

—The Hamilton Times says that the contract for the construction of the Brantford and Harrisburgh Railway has been given to Mr. Hendrie of Hamilton.

**GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.**—Traffic for week ending Dec. 9, 1870.

Passengers.....	\$25,056 22
Freight and Live Stock.....	60,349 02
Mails and Sundries.....	2,453 92

Total Receipts for week....	\$87,859 16
Corresponding week, 1869....	86,434 15

Increase..... \$1,425 01

### RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS

FOR THE MONTH OF NOV., 1870.

	1869 Miles	1870 Miles	Total 1869	Total 1870	Excess	Mails and Sundries	Passengers
Great Western	3514	3514	\$338,405	\$338,000	\$405	\$8,065	\$115,708
Grand Trunk	1,377	1,377	657,635	606,433	51,202	92,000	180,108
London and Port Stanley	241	241	4,648	4,504	1,444	1,066	1,240
Welland	25	25	10,862	10,862	0	882	882
Northern	97	97	40,980	40,980	0	2,824	12,733
Midland	56	56	18,128	12,507	5,621	278	3,717
Cobourg, Peterboro' and Marmora	22	22	3,020	2,972	48	911	48
Brockville and Ottawa	86	86	15,168	24,732	9,564	910	2,104
Canada Central	54	54	10,866	2,733	8,133	4,879	4,879
St. Lawrence and Ottawa	12	12	1,487	1,101	386	216	216
Carleton and Grenville	108	108	18,901	21,352	2,451	802	1,424
Stanstead, Shefford, and Chambly	12	12	1,487	1,101	386	216	216
St. Lawrence and Industry	108	108	18,901	21,352	2,451	802	1,424
New Brunswick and Canada	143	143	25,848	31,573	5,725	300	10,437
European and North American	88	88	1,435	1,435	0	1,245	4,394
Eastern Extension	108	108	18,901	21,352	2,451	802	1,424
Western Extension	143	143	25,848	31,573	5,725	300	10,437
Nova Scotia	108	108	18,901	21,352	2,451	802	1,424
Windsor and Annapolis	108	108	18,901	21,352	2,451	802	1,424
Total	11,114	11,114	1,141,450	1,141,450	0	40,081	350,062

\* No returns.

### Commercial.

#### MONTREAL MARKET.

MONTREAL, Dec. 27, 1870.

Very little snow has fallen during the past week; but the temperature has been very low, on Sunday morning the thermometer indicated 10° below zero. Yesterday and to-day have been milder with indications of snow. The river has not "taken" yet, but as the water has begun to rise, and if the present cold weather continues the ice bridge will be formed the want of which is much felt now, preventing country produce being brought to market.

In the wholesale trade there has been very little done during the week, but as usual at the Holiday season, the retail business has been very brisk. In the stock market the amount of business done was small. Sterling Exchange has been steady at 109½ to 109¾ for Bankers 60 day Bills.

**ASHES.**—*Pots*—There has been a marked improvement in this market, and sales were made at \$5.95 \$6.05 and \$6.10, closing to-day very firm at the outside figure, with upward tendency;

*Seconds* \$5.00; *Thirds* \$4.50. *Pearls*—although there has been a firmer feeling in this ash, there has been no change in prices: *First* \$6.10 to \$6.20; *Seconds* are nominal as there are now offering at present. The stocks at present in store are *Pots* 641 barrels; *Pearls* 681 barrels, being a decrease of 238 brls. *Pots*, and an increase of 232 brls. *Pearls* on the stocks in store on the same date of 1869.

**BOOTS AND SHOES.**—Business done in this branch of trade has been very moderate, and there is no change to note in prices of any article, as soon as all the winter communications are opened considerable activity is looked for.

**COAL.**—The market has been very quiet, and only a moderate trade has been done for household wants, at late rates.

**CATTLE.**—Business has been very active, and the number of Beef cattle brought to market has been large all of which were readily taken up at satisfactory prices both for buyers and sellers, but extra stock has been in light supply. Sheep and Lambs have been active, and a large number has been bought for the winter trade. Hogs are in plentiful supply and are principally taken up by the retailers. The quotations are Extra cattle, \$9 to \$10; 1st quality cattle, \$8 to \$8½; 2nd and 3rd quality \$7½ to \$8; milk cows, \$30 to \$50; Sheep \$3 to \$6; Extra Sheep \$8 to \$10; Lambs \$2½ to \$3½; Hogs \$5½ to \$6.

**DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.**—A moderate business has been done but in retail lots, prices are firm and steady, and a slight advance has taken place in some articles. The following are the quotations for those which have advanced in price: Caustic Soda 3½c. to 4c.; Bleaching Powder 2½c. to 2¾c.; Carbonate of Soda \$3.25 to \$3.50; Sulphur \$3.50 to \$4.00; Brimstone \$3.25 to \$3.50, in other articles there is no change on prices given last week, and very little business done.

**FISH.**—Market very quiet. Dry Cod is nominal at \$5.25 to \$5.37½; very little Green Cod in market and none in first hands; Herrings are firm; Labrador Splits \$6.25 to \$6.50; Canso Herrings unchanged; Salmon in barrels \$15.50 to \$16.00 very little offering; Lake Trout \$4.50 for half barrels.

