

opinion just now is against buying any heavy goods; and the market for spring goods has not opened yet. The present week will be probably the quietest that we have known. The stock market has been usually active in transactions, but prices have been declining, and the market is decidedly weak. This observation is made of bank stocks. Other securities, loan companies and other stocks have been extremely quiet, and nominal values are nearly unchanged. In bank stocks Montreal was weak. Ontario active but remained steady. Toronto was steady, with few sales. Merchants' quiet and weak. Commerce was active and steady. Imperial inactive with slight change. Federal active and lower. Dominion quieter than for some time, but prices are steady. Standard was moderately active and prices steady. Canada Permanent sold 140 shares at 230 $\frac{1}{2}$  and 232 $\frac{1}{2}$  ex-div; London and Canadian sold 2,000 at 133; and Farmers' Loan sold a few shares at 125. The money market is unchanged. The reports from banks are various. With some, payments on notes are fair; in other cases there are complaints. Rates on call loans are  $\frac{7}{8}$  to 8 per cent. Good commercial paper is discounted at 7 per cent. Drafts on New York are at  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  between banks.

The following table shows the closing bids on the Stock Exchange compared with last Thursday.

Banks.	Bid Dec. 21.	Bid Dec. 28.	Loan Cos.	Bid Dec. 21.	Bid Dec. 28.
Montreal.	108 $\frac{1}{2}$	109	Can. Permanent	237 $\frac{1}{2}$	230
Toronto.	170	172	Freehold.	.....	.....
Ontario.	111	110 $\frac{1}{2}$	Western Can.	194	190
Merchants	119	120	Wldg. & Loan.	103 $\frac{1}{2}$	104 $\frac{1}{2}$
Commerce.	134	131 $\frac{1}{2}$	Imp. Savings.	.....	106
Dominion	194 $\frac{1}{2}$	195	Farmers' Loan.	.....	.....
Hamilton	113 $\frac{1}{2}$	111	Land. & Can'dn	132 $\frac{1}{2}$	139
Standard.	116 $\frac{1}{2}$	113 $\frac{1}{2}$	Huron & Erie.	.....	.....
Federal.	155 $\frac{1}{2}$	150 $\frac{1}{2}$	Dom. Savings.	.....	.....
Imperial	140	135 $\frac{1}{2}$	Ontario Loan.	125	122
Molson's	.....	.....	Hamilton Prov.	.....	.....

**FREIGHTS.**—Though rates from Toronto to Liverpool via Grand Trunk to Portland are not changed: flour, per barrel, 98c, bags 44c; beef and pork, bbls, 50c; meats 50c; tallow 68c; butter and cheese 85c; poultry \$1.03.

**PETROLEUM.**—The trade is steady, with a good demand. Prices are unchanged. Canadian sells at 21c for single barrels; 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ c for five barrel lots and 20c for larger quantities. American unchanged at 26c for prime and 32c for water white.

**FURS.**—Prices are steady, but the demand is not active. Manufacturers are not pressing. Quoted: Muskrat 10c; Mink \$1; Otter \$10; Beaver \$2.25 per lb; Raccoon 70c; Fisher \$7; Fox, red, \$1.40; Silver \$25 to \$50; Bear \$8 to \$10; Marten \$1.

**FUEL.**—Prices are weaker. Supplies here are large. The outlook at the mines warrants the belief that prices will be lower. Rate for all anthracite general at \$6.50; No. 2 stove is sold in some yards at \$5.50. Wood is \$5.50 to \$6 per cord.

**LIVE STOCK TRADE.**—The markets here have become completely demoralized. After the butchers had in their Christmas supply there has been a complete stoppage. At the two last market days there were only a few ordinary cattle and other beasts. All the cattle that were in condition for the market were brought in for the Christmas market. Prices at these recent markets were for ordinary butchers' 4c to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; inferior 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. Sheep 5c per lb; lambs \$4.50 to \$5 a head. Calves \$6 to \$8. Fat hogs have been offering pretty freely at \$5.75 to \$6.25 per 100 lbs. live weight.

