

THE PRODUCE MARKET.

ARRIVALS of most articles of produce, but especially of Flour, have been on a much larger scale than for months past, and our depots are full to overflowing; purchasing on the other hand has been languid, and stocks generally have been rapidly accumulating.

FLOUR.—The receipts of the week have been excessive, and mainly consisting of superfine; and although prices have given way somewhat, the decline has not been such as was anticipated. Prices are in a measure sustained by a demand for Boston and other American markets, but more especially by the general firmness of holders, who look on such excessive arrivals as mainly composed of previous arrearages, and likely to prove only temporary. Extra and Fancy have continued in short supply, and have fully maintained their value. We quote Extra \$4.85 to \$4.95, and Fancy \$4.70 to \$4.80. For Super. the range is still \$4.45 to \$4.60, sales however being difficult to effect, as the country roads and the rivers are broken up, while buyers only come forward sparingly to replenish as necessity requires. No. 2 and the lower grades are still in deficient supply, and full rates are obtained for all offered.

Bag Flour.—Receipts by rail have been in much smaller proportion than barrels; and although the demand has greatly fallen off, there has been no surplus of consequence. The general tone of the market however is weaker, and none but choice samples engage attention at full rates. The bulk of the sales have been at \$2.50 to \$2.52½ without occasional transactions under or above these rates.

WHEAT.—U. C. Spring is still nominal at \$1.00 to \$1.03, but we are without transactions, as millers are the only receivers.

PORK.—With a moderate demand, prices remain unchanged. The heavy fall in Gold in the States has unsettled the market for Provisions there; and a decline in price is looked for on the opening of navigation, when a good deal is expected to come to this market.

LARD.—So little is arriving that prices are almost nominal. Wholesale shipping parcels of prime quality would command our highest quotations.

TALLOW.—Is readily taken by the manufacturers within the range of our quotations.

BUTTER.—With a continuance of arrivals the past day or two, though less excessive than for some time past, still considerably beyond the very limited requirements of the City Trade, to which the demand is almost entirely restricted, we have still to report a dull and lifeless market. Several holders, tired of waiting for an advance which the late stage of the season renders daily less probable, have decided on meeting holders, and closed off their stocks at about 12½c. There is a disposition manifested by a few to purchase wholesale parcels at that figure; but the majority of holders are as yet unwilling to accept a price which must entail so serious a loss to their constituents. The feeling that the market has at length touched bottom, and that the worst is known, has imparted more confidence to holders, as a price appears at length to have been established at which sales can be made of the ordinary and medium qualities, which, since the close of navigation, have been hanging almost hopelessly on hand. A demand for the fisheries and lower ports will probably take off a limited quantity; but the shipments hence have latterly fallen off year by year, so that the quantity that may be required for that quarter is very uncertain. The ideas of shippers are also understood to be very low.

ASHES.—Pots of the British and United States markets continue to droop, while receipts and stocks in the Inspection stores are heavy. Prices remained unchanged at \$5.22½ to \$5.25 for Pots, and \$5.40 to \$5.50 for Pearls—very few of the latter however coming forward.

Adulterated Lard.

It is well known that good pure Lard may be adulterated by water to the extent of one third, and to an ordinary observer, may in cold weather especially, be imperceptible. So that by this means one may increase the quantity of good Western lard 33 per cent. or more and by selling the patent article at the same price as the pure lard cost, realize a handsome profit. There is also pressed lard, or that with the oil pressed out. This description will carry even more water than the first mentioned, because it has been dried by pressing. There is considerable of this scaly stuff thrown upon our market at present, and in the hands of retailers; and we trust for the honor and good of the trade, that it be looked sharply after, and branded significantly.

SEED TRADE.

THERE is every prospect of an early spring. The more prolonged the season of sowing, the greater demand there is for seeds. Farmers whose means permit them to command labor are often induced to put down large crops during a favorable spring; and those who are dependent upon their own labor, have a better opportunity of sowing. An early spring therefore insures a good seed trade.

