

tions from America have given considerable firmness to the following quotations: — Spring patents 27s to 29s, Winter patents 26s to 27s, Spring bakers' 21s 6d to 24s, medium Flour 19s to 22s.

Rice. — Not so much inquiry now exists for rice, and, although there is no quotable change in prices, transactions tend towards buyers. At the close Rangoons are priced 10s 6d to 12s 6d, with very fine quality Rangoon grain realising rather higher prices. Japans are quoted 14s to 15s 6d, Java 15s to 21s, and very fine quality as high as 24s per cwt.

HAY, STRAW, AND CLOVERS

Offers of hay have lately been heavier, and with a quiet demand, ordinary sorts have fallen back somewhat in value. Straw although scarce, has receded from last week's extreme rates, the demand having subsided. Wheat straw showing a decline of 5s. and oat straw 10s.

Whitechapel has been fairly well supplied, but with only a poor attendance of buyers. Superior picked hay, 108s—113s; good hay, 100s—106s; inferior, 60s—86s; best old clover, 110s—115s; good clover, 95s—105s; inferior, 65s—90s; straw, 28s—44s load.

CATTLE, SHEEP, AND PIGS

The Metropolitan (Islington) Market. November 26th 1892.

On Monday the total number of beasts was 2,080; 60 came from Scotland, 440 were Irish, 300 Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex, and 1,280 from the Midland, Home, and Western Counties. Choice breeds were more plentiful, but there was still a large proportion of second-rate stock. Choice descriptions were firm, and about 2d per 8lb dearer; but other sorts sold slowly. The best Scotch made 5s; Herefords 4s 10d—

5s; Norfolks, 4s 10d; and Lincolns, 4s 6d per 8lb. The number of sheep was 11,110. There were fewer Irish than usual and a larger proportion of South Downs. The market was quiet but steady, but the close was not the best. 8-stone Downs made 5s 4d, 9-stone, 5s 2d—5s 4d; 10-stone 5s 2d; 10-stone half-breds, 5s; 10-stone Irish, 4s 8d. Forty English milch cows made £16—£22 per head. The few fat calves of prime quality, amongst 30 offered, made 4s 10d and occasionally 5s per 8lb. The pig trade was slow and unaltered in value. The highest rate of best small pigs to dress from 64lb—72lb was 5s and occasionally 5s 2d per 8lb.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN PRODUCE

London, Aug. 6th 1892.

Sugar. — In the market for *raw bee* sugar a want of animation has been apparent during greater part of the present week, as neither refiners nor speculators have manifested much desire to operate, and, with the article offering quite as freely as hitherto, a fractional reduction in value has taken place, the German description of 88 per cent. analysis having been realised at 12s 10¹/₂d to 13s 1¹/₂d per cwt. f.o.b. for deliveries between now and September; but recently a firmer tone has been perceptible and the final quotations for first runnings are 13s to 13s 2¹/₄d. After products have been obtainable at 10s 7¹/₂d to 10s 10¹/₂d on the 75 per cent. basis. The inquiry for *cane* sugars has likewise been very limited, the trade holding sufficient stock to enable them to keep out of the market longer than usual, and nothing of importance was done until to-day, when several parcels brought to auction were taken off with a fair competition at previous rates, viz., 7820 bags Demerara, crystallised from 15s 3d to 17s 6d, superior at 18s to 19s, brown and yellow syrups at 10s 6d to 13s 3d, one lot 14s 6d:

3705 bags Trinidad at 15s 6d to 16s 9d; 1470 bags Surinam at 15s 9d to 16s; 650 bags Mauritius at 10s; and 2425 bags and pockets heavy brown and grey Natal at from 10s to 13s 6d per cwt.

Refined. — The market for refined sugar continues fairly active, and the more saleable descriptions are yet very scarce and command high prices. The trade do not hold large stocks, and are constantly replenishing, thus keeping refiners' counters very bare. Prices show again about 3d advance, and the tone at the close is very strong. The quotations are — No. 1 crystals 18s 9d, No. 2 18s 3d, fine medium 17s 6d to 18s 4d, low medium 16s 3d to 17s, pieces 40s to 14s.

