

At a meeting held the 11th inst., which was poorly attended, it appears to have been decided not to pay the debts. The doors were locked, and Mr. T. W. Fisher, the secretary, left for the North-West the following Monday. According to the *Globe* the liabilities are: Mortgage on building to the Western Loan Company, \$54,000; ground rent due April 1st to the Canada Life Insurance Company, \$1,500; city taxes, \$920. Everything in the building is mortgaged to its full value. The Oshawa Cabinet Company hold the mortgage on all the furniture, Murray & Co. the carpets, and Mr. Cooper the silver and plated ware and cutlery. The three billiard tables are also not paid for. Besides all these, there are a large number of small creditors, and the stack of judgments against the concern in the Sheriff's office is remarkable. Among the smaller creditors is Mr. Trimble, who furnished the Club with ice for their gro during the year 1880, and whose bill is \$63. The servants, four in number, have not received a cent of wages for five or six months, one having a claim of \$150. It is also stated that a well-known city tailor is a victim, having furnished the liveries for the servants. The other creditors are so numerous that it would be impossible to enumerate all of them. Last Saturday Mr. Turner, tax collector for St. Andrew's Ward, placed his claim of \$920 in the hands of Mr. Armstrong, a bailiff, and he succeeded in obtaining an entrance into the building and attaching the three billiard tables, some carpet, chairs and mirrors. The scene that met the bailiff on his entrance is thus described by the *Globe*: "On a side-board was a quantity of silver plate which was doubly rare from the fact that it was so heavily mortgaged. Then thrown around the room was a large number of cigar butts and champagne (cider) corks, the relics of slam respectability, broken bottles, &c., while upon a stand was a pile of unredeemed bills tied around with red tape. After enjoying the luxurious apartments for some time, the library was next inspected. It was obtained by cull books presented by the different members, but the hinges of the case were rusty, showing that the members of the organization had not as much literary taste as a taste for whiskey and water." The membership which at one time reached 800 had dwindled down to about sixty.

THE STANDARD FIRE.—The fifth annual report of the Standard Fire Ins. Co., of Hamilton, published on another page, shows that, owing to exceptionally heavy losses, the company, in common with most Canadian insurance companies, has but little of profits to reckon up for the past year. The opening of the new year, however, would indicate that the business has taken a turn for the better, the premium income thus far being double that for the corresponding period of 1881, while the proportion of losses is considerably less. It will be observed that the subscribed capital has been increased over \$15,000, and the paid-up capital over \$5,000, these now standing at \$208,000 and \$20,800 respectively, while a further increase is expected during the present year.

Financial and Commercial.

MONTREAL WHOLESALE MARKETS.

THURSDAY, 9th March, 1882.

The more favorable and spring-like weather of the past week has had a good effect upon retail trade and virtually also in the wholesale departments, which are benefited in turn. At present writing, however, a heavy snow-storm is raging here, and there is, of course, no telling what will follow. A quiet, steady feeling pervades most branches of trade, with few changes in values; cut nails have been advanced 10c per keg, and tin and tin plates are rather easier,

as a result of the change announced in the tariff. Provisions have been weaker, with prices tending downwards; produce of all kinds dull and nominal. The event of the week, perhaps, was the opening of the millinery houses, the unusually large and varied assortments having been liberally patronized, chiefly by Ontario customers. Any changes in groceries will be found under that head, in another column. Mercantile paper falling due on the 4th inst. was generally well met, though a larger number of renewals are being asked for than was anticipated last autumn; this is accounted for by the bad weather. Money is in more active demand this month, but this has had but little influence on the rates of discount, which are still quoted at 6 to 7 per cent. as to name and date. Call loans are negotiated at 5 to 6. The demand from the Government for Sterling Exchange, for which the tender of the Bank of Montreal for £250,000, and that of the Merchants' for £500 have been accepted, has kept this market firm all week, and to-day rates are quoted at 9½ to 9½ for round amounts between banks, 9½ over the counter, and 10½ for demand. Exchange on New York, ½ prem. In stocks a large business has been done at high prices; on Tuesday there was a reaction, the heaviest drop being 4½ per cent. for City Gas. Yesterday and to-day however the market has recovered, and closes strong at 12½ bid for Telegraph, 21¼ for Montreal, 6¼ for Ontario, 13¼ for Merchants, 14¼ for Commerce, 13½ for City Gas, and 56½ for Richelieu. The highest point touched by Bank of Montreal for the week was 210½, and the lowest, 208½. City Gas recovered to-day what it had lost during the week, 2 per cent.; Montreal advanced ½, and Commerce ¾, while all other stocks were steady and strong, except Dundas Cotton, which fell 4 per cent., closing at 122½ bid.

