

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKET.

From our own Reporter.

Montreal, 13th Feb.

The heavy snow storm which was noticed in our last report, ceased on Tuesday night. This was the heaviest fall of snow we have had this winter; traffic on the railways was somewhat impeded, but has now resumed its usual course. The country roads are in a good state for travelling. The temperature has been mild with a good deal of thaw yesterday and to-day.

Business has not been very active this week, although a number of small buyers have been in town; but few heavy orders are yet to hand. Dry Goods travellers are now out and a good deal of business is now looked for. In Breadstuffs, there has been rather more doing among local dealers, but very little speculative demand exists. Groceries have met with fair enquiry and prices are very firm. Ashes have been in active demand, but prices are lower. Provisions are quiet. In freights there is no change to notice. We understand that Mr. David Shaw has been appointed agent here for the new line of steamships from Liverpool to Montreal.

ASHES.—*Pots.*—There has been large transactions in firsts during the week, but holders have been compelled to give way in their demands to effect sales. The transactions which we have reported were at \$7.40, 7.30, 7.25, and 7.20, market closing firmer at \$7.25 to 7.35, with an upward tendency; seconds and thirds are scarce and nominal. *Pearls.*—Owing to the scarcity of this kind of ash, there has been no business doing, and the stock in store is now very small. The nominal quotation is \$8.20. The stocks now in store are 541 brls. *Pots.* and 35 brls. *Pearls.* against 364 brls *Pots.* and 562 brls. *Pearls.* at same date 1871.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—Orders from the west are not coming in so freely as was expected at this time—this is owing principally to the large stock which has been carried over by country dealers. A brisk trade, however, is expected to be done shortly; in the meantime, prices are stated to be without change, but are very firm.

CATTLE.—There has been a fair supply of cattle on the market; the demand has been good and sales effected were, for first-class cattle, \$7 to \$7.50; second class \$6; third class \$5. Milk cows \$25 to 50. *Steep* have been in moderate demand at \$4 to 6 per head, and lambs at \$2.50 to 3.

COAL AND FIREWOOD.—The demand in this trade continues active, but there is no change to note in prices, which are firm. The stocks of coal are getting very low and will not be sufficient to last till the receipts due on the opening of navigation are to hand.

DRESSED HOGS.—The receipts still continue much in excess of the demand, and the advices from the west have had the effect of depressing the market; the amount realized is \$5 to 5.25 per hundred lbs.; some heavy weights are reported to have brought \$5.40, but this is far above the market value.

DRY GOODS.—There has been a marked improvement in this business during the week. Travellers are now out, but, as yet, not many orders have been sent in; what have been received are considered to be satisfactory. The city houses are buying freely in anticipation of higher prices about the middle of spring. Cottons and Woollens are still advancing in price.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—The demand this week has been very light and prices are without change, except for cream tartar. Crystals are now quoted at 25c., and Ground Cream Tartar 27c to 30; Soda is also a shade higher; Bi Carb is firm at \$5; Sal Soda \$1.90 to 2; Caustic Soda 42c to 44; Soda Ash 22c to 3. In other

goods in this line we have no change to note; stocks are reported to be much under the average at this season of the year.

FISH.—There has been a good demand for Dry Cod at \$4½ to \$4½, and Green Cod at \$4½ to \$5½; Salmon has met a fair enquiry at \$15.75 to \$16; Labrador Split Herrings have changed hands to some extent at \$4½ to \$5, and Canso split at \$3½ to \$4½.

FURS.—In this market there is no change to note in prices, and it is not expected that any alteration will take place for some time yet, prices keep firm, and we continue to quote—Cross fox \$4; red fox \$1.25 to 1.50; pale martin \$1.50 to 2.50; mink \$3.50 to 4; bear \$7 to 10; lynx \$1.50; fisher \$5 to 6; beaver \$1.40 to 1.60; fall muskrat 10c; otter \$7 to 8; racoon 40c to 50; skunk 20c. to 50.