Tea. — As supplies of British grown teas are at present contracting, and prices for these kinds are mostly advancing, more attention has been directed to China descriptions this week, and the market for home trade sorts has exhibited greater stability than heretofore. Wholesale dealers having certain special cheap blends to keep up have been making more anxious inquiries after China Congous, and all qualities below 8d per lb. have been in stronger request. No Monings are now to be had under 6d, and Oonfaas have been bought at 7d to 8d. A capital business has also been done privately in Kintucks at 10d to 1s, which is a little dearer, due probably to the action of speculators. Fine Ningchows are wanted, but few are to be met with just now. Operations to a fair extent have also taken place in common Kaisows at 7d to 7¹/₂d, and in the finer grades of Panyongs at 9d to 1s. For export a steady demand has prevailed, and an increased firmness has been imparted to values generally.

Indian Tea. — The small quantity of Indian tea brought forward sold with a moderate demand at previous quotations. Some well-made Assam teas sold at long prices, over 2s 6d per pound being paid for some.

The new season's China teas, are on the market this afternoon; the quality of the bulk is considered but middling, and, judging from first samples, it would appear that this season's China crop is not likely to prove a formidable competitor to Indian and Ceylon growths.

Coffee. — Firm market, at full prices for all good and fine coloury sorts. 602 bags East Indian (in small lots) sold at 94s to 104s; 326 bags Colon and Vera Paz sold at 100s to 112s for good middling greenish to choice at 107s 6d to 115s 6d; 1,194 bags Colombian mostly sold at 74s 6d for ordinary pale up to 101s 6d for good coloury; and 81 half-bales short berry Mocha were bought in, as were also 500 bags Rio, on quay terms. Futures were steady, with a fair business, the sales reported being about 4,000 bags at 55s 9d for fair Channel Rio Sept., 55s 6d Dec., and Sept. and Dec. Santos at 57s. Stocks of coffee in the chief European ports have been diminishing during the past month, and on the 1st inst. were not above 70,000 tons, against a total of 56,000 tons last year, 64,100 tons in 1890, and about 100,000 tons at the same date in 1889.

Cocoa. — This week has been quite a blank as regards sales by auction, and privately next to nothing has been done beyond small lots of African which have been sold at 62s per cwt.

Spices, etc. — At auction pepper was flat and lower, 110 bags good Alleppey selling at 2⁷/₈d per lb, while white was also dull and easier, 283 bags Singapore mostly selling at 5¹/₄d to 5³/₈d for good bold, and 6¹/₈d to 7d for fine, and a small part of 200 bags Penang at 3⁵/₈d for good fair and 3¹/₂d for fair. Pimento was firm, 699 bags partly selling at 2¹/₂d to 2³/₄d, per lb. for middling to good. Ginger was quiet for Cochin, a small part of 266 bags selling at 29s 6d per bag for cuttings, while 442 barrels Jamaica partly sold at 55s

to 58s 6d for middling dull and brownish, 65s to 70s for middling bleached, 80s to 85s for fairly good, and 106s for good bold, being dearer for good qualities, and 130 bags Bengal at 28s to 28s 6d, being easier. Cloves were dull, a small part of 246 bales Zanzibar selling at 2⁵/₈d for fair per lb. Cinnamon — 93 bales Ceylon sold at 5¹/₄d to 6³/₄d, per lb. and part of 217 bags, chips at 1⁷/₈d for fair. Nutmegs and mace were both quiet. Sago was cheaper for small, 297 bags good half selling, without reserve, at 13s 6d per cwt. Tapioca was quiet, the small quantities offered being chiefly bought in. Arrowroot was quiet, 100 cases fine St. Vincent being bought in at 5d per lb.

FRUITS

London, Aug. 6th 1892.

GREEN FRUIT. — *Oranges*: The supplies of Valencia have been small, but, as the condition and quality continue good, the quotations still show a further advance, 420's¹ realising 16s 3d to 23s 6d, and large 420's 18s 6d to 25s per case.

Lemons: The demand, owing to the recent scarcity, has improved, and the cargo by the *Vito* was keenly competed for at Wednesday's sales, Naples showing a strong advance at 19s 6d to 29s, and Palermo (although the condition was not first-class) going off briskly at from 11s to 22s per case and 8s to 9s 3d per box.

Onions: There is still no improvement to announce in prices of Port,² although the imports have fallen away considerably. The demand, however, continues fairly active, particularly for small onions at 5s to 6s per case; for the larger descriptions the inquiry has not been so brisk at 4s to 4s 6d per case. In Maltes there is no change, values ranging from 1s 6d to 2s

1. 420's, les 420 ou les caisses qui contiennent 420.

