

stock in store at six o'clock on Wednesday evening was 1,807 brls. Pota. and 678 brls. Pearl.

**BOOTS AND SHOES.**—A very light trade continues, there being very little call for winter goods, for which there is usually a brisk demand at this stage of the season; a few travelers are out with Spring samples, but few orders have yet been taken for future delivery.

**DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.**—Little or nothing doing in this line during the past week. Prices without change and merely nominal.

**Dry Goods.**—We are pleased to hear of a little more animation in this department during the last few days, owing, we suppose, to the pleasurable change in the weather and to the nearness of the Christmas holidays. Our City retail trade has been quiet so far this month, the streets being almost impassable from slush and mud. Remittances are nothing to brag about.

**DRESSED HOGS.**—The mild weather which still continues prevents the slaughtering of hogs by the farmers, and the market is therefore comparatively dull. A few car lots have been sold. Quotations may be given at \$5.50 to \$5.75.

**FISH.**—Dull as dull can be. Green Cod, lower draft \$4.75, No. 1; Barrels, No. 1, \$4.50.

**FLOUR.**—The trade has been inactive during the week, the demand from all quarters being very light. Prices remain nominally the same, but holders would probably make small concession to effect sales.

**Liverpool, 13th Dec., 11.30 a.m.** (From W. J. Fairbairn.) Wheat market dull, but not quotably lower. Flour, 26s 6d to 32s; Spring, 10s 4d to 11s 2d; Red Winter, 11s to 11s 6d; White, 12s 7d to 12s 11d; club, 12s 10d to 13s 4d; Corn, 25s 6d to 26s 9d; Oats, 3s; Peas, 37s; Barley 3s 6d; Pork, 56s; Lard, 43s; Bacon, 36s to 37s; Cheese, 64; Tallow, 40s; Beef, 86s 6d.

**London, 13th Dec., 11.30 a.m.**—Consols, 95 7-16; money 9s 7-16 for account; four and half's, 104½; fives, 106½; Erie, 98; Fid. 27½; N.Y.C., 107; I. C., 72½.

**Chicago, 13th Dec., 11.27 a.m.**—Wheat \$1.08 cash; \$1.08½ to \$1.08½ Jan.; Corn, 43½c Dec.; 43½c to 43½c May. Oats, 24½c cash; 28½c to 28½c May; Pork, \$12.00 Jan.; \$12.15 to \$17½ Feb.; Lard, \$7.87½ to \$7.90 Jan.; \$7.97½ to \$8.00 Feb. Receipts and Shipments.—Wheat, 49,000 and 9,000; Corn, 34,000 and 35,000; Oats, 27,000 and 16,000; Barley, 11,000 and 8,000.

**FURS AND SKINS.**—No change in business or prices. We quote:—Coon 25c. to 50c.; Rat, Fall, 7c. to 10c.; Rat, Winter, 10c. to 12c.; Rat, Spring, 12c. to 15c.; Fox, 90c. to \$1.10; Marten in no demand; Skunk, Blk, 25c. to 40c.; Mink, Western Canada, good colors, \$1.00 to \$1.50; Mink, Eastern Canada, Dark, prime small, \$1.00 to \$1.50; large, \$1.50 to \$2.00; Fisher, \$4.00 to \$6.00; Lynx, \$1.50 to \$2.00; Beaver, Fall clean pelt per lb., \$1.25 to \$1.50; Winter do., \$1.50 to \$1.75; Bear, large prime, \$6.00 to \$10.00; Cub do., \$2.00 to \$5.00. The stagnation that has existed so long in this department continues, and will continue without any chance for an improvement in prices. Rat and Marten skins are not in demand, and are the drug of the European as well as of our market. Our advice to all dealers is, don't pay speculative prices for skins of any description.

**HANDWARE.**—Trade in this line is still dull and likely to remain so for some time. For quotation See *Prices Current*.

