

\$6.50; Spring Extra, \$5.95 to \$6.00; Superfine, \$5.75 to \$5.80; Fine, \$5.15 to \$5.20; Ontario bags, \$2.95 to \$3.00; City bags, \$3.20 to \$3.25; Oatmeal, \$4.60 to \$4.70.

**GROCERIES.**—As usual at this season quietness mostly prevails. A fair ordinary trade, however, continues on orders.—Efforts must be kept up to have freights as moderate as possible, so as not to give cause for complaint or to be used against the winter trade of this city. Probably a competing railway would be the best remedy, and the trade of the country is getting to want increased facilities. In meantime freights may be called still moderate.

**Sugars.**—Market easier, a reduction of about 1c on all kinds is to be reported. Raw Sugars are 8c to 9½c; Yellow Refined, 8½c to 10½c; Granulated, 10c to 10½c. **Teas.**—Some doctored Japans from United States on offer do not meet with approval, and justly so. We must put down all attempts to put spurious articles on the market. The days of Canton made Green Teas, so very injurious and filthy, happily were about brought to end when Japan Teas were first introduced. If will be too bad if reputation of Japan Teas is damaged because of these wrong doings. Low Sweet Japan Tea is 31c to 36c; fair to fine and choice, 37c to 59c; Young Hyson, steady; Black Teas, dull. **Molasses and Syrups** rather lower, say about 1c to 2c, dull. **Coffees.**—No change. Java firm, 30c to 37c. **Rice.** \$4.25 to \$4.50. **Spices.**—A further advance in pepper reported from Britain by Cable. Other Spices firm. **Fruits.**—Valencia Raisins dull, 7½c to 8c; Layers, \$2.20 to \$2.40; Loose Muscatel, \$2.45 to \$2.65; Sultana, 9c to 10½c; Currants, new, 6½c to 8½c.

**HARDWARE.**—There is little or nothing new to report in this market. The change in prices noted last week is unattended with specific results, as it has taken place at a season when orders are not coming in nor are expected. The trade is in every way pleased with the situation, both on account of business done during the past season and the outlook for the next. The iron market abroad is still very strong, and no cloud of doubt seems to mar the prospect of sustained improvement. The extraordinary shipments of iron to Baltimore, noticed in another part of this number, may be taken as a straw showing which way the wind blows. We note that Mr. Hilton, referred to last week as in favor with the trade, has received appointment to the vacant Appraiser-ship.

**HAY.**—The market is well supplied with hay and straw for this season of the year. Prices are quoted a little higher than in our last report, \$8 to \$9 being asked for Timothy per 100 bundles, \$5 to \$7 for common and \$3 to \$5 for Straw. The receipts of Hay last week were 700 loads.

**HIDES.**—The character of demand noted last week is unchanged, while prices remain the same, namely, \$7, \$8 and \$9. Everything coming into market is so eagerly bought up that higher prices at an early day are by some considered not improbable. There has been quite a stir in sheepskins, resulting in an advance of anywhere from 20c to 50c. A lively competition has suddenly sprung up for the control of the market, and the prices made are regarded as fancy. Sales are reported ranging from \$1.20 to \$1.50, according to quality.

**HOPS.**—We note a report to the effect that there has been quite a collapse in this market, and we have but little doubt that, had there been here a discoverable market, it would have changed in a manner to justify such a description, for New York is about three cents lower than last week, and fully five cents below the prices of a fortnight ago. Here, however, there have been no dealings since those last reported, nor, so far as we can learn, any offerings at a concession; though very likely the views of holders have undergone some modification. There are those who find in the present appearance of the market only a speculative effect produced by very cunning operators whose real object is to buy, and we have been permitted to see a private letter in which this view is confidently put forward and bolstered with the prediction that the writer will yet get

for his hops higher prices than have yet been paid this season. The explanation of the decline is decidedly far fetched, but lack of sufficient data upon which to base an opinion forbids us to dismiss the prophesy with a like suggestion of non-concurrence. We give the following New York quotations from the *Commercial Bulletin* of Wednesday as the best available criterion of the value of hops in this market: Crop of 1879, state, choice to fancy, 40c to 43c; crop of 1879, state, good to prime, 36c to 38c; crop of 1879, state, common to fair, 30c to 35c; crop of 1878, state, choice, 18c to 20c; crop of 1878, state, good to prime, 15c to 17c; crop of 1878, state, poor to fair, 10c to 14c.

**LEATHER.**—The leather market still "booming," B. A. and Buffalo sole having advanced another cent per lb. the past week. Splits are in good demand at prices quoted, with an upward tendency. Very little demand for wax upper at present, but holders are firm at prices quoted, viz., 40c to 42c per lb. Buff and Pebble are in fair request. Hides scarce.

