

**Spices.**—Trade is good, particularly in pickling spices. We quote: Pure black pepper, 12 to 14c; pure white 20 to 28c; pure Jamaica ginger, 25 to 27c; cloves, 25 to 30c; pure mixed spice, 25 to 30c; cream of tartar, 20 to 25c per lb.

**Nuts.**—Advices received by a local broker state that the great shortage on the crop of walnuts prevents any quotations being made in advance, and only open orders have any chance of being filled for the Christmas trade. The crop is also two weeks later than last year, which is regarded as quite as serious for the Canadian trade as the question of price. Regarding Torragona almonds, advices state that the first direct shipments will cost about 2c more than last year. Local trade is quiet and featureless. We quote as follows: Brazil nuts, 11 to 11½ lb; Sicily shelled almonds, 25 to 26c a lb; Torragona almonds, 12½ to 14c; peanuts 11 to 12c for roasted and 8 to 10c for green; coconuts, \$1.50 to \$5 per sack; Grenoble walnuts, 13 to 14c, Marbot walnuts, 11 to 12c; Bordeaux walnuts, 11 to 12c; filberts, 9½ to 10½c for sack and 10½ to 11c for small lots; pecans, 10½ to 11c.

**Sugar.**—The activity is not as pronounced as it was a week ago, and no difficulty is now experienced in filling orders. Prices: however, are still steady at \$1.15 to \$1.50 for granulated and 3½ to 4c for yellows; raw, 3½c.

**Syrups.**—Business is higher in volume, but there is still a scarcity of the article. We quote: Dark, 25c; medium, 28 to 30c; bright, 35 to 40c; very bright, 45 to 50c.

**Molasses.**—Demand for molasses has improved lately. This applies particularly to the Barbadoes kinds at about 28 to 32c. We quote: New Orleans, barrels, 26 to 28c; half-barrels, 30½ to 32c; Barbadoes, barrels, 28 to 32c; half-barrels, 30 to 31c.

**Teas.**—The tea market continues active and strong. A cable received Thursday by a local broker quotes Indian teas fairly. Both Indian and Ceylon teas continue to sell freely in London, with a hardening tendency in price. Cheap China black teas are still advancing, and some excellent values are being shown by representatives of China tea houses at 15c. Samples of new green teas are arriving. There is a marked scarcity of all green teas except Pingsueys, and any offered are readily taken. The jobbing houses are still doing a good trade in new season's Japan teas, low and medium grades, at from 14 to 17c, and 20 to 25c, respectively. Medium grades China blacks are active at 18 to 22c. Quite a few Young Hysons are going out at 20c for medium and 35c for fine teas. Indian and Ceylon teas are moving fairly well at 25 to 30c.

**Dried Fruit.**—The few hundred boxes of new season's Valencia raisins noted to have arrived last week have been almost cleaned out, but another shipment is arriving this week, and as high as 7½c has been obtained for the few off-stalk that are to be had. Orders are being booked for second shipment at 6c. The advance in the price of Valencia raisins, previously announced as having taken place in the primary markets, has been maintained. Detailed reports of damage to the curing crop by rains have not yet been received, but cable advices from all quarters confirm what has already been said in this respect, and announce that it applies to half the crop.

**Currants.**—Demand for currants is light and prices unchanged. Quotations are: Provincials, 3½ to 4c in barrels, half-barrels, 3½ to 4½c; Filiatras, 4 to 4½c in barrels, and 4½ to 5c in half-barrels; Patras, 5 to 5½c in barrels, 5½ to 5½c in half-barrels, 5 to 6c in cases; Vostizas, 6½ to 7½c in case, 6½ to 7½c in half-cases. Prunes are much as before. We quote: U's, 5½ to 5½c; B's, 7½c; bags, 8½c; casks, 4½ to 5c. The Avalon, the second direct steamer, has completed loading at Patras.

The market from the opening till to-day has been a steadily declining one, but it is generally believed that prices have touched the bottom, and a reaction is looked for, the latest purchases on the Avalon having cost quite as low as those made at the same time last year, whereas the crop is certainly not more than 75 per cent. of that abnormal yield. A few case prunes of the better grade are going out at 7 to 7½c for "B"; "U," 5½ to 5½c; "A," 9c.

**Evaporated apples.**—Are beginning to be offered freely, but the market is without a reliable basis just now. Some holders are asking 8c to 9c, but we hear of sales at 6½c f. o. b. factories, and 7½c delivered here.

**Dried apples.**—Prospects are for a large crop and correspondingly low prices. Offerings are being made about three weeks earlier than last year. Transactions are reported at 4½ to 5c f. o. b. outside.—Canadian Grocer, Sept. 21.

### Toronto Live Stock Markets

**Export Cattle.**—Offerings were light and business almost nil. A few small picked lots of cattle sold at 3 1-2c. and sometimes a trifle over this figure. One buyer bought three loads of very good cattle, averaging about 1,280 lbs each, at \$3.40 per cwt. There was some little demand for stockers, but at low prices. One load of 25, averaging 1,150 lbs, sold at 2 7-8c per lb. The only activity in the cattle trade was in the purchases of feeders for the distillery.

