

rather small compass. The offerings from country points are small, and several lots coming to hand have been in very poor condition.

DRESSED HOGS AND PROVISIONS.—Large receipts of dressed hogs are reported this week. The roads have improved in Western Ontario as a result of a heavy fall of snow and good sleighing. Prices remain fairly steady. Dressed hogs received from the Western counties bring, if of light weights, \$5, and medium weights, \$4.50; heavy weights, \$4.25 per cwt. For Northern light weight lean hogs, \$5.25 to 5.50 per cwt. is paid. In provisions trade is light, and prices continue steady on an unaltered basis. In Chicago and Western packing centres, the markets are very uncertain, and the bears and bulls are in the ascendancy in almost alternate days. Speculation is based upon the daily receipts, which are subject to great fluctuations.

DRY GOODS.—No special activity characterizes trade in the wholesale dry goods circles of Toronto. A number of the houses are busily shipping goods for the spring trade. In cotton goods, prices are steady, and manufacturers have not reported any changes in values this past week. Woolens remain quiet and unchanged.

GREEN FRUIT.—There is no activity in trade. The holiday business in oranges was apparently overestimated and considerable stocks remain in the hands of the trade. Prices are, as a rule, low. Merchants quote: Floridas, extra fine, \$4 to 4.25; Mexicans, \$3.50 per box; Valencias, case, \$3.50 to 3.75; Valencias, large case, \$4.25 to 4.50. California navels are in best demand, merchants quoting \$3.50 to 3.75 per box. There is only a moderate movement in lemons. A sale was held this week, at which there was fair attendance, and 2,000 boxes were sold at prices ranging from \$1.50 to 2 per box.

GROCERIES.—Orders are not as numerous as the trade would like, and are confined principally to small lots for present requirements. In sugars the local market is featureless, while fluctuations in outside markets have been confined within narrow limits. The activity reported in teas continues, and several lots are reported as having changed hands.

HIDES AND SKINS.—The situation in the Toronto hide market remains in almost the same position as reported a week ago. Buyers are paying 6½c. per lb. for green hides, and the market has ruled steady at this price for several months. The quality of offerings is not of the best, and receipts show the deterioration usual at this time of the year. Tanners are offered hides at 7½c., but this price offers little attraction, in view of the present depression in leather. Sheepskins are unchanged at the advance made last week; merchants are paying 90c. Tallow is dull, and prices are at a record level.

LEATHER.—Trade is slow and tanners express great dissatisfaction with the markets. Hides are relatively higher in price than leather, and manufacturers are working very cautiously. English advices show light stocks, and prospects for a strong export trade later in the season are strong.

WOOL.—There is nothing new in the local situation, a few lots of Canadian fleece wool are coming to hand which bring about 22c. per lb. Enquiries from the United States are slow and show little strength. The London wool sales that opened on the 19th inst. with an easy tone, have shown a stronger feeling the past week. The English, French and German buyers have taken the principal lots sold, and in the inferior qualities bought for America values have declined.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, 27th Jan., 1897.

ASHES.—The market continues very dull and inactive, and we hear of only one recent sale, a ten barrel lot of pots, for shipment. Values are practically unchanged, and we quote \$3.35 to 3.40 for first pots, \$3.05 for second pots, and \$4.50 for pearls. Receipts are very light at the moment.

CEMENTS AND FIREBRICKS.—Little enquiry is yet reported for cement for spring delivery, and as for present business there is none to speak of. Firebricks are moving in small lots. We quote British cement \$2 to 2.10; Belgian, \$1.85 to 1.95; firebricks, \$17 to 22.50 per thousand.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.—Further advances have been cabled in British quotations for cheese, the figure now standing at 56s., representing an advance of 2s. 6d. within about ten days. There has been fair buying on the local market at prices ranging close up to 12c. per lb. for choice white, and present available stocks are very low. Butter maintains the firmness of last week, choice creamery being held at 20c.; under grades, 18 to 19c. Eggs are steady at 21 to 22c. for fresh boiling stock; limed, 13 to 15c. per dozen.

DRY GOODS.—The very cold weather of the past week has helped sorting business with the country, and a fair proportion of spring orders are being booked. City retailers complain of a dull January, and there seems to be some expectation that failures may be rather more numerous than usual in February and March. With regard to values in textiles, nothing new is reported.