FLOUR.—Receipts during the past week 9,900 brls.; total receipts from 1st January to date 58,389 brls., being an increase of 25,726 brls. on the receipts for the corresponding period of 1871. There has been no active demand this week either for present or future delivery of round lots; in the local trade there has been an improved business done within our range of quotations, and at the close the market showed more firmness, and a slight advance in some brands was obtained. We now quote—Extra, \$6.20 to 6.25; Fancy, \$6.05 to 6.10; Ordinary Supers from Canada Wheat, \$5.80 to 5.85; Strong Bakers' Flour, \$6 to 6.20; Canada Super No. 2, \$5.40 to 5.45; Fine, \$4.75 to 4.80; Middlings, \$3.80 to 4; Pollards, \$3.25 to 3.50; Upper Canada Bags, \$2.82½; Oatmeal, \$4.75 to 5; Cornmeal, \$3.25.

GRAIN.—*Wheat*—Receipts for the past week 10,675 bush.; total receipts from 1st January to date 37,975 bush., being an increase of 37,275 bush. on the receipts for the corresponding period of 1871. There have been no transactions in the cereal reported during the week, and prices remain nominal, and we do not repeat them. *Maize*—Has changed hands in small quantities at 65c. per bush. *Oats*—Prices are steady at 33c. to 35c., but the demand has been very limited. *Barley*—Market quiet, but steady at 52½c. to 57½c. *Peas*—There were some sales during the week ex-cars at 77c. to 80c. *Flax Seed*—Is steady and sells readily at \$1.40 to 1.50 for good to choice samples. *Clover Seed*—In fair demand at 11c. to 11½c.

GROCERIES.—*Teas*—A shade higher prices have been obtained this week for most grades of tea, and the demand for local wants has been brisk, we, however, do not alter the range of quotations given last week. *Sugars*—We quote Porto Rico, \$9 to 9.50; Cuba, \$8.75 to 9; Barbadoes, \$9 to 9.50; Scotch refined, \$9.50 to 10.25. This market is very firm and most grades are held at our outside figure, some Scotch refined was sold at \$9.75, but the stock of this sugar held here is very small. Local refined is in good demand and sells freely Loaves at 14½c.; Dry Crushed, 13½c.; Table Ground, 13½c.; Crushed A, 12c.; Yellow refined 9½c. to 10½c. *Molasses*—This market has been very quiet, and in the absence of transactions, we do not give quotations. *Fruit*—There has been a very limited demand for Layer Raisins, \$2.17½ to 2.25 can be obtained; Valencias, 6½c. to 6½; Currants are dull of sale, 6½c. to 6½c.; Walnuts, 7c. to 10c.; Turkey Figs, 10c. to 16c. *Coffee*—Prices are very firm, stocks of all kinds except Java are low, some sales of which were made this week at from 21c. to 25½c.; Laguayra is quoted at 19c. to 20c.; Maracaibo, 19½c. to 21c.; Jamaica, 19c. to 20c.; Rio, 18½c. to 19c. *Rice*—The supply of this article is hardly equal to the demand; prices are consequently very firm at \$4.25 to 4.50. *Spices*—Prices of all kinds are firm and tend upwards; stocks are very low; we now quote Cassia at 30c. to 35c.; Cloves, 8½c. to 9½c.; Nutmegs, 80c. to \$1;

Jamaica Ginger, 16c. to 17c.; Black Pepper, 15½c. to 16c.

