

and laths; and a few small vessels for American ports. There is a considerable amount of tonnage here now unengaged, and will probably remain so until the new season's lumber is in the market for shipment. Under these circumstances the freight market is weaker though there is no actual change to report in prices.

Flour.—The market has been a good deal excited during the week, and a further advance has taken place since our last report. The receipt of the week amount to 4,500 bbls. The necessities of the country always require a considerable quantity of flour at this season of the year, yet compared with former seasons the demand cannot be said to be brisk, the extremely high range of prices checking consumption very materially. We quote to-day, Strong superfine, \$10 to \$10.25; ordinary brands do, \$9.50 to \$9.75; rye flour, \$7 to \$7.25; corn meal, \$5.25 to \$5.50; oatmeal, \$6.50 to \$6.75. It must be understood that the outside quotations of flour are only for choice and reliable brands. Flour is now in the market a large quantity of very inferior flour for which it would be difficult to give quotations at all.

Provisions and Groceries are unchanged.

Considerable quantities of Casparian or alewives, are now being taken in our harbor, and a few salmon and shad have begun to make their appearance. A large number of the Casparian are cured and smoked and in this state find a ready market both here and in the United States. Last week about 300 bbls were taken at four basis of the seine.

A lineship named the "Anna Louise," was launched from the yard of Messrs. Goss, Stewart & Co., last week. She is built of hackmatack and pitch, pine is iron keel and copper fastened, and is a very handsome and substantially built ship. Her measurement is 1,250 tons, and she classed 7 years at English Lloyd's. She goes to England for sale.

Messrs. Netins and Fraser have also just launched a splendid new ship called the "Oxfordshire." She measures 1,200 tons, is built of hackmatack, and classed 7 years at Lloyd's. This vessel is beautifully finished and is in every respect a credit to her builders.

The same firm have also two other vessels nearly ready for launching, one a spruce ship of 1,320 tons, and the other of hackmatack, measuring 800 tons, and classing like the "Oxfordshire," 7 years at Lloyd's.

The New Brunswick Legislature was opened on the 11th inst. The "Speech from the Throne" was more than usually vague and non-committal in its character. A surplus of revenue over expenditure is announced, but it is quite silent regarding any changes to be made in the local constitution of the Province.

The heavy rains and consequent sudden melting of the snow, have caused great floods in most of the rivers on the north shore of the Province. Two large saw mills on the Rouchibouga river, were swept away, together with some 6,000,000 feet of logs. The bridge over the river was so carried away.

BY TELEGRAPH.

St. John, N.B., May 15th, 1897.

PROVISIONS generally unchanged; flour market firm at prices again advanced. Receipts of week five thousand barrels, demand very moderate. Strong superfine \$10.25 to \$10.50, Ordinary brands \$9.75 to \$10; Oatmeal higher, \$7 to \$7.25; Cornmeal \$5.25 to \$5.50, Oats 55 cts. per bushel. No change in provisions.

THE DRY GOODS TRADE.

Baillie, James, Co.
Banker, Bank & Co.
J. Macdonald, James, & Co.
Clark, J. & Co.
Lester, T. James, & Co.
Davis, W. & Co.
Ewart, Stewart & Co.
Donald & Macdonald
Guthrie, J. & Co.
Hill, J. & Co.
Greenhalgh, J. & Co.
Wingston, James, & Co.
Lewis, Kay & Co.
Macfarlane, Andrew, & Co.
MacKenzie, J. & Co.

MacKay, Joseph, & Bro.
May, Joseph
May, Thomas, & Co.
McClintock, Jack & Co.
McIntyre, James & Co.
Moore, H. & Co.
Muir, W. & Co.
Munderson & Stencken
Ogilby & Co.
Pillar, Aubin & Co.
Robertson, A. & Co.
Roy, J. & Co.
Stephen, William, & Co.
Stirling, McCall & Co.
Thomas, Thibault & Co.

