

a year or two ago the greatest demand was for cheap suits, and low-priced goods generally, people are now buying a better class of stuff, and readily pay for higher priced material. Notwithstanding the tariff, a very large trade is done in garments of English *etoffe* and other British goods. Whether it is the "nobbinness" of their patterns, or their relative lowness of price, they are often preferred to Canadian, even though the latter are conceded to wear better. Some houses, however, find our own makes of tweeds gaining ground. For overcoats they are quite largely used.

FLOUR AND MEAL.—The stock of flour in store at this port on the 18th inst., was 19,241 bbls., against 9,686 bbls. last week and 13,065 bbls. on same date last year. Prices are nominally unchanged, the only movement being in car lots to the retail trade. Super. Extra., Extra and Spring Extra are the only grades moving; Strong bakers being rarely procured here, most of the Clinton make going through to Montreal. *Oatmeal* is a little improved in tone and may go still higher, oats being scarce. *Bran* is scarce; we quote \$14.50 per ton.

GRAIN.—The stock of all grain in store here is 524,188 bushels. Of this total, Fall *wheat* composed 134,128 bush., as compared with 133,410 bush. last week and 182,208 on like date 1880. All kinds of grain are quiet, unusually so for the season. There is but the merest retail business doing, wheat is staidier and No. 1 Fall is scarce, being nominally worth \$1.15, with \$1.12 to 1.13 for No. 2. The English as well as the American market, however, is a little firmer. *Wheat*—Spring.—Stocks in store 112,428 bush. against 113,075 bush. last week and 131,740 bush. on like date last year. The quotation for No. 2 Spring at Chicago is \$1.04, May No. 1 is worth here \$1.17 to 1.18, with very little doing. *Barley*.—Stocks in store 170,050 bush. compared with 183,401 bush. last week and 72,746 bush. on like date last year. Market dull and nominal, prices unchanged. *Peas*.—Quiet, stocks in store 92,877 bush. against 94,873 bush. last week, and 70,623 bush. last year. *Oats*.—A little firmer. Stocks stored 700 bushels, as compared with 23,060 bush. on 19th April 1880. *Corn* is unchanged. *Rye* is higher. Stock 13,605 bushels against 13,633 bu. last week and none last year at this date. The demand is brisk for export—some going to Cincinnati and some to Germany.

GROCERIES.—Trade is decidedly dull, with prices nominally unchanged here. The London tea market, according to Reinach's circular of 6th instant, continued depressed while really good were scarce and even hardening, common were plentiful and lower. This applies to all Shanghai teas, Monings also to some grades of Kaisow. Teas combining quality and strength from 10d. to 13d., are dearer than at end of 1880, on the other hand, common teas from Shanghai, Foochow and Canton are again decidedly lower. The green tea market, the same authority tells us, is much the same: "Good to fine maintain previous quotations, while common and low lines of better show a further drop." The London imports and stocks for first three months of this year and last were as follows:

	Imports, lbs.	Stocks, lbs.
1881 Black	50,258,918	100,110,346
1880 do.	42,646,381	88,953,430
1881 Green	2,709,291	4,496,934
1880 do.	1,816,754	3,400,495

HAY AND SEED.—Farmers being busy with seeding, not much hay is coming in. From \$10 to \$13 is paid, the outside figure only for choice; *Straw* brings \$600 to 8.00. There is a good deal of clover seed offering, but holders stick up for their price. *Timothy* is not so plentiful, offering in limited quantities; buyers and sellers are apart, however. Considerable is selling of an American product known as "new process linseed meal," made in Chicago. It is claimed to

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HARDWARE AND METALS.—A very fair hardware trade has been done, for the season, in shelf goods as well as in builders' materials. Country customers buy with good heart, and payments are good. In metals prices are maintained; English advices report copper firmer, while the price of tin keeps up and zinc is steady. Bar iron has been active in this market and the large sales made have nearly cleared out some lines, profits upon it, however, are cut very fine; pigs have gone off freely at \$22.50 for Coltness; \$22.00 for Summerlee, and 21.50 for Eglinton; there is no No. 1 Siemens in market but No. 3 sells at \$21.50. Cut nails continue to be shaded although our quotations represent admitted prices. Window Glass, stocks are much broken up, some sizes being not procurable; no new stocks can be hoped for before 1st June.

HIDES AND SKINS.—Trade quiet at this season not many hides coming in and tanners do not appear anxious to buy; 8½ for cows and 9½ for steers are going prices for cured. Sheepskins come in but slowly. For rendered tallow 6½c. is paid; rough. 3½c.

LEATHER.—The market upon the whole is steady, with no especially active demand. Prices of sole are well maintained, ordinary is plentiful, but there is not a superabundance of prime. There is no Spanish in market at under 25c; Buffalo is steady. Upper is nearly neglected, perhaps because of a vague feeling in cutters' minds that it may be easier. There is however, no glut of stock, and prices are not perceptibly weaker, the only demand is for really prime light. Of harness there is no accumulation, all good makes find ready sale, while poor is neglected, the plain teaching of which is that it is folly to make inferior goods. French calfskin is selling fairly, not so largely however, as if good domestic were not to be had. The latter article is much improved in quality of late years; some makes sell as fast as they are put on the market.

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