

SIRS,

**D**URING the Winter Months this Market seldom offers any brisk demand for Imported Goods; the chief Sales, more particularly in West India Produce, being effected, before the close of the communication by water with the interior; Sales, however, this Season, have been and continue unusually dull. Since our last advice no material change has taken place, our quotations in consequence do not much vary from the prices then stated; but, so little is doing, that the present may be considered merely nominal.

We have already noticed that the quantity of RUMS imported last Season, exceeded that of any year antecedent; better prices, also, have in general been obtained, than under such heavy supplies could reasonably have been expected—and the consumption such, that the stocks now remaining in first hands in Quebec, do not together amount to one hundred Tuncheons; yet, the quantity on sale, appears fully to meet the present demand.—The failure of our Wheat Crop, and the scarcity of Cash, incline us to think that the Sales of Rum in this Country during the ensuing Season, will not equal that of the past year, as to quantity, and we fear prices may prove less favorable; this opinion we ground upon former experience.

No demand at present for MUSCO SUGARS, or for COFFEE; Sales of the latter are always very limited, except when at low prices. OF MADEIRA and all other WINES (Spanish Red excepted) the Import of last Season fell short of that for 1809, yet the demand has been very inconsiderable, and a great proportion of what was received remains still in the Market; a parcel of about 20 pipes Madeira, of good quality, was lately sold by Auction at the miserable rate of £10 to £30 Currency per Pipe, and of these 3 or 4 Casks only exceeded £45.

We regret not to have any thing more favorable to add on the subject of WHEAT and FLOUR, than communicated by our former advices—nor can we yet presume to say to what extent our supplies may prove from Upper Canada, where they had fortunately an abundant harvest; or, whether through their means we may be enabled to spare any Flour for exportation; we in consequence consider it to be our duty to state to our Correspondents, the opinion we hold, that it would prove very hazardous to trust to Quebec for their supplies either of Wheat, Flour or Biscuit, for the ensuing Season.

OF SALTED PROVISIONS we shall have great plenty. Dry and Pickled FISH are generally to be procured here, but when Shipments are desired of these Articles, it would be advantageous to the interested that orders should be given for the purchase six or eight weeks before the intended time of Shipment, which from our local situation, becomes necessary, fully to meet the views of our West India friends, by allowing time to procure from the Out Posts what could not readily be had in Quebec.

There is very little at present doing in the POT ASH Market; a few lots occasionally are taken off our quotations: there are now about 5,500 Barrels in the Inspection Stores at Montreal. Contracts have been made for OAK and PINE TIMBER, to be delivered at Quebec in July and August next, the former at 1s. 6d. a 1s. 8d. per Cubic Foot, the latter at 6d. for White, and 1s. a 1s. 1d. per cubic foot for Red—but we have not heard of any agreement being entered into for STAVES.—On Lumber Contracts heavy advances are always required, of course much risk and frequent loss attend them.

We take the liberty to remark that all Letters intended for Canada, and forwarded through the Unit. J. States, (those only excepted which come in the regular Mails by the Packets) must be put under cover to some Correspondent there, as the inland postage to the frontiers must be paid, otherwise such Letters would not be sent on.

We pray your reference to the annexed Prices Current and List of Duties, also to the subjoined Statement of the Imports and Exports for the years 1808, 9 and 10, by the River St. Lawrence, the former are confined to such Goods only as pay Duty, no account being taken at the Custom House of those entered free.—We give also a list of the chief Imports to this Province from the U. S. by the inland communication via St. Johns, for the same years.

We beg leave to renew our tender of best services to you and your friends, as well in behalf of our Establishment at Montreal, under the firm of IRVINE, LESLIE & Co. as of

SIRS,

Your most obedient, and

Very humble Servants,

IRVINE, MACNAUGHT & Co.

PRICES CURRENT.—EXPORTS.

ASHES...1st Pot, at Montreal, per Cwt.		from 30s.	to 32s.	LUMBER—		from 7d.	to 9d.
GRAIN...viz.	1st Pearl, - - - - -			W. Oak Timber,	none at present for sale.		
	Wheat, - - - - - scarce per Bus.	10s. 6d.	11s.	W. Pine, do.	- - - - -		
	Barley, - - - - - none.			R. do. do.	none at present for sale.		
	Pease, - - - - -	5s.	7s. 6d.	Pine Plank, 2 a 3 inches	- - - - - per ft.	4d.	6d.
	Indian Corn, - - - - - none.			Pine Boards, 10 feet long	- - - - - per 100 Boards	80s.	85s.
	Oats, - - - - -			Pipe Staves, none selling,	per M.		
FLOUR...Superfine, p Pbl.	do. } None at present for sale.			Note.—The Standard Pipe Staves, as fixed by Law, is 5½ feet long, 5 inches broad, and 1½ inches thick, at the thinnest part. On all thicker Pipe Staves 1-5 of the Price of the Standard is allowed for every ¼ inch of greater thickness. Pipe Staves of 1 inch thick, are reckoned at one half price of Standard. The Hoghead Stave, is 4½ feet long, 4½ inches broad and valued at 2-3d. the price of Pipe of corresponding thickness. The price fixed by Law for the 4½ ft. Stave, being thought by the Traders to be underrated, few or none of this description are prepared except by special Contract and then at same price or nearly so of the Standard.			
do. } Common, do. }	do. }			The Puncheon Stave, 3½ feet long, 4 inches broad—valued at half the price of corresponding thickness—and Puncheon Heading 2½ feet long, 5½ inches broad, same price.			
BISCUIT...Newfoundland, per Cwt.	do. } none.			Puncheon Staves, 3½ feet long, dressed for the West?		£ 12	p. M.
do. } Navy, do. }	do. }			India Market, - - - - -		18s.	
do. } Fine Water Biscuit, do. }	do. }	70s.	100s.	Puncheon Packs, for dn. new - - - - -		25s.	
PORK—Prime, per Bbl.		95s.		Pipe Packs, made up for the Madeira Market - - - - -		12s. 6d.	6s. 6d.
BEEF—Prime, do.		65s.	70s.	Half and Quarter do. - - - - -		110s.	
BUTTER, per lb.		1s. a 1s. 1d.		Ash Hoops, 12 feet long, per 1000 - - - - -		126s.	
HOGSLARD, do.		1s. 3d.		14 feet long - - - - -			
FISH—Dry and Pickled, none at Market.							
SOAP—Yellow, per lb.		7½d.					
CANDLES—Mould, do.		1s. 3d.					
do. Dipped, do.		1s. 1d.					
Essence of Spruce, do.							
Ditto, per Box, containing 12 Pots.		17s. 6d.					

EXCHANGE.

£100 Sterling, at par equal to £111 1-9 Currency.

Current rate—Government Bills at 30 days sight, 5 per Cent discount.

Merchants do. at 60 days sight on London, 7 to 7½ per Cent discount—When Bills are forced upon the Market, Cash, from the present scarcity, cannot be had except at much greater discount than these quotations.