**Butchers' Cattle.**—The demand was very slow and prices irregular and easy. Some choice lots of heaves sold well, but in no case reported sold higher than 3 1-2c per lb paid. In fact this price was paid only in one or two instances. It was said on the market to-day that a large number of ranch cattle were being shipped from the Northwest and Manitoba direct to Montreal, hence the lack of demand from that market. The usual buyers for Montreal took hardly anything to-day. The supply of butchers' cattle was not large, however, and on this account only were Tuesday's prices about maintained. Local butchers were not heavy buyers. Inferior stuff sold from 2 to 2 1-4c per lb; medium loads at 2 1-4 to 2 1-2c, and occasionally 2 5-8c per lb; and good to choice loads at \$3.12 to \$3.35 per cwt. A few picked lots brought 3 1-2c per lb. 14 loads of Northwest cattle (sold by H. and A. Maybe), averaging 1,000 lbs, at 8c per lb.

**Sheep and lambs.**—Receipts were again large. Heavy sheep were slightly easier, but demand was fair. Rams sold at 50c per lb and ewes and wethers, weighed off car, at \$3 to \$3.50 per cwt, and occasionally \$3.65. Lambs were plentiful and easy; one bunch of 6 lambs, averaging 83 lbs, sold at \$2.50 each. A bunch of 66 choicest sheep, averaging 140 lbs, sold at \$3.65 per cwt. Butchers' sheep were quoted nominally at \$2.50 each.

**Hogs.**—Demand was active at lower prices. Best bacon hogs, off car, sold at \$5.25 to \$5.30 per cwt, or about 10c lower than at the first of the week. Thick fats were unchanged at 5c. Store hogs sold at \$1.50 per cwt, but were not wanted. The decline in hogs for the week is about 20 to 25 per cent.—Empire, Sept. 21.

### The Tea Markets.

"Never," said a Montreal tea broker to The Grocer, "has the course of the tea market been more satisfactory to importers and dealers generally than it has been this fall. In fact the only drop of discontent in our cup of satisfaction is the difficulty we are experiencing in communicating with primary markets. The rush of work on the cables is so great that

it frequently takes days to get a message through where it was usually a question of hours. Aside from this the business done has been remarkably satisfactory, and now with light stocks buyers have in many cases been compelled to place their orders with importers at an advance in order to secure future delivery of supplies. All advices from primary centres point to values going higher. Some private letters that were furnished to The Grocer may be interesting in this connection: A Yokohama letter states: "Settlements have averaged 1,000 piculs daily, arrivals being delayed in transit owing to the Government monopolizing the railways in forwarding troops for transportation to Corea. Stocks are small and prices higher. Demand has been principally for goods from medium to fine which are very dear. The third crop is nearly exhausted and a few parcels of the fourth crop teas are being offered. Result of recent rains is being felt in country and arrivals from now on are expected to be better both in leaf and in cup. Total settlements to August 31, amounted to 202,644 piculs against 195,609 piculs for the same period in 1893. Quotations on that date were: Choice, \$31 to \$33; finest, \$26 to \$28; fine, \$23 to \$24; good, medium, \$19 to \$20; medium, \$17 to \$18; good common, \$14 to \$15, and common, \$12 to \$13."

### Ploughing by Steam

At the Lowe farm, near Morris, Manitoba, the combined steam plow and thresher invented by Mr. Stephenson is now at work. The plows are ten in number and are drawn by a traction engine. There is a threshing outfit attached, and as the machine goes along men throw sheaves of grain on it, the grain comes out at the sides and the straw is carried forward to feed the fires in the engine. It is described as a wonderful invention, and is capable of plowing two acres an hour.

### The First Strike on Record.

Livy, in his famous book, "The Annals," relates in the following suggestive words the story of a singular strike which occurred in Rome in the year 80) B. C., and was probably the first strike ever known.

That year occurred an event little worthy of being related, and which I would pass in silence had it not appeared as involving religion. The flute players, dissatisfied because the latest censors had forbidden them to take part at the banquet in Jupiter's Temple, according to the ancient custom, withdrew, every one of them, to Tibur, so that nobody was left at Rome to play during the sacrifices. This incident shocked the religious sentiment of the Senate, and the Senators sent messengers to invite the inhabitants of Tiber to make every effort in order that the players should be restored to the Romans. The Tiburtines, having promised not to neglect anything necessary for that purpose, caused the flute players to come to the place where the Senate met and exhorted them to go back to Rome. Seeing that they could not prevail upon them to do so, they employed a stratagem in keeping with their character. On the day of festival, under the pretext that music would increase the joy of the feast, every citizen invited the flute players individually to his house, and wine, of which people of that profession are usually fond, was given to them in such quantities that they fell into a deep sleep. They were then thrown into wagons and transported to Rome. They only became aware of what had happened on the day after, when dawn surprised them laying on the carts, which had been left in the forum. A large crowd had assembled, and they were induced to promise that they would remain at Rome. The right of attending the banquets was restored to these flute players.