

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND TRADE REPORT.

(From Circular of A. McNicoll, of 6th July, 1897.)

FREIGHTS.—To Halifax. Oats, 5 to 7c; potatoes, 7 to 8c; oatmeal, 40c; butter, per 100 lbs., 35c; fish per bbl, 60c; pork per bbl, 50c, oysters per bbl, 50c. To Boston: oats, 12c; oatmeal 60c; butter 41c; fish, 41c per bbl; oysters, per bbl, 70c, eggs, 51c; per bbl. To Shediac: 30c per bbl, bulk. To Picton: 20c per bbl bulk. From Toronto and Hamilton, via Suspension Bridge and Boston and Colonial Steamship Company, upon Through Bills of Lading, \$1 per bbl for flour. Flour from Boston 40c Oats to England, \$1 to \$1.10 sterling, per 45 lbs.

STEAMERS.—Leave Charlottetown for Picton, Canso, Halifax, and Boston every Monday afternoon, and for Picton every Monday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings, connecting with Railway for Halifax, and for Shediac on Tuesday and Friday evenings, connecting with Railroad for St. John, N.B. They leave Boston on Tuesday, and Halifax on Thursday, of each week, for this port. Shediac every Wednesday and Saturday, on arrival of train from St. John, and Picton every Monday, Tuesday and Friday, on arrival of train from Halifax.

MONEY.—Bank rates for Discount 7½ per cent. per annum, with a very little business doing.

CURRENCY.—The Currency of this Island is equal to 50 per cent. on the Sterling, the Sovereigns being worth 30s currency, 4s sterling being equal to 6s currency, or \$1.

FLOUR.—American Extra or Canada No. 1 warranted to stand the heat will bring our quotations, all other brands must be considered nominal. Receipts for the week 850 bbls from Canada and 500 bbls from the United States. Duty on American flour is 6½ per barrel. Canadian, duty free.

CORNFLOUR.—Supply though moderate is ample for the demand, and prices have further declined. Favourite brands *Kilm* dried will command outside figures. Receipts for the week 350 bbls. Duty on American meal 1-6d per barrel. Canada, free.

OATMEAL.—Prices have declined with flour. Quotations nominal.

MOLASSES.—Is a complete drug.

SUGAR.—Stocks are small, but quite sufficient for present demand.

SALT.—No enquiry.

FISH.—Mackerel are in abundance in the Gulf, but with the exception of one day this week the catch has been nothing. Codfish: For two or three days some fish were taken, but up to this date the whole catch of both Mackerel and Cod is a over one-third of the average.

LUMBER.—Continues in good supply. Good seasoned Pine Boards wanted, which would command outside quotations. Shingles in full supply. Some enquiry for laths.

OATS.—Are scarce, and prices nominal. Round lots cannot now be secured at quotations.

OIL.—Kerosene in good supply. No demand at this season. Duty 7½d.

POTATOES.—Round lots cannot be procured and the same remarks may now be applied to Potatoes. Prices in both cases nominal.

WEATHER.—Continues fine. The crops appear well throughout the country.

MONEY MARKET.

MONEY is easy. First class paper can readily be discounted at 7 to 8 per cent. for parties having regular bank accounts, while outside transactions take place at rates ranging from 9 to 12 per cent. The London money market has for some time back been characterized by great ease, with a less than ordinary demand for discount, rates ranging from 2½ to 3 per cent. per annum, and our banks have been able to use their credit there with profit to themselves.

STERLING EXCHANGE is firm at an advance of ½ on last weeks quotations.

GOLD in New York is firm, closing at 130½, a slight gain as compared with the previous week. About \$300,000 were shipped from New York on Wednesday.

SILVER is abundant, but without change.

The following are the latest quotations of Sterling Exchange, &c:—

Bank on London, 60 days sight	110½ to 110½
Private, " 60 days sight	111
Bank in New York, 60 days sight	110½ to 110½
Gold Drafts on New York	110½ to 110½
Gold in New York	130½
Silver	4½ to 4½ dls

THE GROCERY TRADE.

