THE DRY GOODS TRADE.

We again insert a complete list of all the Wholesale Houses in this line in Montreal—many who no doubt desire to advertise not having been called upon. Hereafter, however, we shall insert here ONLY the names of advertisers.

Jas. Baillie & Co.	Munderloh & Steencken.
Wm. Benjamin & Co.	A. Macfarlane & Co.
James P. Clark.	Jos. Mackay & Bros.
Desmarteau & Plamondon.	J. G. Mackenzie & Co.
James Donnelly.	Edw. Nield & Co.
John Dougall & Co.	Ogilvy & Co.
Empey, Johnstone & Co.	A. Prevost & Co.
Foulds & Hodgson.	Ringland, Ewart & Co.
Gault, Bros. & Co.	A. Robertson & Co.
Gilmour, White & Co.	J. M. Ross & Co.
S. Greenshields, Son & Co.	A. Roy & Co.
Harkin & Co.	Roy & Gordon.
Jas. Hingston & Co.	Wm. Stephen & Co.
E. Hudon, Fils & Co.	Stevenson, Sutherland & Co.
Jas. Johnstone & Co.	Stirling, McCall & Co.
A. Laurie & Co.	Thomas Thibaudeau & Co.
F. & J. Leclaire & Co.	Thomson, Claxton & Co.
Lewis, Kay & Co.	Alexander Walker.
Joseph May.	Geo. Winks & Co.
Thomas May.	Henry Woodhouse & Co.
W. & R. Muir.	

TRADE in this city is still dull, and for the past week we have no important transactions to note. A little more life is discernible in wholesale establishments consequent on changes being made, in view of the approaching season. Winter goods are now being packed away preparatory to spring arrivals, an instalment of which we notice as per manifest of last Canadian steamer.

Large quantities of Spring and Summer goods will follow immediately, and a few weeks hence will find the Wholesale Dry Goods Trade in full blast. The winter, so far, has been passed through favorably, much more so than was at one time expected. The Western trade, in some sections, has drawn pretty largely on the indulgence of our merchants; the impression is however that the worst is past, and we are thankful to say, that with the exception of a few concerns, long known to be weak, few, if any have gone to the wall.

How our friends are prepared to meet their March and April payments remains to be seen. We are quite aware that the farmers and others are largely behind in their obligations to country traders. This in some sense owing to the slow movements of grain; still it is to be hoped that previous to the time alluded to every effort will be made by retailers to collect, and reduce their obligations. It is very much to be desired that Western traders should improve their position, for the purchase of goods, in this market. It is a well known fact that the long credit system has proved most ruinous to the trade of the country; it is true that it has been curtailed in some measure, but there is still too much of the old leaven remaining. The absurd idea of aiming to do a large business is still indulged in, and in spite of every day experience, grave mistakes in this matter are made.

The sooner country merchants make up their minds to insist upon prompt payments, or as near that as possible, the better for themselves, their customers, and their creditors. When the farmer's account is due he must be taught to pay it promptly to say the least. In too many instances they refuse to sell their wheat or other grain, because in their estimate the price is too low, and the consequence to the trader is that he is compelled to pass sleepless nights, troubled in the matter of his obligations, and why? Because he is afraid to press payment from those indebted to him.

It is a matter worthy the consideration of our retail friends that profits are made in purchasing, as well as in selling goods. Few think of this: yet it is a fact easily established that the profits of a year's business arise in a great measure, not from the quantity or value of goods sold, but from the position the buyer is in to purchase the goods.

It is a grievous error, indulged in by a large majority of the retail trade, that all buyers are equal, or on an equal footing in the matter of their purchases: it is not so. We know for a fact that the profits in buying range from 5 per cent. to 15 per cent., according to the standing, business ability, tact, &c., of the buyer. This then is a powerful argument against long credit, sufficiently powerful, one would think, to induce retailers to do a smaller business. The judicious purchase and sale of one thousand dollars worth of goods for cash, will yield more profit than the injudicious purchase of five thousand obtained and sold on credit.

