

## Commercial.

## MONTREAL MARKET.

From our own Reporter

MONTREAL, Dec. 5, 1876.

This week we give the stock of flour and of all kinds of grain held here on the 1st inst. Wheat shows a decrease of 350,936 bushels as compared with the stock on the same date of 1875, while flour shows an increase of 8,771 brls., as compared with 1875. As the water was run off the Lachine canal yesterday, the mills will not have much to do this winter, so that the small stock of wheat will be more than is required here before the opening of navigation in 1877. The weather keeps cold with pretty severe frost, but as yet we have had no snow, the want of which is keeping farmers from a distance, from getting into market. The wholesale trade this week has been very light, most houses are busy either taking or preparing to take stock, and nothing of any consequence worth reporting is transpiring. Sugars apparently have touched their highest point and this week we note a decline on the previous week's prices, and holders seem more disposed to press sales, but no heavy transactions are taking place. Leather is still firm and for some kinds a further advance has been obtained. In general business we may look for quietness now till after their Christmas holidays.

**ASHES.**—Pots.—Business in Ashes this week has been quiet, the price of firsts has kept pretty steady at \$4.10 to 4.25 at which the principal sales were made, at the close of the market prices were a shade easier \$1.20 being the outside price. Seconds and thirds have been very little dealt in and prices are nominal. **Pearls.**—not much business reported and sales of firsts transpiring were at \$5.00 to 5.10 being the same quotations that ruled during the previous week. Inferiors are nominal. The stocks at present in store are Pots 2572 barrels Pearls 782 barrels.

**BOOTS AND SHOES.**—Very few orders coming to hand just now and stock taking is the order of the day; no activity is now looked for till the opening of the spring trade which is expected to be large as stocks in the hands of country merchants are unusually small. Quotations are firm but unchanged and higher prices are likely to rule with the spring goods.

**CATTLE.**—The limited supply of cattle during the week has caused an advance, however large arrivals yesterday tended to check it, but sales were if anything rather above those of the previous Monday say from \$3.50 to 5.00 per 100 lbs. live weight. **Hogs** were in plentiful supply and sold from \$5.00 to 5.75 per 100 lbs. live weight. **Sheep** \$4.00 to 4.50 per 100 lbs. **Dressed Hogs** are arriving but not very freely and are selling at \$6.50 to 7.00.

**DRY GOODS.**—Importing houses are now busy stock taking, and there are very few orders coming in. Stocks held here are small compared with previous years. Some demand for heavy goods is looked for as soon as winter roads are formed.

**DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.**—We have nothing of importance to note in this branch of the wholesale trade, there is a moderate jobbing demand at our quotations, which for round lots would no doubt be considerably shaded. Any changes on quotations are unimportant. We quote: **Bi Carb** \$3.75 to 4.00; **Sal Soda** firm at \$1.37½ to 1.50; **Caustic Soda** \$3.25 to 3.50; **Soda Ash** 2 to 2½c; **Copperas** 1½c; **Alum** 2 to 2½c; **Epsom Salts** 2c; **Salt-petre** \$8.00 to 8.50; **Brimstone** \$2.75 **Sulphur** \$3.50; **Bleaching Powder** 2 to 2½; **Blue Vitriol** firm at 6½ to 7½c; **Cream Tartar** ground 30c; **Cream Tartar Crystals** 26c; **Borax** 14 to 16c; **Madder** 9 to 12c.

**FURS AND SKINS.**—There is hardly any movement in skins worth reporting. No change has taken place in prices since this day week. Imports are still small for the season, but fair arrivals are looked for soon as country roads are in a good state for travelling. We quote **Beaver** \$1.75 to 2.00. **Bear** large \$8.00 to 10.00; ditto small \$4.00 to 7.00; **Fisher** \$6.00 to 8.00; **Silver Fox** \$25.00 to 60.00; **Cross Fox** \$2.00 to 5.00 **Red Fox** \$1.25 to 1.50; **Lynx** \$1.50 to 1.75; **Martin** dark Lab \$7.00 to 8.00; ditto pale \$1.25 to 1.50; **Mink** dark prime \$2.00 to 2.50; ditto dark and \$1.00 to 1.50; **Otter** find dark \$6.00 to 8.00; Fall **Muskrat** 12 to 15c; **Raccoon** 25 to 60c; **Skunk** 20 to 40c.

