

THE GROCERY TRADE.

The following are amongst the Wholesale Houses in this line in Montreal:

James Austin & Co.	J. A. & H. Mathewson.
I. Buchanan, Harris & Co.	H. J. Gear.
H. Chapman & Co.	Mitchell, Kinnear & Co.
Converse, Colson & Lamb.	William Nivin & Co.
Jas. Douglas & Co.	Rimmer, Gunn & Co.
Fitzpatrick & Moore.	David Robertson.
Gillespie, Moffatt & Co.	Havilland Routh & Co.
Jeffrey, Brothers & Co.	Sinclair, Jack & Co.
B. Hutchins.	Jos. Tiffin & Sons.
Law, Young & Co.	David Torrance & Co.
E. Maitland Tylee & Co.	Thompson, Murray & Co.

OUR Market has experienced a week of much quietness, and we have no new feature to report; there has been little or no activity in any of the staples of the Trade. This torpid feeling, however, is not unusual at this season, and usually precedes our large Trade Tea Sales. We are in hopes in our next issue to be enabled to chronicle a reaction, and a movement of large parcels of goods westward, with considerable lots taken for local consumption. The Tea Sale of Messrs. Gillespie, Moffatt & Co.'s cargo, advertised for next week, at present occupies the attention of the Trade. Our latest advices from England report no change of any importance in any of the leading staples, excepting sugar, which shows a decline of 1s. to 1s. 6d. per cwt., the result of excessive stocks held in the various English Markets. The supply of this commodity held here is becoming very low, and bright and desirable grades are exceedingly limited. In Teas there is no fluctuation in our last week's quotations. Tobaccos are the only article which have shown any activity. We hear of several large lots having changed hands, and the market still continues speculative; our last quotations may be repeated. Coffees are very dull. Rice, no demand (we observe an advance in England in this article of 3d to 5d per cwt., with much firmness). All other Groceries are unchanged, and we curtail our report this week in view of the absence of any interesting variation in this market since our last issue.

TOBACCO TRADE.

HOLDERS are very firm, and prices are fully maintained—the stock of untaxed Tobacco is now much reduced—the speculative feeling prevalent last week still exists, and the likelihood is that the concourse of buyers from the West attending the Tea sale next week, will clear this market of a very large quantity of the stock of old Tobaccos. Two grades are still much enquired for, but as stated in our last, the market is quite bare of such kinds.

We have our quotations the same as last week.

5's and 10's good	25 to 27 cts.
" " fair	23 to 25 "
" " out of condition	20 to 23 "
Quarter pounds	26 to 32 "

LEAF TOBACCO.

No great change to note in this market. Holders are still firm, and advices from the Western States indicate great firmness on the part of holders; planters are holding their crops at extremely high prices. Washington advices gave the assurance that no taxes upon exports will be entertained. Canada leaf rules the same as before, but concessions have to be made from our last week's quotations to produce a sale of any quantity. We quote it at 4 to 5c. per lb.

The following short sketch of the fluctuations in the Tobacco Trade and summary of prices since the war, may not be deemed uninteresting, and may at the same time be somewhat instructive to dealers. At the outbreak of the war, and before the Southern country was entirely closed by the blockade, the bulk of the large stock both of leaf and plug Tobacco was moved North, and during the summer and fall of 1861, was gradually absorbed by speculators at low prices, viz.: 10 to 15c. for 10's. In the New York market prices were advanced very rapidly, and the spring of '62 found quotations as high as 30 to 35c. (gold). But our own market did not partake of the speculative feeling which was experienced in New York, and in consequence during the winter '61 and '62, prices ruled much higher in New York than here. American Tobaccos were therefore excluded from our market; and dealers having no confidence in domestic manufactured goods, this branch of trade being only in its infancy, purchased them only with reluctance and with extreme caution, the prices ruling Jan., Feb., and March, '62, being 20 to 25c. The following summary gives the average prices of 10's during each month, with an approximation to the value of the leaf used by manufacturers at the same periods. The cost of manufacturing Tobacco being

the same when leaf is very high as when very low, viz.: 7 to 8c. per lb.

1862.	Plug.	Leaf.
January		
February		
March		
April	23 to 26	
May	25 to 28	
June	30 to 32	
July	30 to 32	
August	31 to 33	
September	35 to 40	14 to 16
October	44 to 47	18 to 20
November	45 to 47	18 to 22
December	40 to 42	14 to 19
1863.		
January	33 to 37	13 to 16
February	30 to 35	15 to 17
March	29 to 32	15 to 17
April	25 to 27	15 to 17
May	22 to 26	10 to 13
June	20 to 22	10 to 13
July	17 to 20	8 to 13
August	17 to 19	8 to 12
September	18 to 22	8 to 12
October	18 to 20	8 to 12
November	18 to 20	7 to 12
December	18 to 22	9 to 14
1864.		
January	20 to 23	10 to 15
February	20 to 23	10 to 14
March	19 to 22	10 to 14
April	17 to 19	8 to 12
May	18 to 20	8 to 12
June	22 to 25	7 to 11
July	22 to 26	8 to 12
August	22 to 26	7 to 13
September	22 to 26	8 to 13
October	22 to 26	8 to 13
November	22 to 26	7 to 14
December	22 to 26	7 to 15

The largest Tobacco contract ever made was in Dec., '62, viz.: 5,000 Boxes, at a price far below the open market. It will be seen from the above that the highest point touched was in November, 1862, when the price of plug was 45 to 47 cts. The lowest point touched was in December of 1864, viz.: 22 to 26 cts., including 10c. excise duty, say 12c. to 14c. per lb. We know of at least one lot of Tobacco that was sold by a leading house here at 47c. without duty in Nov. of 1862, which was bought back again in Dec. of 1863, at 22c., which, as a duty of 10c. had to be paid, was worth really only 12c.—only about one-fourth the original figure.

