TORONTO MARKET.

In the business of the past week there has been a slight improvement as compared with several weeks preceeding it, but trade is still dull and merchants are anxiously looking for snow in order to form good winter roads. The weather at the time of writing is unsettled, but appearances would lead to the belief that winter will soon set in earnest, and despatches give the information that it is even now snowing in sections to the north east of Toronto, so it is not unlikely that business may shortly take a fresh start.

The imports at this port for the month of November are again heavy, very greatly in excess of those for the corresponding month of last year, the goods taken out of bond being nearly equal to the total imports. The following statement shows the imports for November, and for 11 months of this and last year:—

	1869.	1870.
Imports, November	$554,521	$764,619
Previous ten months	5,977,282	7,600,817
Total to Nov. 30	$6,531,803	$8,365,436
Increase 1870		$1,833,633

A certain proportion of the increase in the imports of last month must be laid to the account of wheat and grain, but exactly how much cannot at present be known as there is no detailed statement of grain for last year, as it did not then pay any duty. The total imports, however, of grain for November only, amounted to $61,807, so that there is still a large margin for increase in the ordinary imports, say $150,000.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—There is nothing special to note in this branch of trade, which continues moderately active for the season of the year, with no change in prices, which are firmly maintained.

DRUGS.—Business continues quiet, and prices are generally unchanged.

DRY GOODS.—There has been some little trade during the past week, with a fair number of buyers from towns on the lines of railways; but the business done has been chiefly confined to sorting up stocks, and few heavy orders have been taken. Remittances come in with scarcely as much promptness as desirable, and the anticipations expressed at the opening of the fall trade have not been realized. It is to be hoped there will soon be some improvement in this respect. The following figures show the imports for last month and from January 1st:—

	For November, 1869.	1870.
Woollens	$45,224	$57,534
Cottons	35,122	54,164
Silks and Velvets	13,436	19,172
Fancy Goods	20,720	14,681
	Since January 1st, 1869.	**1870.**
Woollens	$1,052,202	$1,433,723
Cottons	1,095,879	1,404,765
Silks and Velvets	297,022	368,133
Fancy Goods	379,913	463,859

FREIGHTS.—The following are the winter rates on the Grand Trunk, now in operation: Flour to Kingston, 35c., grain 18c.; flour to Prescott, 43c., grain 22c.; flour to Montreal, 50c., grain 25c.; flour to St. Johns, Q., 60c., grain 25c.; flour to Point Levis, 80c., grain 40c.; flour to St. John, N. B. $1.02, grain 51c.; flour to Halifax, $1.10, grain 55c.; flour to New York and Boston, 90c., grain 45c., gold. The steamers Chase and Carlotta leave Portland for Halifax on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

GROCERIES.—There has been rather more doing in this branch of business, the demand being chiefly for goods suitable for the holiday season, fruit, &c. Prices are generally unaltered, but Layer and M. R. Raisins are somewhat easier, and may be quoted at $1.90 to $2 for the former, and $1.70 to $1.80 for the latter, with the market fully supplied, and round lots purchasable below these figures. Valencias are held at 8c. to 8½c. Currants are in fair supply and demand, and prices are moderately firm at 6c. for the crop of 1869, and 7c. to 7½c. for new fruit. There has been a fair business done in Teas, there being a good demand for low grades, which are now held more firmly. There is also some enquiry for the finer grades of Young Hysons, which are in small stock. Japans are flat. Blacks are neglected. There is very little doing in Sugars, and no change to note in prices. The following are the imports for November and from January 1st, for the articles named:—

	For November, 1869.	1870.
Tea, Green and Japan	$16,893	$35,651
Tea, Black	167	8,435
Sugar	30,687	59,550
Brandy, Gin and Rum	3,036	10,043
Dried Fruits and Nuts	30,687	59,550
	Since Jan. 1st, 1869.	**1870.**
Tea, Green and Japan	$302,569	$426,905
Tea, Black	58,341	89,901
Sugar	125,181	253,541
Brandy, Gin and Rum	36,074	58,512

HARDWARE.—There has been a little more doing during the past few days, but the delivery of goods is greatly checked by the bad state of the roads, and in some instances they are being ready packed waiting for orders to be shipped when country transportation becomes possible. *Pig Iron*—has recently been becoming scarce for the leading brands sold in the Canadian market, and prices have advanced in consequence, both here and in Montreal. Glengarnock is especially wanted, and would sell readily at $25 to $26, according to quantity. Gartsherrie is worth about the same money. Eglinton is obtainable at 50c. below these prices. Calder is in little better supply, but has also advanced, and is now held at $25 for No. 1, and $24 for No. 3. *Bar Iron*—is in only moderate supply, and Montreal holders have advanced their quotations $4 per ton; here, however, no advance has as yet taken place, although prices are very firmly maintained. there is no change to note in any other articles. The imports for November last were of hardware, $27,111, and of dutiable iron $19,023, against in 1869; hardware $20,729, and dutiable iron $12,167.

