

**CREAM TARTAR.**—This article is a product of the wine-growing districts, the supply of which is entirely dependent upon the wine crop. With the prospects of increased importations, prices have been gradually giving way.

**BICARB-SODA**, owing to increased consumption, ranged very high in the early part of the year, say from 30s@32s 6d. Large sales were made in the Fall at from 26s 6d @28s 9d, at which rate it is now steady.

The feeling is, that **DRUGS and CHEMICALS** must come down still more.

**SEEDS.**—It being generally believed that the crop of Clover in the West is larger than last year, buyers are keeping in the rear, awaiting lower rates than growers seem willing to take. The chances are, that this market will be well supplied, at a much lower price than last year. There being no transactions to note, prices are nominal.

**TIMOTHY** has experienced a heavy reduction. Last year, at this time, Prime readily commanded from 16s 3d@17s 6d the minot; now the same article does not bring more than 10s.

**FLAX SEED** has suffered still more; 9s 9d the minot was made last year for Seed of but poor quality. Now a prime article barely commands 5s 9d.

A good deal of Seed is held by farmers and country merchants, who are holding in expectation of getting better prices in the Spring.

Imports for the year ending

January 5, 1855.....	£33,214
January 5, 1856.....	23,211
December 30, 1856.....	26,915

### DRY GOODS.

The review of the Dry Goods trade in the fall of 1857, though furnishing a rather gloomy retrospect for the parties extensively engaged in it, may, nevertheless, be profitable, if the lessons of a dear-bought experience are remembered and improved.

This department of trade, like all others, has been greatly stimulated by the abundant harvests and the high prices obtained for all the productions of the soil and the forest during the past two or three years. Last spring the fall wheat in Canada West gave promise of a fine crop, while the appearance of all the grains grown in Canada East was such as to justify the hopes of importers that a large and remunerative business would be done in the fall.—

Under this impression, the greater part of the wholesale houses imported very heavily, and, quite in accordance with the anticipations just referred to, those who had their goods out early did probably the largest September business ever done in Montreal. The month of October, however, is looked upon as the heavy month of the season, many of the largest buyers never coming into the market till then, when they buy their whole winter supply. In the beginning of October we began to feel the effects of the revulsion in the United States, and almost immediately after the trade died away. It has never revived since, and the sales have, with the exception of goods forced off at auction, been quite petty in their character.

As we sell very few manufactured goods to the Americans, it may be asked how the disasters falling upon their trade should have so affected ours? We can scarcely presume that the reflex influence of the money crisis in the United States would affect the arrangements of our banks with their British connections, and compel them in turn to limit the ability of their customers to give the usual extensions to country buyers; but there is another element which has not, we think, been noticed, or very slightly, and which doubtless contributed more than anything else to the suspension of sales and the drying up of our country remittances. We allude to the sudden and complete stoppage of all purchases of live stock and produce of every kind in the rural districts by American buyers. For some years past, and more especially since the reciprocity bill became law, there have always been numbers of drovers from the other side of the lines buying up horned cattle, &c., as well as traders in butter, eggs, and all kinds of grain, who gave more, generally, for such articles at the farmer's door than he could get for them in the cities. The money thus circulated in all parts of Canada East, and in Canada West, from Belleville downwards, was very large, and formed the staple of the remittances from the country, as every one who knows the trade can testify. All such operations, with rare exceptions, ceased upon the appearance of hard times among our neighbors, nor has there been any resumption of the trade worth naming since the month of October. Then, again, the trade in squared and sawed lumber to the United States market has also been completely knocked on the head, and a