

HERRING FISHING IN WINTER.—The St. Andrew's Standard says:—

"It may not be generally known that during the past two winters large quantities of fresh herrings have been purchased at Deer Island by some enterprising Americans, and shipped in a frozen state to New York, where remunerative prices have been paid for them. This trade has multiplied to such an extent, that within a few weeks several American vessels have visited the Island and purchased cargoes, distributing about \$20,000 U. S. Currency among our hardy fishermen. One vessel purchased 500,000 herrings at 65 cents per hundred."

BETON AGGLOMERE.—M. Coignet's *beton agglomere* is a mixture of sand and hydraulic lime thoroughly worked together by machinery, and in its then plastic state moulded into any desired form. It has been extensively employed in and about Paris for several years past, and we believe that one of the station-houses on the St. Germain's line of railway is entirely formed of it, the whole building being a monolith. About twenty miles of the sewers in Paris have been made of it, and it is largely employed for building works and ornaments. Mr. Bazalgette and Mr. Grant, of the Main Drainage Works, are now experimenting with it, with a view to its use here, and the architect of St. Thomas's Hospital has given directions to make a few arches of it.—*London Paper.*

PORTAGE LAKE CANAL.—The work of constructing this important water-slue, it is said, will be commenced as soon as the Spring opens. Its object is to open a water connection between the opposite shores of the Keweenaw peninsula, on Lake Superior, making, with Portage Entry and Portage Lake, a ship canal through the head of the peninsula. By such a cut as projected a saving of 140 miles of dangerous navigation will be effected. Congress aids the work by liberal grants of land.

THE LOCOMOTIVE "STEIERDORF."—The Austrian state railway officers exhibited at the International Exhibition of 1882 an engine in which ten wheels were coupled by rods, but two pairs, beneath the tank, were nevertheless free to move in a bogie. The same engine will be sent to the Paris Exhibition this year. This engine has worked regularly upon a continuous gradient of 1 in 50 of a length of ten miles, and having 64 chain curves. The load up is 120 tons, and down about 275 tons. From the end of 1883 to the end of 1886, the engine ran about 22,500 miles. The false axle by which the hind wheels are coupled to those in front became twisted in January 1884, in consequence of the wheels slipping. It was renewed with a stronger axle, which has worked well ever since.

ST. JOHN TRADE REPORT.

ST. JOHN, N.B., Feb. 16, 1867.

THE business of the past week has been almost entirely limited to retail transactions, and has been unusually dull even for this season of the year. Much of this may be fairly attributed to the extraordinary weather which has prevailed. On Saturday and Sunday we were visited with a heavy rain storm, which had the effect of breaking up the roads throughout the lower portions of the Province, and flooding whole districts. The valley of the Kennebecasis in particular has suffered severely, large numbers of bridges having been carried away, and considerable property destroyed or damaged. The railway bridge, near the Apohaqui Station of the St. John and Shediac Railway, was washed away, and passengers were obliged to be ferried across in boats. Of course the freight traffic was entirely suspended. The weather is now clear and cold, but as no snow has fallen, travelling continues very bad. The interior of the country has not suffered so much, and as far as we can learn, lumbering operations have not been much impeded.

Rates of Exchange continue high, 60 day's bills on London, are 10½ premium; and gold drafts on New York, have advanced; they are now quoted ½ to 1½ premium. Rates on Montreal have also advanced ½ per cent.

The Shipping arrivals have been confined to one vessel from Portland with cargo, and a few from other ports in ballast.

LUMBER.—The shipments of the week have been very moderate. They comprise one vessel for Greenock, with deals and sundries; one for Philadelphia, with laths; one for Barbadoes, with boards and sundries; and three for Cuba, with sugar shocks. As usual at this season of the year, there is but a limited amount of business doing, and, with the exception of the West India Trade, there is now even less than ordinary. We notice that the vessel for Greenock took 112 boxes of spool blocks, which we believe were manufactured at a mill on the line of the St. John and Shediac Railway. There are innumerable small

manufactures of this kind with which the English market might be supplied, and for which we possess abundant facilities in the shape both of raw material, and the water power to work it up.

FLOUR.—There have been no arrivals of flour, for some time, and the stock is being gradually reduced. Prices have advanced 20c. to 25c. per barrel, on the various grades, and the market is tolerably firm. The demand however is still very small, and the state of the roads contributes very much to limit transactions which for the past fortnight have been entirely confined to the city trade. Strong superfine \$8.50 to \$8.70; superfine, \$8.20 to \$8.40; corn meal, \$4.50; oatmeal, \$3 to \$3.25 per 100lbs.