**HIDES AND SKINS.**—The supply of hides continues to be large. There have been sales of small lots of cows, cured, at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; steers, cured, are quoted at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. Green hides are quoted at 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ c for cows, and 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ c for steers. Sheepskins are

unchanged, selling at \$1.20 for green, and 70c to \$1 for country lots.

**FLOUR AND MEAL.**—The market for flour has been very quiet. There have been several sales of car lots of inspected extra at \$4.15. Superior extras held at \$4.25 for choice brands. Bags were offered yesterday at \$1.95, with a bid of \$1.90. It is not thought that prices, or business, will improve for some time to come. There are now reported 125 barrels in store at the Northern sheds. *Outmeal* is easy; a car lot sold at \$4.70 on the track, and the quotation is \$4.70 to \$4.85. *Cornmeal* is unchanged selling in small lots at \$4. Bran is quoted at \$12.50 a ton, with sales few.

**WHEAT.**—There has been no change in wheat for a week past. There is said to be a steady but not large movement in export, notwithstanding the high rates of freight, and notwithstanding the generally stationary price in Liverpool. There have been small sales of No. 2 Fall at 90c f.o.c., and of No. 3 Fall at 88c f.o.c. And No. 1 Fall is nominal at 92c f.o.c. Spring wheat is not in demand for export, and is taken in car lots by the millers. No. 2 has been sold last week at 92c; and 90c is asked for No. 3. No. 1 is held at 94c; all of them f.o.c. Goose is quoted on change at 81c. Speculative bids for February delivery are only 2c and 3c higher than present prices. Stocks on Monday were 206,795 bushels, against 185,594 on the Monday previous, and 177,302 on the 26th December, 1891.

**COARSE GRAINS AND SEEDS.**—*Barley* is quiet, with no chance of improvement. The best price at which No. 3 sold on Saturday was 48c f.o.c., with 3 extra sold at 58c f.o.c., and No. 2 was bid for at 68c. No. 1 sold at 74c f.o.c. The street prices are also weaker. Stocks on Monday were 172,623 bushels against 175,163 on the Monday previous; and 293,743 on the 26th December, 1891. *Peas* are quoted nominal; 72c for No. 2. *Oats* are steady, sold at 40c for Western on the track; Eastern held at 38c. Rye quoted at 59c. *Corn*, new Canadian, sold at 63c for a car lot. There are samples of *Clover* and *Timothy* seeds to hand, but prices are not quoted.

**PROVISIONS.**—*Butter* is still dull. A car lot sold on Friday for export, good medium, at something over 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ c, which was the price paid here. Good to choice dairy still brings 20c; and fair quality 18c to 19c. Inferior sells at 12c to 14c. *Mess Pork*, \$20.50 for large lots, \$21.50 for small lots. *Bacon*, long clear, 11c to 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ c for boxed lots; Cumberland Cut, 10c to 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; rolls, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c to 13c; breakfast bacon, 14c to 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. *Hams*, smoked, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ c to 14c; pickled, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c to 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ c. *Mess Beef*, \$14 for prime; mess, \$15 to \$16; plate \$18. *Lard*—best Canadian 14c for tubs, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ c for pails; American has slower sale at the same prices. *Cheese*, 12c to 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c for fine; 11c to 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ c for common. *Dried Apples*, small demand, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ c to 9c.

**OTHER PRODUCE.**—*Poultry* keep high; turkeys 11c to 12c; geese, 7c per lb; ducks, 60c to 70c a pair; chickens, 35c to 45c a pair. *Hogs* sell in car lots at \$7.90 to \$8.10 per 100 lbs. according to quality. Potatoes are offering at 65c per bag in car lots, with buyers at 60c, and street prices at 60c to 70c for the load or single bag. *Apples* in good supply at \$2.75 to \$3, and \$3.40 for winter-packed. *Hops* nothing doing with \$1 bid. *Onions*, \$2.25 a barrel. *Cranberries*, \$9.50 a barrel. *Pot Barley*, \$5 a barrel. *Tulow*, 5c for rough; 8c to 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ c for rendered. Canadian salt, \$1.35 per barrel. *Hay*, \$12 to \$15; *Straw*, \$7 to \$9.50.

