

November last. The prisoner pleads "not guilty." The trial will most probably take place on Thursday, the 30th instant.

FIRE RECORD.—Bluevale, March 25.—The Bluevale Shingle Factory was discovered to be on fire this morning at 3 o'clock. But owing to the stillness of the air and the great exertions of the villagers, the building was saved.

Township of Plympton, Feb 17.—Barn of Peter Young, with contents.

Halifax, N. S., March 28.—The Burton's building was insured in the Guardian for \$16,000, and his stock in the Aetna for \$20,000; McCulloch's in the Liverpool and London and Globe for \$30,000; Buckley's in the same, \$12,000; Yates in the Royal, \$12,000. Mr. Buckley and Mr. Yates are the largest losers, as their insurance falls far below the damage. Two more fires occurred last night. A large four-story building known as "The Sugar House," between Brunswick and Maitland streets, was totally destroyed. It was owned by Mr. H. G. Hill. The loss is about \$4,000; fully covered by insurance. About 11 o'clock a fire was discovered in the basement of the *Citizen* newspaper office. Although the flames had got well under way they were extinguished with little trouble. The damage is trifling.

Aylmer, March 25.—The pump and pail factory, together with the saw mill belonging to Seth Lewis, of the township of Yarmouth, was totally destroyed by fire last night. Loss about \$5,000; no insurance.

Cummock, Ont., March.—The blacksmith and waggon shop belonging to Messrs. Francis and Thos. Whitely, was discovered to be on fire. When first seen the roof was falling in, and nothing at all could be saved. No insurance on either it or the contents.

Chatham, March 22.—A large frame building, formerly the residence of William Eberts, was destroyed by fire, supposed to have been the act of an incendiary. The total loss is about \$1,000; no insurance.

Commercial.

TORONTO MARKET.

Business has been very active in one or two of the leading trades, especially Dry Goods, and a good many buyers have been in the city during the past week, but in Groceries, Hardware, &c., there is no improvement to chronicle. In the Produce and Provision trades, also, there has been considerable dulness, and transactions have been reported to a limited extent. Remittances have been fair and if anything better than was anticipated, but they are not new as good, so far as known, as they were at this season last year; and the early breaking up of the winter roads and the difficulty consequent thereon of making collections is assigned as a partial cause of the slackness in meeting maturing liabilities. The weather has been uncertain during the week, opening with several light falls of snow which quickly melted away, but closing with bright warm sunshiny days and frosty nights. Navigation is now partially open, and the Welland Canal will soon be ready: vessels are now seeking cargoes for ports on Lake Erie and the West.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—Business in this branch of trade has been fairly active, some buyers having been in town, but the largest orders coming from travellers. Sales so far foot up about the same as last year, at the corresponding date, and are considered very satisfactory. Prices are firm, but are not likely to rule any higher throughout the season; although it is not considered improbable, unless the price of leather meanwhile gives way, but that fall orders will cost more money than last season.

DRUGS.—There has been a fair degree of activ-

ity during the past week, and prices are generally firm, but without change.

DRY GOODS.—There have been a large number of buyers in town during the past week, and sales foot up very considerably. Importers are not as a rule pressing their customers to buy heavily, but very liberal orders have so far been booked; although in some instances where goods were wanted for a point at a distance from the railway station, fewer staples were taken than would have been the case if there was good teaming. A very prosperous spring trade is generally expected, and country merchants are supplying themselves freely with goods. It is to be hoped their anticipations may be verified, as otherwise serious embarrassment to business may be the unfortunate result.

FREIGHTS.—The following are the winter rates on the Grand Trunk, now in operation: Flour to Kingston, 35c.; grain 18c.; flour to Prescott, 43c.; grain 22c.; flour to Montreal, 50c.; grain 25c.; flour to Point Levis, 80c.; grain 40c.; flour to St. John, N. B. \$1.02, grain 51c.; flour to Halifax, \$1.10, grain 55c.; flour to New York and Boston, 90c.; grain 45c., gold. The steamers Chase and Carlotta leave Portland for Halifax on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

GROCERIES.—Trade has been quiet, with few transactions except in a comparatively retail way.

Coffee.—Not much doing, and prices are without alteration. **Fish.**—The season is now about over, and there is no enquiry and no recent sales reported.

Fruit.—Raisins are dull, and for round lots prices are slightly easier, although there is some enquiry for Layers from the Western States. Currants, new crop, are somewhat scarce and worth rather more money; now held at 7½c. to 8c. old are without change. **Rice.**—Is quiet and unaltered. **Spices.**—Are inactive and without alteration as to prices.