THE WINE AND SPIRIT TRADE.

Amongst the Wholesale Houses in this line are the following. In future we shall only insert in this position those who advertise with us.

Buchanan, Harris & Co.	Kingston, Frederick.
Bacon, Clarke & Co.	Law, Young & Co.
Chapman, Henry & Co.	Lewis, W. E. & Co.
Fitzpatrick & Moore.	Maitland, Tylee & Co.
Farrell William.	Routier, Leonais & Co.
Pournier, J. & Co.	Rimmer, Alfred.
Feldmann & Co.	Thompson, Murray & Co.
Gillespie, Moffatt & Co.	Thompson, P. M.
Hudson E., Fils & Co.	Tiffin, Joseph & Sons.

THIS branch of trade, during the past year, has been very limited. The consumption of finer grades seems to have materially decreased. Imports were largely in excess of consumption, and consequently the trade has a more than usual quantity in store. No doubt our merchants will so regulate their Spring importations as to rectify this surplus.

BRANDY.—The stock in first hands is large, and perhaps in excess of requirements. But as prices for old vintages are firm in Cognac, our quotations are hardly likely to be lower before the Spring. The consumption of Cognac Brandies has of late years been very limited, their place apparently being supplied by Canada Whiskeys and Beer, which, being considerably cheaper, and seeming to suit the tastes of the people as well, are now much used, to the exclusion, in many localities, of more expensive stimulants.

The vintage in France of 1863 was very fine; that of last year was very prolific. But in view of the stocks now held here we do not expect to see heavy Spring imports.

The stock in bond on 1st January was 66,319 gals. Imports in 1864, 123,720 gals., against 67,642 gals. in 1863.

GIN.—Stock ample for all requirements, with moderate demand. Prices easy, in view of probable cost of the Spring importations. Holders are willing to concede somewhat from the figures which were realized in the early part of the season.

Stock in bond 1st January, 83,969 gals. Imports in 1864, 182,852 gals., against 120,459 gals. in 1863.

RUM.—Quiet, with limited demand. Stock in bond 1st January, 21,836 gals. Imports in 1864, 38,035 gals., against 21,152 gals. in 1863.

SCOTCH AND IRISH WHISKEYS.—In fair demand and moderate enquiry, for this spirits which enters considerably into the winter's consumption.

Stock in bond 1st January, 14,350 gals. Imports in 1864, 25,603 gals., against 24,263 gals. in 1863.

WINES.—The demand for choice and extra Wines for the past year has been very small, but medium and low grades have been in fair request. Stocks are generally well assorted, and in full supply for all enquiries. Sherries enter much more into consumption than formerly, and as a rule find more favor than Ports, an idea gaining ground that they are generally to be met with in more purity than the latter.

Stock in bond 1st January, 197,749 gals. in wood. Imports in 1864, 406,612 gals., against 236,323 gals. in wood for 1863.

ALE AND PORTER.—The consumption of imported Malt Liquor has most materially fallen off; so much so as hardly to make it worth the attention of importers. The Canadian article having so greatly improved within the last few years, the importer finds it difficult to realize the extra expense which freight, insurance, and other charges involve. Still, for the small quantity which is imported, there is always a brisk demand.

We append quotations of imported Wines, &c., and well known brands of Brandy, &c.

BRANDY—	Per Gallon.
Hennessy... (accord. to vintage)	\$2 25 to \$3 00
Martell's	2 25 to 3 00
Robin & Co.	2 25 to 3 00
Otard, Dupuy	2 20 to 2 75
J. Denis H. Mouney	2 15 to 2 30
Other brands	2 00 to 2 50
Ditto in cases	per case 8 50 to 10 00.

GIN—	
Hollands	per gal. \$0 87½ to \$0 95½
" in green cases	per case 2 80 to 2 90
" " red "	" 4 90 to 5 20

RUM—	
Jamaica, 16 O. P. (old Lon. Dck)	\$1 60 to \$1 75
Demerara	1 30 to 1 50
Cuba	1 05 to 1 15

WHISKEY—	
Scotch	1 40 to 1 50
Irish	1 45 to 1 60

WINE—	
Burgundy Port	0 80 to 1 25
Port Wine	1 00 to 5 00
Sherry	0 80 to 5 00

PORTER—	Per Doz. Qtz.
Dublin	\$2 30 to \$2 50
London	2 25 to 2 40

ALE—	
English	2 70 to 2 75
Montreal	1 20 to 1 80

We append the names of the direct importers of Wines, &c.

Law, Young & Co.; I. Buchanan, Harris & Co.; Henry Chapman & Co.; Gillespie, Moffatt & Co.; Maitland, Tylee & Co.; Victor Hudson; Alex. Urquhart & Co.; Converse, Coulson & Lamb; Bacon, Clarke & Co.; Frederick Kingston.

Pattern Post.

— Among the patterns and samples sent from the country to London by the post in one month of the year 1864—the first complete year of the inland pattern post system—were 136 packages of tea, 178 of sugar, 907 of alpaca and stuffs, 525 of cloth, 320 of silks, 189 of corn, and smaller numbers of samples of buttons, pipeclay, oil-cake, ladies' dresses, hair, drugs, glue, stays, belts, caps, boots and shoes, beans, candles, shawls, flour, china, bricks, slippers, pincers, a crib, bage-board, potatoes, feathers, lozenges, hay, tallow, gasfittings, ear-drops, and a host of other curious and useful articles, too many to be told. London, on its part, sent at least as many samples of its wares and merchandise to tempt country folk.