

ings being at about 96. Money is steady at former rates.

ASHES.—Prices have fallen off a point since last report; receipts are improving slightly. The higher prices inducing makers to send their ashes forward, but trade in England is not encouraging, and there is really nothing to maintain prices at comparatively high prices of last week. We quote No. pots at \$4.20; seconds \$3.50 to \$3.55; no transactions in pearls. Shipments of ten brls. to the United States and 57 brls. to France, comprise the total shipments since the 1st January.

DRY GOODS.—The very cold weather that has been generally prevalent for the past fortnight, has helped the sale of fall stocks in the country considerably, and travellers report storekeepers as being in pretty good spirits. Most houses acknowledge the receipt of a fair proportion of orders. While some profess to discern a position on the part of customers to buy only moderately at the present, deferring the bulk of their spring orders till later, a feeling which is rather to be commended than otherwise. Collections are moderately good. There is nothing new in prices; steadiness prevails in cottons, and the advance noted last week in domestics ginghams and ducks is confirmed.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—Business is improving a little though not yet active. There is steadiness in values in all lines: opium, morphia, glycerine and iodine are again firmer if anything and liable to further advance. We quote:—Sal Soda 90 to \$1.00; Bi-Carb Soda, \$2.50 to \$2.60; Soda Ash, per 100 lbs., \$1.65 to \$1.75; Bichromate of Potash, per 100 lbs., \$8 to \$10.00; Borax, refined, 9 to 10c.; Cream Tartar crystals, 31 to 33c.; do. ground, 35 to 36c.; Tartaric Acid crystal 55 to 60c.; do. powder, 60 to 65c.; Citric Acid, 75 to 80c.; Caustic Soda, white, \$2.40 to \$2.60; Sugar of Lead, 9 to 11c.; Bleaching Powder, \$2.50 to \$2.75, according to lot; Alum, \$1.60 to \$1.65; Copperas, per 100 lbs., \$1.00; Flowers Sulphur, per 100 lbs., \$2.50 to \$3; Roll Sulphur, \$2.00 to \$2.25; Sulphate of Copper, \$4.50 to \$5.00; Epsom Salts, \$1.25 to \$1.40; Saltpetre \$9.00 to \$9.50; American Quinine, 70 to 75c.; Howard's Quinine, 85 to 90c.; Opium, \$3.25 to \$3.75; Morphia, \$1.60 to \$1.75; Gum Arabic sorts, 70 to 80c.; White, \$1 to \$1.25. Carbolic Acid, 45 to 60c.; Iodide Potassium, \$4.50 to \$5.00 per lb.; Iodine, \$5.50 to \$6.00; Iodoform \$7.50 to \$8.00. Prices for essentials oils are: Oil lemon \$2.00 to \$3.00; oil bergamot \$3.25 to \$3.75; Orange, \$3.50.

FISH.—Trading in this line is still of a moderate character and probably will be for several weeks yet; the principal demand is for green cod. We quote:—Green cod \$2.75 to \$4.00; dry cod \$2.75 to \$3.00; Labrador herrings \$5.25 to \$5.50; Cape Breton \$5.50 to \$5.75, stocks of herrings are not very large and it is not improbable that prices will firm up when the Lenten demand sets in. North Shore Salmon, No. 1, \$14 to \$44.50; No. 2, \$13.50; British Columbia Salmon, \$13.50.

FURS.—Receipts are not very free as yet, and principally consist of red fox and fisher. Prices are unchanged, but the tendency is rather towards weakness.

The following were the important of furs received by the Hudson Bay Company in London on Dec. 2nd, 1886 with comparison with 1885 and 1884:—

	1886.	1885.	1884.
Bear	9,294	8,177	10,467
Beaver	73,215	102,614	119,547
Fisher	4,109	4,022	4,164
Red Fox	11,145	11,356	9,985
Lynx	66,084	51,387	27,091
Marten	39,891	78,856	78,747
Mink	60,007	76,374	110,603
Muskrat	374,377	347,046	816,999
Otter	8,004	10,841	12,237
Skunk	10,652	21,189	12,622

The most striking feature of the above table is the marked increase in the receipts of lynx, the figures for '86 being considerably more than double those of '84, a circumstance which even those longest in the trade cannot account for, and it is only reasonable to anticipate that prices in this line will be easier. *Per contra* the receipts of beaver, marten and skunk show a material decrease. The furs appearing above as received last year will mostly be offered at the coming sales, as well as the Lampson collection. We quote:—Beaver \$3.50 to \$4.50; bear \$12.00 to \$15.00;

cub do. \$5 to \$6; fisher \$5 to \$6; fox, red, \$1 to \$1.10; fox cross, \$2.00; lynx, \$2 to \$3.50; marten, \$1.00 to \$1.25; mink, \$1 to \$1.25; muskrat, 10 to 12c.; raccoon 40 to 60c.; skunk 40 to 80c. as to quality: otter, \$8 to \$18.

