

fed cattle were disposed of at \$5.62½ per 100 lbs., and farm fed at from \$4.50 to 5.50 per 100 lbs. The supplies this week were principally from Toronto, Guelph, Berlin and Oshawa. Ten sheep, averaging 235 lbs. each, were sold at 6c. There was no demand for hogs on the market.

**DUR GOODS.**—The wholesale business done here during the past week has been more than limited, very few buyers from any direction being in the city, and those few are buying only small parcels. The "sorting up" trip orders are coming in slowly and are of the sparsest character. We do not hear of any improvement in the amount of money being sent in from the West. Our city retail trade has been brisk.

**DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.**—We have little change to note in business since our last. The demand for most lines of goods is very moderate, and there is an entire absence of speculation. The English reports by late mail shew a drooping market in most lines, and importers here would be disposed to accept low figures for goods without meeting with much encouragement, buyers only taking sufficient for actual and immediate requirements. Quotations continue nominally without change, but lower figures would be accepted for prompt purchases. We quote, nominally:—Soda Ash \$1.90 to \$2.25; Sal Soda, \$1.40 to \$1.60, according to quantity; Soda Bicarb, \$3.75 to 4; Caustic Soda, 3½c. to 3½c.; Alum, 2c to 2½c. Extract Logwood continues scarce and firm at 12c. to 12½c. for bulk, and for packages in proportion. Bleaching Powder, 1½c. to 2c.

**FISH.**—The demand continues steady and light, and prices are unchanged. Codfish No. 2, \$4.50 to 4.75. Dry Cod, cwt., \$5.25 to \$5.50; Mackerel, No. 1, \$8.50; Salmon steady, No. 1, \$15; No. 2, \$14; No. 3, \$13. No. 1 Split Herrings, \$4.50 to \$5.00.

**FURS AND SKINS.**—No change in this department since last review. Prices still tend downward for raw furs, and holders will find it to their interest to take advantage even of present rates. Quotations: Beaver, \$2.00 to \$2.25; Prime Black Bear, \$6 to \$12, according to size; Fisher \$6.00 to \$9.00; Silver Fox, \$25 to \$60; Cross Fox, \$2.00 to \$5.00; Red Fox, \$1.00 to \$1.25; Lynx, \$1.50 to \$2.25; dark Labrador Martin, \$7 to \$9; pale Martin, \$1.50 to \$2.00; prime fresh dark Mink, \$2.00 to \$2.50; fine dark Otter, \$7 to \$9; Full Muskrat, 12c. to 14c.; Winter do, 15c. to 18c.; Spring do, 22c.; Raccoon, 25c. to 60c.; Skunk, 20c. to 50c.

**GROCERY MARKET, WHOLESALE.**—The amount of business doing in Groceries is still by no means heavy, with a general range of prices prevailing with little variation in most grades.

**SUGARS.**—A considerable amount of Yellow Refined in casks has been landed, mostly sold to arrive. Prices are from 7½c. to 8c. for choice; Granulated 8½c. to 8½c. In Raw Sugars light business. **TEAS.**—Buyers operate cautiously and to just about extent of current wants. The range of prices for Japan is quite below those current some months since for the lower and ordinary kinds, while choice are more steady. The figures are 30c. to 57c. Green and Black Teas about as before. Since opening of market in Japan the advance noted over last year's opening prices has been more than lost with prospect of pretty moderate prices prevailing for the season. **COFFEES.**—Jamaica 21½c. to 23c. Java, 27c. to 30c. Mocha, 31c. to 34c. Rice, \$3.60 to 3.80. **SPICES.**—Pepper a turn dearer in England, held here at 10½c. to 12c. Pimento 9c. to 10c. Ginger (Jamaica) 20c. to 23c. Nutmegs 80c. to 95c. **FRUITS.**—Currants—Some pretty large sales, about 6½c., arriving from 6½c. to 7c. Valencia Raisins 7½c. to 8c. Layers \$2.25 to 2.35. Nuts and Almonds dull.

**HARDWARE.**—Stocks will soon be fully assorted by arrivals, but importations will be on the whole light, though equal to requirements. Prices in England remain fairly steady, each drop being slight, stubbornly contested, and suddenly conceded. In Tin Plates, though weak through over-production and lots pressing on market, yet bottom is supposed to have been reached as they are under cost of production, and the over quantities, bearing the price, were being gradually absorbed, which together with

decreased out-put would gradually tell. No advance in anything need be looked for at present, but should the American makers continue in their advances, prices would be affected before long.—See *Prices Current*.

**LEATHERS.**—Prices of Leather remain about the same. But little doing, and likely to continue quiet till next month. Very little is being shipped to England, as the market there is already overstocked with Canadian leather. See *Prices Current*.

**LIQUORS.**—As luxuries are the first to feel the hard times, the wine and liquor trade has been extremely dull during the winter and spring, and dealers are importing but lightly. The demand is light, and it is questionable if, to improve business, a lowering of prices would have any sensible effect. Dealers of all classes ought to discourage, by every possible means, the sale of spurious goods which is having a bad effect upon the consumption of this class of goods. There is little use in advertising superior brands as long as labels for imitation goods are easily procurable, and the temptation to such dishonesty is so great and the act so little liable to detection. See *Prices Current*.