WE have again to report trade in this department quiet and unsatisfactory, owing in a great measure to the weather continuing unfavourable for active trade. Rain, continuous rain is the order of the day, with scarcely a gleam of sunshine to cheer the hearts of our despairing importers, the matter now begins to look serious, not only for the importers but also for the country merchants who are not doing half the usual trade, and in consequence are not remitting at they would desire. We look anxiously for a permanent change for the better soon. Orders from travellers are coming in very slowly, and those that come are for

small items to assort stock. Quite a number of buyers have been in town from the back districts and from up the Ottawa, all are purchasing cautiously, so that should trade improve, more goods will be wanted later on. Stocks are reasonably well assorted, on the whole we think better than is usually the case at this season, and each week's steamer brings additions, so there is no difficulty in buyers getting all they want. Cotton goods are easier to buy on the other side of the Atlantic, but not coming out as low as expected, prices are correspondingly lower here. Should a spell of fine weather set in, trade would revive, and stocks soon get well reduced in staples and desirable styles of general goods.

THE GROCERY TRADE.

Baldwin, C. H. & Co.
Bishop, Fraser & Taylor
Chapman H. & Co.
Gibbs, George, & Co.
Gunn, John & Lamb
Hale, C. Clark, & Chilton
Fitzpatrick & Moore
Gouldner, Jules
Hewitt, J. C. & Co.
Hill, George, Moffat & Co.
Jeffery, Brothers & Co.

Anderson, John & Co.
King & Co.
Loring, Thomas & Co.
Macdonald, James, & Co.
McLean, Joseph
Robertson & Beattie
Robertson, David
Snyder, Jack & Co.
Telford, James, & Co.
Thompson, Murray & Co.
Torrance, David, & Co.
West, Bros.

THE continuance of wet weather, during, but with one exception, every day of the week which has elapsed since our last report, has very greatly interfered with business; and the trade sales of teas and general groceries, to take place during the coming weeks, have induced very many to postpone making purchases until then. Dullness therefore is still the prevalent feature of this market, and transactions generally are only to a limited extent.

COFFEE.—Very little doing. Some small sales of Java reported at 25½c.

FRUIT.—Is without animation, and prices are unchanged.

MOLASSES.—Has had more inquiry, with sales of British Island, at 35c.; clayed is held at 35c. to 40c.; Muscovado, Cienfuegos and Porto Rico, held at 42c. to 43c.

SUGAR.—There has been some inquiry for medium grocery grades, of which, however, the stock is exceedingly low, and transactions consequently have been small. Sales in lots of 5 and 10 hhds. at \$7.75 to \$8 for fair Cuba and Barbadoes.

TEAS.—In view of approaching trade sales buyers are inclined to operate to any great extent. A few lines have changed hands, of uncoloured Japans, at prices ranging from 47½c. to 61c. and of fine Moyune Young Hysons, at 55c. to 56c. Some lines of Imperial have also been sold. Purchases have been mainly to meet actual wants.

THE HARDWARE TRADE.

Bush, George
Charlton, A. & Co.
Crasham & Caverhill
Currie, W. & F. P., & Co.
Fraser & Evans
Fraser, John Henry
Fretter & Co.
Fraser, F.

Gilbert, E. E.
Hall, Kay & Co.
Inglis, W. H.
Kraus & Edwards
Laidlaw, William, & Co.
Mullholland & Baker
Robertson, Jas.
Rouse, John & Sons
Waddell & Pearce.

WE have at last to report the market as getting lively. The demand for general goods was better than was anticipated, so much so that goods are going out as fast as received. Prices of many staples have given way, and we quote about the market rates at which goods can now be got, rates which we think are lower than will rule in a short time. Prices of heavy goods are almost certain to advance.

IRON.—Nearly all the lots arrived have been sold at fully over the rates we now quote. Quotations given are for lots to arrive, which are nearly all taken up as fast as the vessels get in. The quantity so far arrived is not sufficient for the wants of Western Canada alone, and had it not been for the strikes among the men in the Western States, prices would in all probability have been \$1 to \$2 higher than they now are. Many holders of lots to arrive are refusing to sell at present rates.

BAR IRON.—Scotch bars are selling from yard at \$2.10 per 112 lbs. Stocks are by no means complete as yet, first arrivals having been picked up before assorted in yard, and it will be a week before any specifications can be filled. Of Refined Bars none have as yet been received to assort; prices quoted \$3.