HIDES AND SKINS.—There is not much new in these lines, unless it be that values are a little easier, and probably the bulk of green butchers' hides are now being bought at 8c.; cured No. 1, 8½ to 9c. Toronto inspected have sold at 9 to 9½c.; calfskins unchanged; sheepskins are bringing rather better prices, and we quote 90c. to \$1.05.

LEATHER AND SHOES.—Boot and shoe orders are coming in well and at better prices. The factories are getting into full swing again after the prolonged holiday making of the operatives, and there is a freer enquiry for leather, prices being steady at quotations, with no excess of stock. There is still a satisfactory outlet in England for any surplus splits. We quote:—Spanish sole, B. A. No. 1, 24 to 26c.; do. No. 1, B. A., 20 to 23c.; No. 1 Ordinary Spanish, 21 to 23c.; No. 2 do., 19 to 31c.; No. 1 China, 22 to 23c.; No. 2, 21 to 22c.; ditto. Buffalo Sole No. 1, 21 to 22c.; ditto. No. 2, 19½ to 21c.; Hemlock Slaughter, No. 1, 25 to 29c.; oak sole, 42 to 48c.; Waxed Upper, light and medium, 33 to 38c.; ditto. heavy 32 to 36c.; Grained 34 to 37c.; Scotch grained 36 to 40c.; Splits large 22 to 28c.; ditto. 16 to 24c.; Calf splits, 18 to 32c.; Calfskins, (35 to 46 lbs.), 70 to 80c.; Imitation French Calf, skins 80 to 85c.; Russet Sheepskins Linings, 30 to 40c.; Harness 24 to 33c.; Buffed Cow, 13 to 16c.; Pebbled Cow, 11 to 15½c.; Rough 23 to 28c.; Russet and Bridle, 54 to 55c.

GROCERIES.—The week shows an improvement in business in this line; travellers are all out and sending in a very fair amount of business, while there is also a better city demand to be noted. All lines of teas are very firm; telegrams have been received from New York asking that samples of all available first-crop Japans be forwarded there, which doubtless means that sales will result, reducing stocks here, and raising prices to the New York market which is considerably above ours. From London come cables cancelling quotations of samples of greens now on the way out, as the goods have all been sold, and reports of late auction sales of blacks show an advance of a halfpenny a pound all around. Coffees also show much firmness as last week noted. Sugars are probably easier a point, the refinery quoting 5 15-16c. for fair lots of granulated, while some hold that 5½c. would bring round lots; yellows 4½ to 5½c.; molasses has sold in moderate lots at 37½c. for Barbadoes, while 40c. is asked; syrups show another advance of one-eighth of a cent a pound. Fruit unchanged at 5½ to 6½c. for regular grades of both Valencia raisins and currants; Elme raisins not much dealt in this year, we hear of one or two transactions at 6c.; Sultanias 6½ to 7½c. There have been no further receipts of nuts, stocks are very low and prices high. Nothing new in other lines.

METALS AND HARDWARE.—Business has not improved materially, and the feature of the moment is the continued advance in the Glasgow iron market. Warrants, since last writing ran up to 46/6d., and are now cabled at 45/10d., while a late cable would indicate the cost of Summerlee laid down here at \$19.50 or over. Local quotations are still unchanged as before. Canada plates are firmer again, holders talking \$2.60 to \$2.75; the Liverpool market for tinplates is very firm, with large orders reported for future delivery; cokes show an advance of a shilling a box since a month ago. Other lines present no novel features. We quote:—Summerlee and Langloan \$19 to \$19.50 Gartsherrie, \$18.50 to \$19.00;

Coltness, \$19.00 to \$19.50; Shott, \$17.50 to \$18.00; Eglington and Dalmellington, \$16.50; Calder, \$17.50 to \$18.00; Carnbroe, \$17.00 to \$17.50; Hematite, \$20; Siemens, No. 1, \$18.50 to \$19.00; Bar Iron, \$1.60 to \$1.65; Best Refined, \$1.85; Siemens Bar, \$2.10; Canada Plates, Blaina, \$2.60; Penn and Pontypool, none here. Tin Plates, Bradley Charcoal, \$5.75 to \$6.00; Charcoal I. C., \$4.25 to \$4.75; do. I.X., \$5.50 to \$6.00; Coke I. C., \$3.75 to \$4.00; Galvanized sheets, No. 28, 5c. to 7c., according to brand; Tinned sheets, coke, No. 24, 6½c.; No. 26, 7c., the usual extra for large sizes. Hoops and bands, per 100 lbs., \$2.00; Boiler Plate, per 100 lbs., \$2.25; Staffordshire, \$2.25 to \$2.50; Common Sheet iron, \$2.00; Steel Boiler Plate, \$2.50 to \$2.75; heads, \$4.00; Russian Sheet Iron, 10 to 11c. Lead, per 100 lbs.—Pig, \$3.75 to \$4.00; Sheet, \$4.25 to \$4.50; Shot, \$6.00 to \$6.50; best cast steel 11 to 13c., firm; Spring, \$2.75 to \$3.00; Tire, \$2.54 to \$2.75; Sleigh shoe, \$2.00 to

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