Baldwin, C. H., & Co.
Chapman, Fraser & Tyee.
Chapman H., & Co.
Childs, George, & Co.
Conner, Gibson & Lamb.
Davis, Clark, & Co.
Fitzpatrick & Moore.
Foster, John.
Frank, J. J., & Co.
Hill, J. H., & Co.
J. H. & Co.

Anderson, John & Co.
Bishop & Kitchin.
Lindsay, Thomas & Co.
Mile, J. H., & Co.
Pitman, Joseph.
Robertson, David.
Simpson, Jack & Co.
Tidley, John, & Co.
Thompson, Murray & Co.
Torrance, David, & Co.

West, Bros.

WE are unable to report any very great activity in this branch of trade during the past week. Teas alone have changed hands to any extent, in all other articles, transactions have been limited in amount.

SUGAR.—Raw sugars are wanted, but very little offering. Some 200 bbls were taken by the Refiners at 6c in bond, the only transaction reported, beyond a small retail lots of Porto Rico at \$8 75 to \$9, and of Cuba and Barbadoes at \$8 25 to \$8 50 per 100 lbs.

Refined sugars meet with a good enquiry, and have been advanced ½c during the week.

MOLASSES.—The demand has somewhat improved, and prices are stiff. 35c. is now asked for common Centrifugal, and good to choice Muscovado held at 35c. to 42c per gall.

TEAS.—The demand, especially for uncoloured Japan and fine greens has been quite active during the week, a considerable number of packages changing hands at prices a little under our quotations. There has been some enquiry for fine Young Hysons, but no large transactions. The enquiry for black teas has not been great.

FRUIT.—Very little doing in either raisins or currants, prices remaining as before.

RICE.—Prices are well maintained, though holders are hardly as stiff as at the commencement of the week.

SALT.—For Liverpool coarse there is but little enquiry, and for round lots 70c to 71c would be taken. Stoved is in better request, the stock being light at 50c to 52½c.

WINES AND LIQUORS.—Wine has had a fair enquiry, principally for the higher qualities of Ports. A vessel with a cargo of Sherries direct from Oporto is now overdue, and hourly expected. Brandies are neglected, except small lots in bond for United States account.

THE HARDWARE TRADE.

Brash, George.
Charles, A. & Co.
Cuthbert & Co.
Currie, W. & F. T., & Co.
Eaton & Evans.
Evans, John Henry.
Farrier & Co.
Fraser, F.

Gilbert, E. E.
Hall, Kay & Co.
Inglis, W. H.
Kendall & Edwards.
McDonald, W. & Co.
Munro, A. Baker.
Robinson, J. A.
Round, John & Sons.
Waddell & Pearce.

BUSINESS since our last report has not been active. Heavy goods are dull, and prices at present decidedly favour the buyer, although holders are becoming firmer in their demands, anticipating after this month, advanced prices, as freights from home will be higher and few vessels coming out.

PIR IRON.—Prices given are purely nominal, as there are now no transactions transpiring except for the Western States, buyers holding off and sellers not disposed to give way. For the Western States, shipments during the past week have been very heavy. Sales were made principally for net cash at \$1 to \$1.50 under our quotations. Holders are at present unwilling to sell any now in the market unless at full prices.

BAR IRON.—Stocks are now fully complete, and ample for all present wants of the trade. Large holders are inclined to ask full prices, as it is considered that recent sales have been made at unnecessarily low figures.

We have no change to notice in other departments of iron and hardware, quotations continuing unaltered in the absence of any particular activity.

MONTREAL PRODUCE MARKET.

Allen & Kirkpatrick.
Camacho & Sons.
Conner, Gibson & Lamb.
Crawford, James.
Hobson, Thomas, & Co.
Kirkwood, Livingstone & Co.

Laidlaw, Middleton & Co.
Lindsay, Thomas & Co.
Mitchell, E. J.
Raphael, Thomas W.
Simpson, Jack & Co.
Seymour, C. E.