The coming season will severely test those merchants who are too fond of giving long credits. The unsettled state of trade generally will not admit of extra risks; the importations for the coming spring will be light, and the wholesale trade will be particular with respect to their class of customers. Those of them who conduct their business on sound principles will be liberally dealt with, while the opposite will be looked upon with becoming suspicion.

From authentic information we gather that the stocks are not large in English markets, and few goods have been prepared for this market. In most classes of staples, prices, as they effect us, will for the coming season remain about the same. In the finer makes of grey and white cotton but little change is preceptible—coarser grades favor the buyer.

Woollens are firm: as the importation of this class of goods does not enter largely into our summer receipts, prices are of little moment to us—farther than that it may be the means of keeping orders for fall woollens in buyers' hands, and which are often contracted for at this season of the year.

There is quite an excitement also in the Canadian Wool Market: a few weeks ago fleece wool could have been purchased at 32 cents per lb., it has now reached last July prices. This will operate against contracts for summer delivery of fall goods,—several contracts are hanging in the balance on this account—Manufacturers being afraid to close. The excitement is owing to speculations in the American Market.

THE GROCERY TRADE.

We again insert a complete list of all the Wholesale Houses in this line in Montreal—many who no doubt desire to advertise not having been called upon. Hereafter, however, we shall insert here ONLY the names of advertisers.

James Austin & Co.	J. A. & H. Mathewson.
I. Buchanan, Harris & Co.	H. J. Gear.
H. Chapman & Co.	Mitchell, Kinnear & Co.
Geo. Childs & Co.	J. E. Mullin & Co.
Converse, Colson & Lamb.	William Nivin & Co.
Jas. Douglas & Co.	Rimmer, Gunn & Co.
Fitzpatrick & Moore.	Robertson & Beattie.
Forester, Moir & Co.	David Robertson.
Gillespie, Moffatt & Co.	Havilland Routh & Co.
Jeffrey, Brothers & Co.	Schneider & Bond.
Victor Hudon.	Sinclair, Jack & Co.
B. Hutchins.	Alexr. Thurber & Co.
Kingan & Kinloch.	Jos. Tiffin & Sons.
Kingan, Winning & Mair.	Thomas Tiffin.
Law, Young & Co.	David Torrance & Co.
E. Maitland Tylee & Co.	Thompson, Murray & Co.
D. Masson & Co.	A. Urquhart & Co.

SINCE our last report of 27th ult., the market has continued dull, and the trade generally is void of any animation. A few limited transactions of a local character in some of the staples may be noted. Prices in the main of groceries are unchanged. In view of the trade sale of the 15th inst., and of the fact that stocks generally are well assorted, jobbers are holding off from adding to any extent to present supplies on hand. We are still of opinion that business will exhibit considerable activity prior to close of the month.

TEAS.—The market continues without change, and enquiries are very moderate, only limited lots changing hands to supply immediate wants. Colored Japans of desirable grades, say unbroken and fragrant, are wanted and scarce. There is also a considerable deficiency in medium qualities of Young Hysons of fair style and sweet drawing. Of other classes the market is fairly supplied, if we except good to fine uncolored Japans, of which grade stocks are comparatively small. We note arrivals ex Hibernia and Peruvian of a few lots of Blacks, low grade Young Hysons, and fine uncolored Japans from England. We append extract from a private letter dated Shanghai, Nov. 24th, which gives undoubted indication that the cost in China of the country green Teas, or Young Hysons suitable for this market, is still very high, and it would seem that there is little chance of lower prices ruling at places of production.

"We are still unable to report the opening of the market for country green Teas for America, either at Kinkiang or this port; stocks of all descriptions here now reach 50,000 packages, and our last advices from Kingkiang to the 21st report constant arrivals and a stock of 100,000 packages; some disposition begins to manifest itself among foreign operators to enter the market, and offers have been made at Kinkiang of Taels 30 to 32 per Picul, Taels 36 to 38 here; and the latter prices have been offered in this market for fine Moyune Teas, but the Teamen are firm in declining to accept them at these figures: the proportionate cost in the United States would be 80cts. to 82½cts. in gold, which is far above the prices ruling at the date of our last advices. Shipments having been small and stocks in the United States being light, it seems probable an advance must take place there."