**FISH.**—The market rules very quiet. Stocks are not heavy but sufficient for the demand with the exception of green cod which is scarce and in demand. We quote: **Dry cod** quiet at \$5.00 to 5.25; **Green cod** \$5.00 to 7.00; **Labrador herrings** quiet at \$6.00 to 6.50; **Salmon** \$12, \$11 & \$10, for Nos. 1, 2 & 3, respectively.

**FREIGHTS.**—The rates of freight, via G. T. R. and Portland to Liverpool, this week are for heavy grain 7/-; Oats 7/6; Flour 4/6; Pots 40/-; Pearls 50/-; Butter and Cheese 6/- per gross ton.

**FLOUR.**—The stocks in store and in the hands of millers on the morning of the 1st inst. were 52,358 brls., against 63,764 brls. on the 15th ult. and 43,481 brls. in the 1st of December, 1875. Receipts during the past week 11,978 brls.; total receipts from 1st January to date 879,833 brls.; being a decrease of 110,216 brls. on the receipts for the corresponding period of 1875. Shipments during the week 9,829 brls.; total shipments from 1st January to date 734,001 brls. being a decrease of 103,948 brls. on the shipments for the corresponding period of 1875. Business during the bygone week has been entirely confined to the local demand; prices generally are firm with advancing tendency, and a very considerable advance has been obtained on all grades of flour since this day week. We now quote: **Superior Extra**, \$6.20 to 6.30; **Extra**, \$5.90 to 6.00; **Fancy**, \$5.70 to 6.00; **Spring Extra** \$5.30 to 5.35; **Superfine**, \$5.00 to 5.10; **Strong Bakers' Flour**, \$5.50 to 5.65; **Fine**, \$4.50 to 4.55; **Middlings**, \$3.75 to 4.00; **Pollards**, \$3.25 to 3.50; **Oatmeal**, \$5.20 to 5.50; **Cornmeal**, \$2.75 to 3.00.

**GRAIN.**—Wheat.—The stock in store and in the hands of millers on the morning of the 1st inst. was 105,374 bushels, against 148,090 bushels on the 15th ult., and 456,312 bushels on the 1st of December, 1875. Receipts during the past week 12,400 bushels; total receipts from the 1st January to date 6,383,730 bushels, being a decrease of 2,205,308 bushels on the receipts for the corresponding period of 1875. Shipments during the week 29,459 bushels; total shipments from 1st January to date 5,036,406 bushels, being a decrease of 1,986,716 bushels on the shipments for the corresponding period of 1875. There has been nothing done in wheat, and prices are quite nominal. **Maize**—Stock in store on the 1st inst. 31,094 bushels; nominal price 57 to 58c. **Peas**—Stock in store on 1st inst. 11,850 bushels; market firm, held at 85 to 87c per 66 lbs. **Oats**—Stock in store on the 1st inst. 28,799 bushels; market quiet at 37 to 40c. **Barley**—Stock in store on the 1st inst. 12,721 bushels; 60 to 65c are the present current rates.

**GROCERIES.**—Teas.—The demand for Japans has been small and confined to the supply of local wants, and only for the cheapest kinds; no alteration in price has to be noted. The remark applies to Black and Greens. **Coffee** is firm, owing to lightness of stocks held here the demand is confined to jobbing lots at about our quotations. **Java**, 28 to 32c; **Maracaibo**, 22 to 23½c; **Rio**, 23c; **Laguayra**, scarce at 23 to 24c. **Sugar**—There has been more disposition shown this week on the part of holders to press sales, and

