

wools are nearly nominal. We quote A super scarce at 32 to 33c.; B. super 30 to 31c. and No. 1.27c.

## TORONTO MARKETS.

Toronto, May 18, 1882.

There is no activity in any branch of wholesale merchandise, and in some departments trade is extremely dull. This backwardness of the spring trade is owing to bleak weather which has delayed purchases of dry goods. Merchants bought heavily expecting a large movement this spring, but their hopes have not been realized for the reason mentioned. Winter clothing is still being worn in many parts of the Province, and retail stocks of spring goods have been reduced but little. Remittances have been very good, and some merchants report even better than could be expected under the circumstances. Crop reports are eagerly watched, and should the yield turn out as favorable as present indications warrant, a large trade the coming fall may be anticipated.

The money market is rather tighter this week, more stringency being felt by brokers in negotiating for loans. On call the general rate is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., and on time from 6 to  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., but apparently little doing in the latter. Prime commercial paper is discounted at 6, and the usual run at 7 per cent. Sterling exchange continues firm owing to a light export business and few bills in New York; 60 day bills are quoted here at 109 $\frac{1}{2}$ , between banks and demand bills at 110 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 110 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Gold drafts on New York are par to  $\frac{1}{2}$  premium. The stock market has been less active and prices show a decline, the result of a pressure to sell, somewhat due to the tight money market. Montreal Bank stock sold down from 210 to 208 $\frac{1}{2}$  ex-dividend, Toronto 182 ex-dividend, Ontario from 68 to 67 $\frac{1}{2}$ , Commerce from 151 to 149 $\frac{1}{2}$ , Federal from 167 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 165 $\frac{1}{2}$ , Imperial to 138, and Dominion from 214 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 213 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

**BOOTS AND SHOES.**—Travellers are beginning to return after having done a fair sorting-up trade. The weather has not been propitious, still the movement has been of fair proportions. Factories are busy filling orders, and fall samples are being prepared. Prices are unchanged. Consultations between masters and men have been held during the week, respecting a new bill of wages, the men asking an advance. Matters will probably result in a compromise.

**DRY GOODS.**—Our warehousemen find a larger proportion of goods being returned to them this season than usual. The matter is referred to elsewhere in this issue. The goods now in demand, owing to the bright weather, are bunnings, foulle o'oth, nuns' veiling (on which article there is a decided run) watered and moire silks and satins. There is also good request for Spanish and jet laces, while for summer dress, seaside muslins, lace pattern prints, and white goods are being demanded. Millinery goods are also more active, especially satin and faille or satin and surrat ribbons. Staple cotton goods are moving but slowly; there is no activity in country trade as yet. Woollens are not expected to be active in May, yet there is fair request for Irish and Scotch serges. West of England and Scotch trouserings, fine worsted coatings, fine twill venetians and serges for spring overcoats. Special sales have been held during the week by Messrs. Ogilvy & Co. who are removing to new premises, by Messrs. Hughes Brothers and by Messrs. Boyd Bros. & Co. who are enlarging their warehouse, but the average country trader has not felt encouraged to buy largely. As the winter was too warm to enable him to sell

his fall woollens, so the spring has been too cold for the brisk movement of spring goods.

**FLOUR AND MEAL.**—*Flour.*—Stocks in store 4,752 bbls. against 4,527 bbls. last week and 6,813 bbls. in 1881. There has been very little demand and prices are easy. Outside markets have been lower, and buyers seem to hold off. Superior extra, old standard, sold the latter part of last week at \$5.90, but there were no buyers at that price yesterday. No other grades are offering and prices are purely nominal at quotations. *Bran* has not been in such request as previously reported; sales were made on Tuesday at \$15.75 and on Wednesday at \$15.50 here. *Oatmeal.*—Quiet and firm, with car lots of ordinary worth about \$1.85 and choice \$5.00. *Cornmeal* is firm at \$4.10 to 4.20 in small lots.