Our recent advices from England up to 16th ult., report continued dulness in the market. The sale on the 10th ult. of East Indian Teas passed off with fair animation; the finer Teas realizing full prices, while the more common kinds went easier. We may observe that these Teas are coming into much favor in England. The large sale of China Teas advertised for 17th ult., embracing some 40,000 Packages, was occupying the attention of the trade. We may here remark for the benefit of that portion of the trade who have not the opportunity of perusing the English Trade Tea Circulars, and comparing values with quotations of this market, that the figures at which all kinds of green Teas (perhaps with the exception of some of the very low grades) are held in England, are still somewhat in excess of actual prices realized here.

Up to date 16th ult., eleven vessels have arrived in England from China, containing 8,907,700 lbs., which were not named as on hand in our last issue, in giving stock held on 31st Dec.

The amount now "on the water," is 41,494,500 lbs., against 51,126,500 lbs. same time in 1863, and not included in stock.

The New York market is quite abnormal, the fluctuations in gold restricting large operations, as there can be no confidence in transactions unless sales are made upon a gold basis: we report the market there dull and without any animation. We append stock of all kinds of Teas held in New York by importers and on speculation on 1st January, 1865:

GREEN.

Direct Import	85,123	half chests.
Indirect "	11,127	"
Held on Speculation	3,047	"
Total Green	99,297	half chests.

UNCOLORED JAPAN.

Direct Import	25,775	half chests.
Indirect "	11,492	"
Held on Speculation	1,686	"
Total Japan	38,953	half chests.

Cargo of the "Brilliant," from Yokohama, not included.

BLACK.

Direct Import	81,972	half chests.
Indirect "	13,931	"
Held on Speculation	43,937	"
Total Black	139,840	half chests

Cargo of the "Samuel Russell," from Foochow, not included.

Up to date it has not transpired upon whose account the "Princess of Wales," from Shanghai, for this Port, is chartered; and we do not, as yet, hear of any other direct cargoes coming forward. We annex quotations of Teas in market:

Young Hyson	50c.	to	86c.
Hysons	55	to	80
Gunpowder	65	to	100
Imperials	60	to	85
Hyson Skin	25	to	40
Twankay	35	to	45
Uncolored Japan	42½	to	60
Colored "	50	to	65
Souchong	50	to	80
Congou	38	to	75
Oolong	45	to	55
Canton	35	to	40

SUGAR.—The market shows no change since our last report. Stocks are light and demand very limited. We hear of a lot of 60 hhds. fair Cuba having changed hands this week, price not transpired. Small demands from the country and Western Canada requires us to report the market dull, and quotations unchanged.

The following are the stocks of sugar in New-York of the descriptions named at the commencement of the present and previous years.

	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.
Cuba.........hhds.	17,092	16,087	13,300	15,698
Porto Rico	1,055	750	1,768	1,483
New Orleans	876	12,907	3,766	368
English Islands	469	96	1,014	....
Martinique	570	..	1,866	....
Total.........hhds.	20,762	29,840	21,214	17,544

COFFEE.—The stocks of Coffee of the following descriptions, in New York at the first of this year, as compared with same date for three years previous, were as follows:

	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.
Rio bags	44,017	51,362	13,621	51,682
Laguayra	1,300	8,000	1,700	
Maracaibo	11,982	9,130	9,695	5,165
Java	880	1,760	1,829	970

TOBACCO.—Firm, and the advance noted in our last is maintained. Several large lots have changed hands in the city, and a good deal of speculation exists. We cannot report active sales of many large lots on Western account, although we hear of some considerable parcels having gone forward for Toronto. The enquiry is still active for very low grades, which are quite out of the market, and have gone into consumption. We repeat our quotations of last week:

10's	25 to 29
5's	24 to 28
½ lbs.	30 to 35
Bright "	45 to 55