

STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

4 o'clock, April 11, 1877.

Stocks.	Lowest Point in Week.	Highest Point in Week.	Total Transact' in Week.	Buyers.	Sellers.
Montreal.....	169½	175½	3644	1734	1733
Ontario.....	92	92½	129	92	92½
Consolidated			15		
Peoples.....		107½	46	107½	107½
Molson.....		17½	46	170	170
Toronto.....		34½	345	344	344
Jacques Cartier	74	79½	1684	74	75
Merchants.....	119½	120	211	119	120
Commerce.....					
Metropolitan.....					
Maritime.....					
Exchange.....			8		
Hamilton.....					
Union.....					
Montreal Tel.....	107½	115½	749	111½	112½
Dominion Telegraph				85	
Gas.....	147½	148	293	148	149
City Pass.....	85½	87½	704	87½	90
R. C. Insurance.....		90	120	89	90½
Sterling Exchange.....	109½	109½		109½	109½
Gold.....	105½	105½		105½	105½

MARITIME ITEMS.

The Legislature of Nova Scotia has resolved that in the opinion of the House the subsidy to the Allan steamers should be continued to the fortnightly line to Halifax. Freight to Halifax has been reduced by the steam lines from Liverpool from 40/- to 12/6 per ton, a considerable concession to the importers of that city. Late advices from Porto Rico quote Cod fish \$4½; Haddock \$4; Herrings \$3½. Sugar cane not yielding like last year. The Cunard steamer "Beta" on her last trip to Bermuda took \$10,000 specie to pay the troops on that station. The Bank of Montreal furnished the coins. The Belgian steamer "Auguste Andre" a consort of the "Rudland" recently wrecked on the United States coast, has finished her repairs at Halifax, and has cleared for Antwerp. A number of residents of Whitehaven have published a denial that their port was blocked by ice the past winter. 80 masters and mates from the St. John Marine Schools, passed examinations last year and 47 failed to pass. The Northern Light has been making daily trips across the Straits. Ice on the St. John river is beginning to break up.

FIRE RECORD.—Port Burwell, 9th.—The dwelling of George Titus caught fire, and was a good deal damaged.

St. Joseph de Levis, Que., 7th.—The dwelling of Alexis Pelletier was destroyed by fire. Building insured for \$800 in Isolated Risk, and furniture for \$500 in Ottawa Agricultural.

St. John, N. B., 9th.—Capt. Caleb Peck's house and outbuildings were burned down. Building insured in L. L. and Globe, furniture in Queen.

Pictou, 9th.—Barnes and stables of George Lovell and of G. G. Hallowell were burned, together with 14 head cattle, 2 horses and implements. Loss \$2000; insured in Bay of Quinte Mutual for \$700.

Lucan, 10th.—The blacksmith shop of John Judge, his dwelling, a paint shop, waggon shop, and two dwellings occupied by Mrs. Keays and Mr. Cooke were burned down this morning. Total loss \$6000.

Belleville, 10th.—A vacant house on Church street, near the Railway, was set on fire this morning. Damage trifling; no insurance.

Cobourg, 10th.—The outbuildings of J. K. Cameron's residence were burned, and the dwelling house damaged by water.

St. Johns, Que., 10th.—A mysterious fire destroyed the stables of McGoogan's hotel. The fire brigade confined the flames to the building,

and the Town Council voted them \$400 for uniforms. An investigation will be held.

Clifton, 11th.—The custom house block took fire and was completely gutted. Pierce, Howard & Co., bankers; H. Preston, broker; Bailey & Bunting, sugar dealers; R. Law, grocer, and the Oddfellows' and Freemasons' Lodges are losers.

A dreadful loss of life was occasioned by the burning, on Wednesday, of the Southern Hotel, in St. Louis, Missouri. The building originally cost \$1,250,000, and is insured for \$290,000. The furniture cost \$200,000, and is insured for \$142,000.

—In referring to the insurance investigation, the regular correspondent of the New York *Tribune* at Albany says: "It begins to be believed that the insurance investigation has been largely used by schemers (possibly represented in the Committee itself), whose real object was to put one or more of the great insurance companies, and specially the Equitable, into the hands of a receiver. If they could control such an arrangement, these would, of course, be fat pickings, and two millions of cash on hand would be an exceedingly nice sum to handle in the great work of reforming the country. The schemers had an idea that the Equitable had sore spots which they could touch, that its surplus was small, that its building was paying less than 2 per cent. net, and that a remorseless system of probing and turning private affairs inside out, would show such other weak places that by a concerted hue and cry they could, with a rush, carry the receivership. All this has now apparently failed. It is understood here that the Examining Committee, headed by Gov. E. D. Morgan, have signed their report, certifying that all the accounts of the Equitable, since the start of the company, are correct, criticising some details of the management, but, on the whole, expressing more satisfaction with it than has been generally expected. It is understood, too, that the investigation of the State Superintendent results in a similar conclusion."

