

shoemaker, Aylesford, assigned to T. R. Harris, in trust for benefit of creditors, liabilities reported about \$4500, assets nearly \$2300; Clifford Heskin, furniture, Halifax, reported left the city; A. Molougall & Son, Halifax, wholesale grocers and liquors, sold out wholesale grocery business; Acadia Organ Co., manufacturers organs, Bridgetown, dissolved, E. P. Raymond retires, A. E. Sulis continues under the old name.

Dry Goods.—A fair business for the season is reported in general dry goods, chiefly in sorting up orders, as regards the wholesale trade. Retailers express themselves as satisfied with the volume of business accomplished. In short the dry goods trade in this city and province, though just now not rushing, is fair and affords reasonable but not large profits to those engaged in it. West of us the situation may be regarded as upon the whole improving. The *Montreal Trade Bulletin*, reviewing the dry goods position in its last issue, says:—"Prices however in some lines are still being cut most frightfully, especially in flannels, certain kinds of grey having been cut down 15 to 20 per cent. in order to place orders, according to the statement of a traveller for one of our largest houses. In cotton goods a most demoralizing state of affairs is said to exist, as the great aim of some of the large mills seems to be a determination to sell below card rates. There can be no doubt that the Canada Cotton Company has been an incorrigible sinner in this respect, although we learn that it has seen the error of its way and will reform. Quite a number of country failures have taken place recently, many of which have turned out the veriest wrecks. Still the outlook for trade is not as gloomy as some of our merchants try to make out, as remittances have improved and greater confidence appears to be manifested."

IRON, HARDWARE, AND METALS.—The firm tone previously noted in the iron and hardware trades has been fully maintained with prices at the full level. Stocks carried in Canada are reported to be light which is probably largely due to the increased carrying charges arising from higher duties. The indications are that prices will rule higher during the coming winter. Warrants in Glasgow are cabled at 41s. 8d. London cables are:—spot tin £102 12s. 6d.; three months £103; market dull. Chili bars, spot £78 7s. 6d.; futures £78 15s., G. M. B. copper £78 2s. 6d.; market firm. Soft Spanish lead £13 12s. 6d.

BREADSTUFFS.—The demand for flour has been fair and the market more active with a reported larger volume of business. The feeling has been firm at unchanged values. Beerbohm's cable says:—"Cargoes off coast—wheat and corn quiet but steady; do. on passage and for immediate shipment, wheat and corn firm with little movement. California wheat off coast 42s. 3d.; promptly to be shipped 42s. 6d. Liverpool, red American spring wheat 8s. 2½d.; Minnesota first bakers' flour 29s., English country markets firmer. Wheat in Paris slow at 47s. 6d. November. Flour in Paris slow at 39s. 9d. November. At Antwerp spot wheat quiet." In Chicago wheat fluctuated for a time, but the final result at latest reports was a slight advance in figures and quotations were \$1.15½ December, \$1.15½ January, \$1.15½ May. Corn was firmer and moved up a little to 41½c. November, 39½c. December, 38½c. May. Oats have been quiet and steady at 24½c. November, 23½c. December, 29½c. May. In New York one report says that there has been a strong tone to the wheat market, and prices advanced 1½c. to 2c. to \$1 11½ November, \$1.13½ December, \$1.18½ May. Corn was firmer and advanced to 49½c. November, 50½c. December, 47½c. May. Oats were 30½c. November, 31½c. December, 32½c. January. Another report says:—"The alleged inherent weakness of the speculative market for wheat is manifesting itself in the dragging condition of business and the downward (in the main) course of prices. New York is looking on with curiosity rather than with a partnership interest as to the speculative relations in Chicago, while the seaboard markets are unable to take a step as to cash wheat. The export bulletin has not had a scratch upon it for a week and a half at New York, and still the outlook for business with foreign countries is as remote as ever. The stuff don't move. Exporters have been hit hard in the contract market this year, and are very cautious how they short the market. The locals run at first loss. The country bulls have enough bought to make a 16c break if they commenced to unload. New York believes some such break is not far off. The break in corn does not help wheat any. Trading here is very light."

Provisions.—The local demand for provisions has been good, and the market active with a considerable volume of business in a jobbing way. The demand for pork has been as good as could be expected, and sales were freely made at firm prices. For lard the demand was good, and prices were firmly maintained. The demand for hams and bacon was smaller than was expected, and did not keep pace with that for other provisions. In the Liverpool provision market for bacon a weaker feeling prevailed, and prices declined 6d. to 46s. to 47s. 6d. Pork was steady at 78s. 9d. Lard was weaker, and fell off 3d. to 46s. Tallow remains unchanged at 28s. 6d. The Chicago provision market was active but weaker, and pork declined 2½c. to 15c., quotations being at \$14.40 December and January, and \$14.72½ for May. Lard was also weaker, and fell off 5c. to 12½c. to \$8.10 December, \$8 12½ January, \$8 20 May. There was no change in the hog market.