FISH.—The market still rules on the quiet side, but stocks are not large, and the more active enquiry expected in the course of a fortnight or so for Lenten stocks, will likely create some advance. We quote No. 1 large herring, \$4.25 to 4.50; lower grades, \$3 to \$4; green cod, \$4.50 for No. 1, and \$4.75 to 5 for No. 1 large; dry cod, \$3.75 to 4.25; North Shore salmon, \$12.50 to 13.50; sea trout, \$7 to 7.50; fresh herring, \$1.00 to 1.25 per hundred for large, 60 to 80c. for small; haddock and cod, 3 to 3½c. per lb.; finnan haddies, 5½ to 7c., as to quality.

FURS.—Further cable advices of the Lampson & Co. London fur sale are as follows: Coon sold 12½ per cent. higher than last March; spring rats 10 per cent. lower than last January; winter ditto, same, and fall ditto 10 per cent. higher; skunk sold 30 per cent. lower than last March, on old skins, and 15 per cent. lower on fresh skins; mink, 10 per cent. lower than March; marten, same; red fox 5 per cent. lower; black and brown bear, same; grizzly, 10 per cent. lower; lynx, 25 per cent. lower; wild cat, 20 per cent. lower; wolf, 10 per cent. higher, and beaver 12 per cent. lower than last January. It will thus be seen that the prevailing tendency is to lower prices. Local quotations are yet unaltered. We quote for prime skins: Black bear, choice only, \$15 to 20; cubs and yearlings, \$1 to 5; fisher, \$5 to 7.50 as to color; red fox, \$1.20 to 1.50; cross do., \$4 to 10, depending on size and beauty; silver do., \$20 to 50; lynx, \$1.50 to \$2; marten, \$1.50 to 2.25; mink, \$1 to 1.50; muskrat, winter, 10 to 13c.; fall, 6 to 9c.; coon, 60c. to \$1; black, do., \$1.75 to 2.25; skunk, black, 75 to 90c.; short stripe, 50 to 60c.; long stripe, 20 to 30c.; white, 05 to 15c.

MONTREAL STOCKS IN STORE.

| | Jan. 18th, '97 | Jan. 25th, '97 |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Wheat, bushels..... | 445,135 | 445,659 |
| Corn, " | 25,402 | 25,265 |
| Oats, " | 169,435 | 179,785 |
| Rye, " | 45,045 | 50,270 |
| Peas, " | 138,268 | 140,424 |
| Barley, " | 42,965 | 41,730 |
| Total grain..... | 870,260 | 883,133 |
| Oatmeal..... | 199 | 144 |
| Flour | 55,091 | ... |
| Buckwheat..... | 33,869 | 37,144 |

GROCERIES.—Sugars continue very slow of movement, and both local refineries continue shut down, having stock on hand for some time ahead at present rate of distribution. For standard granulated the regular factory price is 3½ to 4c., with yellows ranging from 3½ to 3¾c., though some claim that for good round lots the inside figure might be shaded. In teas a good deal of interest is being evinced, and a large importing house reports some good business with the West. From general country consumers, too, there is beginning to be more enquiry, while as regards values the tendency is decidedly towards increasing firmness, there apparently being a growing feeling that some tariff revision is not improbable. A representative of the large New York tea house of Carter, Macey & Co. was here a few days ago, talking up business for new crop Japanese, but the season is full early yet to accomplish much in the way of actual orders. Coffees are quoted as follows: Rio, 15 to 7c.; Maracaibo, 17½ to 19c.; Java, 23 to 28c.; Mocha, 28 to 27c.; Santos, 16 to 17c. per lb. Molasses is in better request, being an article of considerable Lenten consumption in this Province, and the same is true with regard to canned goods. Barbadoes molasses is quoted at 31c. by the puncheon,

barrels 33½c., and half barrels 34½c. Canned goods generally tend to firmness; tomatoes are quoted at 75 to 80c. in a jobbing way; peas, 70c.; corn, 60c.; it is said some of the Western packers are asking 75c. for tomatoes in quantity. Salmon are held at \$1.25 to 1.40, as to quality. In gallon apples there has been only a moderate business done as yet, owing to the plenty of green fruit; packers' prices for car lots is \$1.50. Dried fruits hold their value well, though the demand at the moment is light; the Denia market is reported perfectly bare of Valencia raisins.

HIDES.—The week has developed nothing new in the local market, and prices for green hides are quite unchanged, though buff hides in Chicago are quoted at 8½c. Dealers buy at 7c. for No. 1 green, and quote 7½ to 7¾c. to tanners for cured, with only light business reported, and some falling off in the quality from grub. Calfskins are steady at the advance noted last week, and lambskins at 90c. each.

