

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—In heavy chemicals there is very little doing, and there is no change to note in prices. The English markets are also quiet, with just enough doing to maintain prices, with rather more firmness in *Salt Soda*, which is quoted at £3 10s. For fine drugs and chemicals there is a moderate demand; *Opium* shows signs of weakening, but the demand is still light. *Quinine* maintains its position, but shows some signs of breaking. The stock of *Quinine Barks* in London at the present time is large, and the price of *Quinine* cannot be kept up except by a combination of the makers. Exports of chemicals from Liverpool to Canada for June 1883: 9,738 tons, against 11,777 tons for June 1882, a falling off of 2,039 tons.

DRY GOODS.—Some leading houses appear to be busier than others, and report orders quite as numerous and as large as usual at this period, but, apart from exceptional circumstances, which have to be considered in relation to the cases above alluded to, it would appear that travellers are doing fairly well for the opening of the season, but that country merchants are generally buying cautiously, and show a disposition to defer placing orders for heavy woollens and winter goods until the harvest prospects become more certain; this is a good sign. It may be added that the crop prospects appear to be better than was anticipated a week or ten days ago, and country merchants are generally in hopeful spirits. Remittances reported fair; more or less renewing is expected at this time of year. The city retail trade is fairly active, for midsummer. There is some indication of more steadiness in the market for cotton fabrics, and in certain quarters values have advanced. There is every probability of a slight advance in our quotations next week.

FREIGHTS.—Charters for heavy grain have been taken at 2s 9d to Liverpool, 3s 3d to Glasgow, and 3s 6d to London and Bristol.

FLOUR AND GRAIN.—The telegraphers' strike has probably interfered more with the grain and produce trade than any other line of business. Montreal grain merchants report that there has been no quotable movement all week, and quotations for grain remain nominally unchanged. Corn is firm, in sympathy with Western markets, and quoted higher here, at 60c to 62c in bond. The supplies of *Flour* to this market during the week have been inadequate for the demand; stocks therefore running low, and prices advancing. The scarcity of the leading grades is felt more and more each day. Farmers being busy in the fields, and millers now shutting annual repairs, increased receipts not expected for some weeks to come. The English wheat markets have been steadily gaining in strength, under a good demand for both cargo and spot offerings; to-day's advices, however, are to the effect that a check had been placed on the upward course of the wheat market, while corn is firmly held at a further advance of 1d. The weakness of the American Wheat markets is adversely reflected in the European markets, and California Wheat off coast is reported 6d per qr. lower to-day. Imports in the United Kingdom during the week show a decrease of 85,000 brls. Flour and 35,000 qrs. Corn, and an increase of 70,000 qrs. Wheat.

FRUITS.—New Apples have been arriving freely from Chicago and Cincinnati; the best qualities command from \$4 to \$5, and inferior fruit has sold as low as \$1.50 per barrel. As a rule the quality of the early apples this year is poor, arrivals thus far being too much "spotted." Lemons continue in good demand at firm prices, stocks being light; Messina fruit is worth \$7 to \$7.50 in boxes, and chests bring \$9 to \$10 each. The season is almost over for

Oranges; choice stock is nominally quoted at \$13 per case. Californian Bartlett *Pears* rule steady at \$5 to \$6 per box, as to quality; Californian *Plums* quoted at \$4 to \$4.50 per box. The first shipment of *Peaches* from New York arrived yesterday, and were selling at \$4 per crate. *Strauberrys* sold yesterday at 10c per quart for good fruit, but season nearly over. *Raspberries* arriving freely and selling readily at 70c to 80c per pail or bucket. There is not much movement in small fruits. *Cherries* in fair demand, at \$1.50 per basket; *Gooseberries* and *Currants*, red and white, worth 50c to \$1 per basket, as to quality. *Tomatoes* arriving freely from Chicago and the West; and selling at \$1 per box. The first shipment of Spanish *Onions* arrived yesterday; quoted at \$5 per case. Special advices from the chief points in the peach-growing sections of Delaware and Maryland state that, while the crop this year will be somewhat smaller than last year, the fruit will be of much finer quality.

GROCERIES.—*Sugars.*—Market active for Refined, at steady prices. No material change to report for the week. In West India Grocery *Sugars* business continues small. *Teas.*—No particular activity, markets not specially changed here. There is an absence of speculative demand. *Molasses.*—The tone is rather slackened, but only slight concessions are disposed to be made, offers under 20c the Wine Gallon have been lately refused at Barbadoes. *Syrups* unchanged. *Rice* quiet. *Coffees.*—Moderate business at prices for some time current. *Spices.*—Pepper keeps up, also Ginger. Pimento dull. Cassia, Cloves, Nutmegs remain as last week. *Fruits.*—Valencia Raisin crop is expected still to be very large, but a little later than usual. Business at the moment here is moderate; choice Fruit is firm, inferior neglected. Malaga raisins dull. Currants steady. Prunes, Figs, Sultanias dull. Almonds firm at advance; for Tarragonas 16c is now talked of; Filberts and Walnuts dull.

