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are selling quite well. Several cars of Navels and Floridas are expected this week. Apples are keeping fairly steady. McWilliam & Everest are this week issuing their Christmas circular, from advance sheets, of which we take the following quotations: Lemons, choice Verdelli, \$1.50 per box; new Messina, \$2.75 to \$3; oranges, Jamaica, \$3.25; Mexicans, \$2.50 to \$2.75; bananas, fancy, \$1.25 to \$1.75; Almeria grapes, \$6 to \$7 per keg; Canadian onions, 85 cents per bag; winter apples, \$2.50 per barrel; Canadian cranberries, \$2.50 per box; \$6.50 per barrel; long keepers, \$9.50 per barrel.

HARDWARE.—The only changes in our quotations are in wires. Barbed wires has advanced 10c. per 100 lbs. on stock, though no increase has been advised on shipments from factory. Other changes in wires have been only nominal, amounting merely to a rearrangement in prices after the slack season. Business is pretty good for this time of the year, though nothing of any great importance is being done. Travellers will be coming in in about a week for the holidays. Nothing of any moment calls for comment in the heavy metals line, prices remaining about the same. In the United States the advance recently made in the price of foundry and basic iron has been maintained. Bessemer pig has declined. Business in finished material, so far as New York is concerned, is of fair volume, but not so heavy as it was a little while back. The Scotch pig iron market, according to last reports to hand, was rather irregular, and was easily influenced, owing to the small stock of warrants available. Makers' iron was unchanged, but business with consumers remained stagnant.

HIDES AND SKINS.—Cured and inspected hides have dropped slightly, and if the present dull conditions in Chicago remain unchanged, still further decreases are to be looked for. During the coming week, large quantities of cattle will be killed for the Christmas market, and this, no doubt, will make itself felt in the hide trade. Sheepskins are fairly firm. Tallow remains about the same.

LEATHER.—Leather keeps to its former position, and the changes in price, recently made in some grades, are maintained. A moderately active business is being done.

WOOL.—A somewhat better tone is visible in the local market, with a little more business being transacted. This, we presume, is in sympathy with the slightly improved conditions across the line.

The bailiff is reported as being in possession of the stock of Lapointe & Co., grocers, Cornwall, Ont. The business was only begun in 1899; the following spring they offered 50 cents on the dollar, but eventually had to assign, and the business has since been carried on in Mrs. Lapointe's name—a family arrangement.

—The twenty-second annual report of the Fraser Institute and Library, in Montreal, has been published, and makes a satisfactory showing. During the year, 511 books had been given to the library, and 536 had been purchased, including 141 French. The expenses had been slightly within the revenue.

—Tasmania last year imported goods to the value of £1,769,324, compared with £1,650,017 during the previous year. Exports were £2,577,475, and £1,803,368, respectively. The increased exportation consisted chiefly of staple products of the colony, such as grain, wool, and more especially, hides and skins.

—Mr. Harrison Watson, of the Imperial Institute, deplores the fact that Canada was not represented at the recent Shoe and Leather Fair, in London. He says that while American goods in the leather line were very prominent, not a sign was to be noted of the existence of such a thing as Canadian leather. He thinks it a pity that our manufacturers should have lost such an excellent opportunity of showing British people at large what an excellent article it is, and what an important source of supply Canada may become.

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