

of 1870. The duties collected were \$214,221 for the month, and \$403,633 for the three months as against \$167,107 and \$276,992 for the corresponding periods of 1870.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—Trade has been very brisk during the past week, and a large amount of goods has been shipped. Prices are firm and unchanged.

DRUGS.—Business has been moderately active, though there has been no special demand for goods. There is no change to note in quotations.

DRY GOODS.—There has been a great deal of activity in this branch of trade during the week, many buyers having been in town and purchasing in not a few instances with freedom. Still in a majority of cases a fair degree of caution has been observed on the part of buyers, and it is to be hoped they have not overloaded themselves. The winter stocks reported as having to be carried over to next season are not represented as above an average. Collections are only fair, but considered good, when the light crop of last harvest and the present impassable state of the roads are taken into account. The imports for the month of March were unusually heavy of all articles, the increase in woollens being \$48,741, and in cotton \$106,640, as compared with the corresponding month of last year. The following are the figures for the month and three months:—

	1870.	1871.
Woollens.....	\$194,010	\$242,751
Cottons.....	324,984	431,624
Silks and Velvets.....	\$9,879	134,570
Fancy Goods.....	85,568	108,329

	1870.	1871.
Woollens.....	\$324,660	\$437,619
Cottons.....	504,842	756,066
Silks and Velvets.....	116,492	171,046
Fancy Goods.....	140,759	147,727

FREIGHTS.—Are dull, very little flour or grain offering, except barley, of which some cargoes have been taken. Shipments of lumber have also commenced; the first cargo consisting of 115,000 feet, per schooner *Evelleen*, to Oswego, at \$1.50 U.S. currency. By rail, the chief freights which have recently offered, have consisted of box bacon and hams, of which a considerable quantity has been shipped to Liverpool. Some butter has also been taken for the same destination. The following are the spring rates on the Grand Trunk now in operation:—Flour to Kingston, 25c., grain, 13c.; flour to Prescott or Brockville, 30c., grain, 15c.; flour to Montreal, 35c., grain, 18c.; flour to Quebec, 55c., grain, 28c.; flour to St. John, N.B., 90c., grain, 45c.; flour to Halifax, 95c., grain, 48c.; flour to New York, 75c., grain, 38c.; flour to Boston, 80c., grain, 40c. gold. The steamers *Chase* and *Carlotta* leave Portland for Halifax on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The St. Lawrence canals will probably be open for business by the 20th, and the steamers of the Royal Mail Line will probably commenced running the last week of the month.

GROCERIES.—Trade has improved somewhat, and a good many sales have been made principally to general dealers who have come to town for their dry goods and who are buying to sort up their stock of groceries. The regular trade can hardly be said to have commenced yet, and no heavy business can be expected until the roads have become better. The imports for March for the leading articles were light both as compared with the previous month and with march of last year. They were as follows for the articles named:—

	1870.	1871.
Sugar.....	644,381	lbs. 85,029
Tea, green and Japan.....	\$ 33,699	\$ 4,850
“ black.....	\$ 55,777	\$ 25,279
“ “.....	\$ 8,674	lbs. 8,349
“ “.....	\$ 2,199	\$ 2,655
Coffee, green.....	13,573	lbs.
“ “.....	\$ 1,947	\$
Dried fruits and nuts.....	\$ 293	\$ 405

	1870.	1871.
Sugar.....	1,045,421	lbs. 624,065
Tea, green and Japan.....	\$ 54,643	\$ 34,918
“ black.....	\$ 69,376	\$ 75,059
“ “.....	\$ 24,962	lbs. 28,912
Coffee, green.....	\$ 8,088	\$ 10,092
“ “.....	\$ 56,978	lbs. 19,208
Dried fruits and nuts.....	\$ 7,472	\$ 2,106
“ “.....	\$ 1,261	\$ 2,345

Coffee.—A small sorting up trade has been done at unchanged quotations. **Fish.**—The market is generally bare of all kinds, but there is very little demand, and prices are without change. **Fruit.**—The demand has been almost confined to small lots, which have been sold within the range of quotations. **Rice.**—has only been dealt in to a small extent, and prices are without alteration. **Spices.**—quiet and unchanged. **Sugars.**—Holders of raw are firm at prices quoted which are above the views of holders, but which are relatively cheaper than refined yellows, and which are lower than the same goods could now be laid down here either direct from Cuba or from New York. An impression appears to prevail here that prices must soon rule lower, but there seems to be no good ground for expecting any such reduction. **Whites** are stationary for the present. **Teas.**—Few moving at private sale except in small lots. The result of trade sale for account of Messrs. Cramp, Torrance & Co., is not known at time of writing. **Tobacco.**—The market is a little easier for bright sorts, which may now be quoted down to 35c.

HARDWARE.—There has been a good many orders booked during the past week, principally, however, for spades and shovels and for nails, which articles have become a necessity throughout the country. There is no change, whatever, to note in prices. The imports for March were of hardware, \$17,803 and of iron paying 5 per cent., \$5,804, as against \$13,732 and \$6,343 for the corresponding month of 1870.

