

17c.; winter ditto, 15 to 20c.; otter, \$8 to \$12; fine Labradors and Northeastern would bring \$12 to \$20; coon, \$1.50 to \$2.50 for No. 1 black, and from \$1 to \$1.75 for No. 1 dark; prime skunk, \$1.50 for No. 1 all black; short stripe, \$1.10; long stripe, 60c.; and broad stripe, 20c. Only a few small lots are being received as yet, mostly unprime pelts.

Groceries.—The volume of business is still well maintained, more particularly in dried fruits and other Christmas lines. New York advices report a decline of 10c. a cental in refined sugars, but local quotations are unchanged at the moment of writing though some shading of prices is deemed not improbable shortly.

Molasses is very firm. Stocks of Valencia raisins are quite low, importers having placed much smaller orders than last year, when considerable stocks were carried over, and there will not likely be the usual tumble in prices after the New Year. A broker, who had an order from Winnipeg for a car lot, reports being unable to get the quantity desired.

Malaga loose muscatels are held very firmly, some sales being reported of fair lots at nearly 50 per cent. advance on cost. California seeded raisins in cartons are coming at a laid-down cost of about 10½c. According to Patras advices, currants remain steady, but without any advance, which is considered rather remarkable, in view of the large quantities sold by the Greek Government under the Retention Act, and the fact that the Currant Bank has acquired some 37,000 tons. Grenoble walnuts retain the advance, and two French houses are reported to have practically established a corner in these goods. Tarra-gona almonds are advanced 2s. a bale.

Hides.—The demand from tanners for beef hides continues slack, and there is a tendency to weakness in the market, dealers discussing lower prices, but as yet there has been no definite announcement in this direction, and 9c. per lb. is still being paid to butchers for No. 1. Calfskins are easy at late reduction; lambskins will likely be advanced next week.

Metals and Hardware.—Trade in these lines is beginning to show signs of slackening, now that navigation is practically closed, and will doubtless become quieter as the holiday season approaches. Few changes are noted since last writing. Ingot copper has shown further sagging in prices, and is now quoted at 13½c. in an ordinary jobbing way. Lead is firm at \$3.20, and spelter at \$5.75; tin steady at 30c. for Straits. Comparatively little business is reported in pig iron. Bars are easy at \$1.85; bar steel, \$2.10; cast steel, 7½ to 7¾c.; toe calk, \$2.60; machinery steel, \$2.75. Iron pipe still firm at \$4.81. Boiler plate and sheets of all kinds have undergone no change.

Oils, Paints and Glass.—With the close of navigation, and the taking effect of winter freight rates by rail, business is assuming a quieter phase. There continues to be much cutting and slashing in the prices of leads, and it has been

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