

## ST. JOHN TRADE REPORT.

ST. JOHN, N.B., August 10, 1867.

THE business of the week has been decidedly dull. The depression does not seem to be confined to any particular branch of business, but is pretty equally distributed, with small prospects of present amendment. The prevailing southerly winds have kept the city enveloped in dense fog, but this does not extend far inland; in the interior of the Province the weather has been warm and bright, and the hay harvest has made considerable progress, while the appearance of the other crops is all that could be desired. Accounts that have come in from the upper part of the Bay of Fundy, and from Nova Scotia, represent the storm of last week as being very destructive in its character. At Sackville much damage was done by the bursting of dykes, and the flooding of grass lands. One vessel laden with stones was totally lost and some cattle drowned. At Halifax great injury was done to conservatories and gardens, several vessels were injured, and the damage done to fruit trees generally, is said to have destroyed the prospect which existed of an abundant crop. The plum trees especially were almost completely stripped. The damage in our own harbour was principally confined to the destruction of wrecks and fishing nets, which however will have one good effect, that of giving the salmon a better chance for their lives.

The shipping arrivals have again been quite light. Besides the usual Boston and Portland steamers which have somehow managed to get through in spite of the fog, we have only to report one vessel from Liverpool, with salt and coals; one from London, with general cargo; one from Boston, do; one from Philadelphia with coals; and a small schooner from Portland, with flour.

Exchange remains steady at previous rates. Bank rates for Sixty-day Bills, 10 per cent. premium. Sight Bills 11 per cent.

LUMBER.—The clearances of the week comprise four vessels with deals for ports in Great Britain; one for Monte Video, with boards; and seven for United States ports. The trade is languishing and without any material change in prices, there is no desire to press operations, the state of the English and United States markets not being by any means satisfactory.

Freights are very quiet, with very little tonnage offering, and very little required. There is no change in rates which remain the same as reported last week.

Flour, &c.—The market is still in a very exceptional condition. To-day the arrival by schooner of 400 bbls of sound flour, relieved the most pressing wants, but during the week it has been impossible to buy a barrel of good flour. Some small consignments have arrived from the United States, but these have all been of very inferior quality, and have gone into consumption simply because there was nothing better to be had. It is understood that there are ample supplies on the way, but these have been so long delayed, and so much uncertainty is felt regarding its keeping qualities when it does arrive, that people are beginning again to look to the United States for their supplies. We cannot too generally impress upon Canadian millers and merchants that if they wish to retain possession of the markets of these Lower Provinces, something will have to be done to prevent a recurrence of the events of the last six weeks. Never in the recollection of any one, has there been so much *bad* flour in our market, as during the time we have named, and even now, orders have been sent on to the United States, where by paying a price good flour can be obtained. We do not pretend to say what means are to be taken to remedy the evils complained of, we only state what are actual facts, and we think it is quite within compass to say that fully two thirds of all the Canadian flour lately received, has turned sour and hard, indeed more than one lot we know of was so on arrival. There is another point to which it is necessary to call attention, viz., the time occupied in transportation. It is altogether too bad that flour should be 15 or 20 days on the way, and there can be no good reason why it should be so under a proper system of management. Many of our merchants have Bills of Lading, and have accepted for flour despatched nearly three weeks since, not a barrel of which has yet come to hand. All this is very prejudicial to the business, and unless something is at once done to remedy it, the loss to Canada of a considerable portion of the flour trade is absolutely certain. When a man can buy in Boston or New York, and be certain of getting his purchases delivered in three or four days at the out-  
side he will not be likely to court the vexatious delays

to which we have lately been subjected. We quote to-day. Strong superfine, \$9 69 to \$9 75 ordinary brands, \$9 75. As we remarked last week these quotations must be considered on account of the scarcity as being to a large extent nominal. The arrival of supplies would cause an immediate decline. Rye flour there is very little demand for, and it is dull at \$6 25 to \$6 50. Corn meal \$4 75 to \$5 00. Oatmeal \$6 75 to \$7 00.

Oats are scarce and higher, 65c bring readily obtainable for good.

