

TORONTO WHOLESALE MARKETS.

(Revised By Telegraph.)

TORONTO, March 27, 1884.

Trade in city retail quarters among milliners and clothiers has been somewhat better during the week. Reports from the country are that business is stagnant, owing to the breaking up of the roads. Wholesale trade is still reported without much improvement. It is stated, however, by some houses that the trade is really not less than what it was at this date last year. Payments are reported variously, but in no case so large as could be desired. Bank settlements are not embarrassing. Money is abundant, and general credit is good. There is no expectation of any active demand for money in commercial business at present. The rates on call loans, good collateral, are 5 to 6 per cent. Commercial paper is discounted at 6½c for first-class, and up to 7½ per cent. Sterling Exchange is dull and rates firm, at 109½ and 109¾ for 60 days. The Stock Exchange has been without interest and quite irregular. It has been a brokers' business. The principal movement in bank shares was in Commerce, Federal and Dominion. Prices have been nominally unchanged. In Loan Companies, Canada Permanent was chief in movement, selling at 21½ for old and 20½ for new stocks. Farmers' Loan quoted at 124, Ontario Loan at 123. The total business for the week ending Monday was 3,301 shares against 2,925 in the week previous. Following are the prices to-day compared with those of last Thursday:—

Banks.	Bid Mch. 27	Bid Mch. 20	Loan Cos.	Bid Mch. 27	Bid Mch. 20
Montreal..	193½	191½	Can. Per. (Old)..	216	116
Toronto...	183	183	Freehold.....	166	166
Ontario...	104½	104	Western Can....	186	186
Merchants	114½	113	Bldg. & Loan....	104½	104
Commerce	126	125½	Farmers' Loan....	124	123½
Dominion	197½	198	Land. & Can'dn	139	139½
Hamilton	117	117½	Huron & Erie.....
Stand'd...	114	114½	Dom. Savings....	114½	114
Federal...	138½	138½	Ontario Loan....	13	120
Imper'l...	138½	138	Hamilton Prov....	120	120
Molson's...	115	Imperial Savin's	110½	110

BOOTS AND SHOES.—Business is reported as quiet; orders are few and light in extent. Payments reported growing less satisfactory, manufacturers working rather less than three-quarter time, and a large portion of the work is on Winter goods, to keep the hands in employment. Prices are steady but unchanged, although there is a likelihood of some advance being made, owing to an advance asked on upper and sole leather of about 10 per cent on recent prices. Taken altogether, the trade is not in a satisfactory shape. The knowledge that stocks throughout the country are light is reassuring.

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COAL OIL.—Trade is rather quiet, and prices are weak. Prices at Petrolia unchanged: crude quoted at 80c, and refined at 11c. Prices here are reported at 13c to 13½c for common, and 17c for carbon safety. American refined unchanged; any change will be toward lower prices.

DRY GOODS.—There is no change to report. Trade has fallen back into dull work again after the effort made at the trade sales. There is still some expectation of an improvement taking place in early summer, as the prospects at present are for good crops. But the present inaction is likely to be unbroken for some weeks to come. Wholesale men report it difficult to say what particular time is more in demand than any other at present. Cottons are in ample stock everywhere. Light woollens have been in moderate demand. The Spring millinery trade is over, competition has been keen, and prices have reached a low plane.

FLOUR AND MEAL.—The market is unchanged in nearly every particular. Flour is slow, sales and transactions being confined to the local trade entirely. It is not remembered when business was so restricted. With low railway freight

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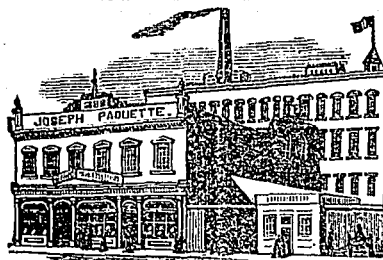
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