Clover and Timothy are the heaviest articles in the seed trade.

Red Clover is grown in all parts of Canada, and is much prized in the States, being considered far superior to the Western. The latter is easily winter killed, and, when sown with grass seed, ripens much before the Timothy; consequently when the hay is cut, the Clover is too ripe, and devoid of nourishment. Canada Clover ripens with Timothy, and is on this account more valuable, beside not being liable to injury from frost.

Canada Clover commands from 1 to 3c. per lb. higher rates. Timothy or Herds grass is raised throughout Canada. The County of Megantic is noted for the good quality of the Timothy seed.

Canada Clover is extremely scarce, and would command 13 to 15c. per lb. in Montreal, for the finest quality. Timothy would bring \$2.00 to \$2.37 per bushel.

It is a question whether there is sufficient supply of these seeds to meet the large demand anticipated. Of other seeds we believe there is a good stock in town, and seedsmen enjoy the confidence of the public.

Petroleum.

Since our last report we have no change in prices to note. Refined is now ruling from 85 to 40c. We hear of two cars of fine oil, to arrive, sold at 35c. There are buyers in the market at the same quotations for quantities of fine oil; and any Western holders of oil suitable for exportation will make remunerative prices the coming season. Stocks on hand here are scarcely worth reporting; being nearly all in the hands of retailers. It is pretty certain that by the time navigation opens, every gallon will bring 40cts. City consumption is fast reducing stocks. But since there are considerable stocks of oil stored in Toronto to come forward on the opening of navigation, it is, not therefore likely that the price will exceed 40c. It would pay Western refiners to manufacture at that price, and there are plenty of distillers ready to commence operations, as soon as prices may warrant. The excitement in regard to Oil Land speculations still continues. Land which but a short time ago was only considered worth fifty cents per acre, has changed hands of late at no less than one thousand dollars per acre. The test wells of the new companies promise every success. Several are fast filling. We believe the time has arrived that this great modern discovery of earthen Oils will be fully developed, as capitalists are beginning to appreciate this fine field for the investment of capital. In fact, while we have in contemplation such a vast line of railway stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific, we think there are good prospects for our Oil producers finding a certain outlet for this commodity of universal consumption.

Leather.

The market has been very quiet since the date of last Report; and although buyers (both dealers and manufacturers) seem to be satisfied with the prices, yet they manifest but little disposition to operate to any considerable extent, even for consumption, far less for speculation.

Shipments for Sole Leather continue to be made to Liverpool via Portland; and besides a shipment of Upper Leather last week, already noticed in our last Review, we this week observe the shipment of a lot of Kip Leather to England, being the first exportation of this description. The steamship "Peruvian" took 700 sides Spanish Sole Leather on Saturday last for Liverpool.

Manufactured Tobacco.

We have no change in prices to note from last week. Pending the opening of navigation there seems to be a complete suspension of transactions except of the most retail character—quotations remain firm, and holders are quite prepared to wait for the activity which is certain to prevail in this branch of trade as soon as the spring trade in groceries commences.

LEAF TOBACCO.—No transactions in Kentucky or Missouri. In Canada Leaf some lots have been sold at 3½ to 4c. according to quality; 4c. can be obtained when the lot is of uniform quality and in good order.

IMPORTS PER S. S. ST. DAVID,

From Liverpool.

BY DRY GOODS MERCHANTS.

G. Winks & Co.	8
Stirling, McCall & Co.	19
Buchanan, Harris & Co.	13
Ringland, Ewart & Co.	5
Ogilvy & Co.	14
Lewis, Kay & Co.	21
W. Benjamin & Co.	1
A. Robertson & Co.	3
J. P. Clark	20
W. Stephen & Co.	9
Thomson, Claxton & Co.	41
All others	304
Total	453

GROCERY MERCHANTS.