PROVISIONS AND GROCERIES.—There is but little to note in these departments. Butter is scarcer and has advanced in price to 16c to 16½c for choice. The scarcity, however, is, we are inclined to think, but temporary, and should not advise shipments in the present state of the market, and at this season of the year. Sugar and Molasses are firm; the market is bare of Porto Rico sugar, which has advanced to 6½c per lb in bond.

It may be useful to know that during the last session of the Legislature a law was passed establishing an inspector of all burning oils and fluids. By this act it is provided that the test point in degrees Fahrenheit at which such oils give off explosive vapour must be marked on each package, and it is also provided that on and after the first day of September, each package of burning oil or fluid that will not stand the test of one hundred and ten degrees Fahrenheit, is to be marked *unsafe for illuminating purposes*, and cannot be sold for those purposes either by wholesale or retail, without incurring heavy penalties.

Schooner "Snowdrop," Simpson, from Miramichi for New York, went ashore 2nd inst. at Lock Island, N.S., total loss, crew saved.

Speaking of the late gales, the *Amherst Gazette* says.—"Not only is the hay crop destroyed and the grass rendered worthless for this year, by the mud left by the tide, rendering it impossible to cut it, but it is feared that its growth next year will also be seriously affected."

## BY TELEGRAPH.

ST. JOHN, N.B., Aug. 15, 1867.

BUSINESS generally quiet. Flour market declining under influence of free arrivals. Receipts since 10th instant 5,000 bbls. Strong Superfine \$9 25; Ordinary do, \$9 00. At auction a lot of unsound flour averaged \$5.50, and cornmeal \$4.35. Provisions unchanged. Oatmeal \$6.50 to \$7.75. No change in Halifax market.

## HALIFAX TRADE REPORT.

[From the Circular of C. M. Creed.]

WE have no change to note since our last report. Business still continues dull. Imports light. Exports moderate.

BREADSTUFFS.—Flour: The demand has been languid during the week. The enquiry has been principally for local wants. The tone is firmer for good grades. Receipts come in sparingly, so that good fresh ground is only in moderate supply, and holders are stiff. We cannot advise a change in quotations. No. 1 Canada fresh ground still rates at \$9; old (sound) may be quoted at \$8 40 and \$8 50, but this article is not reliable. Sour and inferior range from \$5 upwards according to quality. Rye in moderate request at \$6 60 and \$6 75. Cornmeal quiet at \$4 70 and \$4 80 for Brandy wine. Imports for the week—From Canada: 1011 bbls flour. Exports to Newfoundland 629 bbls flour, 200 bbls cornmeal.

1st.—The receipts are limited for the season of the year, still the demand is not active. Cod. There is no change to note since our last. Hard cured, large, of prime quality commands \$3 80 per qtl; prime small, \$3.50, good fair-qual, \$3.20, bank, \$2 80 and \$3. Haddock sells freely at \$2 20 and \$2 25. Salmon is declining, and No. 1 cannot be quoted over \$17; No. 2 \$15; No. 3, \$11 and \$12. Mackerel in fair request, and prices are firm. It is probable rates will advance when the demand becomes more active. We quote No. 3 large \$6; small, \$5 60. Alewives sell freely at \$2 80 and \$3. Herrings, do dull and unchanged. Receipts for the week (coastwise), 353 bbls salmon, 633 bbls mackerel. Exports, To West Indies—105 tes, 220 bxs, 55 hf-bxs codfish, 245 trcs scale, 315 bbls mackerel, 160 bbls herring, 75 bbls alewives. To United States: 800 qtls cod, 184 qtls scale, 100 bbls alewives. To Canada: 44 bbls and 3 hf-bbls salmon, 100 qtls cod, 200 qtls scale, To Malaga (Spain): 1000 qtls cod, 425 qtls scale.

OILS.—All descriptions quiet. Quotations unchanged. No receipts. Exports: 10 casks cod.

PRODUCE.—Oats are not so firm. Large receipts have checked prices. We quote P. E. Island 65c, Canada 60c. Butter still continues dull, the demand inactive. Receipts for the week—From Canada: 7197 bush oats, 71 bbls peas. From P. E. Island—2092 bush oats. Exports—To West Indies: 102 pkgs butter, 92 casks oats.

