

have to accumulate pretty freely before old dry sugars can be seriously influenced. Buyers, however, adhere to a very cautious policy, taking only what is required for immediate wants. *Fruit* remains quiet and unchanged. Currants are firm at January prices; very few old in the market. *Fish*—The Lent demand has set in; whitefish and trout are very light in stock—the former have advanced 25 c.; herrings moderately active and firm. *Tobacco* remains quiet at unchanged prices.

HIDES AND SKINS.—There is still a very active demand for hides, and late full prices have been maintained, say 7½c to 8½c for rough, and 9c for No. 1 trimmed. *Sheepskins*—Are also in good demand and supply, prices being the same as last week, namely, \$2.50 to 2.75 although the latter rate is considered extreme, and is likely to be reduced 25c. *Calfskins*—Unchanged—buying at 12c, green.

HAY AND STRAW.—Continue to be freely offered, and prices are maintained at last week's quotations, namely: \$17 to 18 for clover; \$19 to 22 for timothy; loose straw sold at \$9 to 10; sheaves at \$14 to 15.

LEATHER.—Trade has been quiet since the beginning of the month, and there is no special feature to notice. Prices remain firm for all kinds.

LUMBER.—Trade is getting more active, and there is quite a keen competition among buyers, for clear lumber, which promises to command a good price, as they are already offering a considerable advance on last season's highest prices; common lumber is also scarce, and has advanced considerably in price; bill lumber is also going to range high, there are large quantities of hemlock being taking out this winter to be sawn into bill stuff for the local trade.

PROVISIONS.—Trade has somewhat improved, but is still of a restricted character. *Butter*—Stocks are made up principally of inferior grades, for which buyers offer 10½ to 11½c, but holders being still in hopes of getting more refuse to sell. Fine butter would find sale at 17c to 18c, 50 packages sold at the inside rate. Street supplies are light, and generally of poor quality. Pound Rolls sell at 20 to 23c. Large Rolls and tubs at 16 to 18c. *Cheese* has been more active and firmer during the week. Sales of 200 boxes were reported at 11c, and 300 boxes at 11½c. Small lots are now held at 12 to 13c. *Eggs* fresh from farmer's waggons selling at 25 to 30c. *Pork*—There are buyers at \$14.50 for mess, and a carload sold at that figure, but holders generally ask \$15 or \$15.50 for small lots. *C C Bacon*—Buyers were offering 6½ for round lots loose, with sellers at 6½c. No transactions reported. Small lots to the local trade selling at 6½ to 7c. *Hams* in good demand: sales of 4,000 green, untrimmed, at 7½c. Small lots smoked sell to local dealers at 10½ to 11c. *Lard* quiet and unchanged at 9½c for small lots. *Dressed Hogs* have been scarce during the week, and heavy qualities are wanted very much. For such, we believe \$5.50 would readily be paid, as it has frequently been paid for small choice lots on the street market. Carlots have been scarce, a few changed hands at \$5.25 to 5.35. *Salt*—Goderich continues to sell at irregular prices, ranging from \$1.00 to 1.25. *Dried Apples*—still scarce, and in moderate demand; prices rather firmer at 8½ to 8¾ for small lots. *Hops*—scarce, unchanged.

SEEDS.—There is still very little offering. A few small lots of clover sold on the street market, this week and last, at \$5.50 to 5.75. Dealers are selling retail lots at \$6.00 to 6.25. One or two lots of Timothy have been offered for a bid, which was made at \$3.25. It is understood to be held at \$4.00, but there is no indication of that price being likely to be paid at present. There is nothing doing in other seeds.

WOOL.—The market is not very active, as

there is little or nothing offering. There are buyers, however, at advanced prices. 44c., 45c., 46c. would be paid for good combing wool, while extra might go a cent or two higher, and super of desirable quality would fetch nearly the same money. Fleece may be quoted nominally at 44c. to 54,

MONTREAL MARKET.

From our own Reporter.

Montreal, 6th Feb.

For the season of the year there is a fair amount of business doing, and in the hardware trade it is far above the average of previous years. Groceries are in fair demand, and sugar is very firm. In breadstuffs we have no revival of trade to notice, and the market closes quiet and easier than last week. The stocks of flour are increasing very fast, there being now an increase of 25,285 bbls. in store over the stocks held here on the 15th ult. Provisions are dull and unchanged, but with downward tendency. Ashes quiet but firm at quotations. In drugs there has not been much doing. The long-expected snow began to fall on Saturday evening, and continued till about midday on Sunday, covering the ground to the depth of several inches, but as high wind prevailed it had drifted a good deal and left the roads in some places very bare. Last night a heavy snow again set in, which still continues, and about 6 or 7 inches of snow has fallen.

ASHES.—*Pots*—The prices in this market have declined somewhat from last week; firsts which were offered found buyers at \$7.40, 7.47½ and 7.50; the principal sales were at \$7.47½; seconds are dull of sale at \$6.40 to 6.50; thirds, \$5.50. *Pearls*—This ash is in very limited supply, consequently little business has been done; the nominal price here is \$8.10 to 8.25. The total shipments for last month were: pots, 613 bbls; pearls, 104 bbls. The stocks now in store are: pots, 375 bbls, and pearls 88 bbls.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—Owing to pretty heavy stocks held in the country, buyers seem disposed to be cautious in making their purchases. Manufacturers are looking for an improvement in trade, and expect more remunerative prices than have prevailed for some time past. We quote:—Men's No. 1 stogas, \$2.50 to 2.62½; No. 2 ditto, \$2.25 to 2.30; kid clump, \$3; ditto D. S., \$2.75; calf clump, \$3.75; calf congress, \$2.50 to 3; boy's boots, \$2 to 2.25; women's calf boots D S, \$1.30; buff ditto, \$1.25; split ditto, D S, \$1 to \$1.10; balmorals, \$1.40 to 1.60.

