

goods are very firm, and trade is active. Winter underwear and heavy goods in general are moving rapidly, a condition which is likely to be accentuated by the more wintry prospects. The stores are putting on a holiday appearance in anticipation of Christmas, and all the indications for a brisk season are bright.

**Flour and Grain.**—A dull trade is being carried on in the flour business. The price for 90 per cent. patents on an export basis is \$2.70, which is rather high from a British standpoint. Manitoba flour is steady. Millfeed is steady and in brisk demand. In oatmeal there is no change. Our quotations for grains remain the same as last week, no change having taken place. Oats are in only moderate request. Peas are firmer. Buckwheat is quiet. Corn and rye are firm. Receipts of wheat have not been large, but will likely increase as the farmers take to hauling, owing to being prevented by the snowstorm from plowing and carrying on other farming operations.

**Fruit.**—The feature of the fruit market is the strength in apples, which have advanced materially during the last few days. This is probably owing to the approaching close of navigation from Montreal. Prices are quoted: Grapes, Concord, per large basket, 25 to 30c.; Niagaras, per large basket, 30 to 35c.; Malaga, per keg, \$5 to \$6.50; bananas, \$1.25 to \$2 a bunch; oranges, Jamaica,

per barrel, \$4 to \$5; per box, \$2.50 to \$3; do., Florida, per box, \$3.50 to \$4; cranberries, per barrel, \$9.50 to \$10; lemons, California, per box, \$4.50 to \$5; sweet potatoes, per barrel, Jersey, \$2.50 to \$2.75. Prices realized in Liverpool for apples are: Greenings, 13s. to 15s.; Baldwins, 11s. to 16s.; Spies, 13s. to 15s.; Russets, 14s. 6d. to 16s. 6d.; Kings, 14s. to 18s. 6d.; seconds, 4s. less.

**Fuel.**—Considerable quantities of hard coal, in small lots, are arriving in Toronto, but the price still remains well up to \$8; soft coal varies from \$5 to \$7, hard wood is also tending downwards, and is now about \$7 to \$8.

**Groceries.**—In New York, the refineries yesterday made a further advance of 1-16c. per pound. The London sugar market is firm, owing to reports of damage to the European beet crop by frost. So far no change has been made in sugars in Canada, but in New York there are indications of a further advance. Respecting Californian fruits, telegraphic advices state that the shippers have at length broken the car blockade, which has lasted so long, and there is a probability, therefore, of this market seeing heavier arrivals in these lines. Valencia raisins are very strong. Canned tomatoes and corn are still very firm, as indeed they are likely to remain. Cable reports from Colombo speak of still further improvement in the price of Ceylon green teas. The advance is due to shortage in China greens and Japans, as a result of which there is almost a boom in Ceylon greens, buyers having been forced of late to give them more attention. Against this, it is not difficult to realize that the supply may in the near future overtake the demand, in which case prices are liable to ease off. Other teas are steady, but present no special features.

**Hides, Skins and Leather.**—The market is in a fair condition with steady prices. Tallow is on the weak side. The leather market is a little dull just now, but prospects are good.

**Live Stock.**—An improvement was visible in the cattle market this week, and choice grades sold very rapidly. In spite of this, recent cables show a very poor market in the Old Country. Quality of butchers' cattle offered was hardly up to the mark, as drovers are probably holding back for the Christmas market. There was a shortage in good milch cows.

**Provisions.**—Stocks of butter are light. For choice dairy and creamery the demand is very good. The latter is likely to advance slightly. The cheese market is very firm in response to heavy demand on the other side. Whether present prices can keep up, however, is not sure. For hog products the market is very strong, principally owing to the heavy demand for lumber camps. Dressed hogs are coming in a little more plentifully. Eggs are high priced and in demand, new laid being hard to obtain at 20 to 22c. Hops are still very strongly held.

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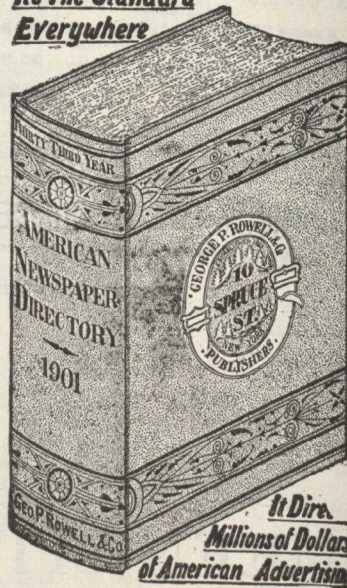
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