BUTTER.—The market for butter has continued to be quiet under merely a good consumptive demand for really good qualities. We note that in Montreal and Toronto prices have taken a sudden upward turn, which is said to be in consequence of a demand by shippers, who want to send off the goods that they can to England before the season of navigation closes. If this statement is true, the movement can be only ephemeral, and figures will soon revert to their former level.

CHEESE.—Though there has been no specific change in the cheese market, the tone is firm, with no disposition on the part of holders to sell, except at full prices. The reports of the short October make throughout Canada and the United States are being confirmed, and many factories show a heavy shrinkage. The cable is unchanged at 51s. A year ago it was 56s. 6d.

APPLES.—Cables from London report the market very bad, owing to supplies largely exceeding the demand. Still it is thought that the present

glut in England will only be temporary, and that as soon as the poor offerings of fall stock are worked off, winter kinds will meet with better enquiry.

SUGAR has weakened a little of late, and refineries are reported to be willing to shade prices for round lots. London quotes cane steady at 16s. 4½d. for Java, with beet dull and lower at 14s. 1½d.

TEA.—The market has been fairly active and steady, and the undertone is firm, and holders are confident in the future of the market, and unwilling to accept bids below asking rates.

FISH OILS.—Our reports on fish oils are:—Montreal, Oct. 30.—"The market continues to gain strength in cod oil, sales being reported at 38c to 39c. for Newfoundland, with holders now asking 40c. Gaspe is quoted at 38c. to 39c., and Halifax at 36c. to 37½c. Steam refined seal oil is firm at 47½c., pale seal ordinary at 42½c., and straw at 37c. Cod liver oil, slow sale at 60c. to 70c." Gloucester, Mass., October 30.—"We quote cod oil 30 to 32 cts. per gal.; medicine oil 60 cts.; blackfish oil 55 cts."

FISH.—This week opened with an improved enquiry for nearly all kinds of fish, and prices are much firmer, though no actual advance in figures has been accomplished, except in regard to dry fish, where they have improved. The scarcity of hard shore cod has caused the value of Bank to advance 10c. to 15c. There is also a demand for split herring, of a grade somewhat cheaper than those taken on our own shores. Hake and haddock remain stationary, but, if the advance in other lines is sustained, these fish must follow them. We may remark here that the present improvement in the tone of the market is not so much due to any unusual demand for fish, but nearly altogether to the fact that the catch of herring, mackerel, cod, hake, haddock, etc., has been far smaller than for some years past. Our outside advices are as follows:—Montreal, October 30.—"Labrador herring are in good demand, with sales at \$5.12½ to \$5.25, but holders are now asking \$5.50 for round lots. We quote Labrador \$5 50, and shore herring \$5.25. Dry cod steady at \$4.75 to \$5 per quintal, and green cod at about the same figures per bbl. Labrador salmon, \$14 to \$15 per bbl." Gloucester, Mass., October 30.—"The market remains active, with unfavorable weather for curing cod, but little difficulty in filling orders. We quote large Georges codfish at \$4.75 to \$4.87½ per qtl., and small at \$4.25 to \$4.37½. Bank, \$4 25 and \$4. Shore, \$4.50 and \$4.12½ for large and small. Dry Bank, \$5 and \$4.50. Cured cusk at \$3.50 per qtl.; hake, \$2 30; haddock, \$3.25; heavy salted pollock, \$2.50; and English cured do., \$3 per qtl. Labrador herring, \$6 per bbl.; medium split, \$5 50; Newfoundland do., \$6; Nova Scotia do., \$6 75; Eastport, \$5; round Shore, \$3.50; pickled codfish, \$5.50; haddock, \$4.50; halibut heads, \$3, tongues, \$7; sounds, \$12; tongues and sounds, \$10; alewives, \$5; trout, \$14 50." Boston, October 30.—"The catch of mackerel up to date has been only 35,200 barrels. Most of the vessels coming in now haul up, and the fishing season is virtually over. Recent sales of shore mackerel have been at \$19 to \$19.50 for small, and \$27 for large, the latter of superior quality. P. E. Island uncured, \$24 for good lots late caught; No 2's \$23; No 1's \$25; and extra No 1's \$26 to \$28, the latter price for fish running 160 or less to the barrel. Late caught Nova Scotia mackerel are selling at the same price as the Island's. We hear of 1,000 bbls. on the way from Ireland. Some good catches of mackerel have been made there lately, and the season will last till the middle of December. The fish are large and fat, but are poorly taken care of, a good many soft and rusty fish being among them. We think mackerel are about as high as they will go. Large split herring, \$6.50 to \$6.75. Dry Bank codfish are selling at \$4.50 to \$5 for small and large." Havana, Nov. 4 (by cable via New York).—"Codfish, per 100 lbs., \$7; haddock, do., \$6; hake, do., \$5 75. Market decidedly improved." St. John's, Antigua, October 9.—"The market is barely supplied with dry and pickled fish. All the old stock has been cleared off, and dealers must pay fair prices for next direct arrival. We value cod at \$18, haddock \$14, hake \$12, split herrings \$4.75, No 3 mackerel \$8.50, alewives \$6, smoked herrings 18c. per box."

For Market Quotations, see page 5.

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