FREIGHTS.—The following are the winter ratse 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 St. Johns, Q., 60c., 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.—There has been during the past week about the ordinary amount of trade for this season of the year, with very few transactions of magnitude to note. *Coffee*—Quiet and unchanged. *Fish* of all kinds are without change as to values; Labrador herrings, splits, $6.62½ to $7; Dry Cod, $5.50 to $5.75. *Fruit*.—Very little doing in Raisins, although there is some export enquiry for Layers. Prices are without change. Currants are firm and unaltered. *Rice*.—The market is somewhat stiffer, and good samples of Arracan and Rangoon are saleable at improved quotations, viz.: Arracan, $4.40 to $4.50, and Rangoon, $4.25 to $4.30. *Spices*—are selling only in a retail way at previous prices. *Sugars*—Have been dealt in to a moderate extent in small parcels, no round lots reported as having changed hands, and prices obtained have been on an advancing scale. Refined Whites are decidedly firmer, and may be quoted ½c. to ¼c. higher. Foreign markets continue firm, with a distinctly marked upward tendency, and at places of growth prices show a very marked recent advance. By a comparison of quotations on a basis of No. 12 Dutch Standard, f.o.b. at Havana, it is observable that from about the end of August last until the middle of October, the prices stood at 24s. 11d. stg., the lowest point touched. From that time the market commenced to advance, until, as quoted in a Havana circular of 21st ult.—the latest to hand—the price reached 28s. 1½d. stg., or an advance of about 13 per cent. Receipts of clayed sugars at Havana have been very light, and have been taken as fast as arriving at daily increasing figures, No. 12 being held at 10 to 10½rs., many planters refusing to engage, looking for better prices. Private advices are to the same effect, and couched in even stronger language. It is stated that the market has been in excited state, and that it will be higher by the end of the month; that there is no possibility of a decline before the end of March, if then; that the production from the canes is lsss than it should be, and that if there is no improvement in this respect, the crop will be short; that there are now parties offering to bet that the deficiency in the yield will not be less than 15 per cent., that all sugars are selling on or before arrival, and that from day to day they are bringing more money until buyers are quite discouraged. It may therefore be expected that in Canadian markets values will rule firm during the next two months, and some advance on current quotations is more than probable during that time. *Teas*—Are in fair demand, principally for Young Hysons, the market continuing to stiffen in sympathy with the advancing tone of the London market. *Tobacco*—quiet and unchanged.

HARDWARE.—There has been little doing during the past week, and prices remain without alteration.

HIDES & SKINS.—There has been some improvement in the supply of slaughter *Hides*, but no change in prices. Cured are a little easisr, and sales of round lots have been made at 8¼c., with sellers still at that figure. *Sheepskins* came in to a fair extent, finding ready buyers at quotations. *Leather*.—The market has been very inactive during the past week, and in the almost entire absence of transactions, quotations remain unaltered.

PAINTS AND OILS.—Very little doing as yet *Lard Oil*—a shade easier at $1.10 for No. 1, and 90c. for No. 2. *Spirits Turpentine* firmer and higher, holders looking for further advance, and not caring to sell: now held at 60c. to 65c.

PRODUCE.—The market for breadstuffs opened steady, and in favour of holders; and a still further improvement took place after the announcement of the fall of Paris, and the advance in the English markets which followed that event. Subsequently, there was some re-action, and a portion of the advance was lost. *Flour*.—Prices have ruled tolerably steady throughout the week, but towards the close, there was more disposition on the part of holders to come to terms with buyers, who on their part were deterred by present high prices from operating to any extent. At the close, Super. No. 1 may be quoted at $5.75 to $5.90, with sellers at $5.85 to $5.90. A lot of Extra sold recently at $6.50, but there is now none offering, holders asking $6.75. *Wheat*—Deliveries have continued light, and insufficient to meet the moderate demand which has existed. Fall has advanced very materially during the week, as high as $1.40 having been paid for White, down to $1.30 for Red winter. Spring wheats have not participated in the advance, and are nominally same as last quoted. By sleigh loads, which came in but sparingly, prices ranged from $1.30 to $1.40 for all grades. *Barley*—The market has been dull and drooping, with a decline of 7c. to 9c. on the week. Receipts were small and business done limited. Buyers at the close at about 62c. for No. 1 in car loads, and 56c. to 64c. for sleigh loads, according to quality. *Oats*—have been steady, with sales in car lots at 49c. to 50c. and on the street at 52c. with few loads coming in. *Oatmeal*—Scarce and in demand at improving figures, quoted $5.25 to $5.50 with buyers at the outside figure for choice brands. *Peas*—The market is firm, active and advancing, with buyers at 75c. to 78c., and up to 80c. for barrelling sorts in car loads. *Hay and Straw*—Unchanged.