—William J. Hughes has received the appointment from the Royal Canadian Insurance Company, of sole manager of its business at the New York branch, covering also the territory over which the general agency had jurisdiction. There may be, in the early future, some restricting of the western and southern states, when we will have more to say in detail concerning the company and its United States business. The appointment of Mr. Hughes is so natural, and so obviously fit, that it is simply what every one expected. We congratulate both agent and company.—*The Insurance Monitor* N. Y.

—The death is announced of Mr. Walter Bagehot, the accomplished editor of the London *Economist*, and the author of "The English Constitution" "Lombard Street" a description of the English money market, and "Physics and Politics"

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKET'S.

From our own Reporter.

MONTREAL, April 10th, 1877.

The winter may now be said to have left us, the snow has all gone and dusty streets are again the order of the day. The ice "shoved" on the river on Sunday night, and there is now a good deal of open water visible opposite the city, of course all crossing has ceased but it is not likely that the harbour will be clear of ice before the end of the week.

Although there has been a marked improvement in trade as compared with the previous week still there is no activity to report in any branch,

Wholesale houses are receiving orders to some extent for shipment by first boats, but few country buyers have yet been in the city, and those who have are buying very sparingly; although in many instances they have the making of their own prices. Flour is still firm and advancing but there is nothing doing in grain, Groceries are quiet with downward tendency. Hardware has been in better demand but prices are not satisfactory. Leather is quiet and prices generally favor buyers. Provisions are dull with downward tendency. Ashes are firm but unchanged. Drugs and chemicals are nominal. Furs are quiet and not much expected to be done till the spring Furs begin to come in, in another month.

ASHES.—*Pot.*—Firsts have been in fair demand during the week, prices have remained pretty steady since our last report, and the market closes to-day firm at a little above the figures of this day week, viz.: \$5.15 to 5.25. Very little movement in seconds, latest reported sale was at \$3.50. *Pearls.*—There is no change in the state of the market for this description of ash, and in the absence of receipts and sales quotations would be nominal. Stocks at present in store are: Pots, 3410 brls.; Pearls, 842 barrels.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—Prices are without change, few buyers in town and wholesale houses are working on orders sent in for shipment by first boats. More activity in business is looked for when the cheap rates of freight come into operation.

CATTLE.—Arrivals during the week have been comparatively small, but the demand has not been large, and prices are again coming to their normal condition, now that the fancy prices paid for Easter beef have ceased. First quality cattle have been selling from \$5.25 to 5.62½; second class ditto from \$4.75 to 5.12 and third class from \$3.50 to 4.50 per 100 lbs. *Sheep.*—Some fine animals for shipment to England were sold at \$6.00 per 100 lbs.

DRY GOODS.—There has been more activity noticeable in this branch of the wholesale trade, no doubt induced by the fine weather with which we are favored, a fair number of buyers have been in the city but their transactions have not been very heavy. Fancy goods have been in good demand. Clothing quiet, and in all branches of the trade more activity is expected as we near the opening of navigation. Remittances are still the subject of complaint from mostly all quarters.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—As yet there is little change of any moment to notice in this branch of trade; owing to stocks being well reduced prices as a rule are firm, and little change need now be looked for till the first arrivals from sea. Only small jobbing sales taking place within our range of quotations. We quote *Bi Carb* \$3.60 to 3.75 firm; *Sat Soda* \$1.45 to 1.50; *Caustic Soda* \$3.50 to 3.75; *Soda Ash* 1½ to 2c; *Copperas* 1½ to 1¼; *Alum* 2 to 2¼; *Epsom Salts* 2c; *Saltpetre* \$8.00 scarce; *Brimstone* \$2.75 to \$3.00; *Sulphur* \$3.50 to 3.75; *Bleaching Powder* 1½ to 2c; nominal *Blue Vitriol* firm at 6½ to 7c; *Cream Tartar* ground 29 to 30c; *Cream Tartar Crystals* 25 to 26c; *Borax* 12 to 14c *Madder* 10 to 12c.

FURS AND SKINS.—The spring furs have not begun to arrive yet and are not likely to do so for a month to come, and skins coming in just now readily command our quotations which are unchanged since this day week. *Beaver* \$1.50 to 2.00 *Black Bear* \$2.50 to \$8.00 according to size; *Fisher* \$4.00 to 8.00; *Silver Fox* \$20.00 to 35.00. *Cross Fox* \$2.00 to 3.00 *Red Fox* \$1.00 to 1.25 *Lynx* \$1.25 to 2.00 *Dark Labrador Martin* \$2.00 to 3.00 *Pale Martin* \$1.00 to 1.25; *Prime Dark Mink* \$2.00 ditto second \$1.00; *Muskrat*, winter, 12½; to 15c *Muskrat* spring 18 to 20c; *Raccoon* 30 to 50. *Skunk* 15 to 40c.