

## Toronto Hardware Market.

The purchases of sleigh bells and snow shovels has been undertaken upon the faith that the snow will come. Axes, saws and like goods have been in free request up to the present. Cutlery, such as carving sets, butcher knives and table goods have also been liberally called for. The strike in Rodgers' works in Sheffield threatened to cause a depletion in the supply here, but that strike has now been settled and supplies are coming forward. The cutting in clothes wringers continues, some very low prices being quoted. Hinges are still remarkably low, the trade seemingly having with one consent concluded that nothing shall be made on these goods. A case of cutting the price in locks is reported, and a discovery in cutting in wire nails has also got out. The fact that these two items are considered important, shows that the agreement in respect to the goods affected is generally well maintained.

**Metals.**—In some descriptions of metals trade is improving. Pig iron is having a freer sale and steel is quite active. The movement of lead has been renewed, antimony is quite active. Prices on the whole have a firmer tone, in pig iron they are looking up, and in copper they have advanced. Tinplate is firmer in the primary market as a result of the United States elections.

**Pig Iron.** A feeling that the present state of the market may not continue has led to freer buying, and a considerable amount of business has been done. A lot 250 tons of Southern iron constituted one purchase, probably the largest one made during the week. The prices of United States irons are indicated in Rogers, Brown & Co.'s report below. Some business has been done on this market by the New Glasgow (N.S.) Iron Coal and Railway Co. Their No. 2 is used in stove plates, and their No. 1 in radiators. The price of No. 1 is said to be under \$19 on spot. No British iron is reported to have moved.

**Finished Iron and Steel.** The call for bar iron is now of good volume. The price is unchanged at from 2c. Steel is active, the works consuming it being very busy. The tool makers, the axe and saw manufacturers and machinists generally are all quite briskly engaged. Open hearth Bessemer is quoted at 3c, and cast steel from 10c upwards.

**Antimony.**—The sales of this metal are above the average. Prices remain as they were, that is at 13½c for Cookson's and 12½c for other brands.

**Canada Plates.**—The stove trade has now been done for the season, so that the call for stove pipe material is pretty well over. For roofing also the demand is over. The trade in Canada plates is consequently waning. The inside price for ordinary lots is \$2.70 for dull, \$2.75 to \$2.90 for bright.

**Copper.**—This metal has taken a strong position in London and New York, and the indications point to a continuance of the same tendency. Lake ingots are 13½c, casting brands, 13c.

**Galvanized Iron.**—A fairly good movement is kept up at 5½c upwards.

**Ingot Tin.**—The interest in this metal that sustained it in such prominence at high prices throughout the fall is now on the wane and the tone of the market is easier. Local prices are 22½c for straights and 23c for L. & F.

**Lead.**—A rather good week's business has been done. The price is still low, quoting at 3½c.

**Zinc.**—Sheets at 6½c in cask lots and 6½c in broken lots. Spelter is steady from 5c up.

**Tin Plate.** The Welsh market has brightened appreciably since the United States elections. Prices here are unchanged at \$3.65 for cokes, \$4.25 for I C charcoal's and \$1 extra for each cross.

**Old Material.** The market is steady, and prices are unchanged as follows.—No. 1 heavy cast scrap 65 to 70c per 100; stove cast

scrap 40 to 45c; No. 1 wrought scrap 60 to 65c; No. 2, including sheet iron, hoop iron and mixed steel, 20 to 30c; new light scrap copper, 8½c; heavy scrap copper 9½c; old copper bottoms 8c; light scrap brass 6½c; heavy yellow scrap brass 7½c; heavy rod scrap brass 8½ to 9½c; scrap lead 2c; scrap zinc 2½ to 2¾c; scrap rubber 2½ to 2¾c; county mixed rags, 30 to 85c per 100 pounds; clean dry bones, 50 to 60c per 100 pounds; plow shares 60 to 65c; burnt cast scrap, 15 to 20c; railroad iron, 65 to 75c; malleable scrap, 25c.

**Paints, Oils and Colors.** The low price of white lead shows no signs of rising, and 4½c remains the basis, with a possibility of a still lower point being reached before the game of cutting is played through. White lead dry is very firm in England and reports from our correspondents state that there is some prospect of a rise between now and the end of the year. Linseed oil in England is somewhat easier, but as prices in this market were not advanced when they stiffened last month there is no likelihood of any change here. Turpentine advanced equal to about 1c per gallon in the South during the past week. Stocks here are small and quotations remain as before. The quotations on raw linseed oil are continued still as follows: 1 to 3 barrel lots, 57½c delivered; 4 to 9 barrel lots, 66½c delivered; 15 barrel lots and over, 51½c at point of shipment. Three cents added to these prices gives the quotation for boiled in the respective lots. Turpentine is 50c in 1 to 3 barrel lots and 60c in broken packages.