J. Tiffin & Sons	800
Sinclair, Jack & Co.	49
J. A. & H. Mathewson	73
Rimmer, Gunn & Co.	9
D. Robertson	50
David Torrance & Co.	135
Total	616

HARDWARE MERCHANTS.

Crathern & Caverhill	204
Morland, Watson & Co.	1
All others	717
Total	922

WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS.

Lymans, Clare, & Co.	15
----------------------	----

Next week we will give a complete list of all the Imports to Canada, of course only inserting the names of advertisers.

Boots and Shoes.

We have to report an improvement in this branch of trade. Orders are increasing; and a number of Western men are buyers in the market. Purchases are, however, light; and we may say that both the seller and buyer are agreed as to the policy of moderation.

THOMAS HOBSON & CO.'S PRODUCE CIRCULAR

PRICE CURRENT.

Thursday Evening, March 30, 1865.

Flour, Superior extra	\$5 00 to \$5 20
Extra	4 80 to 4 85
Fancy	4 65 to 4 80
Superfine	4 45 to 4 55
Do. No. 2	4 20 to 4 35
Fine	3 70 to 3 85
Bag Flour, per 112 lbs.	2 50 to 2 65
Oatmeal, per bbl. of 200 lbs.	4 80 to 4 85
Fork—Mess	20 00 to 21 00
Tin Mess	17 50 to 18 50
Prime Mess	15 00 to 16 50
Prime	14 50 to 15 00
Butter—Ordinary, per lb.	0 13 to 0 14
Medium	0 15 to 0 16½
Choice Dairy	0 17 to 0 18½
Lard, Western	0 00 to 0 00
City rendered	0 11 to 0 11½
Tallow	8 to 0 9
Cut Meats—Hams, per lb.	0 10 to 0 12
Bacon	0 8 to 0 10
Shoulders	0 7 to 0 8
Seeds, Timothy, per 45 lbs.	2 75 to 3 00
Clover per lb.	0 12½ to 0 14
Ashes, per 100 lbs. 1st Pots	5 22½ to 5 25
Inferiors	5 45 to 5 55
Pearls, nominal	5 40 to 5 45

FLOUR.—We have to report a good market for Superfine, at our quotations of last week; there is an active enquiry for American markets, as also for the Eastern Townships; sales to-day at from \$4.50 to \$4.60 and strong Flour at \$4.65. Choice Bag Flour at \$2.57½. Sales of Superior Extra have been made at \$5.20, and Extra at from \$4.90 to \$5.00. The receipts to-day are light, and the demand good—prices of all grades somewhat firmer.

PORK.—Market dull, and prices easier. **BUTTER.**—There has been considerable business done during the past few days, a good deal of inferior having been sold at prices below our lowest quotation. Medium at from 15 to 16c., and Dairy at 17c. The advances from the U. S. markets are more favorable, and the feeling is, that prices will improve. We hear of several orders from the Lower Ports, and a very slight improvement in the demand will tend to improve prices. Really fine Butter is very scarce; but as the shipping season is over, there is not so much enquiry; the low priced Butter is most wanted at present, without special reference to quality.

EGGS.—Have been in great demand at 17c. per doz., but as larger arrivals are expected in course of a few days, we may look for a reduction in price.

LARD.—Good demand at 11c. for City rendered. Western 12 to 12½c.

TALLOW.—Scarce at our quotations; demand very brisk.

CUT MEATS.—Prices nominal—very little offering.

SEEDS.—Timothy seed is scarce, particularly good samples, \$3.00 per bushel is asked for fair lots, and \$2.75 for poor. Clover worth from 12½ to 14c. per lb., according to quality.

ASHES.—Market firm. Pots, Firsts \$5.25; Inferiors \$5.50 to \$5.55. Pearls \$5.40 to \$5.45.

THOMAS HOBSON & CO.,
427 Commissioners street.