

## MONEY MARKET.

P. D. Browne.

THERE is only a moderate demand for money, there being no business doing, and no large amounts wanted as yet for paying duties.

Sterling Exchange continues low. The advance in U. S. bonds in English and other foreign stock markets has caused further shipments of them, thus throwing a large amount of Sterling on the market, and depressing the price for best Bankers' day bills on London to 106½. Canadian banks have been considerable buyers of exchange in New York, and round amounts can be bought here at 109 to 109½.

Gold Drafts on New York are more wanted, and may be quoted at par to ½ premium, although exceptional transactions have been made at lower rates. Gold in New York has fluctuated somewhat, but closes at same figure as last week, namely 131½.

SILVER—Is scarce, very little arriving, but there is a very trifling demand and large amounts are difficult of sale. The current buying rate is 3 per cent. discount, but some purchases have been made by brokers as low as 2½. The shipments by Mr. Weir are steadily going forward, and will this week reach \$300,000 or upwards.

The following are the latest quotations of Sterling Exchange, &c:—

Bank on London, 60 days sight	109 to 109½
“ “ “ sight	110
Private, “ “ 60 days sight	107½ to 108½
Bank in New York, 60 days sight	108½
Gold Drafts on New York	par to ½ prem
Gold in New York	131½
Silver, argo	3 to 2½ dis.

## THE DRY GOODS TRADE.

Foulds & McCubbin. Mulr, W., & B.  
Greenfield, S. & Son & Co. Hunsell, Warnock & Co.  
Lewis, Kay & Co. Roy, Jas. & Co.  
McIntyre, Denoon & French. Robertson, Stephen, & Co.  
MacKenzie, J. G. & Co. Stirling, McCall & Co.  
Ogilvy & Co.

THERE is as yet no animation in this branch of trade, nor, in fact, could any be expected while the constant snow-storms so check communication, even between places not far removed from each other, and while stocks of goods remain on the shelves of the retailers instead of being sold to their usual customers, who are snowed-up at home.

Orders from travellers are only coming in slowly, and the prospects are that the bulk of the trade will be later than usual, and will hardly be equal to the average of previous seasons. In the interest of importers as well as of their customers, we hope buying will be done cautiously. There are too many goods in the country and imports are as heavy or heavier than ever. The Canadian steamers are unable to carry all the freight offering them at Liverpool, and have been obliged to leave goods on the docks. In the present state of the trade, one single season of poor crops would throw Canada into a state of general bankruptcy, not because the bulk of the people are poor, but because traders have bought more goods than there was any demand for, for they cannot sell them, and they now are every day renewing their notes, which they have no present means of meeting. We earnestly hope that before it is too late, the error which is now being committed will be clearly received, and that all will take immediate care to reduce the amount of their business.

Goods are now rapidly coming in, every steamer bringing a large number of packages, but the blocked up state of the roads between here and Portland is greatly interfering with their being forwarded promptly.

## THE GROCERY TRADE.

Baldwin, C. H., & Co. Mathewson, J. A.  
Clayman, Fraser & Tykes. Mitchell, James.  
Childs, George, & Co. Robertson, David.  
Gilliespie, McCall & Co. Titch, Bros.  
Titchell, B. & Co. Thompson, Murray & Co.  
Kings & Kitchin. Torrance, David, & Co.

SINCE our last report, and up to Wednesday, the weather has been less marked by snow storms, than during February, and rather more local business has in consequence been done. This has, however, again been checked by the storm which set in on Wednesday, and the roads are now everywhere blocked up as badly as ever.

TRADE.—There has been a fair enquiry for Japan's of low grade at from 55 to 60c, of which, however, few desirable samples are offering. Of high grades, the supply is abundant, with only a light demand, although

a few lots have been placed, terms private. Young Hysons have received fair attention, a few round lots finding purchasers. Imperial, at from 65c to 60c, are in fair demand, although the market is somewhat cleared out of samples of these grades. Better grades, of which stocks are more complete, are in high demand. Little enquiry for Gunpowders. Blacks inactive.

COFFEES.—With the exception of a few lots taken for the mills, there has been very little doing.

SUGARS.—In consequence of a lull in the excitement which had previously prevailed in the United States markets, the speculative feeling here has been somewhat checked, and sales of raws have been of a limited character. Holders, however, are firm, and indifferent to pressing sales. Refined sugars are quiet and unchanged in price.

MOLASSES.—There being less speculation, and in the absence of consumptive demand, the market is quiet, but holders are stiff in their prices, and evince no disposition to accept lower figures. Syrups are unchanged.

FISH.—Of all kinds are quiet. Holders now seem anxious to meet buyers' views in order to close out stocks, but without so far any material change in prices. Stocks are not much above an average.

FRUIT.—Has but little enquiry. Stocks of Raisins are large, and holders are now willing to accept somewhat lower prices, but in the absence of any demand, few sales have been made, and quotations are to some extent nominal.

RICE.—Is in a somewhat improved demand. Good samples of Rangoon are held at 24 to 24½ for lots of 25 bags or upwards, holders, however, not caring to press sales at these prices, looking forward to obtaining better figures.

SALT.—Has had little enquiry, and prices are unchanged.

SPICES.—Are generally speaking without much demand. Nutmegs now in better supply, have some enquiry, and good samples at from 45c to 50c meet with ready purchasers, principally for the Western trade. Pepper is somewhat scarce, and held at full figures. Cassia, of which the stock was previously small, is now better assorted in consequence of recent arrivals. Other spices unchanged.

## THE HARDWARE TRADE.

Aitken & Cameronhill.  
Grant, John Henry.  
Fertile & Co.  
Hall, Kay & Co.