**Glass.**—Glass is not over plentiful, and is firmer, \$1.35 being the lowest price quoted as a basis, and \$1.10 is quoted by some houses. Shipments are on the way.—*Hardware.*

## Ocean Shipping Question.

The great case of "The United States vs. 250 kegs of nails" has just been decided at Los Angeles. The title seems more adapted to the comic Blackstone than to a serious record of law, but the decision given is one of considerable importance to shippers. Owing to the heavy charges of the transcontinental railways, it has been the custom to forward nails and other small goods from New York to San Francisco via Europe and Cape Horn. In the present instance, a Belgian vessel conveyed the offending kegs to Antwerp, and they were there transhipped into a British bottom and taken round to "Frisco." The idea was to avoid the American law, which declares goods to be confiscated that are shipped from one American port or another in a foreign or partly foreign owned ship; a law which American owners took advantage of to charge 70 cents per cwt for carriage round the Horn, while the whole long journey via Antwerp, including transshipment, only cost 30 cents. The Californian Court has decided that the law is not infringed if the goods are transhipped at a foreign port, and unless the decision be reversed on appeal those 250 kegs of nails will merit the thanks of the shipping world.—*London Financial Times.*

## Montreal Markets.

**FLOUR.**—There is no change in this market, prices still ruling in buyers' favor. The local demand is good, and both bakers and dealers are anticipating their wants further ahead, as they feel pretty certain that prices cannot recede further to any material extent. Wheat is very low in Ontario, and millers there even at present cheap rates for flour are making money. Considerable quantities are going forward direct from Ontario mills to the Maritime Provinces and Newfoundland, sales having been made of straight rollers at \$3.60 to \$3.65 c.i.f. St. John's, Nfld. In this market sales of car lots of straight rollers have taken place on track at \$3.45 to \$3.50, and 90 per cent at \$3.55 to \$3.65. It is stated that several round lots of winter patents have been made by millers west of Toronto for English account, to be

shipped via Boston and New York. In spring wheat flour, sales of city strong bakers have transpired at \$4.00 for round lots, which is 10c higher than it could be bought for about ten days ago. The market is in good shape for spring wheat flour, and any change will, it is thought, be in an upward direction. Prices are quoted as follows:—Patent, spring, \$4.20 to \$4.35; patent, winter, \$3.95 to \$4.15; straight roller, \$3.45 to \$3.75; extra, \$3.05 to \$3.10; superfine, \$2.75 to \$2.95; fine, \$2.45 to \$2.60; city strong bakers, \$1.00 to \$1.10; Manitoba bakers, \$3.45 to \$3.60; Ontario bags—extra, \$1.45 to \$1.55; straight rollers, \$1.85 to \$1.95; superfine, \$1.25 to \$1.45; fine, \$1.05 to \$1.10.

**OATMEAL.**—A decidedly better enquiry has been experienced for oatmeal, owing to the porridge season being on, and for jobbing lots we advance on inside quotations. We quote jobbing prices as follows:—Rolled and granulated, \$4.00 to \$4.10; standard, \$3.90 to \$4.00. In bags, granulated \$2.00 to \$2.05, and standard \$1.90 to \$1.95.

**MILL FEED.**—A fair demand exists for bran, which has sold in car lots at \$13.50 to \$14.00. Shorts are quoted at \$14.50 to \$15.50, and middlings at \$16.00 to \$17.00. Moullie, \$20.00 to \$24.00, as to grade.

**WHEAT.**—The market is steady for Manitoba wheat, considerable quantities of No. 2 hard having been sold at 60c to 60½c at Fort William for Montreal account, and at 61½c to 62c for No. 3 hard. In this market there is little or nothing doing on spot, and prices here are purely nominal. At North Bay No. 2 hard is quoted at 80c to 82c, No. 3 hard 74c to 75c, No. 1 frosted 63c to 66c, No. 2 frosted 55c to 57c. Ontario winter and spring wheat is selling at points west the lowest ever before known, the sale being reported of 20,000 bushels of straight white winter wheat at 65c f.o.b. at a station west of Toronto, while spring wheat has been delivered at the mills at 60c to 62c.

**Oats.** The market is quiet and steady with recent sales of round quantities at 32c to 32½c, holders asking 33c per 34 lbs. A lot of Manitoba oats was sold at 31½c, North Bay.

**Barley.**—There has been a fair business in malting barley at 48 to 50c, one lot bringing 52c, but these are very low prices. Sales have transpired in the west of No. 1 at 49c. Feed barley is quoted at 37 to 43c as to quality.

**Provisions.**—At yesterday's prices in Chicago it would cost \$16.90 to lay down new regular messpork in this city, and we quote prices here \$16.50 to \$17.00, these prices, however, being for pork that was brought in at lower than current rates. In Canada short cut messpork, there might have been sales at \$17.50 to \$18.00, and the market is firm at these figures which might probably be shaded for round quantities. A good business has been done in lard, sales of round lots of compound having taken place at \$1.45 per pair of 20 lbs., and we quote \$1.45 to \$1.50 with a firm market and higher prices looked for. Smoked meats are in good demand, hams selling all the way from 11 to 12½c, as to quality and quantity. Bacon sells at 11c to 12c.

**Dressed Hogs.**—If the weather keeps favorable we shall soon have car lots on the market. Sales have been made of jobbing lots at \$6.50 per 100 lbs.

**Butter.**—There appears to be plenty of creamery butter offering on this market. Two factories were in the city yesterday claiming that their goods which they sold at 23c had been thrown up, owing to some defect or other which is usually discovered in a weak market. Other creameries are also offered. The November make of creamery is said to be very fine, but present prices are looked upon as too high. We quote prices as follows: Creamery choice fall 22½ to 23c; do good to fine 21½ to 22c; eastern townships dairy, choice fall 20½ to 21c; do good to fine 18 to 20c; Morrisburg and Brockville 19 to 21c; western 16 to 19c. In roll butter the market is quiet under better supplies, sales of which have been made at 17 to 19c for western.