2. Port, Porto d'Espagne.

3d per cwt., the former price being accepted for some heated³ lots. Lisbons are scarce at 4s per box. Valencias unaltered at 4s to 5s per case — the quality being generally good all round.

Apples: Notwithstanding that supplies are plentiful, there has been a brisk demand for both Lisbon and Port, and recent full rates are maintained, the former bringing 6s 9d to 11s per half-box, and the latter 6s 6d to 11s 6d per case. There was a rumour to-day that the first shipment of Americans for the season was sent to sea on Wednesday, but the quantity cannot be very large.

Grapes: A second consignment of Denias this week were in much better condition than those of last week; but, though still rather unripe, the demand was much better, at prices running chiefly from 5s 3d to 10s 3d per brl.

Tomatoes: The demand for Valencias continues good at rather better rates — 5d to 7d for ordinary, and 8d to 1s 1d per box for English seed. It is noticeable that shippers this season are learning the value of English seed, the quantity of tomatoes grown from this seed being very much larger than that of previous years.

Melons: The market continues steady, but the supplies are small, and prices are 6s to 11s 9d per case.

Nuts: Barcelonas 21s to 21s 6d. Brazils, and Shell Almonds are all very firm, and advances are reported in the value of the first two.

DRIED FRUIT. — Valencia Raisins see a small business, although prices are not favourable to last season's holders. We quote — selected 24s to 25s per cwt, common 18s 6d to 20s. In *Currants* there has been no business done. There are sellers of Provincial 18s to 22s, Gulf 23s to 26s. Vostizza 30s to 36s. *Sultanas* are quoted 30s 32s for common, 38s to 40s for finest.

3. To heat, animer; heated lots, parties disputées.

PRESERVED AND CANNED GOODS

London, Aug. 6th 1892.

Increasing imports of Tinned Meats from Australia were received at this port during July, and for the past seven months they were nearly 13,000 cases larger than in 1891. There was also last month a good supply of this description of meat from the United States into Great Britain, but the total for the present year was still far below that in the previous season, whilst the consignments of freshly dressed meat from different quarters were mostly heavier than in the same period of last year. There was likewise a greater abundance of preserved meat (in cases) from the region of the Argentine Republic, and the totals for 1892 are quite large. Condensed milk, lobsters, and sardines were imported more liberally than in July, 1891, but the arrivals of other canned goods called for no special remark.

Hardly any improvement can be noted in the French *Sardine* fishing, which continues extremely short for the season of the year, and prices along the coast are still high at 25 fr. to 30 fr. per 1000, so that there is little or no chance of an adequate supply of this dainty fish being secured for the London market. Several thousand cases of Portuguese sardines have arrived here during the past week, but although there is a comparative dearth of other fish, buyers hang back, and prices remain very low, quarter-tins of fair quality down to 2s per doz.

Lobsters: The *Damara* has just reached this port, but the quantity she brings is only 9600 cases, which is not above a third of the consignments that the same steamer has brought hither at one time in previous years, and confirms the reports from the other side that the new supply of Lobsters there for 1892 is not more than about one-half that in 1891. August is

usually the month for the heaviest shipments from Prince Edward Island and elsewhere, the fact of merely small quantities arriving instead of large amounts causing some excitement to arise in the market, especially for $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 lb. flat tins, on which there is a great run at present, and prices for these have advanced 2s to 3s per case, the latter fetching 39s to 40s, and the former 46s to 48s.

Salmon is in only moderate request to satisfy the ordinary needs of consumers, and with holders less exacting in their demands for higher rates than they were last month, the prospect of a further rise in the current quotations has for a time, at least, entirely disappeared. At Liverpool, it is said, Alaska fish in unlabelled tins is offering at 17s 6d per case. For Australian *Tinned Meats* the trade is quiet, but steady, and the old prices may be repeated, viz., the "Rarmorie" brand of boiled, roast, or corned beef in 6-lb. tins at 20s, with mutton in small tins at 9s 6d, 3-lb. ditto at 14s, and large sizes at 23s to 24s 9d per doz. American *Compressed Beef* continues to sell freely, but quotations remain at the same reduced level as before, and there are no indications of an immediate rise.

