

not forthcoming, and that his representative finding himself unable to make up the deficiency, makes his escape across the lines, and defies all attempts of his late employers through the want of a proper extradition treaty. Many offices would be able to extend their business much beyond their present limits if the requisite facilities were given them to recover by legal process any property carried off by such agents, or otherwise criminally prosecute them. I know of no business that suffers so largely for want of a proper extradition treaty as that of Insurance generally, and all companies on both sides of the line ought to feel the necessity of urging on the passage of a stringent and comprehensive treaty to meet the urgency of the case.

Yours respectfully,  
A GENERAL INSURANCE AGENT.

#### THAT INSURANCE CIRCULAR.

To the Editor of the *Journal of Commerce*.

DEAR SIR,—Allow me through your columns to make known the personality of the author of the contemptible and libellous circular headed "Startling Facts," which for some time back has been circulated through the country, in the expectation, doubtless, that the business of a rival concern could be helped thereby, and that of the Canada Agricultural Company made to suffer. His name is James Bell of Annaprior. He represents there at present the Royal Canadian Insurance Company of Montreal, the Isolated Risk of Toronto, and the Ottawa Agricultural Insurance Company of Ottawa. The circular was prepared by him and printed in Annaprior, although pretending to issue from the town of Dundas.

Yours truly,  
INSURANCE.

Ottawa, Oct. 11th, 1876.

#### Commercial.

#### MONTREAL GENERAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, OCT. 12th, 1876.

A fair business continues to be done in most lines, and we note a continuation of the slightly better and more hopeful feeling noticed for the last fortnight. That this is partly due to the somewhat brisk character of the fall trade re-acting upon a season of over-cheap and perishable materials in the dry goods trade and a closer economy among the consuming classes in depriving themselves of many of the usual comforts and necessities in other departments, there is, perhaps, little doubt, but, apart from this, there are some few reliable indications that the longed for change is approaching. Among these the slight improvement in the money market is noticeable. The cheapness of money will have its effect as usual. The decrease in interest on deposits will likely draw out of the vaults some of the money hitherto locked up as long as high rates were paid by the banks. It is to be hoped that all the Canadian banks will join in a movement which cannot fail to hasten the approach to better times. The *Toronto Globe*, referring to business in that city says: "There is no doubt that business is improving. In every branch of industry men are handling a larger amount of goods, and speak more cheerfully of current affairs and future prospects. Produce is coming to market through out the country in considerable quantities, and we have not yet heard of the holding back which was so general last season, especially in wheat. Prices are very remunerative to farmers, and they would do well to sell without delay. There is a prospect of prices going higher, but we do not look for any important advance, keeping European complications out of view, for a good while to come."

**ASHES.**—The price of Pots has declined from \$4.67½ to \$4.72½ early in the week to \$4.50 to \$4.57½ at the close of first Sort. Seconds have been sold at \$3.37½ to \$3.40. Thirds are purely nominal. Receipts fair. **PEARLS.**—After going to press last week a sale of 100 brls. Firsts was made at \$6.00, since which 60 brls. have been

placed at \$6.02½. They close nominal at \$6.00 but perhaps a shade weaker. Nothing has been reported in Seconds. The receipts for the year are 11,473 brls. Pots, and 1,083 brls. Pearls; the Deliveries, 10,278 brls. Pots, and 1,156 brls. Pearls, and the stock in store this evening is 3,281 brls. Pots and 932 brls. Pearls.

**BOOTS AND SHOES.**—No changes worthy of notice since last reports. Orders for sorting up continue to come forward fairly, and as stocks in first hands are very low some little difficulty is experienced in supplying desirable lines so fast as wanted. Prices are firm and without change.—See *Prices Current*.

**CATTLE.**—The arrivals at Point St. Charles during past week were thirty-six carloads of cattle and nineteen carloads of hogs; six loads of the latter were from Chicago, four of them being double decked carloads intended for Messrs. Lord, Magor & Munn, to be killed in bond for export. Fifty-six head of cattle were shipped from this port last week on the SS. Mississippi. There will probably be a falling off in shipments, owing to the lateness of the season. There were fourteen carloads of cattle, five carloads of hogs and a mixed load of cattle and hogs on the market Monday. Drivers were: from London, four carloads of cattle; Ailsa Craig, three carloads; Kingston, two carloads, and Toronto and Brockville, one carload of cattle each. There were consignments from Guelph, St. Thomas and Lenoxxville; Mitchell contributed a mixed carload of cattle and hogs. Although the supply was pretty large, the demand was good, and prices were more than 25c. per 100 lbs. higher than a week ago, and fully 50c. the 100 lbs. higher than the prices paid a fortnight ago. Several good steers sold at the rate of \$5 per 100 lbs. Nearly all the cattle on the market had changed hands during the forenoon. The hogs, except those of the firm above named, were from London and Dorchester, and were bought readily at \$6.00 to 6.50 per 100 lbs., the former price being for inferior animals. The price of hogs is higher than for some time past. Prices of hides, skins and tallow unchanged.

**DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.**—In this line there has been considerable activity during the week, especially in Sal Soda, Soda Bicarb. and Caustic Soda, and several lots have changed hands at advanced figures. The stocks coming out this fall are lighter than usual, and this with the upward tendency in the English markets, have caused prices to go up here. We quote as follows:—Soda Ash, \$2 to \$2.25; Sal Soda, \$1.40 to \$1.60; Soda Bicarb., \$3.60 to \$3.75; Caustic Soda, 3½c. to 3½c.; Alum, 2c. to 2½c.; Bleaching Powder, 1½c. to 2c.; Extract of Logwood, bulk, 10c. to 11c., and packages in proportion.

