

was done; dropped in June to $3\frac{1}{4}$ c and $3\frac{3}{8}$ c, and in July to $2\frac{7}{8}$ c and $2\frac{3}{4}$ c. The market recovered in August, and selling up to $3\frac{1}{2}$ c and $3\frac{1}{4}$ c. These rates were maintained until December, when the market declined $\frac{1}{8}$ c, closing nominally at 3 c to $3\frac{1}{4}$ c.

ALUM—There has been very little change in the prices of this article during the year, the range being 2 c to $2\frac{1}{2}$ c per lb, as to size and lot, round parcels being placed at $1\frac{7}{8}$ c.

BLEACHING POWDER—Was nominally $3\frac{3}{8}$ c to 4 c at the beginning of the year, but sold down during the remaining winter months at $3\frac{3}{8}$ c and $3\frac{1}{2}$ c, advanced in May, and was stronger at $4\frac{1}{2}$ c to $4\frac{3}{4}$ c, declined in June to $4\frac{1}{2}$ c and 4 c, and July to $3\frac{3}{4}$ c. The offerings in August were more liberal, sales being reported at $3\frac{3}{4}$ c per lb. There was, however, more animation in September, the sales including some round quantities at $3\frac{3}{8}$ c to $3\frac{3}{4}$ c, while jobbing parcels brought $3\frac{3}{4}$ c to 4 c; declined in October, and sold at $3\frac{3}{8}$ c to $3\frac{1}{2}$ c per lb, these being the nominal rates at the close of the year.

COPPERAS—There has been comparatively little change in the value of this article as compared with former years, sales being as low as 85 c to $92\frac{1}{2}$ c in quantity, and at $97\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 for retail parcels.

SALTPETRE.—Operations in this article have been very light and at somewhat irregular prices, opening at 11 , and selling down to $8\frac{3}{8}$ and $8\frac{1}{2}$, back again to 10 50 , and remaining steady for the remainder of the year at 10 to 11 .

EPSOM SALTS—Sold very low at $1\frac{3}{4}$ c to 2 c; big lots being reported in the spring at $1\frac{1}{2}$ c to $1\frac{3}{4}$ c; jobbing and retail parcels being placed at $1\frac{7}{8}$ c to 2 c. The prices quoted ruling without any material valuation throughout the whole year.

FRUIT.

The stock carried over from the previous year was very much lighter than in 1870, and the imports for 1872 fall very considerably short of those for 1871. Notwithstanding this, however, the opening prices for new fruit were not long maintained, the market gradually dropping and touching a very low

point at the close of the year, especially for layers.

RAISINS—*Layer*—The nominal opening price in January was 2 30 , the market gradually declining until 1 90 and 1 80 were procured for jobbing and round parcels. The range for new and old previous to the receipt of the crop of 1872 was 1 40 to 1 80 , a few 500 box lots being sold at a shade under the rates last quoted. In November the transactions were at 1 60 to 1 70 , and were dull and inactive at these prices, the trade generally being supplied previous to the close of November at 1 $57\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 $62\frac{1}{2}$. In December the market closed nominally at 1 $52\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 60 .

COMPARATIVE PRICES.

Date	1870		1871		1872	
	Per box					
	\$ c					
April ...	72.45	2.55	1.70	1.75	2.20	2.30
May	122.50	2.60	1.70	1.75	1.80	1.85
June ...	22.55	2.65	1.60	1.70	1.85	1.90
July	72.60	2.60	1.50	1.60	1.85	1.90
Aug....	182.50	2.60	1.45	1.55	1.85	1.90
Sept....	222.50	2.60	1.70	1.80	1.85	1.90
Oct.	52.10	2.25	1.65	1.75	1.40	1.70
Nov	171.75	1.85	1.65	1.75	1.60	1.65
Dec....	151.65	1.75	1.70	2.30	1.55	1.60

Valencias—Were maintained during the year at a higher range of prices than in 1871. In January there were large sales at $6\frac{1}{2}$ c to $6\frac{1}{4}$ c, jobbing lots bringing $6\frac{3}{4}$ c to $6\frac{1}{2}$ c, these prices ruling until the close of May. June opened with much activity, with sales at $6\frac{3}{4}$ c to $6\frac{7}{8}$ c, steadily advancing and touched $7\frac{1}{2}$ c in August, at which a small business only was done. They were weaker in September, and $\frac{1}{4}$ c to $\frac{1}{2}$ c lower, again advanced in October to $8\frac{1}{4}$ c and 9 c for small lots of new crop, and later in that month at 6 c to $8\frac{3}{4}$ c for old and new round quantities, and the latter being taken at $7\frac{3}{4}$ c to $7\frac{1}{2}$ c. The market was steady at $7\frac{3}{4}$ c to 8 c during November, with slight fluctuations to the close of the year, occasional round lots changing hands at $7\frac{1}{2}$ c to $7\frac{3}{4}$ c, and for moderate parcels $7\frac{3}{4}$ c to $7\frac{1}{2}$ c, the market closing dull and heavy at $7\frac{1}{2}$ c to $7\frac{3}{4}$ c.