

THE DRY GOODS TRADE.

Baile, James, & Co.
Baillhage, Beak & Co.
Benjamin, Wm. & Co.
Clark, James L.
Claxton, T. James, & Co.
Dougall, John, & Co.
Faulds & Hodgson.
Gilmour, J. Y., & Co.
Greenhields, S., Son & Co.
Hingston, James, & Co.
Lewis, John, & Co.
Macfarlane, Andrew, & Co.
May, Joseph.

Mar, Thomas, & Co.
McIntyre, Denoon & Co.
Meyer, J. & Co.
Munderloh & Steeneken.
Ogilby & Co.
Ringland, Ewart & Co.
Robertson, A., & Co.
Roy, Jas. & Co.
Stephen, William, & Co.
Stirling, McCall & Co.
Walker, Alexander.
Winks, George, & Co.

IN the past week, although comparatively quiet in the way of sales, yet a decided improvement was observed compared with the previous few weeks, orders coming in more freely and for a more general class of goods. We may now look forward to increased activity, and, after the middle of the month, a general and active trade. From what we can learn, the stocks in the hands of country merchants are larger at this season than was expected, and larger than is desirable. This is owing to the winter trade not coming up to expectations, still most of the western merchants are in a much better position now than they were a year ago, their stocks being lighter and the debts owing to them also much reduced. We may reasonably look for a sound healthy trade this season. The imports, as was shown two weeks ago, have been thus far greatly in excess compared with last year: still we think the stocks are not much if any greater in the hands of importers, than at the same date last year, with this decided advantage, however, that nearly all are new goods this season. The past week has been a busy one in opening and arranging. A great many goods are now ready for buyers, still we cannot report the stocks complete, some departments being very deficient. This remark refers especially to fancy goods. We notice that in cottons there is a fair stock in almost every department; and from careful inspection, we are satisfied that the quality of cotton used in the manufactures is very much improved compared with twelve months ago: then nearly all goods were much stiffened, or dressed. This year all classes of goods are soft, and evidently more long staple or American cotton is used, as the goods are cleaner and smoother in their appearance and doubtless much stronger. In plain staples, such as Greys, Whites, Stripes, Tickings, Denims,—of these there is already a good assortment opened. In Prints we think more than usual care and good taste has been displayed, and the styles are decidedly in advance of the past few seasons. Linens are perceptibly dearer, this is observed most in Baggings, Logging Cloths, Rough Hollands, and Threads, the value in these articles being mostly in material; still as Linens of all kinds have advanced considerably, since most Canadian buyers placed their orders, these goods could not be replaced within ten or fifteen per cent of the prices paid for them, and our impression is that they will continue to advance.

Woolens of all descriptions are in large supply. There is nothing specially attractive in this department, the stock being largely of plain goods, fancy goods being mostly of quiet and medium styles. There is a large stock of medium and common goods, but doubtless all will be required for the season's trade.

In dress goods, there is thus far a deficiency in nice new stylish goods, but from patterns which we have seen, sent out in advance of the goods, we fully expect this department will be well represented by the 20th of the month, those, with many other new fancy goods, being later than usual, owing to the difficulty Canadian buyers found in getting really fresh styles of new goods.

From present appearances we should say that Shawls will be more worn than they have been during the past few seasons, as we observe a decided increase in quantity imported, the styles are attractive, and but few mantles are yet to be seen.

We suppose the two next steamers will bring what will be required to complete the stocks in every department, as although the assortment of staples is now very complete, many classes of fancy goods, as also Hosiery, Gloves, and Haberdashery are very deficient.

Boots and Shoes.

The trade in Boots and Shoes has been quiet for the last two months, and orders have been mainly for assorting up stocks. A more active demand may be looked for during the present month, and manufacturers are well supplied to meet it. Prices continue unchanged.

—The Emperor of Mexico has ordered a most magnificent garden to be constructed near his palace, the cost of which will be £21,000. This does not look like leaving.

THE HARDWARE TRADE.

