

drug at \$1 per bbl. Good stock in cellars bring \$2 to \$3, by single bbls. *Oranges* scarce, worth \$9 per case. *Lemons* dull, and rather easier; quoted at \$3.50 to \$4 per box, or \$4.50 to \$5 per case. *Cranberries* extremely dull, nominally worth \$5 per bbl. Stocks large and in bad condition. *Dates* selling at 6c per lb. in boxes of 55 lbs. each.

FURS.—The spring collection of raw furs is coming to market in small quantities. In consequence of the European demand, *Beaver* continues to command full prices, choice lots bringing \$3 per lb.; quoted at \$2.75 to \$3 for prime skins. *Otter* also in demand, but, owing to the faded color of spring skins, lower prices must be accepted; dark winter selections would bring 12c to 14c. *Mink* has fallen into disfavor more than ever, and \$1 is considered full value for a first-rate skin, although one house here quotes up to \$1.50. *Skunk*, of early winter catch, are worth nearly twice as much money as the spring catch; the latter have a reddish, faded appearance, and for this reason, only brought half price at the late sales in Europe. *Fox* offering rather freely, but demand light; quoted at \$1.40 to \$1.50, the latter price for good red-fox. *Fisher* worth from \$6 to \$8; *Bear*, large prime, \$9 to \$10; cubs and yearlings, \$3 to \$7.50. *Musk rats* are dull in Europe, owing to the very large stock carried over, and will not bring over last year's prices for shipment; good lots of trapped skins would bring from 17c to 18c. All shot or torn skins are thrown out at 1d less. Canadian muskrats have fallen into disfavor on account of the large number of shot skins, and therefore sell at prices 25 per cent. below what they should command. *Martins*, red are worth about \$1.25. *Lynx* nominally quoted at \$2; none offering. The above figures are for prime skins only; other grades quoted in proportion. European furs for the American market have advanced, as compared with last year's prices, especially Persian Lamb, which is very scarce, having already been pretty well sold out to America; and fresh goods will not be obtainable until next November. The general advance, however, is mainly due to the increased demand, instigated by last season's brisk trade. The high prices for fine *Seal* were maintained at the late sales in London, but common goods declined about 10 per cent. on the average.

FISH.—Scarcely anything doing all week, and prices for what little is left in the market are weak. No. 1 *Green Cod* quoted at \$3.25 to \$3.50, and No. 2 at \$2.25 to \$2.50; holders would accept concessions on these figures to sell out what they hold. A considerable quantity of No. 2 *Green Cod* shipped to this market in salt herring barrels, and in poor condition, will be sent back to Newfoundland for preparation for the West Indies markets. *Dry Cod* quoted steady at \$4.

GROCERIES.—*Sugars.*—A reduction of about 1½ from point long current for Granulated and other Refined White Sugars is to be noted. Yellows are probably almost 1½ advanced from lowest figure. In Raw Sugars trade is limited and dullness prevails. *Teas.*—Good Japan Teas are fairly steady, and the prevailing opinion is that lowest figures for such have been reached, and that there should be safety in current prices. In young Hysons and Black Teas business is light, and market easy for lower qualities. *Molasses.*—Later Barbados advices are unchanged, say about 21c per wine gallon. With us there is but little doing. *Syrups* steady. *Coffee.*—Mocha keeps up and is scarce; other kinds quiet. *Rice* offering at slight reduction in quantity. *Spices.*—Pepper here has been sold higher; Cloves a little lower in England. *Fruits.*—Valencias very little changed, say 8½c to 9½c. Malaga Raisins dull; Currants steady.

HARDWARE AND IRON.—Our large houses are kept fully employed on orders per travellers and by mail, for all kinds of hardware. The trade are almost as busy as they could wish to be, the only serious drawback being the more

than usual delay this year of the reduction in Grand Trunk freight rates. In some cases, it is stated, large sales have been made on the strength of guaranteeing shipment at summer rates at 1st April, which promise could not be fulfilled; accordingly a deputation from the wholesale trade here waited upon the freight manager last Tuesday to ask for an early reduction. Among other things they argued that, if the old rates were longer maintained, the orders would be taken chiefly by Western houses, and the G. T. R. would then not receive the freight; that an immediate reduction would be in the interests of both parties. Mr. Porteous promised to give the matter early consideration, and has since intimated that a new tariff will be issued next Monday. This would doubtless stimulate the movement of a large quantity of goods. *Tin Plates* have improved somewhat; cable advices note an advance of 1s per box in England, with a rather excited market, now quoted there at 19s, which ought to cause a corresponding advance of about 30c here. The advance is attributed to recent failures among English manufacturers, and the effect on the markets generally is expected to be beneficial. This market is firmer, in consequence, and considerable quantities, comprising probably 5,000 boxes altogether, have been sold at an advance on previous prices, at \$4.50 and \$5.50 at four months, for Coke and Charcoal respectively. Our "prices current" being for smaller lots, we do not alter the quotations. *Bar Iron* on spot, under a continued legitimate demand, is passing into consumption quite rapidly; prices unchanged, both here and in England. There is just sufficient enquiry for Siemen's brand to keep the Londonderry mill fully employed. Ingot *Tin* and *Copper* scarce, especially the former, which sells at 24c, and copper is worth 17c to 17½c, several fair-sized lots having changed hands at the inside figure. *Nails, Steel, Lead*, etc., quiet and unchanged. For *Pig Iron* the market has developed no new feature; the arrival of the first steamer will have a tendency to lower the price of iron on spot. A good many enquiries continue to be made, and some sales have been made of stock for shipment in May and June, but large consumers are nearly all postponing purchases until the opening of navigation, for lower prices; transactions therefore continue to be of a hand-to-mouth character, at about \$20 for Summerlee, Gartsherrie, Langloan and Calder; and \$19 for Eglinton or its equal. A lot of 100 tons of Summerlee, however, was reported sold at \$19. Latest mail advices quote "Warrants" in Glasgow at 47s. A leading firm in that city, under date of March 18th, report 120 furnaces in blast, as against 114 at the like date last year. The stock of iron in Connal & Co.'s store comprised 532,873 tons, an increase of 2,400 tons for the week. The shipments show a decrease since Christmas of 54,828 tons, as compared with those of the like date in 1880. The imports of Middlesborough pig iron for the same period show a decrease of 1,356 tons.