**LEATHER.**—There is scarcely any demand, and prices nearly nominal. It is not said that any change in prices has been made, for there is no business done; the demand for heavier goods has also fallen off. The tanners have an advantage in the present prices of hides, but it is not thought the price of leather will decline for some months.

**GROceries.**—There is no change to note in prices. Business is now very dull. It is not expected that any improvement will be felt for two or three weeks. Prices are: *Raisins*—Loose Muscatels, \$2.65 to \$2.80; Layers, boxes, \$2.90 to \$3; Sultanas, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c to 11c; Seedless, 11c to 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; Valentias, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ c to 8c. *Currants*, 7c to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; *Prunes*, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ c to 8c; *Almonds*, 16c to 18c; *Kilberts*, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ c to 10c. *Sugars* are unchanged; Scotch refined, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ c to 8c; Paris lump, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c to 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ c; standard Granulated, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ c to 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ c; Canadian refined, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ c to 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; Porto Ricos, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ c to 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ c for dark to fair, and 8c to 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ c for bright to choice. Syrup, common, 65c to 68c. *Tobaccos*, dark, 38c to 40c; Western leaf, 38c to 42c; Brights, 48c to 57c, and choice 70c to 80c. *Dry Cod*, \$6.50 to \$7 per 112 lbs.; *Herrings*, scaled, 32c to 35c; *Sardines*, 12c to 13c; *Trout*, \$4.25 to \$4.50; *Whitefish*, \$5 to \$5.25. *Fish* are scarce, and are certain to be dearer.

**DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.**—Trade is quiet. Quote cream of tartar firm at 37c; canary seed 5c per lb; camphor 35c to 38c per lb; gum arabic, all grades, 18c to 35c per lb; aloes, cape, 20c to 25c per lb; opium \$5 to \$5.10; French ergot 55c to 60c; glycerine 35c to 40c; hops 90c per lb; castor oil 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c to 11c; oil lemon \$3.25 per lb; oil peppermint \$3.75 to \$4.25, according to quality; oil wintergreen \$4 per lb; oil wormwood \$7.50 per lb. Quinine \$2.40 per oz. German quinine \$2 per oz. Alcohol \$2.75 per barrel. Linseed oil, raw 70c, boiled 75c; Newfoundland cod liver oil, \$2.25; Norwegian \$3.50 per gallon.

**HARDWARE.**—Business is steady, quote: Antimony 14c to 16c; Barbed fencing wire, galvanized 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ c, painted 7c; copper ingot 20c to 21c; sheet 25c to 26c, bar 30c to 33c; white lead per keg \$1.50 to \$2; glass, 25 and under \$2 to \$2.10; 26 x 40 \$2.10 to \$2.20; 41 x 50 \$2.40 to \$2.50; 52 x 60 \$2.60 to \$2.70. Manila Rope 13c to 14c; Russian 14c to 16c; lead, pig, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ c to 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ c; bar 5c to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; sheet 5c to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; shot 6c; glue 8c to 20c per lb; brass kettles 35c to 36c; cut nails per keg, 100 lbs, 10d to 60d \$3.05 to \$3.10; 8d and 9d \$3.35 to \$3.40; 6d and 7d \$3.55 to \$3.65; 4d and 5d \$3.75 to \$3.85; 3d \$4.10 to \$4.20. Zinc 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ c to 6c; Borax 17c to 18c per lb.

**WOOL.**—Fleece is quiet and nominal, quoted at 18c to 20c. Small sales are made of clothing wools at 27c to 28c for supers, and 33c to 35c for extra supers. There is a very light demand at present on account of stock-taking.

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