

Consignments from Montreal to Chicago and St. Louis have been spoken of, which were remunerative for Fish of fair quality, while an inferior article did not realise money enough to pay freight. In one of the western cities just mentioned, No. 1 Herrings (gibbed), Halifax inspection, were not long since quoted as worth \$4.50 per half-barrel.

TEA, COFFEE, &c.

It appears, from the subjoined table, that the quantity of Tea imported last year was less than in 1862,—the Customs Returns indicating that, on 31st December, there were 799,280 lbs. in Warehouse. Four cargoes arrived from China direct; a fifth one, that of the "Bittern," was lost at sea. Three of the four cargoes were sold by auction in 1863; the other one was disposed of in like manner this month (Feb., 1864). Importations from England, and *via* New York, have been large; and throughout the year the American market has served the double purpose of relieving surplus stock here, affording Canadian operators an opportunity of shipping, from England, direct to the United States. On the whole the business of 1863 was steady and sound, free from speculative excitement, and may be said to have been satisfactory.

There were 196,544 lbs. of Green Coffee in Warehouse on 31st December last.

The following particulars are from the Annual Returns made by the Collector of the Port:—

Quantities and Values of Groceries Imported in Three Years.

ARTICLES.	1863		1862		1861	
	Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value.	Quantities.	Value.
		\$		\$		\$
Tea lbs.	4,433,882	1,588,893	4,879,212	1,858,193	2,585,641	957,281
Coffee, Green... lbs.	558,689	89,014	1,463,258	196,677	794,935	92,678
Do Roasted lbs.	3,388	256	864	99	1,298	295
Chicory		7,338		14,839		2,283
Cocoa & Chocolate		1,167		1,771		1,400
Spices, lbs.	39,505	8,730	51,051	12,446	225,017	23,183
Dried Fruits and Nuts lbs.	2,165,091	119,360	2,779,252	161,595	1,465,179	77,431
Pickles and Sauces		18,641		14,557		19,785
Prepared Oils gals.	161,473	125,983	135,066	93,587	211,336	134,392
Mustard lbs.	108,765	15,776	136,399	19,129	99,641	13,214
Soap lbs.	232,430	16,477	294,510	18,470	804,113	34,695
Tallow Candles...		11,666		9,662		20,002