

collected during the year, and \$1,472 96 of a balance from last year. The disbursements were very heavy, footing up to \$5,638 35, showing a balance on hand of 3,597 38. The amount of interest bearing notes, uncollected premiums and money in agents hands is stated at \$4,252 93.

INTERCOLONIAL COAL COMPANY.—The annual meeting of this Company was held in Montreal, the President, G. A. Drummond, in the chair. The report was regarded as fairly satisfactory, considering the difficulty which the Company has had in securing tonnage. The shipments from the mine were 52,000 tons, about 15,000 of which were taken here. The following Directors were appointed for the ensuing year:—G. A. Drummond, President; H. A. Budden, Vice-President; Henry Mackay, Secretary-Treasurer, P. Redpath, D. L. Macdougall, Gilbert Scott, Hon. J. J. C. Abbott, Joseph Hickson and R. W. Sheppard.—*Herald*.

ST. LAWRENCE TOW BOAT COMPANY.—At a meeting of the shareholders, held at the Company's office, in Quebec, the following gentlemen were elected Directors for the ensuing year:—Hon. Thos. McGreevy, A. Joseph, John Roche, D. C. Thomson, and Julien Chabot, Esquires; and at a subsequent meeting of the Directors, the Hon. T. McGreevy was re-elected President, A. Joseph, Esq., Vice-President, Julien Chabot, Esq., Manager, and A. Gaboury, Secretary.

SECURITY PERMANENT BUILDING & SAVINGS SOCIETY OF ST. CATHARINES.—The second annual meeting of the above society was held in St. Catharines on Tuesday, the 6th. Thomas R. Merritt, M. P., President, in the Chair. The Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. George Groves, read the annual report and financial statements for the year ending 31st December, as follows:

GENTLEMEN:—The Directors beg to submit this, their second Annual Report of the Society for the year 1871.

The stock of the Society on the 1st of January amounted to \$65,200. After that period, it was rapidly taken up, until the subscribed capital reached \$105,000, when the books were closed by order of the Board.

The payments on account of capital stock, at the end of the year, amounted to \$57,966.09.

During the year, 79 applications for loans were received, aggregating \$88,750; of these, 52 were accepted, and \$45,700 loaned,—the remainder being either rejected or dropped for various reasons.

The earnings have enabled the Directors to declare two half-yearly dividends, at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, and carry a small sum to the credit of Reserve Fund, after paying all expenses.

Liabilities.—Permanent stock, \$105,000.00; Terminating Stock, \$1,000.00; Advanced Shares not paid, \$600.00—\$106,600.00; Balance of Assets, \$2,132.76; Total, \$108,732.76.

Assets.—Capital Stock not paid up, \$46,887.67; Terminating Stock not paid up, 557.90; Town Debentures for \$10,000, \$9,621.62; First Mortgages on Real Estate, \$47,511.11; Cash in Bank, and on Special Deposit, \$4,154.46; Total, \$108,732.76.

The following gentlemen were elected as Directors for the ensuing year:—Messrs. T. R. Merritt, James Taylor, Robert Lawrie, S. Neelon, James Lamb, R. Woodruff, and G. P. M. Ball. At a subsequent meeting of the Board, Thomas R. Merritt, Esq., M. P., was re-elected President, and James Taylor, Esq., Vice-President.

NEW COMPANY.—*La Minerve* publishes a prospectus of a French-Canadian Company, which has been got up in Montreal for the importation of metals that cannot be produced in Canada. The capital of the new concern is \$100,000, in \$1,000 shares of \$100 each. Mr. C. H. Letourneux, is President.

Insurance

FIRE RECORD.—Petrolia, Ont., March 13.—The most disastrous fire which has yet taken place in the history of this village occurred last night, resulting in the destruction of twelve buildings, including two of the principal hotels and a large quantity of other property. The fire broke out about half-past seven o'clock in the clothing store of Mr. A. Suhler, from some unknown cause, and rapidly spread east and west, destroying the Great Western and United States Hotels, Carscaden's, Reynolds, McKittrick & Teskey's and Scott & Payne's stores, Watkin's oyster saloon, Jackson's barber shop, Wright's harness shop, Hamilton's tailor shop, and other buildings. The losses may be thus stated:—Great Western Hotel, owned by G. Druit, of Sarnia, occupied by W. Boyce; loss on building, \$3,590, insured for \$1,000; on contents, \$800, no insurance. United States Hotel, owned by Simpson & Lombard, occupied by R. C. Terryberry, loss on building, \$3,500; on contents, \$1,800, no insurance. J. Paine's store, owned by D. Webster, loss \$1,000, no insurance; stock partially insured, and badly damaged by removal. McKittrick, Teskey & Co.'s store and Watkin's oyster saloon, stock in both damaged by removal; the buildings were owned by R. Clark, of Ingersoll, insurance not known. A. Suhler's building and stock, total loss, valued at \$1,300; partially insured. Carscaden's store, building owned by J. McGarvey; loss, \$250; stock damaged by removal. John G. Bolt, loss on building, \$250. G. A. Jackson, loss on building, \$500. N. Reynolds, stock damaged by removal; building owned by Lombard & Simpson; loss, \$300. J. Hamilton, loss on building and contents, \$450. The contents of the American Hotel were badly damaged by hasty removal, as were also the goods of Mr. J. B. Watson and other parties.