Brush, George.
Buchanan, I., & Co.
Charlebois, A., & Co.
Crathern & Cavershill.
Curtis, W., & F. L., & Co.
Evans, J. H.
Fraser, F.
Frithlingham & Workman.
Gilbert, L. E.

Hall, Kay & Co.
Ireland, W. H.
Kershaw & Edwards.
Law, Young & Co.
Morland, Watson & Co.
Muholland, & Baker.
Robertson, Jas.
Round, John & Sons.
Simms, F. H.
Winn & Holland.

WE have little improvement to note in the general business of the past week, but a better demand is springing up, and in some lines there have been considerable transactions, the tendency being towards an advance in prices. Latest English advices quote Staffordshire Iron unchanged as to first class brands, but a little easier as to second class. The stringency of the money market, with the probability of increased tightness, acted unfavourably on business generally, and the past month had been characterized by great dullness in the Iron Trade.

BLOCK TIN is entirely unchanged, with very little doing.

COPPER.—The stock is still very limited, but a slight decline has taken place in both Pig and Sheet, and we mark down prices accordingly.

CUT NAILS are in good demand, with a very small stock. Prices are unchanged.

HORSE NAILS.—Best brands are very scarce, but in lower grades; there is more doing at rates a little below our quotations.

IRON.—Pig is very scarce, and would command full prices. None was exported from Liverpool to Montreal, during the month of January; of *Bar and Rod*, only 68 tons, and of *Pig*, only 64 tons, during same time.

LEAD.—Very little doing, and no change in prices.

TIN PLATES.—The stock is very much reduced, and we quote an advance of 25 cts on charcoal. In England, there has been a lull in the demand for export to America, but prices are firm, makers professing to be well supplied with orders.

THE LEATHER TRADE.

Brown & Childs.
Dougall J. & Co.
Hua & Richardson.

Seymour, C. E.
Seymour, M. H.
Shaw F. & Bros.

WE have to note some improvement in the business of the past week. There has been a more active demand, and we hear of sales to a considerable extent in curried stock.

SPANISH SOLE.—The demand has been chiefly for the lower grades, and transactions have been made to a moderate extent. Holders are firmer, and receipts not having been large, do not expect any further decline.

SLAUGHTER SOLE.—Continues firm, with a limited supply.

ROUGH.—None in market, and quotations nominal.

HARNESS.—Little demand at present, and no alteration to note in prices. There is no overstock in market, prime being rather scarce than otherwise.

WAXED UPPER.—Quotations unchanged. We hear of a sale of one thousand sides for manufacturing at prices which have not transpired. This has diminished stock in market, which is being supplied but slowly.

GRAINED UPPER.—Very quiet.

BUFF AND PEBBLED.—Are in good demand, the supply of the former being unequal to the enquiry, and sales made for future delivery. The market is better supplied with Pebbled.

PATENT AND ENAMELLED.—We note an active demand for Enamelled, which continues very scarce, and prices firm. Patent is also scarce and in fair demand.

CALF SKINS.—Quotations nominal, business done being very light, and the stock quite small.

SPLITS.—Continue scarce, and full prices are easily obtained for choice medium stock.

SHEEP SKINS.—The market is very poorly supplied with Coloured Linings and Russells, for which there is a moderate enquiry.

HIDES.—Are unchanged and in somewhat better supply.

Grand Trunk Railway.

The *Canadian News* (London), referring to the large advance which has taken place in the price of the consolidated or original stock of this Company, says, "that apart altogether from the Stock Exchange operations of the moment, this great enterprise has a present substantial basis upon which may be erected a most hopeful future; and that, therefore, the present price of the stock, large as it undoubtedly is, compared with the price of a few months back, is rather under than over its real value."

THE GROCERY TRADE.

