

no business at all transacted; at the former place there were no offerings, owing to the general dullness of the markets. In New York the same state of affairs exists as here, that market being governed by the English markets, and shippers finding it impossible to secure stock at the low limit allowed, have withdrawn. It is said, however, that holders of butter there would shade somewhat on the figures they have been asking, but do not know exactly where they would be met, as buyers continue indifferent, and bids are few and uncertain.

DRY GOODS.—With unfavorable weather the wholesale trade has been uniformly quiet for the week, and there is little of interest to note. Travellers have been forwarding moderately good sorting-up orders, principally for heavy woollen goods, but there has not elapsed sufficient time for many of these to have been received. American cottons are said to have been advanced 3c per yard, and late Southern advices report an advance for raw cotton, while in Liverpool the cotton market last week was unsettled and irregular, prices declining considerably, but afterwards recovering. The crop in the Southern States is said to be large, but with the quality reported in some quarters not as good as usual; altogether there are apparently signs of higher prices generally for manufactured cottons. Remittances continue satisfactory. The city retail dealers have been kept busy during the week. The Liverpool Cotton market opened firm Wednesday and 1-32 higher, closing 3-32 higher. In New York, opened firm and ten points higher, closing steady. Tuesday Liverpool Spot 1-16 and arrivals 3-32 cheaper. 1,000 bales Mid. Uplands sold at 6½, market closing 1-32 higher and firm. Jan.-Feb. futures 6½, or about 11 cents net. A despatch yesterday to Mr. F. McElderry, commission merchant, this city, states, "Liverpool market firm, with sales of 15,000 bales, futures partially 1-32 higher; New York firm; for futures 4 per cent. higher."

FRUITS.—Business has been brisk, the demand being chiefly *Apples*, over which the excitement referred to in our last report has continued. The American demand is reported stronger than ever, several Chicago buyers having arrived in this market to purchase winter apples, which are evidently unobtainable in sufficient quantities in the West; and, as prices keep low in the English markets, dealers here have sold considerable quantities of winter fruit to Newfoundland and Chicago buyers at from \$3 to \$3.75 per brl., the latter figure having been obtained in only one instance, as far as can be ascertained. For choice Greenings, \$3.50 has been paid, but the bulk of stock has been at from \$3 to \$3.25. The Canadian crop, however, is evidently a short one, and it is generally believed that the high prices will be sustained, at least for some time to come. Montreal Fameuse apples have also been selling at \$2.50 to \$2.75 per brl. for shipment to the States, but nearly all the Fall apples have been disposed of; any good qualities left will readily command \$2. The market is bare of *Almeria Grapes*; latest sales were made at \$5.50 to \$6 per brl. *Pears* very scarce, good stock bringing \$7 to \$8 per brl., and a few lots of late *Crawford Peaches* obtainable at \$1.25 per basket. *Lemons* in good demand, but supply sufficient; selling at \$4.50 per box, or \$9 per chest. There is a firm feeling in *Winter Apples* in New York and Boston also; in the latter city choice winter fruit has recently been sold at \$3.75 per brl. The supplies for the Lower Ports were largely obtained last year from the American markets, but this year Eastern dealers are making enquiries in this market.

FLOUR AND GRAIN.—The British wheat markets have been steadily improving since the date of our last report; the advance in values, however, has been chiefly for "futures." Yesterday California wheat off coast was quoted in London at an advance of 3d per qr., floating cargoes were the turn dealer, and Liverpool Spot Wheat was quiet and steady. To-day Beerbohm reports floating cargoes wheat quiet

and steady, and of corn rather easier, and Liverpool wheat and corn on spot quiet and unchanged. The imports in the United Kingdom for the week show an increase of 50,000 qrs. corn and a decrease of 60,000 barrels flour as compared with those of previous week, and an increase of 115,000 qrs. wheat and 30,000 qrs. corn, and a decrease of 60,000 brls flour, as compared with like period last year. The exports of wheat from this continent since the beginning of the present crop year are 13,574,000 bushels, against 17,613,000 for the like period last year; of corn, 5,932,000 bushels, against 10,072,000 last year, and of flour 603,809 barrels, against 659,231 last year. The Chicago wheat market has been irregular this week, with prices fluctuating, and receipts light. The *Inter-Ocean* of that city gives currency to a rumor in produce circles "that the grain in store there is being held back in the interests of the Eastern trunk lines, who will advance freights after the close of navigation, and 'bull' their stocks on their increased business. As there is little doubt but the property will be wanted, they may possibly make a profit on the grain also." The local grain market has ruled quiet all week, but buyers have advanced somewhat on their bids, and prices for Canada winter wheats are quoted a few cents higher than last week. On Tuesday 10,000 bush Canada red winter was sold on p. t., but it is quoted at \$1.47 to \$1.48. There has been a rather large business done in peas, nearly 100,000 bushels having changed hands Tuesday last at 95c. Cargoes of oats have sold at 40½c; rye quiet and weak at 99c to \$1; barley nominally unchanged, worth 70c to 77½c for Lower Canada, and 85c to 95c for Upper Canada, as to quality. The receipts of *Flour* have been more liberal this week, and this, together with the near approach of the close of navigation, has made sellers more anxious, but shippers and buyers generally have been holding off, and stocks are accumulating, without, however, any material reduction in values; some leading brands are quoted 5c per brl lower than last week, while coarse grades are in some instances higher.