PROVISIONS.—We have no material change to note. Pork continues quiet. There is a slight enquiry for Mess, small lots move off at \$18 and 19. Prime and Primo Mess not enquired for, and may be nominally quoted at \$15 and \$17. Beef dull. Lard quiet. Receipts for the week—From P. E. Island: 26 bbls pork. Exports—To Newfoundland: 15 bbls pork.

WEST INDIA PRODUCE.—There has not been much activity during the week, but prices continue firm. We still quote Porto Rico at 6½c and 6½c; Vacuum Pan, 7c and 7½c; Barbadoes, 5½c and 6c; good Cuba, 5½c and 6c. Molasses unchanged, but the tone is firm. Cienfuegos, 29c and 30c, choice Trinidad may be quoted at 25c. Rum in fair request at present rates. Imports for the week.—250 bbls 20 trcs 80 bbls Sugar. Exports—To Canada: 130 hhd 20 trcs 70 bbls Sugar. To New Brunswick: 102 hhd Sugar, 125 puns Rum, 5 puns Molasses. To Newfoundland: 200 puns Molasses. To United States: 20 puns Rum. To P. E. Island: 10 hhd Sugar.

Money matters unchanged.

## CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND TRADE REPORT.

[From the Circular of Carvell Bros.]

CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I., August 3, 1867.

FREIGHTS.—To Halifax: Oats, 6c to 7c, potatoes, 7c to 8c; oatmeal, 4½c. butter per 100 lbs, 35c, fish per bbl 60c, pork per bbl, 50c; oysters, per bbl, 60c. To Boston: Oats, 12c currency, oatmeal, 60c cy, butter, \$1 cy per 100 lbs; fish, \$1 cy per bbl; oysters, per bbl, 75c; eggs, \$1 cy; per bbl. To Shediac: 30c per bbl bulk. To Pictou: 20c per bbl bulk. From Toronto and Hamilton, via Suspension Bridge and Boston and Colonial Steamship Company, upon Through Bills of Lading, \$1 per bbl for flour. Flour from Boston: 40c. Oats to England, \$d to 9d sterling per 45 lbs.

STEAMERS.—Leave Charlottetown for Pictou, Canoe, Halifax, and Boston every Monday afternoon, and for Pictou every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings, connecting with railway for Halifax; and for Shediac on Tuesday and Friday evenings, connecting with railroad for St. John, N.B. They leave Boston on Tuesday, and Halifax on Thursday, of each week, for this port. Shediac every Wednesday and Saturday on arrival of train from St. John; and Pictou every Monday, Tuesday and Friday, on arrival of train from Halifax.

MONEY.—Bank rates for discount 7½ per cent. per annum, with a very little business doing. Banks entirely bare of exchange.

CURRENCY.—The currency of this Island is equal to 50 per cent. on the sterling, the overplus being worth 30s currency, 4s sterling being equal to 6s currency, or \$1.

Flour.—We have no material change to note since our last review. Prices keep very irregular, with a steady demand for present requirements only. Canada out of the market entirely. We have no receipts to report since our last. Duty on American flour 1s 6d per bbl, Canadian, duty free.

CORNMEAL.—Supply continues fully equal to the demand, which is light, the trade only having sufficient for present wants. No receipts since our last. Demand about done. Duty on American meal 1s 6d per bbl Canada, free.

MOLASSES.—Is a complete drug. No demand.

ST. GALT.—Stock quite ample for demand.

FISH.—We have again to inform our friends that the catch of mackerel during the week has been absolutely nothing; quite a large number of vessels have left the Bay, and the season is now so far advanced, it is impossible for the catch to equal over that of last year. Since our last the following vessels have landed their fare, *Scls*, *Cygnets* 20 bbls, *Adina* 44 bbls both of this port. *John Gerard* of Newburyport 120 bbls. The *J. O.* was one of the first vessels in th. Bay this spring.

LUMBER.—Spruce continues in good supply, with a slight decline in prices. Good pine wanted. Laths in better demand. Shingles in full supply.

OATS.—None to be had.

OIL.—Kerosene in good supply. No demand at this season. Duty 7½d.

BARLEY.—None.

WEATHER.—For the most part has been fine with some showers. Last night we had a heavy S.W. gale, which resulted in some slight damage to the shipping in port, and a schooner with part of a cargo for export filled and sunk at the wharf.