**LUMBER.**—High water still continues, and mills are unable to start. Purchasers are very few, and those buying only small lots. Dealers can see nothing encouraging for this season's business. It is doubtful if mills will be started much before June 20th. Prices at Montreal:—*Shipping culls*, \$8.00 per m. feet; *Spruce Siding*, \$8 do. *Pine*—Common boards and scantling, \$10 to \$16 per m.; Clear lumber, \$30 to \$45; First quality lumber, \$30 to \$35; Third-class, 1½ inch deals, \$30 to \$36 per m, surface measure; Cull deals, \$18 to \$24 do.; do, dressed, \$35 to \$40 do.; 2 by 1 inch firrings \$4 per 100 pieces; Laths, \$1.30 to 1.50 per m.; *Spruce* lumber, \$10 to \$12 per m feet; *Spruce* deals, \$24 per m feet, surface measure; *Hemlock* lumber, \$9 to \$11 per m feet; long pine lumber, for building purposes, \$18 to \$34, according to length and size; long hemlock lumber is \$3 less per m feet than pine. *Dressed* lumber—1 inch boards, \$13 to \$20 per m feet; do. 1½ inch roofing, \$20 do.; do. 1½ inch flooring, \$20 to \$24 do.; do. 1½ inch flooring, \$20 to \$30 do.; do. 2 inch flooring, \$28 to \$31 do. Prices—Quebec, *Pine deals*, 1st quality, \$90, per Quebec standard; 2nd do, \$86 do; 3rd do \$28. *Spruce deals*, 1st quality, \$32 do; 2nd do \$24 do; 3rd do, \$16 do.

**OILS.**—Are without change. No further reports respecting the Seal fishing, and no definite price is quoted on goods to arrive. Naval Stores and Paints unchanged.

**WOOL.**—We cannot report any change. The slow sales going on for months past continue, and as prices will likely *rule lower* for fleece this season than last, buyers will wait until the new clip comes in before purchasing largely. We quote:—Fleece, 30c. to 35c.; Pulled Wool, Sup., 30c. to 35c.; Pulled Medium 18c. to 32c.; Pulled No. 1, 26c. to 28c.; Black, 20c. to 32c.

#### PRODUCE AND PROVISIONS.

Owing in a great measure to the lateness of the Spring, the tardy opening of navigation, and the heavy floods the provision trade has been much restricted hitherto, and will probably to some extent continue so till wharfage can be found for the vessels of all classes now in the harbor and to arrive. A better feeling pervades the English markets to-day caused by a demand yesterday for wheat from the continent. The supplementary Beerbohm report to-day makes wheat on passage and for shipment strong and a turn dearer. The demand for general produce for the Lower Provinces is fair, and if it were possible to load the steamers and other craft, more activity would be likely to pervade the market. In consequence of two holidays this week coming together, business has been broken and exhibited the inactivity of most holiday times. Freight rates are low, and grain and produce can be shipped at rates which will scarcely remunerate the shipowners. The Chicago market to-day rose from \$1.07 to 1.08½ for July, with strong demand. Milwaukee,

however, was unsteady, falling soon after noon. A feeling exists in the market here that a better trade will be done during the next week, and as the river shows signs of falling, many of our troubles will, we trust, soon cease, and a fair if not a good trade yet be done this spring.

**BUTTER.**—There has been during the past week a fair demand for local purposes and for Lower Provinces. Choice yellow lots would fetch outside prices, but few are in the market or coming in at present. Some grades of butter are coming in freely, but very little fit for shipment to England, being mostly fodder fed. Little change in prices may be expected at present. About 700 packages have been sold during the week for shipment at 20½ to 21, good lots. A few small European orders have been received and the demand for that market is expected to improve and shipments will doubtless increase as soon as the new firm grass, fed comes to market. Last year Western butter opened at 16c. to 18c.; Township, 18c. to 20c., and all sections sold freely, shippers taking all good grades as fast as they came to hand, sent it over fresh and palatable and it gave better satisfaction than ever before to all parties concerned. The result of this was a gradual and steady advance from the commencement to the end of the season and the farmer averaged remunerative prices, the country store-keeper, or dealer, made a small commission out of it, the receiver in Montreal, the same, as well as the exporter, and the season was profitable and satisfactory to all engaged in the business. All stocks were consumed and there was no old butter when the new season opened this year as has been the case in many past years. No one party engaged in the business made any great thing last year but it was thoroughly legitimate throughout, and all concerned should not simply desire, but do all in their power to get last year's experience repeated this year. One reason, we may add, why Canadian Butter holds so bad a position in the English market is that it is kept generally so long on this side before being sold that much of it becomes rancid. "Small profits and quick returns" is the best policy for our farmers and merchants, and we hope to see the policy inaugurated last year carried out this.

**CHEESE.**—Market is very dull and quiet with a good supply of old stock which moves very slowly and little improvement is expected at present. New Cheese is arriving freely and there is a small demand for this in the Lower Provinces at 10½c. to 11½c. City buyers are very cautious and only taking in sufficient to supply immediate wants, and look for lower prices. The Western Markets exhibit some weakness, and prices on the other side show no symptoms to encourage the hope of high prices this year. The sales during the week have been about 300 boxes of old lots at 6c. to 8c. It is expected that in consequence of the increase of factories here prices will hardly maintain their present rates, but as lower prices are still remunerative if the demand be good, this can hardly be an unmixt evil, as it is certainly more to the advantage of the manufacturer to sell at fairly remunerative rates and sell quickly than wait on speculation for a rise which may never come or come too late. It is well known that cheese, at 10½c. pays the farmer, as well as butter at 22½c. and it is to be hoped that this year will see more quick sales and early shipments than heretofore. We may add that the fact of the labouring classes in England being in receipt of smaller wages than in some previous years and many now being only on short time will induce a good demand for cheese in preference to flesh-meat if it can be obtained at fairly low prices and good quality.

**EGGS.**—The receipts during the last few days have been very large, about 800 packages having arrived. This has caused prices to decline a trifle though there is still a good demand, and an advance is shortly expected. The demand at present is principally from picklers, prices ranging from 12½c. to 13c. The egg business of the country is assuming greater proportions