LEATHER.—There is rather more enquiry from the shoe trade, among whom there is a good deal of cutting being done, principally in colored leathers and dongolas, but in the general run of black leathers there is not a great deal doing. A couple of English buyers have been among the tanners, and are reported to have bought some good lots of splits at 17 to 18c. at the tannery, which is fully equal to 20c. here. They report English stocks light. We quote:—Spanish sole B.A. No. 1, 22 to 23c.; do. No. 2, 21c. to 22c.; No. 1 ordinary Spanish, 21c.; No. 2, 19 to 20c.; No. 1 slaughter, 23 to 25c.; No. 2 do., 19 to 21c.; common, 17 to 18c.; waxed upper light and medium, 26 to 29c.; do. heavy, 24 to 27c.; grained, 25 to 30c.; Scotch grained, 25 to 30c.; western splits, 20 to 25c.; Quebec do., 15 to 17c.; juniors, 13 to 15c.; calf-splits, 30 to 35c.; calf skins (35 to 40 lbs.), 60 to 65c.; imitation French calf skins, 65 to 75c.; colored calf, American, 25 to 28c.; Canadian, 20 to 22c.; colored pebble cow, 13 to 14c.; russet sheepskin linings, 30 to 40c.; colored, 6 to 7½c.; harness, 24 to 27c.; buffed cow, 12 to 14c.; extra heavy buff, 15c.; pebbled cow, 11 to 13c.; polished buff, 11 to 13c.; glove grain, 11 to 13c.; rough, 22 to 23c.; russet and bridle, 35 to 45c.

METALS AND HARDWARE.—There is little pick up to business in these lines. We hear of a sale of a couple car lots of No. 1 Hamilton pig iron at \$18.25, the first reported transaction for some time. The firmness in Canada and tin-plates continues, but little seems to be doing in them. We quote: Summerlee pig iron, \$20 to 20.50, ex-store; Carron, \$19.50; Ayrshire \$18.50; Shotts, \$18.25 to 18.50; Cranbroe, \$18.50 to 19.00, ex-store; Siemens pig No. 1, \$16.50 to 16.75; Ferrona, No. 1, \$16.50 to 16.75; Hamilton No. 1, \$18.25 to 18.50; No. 2, ditto, \$18.00; machinery scrap, \$15.00; common do., \$12.00 to 13.00; bar iron, Canadian, \$1.40 to 1.45; British, \$2.00 to 2.15; best refined, \$2.40; Low Moor, \$5.00; Canada plates—Pontypool, or equal, \$2.40, 52 sheets to box; 60 sheets \$2.50; 75 sheets \$2.60; all polished Canadas, \$2.60; Terne roofing plate, 20x28, \$5.75 to 6.00; Black sheet iron, No. 28, \$2.25 to 2.30; No. 26, \$2.15 to 2.20; No. 24, \$2.05 to 2.10; Nos. 17 to 20, \$2; No. 16 and heavier, \$2.30; tin plates—Bradley charcoal, \$5.60 to 5.70; charcoal, I. C., Alloyway, \$3.25; do. I.X., \$3.90 to 4.00; P. D. Crown, I. C., \$3.60 to 3.75; do. I.X., \$4.50; Coke I. C., \$2.90 to \$3.00; coke, wasters, \$2.70; galvanized sheets, No. 28, ordinary brands, \$4.25; No. 26, \$4.00; No. 24, \$3.75 in case lots; Morewood, \$5.00 to 5.10; tinned sheets, coke, No. 24, 5½c.; No. 26, 6c.; the usual extra for large sizes. Canadian bands, per 100 lbs., \$1.75; English ditto, \$2; hoops, \$2.15. Steel boiler plate, ½ inch and upwards, \$1.85 to 1.90 for Dalzell, and equal; ditto three-sixteenths inch, \$2.50; tank iron, ½ inch, \$1.50; three-sixteenths do., \$2.00; tank steel, \$1.75; heads, seven-sixteenths and upwards, \$2.45 to 2.50; Russian sheet iron 9c.; lead, per 100 lbs., pig, \$3.10 to 3.15; sheet, \$4 to 4.25; shot, \$6 to 6.50; best cast-steel, 8 to 10c.; toe calk, \$2.25; spring, \$2.50; sleigh shoe, \$1.85; tire, \$1.90; round machinery steel \$2.25; ingot tin, 15 to 15½c. for L. & F.; Straits, 15c.; bar tin, 16½ to 17c.; ingot copper, 12½ to 13c.; sheet zinc, \$5 to \$5.25; Silesian spelter, \$4.50; Veille Montagne spelter, \$4.75; American spelter, \$4.50; anti-mony, 8½ to 9c.; bright iron wires Nos. 0 to 8, \$2.60 per 100 lbs.; annealed and oiled do., \$2.65; galvanized, \$3.15; the trade discount on wire is 20 per cent. Barb and twisted wire and staples, \$3 per hundred for Quebec province,