

HARDWARE AND METALS.

There has been but very little improvement in the tone of business in this line during the week. A trade slightly below the average of the season has been done, and the store branch has made up a large proportion of this. Heavy goods have been rather dull. Prices have not changed. Quotations are now as follows: Tin plate I.C., 14x20, \$6.25 to \$6.50 a box; I.C., 20x28, \$12.50 to \$13; Canada plates \$4 to \$4.25; sheet iron, 28 G, \$1.75 to \$5.25 per 100 lbs; iron pipe, 40 to 50 per cent. off list price; ingot tin, 25 to 30 per lb; pig lead, 6 to 6½c; galvanized iron, 7 to 7½c per lb; bar iron, \$2.75 to 3.25 per 100 lbs; cut rails, \$3.55 to \$3.75.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

The report of the week in this line is rather a quiet one. Sales have not been heavy, and collections have not been as good as could be wished. As soon as weather gets cold an improvement is looked for. Prices of staple goods are unchanged and are as follows: Spanish sole, 33c to 35c; slaughterer sole, 33c; French calf, first choice, \$1.40 to 1.50; domestic, 55c; BZ calf, \$1.00 to 1.10; French kip, \$1.00 to 1.25; BZ kip, 55c to 90c; slaughter kip, 65c to 75c; No. 1 wax upper, 55c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, 34c to 36c for plumb stock; English oak sole, 65c.

LUMBER.

This trade is still in a rather unsatisfactory state. There have been few sales of any consequence during the week, and dealers and manufacturers are rather careless about selling at current prices, unless in cases where cash is offered. The season is now drawing to a close, and has been altogether a very unsatisfactory one. Hopes are expressed that matters will be better next spring as the cut of logs will no doubt be kept down, and, with the general improvement which is going on in trade, better prices may be looked for.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS.

The improvement noted in our last issue continues in this trade and the only complaint heard is about collections. Prices of goods are unchanged and are as follows: Linseed oil raw, 67c per gal.; boiled, 70c; seal oil, steam refined, \$1.10; no pale or straw seal in the market; castor, 15c per lb; lard, No. 1, \$1.30 per gal.; olive, \$1.50 to \$2, according to quality; machine oils, black 30c; oleine 50c; fine qualities 65c to \$1. Coal oils, headlight, 27c; water white 33c. Calcined plaster, \$4.00 per bbl.; Portland cement, \$6; white lead, genuine, \$8.00; No. 1, \$7.50; No. 2, \$7. Window glass, first break, are quoted at \$2.50.

SADDLERY AND HARNESS.

Business in this line has been only fair during the week, although orders from the country have been quite numerous but, as a rule, light. Collections have not been too free. Quotations still remain: Harness leather, 33 to 36c per lb; collar splits, 27 to 33c; sheep skins, \$5.50 to 11.50 per doz., according to size.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

Business in this line has improved somewhat during the week but is still far from being

rushed. Further improvement is looked for this month. Collections are reported good.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

The report from this line for the week gives fresh encouragement. Sales have been quite liberal and there are signs of collections improving soon. Prices are unchanged and are as follows: Hennessy's one star, \$13 to \$14; in wood, \$4.50 to 5.00 per gallon; Martel, in case, one star, \$13 to \$14; Renault, 1-star, \$12, \$16 and \$20; Louis Freres, in cases, qts., \$9; flasks, two dozen in a case, \$11; M. Dubois, in wood, \$3.50 per gallon; cases, quarts, flasks, \$8; Gin, \$9; Holland, in wood, \$3 per gallon; red cases, \$10.5 to 11.50; green \$5.50 to \$6.50; cases, Old Tom gin, Bernhard's, in wood, \$3.25 per gallon; Booth's, in wood, \$3.25; Booth's, in cases, quarts, \$8.50; Scotch whisky, Ramsay's, in wood, \$3.50 to \$4.00; Coal-Ha Islay, in wood, \$3.50; Stewart's, in cases, quarts, \$8.50; flasks, 10.50. Irish whisky, John Jameson & Sons, in wood, \$3.50 to \$4. Bernhard's, in cases, quarts, \$8; flasks, \$9.50. Jamaica rum, \$3.75 to \$4.00 per gallon. Champagne—Pomeroy, quarts, \$34; pints \$25 per case; Bollinger, quarts, \$33; pints \$34; Moet and Chandon, quarts, \$27; pints \$29; G. H. Mumm, quarts, \$28; pints, \$30; Carte Blanche, quarts, \$20; pints \$22. Sherry from \$2.50 to 8.00 per gallon, according to quality and brand; ports \$2.50 to 7.00, according to quality and brand; claret in cases \$5.00 to 10; Bass's ale in quarts \$3.50 per doz; pints \$2.25; Guinness' porter in quarts \$4.00, pints 2.50. Domestic whiskies, Gooderham & Wort's, in wood, \$1.55 to 2.25 per gallon; 65 o. p. rectified, in wood, \$2.52; W.F.L. five year old, \$2.50 per gallon cases, quarts, \$7.50; flasks \$5.00.

