

Transshipment at this port is now almost entirely performed by elevators, those used for loading vessels being floating-elevators. There were eight of the latter description employed in the harbor during the season of 1863,—capable of discharging and loading 24,000 bushels per hour. The Grain and Flour storage capacity of Montreal is particularised on page 17.

The question of improved routes from the Grain-producing regions of the West, is one of vast importance to Montreal. The transportation of Breadstuffs *via* the St. Lawrence River route for shipment to trans-Atlantic ports is large and increasing; and by a further development of the natural advantages of the Province, it is firmly believed that a much greater proportion of the Grain trade of the Western States might be concentrated at this Port. It rests mainly with the Merchants of this City to initiate schemes for that desirable object, and energetically to carry out such as are best adapted for its accomplishment. The tabular statements presented in the following report, give an imperfect idea of the increased trade in cereals, now centring here, and shadow forth the dimensions it may ere long attain,—Canada herself must determine whether that increase shall be great or small.

It has been erroneously assumed that the Grain trade of Montreal had decreased in 1863, in a far greater ratio than that of other important places. The following comparisons give the real state of the case:—

MONTREAL.*

Grain receipts (Flour into Wheat) in 1863, contrasted with 1862, show a decrease of	4,467,247 bushels, or 24½ per cent.
1863 contrasted with 1861, decrease	2,805,221 " or 17 per cent.
Grain shipments (Flour into Wheat) in 1863, contrasted with 1862, show an increase of.	35,279 " or ½ per cent.
1863 contrasted with 1861, increase	951,509 " or 8 per cent.

The receipts of Flour and Grain in this city by Lachine Canal in the past two years compare as follows:—

	1862	1863		
Flour, brls.,.....	772,381	735,182	decrease	5 per cent.
Wheat, bu.,.....	7,779,727	4,970,099	"	36 "
Maize, bu.,.....	2,661,261	861,361	"	67½ "
Peas, bu.,.....	524,872	651,658	increase	24 per cent.
Barley, bu.,.....	225,054	273,525	"	21½ "
Oats, bu.,.....	93,598	352,721	"	277 "

Shipments in sea-going vessels *via* the St. Lawrence River compare thus:—

	1862	1863		
Flour, brls.,.....	597,477	526,155	decrease	12 per cent.
Wheat, bu.,.....	6,500,796	3,741,146	"	42 "
Maize, bu.,.....	1,774,546	638,261	"	64 "
Peas, bu.,.....	711,192	719,216	increase	1 "

* The statements about receipts of Grain in the following pages refer exclusively to those of which record had been made.

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Flour, br
Wheat, bu
Maize, bu
Peas, bu.
Barley, bu
Oats, bu.,

The dec
Wheat, 21 p
Coarse Grain

Accordi
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past two year

Flour, br
Wheat, bu
Maize, bu
Peas, bu.
Barley, bu
Oats, bu.,
Rye, bu.,

The shi
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Flour, br
Wheat, bu
Maize, bu
Rye, bu.,

Accordi
all parts from

Flour, br
Wheat, b
Maize, bu
Peas, bu.
Barley, b
Oats, bu.,
Rye, bu.,