Sugars. The market for Raws is very firm, although few parcels are changing hands. Holders are not pressing sales at present prices, which are below cost of importation. The Havana market has been steadily advancing; and it is now nearly certain that, according to the most moderate computations, the Cuban sugar crop will fall short from 15 to 20 per cent. of an average. Stocks in New York are very low, being only 22,500 hds, 33,800 bxs, and 258,600 bags, as against 59,000 hds, 99,125 bxs, and 234,744 bags at the same date last year. The market there is firm, closing strong at an advance of ½c. The English markets have also improved of late, and as French refiners have again come into competition with those of the United Kingdom for continental beet root sugar, there is an improved demand for low grade cane sugars for refining purposes. Refined has been taken by the trade to some extent during the past week, partly at an advance of ½c. on yellows, and subsequently at a further advance of ½c. with a prospect of still higher prices ruling. White grades have not participated in this advance, the presence of English samples in the market checking the upward tendency and inducing the Refiners to accept even lower than previous figures to prevent orders being given. **Teas.** Fine grades of both Moyune and Ping Suey, and Young Hyson are become scarce, and are fully 2c. higher. For medium grades there is more enquiry at about late rates. There have been very few transactions however, except in a small way. Nothing doing in Gunpowders or Imperials, Good Japans are scarce, commanding full prices—60c. to 65c. for fine to finest grades. Black teas meet a fair steady demand, with a slight improvement in the enquiry during the past week. **Tobacco.**—Trade quiet no change to note in prices.

HARDWARE.—Trade has been quiet, owing chiefly to the difficulty, almost impossibility of moving heavy freight over the bad roads; and no marked improvement need be looked for till there is better teaming. There are no changes to note in prices, except in Cut Nails, now quoted at \$3.25.

HIDES AND SKINS.—The trade in Canadian Hides has been somewhat dull during the past week, several lots of western offering at competing prices, and the market is rather weak at the recent

decline. **Sheepskins.**—Arrive freely, but are in demand and are all taken at prices within the range of quotations. **Calfskins.**—Are without change and in fair demand.

LEATHER.—The market has slightly improved in tone during the past week, with more doing in *Spanish sole, harness and upper* at full prices. Other stocks about as previously reported.

LUMBER.—The first cargo of the season will probably be shipped this week, after which shipping will be fairly commenced. Owing to the large quantity of lumber lying at the Oswego docks shipping did not commence last year till the middle of May, then the opening of the Syracuse canal made an outlet for the stock on hand. This season, however, the Oswego docks are comparatively empty, consequently shipping can be begun as soon as the lake is clear of ice. Lumber of all kinds in good demand at fair prices. Clear, \$22 to \$24; common, \$9 to \$11; culls, \$6 to \$8; 1½ flooring, \$12; shingles, No. 1, \$2.75; do. No. 2, \$2 to \$2.25; lath, very scarce, \$1.70.

PAINTS AND OILS.—Trade is gradually improving as the season advances, and there is now a fair demand for goods, prices being firm but unchanged for the leading articles.

PETROLEUM.—Refined has been pressing on the market, and demand being very limited, prices have given way. Standard white is now quoted at 22½c. to 23c., according to quality, and other grades in proportion.

PRODUCE.—There has been rather more doing in Flour than for some weeks previous, and Barley has also been more active, but all other articles have been very inactive, either from wide differences between views of buyers and sellers, or from lightness of receipts. The market for breadstuffs is decidedly lower, partly in sympathy with lower values in the American and English markets, and partly from the removal of the duties which were imposed a year ago, and the restoration to the free list of flour, wheat, &c. **Flour.**—At the beginning of the week there was a moderate enquiry for superfine and spring extras, with sales of several hundred barrel lots at equal to \$5.85 to \$5.90 here for superfine, and spring extra selling at \$6. The market, however, gave way shortly, from the causes above referred to, and sales were reported of 500 barrels superfine at equal to \$5.75 here, and 1,000 barrels, said to be No. 1, free of charges, at Hamilton, at \$5.60. For single hundreds, \$5.75 to \$5.80 would probably still be paid. Spring extra and fancy are held at \$6, and extra at \$6.50, with no sales reported. **Wheat.**—There has been very light enquiry throughout the week, fall especially being almost entirely neglected. A few ears of choice spring were placed at \$1.50 for seed, and there were sales of No. 1 at \$1.39, and of No. 2 at \$1.36, but there are only occasional buyers at anything like these figures, and none for investment. Quotations must, therefore, be considered as for the most part nominal. **Barley.**—The market, though nominally unchanged as to prices, has been favorably affected by the partial opening of navigation, and sales of round lots have been made at prices which, though not made public, are understood to be an advance on rates previously obtainable. Reported transactions have been chiefly at 66c. to 67c. for No. 1, and 60c. to 62c. for No. 2; holders now asking 67c. 70c. for the former, and 62c. to 64c. for No. 2, with no recent sales. **Oats.**—The market has been weak and declining. In the forepart of the week sales were made at 54c. delivered, but subsequently sellers accepted 52c. on the track, and buyers are not now willing to pay over 50c. to 51c. **Peas.**—In the absence of any but most limited receipts there has been nothing doing, except in a retail way, and prices of shipping lots are nominal. **Seeds.**—The supply of clover has considerably improved, and prices have receded, there being now only a local demand. Lots coming in were taken at the close at \$4.90 to \$5.10, with holders of round lots asking \$5.20 to \$5.30, without finding buyers. Timothy has also