

COMMERCIAL.

The remarkably open state of the season has so far postponed the quiet interval that we are accustomed to expect in the latter part of November and the early December days, and general trade has moved along at a satisfactory pace, showing as yet no tendency to contraction.

Still, this same openness is seriously deranging the plans of lumberers, preventing their sending gangs into the woods. The frequent heavy rains that have fallen have rendered the roads in many parts of the country practically impassable for heavily laden teams.

Payments continue to be well met, and merchants generally go about with a satisfied air.

The navigation of the St. Lawrence practically closed for the season on Thursday of last week, when the last steamer for 1886 left Montreal for Europe, and passed down the great river. The grain elevator is now kept busy in loading steamers and other vessels with western products that seek an outlet to the oceans at our unrivalled port; and since the Dominion Government has struck out from its advertisements the words "or Portland," as the final port at which steamers subsidized for carrying our mails may stop, it is probable that Halifax will soon be able to divert to herself all the shipping business that legitimately belongs to her, but now goes elsewhere.

IRON AND HARDWARE.—The situation is practically unchanged, and prices are somewhat stiffer. It is considerably easier to sell than to buy, especially in manufactured goods. Orders are hard to place, because mills on both sides of the Atlantic have all that they can do for months ahead.

DRY GOODS.—Considerable orders for spring goods to be delivered in the early part of 1887 are coming in. The retail trade is somewhat slow, and on the whole, the market is quiet, as is inevitable "between seasons." The time for the annual stock-taking is close at hand, and merchants are, therefore, not anxious about doing much business. Prices of all cotton and woollen fabrics are well sustained, and money comes in freely.

BREADSTUFFS.—Elaborate statistical calculations appear in the various trade journals as to the grain supply of the world this year. A careful comparison of all reports seems to show that the general product is rather above the average. Though Europe and Asia had very small crops, the yield of America has been enormous, and the world will not starve. Prices are relatively low on this side of the water, but holders of large quantities anticipate advances in figures before long. We do not see any good reasons to agree with them, and believe that prices will remain about as they now are until next year's crop begins to come in. It is stated on good authority that there is enough grain yet in farmers' hands in the West to enable them to send to market cents 250,000 bushels daily from now till the end of next July, without touching the reserve that they should keep for seed. In this market there is a good consumptive demand, and the movement has been steady and healthy.

PROVISIONS.—The market has been quiet, and little has been done beyond supplying actual demands of shipping and the country districts. Eggs are in good call, and prices are stiffening. Considerable quantities have been shipped, both by sea and land to the city during the past week, which has reduced the supply to the city markets. The poultry supply continues to be quite equal to the demand, and prices are unsteady with a downward cast. Pork is nominally higher, but few actual transactions have transpired.

LIVE STOCK.—Receipts during the past week have been large, and of excellent quality. Some lambs killed have, after dressing, weighed 72 to 76 lbs. apiece. A good market exists, and prices are well sustained. A fine ox, raised by J. C. Ross, of Pleasant Harbor, Guysboro County, was brought to town and slaughtered this week. The carcass weighed, after being dressed, 928 lb. It is a novelty to receive so good an animal from along the Eastern Shore, and this proves that the farmers in that section are paying more attention to the kind of cattle that they raise than they have heretofore. Guysboro is naturally a fine grazing country, and others will doubtless follow Mr. Ross in his enterprise.

BUTTER AND CHEESE.—The supply continues to be relatively small, and prime qualities do not lag on an unwilling market.

POTATOES.—We regret to have to report that Nova Scotia potatoes this year are not up to the mark as to quality. Many of them are badly affected by a species of rot. It is reported that lots sent from here to Montreal were so unsatisfactory on this account that they could only be sold at a sacrifice, and that some shippers suffered considerably thereby.

FRUIT.—London cables acknowledge heavy receipts of apples, but add that "all lots of long-keepers have been picked up at steady prices. Good sound stock will do well, and we advise shipments of the same, but inferior qualities are in poor demand, and will not pay to ship." Baldwins, Greenings, Seeks, and Canada Red, are quoted at 16s. to 16s. 6d., and Ribston Pippins, and Golden Russets at 20s. to 21s. There is nothing new to note in foreign fruits, except that raisins and figs are weaker, and prices are shaded to effect sales.

TEA.—English cables report that the continuous fall that has lasted several weeks has been checked, and the tone of the market is decidedly stronger. The finer black varieties meet ready sale. It appears that Indian teas are more easily placed than those of either China or Japan. In this market tea has been quiet, though considerable business in this article has been accomplished.