in consequence the market has been weaker and prices show a decline on those ruling at the date of our last report, but business has been confined within very narrow limits. There have been sales of Scotch refined at 9½ to 10½c; American granulated, 11 to 11½c; dry crushed, 11½c; raw sugars are quiet, but maintain their values at 10 to 11½c. **Molasses**—The demand is light, owing, in a great measure, to the high prices asked by holders, stocks being comparatively small: Barbadoes, 48 to 50c; Centrifugal, 32½ to 35c; sugar house, 28 to 32c. **Syrups** are in moderate demand: Golden, 45 to 52c; amber, 62 to 68c. **Rice** is quiet and unchanged at \$3.90 to 4.00. **Spices** are firmer, and values of all kinds are well maintained: Black pepper, 11½ to 11¾c; white pepper, 21 to 22c; Jamaica ginger bleached, 22½ to 23c; do. unbleached, 20 to 21c; cassia, 18 to 19c; cloves, 40 to 42½c; nutmegs, 80 to 90c; pimento scarce at 11c. **Fruit**—Market very quiet; prices still rule very low and not very satisfactory to importers. The demand has been confined to job lots at our quotations, but for round lots concessions would be made: stocks are pretty full. We quote layer raisins \$1.55 to 1.60; Valencias, 7 to 7½c; Sultanais, 10 to 11c; loose Muscatels, \$1.75 to 1.90; currants, 5½ to 6½c; prunes, 6 to 6½c, but small demand; hgs, 10½ to 12½c for small boxes; filberts, 8½ to 9c; walnuts, 6 to 8c; s. s. almonds, 11 to 14½c.

**HARDWARE.**—During the past week business has gone into the usual quietness for the season of the year, and merchants are busy stock-taking. There has been nominally no change on prices since last report. We quote: **Pig Iron**—Eglington and Clyde \$19.75 to 20.25; Summerlee \$20.50 to 21.00; Langloan & Gartsherrie \$22.50 to 23.00; Calder \$22.00 to 22.50; Hematite \$26.00 to 27.00. **Bar**, per 100 lbs., Scotch and Staffordshire, \$2.00 to 2.05; best do., \$2.25 to 2.35. **Swedes and Norway** \$4.75 to 5.00; Lowmoor and Bowling, \$6.00 to 6.50. **Canada Plates** per box, Glamorgan and Budd, \$3.60 to 3.75; Garth and Penn \$3.75 to 3.85; Arrow \$3.75 to 3.85; Hatton \$3.40 to 3.50. **Tin Plates** per box, good brands—Charcoal IC, \$7.00 to 7.25; ditto, IX, \$9.00 to 9.25; ditto DC, \$6.00 to 6.25; Coke IC, \$6.00 to 6.25; 14 x 20, 25c ex. **Tinned sheets** Charcoal best No. 26, 12½ to 13c. **Galvanized sheets** best brands No. 28, 8½ to 9c per lb. **Hoops and Bands** \$2.60 to 2.65. **Sheets** best brands, \$2.75 to 3.00; **Roiler Plates** ordinary brands \$2.75 to 3.00; do Best brands \$3.25 to 3.50; **Russian Sheet Iron** 12 to 13c; **Cut Nails**, 2 d Lath, \$4.50; ditto, 2½d to 4 d shingle \$3.70; do., 5d to 10d, \$3.20; do. 12d & larger 2.90; 100 keg order 5 per cent. discount. **Cut nails** patent Chisel pointed 25c extra. **Pressed Spikes** \$4.00 to 5.0. **Shot Canadian** \$7 to 7.25. **Lead**—Pig, per 100 lbs 5.50 to \$6.00; do sheets 6.00 to \$6.50; do Bar, 6.00 to \$6.50; **Steel** cast, 12 to 14c; Spring \$4.00 to 4.25; Sleigh Shoe \$3.25 to 3.50; Tire ditto, \$3.75 to 4.00. **Ingot Tin** 19 to 20c; **Ingot Copper**, 19 to 20c. **Horse Shoes** \$4.50 to 4.75; **Proved Coil Chain**, 8 in., \$5.50 to 5.75; **Anchor** 7 to 8c; **Anvils** 10 to 11c. **Iron wire** \$2.00 to 2.20.

**HIDES AND PELTS.**—The advance noted on hides this day week has been maintained, the demand at present being beyond the supply. We now quote No. 1 hides \$6.50; No. 2 ditto \$5.50; No. 3 ditto \$5.50. **Sheepskins**—We now quote \$1.00, those coming in being chiefly packing skins.

**LEATHER.**—The demand for the Boot and Shoe trade continues light as is usual at this season, but prices are firm with advancing tendency. **Spanish and Slaughter sole** are held firmly at outside figures, and with resumption of brisk demand prices will probably advance. **Upper and Splits** are only in fair inquiry, but stocks are not heavy, and prices are firm.