**Hops.**—The Hop market has not been so dull for fifteen years as it is at present. This is caused by the large crop and the curtailment in the consumption of beer, the hard times and the Dunkin Act, we presume, tending to produce the latter. Stocks are principally in the hands of the growers and brewers. There is considerable margin between buyer and seller, and prices may be quoted at 5c. to 9c.

**LEATHER.**—A little improvement has taken place in this line. Buff and Pebble sold freely; also Medium and Calf Splits. Waxed Upper is not in demand. First Class Slaughter is in good demand with limited supply. Grain Leather continues dull of sale. The Hide market is still active.

**LIVE STOCK.**—The arrivals of Live Stock

by rail at Point St. Charles last week were 29 carloads of cattle, 550 sheep and lambs and 160 hogs; these also were brought to the city by way of Longueuil and Lachine about 180 head of cattle and 200 sheep and lambs. On Monday two carloads more of cattle arrived from the West and between 80 and 90 head from the townships. The market was firm. One dealer made the following sales:—A carload of cattle at \$30 per head; four choice steers, weighing 5,130 lbs, at a little less than 54c per lb; five steers weighing 5,550 lbs, and two steers weighing 2,270 lbs, at 44c per lb; two steers weighing 2,660 lbs, at 44c per lb; eight cattle for \$140; six cattle for \$298 and three cattle for \$84. Another dealer bought 22 cattle at \$24 each and 18 cattle for \$956. Seven steers, averaging 1100 lbs each, were sold at \$5 per 100 lbs, less one dollar on each steer. The same dealer also sold six cattle, weighing 5,450 lbs, at 4c per lb, and six choice cattle at 44c per lb; twenty small cattle at \$26 each, and six others at \$20 each. At the Viger market there have been some good milch cows offered, but sales were slow as the prices asked were considered high. A fine cow sold for \$48 and her calf for \$2; 3 cows for \$41 each; 3 calves for \$15. Prices ranged from \$29 to \$40 for average cows. Sheep sold at from \$3.50 to \$5 each and lambs at from \$3 to \$4. Only a few small lots of live hogs have arrived. One lot of 28 was sold at 5c per lb. At New York last Saturday two carloads of Extra Canada lambs 90 lbs average brought close to 6½c. A carload of extra wethers were holding for more than 6½c per lb. Coughlin Bros., of the township of Stephen, County of Huron, have, from the 1st of September to the 1st of December, shipped the enormous number of 7,000 sheep and 400 hogs direct to the old country, 5,000 sheep going to Liverpool, and two thousand sheep and the 400 hogs to the Glasgow market. The hogs were all bought in the township of Stephen.

**LUMBER.**—An Ottawa correspondent, speaking of the lumber prospects, says they are brightening. The cut of logs this year is estimated at only three-fourths, some say two-thirds of the average of the last three years. A curtailment in the square timber production is also being made. Some eight million feet is lying at Quebec this winter, being four million more than was wintered there last year. Without a considerable improvement in the trade with Great Britain, the square timber men will better themselves very slightly, even supposing they adhere strictly to the reduction agreement. The continued depression has checked considerably the manufacture of square timber on the River Bonaventure this year. Mr. Bonfield has a number of men engaged in cutting saw-logs. The revival of trade throughout the States being now apparent, the prospects of the sawn lumber trade are good. Messrs. Batson & Currier are shipping some lumber, red pine, by rail to the Boston market. The shipment of sawn lumber for this year may now be considered closed. The result of the season's business is reported on the whole very satisfactory, and a decided improvement on that of last year, and especially in the reduction of losses through bad debts. The shipments during the year reach 110,757,874 feet, valued at \$1,114,176.55; against 103,228,630 for 1876, valued at \$1,024,957.17. The value of the whole lumber exports from St. John, N.B., last month was \$43,000, against \$166,000 in November of last year. Deals forwarded to Europe last month was 3,362,000 superficial feet, against 13,926,000 feet for the same period last year. There is a large falling off of birch timber shipped and no pine was exported. The eleven months' business, however, far exceeds that of the last two years. In the Montreal local market there is no change to note.