Morland, Watson & Co.  
Muholland & Baker.  
Robertson, Jas.

LITTLE business has been done in the city during the past week, but orders from travellers for spring delivery are now being received pretty freely. Stocks of heavy goods throughout the West are, however, stated to be still large, and no great activity can consequently be looked for until they have become somewhat reduced.

Pig and Bar Iron are unchanged in price, but holders are firm at current rates. Boiler Plates have had a better demand, and some sizes are now scarce and wanted. Tin Plates are becoming low in stock, and we again advance our quotations, holders being now firm at \$8.75 to \$9.00 for charcoal iron. Cut Nails have had fair enquiry, and are firmer, with a prospect of improved prices after the opening of navigation.

The receipts of shelf and general hardware via Portland have been considerable for a number of weeks, but a large quantity has been detained, owing to the blocking of the railway by the snow.

## THE LEATHER TRADE.

Aikin & Kirkpatrick.  
Bryson, Campbell.

Seymour, W. H.  
St. S. Whitely.

THE business of the past week has been fair, but not especially active. Consumers are purchasing sparingly considering the season of the year. Receipts have been light, and stocks of some classes of goods are very limited.

SPANISH SOLE.—Light and medium weights have light call. Heavy is almost unsaleable.

SLACONTER SOLE.—Is in moderate request. Figures unchanged.

HARNESS.—Is not active. Stocks not heavy.

WAXED UPPER.—Dull, and figures are not firm.

BUFF AND PENNED.—The late advance in prices of these classes of leather has been fully sustained.

PRIMO makes are not in abundant supply.

PATENT AND EXAMER.—Still very scarce.

CALFSKINS.—Demand exceedingly light.

SHUERSKINS.—Are in moderate request.

## MONTREAL PRODUCE MARKET.

Aikin & Kirkpatrick.  
Davies Brothers & Co.

Hobson, Thomas, & Co.  
Mihell, Robt.

OPERATIONS of the week have been on the usually restricted scale. Arrivals of produce have been irregular, owing to the several lines of railway being more or less blocked up by snow storms. Transactions in most departments have been to supply current local wants, rates varying little from those of last week. To effect any movement of consequence, holders of flour have been forced to relax somewhat, and within the past day or two more has changed hands. There is very little to note in Grain. Spring Wheat is offered at \$1.10, but reluctantly taken. Coarse grains are practically nominal in absence of transactions. Provisions have engaged little attention. Pork and Lard, &c., sell in a rapid way for present consumption. Butter has latterly been neglected and tends lower.

FLOUR.—Continuing fair for the season, and British advices more and more discouraging, and there has been no disposition evinced to go into stock beyond the day's wants, and but a restricted trade can be noted. Holders of strong super finding that buyers would not come to their views, have latterly made some concessions, and some few round hundreds of fair to choice brands have been placed at \$1.60 to \$1.65, anything above being exceptional. Extra may be quoted at \$5.00 to \$5.20 for broken lots. Fancy is practically nominal, at about 14½. No. 2 and lower grades have met a better demand, and being in limited supply have commanded full relative rates. No. 2 going at \$1.20 to \$1.30, fine at \$3.80 to \$1.00. Middlings, \$3.60 to \$3.60, and Pollards \$3.20 to \$3.30. The stock of these has now mostly passed into the hands of retailers, and there is room for a moderate supply. Bag Flour is in fair though not active demand, rates continuing at \$3.20 to \$3.25 for the better Upper Canada samples.

OATMEAL.—Not much in stock, and for broken lots of choice \$6.25 to \$6.50 was paid according to sample and quantity.

WHEAT.—The little arriving is still mostly on millers' account, and there are few recent sales to report. U. C. Spring is offered at \$1.10, but buyers for the time decline over \$1.09, at which it is now being laid down from points west.

PEASE.—Nothing of consequence doing, transactions on the spot being in broken lots for consumptive use, while the gloomy advices from Britain forbid operations for future delivery.

OATS.—Continue sluggish; without quotable change. BARLEY.—There is a hand-to-mouth demand for consumptive use, but transactions are small and unimportant.

CORN.—Is still without animation, and practically nominal at former quotations.

RYE.—No recent sales have been noted, a minimal rate 75c. to 80c.

PORK.—Mess, from scarcity, continues firm, small sales taking place at \$27.50 to \$28, and of Thin Mess at \$24.50 to \$25.

BEEF.—Are without quotable change, still ranging from \$9 to \$9.50, but very few changing hands.

LARD.—The supply, though probably in excess of local requirements, is in few hands, and rates, though naturally tending lower, are not suffered to give way.

BUTTER.—Little business can be reported during the week. Rates refused while the American demand lasted, would now be eagerly accepted if available, but American buyers having all withdrawn, the parcels now seeking a market can hardly secure even an examination. Latest reported sales were at 21c. for limited parcels, much above the general average. Heavy auction sales have taken place in Britain at rates disastrous to shippers, and some parcels are said to have been shipped thence to New York.

ALMONDS.—Most operators in *Pots* at date of our last have withdrawn, and rates have slightly receded, closing at \$5.50 to \$5.65. *Pearls* are quiet but without quotable change.

SUGAR SHOOKS.—The St. John Journal remarks that Messrs. Scamell's circular shows that the troubles in Cuba have not thus far interfered with the demand for shooks in 1883, and gives the following comparative statement of Sugar Box Shooks, cleared for Cuba:—

From 1st Sept., 1882, to 20th Feb., 1883	546,195
" " " " " " " " " " " "	544,783
" " " " " " " " " " " "	553,745

Prussian coal mines yield one hundred and five million tons a year, and give employment to 275,000 people.