COAL AND FIREWOOD.—In the coal trade there has been fair activity, but as yet there is no change to note in prices. American coal is now scarce in this market. Firewood is in good demand, but prices are kept down by the supplies brought into town by the *Habitans* and by the G. T. R.

DRY GOODS.—There has not been much business done last week beyond supplying a few sorting up orders. The new importations are beginning to arrive, which keep the hands in wholesale houses fully occupied, and the spring trade is expected to open soon. It is generally understood that for the ensuing season prices will be materially advanced, as all new goods have been laid in considerably over last week's prices.

DRESSED HOGS.—As the stocks are accumulating, and the receipts continue large, without any corresponding demand, prices have declined, and the sales reported have been at \$5.25 to 5.50, according to quality.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—The stocks held here are light, but in the meantime the demand is small. In prices there is not much change. Cream tartar crystals have advanced to 23c to 24c, and cream tartar ground 26c to 30c; bicarb is firm, and held for \$4.75 to

4.87½; Sal Soda is still firm, and held at \$1.87½ to \$2.00. Caustic soda has been in moderate demand, at 4½ to 4¾c; bleaching powder, 3½ to 4c; alum \$2.00 to 2.15; no change to note in other articles.

FISH.—As Lent approaches there is an improved feeling in this market, and considerable activity is looked forward to for some time. The current quotations here are, for dry cod \$4.25 to 5; green cod, in bbls., \$4.75 to 5.25; salmon, \$15 to 15.50; Labrador herrings, split, \$4.25 to 4.75; Canso, split, \$3.50 to 3.75.

FURS.—We have no particular change to notice in this market this week—our quotations remain firm and unchanged, and no immediate alteration is looked for; we continue to quote:—Cross fox \$4; red fox \$1.25 to 1.50; pale martin \$1.50 to 2.50; mink \$3.50 to 4; bear \$7 to 10; lynx \$1.50; fisher \$5 to 6; beaver \$1.40 to 1.60; fall muskrat 10c; otter \$7 to 8; racoon 10c to 50; skunk 20c. to 50.

FLLOUR.—Receipts during the last week 11,289 bbls.; total receipts from 1st of January to date 48,489 bbls., being an increase of 23,626 bbls. on the receipts for the corresponding period for 1871. The stocks in store and in the hands of millers on the morning of the 1st inst. were 104,571 bbls., being an increase of 25,285 bbls. since the 15th ult. This large increase and the smallness of the demand has had the effect of depressing the market, and quotations to-day are considerably under those of last week. There has been some enquiry for round lots for May delivery, but buyers and sellers seem to be apart in their views. One lot of city brand is reported to have changed hands at \$5.87½. We quote:—Extra, \$6.10 to 6.15; fancy, \$6.05 to 6.10; ordinary supers from Canada wheat, \$5.80 to 5.85; strong baker's flour, \$6 to 6.20; Canada super No. 2, \$5.4c to 5.45; fine, \$4.75 to 4.80; middlings, \$3.80 to 4; Pollard's, \$3.25 to 3.50; Upper Canada bag flour, nominal; cornmeal, \$3.25; oatmeal, \$4.75 to 5.

GRAIN.—*Wheat*—Receipts for the week, 12,250 bush.; total receipts from 1st of January to date 27,300 bush., being an increase of 26,600 bush. on the receipts for the corresponding period of 1871. The stocks in store and in hands of millers on the morning of the 1st inst. were 221,821 bush., against 282,499 bush. on the 15th ult., and 299,428 bush. on the 1st Feb., 1871. This market remains much in the same state as last week, and quotations would still be nominal; the only operation here was a few car loads of N. C. red winter, sold at \$1.32½. *Maise*—Stock in store 177,500 bush.; very little demand exists at present; only a few small sales reported, at from 65 to 70 c., f.o.b. *Oats*—Stocks in store 19,526 bush.; market has been steady at 33 to 35c. *Pease*—Stocks in store 69,174 bush.; market rather easier with some sales ex car at 86c. *Barley*—Stock in store 11,300 bush.; business done has been unimportant, and prices are nominal at 52½ to 57½c. *Flax seed* is quiet and unchanged at \$1.40 to 1.50.

GROCERIES.—*Tea*—There has been a large business done this week—a good number of buyers have been in town laying in stocks which they did within the following range: Un-coloured Japans, 37 to 52c; old hyson, 45 to 75c; young hyson, 42½ to 85c; twankey, 28 to 35c; congou, 35 to 75c; souchong, 30 to 80c; oolong, 30 to 55c. *Sugars*—A good demand exists and holders are very firm in their demands. Scotch refined is nearly exhausted and cannot now be had under 9½. Port Rico s quoted \$9.25 to \$9.50 and Cuba grocery \$9 to \$9.25. Local refined continues in good demand, but no change to note in price. *Molasses*—There have been some considerable sales of clayed at 24c; muscovado is worth from 25 to 28c; Barbadoes, 33 to 37c, and Porto Rico 36 to 37c. *Fruit* market has been rather dull this week, only small sales transpiring at about the following rates: New Currants, 6½c; old currants, 4½c;