**LIVE STOCK.**—Eight cars of Cattle and a few Hogs were received at the St. Gabriel Market this week. The prices were about the same as last week, being 2c to 4½c; the bulk of business done was at 4c per lb. live weight. The demand was small and prices not encouraging to sellers. The market will not likely recover from this stagnant position till the Christmas trade begins, when the arrivals will be larger and of choicer qualities. Hogs sold for \$4.50 per cwt. The following sales were made: 3 Cattle at 4½c; 13 at 3c; 7 at 4½c; and 3 for \$145. 25 Hogs were done at \$4.50, 1 car at \$4.50, and 20 at \$4.50. Canadian cattle are now being shipped to the English markets via Boston. The receipts at Point St. Charles last week were 25 cars of Cattle, 5 of Hogs, and 3 of Sheep. At the Vigor market on Tuesday, about 80 head of cattle were offered, a number of sheep and lambs and some fine cows. A slight improvement was noticed owing probably to the day previous being a holiday. Most of the cattle were sold at 3c to 3½c per lb., this figure being a little below that obtained last, but the sales were larger and more satisfactory all round. **Horses.**—The market is very poorly supplied, it being difficult, through the bad state of the roads, to bring horses to the city. The demand is good, and there are a number of dealers on here from the States waiting to make purchases. No sales of any consequence have taken place this week. 70 Horses at a cost of \$5,000 were shipped to the States last week.

**OILS.**—Continue without much activity, but stocks of leading lines being light this year, we may look for higher prices in the near future. Cod Oil is slightly higher. **Naval Stores** are dull and unchanged. **Paints** in light demand.

**PROVISIONS.—Butter.**—The views of buyer and seller are so far apart that virtually no business is doing. Holders are still asking all sorts of prices, as though the late excitement and buoyancy were continuing unabated; but the truth is that sales can only be effected at a very considerable concession from nominal rates. Late private cable advices from Liverpool are that the market there is "dead," while letters just received are to the effect that no orders need be expected, until holders can make up their minds to discount no little part of the recent speculative advances. It is said, and very plausibly, too, in explanation of the fancy prices made here, that some Americans made quite a number of scattering purchases without much regard to price, and so created an impression that there was an eager demand which would surely sweep this market clear. The purchases made in this way are reported to have been confined to small lots of 25 or 50 packages each at the outside, not numbering more than 500 packages all told. This side light thrown upon some of the highest prices made accords well with the present tone and condition of the market, but it is not offered and should not be understood as an explicit statement of fact, but simply as current gossip having, not improbably, an average good foundation. We learn of the sale of about 2,000

packages of Kamouraska, fair average lot, on private terms. The holder had previously been offering the lot at 18½c, and the assumption is that the actual price was somewhat below this figure; this, however, is mere conjecture. We also hear of the sale of a small lot of Townships at 22c. Outside of these transactions no dealings overstepping the limits of retail business are reported. The increased favor into which oleomargarine is coming, or rather the rapidly extending use of that commodity, is entering into the problem of the right price of butter as an important factor, but as yet its influences are chiefly confined to the American market. Fodder butter is now coming forward rather freely, but consignees find it impossible to effect sales, as shippers are not buying. In the condition of the market as herein represented we widen quotations by reducing minimum figures to fit better with the views of buyers, premising that all the prices given are but nominal. **Cheese.**—We reduce our quotation for full-make ½c. Stocks are very much concentrated; no sales are making, and the market is quite at a stand-still. The cable remains firm at 6½s. for extra fine, and, to all appearances, the market both abroad and here is yet strong. No condition of market, however, is more treacherous than that in which one or two holders virtually monopolize visible supply. They have the power, within certain limits, to make prices at will, but not until they seriously attempt to sell can the true strength, or hidden weakness, of the market, as the case may be, become known.

**Tobaccos.**—Manufacturers of plug report good demand with light stocks. As will be seen by price current, most lines have advanced from 1c to 2c per lb., and from reports from leaf markets the prospects are that the advance will be maintained with possible further advance. **Cigars.**—The demand for domestics continues good, prices rather firmer, and prices must soon advance as leaf is higher and advancing.

**WINES AND LIQUORS.**—The firmness of price in brandies continues, and we note a confident expectation that ruling rates will be maintained, and very likely further advanced. The failure of the grape crop in the Cognac and Champagne districts, France, has caused a much more marked advance abroad than shown by prices here, and, moreover, stocks in this country are confessedly light, so that the strength of the market prospective as well as present is hardly open to question. **Gins** are also in limited supply, with prices very firm. A leading dealer looks forward to the draining of this market completely during the course of the winter, so that late demand will have to be met by rail importations. Prices unchanged.

**Wool.**—The feeling in this market is reported a little quieter than last week, but there would seem to be no abatement of strength. Prices are very firmly maintained, and we quote "Tub Washed" as it is generally sold here, 28c to 30c; Pulled Extra, 30c to 32c; Pulled Supers, 28c to 30c; Unassorted, 28c to 30c. The market for Greasy Cape wool still presents the features last reported, with perhaps something added of firmness. Sales have taken place as high as 22c, and we are informed that holders by no means jump at the price, but are keeping themselves in readiness to ask higher figures, and rather expect to do so before the end of the week. Whether or not these expectations should be realized, as to which we but give the views current in the market, there is certainly a very strong tone to be noted at the present time.

## TORONTO MARKETS.

Toronto, Dec. 11.

Market quiet. Flour firmly held, with buyers and sellers apart; Superior Extra sold at equal to \$5.80 yesterday, and the same price would be paid to-day, but holders ask \$6. Wheat quieter in sympathy with the States, still round lots of No. 2. Fall would bring \$1.31; No. 1 Spring, \$1.28 to \$1.29, and No. 2 Spring \$1.27 f.o.c. Oats offering at 36c. on track and not taken. Barley inactive but steady, with No. 1 very scarce and worth 80c;