PROVISIONS.—The market has been in an excited state, and prices generally are higher; but receipts have been limited, and operations thereby considerably curtailed. *Butter*.—Very little dairy offering: choice would bring 19c. to 20c.; Store packed, even of fair quality, slow of sale, except at very low figures. A sale of a small lot is reported at 14c. *Cheese* is firm at 12½c. to 13c., with sales to supply consumptive demand. *Eggs*.—None in market. *Lard*—has sold rather more freely, is firm, and from ½c. to ¼c. higher. *Pork*.—The market is very firm, and sales of Mess have been made within the range of quotations. The stock here is not very large, and holders anticipate higher prices. *Bacon*—Is firm and advancing, now quoted at 10½c. to 11c. for Cumberland cut, and 11c. to 11½c. for smoked. *Hams*—Have also improved; smoked are held at 12c. to 12½c. *Shoulders* in salt are selling at 10c. to 10½c. *Dressed Hogs*—Have been active, with ready sale for all arriving at rapidly advancing prices, the gain since last week having been 62½c. per 100 lbs. Receipts by rail and sleigh have not been large, and have all been taken on arrival. At the close, $7.50 to $7.75 was paid for prime heavy hogs, and only inferior sold as low as $7.25.

WOOL.—The market has been quiet, with small sale of *Fleece* at from 30c. to 31c. with 31½c. obtainable for round lots of strictly choice combing. *Pulled* has been a little easier, with sellers of merchantable lots at 27c. buyers at 25c. to 26.

MONEY.—Sterling exchange, 60 days' sight or 75 days' date, 109⅜c, to 109½c.; gold drafts on New York ⅛ prem.; currency drafts on New York or greenbacks, 90½c. to 90¼c.; American silver, large, 4 1-2 to 5 1-2; small, 6 to 8 discount. Gold in New York has at last began to vary, and under the influence of the recent European news, the fall of Paris, &c., has advanced slightly, the impression appearing to prevail that the German demand for U. S. Bonds will rather fall off, once the war comes to an end. The closing price was 111¼, with a firm market and an upward tendency.

DEMERARA SUGAR MARKET.—The following is from Sandbach, Parker, and Co.'s market report, dated, 7th January.—*Sugars*.—The exports for the past year exceed any previous one; from 1st January to 31st December we shipped 94,944 hhds., of which 60.000 is Vacuum Pan and 35,-000 Muscovado; the destination of the shipments 57,994 to U. Kingdom, and 36,950 to U. States, the total in previous years:—

1866	1867	1868	1869	1870
91,580	82,039	89,634	76,112	95.944 hhds.

Since our last, owing to holidays, there has not been much doing, the relative value in England and America being about equal, the shipments to the United Kingdom are increasing, and during the fortnight the clearances have been seven vessels to Great Britain with 3,792 hhds., seven to U. States with 1,797, and two to Halifax with 167. The higher grades of Vacuum Pan are saleable at $6.30, the inferior samples difficult to place at $5.80 to $6.10. Muscovados of good average quality can be placed at $4.50. *Rum*.—The shipments of 1870 reached 27,169 puns. against 21,324 in 1869, 24,680 in 1868, 25,824 in 1867, and 36,966 in 1866; the decrease between 1870 and 1866 is to be accounted for by the increased quantity of Molasses Sugar now made. Since our last there has been but little doing in this article, the prices ruling in the English Market by our last advices tend to keep rates here above the limits of buyers, so that few sales have been made, 40 per cent. proof is worth 60c. *Molasses*.—The shipments for 1870 were 17,606 puns. against 25.638 in 1869, 25,221 in 1868, 24,028 in 1867, and 15,180 in 1866; the demand for our Vacuum Pan Molasses has almost ceased, and the shipments have fallen off in consequence; during the past fortnight there has been hardly any enquiry. Vacuum Pan is procurable at 24c., and Muscovado, according to quality, from 20 to 30c.

OIL MATTERS AT PETROLIA.

(From our Own Correspondent)

PETROLIA, Jan. 30, 1871.

No material change in affairs since I wrote last week. Crude may be considered a little firmer, but as most of the requirements are for the filling up of tanks, for storing. Buyers will not, in all cases, submit to the views of the producers.

The production for the last week has been a little less, and cannot be quoted at more than 6,000 barrels. Shipments are falling off.

The sale of oil land is flat owing to its being the time of year when drilling new wells is most difficult. In some territories lands are still held high, namely: the McMillan, the Shoemaker and the Perkins. All outside lots are nearly out of the market just now. Refined oil is flat, and refiners are doing about half their capacity. Export oil is beginning to look better, and preparations are being made for a large business in the spring, in the mean time they are running only about half the capacity.

Crude, per brl.	$1 25	to	$1 30
Refined, per gal	0 19		0 00

—The new English Stamp Act which went into operation on the 1st January provides that any foreign security (including every security of a foreign or colonial state, government, municipal body, corporation, or company) bearing date after the 3rd of June, 1862, which is made or issued in the United Kingdom, or upon which interest is payable in the United Kingdom, or which is assigned, transferred, or in any manner negotiated in the United Kingdom, must carry an ad valorem stamp of ⅛ per cent. The London Stock Exchange committee adopted the following resolution: "That bonds bearing date after the 3rd of June, 1862, if unstamped, will not be considered a good delivery in settlement of bargains effected after this day, January 9, 1871."

LAPRAIRIE NAVIGATION COMPANY.—The general annual meeting of this company took place on the 17th inst. in Montreal, and the following gentlemen were re-elected directors: —J. Bte.