

EVERY GROCER KNOWS

That in point of Quality there is absolute safety in buying and recommending to his customers our Brands of Coffees, feeling sure that the earned reputation which we enjoy of **Importing, Roasting and Packing the Finest Coffees** grown will be rigidly maintained regardless of market fluctuations.

OUR GUARANTEES FOR 1887.

To import the Choicest Coffees obtainable.
 To maintain the present High Grade of all our Special Brands of Coffee.
 To name Prices which shall be only a fair margin above actual cost of importation.
 To study our own interests by first studying the interests of our customers.
 To faithfully execute each guarantee as positively and honestly as our largely increasing trade will testify we have done in the past.

Agent for Manitoba and Northwest Territories :

JOHN B. MATHER, 42 McDermott Street, Winnipeg.

Respectfully yours, **CHASE & SANBORN.**

—BOSTON.—

—MONTREAL.—

—CHICAGO.—

Furs and Skins.

The January auction sale of furs and skins has been held in London. There were offerings of mink, muskrat, otter and skunk skins at this sale, for which reason it was called a partial sale. The January sales always are partial sales as distinguished from the March sales, which are called general sales, when all kinds of skins are offered. Until last year, at the partial sale only beavers and muskrats were offered. This year, in addition to the skins named, there were a few opossum skins sold, but this sale affects Boston very slightly, as scarcely any of these skins are sold here.

The prices obtained were about the same as those of the sale last June and were very low. Skins for a year or two have been coming forward in great abundance and this has had a tendency to weaken the prices. They dropped somewhat at last June's sale and at this year's were no better. The price for skunks dropped 20 per cent. owing to the very heavy supply. At this sale just ended, the offerings of skins were larger than ever. There was not a very active demand and skins were sold off at easy prices to the dealers.

The prospect is not particularly encouraging. With the further accumulation which is likely to result, prices must drop still lower. Another factor which will have a weakening effect on the market is the disturbance abroad. The war rumors, whether based on any foundation or not, cause a very conservative feeling. The feeling will last just as long as the uncertainty continues. If the European nations engage in

was the fur market will be demoralized. If no outbreak follows there will be a much stronger feeling. Dealers say that they would prefer either condition to the extreme conservatism with which the trade at present is supercharged. Probably the most potent factor in bringing about this unsatisfactory state of trade is the weather. There has been a long period of extremely mild weather in Europe.

Notwithstanding the disquieting war rumors, or the over supply of stock, had the season been particularly cold or sharp, the market would have been good and the trade brisk. As it is, the cold weather in America would not effect the market, as beaver and skunk skins are about the only varieties of skins that are used here to any extent. Skunk skins are dressed here and ten or fifteen per cent. of the annual production is sold directly to the furriers. About 50 per cent. of the production of beaver skins is used in the same way. Other American skins are sent to Europe, there dressed and imported to this country.—*Commercial Bulletin.*

General Notes.

The United States House has passed the bill indemnifying certain subjects of the Chinese Empire for losses sustained by the violence of a mob at Rock Springs, Wyoming Territory, in September, 1885. The House has also passed the Senate bill prohibiting the importation of opium into the United States by any subject of the Emperor of China, and the bill making it a misdemeanor subject to fine and imprisonment to willfully or through culpable negligence break a submarine cable.

A leading weekly circular gives the receipts of wheat and flour at the principle western points from July 28, to February 18, 1887, compared with the two previous years :

	1887.	1886.	1885.
Flour, bbls.	5,655,000	4,791,000	6,229,000
Wheat, bu.	85,729,000	46,603,000	85,540,000

In reference to the slaughtering of prices which has been practised by Quebec boot and shoe firms, we may mention instances which have recently come to light, in which it has been proved that sales of men's fox buff Balmoral boots have been sold at 25¢ per pair lower than manufacturers can turn them out for, letting alone profits on first cost. This kind of business must stop, if further trouble is to be prevented in the trade.—*Trade Bulletin.*

Between 1874 and 1884 the population of Newfoundland increased 35,961, or at the rate of 22 per cent. (The average increase of civilized nations is 18 per cent.) Of the whole population, 187,136 were born in Newfoundland, 1,908 in England, 1,837 in Ireland, 441 in Scotland, 1,338 in British Colonies, and 464 in foreign countries. In 1884, Newfoundland had 2,369 widowers, 5,729 widows, and 7,336 orphans. Of the population, 60,419 are engaged in catching and curing fish, 1,685 are farmers, 3,628 are merchants, 1,507 are lumbermen, 404 are miners, and 3,360 are engaged in miscellaneous occupations. Of the whole population, 89,660 can read and write; of the children, numbering 60,740, 34,375 are attending school.