

made. Let us briefly consider:

1. Why drugs are powdered, instead of masticated by nature's mills—the teeth; 2. How they are powdered; 3. How powders should be kept; 4. How adulteration may be detected.

2. Practically, powdering is now done by powder mills, operated by men who make it their sole occupation. So much has this become the rule that we have had a quarter of a pound of guarana returned, which was not powdered. A moment's thought will show that it could have been powdered by hand in the time required to write a letter about the matter.

Commercial.

MONTREAL, Oct. 14th, 1885.

General trade has a tendency to quietness, and collections are only fair. The weather has been favorable to the farmers, and fall plowing has been actively prosecuted in this district.

153 pearls.

DRY GOODS.—Not much new to report in this line. Travellers in Eastern Ontario and Quebec report fair orders, but in the West are doing less. The larger city retail houses are busy, but the suburban trade is suffering from the effects of the reigning epidemic. Some houses report remittances from some sections as improved a little, but in better districts the poor market for this commodity affects collections.

FISH.—Receipts of Labrador herrings to date are about 25,000 brls., and further cargoes yet to come. Prices are lower, several small cargoes have sold at \$3.25, and a fraction under. We quote Labrador \$3.25; Cape Bretons, none in market; Nova Scotia Shore, none; Gaspe Cod, \$3.50 to \$3.75; Halifax Cured, \$3.25 to \$3.50; Green No. 1, \$3.75 to \$4.00; North Shore Salmon, \$11, \$10 and \$8.50; British Columbia, \$9.00 to \$9.25.

quantity it is believed will be very good."
GROCERIES.—While there is no "boom" in this line, there is a fair trade doing, and as noticeable features there are a good many enquiries from Western jobbing centres. Remittances as a whole are satisfactory. Sugars are off an eighth since last writing; granulated being now 6½c. at refinery. Yellows proportionately lower. There is no change in Syrups, which are not plentiful. Molasses has got mostly into hands of one Quebec operator, and is advanced a cent, 29c. being now asked for wholesale lots. In Japan teas all low grades are very firm, and much wanted, local market pretty bare, and there is nothing in New York under 20 cents. Cable quotations from Japan under date October 12th are for fine \$23 per picul good medium \$21.00; medium \$19.00; good common \$17.00; common \$15.00. In dried fruits an advance of 2/- a cwt. may be quoted all round. Pretty reliable information as to the crop is to the effect that Valencia raisins are a short crop; currants good quality, but short crop; Malaga fruit, a light crop and prices will be high. All the new Valencias that have come to hand so far have been taken at 8½c.; of currants, only some fancy lots are yet to hand; Sultanias are in good supply at 6½ to 7c. and are good value. Rice, \$3.25 to 3.35; fine Patna, 4½c. In Spices, pepper continues at 17½ to 18c., other lines as before. New tomatoes, \$1.10 to 1.20 a dozen; sardines, 10½ to 11c., inferior Portuguese pack are selling at 9c.; lobsters, \$6.00 to 6.20 a case.

METALS AND HARDWARE.—Business in these lines is if anything quieter. The local market for pig iron is rather firmer, owing to light stocks and dearer freights; Scotch warrants are cabled at 42/8d., makers' brands unchanged. Tin plates at home are much firmer, prices having advanced 6d. to 9d. a box; there has been no change locally as yet, but it is thought prices must go up. The home market for finished iron is also firmer, but local quotations are still \$1.62½ to \$1.65, with car-lots sometimes at \$1.60; copper dull but steady; tin and lead unchanged. We quote:—Gartsherrie and Summerlee \$16.50 to \$17; Langloan, and Coltess, \$17 to \$17.50; Shott, \$17 to \$20.00; Eglington and Dalmellington, \$16.00; Calder, \$16.50 to \$17; Hematite, \$17 to \$20; Siemens, No. 1 \$17.50 to \$20; Bar Iron, \$1.62½ to \$1.65; Best Refined, \$1.90; Siemens bar, \$2.10; Canada Plates, Blaina \$2.40; Penn & Co. \$2.50. Tin Plates Bradley Charcoal, \$5.75 to \$6.00; Charcoal I.C. \$4.35 to \$4.75; do I.X., \$6 to \$6.25; Coke I.C., \$3.75 to \$4; Galvanized sheets, No. 28, 5½c 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., \$1.90 to \$2 Boiler Plate, per 100 lbs. Stafford.

OILS AND PAINTS.—A cable just to hand announces another advance and it is calculated raw would cost 63c. to lay down at present prices in England but 62 and 65c. seem still the local prices for raw and boiled respectively; turpentine, 64 to 65c.; castor firmer at 8½ to 9c.; olive as before; Nfld. cod oil, none coming in and 55c. asked; Gaspe do. 52½c.; steam refined seal 49 to 50c. in lots, some has been sold to arrive at 48½c. in quantity, Leads and colors are unchanged. We quote:—Leads (genuine and first-class brands only) \$6 to \$6.25; No. 1, \$5.50; No. 2, \$5.00; No. 3, \$4.50 to \$4.75. Dry white lead, 5½c.; red, do. 4½ to 4¾c. These prices for round lots, London washed whiting, 50 to 60c.; Paris white, \$1.25; Cookson's venetian red \$1.75, other brands venetian red \$1.50 to \$1.60; Yellow ochre, \$1.50; Spruce ochre, \$2 to \$3.

SALT.—There is the regular current trade doing; we quote elevens 49 to 50c. ex-wharf, 55c., ex-store; twelves 47 to 49c. ex-wharf; factory-filled \$1.10 to \$1.15; Ashtons and Eureka \$2.40; Turks Island 30c. per bushel; rock salt 50c. per cwt., special quotations for ton lots.

Wool.—The demand is still good for most lines; fleece is a little harder to get locally, of pulled there is sufficient to meet the enquiry, but no surplus. We quote: Canadian A supers 27 to 28c.; B ditto 22 to 23c.; unassorted 21 to 22c.; black 20 to 21c.; cape 16 to 18c.; no Australian in the market; fleece 20 to 22c.

TORONTO, Oct. 15th, 1885.

As usual, Bank of Montreal shares led the rise, buyers offering 203 $\frac{3}{4}$, a gain of 4 $\frac{3}{4}$, closely followed by Toronto, which appreciated 4 $\frac{1}{2}$, Merchants Bank improved 2 $\frac{3}{4}$, Commerce 2, Federal 1 $\frac{1}{2}$, Dominion 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ and Ontario 1.

Canada Landed Credit was a fraction weaker, selling at 123 to 122½, but London and Canadian Loan decidedly strong and active since last meeting on Wednesday, closing at a rise of 2% with 143 to 143½ as closing rates.

of some city houses, is very good while reports from others show a very quiet not to say dull condition of things. In the case of the latter it seems that the majority of country dealers ordered early and travellers now out are merely filling gaps with sorting-up goods. The present rainy and muddy weather should assist this trade. There are complaints about tardy remittances.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—Country trade in general drugs is said to be very good, travellers now out having sent in some very respectable orders. The same cannot be said of the city trade which is quiet if we except a brisk demand for vaccine points and disinfectants.