Californian Fruits: In these a large business has been transacted, and an advance of 1s per doz. has been established since the lowest point at Easter, all "second" qualities having lately been swept off the market. Firsts for peaches are quoted at 8s to 9s, pears 3d more at 8s 3d to 9s 3d, and apricots at 7s 6d to 8s; besides extras of the last-named at 11s to 12s, with peaches at 11s 6d to 12s 6d, and pears at 12s 6d to 13s 6d per doz. tins. Advices from the West state that there will probably be a fair average crop for this year, and that overland parcels are expected to arrive in the United Kingdom next month, i.e., September. Canadian *Apples* of the new crop have been sold to arrive at 8s, and, as packers of eminence

are engaged in the trade, there is reason to suppose that the quality and outturn of the article will give every satisfaction. Singapore *Pineapples* are beginning to arrive, and 6s and 8s per doz. for 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ and 3-lb. tins are likely to be the nearest opening rates for new fruit; but the packers complain that prices within the last two years have been so unremunerative that some of them have discontinued to can this class of goods, and supplies in the future may therefore diminish. All that is on offer now is in second hands, and is held firmly for 7s 9d to 8s. The French crop having proved a failure, the prices insisted on by importers of *Preserved Peas* are almost entirely prohibitory, and contracts in course of fulfilment have been cancelled.

The market for New Zealand frozen mutton has been in a dull condition, chiefly through superabundant supplies, and sales have been concluded at declining prices, viz., Canterbury sheep at 2s 5d to 2s 7d per stone of 8 lbs., Napier and Wellington ditto at 2s 4d to 2s 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, Sydney at 1s 10d to 2s, and lambs at 3s 7d to 3s 8d for choice, with middling to good at 3s 2d to 3s 6d; also frozen beef from the Colonies at 2s 3d to 2s 5d for hind, and at 1s 8d to 1s 10d per stone for fore-quarters.

The arrivals of preserved goods into the United Kingdom during the week have been as follow:—

	COND. MILK	LOB- STERS	SALMON	SAR- DINES	PRESR. AUST.	MEAT. AMER.	FRZN. N. Z.	MEAT. S. A.
	cases.	cases.	cases.	cases.	cases.	pkgs.	carcs.	carcs.
London.....	2.584	10.018	»	3.921	135	6.470	31.491	»
Liverpool...	33	499	»	2.357	»	19.973	»	»
Other Ports.	5.638	»	»	189	»	3.666	»	»
Total.....	8.254	10.517	»	6.467	135	29.809	31.491	»
» 1891.	8.435	28.151	956	8.542	2.443	35.297	22.009	»
» 1892.	10.155	2.720	»	6.479	2.170	46.712	42.031	54,579

OILS, ETC.

Liverpool, Thursday Evening, Aug. 4th 1892.

The past month has been without improvement in the Oil trade, business having been interfered with to some extent by the elections and holidays, and prices with few exceptions continue at a low level.

Linseed Oil: this has been steady, but buyers have not been disposed to act with any degree of freedom, and values are unaltered at 20s 3d to 20s 6d in Liverpool export casks.

Rape Oil: Refined Stettin is nominal in the absence of supply, and English refined is worth 31s 6d to 32s 6d.

Cotton-seed Oil: This has had a quiet sale, and Liverpool refined is somewhat easier at 19s 3d. Sales of American have taken place at 20s to 24s per cwt., according to quality.

Olive Oils: Advices received as to the crops have not been satisfactory, and in some important districts estimates are being reduced. Holders, in consequence of these discouraging reports, have raised their prices, which has been the means of restricting shipments. In Liverpool the market has been firm, but business has shown no important extension. The cheap lots lately current have been cleared, and more money has to be paid for most descriptions. The sales include Neapolitan at £35 to £37, Malaga £35 to £36, Messina £34 to £35 and Devant £32 to £34 per tun.

Palm Oil after a few slight changes in value during the month is practically unaltered. The demand has not been active, but the careful policy pursued by holders in not offering freely has contributed to the steady tone.

Lard Oil: American is quoted at 36s 9d to 37s 6d per cwt.

