

**LEATHER.**—February is destined to be a quiet month, notwithstanding the bright hopes of tanners at the beginning of the year and the satisfactory orders received during the first weeks of January. Business in boot and shoe circles is dragging, and manufacturers are exceedingly cautious about placing orders for leather. Splits are worth 17 to 18c.; pebble grain, 12 to 14c.; buff 12 to 14c.; sumac, 3c.; degas, 2½ to 2¾c. But the transactions made are of a jobbing character and not large.

**PROVISIONS.**—During the latter part of last week, receipts of butter were light, as the country roads are, in many districts, blockaded by snow; this week, however, receipts have increased, but prices continue well maintained for choice qualities. Inferior descriptions are difficult to sell at any price. We quote:—Large rolls, 14 to 15c.; pound prints, 15 to 17c.; dairy tubs, 15 to 16c.; bakers', 8 to 10c. per pound. The supply of creamery continues sufficient to meet the consumptive demand. We quote:—Tubs, 19 to 20c.; pound prints, 21 to 22c. per pound. There is a better feeling in hog products; the demand from the country has materially improved and the number of orders increased. Offerings of dressed hogs are larger, but there is still a difference between buyers and sellers; merchants are bidding \$5 delivered, while holders ask \$5 outside. Owing to the sharp reduction in the price of live hogs, the offerings of dressed have increased, and the situation is undoubtedly weaker. Local trade in cheese continues fairly good, but the export demand remains quiet. Shippers are looking for a marked improvement for the export trade during March. The recent cold snap has had a very bad effect upon the receipts in the egg market, and offerings have fallen off. Dealers have been compelled to draw heavily upon their stocks of limed and held fresh. We quote:—Strictly new laid, 18c.; limed, 14c.; held fresh, 12 to 15c. per doz. Offerings of dried and evaporated apples are larger and sales difficult to effect. Dried are offered at 4c., merchants asking 4½ to 5c. per pound; evaporated are worth 6 to 7½c.

**SEEDS.**—The snow blockade has practically put an end to deliveries on the Toronto market. Prices remain unchanged. Red clover continues firm, merchants paying \$5 per bushel to country buyers for good quality seed; re-cleaned stocks are being jobbed at \$4.85 to 5.25. There is a lull in the alsike trade, the demand having fallen off; prices continue unaltered. Timothy is somewhat easier in feeling than a week ago, but former quotations continue nominally without change. With the continued absence of foreign demand for flax it is difficult to say what prices would be if any considerable quantity of seed were offered on the market.

**WOOL.**—There is only an occasional lot of fleece wool sold on this market at present. Of pulled wools, there is little encouraging to report. Values remain without change. Holders would like to get 22c. for choice super, but it is very difficult to effect sales at this price. The mills report moderate activity. At the auction of low wools in London, prices ranged on about the same basis as at the November sales, and in some descriptions one farthing in advance.

## LIVERPOOL PRICES.

Liverpool, Feb. 20, 12.30 p. m.

	s.	d.
Wheat, Spring .....	5	9
Red, Winter .....	5	9½
No. 1 Cal .....	5	10½
Corn .....	3	0½
Peas .....	4	0½
Lard .....	28	5
Pork .....	52	6
Bacon, heavy .....	26	0
Bacon, light .....	27	0
Tallow .....	20	9
Cheese, new white .....	45	0
Cheese, new colored .....	45	0

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January 1, 1895

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Liabilities, including the Reserve on all existing Policies (4 per cent. Standard) .....	\$141,762,463 20
Total Undivided Surplus .....	20,249,307 73
Income .....	36,483,513 53
New Ins. written in 1894 .....	200,086,248 00
Outstanding Insurance .....	\$13,294,160 00

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HENRY TUCK, Vice-President.

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W. C. MACDONALD, Actuary

J. K. MACDONALD, Managing Director