**GRAIN.**—Total stocks in store 317,475 bushels against 335,540 bush. last week and 333,836 bush. last year. The volume of business has been light and prices easier. *Fall Wheat.*—Stocks in store 195,332 bushels as compared with 223,184 bushels last week and 89,147 bush. in 1881. Prices a little irregular with sales of No. 2 on Friday at \$1.32 on spot and outside at equal to \$1.30. On Tuesday a round lot sold at \$1.31 $\frac{1}{2}$  No 3 sold at \$1.27 on Tuesday. *Spring Wheat.*—Stocks in store 80,641 bush. against 76,643 bush. last week and 137,513 bush. in 1881. On Tuesday ten cars of No. 2 sold at \$1.34, and on Wednesday 5,000 bush. at \$1.35 No. 1 wanted at \$1.36. *Oats.*—Stocks in store 10,513 bush. demand good, receipts being limited prices ruled firm, western sold at 49c. on track and at 50c. f.o.c. *Barley* Stocks in store 12,001 bush. as compared with 11,480 bush. last week and 69,557 bush. in 1881. Transactions this week chiefly confined to small and mixed lots, as the season is about over. On Saturday broken lots of No. 1 sold at 88 to 89c. and of No. 2 choice at 87c on track. On Monday a car of No. 2 sold at 86c, No. 3 extra at 84c, and No. 3 at 80c. *Peas.*—The only sale reported is 2 cars of No. 2 on Tuesday at 84c. *Rye.*—Stocks in store 11,393 bush. No sales reported, and prices purely nominal. *Corn* quiet and nominal at 92 to 95c.

**GROCERIES.**—Trade quiet the past week, but more activity is looked for shortly. Sugars are generally steady, with a good demand for raws. Canadian refined slow of sale, but more enquiry for samples. Syrups firm at former prices. Teas fairly active and steady; with a slight advance in Japanese, sales of common at 21c. and 22c., and of medium at 28c. Young Hysons steady at 40c. for firsts, 30c. to 33c. for seconds and 22c. for thirds. Low to medium Congous sold at 21 to 25c., and fine at 38 to 42c. Fruits fairly active with sales of 2,000 boxes of Elms raisins for New York, at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. here, and a job lot of sultanais at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. Currants sold at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. for a 50 bbls. lot of medium.

**HARDWARE.**—Business has been fairly active during the past week, some houses reporting an increased movement as compared with last year. There has been strong demand for farm implements, and unusually large quantities of spades, shovels and hoes sold. Although the manufacture of these articles has been large, great difficulty is found in supplying the demand. Shelf hardware moves freely. Nails continue unchanged at \$2.85 to 2.90; Manila Rope is higher at 13c.; Pig Iron is in small stock, with none but Carnbroe for sale, transactions in which have been made at \$26. New arrivals expected daily. English advices report ingot tin steady at £102 per ton, an advanced price. English copper has advanced £3. We quote I. C. charcoal plates \$5.50 to 5.75.

**HIDES AND SKINS.**—The hide market is quiet with prices unchanged. Offerings of green are fair and steady at 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. for No. 1 cows and at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. for No. 1 steers. One or two cars of cured sold at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. *Calfskins* are offering more freely and are unchanged in price. *Sheepskins* are in

limited supply, the season now being about over. A few sold at \$1.60 to 1.65. *Lambskins*, 25c.

**LIQUORS AND CIGARS.**—The demand for strong liquors has not been brisk of late, lighter beverages such as ales and wines being preferred as "spring drinks." Advices from Paris 1st May report spirits firm, but stocks heavy, and the market without animation. Reports as to the bad effects of white frosts in Burgundy and the South, on the wine trade prospects, are exaggerated. Connor's trade letter states that grafting vines on American stock is being more widely adopted, as an effective means of resisting the *phylloxera*. The French wine market is meanwhile dull.

The demand has set in for a better quality of cigars during the last year or two, possibly because people feel better able to afford them. Of course five cent cigars must still be had for the average country bar-room, and for the small shops scattered through the cities, and these are mainly domestic for the reason that our tariff discriminates against the cheap imported cigar. But just as it is possible now to retail a 15 cent Havana where its purchaser used to limit himself to a 10 cent domestic, so the wholesaler finds he can get \$65 to \$70 per 1000 where a few years ago he could not get over \$50 or \$60. We remark that a Jamaica firm of tobacco planters and manufacturers, Messrs. Thompson & Weitzmann, of Kingston, are sending to this market in larger quantity and variety their *Flor de Potosi* cigars. In neatness of package as well as in flavor and value, these are pronounced ahead of former specimens from that island, and suit the taste of many who like a "mild but well constructed smoke."

**LEATHER.**—Fair demand both from city and country, and prices continue steady at quotations. Slaughter sole and heavy harness have changed hands in moderate quantity and the outlook appears favorable for a good spring trade.

**PETROLEUM.**—Movement moderate at unchanged prices. Canadian refined sells at 18 to 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.; American prime at 23c. and water white at 25c. In Petrolia the crude market remains dull and prices nominally unchanged at \$1.50 per barrel.

**WOOL.**—Very little fleece offers, and prices are nominal at 20 to 22c. There has been a fair trade in pulled wools, with sales of super at 27 and 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ c, and of extra at 33c.

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