but as an incident illustrative of the temper and condition of the market. Bar iron is easier, in sympathy with pig, and an inside price is now given at \$2.60, at which figure favored buyers would certainly have no difficulty in procuring supplies. We also reduce quotations of Refined to \$2.85 to \$3.00; Hoops, \$3.10 to \$3.25; Spring steel \$4.00 to \$4.25; Tire \$3.50 to \$3.75, and Sleigh Shoe \$3.90. Prices for tin plates are unchanged, but it would be well for buyers to read them by the light of the spirit of reaction now reported. Latest cables give the Glasgow market a somewhat better look and an upward turn of 2s. 6d. in warrants is advised.

HIDES.—Are very scarce, and very poor, and very strong, regular dealers maintaining their resistance to the tendency of the market yet finally conceding another rise of \$1, to \$10, \$9 and \$8 for Nos. 1, 2 and 3 respectively. The prevailing system of advancing money to butchers in order to secure their supplies, in vogue for an indefinite time past, now encounters persistent opposition in some quarters, and this seems to be the real occasion of the diversity of views as to prices. The buyers who refuse to make advances are constantly bidding up the market with but limited success in the way of effecting purchases, so far as learned. While the more accommodating dealers pursue the even tenor of their way, and follow slowly in the wake of their aggressive competitors, apparently securing the much desired hides. Calfskin remains at 13c, sheepskins are quoted \$2.25 to \$2.75, and lambskins, 20c. to 30c.

HOPS.—Two lots of extra choice hops, one of 20 bales and one of 5 bales, have been sold since last report at 30 cents. This is an extreme figure, and it may be doubted if there is another lot in market that would bring the price. The owner of a lot of 250 or 260 bales of Western hops, before referred to in these columns, is in town seeking a buyer, and it is reported that he has been fortunate enough to receive a bid of 30 cents for over 100 bales and sanguine enough to refuse it, preferring first to try the New York market and, if necessary, the English. We are not authoritatively informed and cannot verify any such bid; while it is quite certain that any responsible buyer at that, or even a lower figure, would be gladly supplied by more than one dealer with the pick of the stock in market. We retain the quotation 25c. to 30c. for choice to fancy qualities, the inside figure being nominal only. New York quotations, reported on Wednesday, are as follows. New York State crop of 1879, fancy, 38c. to 40c.; good to choice, 32c. to 37c.

LEATHER.—Reports concur in ascribing continued and even added firmness to the general market for leather, although not sufficiently marked to call for any change in quotations. B A sole No. 1 is quoted 26c. to 27c. for small and 26c. asking and selling price for large lots. We are informed of a buyer claiming to be able to procure No. 1 stock at 25c., a very low price for the first quality, and hardly consistent with the temper of the market. Holders of black leather are firmer in their views, and a leading manufacturer of buff is asking an advance of ½c. for commonest grade. Business has slackened compared with last week but is still found very satisfactory as to volume. The strength of the hide market here and elsewhere gives the trade a cheerful look, and the prospect is regarded as in every way favorable. Owing to the scarcity of the real article, bellies are sought after, and one of our conservative buyers has been known to clean out the East end weekly, which has caused no little

excitement in the trade, as the material will never hold water. Honest splits have therefore been neglected. A good fall trade and higher prices all round.

LUMBER.—The demand for pine lumber for present use is considerably more than can be furnished. All the mills in the country will be starting within a week or two, and every effort made to fill the demand which is unprecedented. Although prices will rule firm and very high until towards fall, with the extra efforts to manufacture there will probably then be sufficient to meet all demands. There is a good demand for ash lumber for export to the States, also for basswood, spruce and hemlock.

OILS.—Fish oils are rather firmer, and holder of S. R. Seal are not anxious to sell pending further intelligence from the fleet now out at the fishery. **Linseed Oil** is a little weaker without any particular reason for the decline further than that some holders who were looking for higher prices are now anxious to sell. The price in small lots is unchanged, but in large lots figures might be modified. **Naval Stores.**—Turpentine has declined somewhat as consequence of some outside lots coming on the market in Wilmington. Its future course is very uncertain, however, as the Standard Oil Co. control the market to a certain extent; they are said to hold 60,000 barrels. In **Rosin** and **Tur** there is no change, and only a moderate demand. **Paints** are selling pretty freely at unchanged prices.

PROVISIONS.—Butter.—The supply of old stock has become exhausted, and, as the receipts of new butter have continued extremely light, the favored consignees have had the market in their own hands, and good advantage they have taken of it. Prices have been steadily moving up during the week, and those whose necessities were immediate have had to pay roundly for the misfortune. In giving the extreme prices of actual sales we feel bound to caution our country readers against misconception of the true state of the market. Jobbing sales have been made as high as 35c., and, so far as a very restricted market will permit the term, quite freely at 30c. and over, but the receipts of any single day may be expected to completely do away with these extravagant prices, and perhaps not find a better market than that of a week ago. The rise naturally occasions a good deal of excitement and interest among the unfortunate grocers who have to submit to it and the dealers who profit by it, but in the trade at large it is regarded only as an amusing incident not affecting the true state of the market, and therefore without real significance. **Cheese.**—The little jobbing demand that remains continues to meet with supplies at about 15c. **Eggs.**—This commodity has become very scarce, and the price has moved up quickly to 14c. The recent rain-storms made the roads very bad, and receipts dropped off in consequence to almost nothing. With the colder weather of the past day or two the embargo disappears, and free arrivals are likely to bring about a speedy return to old prices. **Maple Sugar.**—Receipts are moderate only, and prices are fairly maintained at 10c. to 11c., according to color, quality, etc. Syrup is unchanged at 80c. to 90c.

SEEDS.—Since our last, the market for clover has been quiet, and prices remain without change. Car lots can be bought, laid down here, at \$3.80 to \$3.90 per bushel of 60 lbs. and smaller quantities at proportionably higher prices. Timothy is held by dealers at \$3.30 to \$3.50 per bushel of 45 lbs. The quantity in the market is not large, and very little now remains in the hands of the farmers.

WOOL.—Nothing of special interest has transpired in the market for domestic wool since the auction sale reported last week. A correspondent expresses dissatisfaction with the issue of that sale, claiming that the bidding was spirited and at full prices, and that all the disappointment was on the part of buyers who came to side and could not get what was ad-