Sales to-day: Morning Board—370 Montreal at 211; 6 Peoples at 88½; 100 Commerce at 14½; 125 do at 14½; 50 Montreal Telegraph at 124; 500 do at 123½; 300 do at 123½; 10 Richelieu at 57½; 100 City Passenger at 135½; 25 do at 135½; 350 City Gas at 172; 400 do at 172½; 50 Dundas Cotton at 125; 30 do at 124½. Afternoon Board—235 Montreal at 210½; 50 do at 210½; 50 do at 210; 500 Ontario at 62; 100 Toronto at 175; 85 Merchants at 132½; 10 Union at 93; 25 Commerce at 144½; 60 do at 144½; 100 Montreal Telegraph at 123½; 100 do at 123½; 25 do at 122½; 525 do at 122½; 25 do at 121½; 100 do at 121; 25 do at 121½; 25 do at 121½; 50 Dundas Cotton at 124.

CATTLE, ETC.—The offerings at the local cattle markets last Monday were quite moderate; owing to the light receipts the past two weeks holders have advanced prices ½c to ¾c per lb. Good to choice export heaves were held at from 5½c to 5½c, good to choice butchers' cattle 4½c to 5c, and lean and coarser grades 3½c to 4c per lb., live weight. *Culves* were very scarce and dear, a few good ones finding ready sale at from \$8 to \$12 each, smaller ones selling at \$4.50 to \$7. A few sheep were sold at from \$5.50 to \$7, as to size. A spring lamb realized \$6. A small lot of *live hogs* sold at \$7 per 100 lbs.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.—In *Butter* there is really no change to note from a week ago; the export trade has continued at a stand-still, but the local demand has not been active, and the quantity of desirable goods offering is so small as to ensure a ready market at relatively high prices; new milk stock is quoted at 28c to 30c, and good old at 24c to 26c. A lot of fine rolls in barrels was sold yesterday at 25½c, and a lot of 100 pkgs inferior dairy butter changed hands on Tuesday at 14½c, for shipment to Great Britain.

A Western shipper was endeavoring to sell a car load of butter on this market during the week but failed and had to take it home again, we are told. The local *Cheese* market has developed nothing new; sales have been few, and comprised only jobbing lots at previously quoted prices; the Liverpool market is weaker quoted at 61s per cwt. In New York business is dull, with the tone of the markets generally drooping. Holders who have anything fancy left naturally carry it with confidence and look for a full rate, but on the bulk of the stock of both butter and cheese there is a desire to close out, and the terms are daily growing easier. Advances from abroad regarding cheese continue very discouraging, and the market lacks hopeful signs generally. The N. Y. *Bulletin* says: "The importers of 100 packages new milk Holstein (Denmark) butter, after undergoing the tribulations of Custom House red-tapeism, have at last been enabled to place their goods upon the market. The quality proves fine, and the bulk of the offering at the present writing is sold at 45c to 46c." A shipment of butter from Ireland is said to be now on the way to New York.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—There is no change of importance to note, either in prices or condition of trade. The demand continues moderate, without any speculative tendency manifest. Latest advices from England report the market very dull, with prospect of a decline in prices, although manufacturers are firm at present. They have notified the workmen at various factories that wages will be reduced; this notice has been accepted in some instances, and a strike threatened elsewhere, and they say that the men will be ill-advised if they resort to the latter, as in the present state of trade their defeat is certain. *Bleaching Powder* is reported procurable at as low a figure as £3-10s 3d for some brands, but as high as £4 2s 6d has been paid for a special brand.

DRY GOODS.—Our millinery and fancy goods houses have had good opening days this week, the several large warehouses, not excepting any of the new ones which were established last Spring, being thronged with customers on Tuesday and Wednesday from early morn till eventide, chiefly from Western Ontario and the Ottawa district. The Eastern buyers are usually a week later in arriving. From all accounts the patronage, especially of the more expensive materials and styles, is larger this season than usual. The season is certainly not going to be one of quiet, modest pretensions, as the effects are decidedly startling, and being for the most part wrought by the dexterous hand of the French milliner, the subtle genius of the artist is seen throughout the endless variety of styles. Laces of all colors are of course worn in vogue, and while flowers were chiefly much for trimmings last season, the French patterns indicate that both flowers and feathers will likely be used extensively this year. Bright colors seem to be combined with the softest textures and most delicate shades. In ornaments pearls—feathers and fringes—are to be much worn, and were they all real they would soon become very scarce. In ribbons the rich Damassé and Moire with lace edges seem to be the most fashionable, and some of them are exquisite. Of hats, the Leghorn, converted into every possible shape, seems to be the kind in greatest demand. The only exclusively wholesale dress feather house in Canada (of this city) also held its opening this week, and was largely patronized. In the general dry goods importing houses a good week's business has been done; a good many Western Ontario customers have been here buying their Spring parcels from stocks complete in every department unless perhaps that of prints; the delivery of imported prints is reported by some houses very late this year. The improved weather this week has had a beneficial effect upon the city retail trade, and retailers here are said to be picking up new, desirable goods as rapidly as they are opened out. The travellers are nearly all home, the trip having been about as success-