

THE CANADIAN GRAPHITE COMPANY.

From a Correspondent.

Through the courtesy of the agent of the above named company I was enabled to gather some few items as to their mines and works, and the mineral products of the lands adjacent. I find that gold, iron, and plumbago have been found in Buckingham Township, in the County of Ottawa. The works and mines belonging to this company are situated about 30 miles from the Capital. The mines have been in operation only since last Spring. When the first shafts were sunk and veins of the metal tested, they were found to be rich in plumbago in a pure state, and in large masses or blocks. There is one piece which I examined in the office of the agent, of pure plumbago, which had been just brought from the mine; it weighed upwards of 250 pounds, and was about three feet long and one foot in diameter. The vein from which this piece was taken varied in width from 8 to 10 feet, gradually extending in width. As you descend the mine these veins of plumbago crop out on the ground for a length of 100 feet. On the same lot, and near to this lot, there are five other veins of plumbago, cropping out and giving equal promise. No shafts have as yet been sunk to work these veins. All these strata are situated upon ground elevated about 100 feet above the level of the ground adjacent; thus allowing every facility for drainage. All the above described are on the north half of lot No. 21, on the seventh range of Buckingham Township. Upon the south half of lot No. 20, on the eighth range, a vast bed of disseminated plumbago is found, 220 feet in width and 60 feet in depth. This bed runs right up the face of a mountain, and at present it is impossible to say what is its extent; but the ore is said to be rich, and to contain on an average from 20 to 30 per cent of pure plumbago. Average specimens of the ores obtained from these mines have been scientifically tested, both in England and Scotland, by chemical assayers, and the plumbago is pronounced equal to the best obtained from Ceylon for crucible purposes. Gold also is said to have been found in a creek on lot No. 19 in the eighth range; and traces of sulphuret of silver are found in close proximity to the plumbago veins above alluded to. Gold has also been found in the adjoining Township of Templeton. The ore has been assayed and tested by Dr. Girdwood, and been found to yield an average of \$17 of gold and \$2 of silver to the ton.

Railway News.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—Traffic for the week ending Dec. 13, 1867:—

Passengers.....	\$25,857 20
Freight and live stock.....	40,485 62
Mails and sundries.....	4,522 88

Total.....	70,865 70
Corresponding week, 1866.....	47,011 13

Increase..... 23,854 57

NORTHERN RAILWAY.—Traffic receipts for the week ending Dec. 21, 1867:—

Passengers.....	\$2,385 84
Freight.....	3,802 38
Mails and sundries.....	197 41

Total receipts for week.....	6,385 63
Corresponding week, 1866.....	5,446 55

Increase..... 939 03

EUROPEAN & N. AMERICAN RAILWAY.—The following were the traffic receipts for the month ended Nov. 30, of this and last year:—

	1867	1866
Passengers.....	\$5,821 07	\$5,602 47
Freight.....	8,903 46	8,430 03
Mails and Sundries.....	721 00	898 00
Totals.....	\$15,465 53	\$14,930 50
Increase, \$535 03.		

NEW ENGLAND INSURANCE GAZETTE.—We have received the last number of this excellent representative of insurance interests of New England, and we are sorry that our space will not allow us to borrow some of its reading matter. However, we take this opportunity of recording our sincere thanks to the editor for kindness and attention to our representative during his recent visit to Boston.

TONNAGE OF THE UNITED STATES.—The entire registered tonnage of the United States in the year ending with June, 1861, was 5,539,843 tons—last June 30th, it was only 3,868,615. The registered steam tonnage has increased from 162,608 tons to 175,520 tons, but there is a lamentable falling off in sailing vessels.

CULTIVATION OF GRAPES IN OHIO.—3,000 acres of grapes are under cultivation in Erie and Ottawa counties, Ohio, including the islands of Lake Erie, from which it is estimated that 200,000 gallons of wine were produced the past year. Growers have established a standard price at one mill per pound for each degree of specific gravity of must. The average production of grapes on the islands this year has been about one and a half tons per acre. The Kelly Island Wine Company purchased the grapes from about 225 acres, and have manufactured about 65,000 gallons of wine. Other parties have made at least 45,000 gallons, being a total of 100,000 gallons that is now stored on that island. Bass Island, it is estimated, had also in store 45,000 gallons in wine. Bass Island has sold more fruit for table purposes, in proportion to the ground in cultivation, than Kelley's Island. Additional attention is being given to the culture of new varieties of grapes. This is occasioned by a slight want of confidence in the Catawbas. Among those being most planted are Concord, Delaware, Hartford, Rogers, Ives, Norton's Virnia, &c.

DUTIES ON BREADSTUFFS.—The Halifax (N. S.) *Colonist* states that a petition is being very generally signed, praying the General Government to remit the duty on Corn, Cornmeal and Rye Flour, on the ground that these articles enter largely into the consumption of the Fishery class, which, owing to the failure of fish and land crops, are now reduced to a state of great distress.

The Legislature of Nova Scotia has been called together for the despatch of business on the 30th January.

Market Review.