**DRY GOODS.**—We are more than pleased to know that since the turn of this month money receipts have been such as to satisfy, some at least, and indicate that a change for the bet or is coming over the Dry Goods trade. The City retail trade has been well occupied this last week, and they would have even more cheerful reports to make, were it not for the evil effect produced by the frequent sales of large stocks, belonging to insolvent estates, being sold at about half what they cost. As is usual at this particular season, the wholesale people are doing but fairly, still enough to show that the country trade is recovering steadily.

**FISH.**—No new arrivals of Labradors, and holders still firm at \$5.75 to \$6.00; Anticosti selling readily at \$3.75 to \$1.00. A few lots of Bic Greenfish in market, but selling merely in a retail way, at \$6.25 for No. 1; \$5.35 to 5.50 for No. 2. Gaspé Dry fish, firm at \$5.75 to 6.00. Salmon dull at \$13.50, \$12.50 and \$11.50 for 1, 2 and 3. No Mackerel.

**FREIGHTS.**—Market is very firm, and 6s. 6d. has been paid for steam tonnage, and 6s. 3d. for iron clipper; 6s. 6d. is offered for next week, but 7s. is asked. Flour 3s. 6d. Provisions 40s.

**FURS AND SKINS.**—No change in business or prices. We quote:—Beaver, \$1.50 to \$1.75; Prime Black Bear, \$6 to \$12, according to size; Fisher, \$5 to \$7; Silver Fox, \$25 to \$60; Cross Fox, \$2 to \$5; Red Fox, \$1 25 to \$1.50; Lynx, \$1.50 to \$2.25; dark Labrador Martin, \$5.00 to \$7.00; pale Martin, \$1.50 to

\$2.00; prime fresh dark Mink \$2.00 to \$2.50; fine dark Otter, \$7 to \$9; Fall Muskrat, 13c.; Winter do, 15c. to 18c.; Spring do, 22c.; Raccoon, 25c. to 60c.; Skunk, 20c. to 50c.

**GRAIN AND FLOUR.**—As the season advances rates of insurance increase, and the quantity of tonnage offered is limited, freight owners ask in advance, and, as the home markets are rather dull, shippers cannot afford to pay last week's prices for Wheat or Flour. Since our last, No. 1 Canadian Spring has sold at \$1.18, but to-day shippers are not disposed to bid over \$1.16, same grade. Receipts of Flour continue largely in excess of local wants, and Spring Extra has declined 15c. to 20c. in the week. Superior Extra are still saleable in limited quantities at \$5.75.

**HARDWARE.**—There has been little to remark about during the week except that Pig Iron has advanced and shews a further tendency upwards.—See *Prices Current*.

**LEATHER.**—A very decided change for the better has taken place in this line the past week. Upper Leather, which could have been bought last week at 30c., is now held at 32c. to 33c., and very little inclination to sell at those prices. Sole Leather has not advanced in price, nor is it likely to do so unless a rise takes place in the States, then our market would follow. There is a large stock of Buff and Pebble in the market of all grades, and varying in price from 11c. to 15c. per foot. Splits continue scarce and meet with ready sale at fair prices. Slaughter Sole is offering at 22c., but not selling, will not be wanted before another month. The manufacturers are now getting up their samples for the Spring Trade, therefore are buying very little stock. Business, on the whole is satisfactory for the season.

**OILS.**—There has been a smart advance in Linseed Oil, in sympathy with English reports, and holders are firm at 2c. to 3c. higher than former prices; Raw is held at 55c. to 56c., and Boiled at 58c. to 60c., and the feeling is that it will advance farther. In other Oils there is no particular change to note, except a little firmer feeling in Olive Oil, of which stocks are light. Seal Oil retains the late advance, and Coal is firm and not much in the market. **Naval Stores.**—No change. **Paints.**—Still in good demand, with prices slightly lower than quoted for round lots.

**LUMBER.**—Nothing new to note in this business. A fair price can be obtained for good lots of Shipping Culls, but there are few in the market. Other lumber about as has been for some time past. The *Pembroke Observer* says: "The very general rumour to the effect that lumbering operations in the woods the coming winter will be greater than last year, seems to receive some confirmation from the number of shantymen who pass through here daily. Of course we have no means of knowing how many men are being sent up the numerous smaller streams that tap the Ottawa below Pembroke, nor even how many are being set at work by the lumbermen in the immediate neighbourhood, but of those going above here we can give a pretty fair estimate. We have taken the trouble to examine the registry book in the Copeland House, and find that, since the first of September, very nearly one thousand shantymen have put up there on their way up stream; and quite a number had passed up before that date, while others probably put up at the smaller hotels. A summary of the arrivals at the Ottawa House will give some idea of 'the way they come.' On Monday, 64 arrived; Tuesday, 80; Wednesday, 97; and last night, 73." We extract the following on the English timber trade from Messrs. Churchill and Sims, Circular:—The import of wood continues on a large scale. For the first eight months of the year, the wood tonnage into London has been 469,000 tons, as compared with 340,000 tons in 1875. The consumption is also large, the deliveries from the principal docks having been 100,500 standard hundred of sawn wood in 1874, 109,800 in 1875, against 118,500 in 1876; 67,400 loads timber in 1874, 78,100 in 1875, against 71,600 in 1876. The trade during the past month has been rather more active for Baltic deals than