

pretty decided views on the subject, whatever they may be worth—"I have made up my mind that there is not a sound or solvent company in the state of New York. They have all got heavier liabilities than they can ever pay. They are perfect swindles, and the people are being imposed upon. If I had my way, I would wind up a dozen of the largest companies in New York city immediately. It would be wrong to wind them all up at the same time, perhaps, but it might be done gradually. The officers are paid enormous salaries in many cases, and then they receive large bonuses besides. The rates are too high. The business might be done for half the rates commonly charged."

—In reply to a question, Sir Francis Hincks said, in the House of Commons, that one or two returns of Life and Fire Insurance Companies had been sent back for correction.

—The Gulf Ports Steamship Company have brought an action against the owners of the steamship Germany, for the loss of the City of Quebec; damages are laid at £35,000.

Commercial.

Toronto Market.

DRY GOODS.—The regular season is now closed, and business is confined to the sorting-up of stocks, in which a good deal has been done during the past week.

The following tables show the imports of dry goods at Toronto for April, and since Jan. 1st:—

Imports of Dry Goods for April.

	1869.	1870.
Woolens.....	\$83,752	\$35,853
Cottons.....	155,094	110,478
Silks and Velvets.....	27,492	16,541
Clothing.....	1,652	639
Fancy Goods.....	36,957	30,853
Total.....	\$304,947	\$194,364

Imports of Dry Goods from Jan. 1st to May 1st.

	1869.	1870.
Woolens.....	\$361,035	\$360,513
Cottons.....	593,919	615,320
Silks and Velvets.....	157,200	133,033
Clothing.....	3,931	2,251
Fancy Goods.....	147,213	171,612
Total.....	\$1,263,298	\$1,302,729

PROVISIONS.—*Butter.*—There is a good demand both for choice dairy and the better qualities of store packed, chiefly for the lower ports; choice is specially scarce, and indeed, the market is pretty well cleared of desirable lots; common has been selling at 12 to 13c., and choice brought 17 to 18c. *Pork.*—Mess is in good demand; parties buying on Government account have operated pretty freely, both for the Red River expedition and the road service, and have paid from \$24.50 to \$25. *Bacon.*—The demand is improving, an enquiry from the country is springing up, and it has been taken pretty freely at the quotations in our price list. The same remarks apply to hams. *Cheese.*—is now in very few hands, and holders demand 15 to 15½c. *Lard.*—Not much in market; kettle-rendered is firm at 13½ to 14c. *Eggs.*—are arriving in large quantities, and prices have given way; from 10 to 10½c. is the usual range, though exceptional sales have taken place as low as 9c.

GROCERIES.—*Sugars.*—The market is firm; an advance of ½c. on refined is reported in Montreal. A Liverpool report of the 28th states the stock there at 34,797 tons against 29,980 tons in 1869. That market was depressed by heavy arrivals. A Cuba circular of April 30th quotes that market active, and states that all desirable parcels offered for sale were being quickly taken up, the demand being chiefly for France and Spain; No. 12 clayed was quoted at 8½ to 8¾ reals as per quality. The reduction of the British duties by just one half

has had an important influence on the trade in this article there. The following table exhibits the new rate of duty levied on and after the 2nd May, 1870:—

	s.	d.
Sugar, refined or equal to refined, per cwt.....	6	0
" Not equal to refined, 1st class.....	5	8
" " " 2nd class.....	5	3
" " " 3rd class.....	4	9
" " " 4th class.....	4	0
Molasses.....	1	9

Corresponding drawbacks are allowed. The duty on fine sugar was maintained for three weeks, to give refiners a chance to work off their stock or report them for the purpose of obtaining the drawback. *Teas.*—There is a steady demand without any particular feature calling for notice. The London (Eng.) market is reported lower on low and medium Greens. Common Congous are also easier at 1s. to 1s. 0½d., while the better sorts are firm at full prices. There appears to be a much larger proportion of cheap teas, not to say rubbish, exported from China than ever before.

Tobaccos.—There are still sellers at our quotations, though for the importations since the advance in duty, holders could not accept present prices. *Liquors.*—Brandy is quoted easier in Liverpool and London; the trade in bottled brandy has superseded that in bulk to a very great extent. Rum is also quoted 1d. to 2d. easier in these markets for every description except Jamaicas. The stock of Wine in the United Kingdom on the 1st March was 13,282,784 gallons against 13,109,137 gallons last year.

The following tables show the imports of Groceries at the port of Toronto, in April, and since January 1st:—

Imports of Groceries for April.