**OILS.**—There is no movement in oils to speak of. Small orders come in occasionally for machinery oils, but no demand for other kinds. *Naval Stores and Paints* are dull and nominal.

**PROVISIONS.**—Butter. The market may be called decidedly firm, with a much better enquiry from all quarters. There has been quite a few transactions during the week, but the bulk of the sales are of either poor or fair quality, and the

prices obtained are decidedly full, considering quality. From our conversation with shippers we are led to believe that, if the holders of fine stock were inclined to sell, there would be considerable sales to report, at much better figures than those given for sales which have transpired. From all we can learn, the only lots of butter pressed for sale by holders consist almost entirely of either inferior or fair to good grades, of which there is probably 8,000 to 10,000 pkgs., and they could be bought all the way from 10c. to 15c. per lb.; but shippers claim such grades are not at present wanted, and can be bought to a decidedly better advantage in the States. We cannot find any holders of really good to choice lots anxious to entertain business on a basis of present extreme quotations, unless it be for choice selections suitable for local trade, these grades are, however, scarce and, it is only fair to say, do not come up to what may be called wholesale transactions. English advices show a little better state of things, and quite a free sale for all good to choice lots among late arrivals. The New York market also shows greater strength and more business doing, with an intimation that stocks are not so large as have been reported. We find there is a decidedly better feeling amongst the majority of the trade, who expect an improvement from now out, but we hear from others, and who are buyers, a less cheerful tone; but we trace them as purchasers to quite an extent of fair to good grades from 13c to 16c. It now looks as if we should have a better state of things in this article, and that we will soon be able to give more reliable quotations, and which will correspond more with both buyers' and sellers' ideas of values. We find nearly all agree, that stocks on this market have been greatly exaggerated, notwithstanding the same are fully large for the season of the year.

**CHEESE.**—For strictly fine September make there is a decidedly better feeling, and there could be quite a free sale of such, were it in stock here. Some sales have been made early in the week at 11½c to 12½c. We hear of sales above these prices, but they are cable orders, either C.F. & I. or F.O.B. sales, which includes cost and commission added. There is a better feeling in New York, also in English markets, for choice September cheese. It is claimed there are good-sized stocks still back in the States of October and November cheese which do not appear to be wanted at present, except when prices are moderate, and only then to a limited extent.

**SALT.**—Very dull.

**WHOLESALE GROCERY MARKET.**—Sugars.—An advance of 4th to 4 cts. may be noted in the States on Granulated and Extra C Sugars. In Britain the tendency to drop may be considered as probably arrested. Yellow here are 7½ to 8½; Granulated 9½ to 9½. *Teas.*—Market closes firm for Grades up to good medium Japans, and some have been withdrawn for an advance. Other Teas quiet. *Molasses and Syrups.*—Prices reduced about 2 cts. Dull. *Coffees* firmer for all kinds Java about 1 to 2 cts. higher. *Rice, Spices and Fruits.*—Quiet. Some demand for fine kinds of Raisins.

**Wool.**—No change in the market. See *Prices Current*.

## OIL REPORT.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Petrolia, Dec. 11th, 1877.—Business quiet but prices are fully maintained. Since last report the Combination has been strengthened by the only outside producer of any importance having signed the articles of agreement. Developing has been rather slack during the past month, but shows some signs of reviving. Three wells have been sunk recently on the old Bothwell Territory, but they were all dry holes, and most of the wells now under weight have been much impeded by the bad condition of the roads. The Shipments for last week were as follows: Crude 6,550 barrels; Distillate, 580 barrels; Refined Oil, 560 barrels. Prices: Crude, \$2.08 cts. per barrel; Refined Oil, 14 cts. per wine gallon F. O. B. London.