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deliveries. The general tone, however, is steady. In dyestuffs the usual mid-winter dullness has started.

Flour and Meal.—The demand for flour continues light. Ontario patents sell at \$3.60 to \$3.70. British importers do not believe present prices this side are justified. Oatmeal is quite firm, as are also bran and shorts.

Fruit.—The holiday season is having its usual effect on the trade, in the consumption of such fruits as oranges, etc. Jamaicas and Floridas are coming in freely, especially the former. Apple shipments have been practically nil the last week. At last reports, they were selling in Liverpool at 18s. to 21s. for Baldwins, 16s. 6d. to 22s. for Greenings, and 17s. to 21s. 6d. for Kings. Prices in the local market may be quoted as follows: New Messina lemons, \$2.50 to \$2.75 per box; Malaga, \$3.75; Florida, \$3 to \$3.50; Mexican, \$2.50; Valencia, \$4.25 to \$5.50 per case; Jamaica, \$2.75; Almeria grapes, \$5.50 to \$6.50; apples, \$3.50 to \$4.50 per barrel; bananas, \$1.50 to \$1.75 per bunch; cranberries, \$9 to \$10 per barrel; Spanish onions, \$3.50 per case; Canadian, \$1.10 per bag.

Grain.—Wheat has gone up from 1c. to 2c. for both Ontario and Manitoba, and is firm at the advance. Barley is dull and unchanged. Oats are about a cent lower, and dull at the decline. Peas are from 1c. to 2c. higher. Rye is up 1c. Corn and buckwheat are nominally unchanged. Receipts in the country are light.

Groceries.—Never has the holiday grocery trade been better than it has this year. In several lines, such as figs, almonds, raisins, etc., stocks have been completely cleaned up. Sugars of all grades have declined 10c. per 100 lbs., in sympathy with the prices in New York, and owing to the statistical position. Teas are somewhat dull. There is no special feature in canned goods.

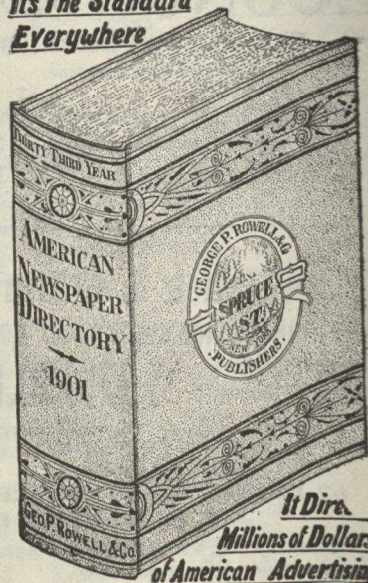
Hardware.—Generally, trade is on the quiet side, towards the end of the year, and that is the case now. However, a fair demand has been experienced for seasonable lines. The only feature of interest is an attempt which has been made in some quarters to cut prices in wire nails and horseshoes. Green wire cloth has declined 5c. For metals the demand is very brisk. Copper and lead, however, are dull. But steel and pig iron are on the upward grade.

Hides and Skins.—The aggregate of business done recently in hides is fair, though no large transactions have taken place. Prices remain unaltered. In Chicago, no business of importance is being transacted in the market for packer hides, but prices are well maintained. Branded hides are reported in light supply and firmly held. Packers are expected to accumulate a fair line of native steers, but they show no anxiety to make sales, holding for 14c. Texas are quoted at 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ c., but brands at 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., Colorados at 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ c., heavy native cows at 12c., light ditto at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ c., and branded ditto at 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ c. Country hides are firm, with No. 1 buffs quoted at 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

Leather.—Trade just now is a little dull, but prices remain steady. An increase of business is expected before long.

Provisions.—Receipts of butter continue ample, and prices remain unchanged. Cheese is quiet but firm. Eggs are in good demand. New laid fetch 25c. In hog products, no change in prices has taken place, and the market is firm. Supplies of poultry have hardly been equal to the demand. Prices have advanced and turkeys now sell at 11 to 12c.; geese, 7 to 8c. There is the usual Christmas dullness prevailing in general lines.

Wool.—Several small transactions have taken place during the week in Ontario wool, but prices remain unprofitable.

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