FISH.—The cargo of between 8,000 and 9,000 barrels Labrador *Herrings*, referred to in our last report, have since arrived, and been selling freely in wholesale lots at \$6 per barrel. The demand has been good both on local and export account, nearly 3,000 barrels having been sold for shipment to Chicago, and the bulk of stocks on the wharves have been disposed of, and those to arrive will probably be held at a higher figure. There is an impression that there will be at least a fair average catch, which for the past four years has been about 18,000 barrels. Information, however, has been received that several vessels expected in this port with herrings have returned to Newfoundland empty, so that the supply may not be as large as was expected. Transactions in *Nova Scotia Split Herrings* are reported at \$5.25 to \$5.50 for No. 1. *Green Cod* fish in fair demand, at \$4.50 for No. 1 and \$3.75 for No. 2. No *Mackerel* in the market. *Salmon* unchanged, at \$20, \$19, and \$18 respectively for Nos. 1, 2, and 3. *British Columbia Salmon* is now offering at \$16 to \$16.50 per barrel.

FREIGHTS.—Rule quiet, especially ocean grain freights, there being comparatively little tonnage wanted by shippers. Current rates are quoted at 3s 9d to 4s to London; 2s 9d to 3s to Liverpool; and 2s 6d to 2s 9d to Glasgow. A steamer for orders was taken this week at 3s 6d.

GROCERIES.—There is a fair business doing of ordinary kind in orders and with out-of-town buyers personally. Fruit and fish have been the chief staples operated in during past week. *Sugars.*—The market has been pretty well cleared of raw Sugars by refiners, and such continue firm. New York late advices show quite a firm position and tone in raw sugars, with only moderate stock. In the United States the total stock in gross tons in the middle week

of October, as compared with former years, is as follows:

1881	1880	1879	1878	1877
90,744	110,576	73,881	65,334	90,798

Compared with 1880 to October the stocks this year are 28,882 tons less; receipts, 6,209 tons more; distribution 38,482 tons more. In Refined there is quietness, and some disposition to slight reduction prevails, chiefly from reaction and a somewhat too large production for demand. With us there is stated a recent advance of about 4th on all Refined Sugars. Granulated is quoted nominally at 9½c to 10c, Yellow Refined at 7½c to 8½c. It is just possible that for a large lot 9½c at Refinery might be taken. *Molasses* continues steady for Barbadoes. *Syrups* are firm at the advance reported. *Teas.*—There is more inquiry but not a great deal of business doing beyond the ordinary kind at this season. Good to fine Japans are firm; lower qualities are not much wanted. Teas with good style and drawing qualities look as if some advance may be expected. In Young Hysons and Gunpowders, as well as in Black Teas, there is little of change to notice, with rather light movement. *Coffees.*—Market is not active, but prices are without much change here; abroad there is dullness and some decline. *Rices.*—With higher freights prices are steady. *Spices.*—Pepper is accumulating in response to something like a "corner" movement in the United States some time ago, but the "operators" may find they have got enough. Prices in New York are rather lower. Pimento is also a little off. Nutmegs are firm and higher; Cloves lower; Ginger and Cassia steady. *Fruits.*—Large operations have lately taken place in *Valencia Raisins* at about 9½c; but are held at 9½c to 10½c as to lot. *Malaga* fruit is but little changed, although the extreme prices may not be maintained. The *Keenaba* has arrived with a rather full assortment of fruit from the Mediterranean ports; New Figs are 16c for small boxes; Sultanias 12½c to 13½c; Filberts very scarce and high at 9½c to 10½c; Almonds steady.

HARDWARE AND IRON.—Trade continues active, the staffs of the leading hardware houses being busier, if anything, this week than last, both inside and outside. There is no speculative buying to speak of, but numerous orders for general assortments of goods continue to be forwarded by travellers, and remittances are good. One or two firms report that at the moment they have as much business as they can attend to. *Bar Iron* in steady demand at \$1.90 for car lots, \$2 being asked for small quantities. *Tin* continues scarce and firm, at 27c for block and 28c per lb for grain, and *Tin Plates* are in fairly active request for this season of the year, while, owing to a further advance of 1s. per box in England and the high rate of freight, holders here are firmer and asking higher prices in some instances. A few round lots have changed hands this week between merchants, on p. t., but I. O. charcoals are quoted firm at \$5.50 to \$6, as to brand and size of lot; it is seldom, however, that a sale is heard of at the outside figure, \$5.75 being about the highest yet obtained. I. O. cokes firm at \$4.75 to \$5, and coke "wasters" are held at \$4.25 to \$4.50; other kinds are proportionately high as will be seen by reference to our "prices current" on another page. Retail dealers should remember when sending their orders for *Cut Nails* that our quotations are for net cash within thirty days, otherwise 7 per cent. is added; manufacturers report a steady demand, and numerous orders at the late advanced figures. *Zinc* has recently advanced £1 per ton in the European markets, and there is a slightly firmer feeling here, it being quoted at 5½c per lb. for sheets, with sellers not anxious to dispose of stocks. The *Pig Iron* market remains about as represented last week, strong, with the lately advanced prices fully maintained. The demand is still reported good, and for lots of from 50 to 100 tons each, \$24 to \$24.50 has been paid for No. 1 brands. Dealers state that there are no freights from Glasgow to be obtained, hence no arrivals of iron are expected for some time, and while there has been considerable enquiry