HIDES AND SKINS.—Receipts of *Hides* have been light, and are equal to the demand, but there are no buyers at prices over late quotations. *Sheepskins* also come in slowly, and are readily taken at $1.

LEATHER.—There continues to be a good demand for all desirable stock, with the exception of *Harness*, which is still in over stock and almost unsaleable. *Spanish Sole* has become scarce, though without any pressing demand or any change in price. Native *Calf* is in request and prices are firm with an upward tendency.

OILS AND PAINTS.—Not very much doing, and no particular change in prices. Common Olive is, however, a little lower, selling at $1.20 to $1.25.

PROVISIONS.—The market has again been quiet, and receipts generally have been very limited, owing to the condition of the roads. *Butter*—is in small supply for choice, with some demand at up to 18c. for really prime; ordinary and inferior lots are hardly wanted at any price. *Cheese*—is unchanged, meeting a fair local demand. *Eggs*—Nothing new to report, there being a very small business passing. *Pork*.—There has been some little enquiry for New Mess recently, with a view to future purchases from the Ottawa and other lumbering districts, but no transactions are reported. The markets all over the Continent have gradually been drooping since the new product has been coming in, and prices here have given way in sympathy. Mess may now be quoted at $19 to $19.50, and Thin Mess at $18 to $19. No Prime nor extra Prime in market. *Lard*—sells freely for city consumption at 12½c. *Dressed Hogs*.—Receipts both by rail and waggon have been very light, and all coming in are taken at $6.50 to $6.75 for Mess, and $6 to $6.50 for medium weights.

MONEY.—Sterling Exchange, 60 days' sight, or 75 days date, 109¼ to 109¾; Gold Drafts on New York ¼ prem.; Currency Drafts on New York, or Greenbacks, 90 to 90¼; American Silver, large, 5 to 6; small, 7 to 10 discount. Gold in New York has varied little during the week, closing with small business at 119¾.

OIL MATTERS AT PETROLIA.

(From our Own Correspondent.)

PETROLIA, Dec. 12, 1870.

Messrs. Minhinnich & Montcrief, of London, have struck a good well, yielding 25 barrels per day. Messrs. Oliver & Conzelle, of this place, have also struck one about the same size. Mr. Dunlop's well proves to be about 75 barrels per day.

The Craise, Reynolds and Lancy wells have considerably fallen off—at least, more than half. The other wells in the neighborhood, being out of order, the production for the past week is not above half the quantity named in my last report.

The shipments are about the same. Refiners are still working briskly, and there is a good demand for all the crude produced. Prices are about the same, with a slight downward tendency. There is nothing new in the export line.

Crude, per brl	$1 55 to	$1 65
Refined, per gal	0 20	0 22

MONTREAL LEATHER REPORT.

(Reported by M. H. Seymour, Commission Merchant.)

MONTREAL, Dec. 13, 1870.

Since the first of the month the principal boot and shoe manufacturers have been engaged in stock taking as is usual at this season, consequently, the demand for consumption has not been so active, still a fair amount of business has been done in first class stock, which has not accumulated.

Spanish Sole, is in very limited supply, which tends to keep prices firm, and while hides rule as high as they now do, there is no prospect of any concessions.

Slaughter Sole.—A fair enquiry exists, and for strictly prime, of good average, recent sales shew an advance, ruling figures bring 27 to 28c. according to quality.

Rough.—Light weights, suitable for currying purposes, meet with ready sale, at same prices as Slaughter.

Harness.—Is not so much enquired for, and prices may be considered as having receded slightly.

Waxed Upper.—There is no demand whatever at the moment, holders are not as firm in prices. Sales in quantity could not be effected except at a reduced rate.

Buff and Pebble.—Sales of approved makes continue to be freely made, at outside quotations, while all inferior stock is difficult to move, even at minimum rates.

Patent and Enamel.—A better enquiry prevails and sales are increasing.

Splits.—Medium and light are in moderate request, while heavy are more quiet.

Calfskins.—There is no special inquiry, but good prime stock, particularly of heavy average, can be placed with less difficulty.

Sheepskins.—Light russets are not abundant, and command ready sale. Colours have been less plentiful, and stocks have become reduced.

—During the first eleven months of this year the sales of salt, at Goderich, amounted to 121,000 brls., it is expected, says a local journal, that 250,000 barrels will be put on the market in 1871.