	1869.	1870.
Coffee, green.....	\$1,032	\$950
Tobacco, manufactured.....	110	834
Dried Fruits and Nuts.....	3,263	790
Sugar.....	19,453	17,339
Tea, green, and Japan.....	62,804	36,842
Tea, black.....	14,288	381

Imports of Groceries, January 1 to May 1.

	1869.	1870.
Coffee, green.....	\$46,358	\$79,326
Tobacco, manufactured.....	11,163	834
Dried Fruits and Nuts.....	6,448	2,051
Sugar.....	30,954	71,982
Tea, green, and Japan.....	108,130	106,218
Tea, black.....	23,929	8,469

PRODUCE.—The market for breadstuffs is very firm and both flour and wheat are higher. Stocks are steadily falling off both here in Canada and in the States, the quantity of wheat "in sight" in American markets was 6,700,000 bush. on the 30th April. *Wheat.*—There is a good demand but an entirely inadequate supply, so that lots are held very firm; small lots fall sold at \$1 to \$1.05; spring nominal at quotations. *Barley.*—Is also scarce and there is a good demand; some cars sold at 61c.; other lots on p. t. *Oats.*—Demand active; some car lots sold at 37c. to 38c., and a lot of 1,600 bush. at 38c. f.o.c.; as high as 40c. have been paid for cars bagged and in bulk. *Peas.*—The demand is active; a lot of 4,000 bush. sold at 65c.; other sales on p. t. *Rye.*—For a lot of 1,200 bush., 65c. on the cars was paid. *Seeds.* Clover nominal at \$6.50 to \$7 buying and \$7.25 to \$7.50 selling; timothy is firm at \$4.25 to \$4.75 for inferior to choice buying, and \$5 to \$5.50 selling. Flax ranges from \$1.75 to \$2.50 according to quality.

HIDES AND SKINS.—Hides are quiet and unchanged; calfskins dull; sheepskins in very light supply and little doing.

LEATHER.—Trade has been active. Spanish sole keeps very firm. Slaughter sole is in active demand, especially for heavy. The supply of harness is fully equal to the demand. Upper still continues in good demand, with some large sales at good figures. Kip and calf are dull sale. Im-

ported leathers are in fair demand. Russetts of a good quality are in good demand, and meet with a ready sale. Cod oil remains unchanged.

FREIGHTS.—Rates remain unaltered at 2½c. greenbacks to Oswego and 2c. gold to Kingston. The steamers are taking only flour, and getting as much of it as they can carry, at 15c. to Kingston; 20c. to Prescott, and 25c. to 30c. to Montreal. Grain, Kingston to Montreal, by barge, 4½c. Per G. W. Railway:—Flour, from Sarnia and Detroit to Toronto 35c. per bbl; grain, 18c. per 100 lbs. From the Suspension Bridge, 25c.; grain, 13c. The Grand Trunk through rates to Liverpool or Glasgow, are: Butter per gross ton 70s; cheese per do. 70s; lard per do. 70s; bacon and hams per do. 65s; beef per tierce, 13s; pork per bbl., 9s. 6d, flour per bbl., 5s. 6d; grain, 10s. 6d per quarter. Grain taken only in ships' bags. The following are the spring rates of the Grand Trunk Railway: to Halifax 95c. for flour and 48c. for grain; to St. John 90c. flour, 45c. grain. The rates to railway stations are—Flour to Kingston, 25c.; grain, 13c.; flour to Prescott, 30c.; grain, 15c.; flour to Montreal, 35c.; grain, 18c.; flour to St. John, Quebec, 45c.; grain, 23c.; flour to Point Levi, 55c., grain, 28c.; flour to Portland, 75c., grain, 38c.; flour to New York 75c.; grain 38c.; flour to Boston 80c., grain 40c. gold.

NOTICE.

SCOTTISH PROVINCIAL

Life Assurance Company.

SCOTTISH IMPERIAL

Fire Assurance Company.

MR. GILMOR

Bege to intimate that he has REMOVED from his old office on Colborne Street, to

No. 36 KING STREET.

Where he will be happy to see his friends requiring Fire or Life Assurance in the above reliable and well known Companies.

Toronto, May 11, 1870.

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The Freehold

Permanent Building and Savings Society.

DIVIDEND No. 21.

NOTICE is hereby given that a Dividend of Five per cent. on the Stock of the Society has been declared for the half-year ending 30th April last, payable on and after WEDNESDAY, 1st June next, at the office of the Society, Church Street. The Transfer Books will be closed from the 16th to 31st May, inclusive.

Notice is also given that the Annual General Meeting will be held on WEDNESDAY, first day of June next, at 12 o'clock noon, for the election of Directors and other business.

By order,

CHAS. ROBERTSON,

Secretary.

Toronto, 2nd May, 1870.

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J. M. TROUT,

Business Manager.