SUGAR. has been very dull, and practically nothing is doing. Several large cargoes of raws lie in this port awaiting purchasers, but prices offering are not remunerative. Refined prices can be considered to be but nominal, as they have to be largely shaded to dispose of round lots.

MOLASSES.—No movement in this article is noted. Barbadoes and Porto Rico are perhaps a little more firm than at our last report, but very few transactions have transpired.

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

WHOLESALE RATES.

Our Price Lists are corrected for us each week by reliable merchants, and can therefore be depended upon as accurate up to the time of going to press.

We intend devoting special attention to our Commercial and Financial Articles, and to our Market Quotations, and to this end have secured the co-operation of several persons thoroughly conversant with questions of finance and commerce.

GROCERIES.

SUGAR.	
Cut Leaf.....	8 to 8 1/2
Granulated.....	6 to 6 1/2
Circle A.....	5 1/2 to 5 3/4
Extra C.....	5 1/2 to 5 3/4
Yellow C.....	4 1/2 to 5
TEA.	
Congou, Common.....	17 to 19
" Fair.....	20 to 23
" Good.....	25 to 29
" Choice.....	31 to 33
" Extra Choice.....	35 to 39
UOLONG—Choice.....	37 to 39
MOLASSES.	
Barbadoes.....	30 to 32
Demerara.....	30 to 35
Diamond N.....	40
Porto Rico.....	31
Tobacco—Black.....	37 to 45
" Bright.....	42 to 55
BISCUITS.	
Pilot Bread.....	2.30 to 2.50
Hotton and Thin Family.....	5 1/2 to 6
Soda.....	5 1/2 to 5 3/4
do in 1 lb boxes, 50 to case.....	7 1/2
Fancy.....	8 to 15

The above quotations are carefully prepared by a reliable Wholesale House, and can be depended upon as correct.

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Prints.....	20 to 25
" In Small Tubs.....	20 to 24
" Good, in large tubs.....	19 to 20
" Store Packed & oversalted.....	10 to 12
Canadian, Creamery.....	24
" Township, Fancy.....	22 to 23
" Finest.....	20 to 22
" Fine.....	18 to 20
" Morrisburg and Brockville.....	17 to 19
" Western.....	13 to 16
Cheese, N. S.....	12
" Canada.....	13

The above quotations are corrected by a reliable dealer in Butter and Cheese.

FISH FROM VESSELS.

MACKEREL.	
Extra.....	16 00
No. 1.....	14 00
" 2 large.....	9 50
" 3 large.....	7 50 to 8 00
" 3 large.....	5 75
" 3 large.....	5 50 to 5 75
HERRING.	
No. 1 Shore, July.....	3 00
No. 1, August.....	4 00 to 4 25
" September.....	4 00 to 4 25
Round Shore.....	3 75
Labrador, in cargo lots, per M.....	4 50
ALBACORE, per bbl.....	none
CODFISH.	
Hard Shore.....	2 65 to 2 80
Bank.....	1 95 to 2 10
Bay.....	none
SALMON, No. 1.....	16 00
HADDOCK, per qtl.....	2 00 to 2 25
HACK.....	2 10
CUSK.....	none
POLLACK.....	none
HACK SOUNDS.....	45 to 50c per lb.
COD OIL A.....	25 to 30

The above are prepared by a reliable firm of West India Merchants.

LOBSTERS.

Nova Scotia (Atlantic Coast Packing).	
Tall Cans.....	4 60 to 5 00
Flat ".....	6 00 to 6 50
Per case 4 doz. 1 lb cans,	

The above quotations are corrected by a reliable dealer.

LUMBER.

Pine, clear, No. 1, per m.....	25.00 to 28.00
" Merchantable, do do.....	14.00 to 17.00
" No 2 do.....	10.00 to 12.00
" Small, per m.....	8.00 to 14.00
Spruce, dimension good, per m.....	9.50 to 10.00
" Merchantable, do do.....	7.00 to 9 00
" Small, do do.....	6.50 to 7.00
Hemlock, merchantable.....	7.00
Shingles, No 1, sard, pine.....	3.00 to 3.50
" No 2, do do.....	1.00 to 1.25
" spruce, No 1.....	1.10 to 1.30
Larks, per m.....	2.00
Hard wood, per cord.....	4 90 to 4 25
Soft wood.....	2.25 to 2.50

The above quotations are prepared by a reliable firm in this line.