HIDES AND SKINS.—Hides are unchanged in price. Receipts continue fair, with a not very brisk demand. Several lots of western offering at prices which prevent any advance in domestic. Sheepskins come in pretty fairly, and are in active demand, all arriving finding ready sale at advancing prices. **Calfskins.**—Are in increasing supply but meet a good demand at higher prices than have been recently paid, green being now taken at 12c.; cured are unchanged.

LEATHER.—The market has been more active during the past few days, and prices are firm for all kinds of desirable stock, with the exception of Canadian calf, stocks of which have been gradually accumulating, and which is now a slow sale. French calf scarce and firm.

PAINTS AND OILS.—A fair amount of business, prices entirely without change.

PETROLEUM.—Trade very dull. No further change in prices.

PRODUCE.—There has been little change in the grain and breadstuffs market since last week, although prices generally are very firm, and in some instances an advance on previous rates has been obtained. **Flour.**—the market opened quiet, with sellers at \$5.80 to \$5.85, and no buyers for investment over \$5.60; single hundreds taken at \$5.75 to \$5.80 for local consumption. Under favorable advices from England the market became somewhat firmer, and buyers were reported to have offered \$5.80 for superfine without result. Spring extra was held at \$6; fancy and extra, nominal. In store on the 31st ult., 27,345 barrels. **Wheat.**—business has been done to a very small extent, being limited by the very wide divergence between the views of buyers and sellers. White wheat has generally been held at \$1.50 with buyers offering \$1.40. Treadwell was offered on the track at \$1.40 without buyers. A car of deihl sold at \$1.35, f.o.b.; at Oakville. Spring is held at \$1.40, with buyers offering \$1.35, and no sales reported. Stock in store, 31st ult.,

75,370 bushels fall, and 51,801 bushels spring. **Barley.**—the demand has been gradually improving under the influence of small receipts and stocks reduced by shipment of several cargoes across the lake. Few transactions, however, have taken place, so far as made public, although some round lots are believed to have changed hands at outside figures. At the close holders were firm at 70c. to 72c. for No. 1 in store, with buyers at 69c. to 71c.; receipts, ex farmers' waggons, being taken principally at 70c. No. 2 is held at 62c. to 64c. in stores, with a sale of one lot at 66c. on the cars, equal to about 64c. in store. In store, on the 31st ult., 70,311 bushels. **Oats.**—the market has been inactive, but prices have been pretty well maintained at about 51c. to 64c., holders at the close offering at 52c. for car lots on the track, and buyers at 51c. to 52c. In store on the 31st ult. 34,952 bus. **Peas.**—There has been very little doing, holders asking 90c in store and f. o. b., about 5c above the views of buyers, who do not seem inclined to increase their offers, even under the influence of an advance of 1s. per qr. in the Liverpool markets. No transactions consequently have taken place except in a retail way. In store on the 31st ult. 17,078 bus. **Seeds.**—Clover is in demand only for small lots, which are taken at \$4.40 to \$4.60, holders of round lots asking \$5, without buyers. Timothy has been taken at \$4.40 for a lot of choice, but there is no demand, and prices are nominal at from \$4 to \$4.40. **Hay** has been in pretty fair supply at \$9 to \$14 50. **Straw.**—Receipts have somewhat improved, selling at \$7.50 to \$9.

PROVISIONS.—The market has been quiet, and the receipts generally small. Prices are steady and generally unchanged. **Eggs** are coming in rather more plentifully, and prices are somewhat easier, now quoted at 13c. to 14c. **Pork** has sold in a limited way at \$20.50 to \$21, but no buyers of round lots over \$19.50. A small round lot of Cumberland bacon and hams is reported to have changed hands at 9c. all round.

OIL MATTERS AT PETROLIA.

From our Own Correspondent)

PETROLIA, April 3, 1871.

During the first part of last week, crude oil was held firm at rather advanced rates, but towards the close the market showed symptoms of decline, and from five to ten cents less per barrel was accepted for some prime lots. The production of crude for the last week was in excess of the week previous, and is estimated at about 1,000 barrels per day. The shipments have been decidedly less, being only some 16 to 18 cars per day.

The large still is in full blast, and Englehart & Co. are still actively engaged in shipping for export, though the New York market is rather against them at present.

The McMillan well has not proved a large one, but may be called a good eight-barrel well. The Hyde well has not yet been fairly tried. There are several wells going down in the vicinity of the old Ironsides (Parson's well), but as yet none of them are finished.

There have been no sales of territory to note this week, and oil lands have not been much enquired after. The sales of oil have been merely to supply immediate demands, and matters at present are rather at a stand-still, the flattening of the market being the cause.

Good Crude, 32 sp. gr., per brl....\$1 30 to \$1 40
Refined, per gal..... 0 18 0 20

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—Traffic for week ending March 10th 1871.

Passengers.....	\$25,053 54
Freight and Live Stock.....	66,126 52
Mails and Sundries.....	1,997 71

Total Receipts for week.....	\$93,177 77
Corresponding week, 1870 ..	\$4,352 66

Increase..... \$8,825 11