PROVISIONS AND GROCERIES.—In these departments there is no change to report. Business is dull and transactions are limited to the merest retail.

THE MISPECK WOOLLEN MILL OF ST. JOHN.—This establishment, situated at a distance of about eight miles from the city, is the property of the St. John Manufacturing Company. The erection of the works was commenced in 1859. The buildings which contain the machinery are large, the first being 125 feet long, 35 wide, and three storeys in height; the other 140 feet long, 18 feet broad and one and a half stories high. In addition to these, there is a stone building of one storey in height and 24x26 feet. All of these are heated by steam pipes, and are fitted up in the most complete manner for the purposes required. The machinery is driven by water power, the supply being unfailing and constant. The water-wheel is an overshot, 25 feet in diameter and 7 feet abreast. The machinery in the Woollen Mill is as follows: One wool picker, one hard waste picker, two sets of cards, two spinning jacks containing seven hundred spindles, two spoolers, one dresser for dressing woollen warps, four satinett looms, eight narrow tweed looms, two "Crompton's" drop box looms, with three boxes on each side, four broad flannel looms capable of weaving blankets, two fulling machines, one scourer, two tease gigs, one napper, one reel for reeling the yarn, two shears, one rotary brush, one powerful screw press with plates, &c., &c. There are also three large dye vats and copper kettles, which are boiled by steam. Besides a variety of other appendages usual to establishments of the kind.

In connection with the Cotton Mill the following machinery is used: One Oldham willow, one scutcher and lap machine, four cards with workers, strippers and patent boilers, forty inches on wire and forty-five inches diameter of cylinder, one grinding frame, one drawing frame with three heads and two deliveries to each, one stubbing frame, two fly frames, four throstle frames, one self acting mule, one broad warper, one dresser for warps, twenty-two looms with extra reeds, harness, &c.: together with all other apparatus necessary to a complete outfit for cotton spinning and weaving.

The Cotton and Woollen Mills combined give employment to about thirty persons, men, women, boys and girls. During the past year 98,660 yards of cloth of all kinds were turned off, the total value being about \$15,000.

The capital stock of the Company paid up to this date is \$32,320; of this amount \$12,120 is from dividends declared during the three past years of 20 per cent. on the first paid up stock.

THE SUGAR SHOOK TRADE.—The making of box shocks for shipment to Cuba, has grown within the past few years from a small beginning until it has attained large proportions. Several of our mills which would otherwise be idle, are running day and night in the manufacture of shocks. As an article of exportation, the shocks sent away during the past year have done very much to lessen the balance of trade, which has always been so much against us.

We learn that box shocks are only used in Cuba, the other sugar producing islands of the West Indian group still using hogheads as packages for the Sugar made there. These have to be almost entirely imported, very few being made in the vicinity of the Sugar plantations of the Southern States or West Indies. A very large and profitable trade has long been carried on between the State of Maine and these islands in the article of hard wood staves for sugar hogheads. The quantities of these consumed are believed to be much greater than that of the box shocks, both kinds being used in Cuba, and hogheads only in the other islands. There is no imaginable reason why we should not become participants in the advantages of this trade. We possess all the kinds of wood required in as great abundance as any country in the world. Indeed, any of the numerous kinds of hard wood, so plentiful in our Province, are quite suitable for the purpose. The process of manufacture is quite simple. The staves being cut by a cylinder saw and jointed by a circular, are steamed and set up, to give them the required shape, and are then packed in bunches sufficient to form a hoghead each, for shipment. The heads are formed of boards unsuitable for other purposes, and which can be obtained here more cheaply than almost anywhere else. We do not doubt that a trade of this kind will yet spring up and give a new impetus to the operations of our Mills and Commerce.—*St. John Telegraph.*

BY TELEGRAPH.

ST. JOHN, N.B., Feb. 27, 1867.

BUSINESS slightly improved in consequence of better travelling; demand for flour more active; no arrivals since last report; prices unchanged; strong superfine \$8.50 to \$8.70, ordinary brands ditto, \$8.15 to \$8.40; provisions dull.

MONEY MARKET.