FLOORS AND BANDS.—Are now in full supply at our quotations.

BOILER PLATES.—No arrivals as yet. Plenty of 1-inch still held at old rates.

CANADA PLATES.—None yet offered. Prices nominal.

TIN PLATES.—There have been several arrivals, and the assortment is now complete. The market is very dull, however, buyers anticipating a reduction, and holders firm. We quote prices 7½c. under last week's quotations.

CUT NAILS.—Stock is very short. Makers cannot deliver for some time orders already received. In consequence the price is firmer, but we quote no advance, although it is anticipated that prices will be higher.

Subjoined is the frommasters' circular of yesterday. In 10 lbs kegs inclusive: a fair assortment with not over one quarter shingles—under 25 tons \$3 12½ per keg. 25 tons and over \$3 12½ per keg. Shingle Nails, when sold alone, (extra) 20c. per keg. over assortment 20c. per keg. 2lb. and 5lb. Nails, when sold alone (five percent being allowed in assortment) 10c. per keg.

SHELL GOODS.—Stocks are getting complete, and demand is firm. Prices do not vary from last year.

THE LEATHER TRADE.

Hick & Richardson
Snyder, C. E.
Snyder, M. H.
Shaw, F. & Bros.
Smith & F. H.

THE business of the past week has been fair without marked activity, and prices generally continue steady, with no particular disposition on the part of dealers to make concessions, as much as hides are advancing, which will leave a bare margin to tanners at present quotations.

SPRINT-SOLE. The stock on hand is very limited when compared with previous seasons, and sales are about equal if not in excess of receipts at previous rates.

SLAUGHTER SOLE.—Has had rather more inquiry but the market is poorly supplied.

HARNES.—This stock is still scarce, the receipts having been light—and in consequence prices are well sustained.

WAXED UPPER.—A round lot of several hundred sides averaging 9 lbs., has been marketed here by a Toronto house at 46c. Apart from this we learn of no large sales. The receipts are still very small, and the stock in market low.

BUFF AND PUMBLER.—There is an accumulation of ordinary buff, and to some extent of pebble also, which holders are pressing at a slight reduction. Prime stock still commands previous rates.

PATENT AND ENVELLED.—Sales are irregular, the demand being chiefly for small lots and prices are firm.

CALFEKINS.—Choice stock would find ready sale, but poor is neglected.

SPLITS.—The demand is less active, with a somewhat increased stock particularly of heavy, but prices are unchanged.

SHEEPSKINS.—The stock of Russells has been reduced, but apart from some inquiry for light stock, the market is quiet.

HIDES.—Sales of green salted Buenos Ayres have been made at 12½c. and of Western, at 10c. equal to cash.

MONTREAL PRODUCE MARKET.

Aikin & Kirkpatrick
Cameron & Ross
Crawford, James
Hick, Thomas, & Co.
Kirkwood, Livingstone & Co.

Laidlaw, Middleton & Co.
Loring, Thomas & Co.
Mittell, R. H.
Ripley, Thomas W.
Snyder, Jack & Co.
Symonds, C. E.

LOUR.—We have to note more quiet during the week than for the fortnight previous, little speculation being indulged, and operations being comparatively small on account of the Quebec and Lower Port demand for the time being filled, and while the local enquiry as hitherto has been restricted, the slender receipts have kept the market pretty steady. The higher grades are in limited supply and only in retail demand. Superfine ranges from \$3.25 to \$3.50, the demand being mainly restricted to the better brands adapted for baker's use. No. 2 has not a good demand, and sales have latterly been made at \$3.75 to \$3.85. Fine of the better qualities have commanded some attention, and have sold at \$3 to \$3.50, the lower grades are less in favour, Rye flour being substituted to a considerable extent, bringing \$2.20 to \$2.30, according to sample. *Bag Flour.*—Continues to be sparingly supplied, and for the better samples a high range of prices has ruled, we quote \$4.50 to \$4.60 for strictly good and strong, and from \$4.40 to \$4.50 for fair to good.

OATMEAL.—Continues in speculative demand; ruling rate for good Upper Canada brands, \$6.75;