

Grocery Prices at Toronto.

Sugars, Syrup and Molasses - The demand for all three is light and prices are unchanged. Sugar is very dull. It is the same old story of waiting until the tariff changes are announced. In barrels molasses are selling at 40 to 45c for Porto Rico; 39 to 42c for Barbados and 43 to 60c for New Orleans. New Orleans offered to arrive at 42 to 45c. Sugars are Granulated, 1 to 15 barrels, 7c; do., 15 barrels and over, 6½c; Paris lump, boxes, 7c, extra ground, barrels, 8c, do., boxes or less than barrels, 8½c; powdered, barrels, 7½c; do., less than barrels, 7c; refined, dark to bright, \$5 05 to \$6 Teas and Colles - Teas have been fairly active and are steadily held on all grades and varieties. Coffees are dull and unchanged, with no quotable change in prices. Rios, 22 to 23c; Jamaica, 22 to 23c; Java, 26 to 35c; Mocha, 29 to 35c; Porto Rico, 25 to 29c.

Rice and Spices - Rice, bags, 3½ to 4½c; do., off grades, 3½ to 3¾c; do., Patna, 6½ to 6¾c; do., Japan, 4½ to 5½c; Carolina, 8 to 8½c; sago, 5½ to 6c, tapioca, 6½ to 7c; pepper, black, 22 to 25c; do., white, 25 to 49c; ginger Jamaica, 25 to 30c; cloves, 25 to 40c; allspice 12 to 15c; nutmegs, 95c to \$1 20; cream tartar, 25 to 50c.

Dried Fruit Valencia raisins are weak and selling at 5½ to 6½c as for quality for off stalk. Currants are firm and in good demand at previous quotations. Currants, barrels, new, 6½ to 6¾c, half barrels, 6½ to 6¾c; cases, 6½ to 6¾c; Vostizza, new, cases, 7½ to 9½c. Raisins, Valencias, 5½ to 6½c; do., selects, 7½ to 8c; do., layers, 8½ to 9c; sultanas, 15 to 18c; London layers, \$2.50 to \$2 75. Prunes, cases, 8½ to 10½c; hogsheads and bags, 7½ to 8c. Figs, natural bags, 4½ to 5c; Malaga inats, \$1 to \$1 25; Elemes, 10 to 20 pounds, 10 to 13c. Dates, Hallowee, 5½ to 6c; old, 4c. Nuts - Almonds, Tarragona, 15½ to 17c; Ivica, 14 to 15c; filberts, Sicily, 10½ to 11c; walnuts, Grenobles, 16 to 17c; Marbots, 12 to 13c; Bordeaux, 12 to 12½c.

Canned Goods - All kinds of vegetables are firm and in good demand. Tomatoes are selling at \$1 50 to \$1 60, and peas at \$1 30 to \$1 45. Fish - Salmon, 1's flat, \$1 60 to \$1 70; salmon, 1's, tall, \$1 35 to \$1 55; lobsters, clover leaf, \$2 75; other 1's, \$2 to \$2 30; mackerel, \$1 40 to \$1 50; sardines, French, 1's, 9 to 11c; sardines, French, 1's, 14 to 22c; sardines, American, 1's, 6 to 9c; sardines, American, 1's, 9c. Fruits and Vegetables - Corn, 2's, \$1.10 to \$1.25; corn, cream, 3's, \$1 75 to \$1.80; peas, 2's, \$1.35 to \$1.45; strawberries, 2's, \$2 25 to \$2.40; tomatoes, 3's, \$1.50 to \$1.60; apples, 3's, \$1.10 to \$1.15; gallons, \$3 to \$3.20; peaches, 2's, \$2.50 to \$2.75; peaches, 3's, \$3 50 to \$3 75; plums, 2's, \$1.60; 3's, \$2.60; pears, 2's \$2. - Empire.

The Position of Pig Iron.

Had any one predicted a month ago that \$21 would be paid for Carnbroe iron after the middle of May they would have been laughed at, yet such is the fact, and it shows conclusively to what a change the position of pig iron has been subjected within the past few weeks. In the early spring, what with the competition of American pig in the west and the long lull that we had here, every one expected to see cheap iron after the opening of navigation, and had some reason for their belief, as orders for delivery ahead were taken at a considerable concession. Now, however, the conditions are altered and point the other way. The long

lull above referred to has resulted in very small stocks here, smaller, in fact, than they have been for several years at this period, and what supplies there are near at hand are already taken to arrive, while the tendency of the market in Great Britain is toward firmness. There has been a continued squeeze in warrants, which has been sustained for over a fortnight now, and this has been reflected on the regular market for maker's brands, and holders are more independent than before, especially in view of the light supplies, increased cost of production and largely decreased shipments during the year, which must mean a shortage somewhere. In the latter connection the following figures are interesting. The shipments of pig from Scotland for the week ending May 22nd, 1891, were 5,379 tons, against 9,808 tons for the same week in 1890, and the shipments from the 1st of January to the same date 77,036 tons, against 150,469 tons for the same period in 1890. In other words, the shipments have decreased almost 50 per cent. during the period mentioned. Then, too, the American market is shaping itself firmer, if the statistical position goes for anything.