ALTHOUGH the banks generally have been extending their discounts for some time they are still disposed to be very liberal to their customers; good paper on the street is scarce, and in demand at rates not very much above bank rates. Sterling Exchange is steady at 109½ to 109½ for bank drafts on London, 60 days sight. New York quotations are 108½ to 108½ for same class of bills. Sight gold drafts on New York have sold freely at par, but are scarcer, and may now be quoted at par to ½ per cent premium.

GOLD in New York has tended steadily upward, closing yesterday afternoon at 140½, the advance being attributable to the unsettled state of financial and political affairs in Washington.

SILVER.—Is unchanged, buying at 4½, and selling at 4 per cent discount.

THE GROCERY TRADE.

Anderson, John & Co.
Baldwin, C. H., & Co.
Chapman, Francis & Tyles.
Chapman H., & Co.
Childs, George, & Co.
Davie, Clark, & Clayton,
Fitzpatrick & Moore.
Fournier, Jules
Frank, J. C., & Co.
Gilliepie, Moffatt & Co.
Hutchins B., & Co.
Jaffery, Brothers & Co.
Kings & Kinloch.

Leeming, Thomas & Co.
Mathewson, J. A. & H.
Mitchell, James.
Phelan, Joseph
Robertson & Beattie.
Robertson, David.
Robinson, Jack & Co.
Riffin, Jos., & Sons.
Thompson, Murray & Co.
Torrance, David, & Co.
West, Bros.
Winn & Holland.
Winning, Hill & Ware.

BUSINESS generally has been quiet, there being no demand from the country trade worth speaking of. Some business has been passing in teas, and some lots of sugars have changed hands, but in other goods transactions have been limited.

SUGARS.—Are very firm, and the sales of the week (amounting to about 700 hds. of Cuba and Barbadoes to the Refiners,) having left the market very bare, and as good Grocery Sugars cannot be imported from the United States or West Indies to cost less than 8½c., holders ask an advance. Sales are understood to have been made at 7½c. for Cuba and Barbadoes ordinary refining grades, and at lower figures for inferior quality, and the balance in market is held at 7½c. to 8c. Sales of Porto Rico in bond at 6c to 6½c, held at 8½c to 8½c, duty paid. Some lots of Refined Sugars have changed hands at about Refinery prices.

MOLASSES.—The stock is light, with a fair enquiry. We hear of 83c. per gal. being offered for Centrifugal—86c. asked. Prime Muscovado would probably command 48c. to 45c. duty paid.

TEAS.—Twankays have been in demand and are scarce. Some ten or twelve hundred packages of all descriptions, including Uncolored Japans, Young Hysons and Imperials, have changed hands at full prices. The teas to be offered at auction on the 6th inst. are understood to include some lines of very choice, the larger proportion however being of common to medium.

SALT.—About 5000 sacks of Liverpool Coarse, the full stock in market, have changed hands during the week at 80c. to 83c., and it is now held firmly by present holders at 95c. to \$1.00. There is a fair demand, with sales of lots of 100 sacks at 95c. to packers and others.

Ducasse, Claveau & Co.'s London Monthly Price Current of Saturday, February 2nd, 1867, says:—

TEA.—The advance in price quoted in our last has been fully maintained, and in some instances increased quotations are now asked. In Congous a good business has been done, but holders are now asking for an increase of ¼d. to 1d. per lb. for shipping qualities, which buyers, at present, are not inclined to accede to. Fine to finest descriptions remain without change. Souchongs—very few are at present on offer, and Oolongs are very scarce, especially the lower qualities, for which higher prices are demanded. In Green Teas we have to report an increased demand for the finer grades of Moyune Young Hyson, which command full rates. Gunpowders continue in demand at previous quotations. In Colored Japan there is little or nothing doing; sales of Uncolored, however, have taken place at 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d. for fair to good quality.

COFFEE.—An active demand has taken place for this article since the date of our last report, and a further advance of 6d. to 1s. is now established. Native Ceylon of good clean quality is now worth 65s. to 68s. per cwt.

SUGAR.—This market presents a very firm appearance at an advance of 1s. 6d. to 2s. on nearly all descriptions, and shows a still further tendency to improvement.

FRUIT.—This article now presents a quieter appearance, but previous prices are maintained.

WINE AND SPIRITS.—In Wines all descriptions continue very firm, more especially for low qualities, which are now becoming scarce. Brandies—remain at previous rates. Rums.—In this article a good business has been done in low qualities, and prices remain very steady.