

clear by offering as an inducement low prices. There is hardly any new butter in yet—not sufficient to establish values for it. Fresh rolls in baskets are worth 17c to 19c. *Cheese*.—The English cablegram quoted 59s to-day, an advance of 1s. Business has been light and of a jobbing order. Quotations elsewhere. *Eggs*.—During the week there were sales of fresh in brls and cases at 18c to 19c. To-day under the Easter demand the market was firm at 19c; lined 12c to 14c. *Provisions*.—There was a moderate business at about former prices, which are given in another column.

**FREIGHTS**.—Through rates of freight on grain from points west of Toronto to Liverpool via Portland are 27c to 31c. Freight from Montreal via Portland are quoted as follows:—Grain 6s per quarter. Flour 3s per bbl, or 30s per ton in sacks. Ashes 30s for pots, and 37s 6d for pearls. Butter and cheese 35s. Hops 3d. Cattle 30s to 35s per head.

**FURS**.—The city trade has been quiet, buyers are not eager, and few skins have offered. Mail advices give the results of the Hudson Bay Company's sales. The offerings of otter were 12,237, against 9,207 last year, and prices fell 45 per cent. The offerings of fisher were 4,164 against 3,784 last year, of which Russia took the most at a decline of 35 per cent. Prime silver fox (616 against 332 last year) were held for full value, but common declined 25 per cent. Cross fox (2,156 against 1,460 last year) like other furs for the Russian market, declined 30 per cent. Red fox (9,985 against 4,649 last year) declined 30 per cent., and prime skins were as low as ever within the last forty years. Lynx (23,091 against 8,016 last year) declined 30 per cent. owing to the heavy supply. Bear (10,467 against 5,349 last year) were in strong demand. The collection was a fine one, and prices 10 per cent. higher. Mink (116,603 against 52,258 last year) was neglected, and dropped 40 per cent. to figures which have not been touched for forty years. They were chiefly secured for speculation. Marten (73,747 against 70,802 last year) declined 35 per cent. to the figures current in 1883. Skunk (12,622 against 6,393 last year) were in better demand for large dark skins. The lower qualities declined 25 per cent. At Lamson's sale, on March 30, Russian sable declined 30 to 35 per cent. The following are city quotations, for prime skins:—Beaver per lb., fall \$2, winter \$2.50, spring \$3; bear, per skin, \$7 to \$10; bear cub, per skin, \$5 to \$7.50; fisher per skin, \$2 to \$5; fox, red, per skin, 80c to \$1; fox, cross, per skin, \$2 to \$3.50; lynx, per skin, \$1.75 to \$2.75; marten, per skin, 60c to 80c; mink, per skin, large dark, 50c; small 25c; muskrat, per skin, fall 5c, winter 8c, spring, 12c; otter, per skin, \$6 to \$9; raccoon, 25c, 40c and 70c; skunk, per skin, 15c, 25c and 50c. Skins not prime 25 to 30 per cent. less.

**GREEN FRUITS, etc.**—Oranges have continued to advance, and a cable has been received quoting as high as 23s. Some oranges on the way from Liverpool have cost importers \$8 per case. On spot Valencians are firm at \$7 to \$7.50 per case; Jamaicas in brls. \$8. Lemons are steady at \$3 to \$4 per box. Bermuda tomatoes are quoted at \$1 per box and bananas at \$3 to \$5 per bunch. Apples \$2.40 to \$3 per brl. for good stock. Evaporated apples in 50 lb. boxes 8c to 8½c; dried ditto in brls. 5c. New dates 5½c to 6c; old, 2½c to 3½c. Fresh coconuts are worth \$5 per 100. A consignment of Bordeaux onions is expected in a few days. A few cases of new maple syrup have been received, but no sugar. We quote new syrup at 90c to \$1 per tin as to size, and old at 80c to 90c; old sugar, 7½c to 8½c. Increased activity is reported in most of the above articles.

**GROCERIES**.—The trade is quiet, and there is little interest taken in anything but teas. A New York despatch read:—"It is a very strong

and feverish market for tea; some holders have withdrawn samples, and if the French war is prolonged you will see a higher range of prices." Nearly all teas lying in China have been taken out of bond for export so as to escape any extra duty that may be put on, and the English markets are cabled strong. Since our last, transactions of a limited nature, considerable in the aggregate, have taken place here, and the market is very firm. In Japan teas there is nothing under 20c except absolute rubbish. Japan teas at 27½c to 35c, still show exceptional value, and have not as yet participated in the advance. Notwithstanding a slight falling of in last week's New York auctions, values there and in England are above current prices here. The almost certain continuation of the Chinese war renders it more probable than ever that the Chinese Government will carry out its intention of putting on the additional export duty, and the prospects therefore point to a firm and advancing market for tea. *Coffee* is dull, with easier values for Brazilian. *Rice*.—Whilst there has been no actual advance here the markets in Europe are stronger and it is probable that higher prices will rule; otherwise the rice milling industry of England is in a fair way of being badly crippled, if not wiped out. A London cable reported the market firm and advancing. The first steamer for Montreal was due to sail from Akyab on the 27th ult. *Sugars*.—Refined has been shaded 1-8c. The market remains dull, without any evidence of change before the middle of the month. At that time it is expected that consequent upon the summer freight rates coming into force a more active demand will be experienced, and as refiners claim present prices leave an actual loss, and as the markets for raw sugars are at least firm, it is perhaps not unreasonable to expect that an advance of ½c to 1c on yellows and ¾c on white will take place. *Spices*.—Pepper continues firm, and some shipments from New York to Europe have been made, which has further stiffened the market. There has been a fair jobbing here at firm prices. Ginger has been enquired for. Stocks of spices generally are well under control. *Fruit*.—Valencia raisins are about steady, and a fair business has been accomplished. A round lot of good stock sold at 7½c. Good to prime are quoted at 7c to 8c, common to fair at 5½c to 6c, and inferior at 4c to 4½c. Sultanas continue plentiful and slow of sale at 6c to 7c for good. Currants are in good supply and quiet at 4½c to 7c, as to quality. Bordeaux prunes are quoted at 4c, and Turkish at 5c to 5½c. Almonds are quiet, at 13c to 14c for Tarragonas, and 12c to 13c for Ivians. *Syrup and Molasses*.—Syrup has been quiet and unchanged at 24½c to 50c, as to quality. In molasses the movement has been limited to the jobbing trade. We quote Barbadoes nominally unchanged at 31c to 31½c.