Current transactions in pig show that buyers realize the effect of these influences for they are showing more disposition for business than formerly. Within the past few days several 200 ton lots of Carnbroe have turned over at \$19.50, while for 10 ton lots \$21 is the figure, and has been made in several instances. *Montreal Gazette.*

Wool.

John Hallam, of Toronto, writes as follows concerning wool:

The wool season is now at hand and no doubt many of your readers will be interested in knowing the situation. Wool for the last year has been anything but profitable to dealers. We produce considerably more of combing wool than we can consume, consequently we have to export. Our best market is the United States, owing to the fact, that England is our keenest competitor, as she grows the largest quantity and the best quality of Leicester, Cotswold and other long, bright-haired wools. France and Germany also produce considerable of these wools. It is impossible to sell our surplus at anything like a paying price to these countries, therefore, the only market left open to us is the United States. Last year the McKinley tariff came into effect and imposed a duty of 12 cents a lb. on all fleeces combing wools similar to those grown in Canada, and 36c a lb. on all pulled or skinned wools. This made it impossible to export pulled wools to the United States. We are in that unenviable position, that we have to sell our wool for whatever the United States manufacturers like to give, and in this case, the farmers pay the duty, as we cannot or could not get as much for our wools, if they were shipped to England, France, or Germany. There have been large quantities of last year's crop shipped recently to the United States, at 20 and 20½c. close selection. The farmers of Canada should pay more attention to getting up their wool and put it in better condition and see that it is free from burrs, chaff and stained pieces, as the United States manufacturer will not pay duty on burry, chaffy or stained wools. The following are the present values of Canadian wools: -

Pure Southdown.....22 to 24c.
Shropshire Down.....20 to 21c.

A strict selection for clothing 19 to 20c.
Combing fleeces 17 to 19c.
Black, Cotted, Burry and chaffy
wools 12 to 13c
Unwashed Merino 14 to 15c.
" pure Southdown 12 to 17c.
" " Shropshire Down..... 11 to 12c.
" Clothing and combing 9 to 10c.

The above are the very outside prices that should be paid for this season's crop of wool

Manitoba Wheat at Duluth.

The present system of handling bonded wheat at this point differs from that of previous years, and is little understood even by the grain men outside of Duluth. The Northern Pacific road gives a general bond of \$300,000 for the proper handling of grain going through from the Canadian west to Sarnia, Montreal or other lower Canadian points via the Duluth lake route. A number of bins in elevator D are bonded without charge by the elevator company for the profit of handling the business. When bonded cars arrive closed by the seal of the Canadian Government and also of the railroad, the United States deputy collector of customs takes them in charge, orders the seal broken, oversees the handling, and when the grain is finally placed in the bin, places his seal thereon. When the owner desires to ship any of the grain, the deputy customs collector breaks the seal, and when the desired amount is withdrawn, again seals the bin, but when the bin is empty it is left open and may be used for any grain. In all these operations the United States deputy collector is accompanied by one of the Canadian custom officers stationed here, whose presence is a matter of international courtesy, as he has no authority so far as the handling is concerned. His certificate, however, is of value at the Canadian points to which the grain is destined, and his seal on cars containing goods in bond for Manitoba greatly expedites traffic at the Canadian boundary line. The bonded grain is not inspected under our law but goes through under the grades established in Manitoba. This system of a general bond instead of a special bond is a great convenience to shippers and holds the business for the American route, but cuts off much of the fees formerly received by the customs collector. The whole bonding system has thus been simplified in a spirit of international comity and for the business interests of both sides of the line. - *Duluth Herald.*

Lake Freights.

It was reported from Duluth last week that lake freight rates are terribly demoralized. Wheat rates have not touched so low a mark since 1888 and 1894, when Buffalo rates of wheat were made as low as 1 cent. Yesterday shippers stated on the Board of Trade that boats were being offered as low as 1½ cents for wheat. The nominal rate for ore is now \$1, but it is likely to drop. Coal rates are said to be 40 cents for hard and 50 cents for soft, but charters are offered under these figures. It is reported that three vessels have left Chicago for Lake Erie, chartered for coal at 60 cents, something that has not happened since 1874.

Scott & Co., shirt manufacturers, Montreal, have called a meeting to their creditors. The liabilities are estimated \$30,000. The Merchants Bank is largely interested.