Petroleum Oil. — Another month has gone, and the

market has been unable to shake off the lethargy that has held it for so long a time past. Imports into the United Kingdom have been more than ample for the requirements of the trade, who have been in no hurry to purchase. Orders have come in slowly, principally to meet passing requirements, and the amount of business done is consequently small. Forward deliveries have been obtainable at very reasonable rates, but not many contracts have been arranged. Quotations for *Refined Pennsylvanian* are $5\frac{1}{8}d$ to $6\frac{1}{4}d$, according to quality, and *Russian* $4\frac{3}{8}d$ to $4\frac{1}{2}d$. At auction 28 brls. American were sold without reserve, at $5\frac{1}{8}d$, and 51 brls. Russian at $4\frac{1}{4}d$ per gal.

Turpentine. — The inquiry has been fitful, and the lowness of prices has failed to stimulate purchases in *American Spirits*, the latest of which have been affected at 22s 9d.

Rosin. — Liberal arrivals have come to hand during the past month, and values have been much depressed. The common grades of *American Strained* have recently moved fairly well at 3s $7\frac{1}{2}d$; other kinds are very quiet—medium 4s 6d to 6s, and good to fine 6s 6d to 9s.

Tallow. — The market has been extremely dull, home makes competing, and arrivals in excess of the demand. Quotations—North American 22s 6d to 24s 6d, South American 26s 3d to 26s 9d, and Australian 25s to 27s 6d, per cwt.

PROVISIONS

London, Jan. 2nd 1892.

This market is still of a thoroughly holiday character, and is, together with values, very irregular. The little business passing is on a reduced basis, and traders appear to be only filling immediate wants and also anticipating, in the near future, a lower range of

prices. This position will undoubtedly be realised to some extent for spot parcels of irregular quality and condition. A few fancy meats that have been persistently held to supply Christmas wants and for full prices will also give way, to some extent, in value. Packers this day cable very strongly with reference to the future, and some of them refuse to make offers beyond February, whilst for any shipments they decline to accept counter bids, stating that they will resist any further decline and will prefer stocking.

Hams are steady, but heavy weights are slow. Shoulders are also slow, and values are in buyers' favour. New York cuts are scarce and wanted. For the few of these obtainable, exceptionally high prices are easily obtained.

Cheese: The position of American and Canadian *Cheese* is about unaltered, but there are anticipations of increase in value upon the re-opening. English *Cheese* is unaltered, and very little is doing for Cheddar, or indeed any description.

Butter maintains its old position, excepting Brittany butter, which is about 4s to 6s higher, and consequently scarcely shows relative value.

Lard on the week has been fairly steady, and full prices have been obtainable. This position is probably due to the small spot stocks available. The American market has shown considerable fluctuations, and today the report mentions activity and much business doing at an advance of 6 to 12 points.

Eggs.—There has been a fair supply of Irish eggs, and prices ranged from 10s 6d to 11s 4d, with a very dull demand. Continental qualities are quiet. The arrivals of Canadians have been large, the imports being no doubt stimulated by the demand. The following are the quotations:—Best Fresh 9s to 9s 6d, Good Fresh 8s to 8s 6d.

Glasgow. Thursday, 31st Dec. 1892.

To-morrow, being New Year's Day, will be observed as a general holiday in both the wholesale and retail trades, and in some cases business will not be resumed until Monday. On the first three days of this week orders were being freely booked, but since then a holiday feeling has pervaded the markets. There were light arrivals of Scotch Cheese, but, as the sale is still very small, stocks continue large. Quotations are unaltered and weak, except for fancy brands, which, being rather scarce, are firm—Wilts 56s to 70s, Cheddars 56s to 65s, and Dunlops 52s to 62s. Summer-made American cheeses are getting into smaller compass locally, but prices are steady at 48s to 50s; September makes are firmer at 52s to 54s. American Bacon is in moderate demand at firm rates. Irish fresh bacon has been more freely offered during the past day or two, but prices are nominally the same as before, viz., 54s to 56s. Irish hams sell briskly at 74s to 82s. Owing to the mild weather the demand is quiet. Canned Goods are dull, but quotations steady. Irish bladder Lard sells freely at 50s to 54s. Eggs are advancing in price.

TROISIÈME SECTION

LETTRES MANUSCRITES

London, 30/9/92.

Gentlemen,

Please note that we can do order 110 in a few days as the pieces are now shrinking. Of order 111 the following have not yet been delivered by the makers: 832, 534 and 229, but we believe the great part if not all will be here in a few days.

Yours truly,
G Smith & Co