BREADSTUFFS.

PROVISIONS AND PRODUCE.

Our quotations below are our today's wholesale selling prices for car lot's net cash. Jobbers' and Retailers' prices about 5 to 10 per cent advance on carload lots.

FLOUR.	
Patent high grades.....	4.40 to 4.53
" medium.....	4.20 to 4.30
Superior Extra.....	3.85 to 3.90
Lower grades.....	3.10 to 3.50
Oatmeal, Standard.....	4.10 to 4.15
" Granulated.....	4.30 to 4.40
Corn Meal—Halifax ground.....	2.75 to 2.80
" Imported.....	2.75 to 2.85
Iran per ton—Wheat.....	15.50 to 16.75
" —Corn.....	14.50 to 15.00
Shorts.....	17.50 to 18.50
Middlings.....	19.00 to 21.00
Cracked Corn.....	28.00 to 29.00
" Oats.....	25.00 to 30.00
" Barley.....	nominal
Feed Flour.....	3.10 to 3.50
Oats per bushel of 34 lbs.....	34 to 38
Barley " of 48 ".....	55 to 60
" " of 60 ".....	1.10 to 1.10
White Beans, per bushel.....	1.40 to 1.50
Pot Barley, per barrel.....	4.85 to 4.90
Corn " of 56 lbs.....	75 to 80
Hay per ton.....	13.00 to 14.00
Straw.....	13.00 to 13.00

J. A. CHIPMAN & Co., Liverpool Wharf, Halifax, N. S.

PROVISIONS.

Beef, Am. Ex. Mess. duty paid.....	11.00 to 11.50
" Am. Plate.....	11.50 to 12.00
" Ex Plate.....	12.50 to 13.00
Pork, Mess. American.....	13.00 to 13.50
" new.....	12.00 to 12.50
" American clear.....	15.00 to 15.50
" P. E. I. Mess.....	13.00 to 13.50
" old.....	12.50 to 12.75
" P. E. I. Thin Mess.....	10.50 to 11.00
" Prime Mess.....	9.50 to 10.00
Lard, Tubs and Pails.....	10 to 11
" Caves.....	12 to 13 1/2
Hams, P. E. I.....	none
Duty on Am. Pork and Beef \$2.30 per bbl.	
Prices are for wholesale lots only, and are liable to change daily.	

These quotations are prepared by a reliable wholesale house.

WOOL, WOOL SKINS & HIDES.

Wool—clean washed, per pound.....	15 to 20
" unwashed.....	12 to 15
Salted Hides, No 1.....	7 1/2
Ox Hides, over 60 lbs., No 1.....	7 1/2
" under 60 lbs., No 1.....	7
" over 60 lbs., No 2.....	6 1/2
" under 60 lbs., No 2.....	6
Cow Hides, No 1.....	6 1/2
No 3 Hide.....	5
Calf Skins.....	8 to 10
" Deacons, each.....	25 to 35
Lambskins.....	25 to 65

The above quotations are furnished by WM. F. FOSTER, dealer in Wool and Hides, Connors' Wharf.

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

Apples, (No. 1 Gravensteins) per bbl.....	2.50 to 2.75
" Other No. 1 Varieties.....	1.75 to 2.25
Oranges, per bbl, Jamaica (new).....	0.50 to 7.00
Lemons, per box, best quality.....	4.00 to 4.50
Cocoanuts, per 100.....	5.00 to 5.50
Onions, American, per lb.....	2 1/2 to 3 1/2
Foxberries, per bbl. new.....	4.00
Grapes, Alameda, keg.....	5 00
Raisins, Net Val.....	7 1/2
Figs, Eleme, small boxes.....	12 to 15
Prunes, Stewing, per lb.....	7 1/2
Dates, boxes, new.....	7 1/2

The above quotations are furnished by C. H. Harvey, 10 & 12 Sackville St.

POULTRY.

Turkeys, per pound.....	none
Geese, each.....	none
Ducks, per pair.....	60 to 90
Chickens.....	40 to 60

The above are corrected by a reliable victualer.

LIVE STOCK—at Richmond Depot.

Steers, best quality, per 100 lbs. alive.....	4.00
Oxen.....	3.50
Fat Steers, Heifers light weights.....	3.00
Wethers, best quality, per 100 lbs.....	2.75 to 3.25
Lambs.....	2.25 to 3.05

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualer.