

GROCERIES.—The active business of the year in this line is about done except for fruits. The demand has been steady all week in a small way for sundries, but very few lines are selling. Payments are very satisfactory. *Fruits* are in increased request, as is to be expected just now, prices are advanced, in *Valencias* especially, which were for weeks past being sold for less than they could be imported for. We quote them 8½ to 9c. and by no means plentiful. *Sultanias* are in small supply and have risen to 10½ and 11c. *Currants*.—Stocks light, prices are firm and expected to advance. Quite an active demand exists for fine goods, but no one has them; as we have previously written, the crop was badly damaged by rain. The *Sugars* market remains steady, with but very moderate movement, we do not alter our quotations. There is no feature in *teas*, which show an ordinary movement at last week's prices. *Tobaccos* are maintained in value, but are not moving very briskly. Some brands of *Liquors* are in request as Christmas approaches, and the demand for nuts and candid peel is decided.

HIDES AND SKINS.—A fall has taken place in the price of green *Hides*, 10c. is now paid for steers and 9½c. for cows. A car load of cured cow sold at 9½c., and 10 to 10½c. is likely now to be the price, if indeed they do not go lower. *Calfskins* are unchanged. *Sheepskins*.—Green \$1.40 to 1.50.

HARDWARE.—The latest advices from Britain do not indicate any material change from last week's report as to prices, and we do not alter our quotations here.

PROVISIONS.—According to the Cincinnati *Price Current*, the hogs packed at that city, Chicago, and ten other Western points from Nov. 1st to Dec. 11th numbered 2,593,000 against 2,190,000 same period last year. A gain of 403,000 on the season thus far although the latest week shows a falling off equal to 100,000 hogs. That paper estimates the total packing in the West at 3,175,000 an increase of 250,000 over last year for the corresponding period. Prices of hogs in Cincinnati have risen 10 to 15c. on the week, and are now about the same as on December 10th, 1879. Trade continues quiet here. *Dressed Hogs* are somewhat easier, sales of carloads have been made at \$6.00. Prices for hog products are unchanged. *Butter*, as well as *Cheese*, is dull and easier.

WOOL.—Signs of improvement continue; a good deal of fleece is coming in, and 30c. is the ruling price, as high as 31c. being paid for choice parcels. *Pulled* does not move quite so readily. We note that a lot of 5000 lbs. *Super* was bought this week by a dealer at 29½c.; the best *Super* sells at 31c. For *Extra*, 35c is paid, and we hear of sales at 36 and 36½c.

MARITIME MARKETS.

HALIFAX, N.S., 13th Dec. 1880.

Business generally is fairly active for the season and breadstuffs held at firm prices. The stock of flour is ample, but cornmeal is in limited supply. Oatmeal plentiful and steady. The weather has moderated, and numbers of coasting vessels have reached the harbor. Prices of flour and meal are as follow:—Choice pastry \$8 to 8.75; superior extra choice, \$6.25 to 6.50; superior extra \$6.15 to 6.30; spring extra \$6.10 to 6.20; strong bakers' \$6.00 to 6.50; superfine \$5.40 to 5.60; extra State \$5.50 to 6.00; *Oatmeal*—Canada \$5.15 to 5.25; yellow k.d. cornmeal \$3.50; fresh ground cornmeal \$3.40.

ST. JOHN, 13th Dec., 1880

Trade is quiet and not much demand for shipping. The supply of breadstuffs is limited, but prices are not improved, rather weaker if anything. We quote Canadian flour, superior extra \$6.15 to 6.50; strong bakers' \$6.25 to 6.40. *Extra* \$5.85 to 6.00. *Oatmeal* \$5.00 to 5.10; *Cornmeal*, \$3.25 to 3.40.

THE BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY OF CANADA.

INCORPORATED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT, 1880.

Capital, \$300,000, in 3,000 Shares of \$100.

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VICE-PRESIDENT AND MANAGING DIRECTOR—C. F. SISE.

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This Company has purchased and now owns the valuable Telephone properties, rights and good will of the Montreal Telegraph Co.; the Dominion Telegraph Co.; the Canadian District Telegraph; the Western Union Telegraph Co. (in Canada); the London Telephone Co.; The Hamilton Telephone Co. and the Windsor Telephone Exchange. It is licensed to use all the patents in Canada, applicable to telephony, owned, or which may hereafter be acquired by the Canadian Telephone Company, Limited; comprising all those formerly owned by the American Bell Telephone Co.; the Gold and Stock Telegraph Co.; The American Speaking Telephone Co.; and the Western Union Telegraph Co., including the patents of Bell, Blake, Edison, Gray, Anders, Watson, Jacques, and others, and will have the exclusive right to use, in Canada, any improvement or future inventions applicable to Telephony, of A. Graham Bell.

The Company owns and is now operating more than 2000 miles of wire, with over 2000 subscribers, and has, in addition, some 200 private lines of from one quarter mile to 5 miles in length. It has Exchanges at Montreal, Hamilton, Winnipeg, Halifax, Woodstock, St. Thomas, Fredericton, N.B., Port Hope, Lindsay, Brockville, Napanee, Quebec, London, Victoria, B.C., St. John, N.B., Chatham, Yarmouth, N.S., Kingston, Belleville, Paris, Clinton, Ottawa, Windsor, Brantford, St. Catharines, Ingersoll, Moncton, N.B., Guelph, Bowmanville, Whitby, Mill Point, Oshawa, and several other smaller places. The private line service connecting two or more points with each other where there is no Exchange System is increasing rapidly, and is also used to connect points in the Dominion with points in the United States.

The business of the Company is now in successful operation, and free of income branch, without any of the stock having been heretofore placed on the market. But the demand for telephone service increases so rapidly, and the uses of the telephone appear so illimitable, that the Directors have authorized the sale of a small amount of stock, which will be sold fully paid, and at a par of \$100 per share.

Subscriptions for stock will close on the 21st inst., and the Directors reserve the right of advancing the price at any time. For further particulars apply to

D. LORN MACDOUGALL,
No. 11 Hospital St.,
MONTREAL.

Dec. 16th, 1880.