THE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

The movement of grain during the past week has been chiefly confined to car lots of wheat, the quality of which has not been as a rule what might be expected from this province. It has been out of condition, and in a great many instances very filthy. Farmers, if they expect good prices, must clean it thoroughly before they send it to the market, as the day is past that millers will pay freight on dirt. New oats have not as yet made their appearance on the market, consequently old oats, what stocks there are in the city, are firmly held. Provisions are without any essential change, with the exception that business has been somewhat better than reported in our last issue.

WHEAT.

Millers are still eager purchasers, the wet weather having curtailed deliveries that were expected to supply their demands; hence the urgency above noted. The prices paid during the past week must not be considered as the proper value, as high as \$2c has been paid for No. 1 hard, and rejected, 65 to 68c.; of which the bulk of the past week have consisted, as No. 1 hard this season seems to be rather a scarce article.

OATS.

On both local and shipping accounts the demand for oats has been good. They are still remaining fixed at 35c in consequence of the old oats getting scarce, and the new ones not likely to be on the market for some time to come.

BARLEY.

There has been no appearance of this grain as yet, but a few samples of the new crop have been sent to town, the quality of which is fair to good.

FLOUR.

Millers are now grinding new wheat, and are supplying the home market with flour from the same, but no shipments to the east are yet being made. Prices still hold, Patents \$3; strong bakers \$2.60; XXXX \$2.20; superfine \$1.80.

BRAN AND SHORTS.

The stock is exceedingly limited in the city, and is wanted as fast provided. No car lots are to be had, and prices cannot be given.

POTATOES.

Are selling from 25 to 35c, and are quite plentiful. Stocks for storing during winter are not filling up as yet.

EGGS.

The price has been going up during the week, 22c being the general quotation, and a higher figure will doubtless soon be reached.

BUTTER.

Good quality butter has not been too plentiful during the week, and there has been a slight falling off in the local supply. Choice Manitoba lots has sold up to 18c, and medium to 15c. Inferior grades are hard to sell. No importations from the east are now to be heard of.

CHEESE.

There is practically no change during the week, choice new Manitoba has sold at 14c, with eastern quoted at 13 to 14c. The demand holds good.

BACON.

As in all other pork products prices have held firm all week, although no advance in prices has taken place. Dry salt still sells at 13½c; spiced rolls 16c; smoked bacon 14½c; English breakfast 17c.

HAMS.

There is still a good steady demand for these with prices holding firm. Stocks are not heavy in the city. Quotations are 17½c for choice lots.

MESS PORK.

Sales have been about an average for the week, and prices have not changed. The steady quotation has been \$22.50, although \$22 has been heard of for one heavy lot cash down.

MESS BEEF.

keeps moving with its usual slow steady sale, and quotations not moving from \$17.00.

MINNEAPOLIS.

Under ordinary circumstances the heavy receipts of wheat the past week would have greatly depressed prices, but the week has been noted for steadiness, with occasional advances, the close showing a firm market at an advance of ¼ to 1c all around. Free purchases by millers on change and an increased demand from outside contributed to hold up the market. The weather has been very wet and cold, and the general feeling is bullish. Reports indicate that there is still considerable old wheat at country points, but it does not come in very fast.

The following were the highest and lowest wheat prices by grade on change during the week ending to-day, together with to-day's closing prices and the prices one year ago:—