

sold at 12½c. per lb. In the local market offerings of export cattle have been light; one load averaging 1375 lbs. was purchased Tuesday at 4½c. to 5c. per lb. Butchers' cattle are in light supply and fair demand at 3c. to 4c. per lb. as to quality. Milch cows are steady. Sheep for export nominal. Lambs quiet at \$3.25 to \$3.50 per head for choice and \$3.75 per head for extra. Mixed bunches of sheep and lambs have sold at \$3.25 to \$3.50 per head. Hogs firmer, with stores scarce and wanted at 4c. to 4½c. per lb.; light fat in good demand at 4c. to 4½c. per lb.; heavy at 3¾c. The season's business in the local market has been considerably in advance of that of the past two years. The receipts of cattle show an increase of 15,269 as compared with 1884 and 22,690 as compared with 1883. Sheep and lambs number 3,612 more than 1884 and 15,013 greater than 1883. Hogs have increased 4,609 over 1884 and 7,093 over 1883.

LEATHER.—Is quiet and without change. The movement is confined chiefly to small country orders. Prices are firm and stocks light, most houses are busy stock-taking. An improvement is looked for early in the new year.

PETROLEUM.—Continues steady and unchanged at the recent advance. Trade is quiet. Canadian is selling at 18½c. for single bbls. and 18c. for lots of five bbls. and upwards; and carbon safety at 20c. In American oils prime white is quoted at 24c. and water white at 27c.

PROVISIONS.—There has been no improvement in butter during the week. Medium and inferior qualities have been offered freely from the country, but refused steadily in the city; shipping lots with white thrown out have been readily obtainable at 10c. Selections of dairy have continued to sell well at 15c. to 16c.; all available being still wanted. Rolls have been offered more freely and selling less readily; prices vary from 12c. to 14c. for good to choice, and 10c. for medium. Cheese quiet and unchanged at 9c. to 9½c. for choice, and 7c. to 8c. for poor to medium in small lots. Eggs seem rather unsettled, closing quiet at about 19c. for round lots of strictly fresh, and 16c. to 17c. for salted. Pork, small lots have continued to sell slowly at \$13.50. Bacon, offerings have been on the increase, and prices seem to have been rather easy; long-clear in lots of 100 sides could probably have been bought at 6½c., and small lots have been sold slowly at 6¾c. to 7c.; Cumberland inactive and prices nominal; rolls have sold fairly well at 8½c. to 9c., and bellies at 10c. to 11c. Hams have continued in fair demand and steady at 11c. to 11½c.; the former price for lots not under fifty. Lard, less demand has been heard, but prices have been unchanged at 9c. to 9½c., the latter for small lots of pails. Hogs were scarce and advancing last week but at close were offered more freely with prices easier, \$5.25 being the best bid, and it unlikely to be maintained with damp weather. Dried Apples, trade-lots have sold in a few cases at 4c. and dealers have been selling barrelled in small lots at 4½ to 5c. Hops, nothing whatever doing and prices purely nominal.

SALT.—Unchanged; Liverpool coarse offered in ear-lots to arrive at 65c. but no sales reported; fine selling slowly at \$1.45, and dairy in 50 lb. bags at 40c., Canadian quiet at 80c. per barrel by the car-lot and 85 to 90c. for small lots.

Wool.—Scarcely any fleece now offered but a few small lots have sold usually at about 21c. Super has changed hands to some extent at 22c., and extra at 26c., at which prices more would have been taken. Pulled combing still inactive.

BRITISH MARKETS.

LONDON, Dec. 29.

Henderson & Glass, of Liverpool and Birmingham, (George Kay, Montreal agent), report, in their circular of 19th December, as follows:—Iron.—We have nothing new to report regarding the Malleable iron trade. The works are preparing to shut down for the holidays, so that there will be very little moving after next week till the New Year. Tin rather easier, and not in large demand. Tin Plates participate in the general dullness at this season of the year. Makers hold fairly to their prices, being supported by the cessation of work every fourth week. Copper, quiet, with little doing. Sheets reduced yesterday (18th) £2 per ton. Pig Lead,



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fairly steady at our quotations. Linseed oil has declined 1/6 to 1/9 per cwt. during past month.

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Millers offering kindly send us samples, with lowest quotations. We have no patent flours in stock, and should be pleased to receive a few cars on consignment; trade improving slowly.

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Welland Canal Enlargement.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

Sealed tenders addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tender for the Welland Canal," will be received at this office until the arrival of the Eastern and Western mails on MONDAY, the 25th day of JANUARY next (1886), for raising the walls of the locks, weirs, &c., and increasing the height of the banks of the part of the Welland Canal between Port Dalhousie and Thorold, and for deepening the Summit level between Thorold and Ramey's Bend, near Humberston.

The works, throughout, will be let in sections. Maps of the several localities, together with plans and descriptive specifications, can be seen at this office on and after MONDAY, the 11th day of JANUARY next (1886), where printed forms of tender can be obtained. A like class of information relative to the works north of Allanburg will be furnished at the Resident Engineer's Office, Thorold; and for works south of Allanburg, plans, specifications, &c., may be seen at the Resident Engineer's Office, Welland.

Contractors are requested to bear in mind that tenders will not be considered unless made strictly in accordance with the printed forms, and, in the case of firms, except there are attached to the actual signatures, the nature of the occupation and place of residence of each member of the same; and further, an accepted bank cheque for the sum of Two Thousand Dollars or more, according to the extent of the work on the section—must accompany the respective tenders, which sum shall be forfeited if the party tendering declines entering into contract for the works, at the rates stated in the offer submitted.

The amount required in each case will be stated on the form of tender.

The cheque or money thus sent in will be returned to the respective parties whose tenders are not accepted.

This Department does not, however, bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,

A. P. BRADLEY,

Secretary.

Department of Railways and Canals,
Ottawa, 9th December, 1885.

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