HIDES AND SKINS.—As foreshadowed in our last report, the local dealers united on Monday last to reduce the prices paid to butchers \$1 per 100 lbs., because of the inferior quality of native hides at this time of year; the market quotations now are \$8, \$7, and \$6 respectively for Nos. 1, 2 and 3; nevertheless, first-class No. 1 would doubtless command the old price, \$9. Offerings small, but sufficient for the demand. The outside quotations in our "prices current" represent those charged to tanners. Western *Hides* reported in fair request at former rates, 9½c to 9½c per lb. for No. 1. *Calfskins* selling freely at 10c to 11c per lb., *Sheepskins* quoted at \$1.25 to \$1.50 each, and *Lambskins* at 20c to 25c.

LEATHER.—Some dealers report the market quiet and unsatisfactory—that stocks of all kinds are large, while sales continue of a hand-to-mouth character; while others have experienced more enquiry from manufacturers, who are commencing to look round for Fall requirements, and seem to regard prospects as

brighter. It would appear that while the market is, on the whole, quiet, some improvement can be noticed in the demand for domestic leathers, towards the approach of operations for the Fall season; and, while few if any large sales are made, prices remain fairly steady for all good stock. *Spanish sole*, though not active, continues firm at former rates, and Slaughter sole is in fair request. *Upper* meets with a fair demand, also; a lot of 600 sides heavy *Upper* changed hands yesterday at about 37c. *Splits* leather continues dull, and prices easier; liberal concessions would be made on our outside quotations for large lots. Measured leathers in moderate request, at low prices. No recent shipments of *Black* leathers reported, but *Sole* continues to be forwarded to the English market regularly. Reported sales include 1,000 sides of Zanzibar at 20 to 22c.

PAINTS AND OILS.—The demand for *Paints* is reported fair for the season, but sales comprise only small parcels at unchanged prices. *Oils.*—Trade quiet, less active than for some time. No movement whatever in *Linseed*, and prices are a shade easier, quoted at 70c to 72½c for raw, and 75c to 77c, Imperial gallon, for boiled. A few jobbing lots of *Cod* have changed hands at concessions on our quotations. Stocks of *Steam Refined Seal* are pretty much held by one firm, who are only selling in a jobbing way, and no change is looked for until the arrival of the new catch, the first week in June. Another steamer has arrived at St. John's, Newfoundland, with a heavy cargo, comprising 36,000 seals; two other steamers, loaded, are also reported, making a total of six heard from out of twenty. Prices meanwhile are unsettled and nominally quoted at 72c to 75c Imperial. There have been sales of *Straw* seal, in jobbing lots at 57c Imp. *Turpentine* continues in fair request, and values are easier, in sympathy with the American Market; but, while we cannot alter our quotations for ordinary parcels, jobbing lots can be had at lower figures.

PETROLEUM.—No change to note in the demand; prices remain firm at last week's quotations.

SEEDS.—The market for *Clover* continues without much animation, with prices slightly lower, and, in the absence of any export demand, may be quoted at \$4.80 to \$5.00 per bushel. *Timothy* is in good supply, and meets with a fair demand; quoted at \$2.60 to \$2.70 per bushel.

WINES AND LIQUORS.—Business continues inanimate, sales being confined to small jobbing lots. Importers anticipate no activity until the opening of navigation. Prices unchanged.

WOOL.—The same quiet tone, reported last week, pervades this market. The only sales reported comprise a few small lots of *Greasy Cope* at 18½c, and of Australian at 18½c to 24c for low grades; fine qualities are worth 28c to 29c. Combing worth 27½c. In domestic wools the movement has been quite small, and prices remain steady and unchanged. Considerable quantities of foreign wool are on the way to New York, and a portion will likely be brought to this market. New York and Boston markets are inactive, and prices, it is believed, have touched bottom.

PROVISIONS.—In the West provisions have been weak and declining during the week, owing largely, it is reported, to a considerable quantity of summer pork having been offered in Chicago, some of which sold at \$15.25 Apl. Up to the present summer-packed pork in the above-named market has been sold only in a jobbing way. Yesterday the Chicago market closed at about Monday's quotations for *Lard*, and at an advance of fully 7½c per barrel for *ork*. Here there is no change in *Mess Pork* and *Lard*. A fair local and jobbing trade has been done since our last issue, at unchanged prices. Canadian pork, owing to its scarcity, is held higher, however, at \$19.50 to \$20. *Lard*