Chapman H., & Co.
Childs, George, & Co.
Converse, Colson & Lamb.
Davis, Clark, & Clayton.
Flapatrie & Moore.
Fourie, John.
Garr, H. J.
Gilliespie, Moffatt & Co.
Hutchins H., & Co.
Jeffery, Brothers & Co.
Kings & Kinloch.
Law, Young & Co.
Leeming & Buchanan.
Maitland, E., Trice & Co.
Mathewson, J. A. & H.
Mitchell, Kinneir & Co.

Nirln, William, & Co.
Noel, James S., & Co.
Reuter, Lional & Co.
Simmer, Gunn & Co.
Sutton & Beattie.
L. Jackson, David.
Routh, Harland & Co.
Saunders & Co.
Schneider, Bond & Co.
Sincclair, Jack & Co.
Tiffin, Jos., & Sons.
Thompson, Murray & Co.
Torrance, David, & Co.
Urquhart, Alex., & Co.
Winn & Holland.
Withers, Jor & Co.

WE have still to report very general quietness in all staple groceries, transactions being chiefly of a retail character, giving no basis for quotations, which may, therefore, be looked upon as mainly nominal. We would make an exception in regard to teas, there having been better enquiry for all kinds, especially Japans and Greens. Prices, however, are somewhat firmer, and this has had a tendency to check business. For Wines, Liquors, &c., there is little or no demand, and prices are unchanged, except for Jamaica and Cuba Rum, which we quote at 10 to 15 cents higher. Scotch Whiskey is rather firmer, but with very little doing. There is rather more enquiry for Tobaccos, and we note an advance in medium packages of Honeydew.

THE MONEY MARKET.

MONEY is in fair supply. The Banks discounting with a good degree of liberality. There is not much enquiry for sterling exchange, the demand for money being principally to pay duties. We quote Banker's endorsed sixty day bills 108½; drawn to order 109. Private bills range from 107½ to 108½. In New York yesterday, Banker's 60 day bills were quoted 108½.

GOLD.—Latest quotation 136, a decline of nearly one per cent from previous rates.

BANK EXCHANGE ON NEW YORK.—In moderate demand at 26½ to 27 per cent discount. Greenbacks, very abundant, owing to the number of American horse buyers in the country, at 27 to 27½ per cent discount.

SILVER.—In fair supply, with a more active demand, Buyers 3½ discount. Sellers 3½ discount.

Latest English Quotations.

The *Asia* from Liverpool, 17th, and Queenstown. 18th ult. arrived at Halifax yesterday morning. Breadstuffs closed quiet and steady. Provisions steady except Bacon and Lard, which were easier. Consols 87½ to 87½. United States 5.20s 68 to 68½. Bullion in Bank had increased £239,000. *Habeas corpus* was suspended in Ireland, and a large number of additional arrests had been made.

Royal Canadian Bank.

The cashier of this new Bank, THOMAS WOODSIDE Esq., has given notice through the Press, that after the 15th March next, the stock-books will be closed. This is done in consequence of a resolution having been passed by the directors, who consider that a sufficient amount of stock for the present purposes of the Bank has already been subscribed. This is a very satisfactory state of affair. Money having become more plenty throughout Canada, we notice that there are two or three proposals to establish local Banks in different sections of the country. The success of the Royal Canadian thus far, affords encouragement to the promoters of these new institutions to proceed. It would be a very desirable thing if our wealthy farmers could be induced to invest their surplus capital in this way. It would pay them a fair rate of interest, and greatly benefit the Province by adding to its circulating medium.

Nova Scotia Gold Mines.

From official returns we find that the yield of the Nova Scotia gold mines for the last quarter of 1865, was 6,044 oz., being an increase of 586 oz. over the corresponding quarter of 1864. The amount of quartz raised from which this gold was obtained was 6,700 tons, the average yield per ton being about 11.9 oz. In October there were 71 mines worked, giving employment to 681 men; in November 78 mines, with 672 men; and in December 67 mines, employing 666 men.

—The Ohio House of Assembly has passed a Bill fixing eight hours for a day's labour, by a vote of seventy to fourteen. This, we believe, is the first legislative success met with in the history of the recent eight-hour movement in the States.