TORONTO, January 2, 1868.

In our local market but a small business has been done during the week, owing to the presence of the holidays.

Grain.—Receipts of wheat continue moderate, but so soon as sleighing becomes general they must increase, as there is undoubtedly a fair amount of stock still left in the hands of farmers and dealers at the various points distributed throughout the country. Our market continues very firm, with a good demand for milling purposes. At present prices of flour the margin on grinding wheat, at the rates now paid for it, is unprofitably small, but a rise in the former article seems to be confidently anticipated. This was shown during the week by purchases for future delivery, at prices which would not be justified in the present state of the market. Fall wheat seems very scarce, and the few little lots that are put on the market

are held at \$1.70 to \$1.75, with buyers at \$1.65 for choice. The receipts of wheat, up to date, at this point, are much the same as last year; but at Montreal an increase of 1,884,220 bush. is shown by the returns. The total shipments by sea-going vessels from the latter port during season of navigation were 1,459,622 bushels. Barley is very scarce and dear, the supply at the principal points seeming to have been found quite inadequate. Quotations in this market are nominal at \$1.05. Oats, firm, with a good local demand, and fair receipts at 52 to 53c. Peas, no wholesale movement; nominal at 72 to 74c. for small lots.

Flour.—Receipts light, shipments being generally made direct from the principal milling points on the Grand Trunk to Montreal and Portland. All the principal Canadian markets are firm, but leading American markets show a downward tendency. There is little demand for the higher grades, nearly the whole business done being restricted to No. 1 superfine and inferior kinds. For No. 1 the market is nominal at \$6.75 to \$6.80 for good brands; in Montreal, the same grade is quoted at \$7.25 to \$7.35. Extra nominal at \$7.30 to \$7.40.

Provisions.—The market for dressed hogs continues moderately active at \$4.75 to \$6.00, according to weight and quality. Among the receipts we notice a large preponderance of thin hogs, fit only for roll bacon; very few are fit for mess pork. Packers are putting down a good deal, and there is a free shipping movement to Montreal. In barrelled pork, no business is being done, and the inquiry is very limited. Mess is firm at \$18. In cut meats and hog products generally, there is nothing doing to notice. The number of hogs packed at the places mentioned below, thus far this season, to the 18th inclusive, compared with last year, were as follows:—

	1867.	1866.
Cincinnati.....	248,129	179,436
Louisville.....	129,839	91,376
Detroit.....	14,667	3,615
St. Louis.....	150,500	38,000
Chicago.....	806,800	308,600

Butter is firm, and good to choice is scarce, buyers having scoured the country in vain for lots; inferior to medium is in fair supply, but there is no doubt of an immense falling off in the production, owing to the dryness of the season. Dairy packed has been sold in round lots, in one or two cases at 18c., holders now asking 19c.; store packed is held at 12 to 15c.; cheese nominal at 8 to 9c.

Freights.—Tariff rates by Grand Trunk to the following points are: Flour to all stations from Belleville to Lynn, inclusive, 35c., grain for 100 lbs. 18c.; flour to Brockville and Cornwall, inclusive, 43c., grain 22c.; flour to Montreal 50c., grain 25c.; flour to Montreal 50c., grain 25c.; flour to all stations between Island Pond and Portland, inclusive, 85c., grain 43c.; flour to Halifax \$1 05c., grain 53c.; flour to St. John 95c.; Marine insurance, Portland to Halifax 1½ on flour, and to St. John 1 per cent. Dressed hogs, Toronto to Montreal, \$70 per car load of 20,000 lbs., in less quantities 40c. per 200 lbs. Toronto to Liverpool, by Grand Trunk via Portland—boxed meats, per 100 lbs. 90c.; lard and butter \$1; beef, per tierce, 15s. 6d. stg.; pork, per bbl. 11s. 6d.; flour and oatmeal 7s. Rates by Great Western—flour to Suspension Bridge 25c.; Suspension Bridge to Boston 90c., American currency.

HALIFAX MARKET, DEC. 26.—Business has been quiet during the week, the weather being stormy, fish operations in consequence have been retarded. There has been some activity in Breadstuffs owing to the increased duty on Corn, Cornmeal, and Rye-flour. The imports are light; the exports are about an average but fall far short of last week, especially to West Indies.

Breadstuffs.—Flour has advanced, owing to the lightness of importations, No. 1 Canada being now scarce, this quality has advanced and is worth \$8 65 a 8 75, holders are firm, prices are likely to keep up, as there is an upward tendency in Canada; Extra Canada may be quoted \$9 a 9 25; Extra State \$8 40 a \$8 50; Rye \$7 a \$7 25, and likely to advance; Corn Meal in active request, \$6 50 for Kilndried; Halifax ground nominal, the market is bare at present; Oatmeal scarce and wanted, and may be quoted \$3 75 a \$4 for Canadian. Imports for the week: From United States, 1284 bbls Flour, 638 bbls Cornmeal, 205 bags Corn; From P. E. Island, 16 bbls Oatmeal.—R. C. Hamilton & Co.'s Circular.