Omamee, March 15.—The frame grist mill owned by William Cottingham, and leased by Edward Peplow, was totally destroyed by fire. Loss on the building, \$7,000 to \$8,000; insured in the Royal for \$3,000. Mr. Peplow loses about \$1,000; supposed to be insured.

Kingston, March 16.—A fire destroyed McRossie's lumber mill, at Barriefield, near this city. The loss is about \$7,000; insured in the Provincial Insurance Company for \$2,500. Origin of fire unknown.

Quebec, March 18.—A house occupied by Mr. McDunnough, grocer, at Sillery Cove, and owned by Mr. Leary, of the same place, was totally destroyed, with the furniture, bedding, and clothing of the occupants, who had a narrow escape. The house was insured for \$200, and was valued at \$800; the McDunnough's had no insurance.

Quebec, March 19.—The premises of Leger Brousseau, bookseller and publisher, destroyed by fire last night. The loss is estimated at \$40,000. There is insurance in the Quebec Company, on property, stock and plant, to the amount of \$10,000.

Toronto, March 13.—A fire broke out in the premises of Andrew McFarren, on the corner of Queen and Sherbourne streets, and destroyed his store and a portion of the contents; loss heavy; insured in the Western for \$2,000. The premises of Dr. Wright adjoining were damaged; insurance, not ascertained.

RAILWAYS IN NEW BRUNSWICK.—Railways now in working order in New Brunswick, 388 miles. In course of construction and to be completed within 18 months, 220 miles. Under contract, and now being located, 160 miles, in all 768 miles. These railroads cost in round figures \$23,785,000, in and of which the Governments of New Brunswick and of the Dominion contribute over \$16,000,000 in cash and 1,720,000 acres of land.

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKET.

From our own Reporter.

MONTREAL, 19th March.

In some departments of trade business has not shown the same degree of activity as was observable for a few weeks past, but on the whole the business done is reported as being of a very satisfactory nature. In Groceries a fair jobbing trade has been done, but the sales do not foot up to such a large amount as last week. Dry goods have been fairly active, and stocks have never been so well assorted in this city as at present. Breadstuffs are dull and lifeless. Provisions inactive. Ashes are steady, but a shade lower than last week. Wool is firm, but quotations are rather under those of last week. Hardware is firm, and in most cases held for outside figures.

We have had no thaws as yet; more snow is lying on the ground now than at any previous time during the winter—the thermometer in the shade has not indicated above 32 degrees all week, and in the event of a sudden thaw, great fears are entertained of a good in the lower part of the city, as the ground was so hard frozen in the early part of the winter before snow fell, that it will not be able to take in much of the melted snow, which will necessarily run off on the surface. A heavy snow storm set in early this morning, and still continues drifting badly.

ASHES.—*Pots*—The demand for this ash has been only about equal to the supply. All firsts offering have been placed from \$7.80 down to 7.75, market closing easier at \$7.50 to 7.60. Seconds are worth \$6.50 to 6.60, but there are very few in market; thirds, \$5.65. *Pearls* are still very scarce, although a few more have arrived this week than for some time past. Sales from \$8.50 to 8.75. No seconds in market. The stocks at present in store are pots, 454 brls.; pearls, 53 brls.; against 561 brls. pots and 195 brls. pearls in store at the corresponding period of 1871.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—There is no change to notice as yet in prices of these articles, but there is more business doing, and western orders are coming in more freely; prices, however, are said to be barely remunerative, considering the price of leather, and an advance is looked for when the present stocks, which are very large, are broken in upon. Our quotations are:—*Men's* No. 1 stogas, \$2.50 to \$2.62½; No. 2 ditto, \$2.26 to \$2.30; kid clump, \$3; ditto, D.S., \$2.75; calf clump, \$3.75; calf congress, \$2.50 to \$4; boys' boots, \$2 to \$2.25; women's calf boots, D.S., \$1.30; buff ditto, D.S., \$1.25; split ditto, D.S., \$1.10; balmorals, D.S., \$1.40 to \$1.60.

COAL AND FIREWOOD.—The American anthracite now to hand by rail has been placed on the market at \$1, at which price there is a brisk demand. Yesterday the price was raised to \$1.0. Scotch steam is selling at \$10.50 to \$11, and Smith's coal at \$9 to \$9.50. All kinds of coal are very scarce, and owing to the very cold weather is in large demand. **Firewood.**—Our prices at present are, for maple, \$10; birch, \$9.50; beech, \$9. We understand that the high price which wood obtains here, is causing holders in the lumber districts to be very exorbitant in their demands. This is a mistake on their part, as arrangements are making here to get wood in from other regions at prices which will be fair to consumers, and no doubt the high price which has been obtained for coal will induce speculators to rush in a large quantity early in the season. We have been requested to notice for the benefit of Upper Canada wood dealers, that all cord-wood sold here is by French measure.