FLOUR.—A fair demand for the lower grades has been maintained, but all other descriptions have been dull and slightly easier in price. Extras are only in small retail demand at about quoted rates. Superfines have been taken only as needed for immediate use, and the imminent risk of souring causing more than ordinary urgency to sell, prices have been somewhat depressed. Latest sales of Ordinary brands

have been at \$7 15 to \$7 25, and for strong and fresh ground \$7 30 to \$7 40; Welland Canal, and brands from Western wheat, owing to their superior keeping properties are held more firmly, but in the absence of speculative feeling the trade restricts operations to daily wants, and take Canada brands because of more favourable terms. No. 2 and Fine continue in good demand but are influenced in price to some extent by the depression in Superfines. The commoner descriptions are also scarce and command full previous rates. **EYE FLOUR.**—With what is arriving and previously in stock there is ample for the wants of the trade, but the supplies in store being mostly in single hands, there is little forcing and full rates are made for wheat changes hands, we quote \$5 80 to \$5 90 as covering all late transactions. **BAKING FLOUR.**—Good strong samples sell freely at full relative prices, say \$3 55 to \$3 65, but inferior is difficult to quit even at comparatively low rates.

OATMEAL.—The stock is small and in few hands, and with small receipts prices are well maintained; we quote \$5 90 to \$6 for fair to good samples.

GRAIN.—Wheat—Rates are purely nominal in the absence of transactions.

PEASE.—There is little in stock, and owing to the recent advance in Britain, prices have further improved, latest transactions have been at 30c. to 35c. per bush.

OATS.—Have become scarce, and prices are higher, 40c to 42c, according to sample may be considered the range.

PORK.—Owing to the advance in the West, the feeling is decidedly firmer, and holders have advanced their views. Mess is held at \$20, though at the advance nothing has been reported; the other grades are also favourably influenced, and some 50c. advance is now demanded, there is however little or no business doing.

CUTMEATS.—Are in excess, and the rough and in many cases damaged parcels which constitute the staple of consignments from Upper Canada, are necessarily forced off at low and very irregular rates.

LARD.—Is dull and only moves by retail at about 9c. to 9½c.

BUTTER.—No new features to report. The bulk of the old is at length worked off and may no longer be quoted. The supply of new coming in and in stock is small, and mostly too inferior in quality for the city trade or the ideas of exporters, who in view of the disastrous experience of last season, will handle nothing on any terms that does not meet their ideas of quality—the market may therefore be considered stagnant.

ASHES.—Pots—Are quiet but moderately steady, we quote \$5 50 to \$5 60 as the range according to tarer. **PEARLS.**—Have been active, at some advance on last weeks rates, but at the close were thought to be at an uneasable rate, and buyers withdrew or only bought as they could be obtained at 10c. to 15c. decline.

THE LEATHER TRADE.

Hos & Edwards, J. R.
Seymour, V. H.
Smyth & Co.
Smyth & Co.

WE are unable to report any altered condition in this branch of business which remains quiet. The receipts of stock, though not large, exceed to some extent the sales, and inferior grades of every description are weak.

SPANISH SOLE.—The demand is limited at previous rates.

SLAUGHTER SOLE.—Is almost wholly neglected, and considerable difficulty is experienced in effecting sales.

HARNESS.—Has not improved in demand, the sales making are chiefly of a retail character.

WAXEN UPPER.—Has been in better request, and sales are making daily of medium to heavy at recent quotations.

GRAINED UPPER.—Does not command particular attention, and very little inquiry exists.

BUFF AND PENNED.—No difficulty is experienced in selling choice, but poor, which constitutes the bulk of the stock is unsaleable, and prices unremunerative.

PATENT AND ENAMELLED.—Are particularly quiet, there being little or no demand.

CALFSKINS.—Remain inactive, there being no special inquiry, and prices are not firm.

SPLITTS.—Are steady, selling liberally at current quotations.

SUEDE SKINS.—Partake of the general inactivity, and sell only moderately.