**HIDES**.—The market has been irregular and easier, and prices are down ½c to 1c. Buyers are indifferent, even at the decline, as a great proportion of the receipts are poor and grubby. Revised quotations for native and imported hides are given in our prices current.

**HORS.**—Buyers and sellers are alike indifferent and the market is as dull as it can possibly be. Brewers having generally brewed summer stock their requirements are limited. Choice are reported to have sold at 10½c in small lots, and fair to good at 8c to 9c; the extreme range is 6c to 11c. In London the market is quiet under a good supply and poor demand. The New York market is dull and easy, with best new at 14c to 15c and good to prime at 12c to 13c.

**IRON AND HARDWARE**.—Ocean freights have gone up on the other side, which is a check to business in iron. A few small transactions—100 ton lots—have gone through, but the Northwest scare is having an effect, and up-country

people are not so keen to place orders ahead as they were a short time ago. Owing to competition profits are being reduced, and we were told that "things are cut so fine, it is simply doing business for nothing." Several lots of Gartsherrie, Ezlinton, Calder and Summerlee sold on p. l. for future delivery, in the vicinity of our quotations. Scotch warrants per cable, 41s 5d. The Liverpool market for tin plates is cabled steady, but if anything prices here are weaker. There has been a fair business done for future delivery at a shade under quotations. Several round lots of coke sold at \$3.75. Numerous small orders for hardware, nails and shelf goods have been received, business in the aggregate being about equal to last year. Horse-shoe manufacturers not having been able to effect an arrangement prices have been lowered from \$3.70, and good buyers can place their orders under \$3.50. Canada plates are unchanged at \$2.00 to \$3 for Penn. and equal. Ingot tin is unchanged at 18½c for Straits and 19½c for Lamb and Flag, Ingot copper at 13½c and lead at \$3.25 to \$3.50. London cables are: ingot tin firm at £77 15s; best selected copper, £50 10s; and Chili bars £45.

**LEATHER**.—Moderate activity is reported. Sales are not large, but when the end of the month is reached the aggregate is not far short of last year. The demand has picked up the past few days, particularly in measured leathers. Orders came to hand for pebble and buff and bright and dull kid, and there is a fair demand for calf splits and English oak sole. Prices are unchanged, but the market is steady and the second week of April should witness a brisker movement.

**LIVE STOCK**.—The Easter cattle markets were well attended, and a good supply of fat stock was under offer. Buyers were not inclined to pay high prices, and they consequently ruled below those of last year. The range was from 4½c to 6c for good to prime, the latter being an exceptional rate. Export cattle sold at 4½c to 5½c, only one choice lot realizing the outside figure. Some local cattle sold as low as 3c. A few fine calves changed hands at \$20 to \$25 each. Spring lambs were in demand at \$6 to \$7 each. Live hogs were steady at 5c to 5½c. The British markets were steadier under smaller receipts. Prime Canadian steers were quoted by cable at 13c and fair to choice at 12½c calculated at 480 in the £. Dressed beef in Liverpool is cabled lower at 4½d and mutton has declined to 4½d to 5d. Horses.—Thirty-two horses were sold here within a week, mostly for export to the States. Prices are 30 per cent. lower than at this time last year. The demand is confined to light weights, heavy draught horses not being wanted just now.

**NAVAL STORES**.—Trade has been very dull and disappointing, few enquiries being to hand, so far, as compared with most seasons. Turpentine is quoted at 47½c to 50c. Rosins are at \$2.25 to \$5 as to quality. Pine tar is nominally at \$3.25 to \$4; pitch at \$2.40 to \$2.80. Oakum ranges from 6c to 10c as to quality.

**OILS, PAINTS, ETC.**—The market has continued quiet. Newfoundland Cod sells at 57½c to 60c in a wholesale way, with jobbing lots at 62½c. Steam-refined Pale seal may be quoted at 64c to 67c, the latter for small lots. Linseed oil keeps firm. *Petroleum*.—Consumption is dropping off but prices are steady, 1 to 4 brl. lots selling at 20c; 5 to 9 brls at 19c, and 10 and over at 18½c. *Paints*.—Sellers here are moving stuff that was ordered earlier for shipment the 1st of April. Orders now are being received for execution when the new spring rates of freight are announced. Remittances moderately good. A fair trade was expected with the North-West this year and bills were not badly met up to a few days ago.