HARDWARE.—We have again to notice an increased firmness in this department of trade, and as will be observed, a great advance is made in our quotations this week for most articles, and English advices make it probable that a further advance will shortly take place. Orders from travellers are coming in freely, and full prices are obtained. We now quote—*Pig Iron*—Coltness or Gartsherrie, \$30 to \$35; Calder or Summerlee, \$28 to 30; other brands, \$28 to 30; hematite, \$30 to 32. *Bars*, Scotch or Staffordshire, \$65 to 70; best refined, \$70 to 75; Swedes, \$100 to 120. *Hops and Band*—\$3.75 to 6.00. *Sheets*—\$4.00 to 5. *Plates*—Best—\$4.00 to 4.75; Low Moor or Bowling, \$7 to 8; cut nails, \$4 to 4.50; pressed nails, \$5.00 to 8.00; spikes, \$4.00 to 5.00. *Canada Plates*—\$4.50; Swansea, \$5.25; *Tin Plates*—Charcoal, I. C., \$9.50 to 10.00; ditto, I. X., \$11.50 to 12.00; coke, I. C., \$7.50 to 8; sheet lead, \$7 to 7.50; pig lead, \$6 to 7; sheet zinc, \$7.00; window glass, \$2.00; cast steel, 13c to 16c; spring steel, 4½ to 6; sleigh shoe 4½c. to 5; potash kettles, \$2.25 to 3; camp ovens, \$3.50 to 3.60; belled pots, \$3.50 to 3.60.

LEATHER.—Business this week has been quiet, and the sales do not foot up to a large amount. The principal demand has been for slaughter sole, the stock of which is now very low. Upper leather, though we do not change quotations, is, if anything, a shade dearer. We continue to quote:—Sole leather, No. 1, B.A., 26c to 27; No. 2, ditto, 24c to 25; Buffalo sole, No. 1, 22c; No. 2, ditto, 20c; calf sole, 48c to 50; Light waxed upper 44c to 46; Heavy, ditto, 42c to 44; Grain upper 43c to 45; Large Splits 30c to 35; Russets 30c to 40; Light waxed calf skins 70c to 75; Heavy, ditto, 75c to 85; Harness 31c to 33; Rough Leather 28c to 30; Pink linings 4.70 to 5.50; Red Roans \$6.50 to 8; Patent cow 19½c to 20; Enamel cow 19c.

LIQUORS.—*Brandy*—Prices are a shade easier; there have been sales of the favorite brands at \$2.15 to \$2.25 in wood, and \$7½ to \$8 in cases. *Gin*—Continues very firm and is still held for \$1.32½ to \$1.35 for Du Kuypers; Scheidam green cases, \$3.50 to 3.62½; red cases, \$6.50 to 6.70. *Rum*—Is inquired for at \$1.90 to 2.00 for 16 o.p. *High Wines*—There has been a large demand for this article, and sales are readily effected for round lots at \$1.47½ to \$1.50 for Upper Canada brands, and \$1.50 to \$1.52½ for Montreal manufacture.

NAVAL STORES.—We have again to notice an advance in the price of Spirits of Turpentine, which are now held firm at 95c. to 97½c.; the stock here at present is very low. There has not been much demand for Rosins and Tar, prices of which are unchanged and market closed dull.

OILS.—We have not much business to report, the market having been very dull all week. Prices are pretty steady as follows:—*Raw Linseed*, 72½c. to 75c.; *boiled linseed*, 77½c. to 82c.; *cod oil*, 51½c. to 52½c.; *pale seal oil*, 60c. to 64c.; *steam refined seal*, 62½c. to 65c.; *straw seal*, 52½c. to 57½c.; *olive oil*, \$1 to 1.10. *Petroleum*—Market quiet, some car loads changing hands at 33c. to 35c.

PROVISIONS.—*Butter*, Receipts during the past week, 370 kegs; shipments, 477 kegs. This market has been almost at a stand still, and none but the choicest samples can be moved and even that only in small quantities. We quote store packed western nominal, 14c. to 15c.; choice western dairy, 20c. to 21c.; choice eastern township dairy, 23c. to 24. *Cheese*—Receipts none; shipments, 285 boxes; there is a good demand existing for shipping parcels, at advanced rates; very few desirable parcels now in the market; we quote to-day: fine factory, 10½c to 11c, and