**FLOUR.**—Receipts for the past week 10,065 barrels; total receipts from 1st January to date 1,024,290 barrels against 971,419 brls. in corresponding period of 1869 being an increase of 52,871 brls. no shipments this week. The market has been very dull and declining owing to advices from Europe, but there has been no wholesale business doing of any consequence and prices may be looked on as nominal, market closing very quiet. Superior Extra, \$6.40 to \$6.50; Extra, \$6.20 to \$6.30; Fancy, \$5.80 to \$5.90; Medium strong super from Canada wheat \$5.65 to \$5.75; Strong Bakers Flour, \$5.85 to \$6.10; Welland Canal Flour (free) \$6.50; Canada Supers No. 2, \$4.90 to \$5; Fine, \$4.70 to \$4.85; Middlings, \$4 to \$4.20; Pollards, \$3.50; Upper Canada Bags, \$2.50 to \$2.60; Oatmeal has only been offered in limited quantities and prices are firm at \$5.70 to \$5.90.

**FREIGHTS.**—The rates by Grand Trunk Railway and Montreal Ocean Steamship Co's. vessels from Montreal to Liverpool are unchanged, and engagements continue to be made at late rates.

**GRAIN.**—*Wheat.*—Receipts for the past week none. Total receipts from 1st January to date 6,453,392 bushels against 7,317,470 bushels in corresponding period of 1869, being a decrease of 864,078 bushels. There has been very little done this week a sale of about 3,000 bushels of No. 2 Milwaukee Spring is believed to have taken place at \$1.27½. *Rice.*—Some small sales are reported ex store at 85c. to 87c., and car loads at 83c. per 66 lbs. *Barley.*—Market inactive some small lots have changed hands at 55c. to 60c., per 48 lbs. *Oats.*—Nothing of a wholesale nature transpiring, for farmers load about 43c. to 44c., has been the current rate, market closing very quiet.

**GROCERIES.**—*Teas.*—Only small sales are taking place and are principally confined to Japan and

Young Hyson, the latter at from 42½c. to \$1. *Sugars.*—Market quiet, some few small transactions in raw are reported at 8½c. to 9½c., and Scotch refined at 9½. City refined is in active demand at last weeks quotations. *Molasses.*—are without animation and no change to note in prices. Fruit market dull and heavy. Layer Raisins \$1.72½ to \$1.85. Valencias 6½c. to 7½c. Currants firm at 6½c. to 6¾c. Coffee has been in fair demand but no change can be noted in late sales.

**HARDWARE.**—The holiday time here has caused the usual dullness in this branch of trade, and prices which are steady for both shelf and heavy hardware remain unchanged.

**LIQUORS.**—Business has been almost entirely confined to the retail trade, whose demands have not been large, and the prices have maintained the advance noted last week. High Wines are higher, car loads have changed hands at 52½c. to 55c., and small lots 57½c. to 60c.

**LEATHER.**—For the season of the year trade has been very fair and prices are firm. There is a scarcity of Spanish sole which is in demand, and is now quoted; Sole No. 1, B. A., 25½c. to 26½c.; No. 2, do., 23½c. to 24c.; Buffalo sole, 21c. to 21½c.; No. 2, do., 19c. to 19½c.; Oak sole, 39c. to 41c.

**NAVAL STORES.**—Spirits of Turpentine are unchanged in price, but are held firm at late quotations. Rosin is unchanged. Coal, Pitch and Tar dull and unchanged in price.

**OILS.**—All kinds of fish oil are dull with a downward tendency. Cod oil is lower, and is now quoted 53c. to 55c.; Pale Seal, 63c.; Straw Seal, 55c. to 60c.; Olive, \$1.15 to \$1.25.

**PETROLEUM.**—In fair demand, low grades have been dealt in to some extent, at 24c. to 25c., and choice lots at 28c. to 30c.

**RICE.**—May be quoted \$3.65 to \$3.95 for Aracan and Rangoon, but there is no business doing at present except for retail lots.

**PROVISIONS.**—*Butter.*—Receipts, 1,218 kegs; Shipments to Liverpool, 4,088 kegs. An active business has been done during the early part of the week at advancing rates, market closes firm; for common to medium, 16c. to 17½c.; fair to good, 18c. to 20½c.; good to choice, 21c. to 22½c.; extra, 23c. to 24c. *Cheese.*—Receipts inconsiderable, shipments to Liverpool 1,306 boxes; there has been a good enquiry all week, and prices are still for good shipping lots, at 12½c. to 13½c.

**PORK.**—Market quiet, Mess \$20; Thin Mess, \$17.50 to \$18.50; Prime, \$14 to \$14.50; Extra prime, \$14. *Lard.*—12c. to 13c.; Tallow, rendered, 9½c. to 10c.

**SALT.**—Although business has been very quiet, prices have been firmly maintained; Fine, 73c. to 75c.; Coarse, 50c. to 55c.; Factory filled, \$1.35 to \$1.45.

**WOOL.**—There has been a better demand from manufacturers during the week, and the following are the current rates; Fleece wool, 27c. to 30c.; Pulled wool, super, 26c. to 28c.; ditto No. 1, 21½c. to 23c.; ditto black, 23c. to 25c.

#### TORONTO MARKET.

There has been an almost complete lull in business during the past week, the temporary activity which previously existed having come to an end with the arrival of the holidays. Throughout the country there is now pretty good sleighing, but in this city and within a circuit of six or eight miles the roads are barely white, and travelling on runners very difficult. Collections are still slack, and are not expected to improve very much for the present. The Government and Bank circulation, however, is unusually large—some twenty-five millions of dollars in all—and money may after a little prove to be more readily collectable than is now anticipated. It seems to be an undoubted fact that there has been a very much less abundant harvest even than was supposed, and the heavy importations and large sales which have been made will not prove any ad-