HARDWARE AND IRON.—Payments reported fair, but the general hardware trade is quiet in both city and country, many of the merchants taking advantage of the dull season for a holiday. Orders per travellers are therefore rather light. Another cause is that good customers are unwilling to unnecessarily increase their responsibilities until after harvest, and the inevitable result of this action, which threatens to become more general, will be that a large proportion of the business will be done later in the season. *Bar Iron* is moving off steadily at \$1.90 to \$1.95 for large lots, and \$2 for small quantities. In the absence of the new printed price-list for *Cut Nails*, which was not yet ready, we inadvertently quoted the cash prices in our revised list last week; readers will note by referring to the table on another page that manufacturers have advanced prices to a basis of \$3 for the first named cut, less 10 per cent. for net cash, 30 days. *Canada Plates* very firm, with an advance in England of 5s. per ton advised, and even at the advanced figures immediate acceptance of orders is demanded; in this market they are quoted at \$3.10 to \$3.25, as to brand. About 500 boxes of *Thistles* have been sold here the past week. *Ingot Tin* has advanced in this market to 25c per lb.; *Copper* unchanged. *Tin Plates* also firm but unaltered. The market for *Pig Iron* remains firm but quiet; no concessions are obtainable in Great Britain, and with present high freight rates lower prices here do not seem likely, for some time, at least, notwithstanding that the demand is restricted to present legitimate wants. During the week some 500 tons chief *Culder* have been sold by Montreal dealers at from about \$20.50 to \$21 per tone.

HIDES AND SKINS.—Owing to the keen competition of a couple of well-known buyers, prices to butchers for native *Hides* have been advanced 1c per lb., 8c, 7c, and 6c being now paid for Nos. 1, 2 and 3 respectively. Inspected hides command 1c to 1c advance on these prices.

Offerings are light, as usual at this period, but arrivals from Ontario the past week have been free, and sales have been made here at 9c to 9½c for No. 1, and 8c to 8½c for No. 2 Western States, Buff hides rule steady at 9½c to 9¾c, and dry salted hides in fair demand at 17½c for No. 1, and 15½c for No. 2. *Lambskins* are coming forward rather freely now, and dealers are endeavoring to put the price down to 40c each, as it is stated that they can be bought as cheaply in the States as here, at present rates. Clips unchanged, worth 45c to 50c each.

LEATHER.—The market has been utterly devoid of any activity all week, and midsummer dullness is the leading feature. Manufacturers have not yet commenced to lay in large supplies. Stocks of prime *Sole* are limited, but ordinary qualities are plentiful, and prices easy and unchanged. There has been a fair demand for *Upper*, about the only description moving, at quotations; a lot of 250 sides was reported sold yesterday. A large lot of French *Calf* was disposed of on p.t. *Buff* and *Pebbled* meet with some enquiry, at unchanged values.

LUMBER.—Quiet, but steady sales in small lots. Stocks are plentiful and full, except seasoned hard woods, which are scarce and in demand. About half of the season's cut of pine is sold, and manufacturers are in a good position to hold up prices on the balance. Deals are selling slowly but some sales have been made at last year's prices. Mr. O. Latour, just returned from the Upper Ottawa, states that the lumbering business is progressing well this season. Owing to the water being so high, there was no trouble this spring in driving the timber in the main streams. The cut of square timber last winter was a very large one, and numerous rafts are now on their way to Quebec, and will reach that market earlier this year than for many seasons past. The demand for square timber is quiet as yet, but the market, it is expected, will revive in the Fall. Mr. Latour thinks that not so much square timber will be cut in the limits during the next season as during the past winter.

OILS.—The market for *Linseed* rules dull, at unchanged prices. We are credibly informed that a large quantity of so-called boiled *Linseed* has been imported and sold in Montreal at a lower figure than pure *Linseed* oil could be sold for; it has been discovered that this oil is adulterated and buyers would do well to exercise careful scrutiny. Adulterated oil of this description cannot be used except at serious loss to the trade; it dries quickly, but softens with heat and remains "tacky." *Turpentine* is a shade easier, selling now at 58c to 60c; demand light and sales small.

PROVISIONS.—Liverpool market was cabled steady yesterday without change. Chicago was much firmer, *Pork* advancing 27½c to 32½c. per brl., and closing strong, and *Lard*, of which heavy shipments have been made during the week, advanced 10c to 12½c per 100 lbs. The Chicago hog market was also firm, with receipts 15,000 and shipments only 4,000. The uncertainty surrounding the position in Chicago has tended to induce buyers here to hold off, and the demand for hog products during the week has been confined to the local trade, consequently orders were small. Prices in Chicago have fluctuated within a range of from 25c to 30c but at the close rule about as quoted last week; in this market Western *Mess Pork* is selling at \$19 to \$19.50. Stocks of Canadian Short Cut being about exhausted the quotation of \$22 is merely nominal. *Lard* has been in fair local request, at 12½c to 12¾c for Western. *Hams* scarce, and in moderate demand at 14½c to 15½c, as to size of lot. *Bacon* quoted at 14c, but not much movement in it. Receipts of *Eggs* this week have been rather more liberal, and fresh stock is quoted at 16½c to 17c, the bulk of sales having been at