

business over our Riviere du Loup section. This traffic has, doubtless, been to some extent drawn away from our route to the Lower Canadian Provinces via Portland.

It is expected that within four or five years the Intercolonial Railway will begin to pay the working expenses, and obtain some remuneration for the Dominion Government. Meanwhile, as the traffic on the Intercolonial Railway improves, so the traffic on the Riviere du Loup section of our line will also improve; and that section of line, which actually yielded a profit for the half-year ending last June, will ultimately become a remunerative property, yielding a considerable revenue to the Government, who will, we may hope, before that time have leased it or acquired possession of it on fair terms.

FIRE RECORD.—Parkhill, Nov. 16th.—Doyle's pump factory, with contents, was destroyed by fire this a. m. Loss about \$500; insurance \$300.

Galt, Nov. 16th.—A fire did damage to the extent of \$1,000 in the saw factory of Shurley & Dietrich; covered by insurance.

Wendover, Nov. 16th.—The barn and stable of Octave Meloche, North Plantagenet, was destroyed by fire, together with contents. Not insured.

Erin, Nov. 16th.—Aaron Teeter lost his driving house, stables and contents, by fire last night. Loss about \$1,200; insured in Isolated Risk Co. for \$900. Supposed cause, lightning.

Toronto, 20th Nov.—Oliver's planing mill, together with a large assortment of valuable lumber, was destroyed by fire early this a. m. Loss about \$25,000. Insured in Hand-in-Hand, \$2,000; Citizens, \$4,000; Canada Fire & Marine, \$2,000.

Stroud, Nov. 19th.—Webb's Block was destroyed by fire last evening. Estimated loss, \$2,500; insured, Victoria Mutual, for \$1,250.

Moncton, N. B., Nov. 17th.—A store and dwelling house, owned by G. H. Brown, was destroyed by fire to-day. Insured in Canada Fire & Marine for \$2,000.

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Montreal 20th Nov., 1877.

In some branches of business there has been a little rush previous to the close of Navigation, but generally the wholesale trade has been dull, and we do not now look for much activity till after the holidays. The weather during the week up till Sunday has been very mild, which checks the demand for heavy dry goods and boots and shoes,—and country stocks of these goods are as yet very little broken in upon, with cold weather and improved roads there is not the least doubt that a fair sorting up trade will yet be done. The sugar market has been very quiet, and although prices have declined buyers do not seem to think that bottom has been touched, and delay purchasing till the market gets more settled.

We give to-day the stocks of flour and grain here on the morning of the 15th inst. A little snow fell yesterday and there is every appearance of more.

ASHES.—*Pots*—The market has been very steady all week, and prices have hardly varied since our last report, at the same time there is little life in the market to note, receipts being light: sales for the week are correspondingly small. Firsts sold from \$3.70 to 3.75; seconds, \$3.15; thirds, \$2.60 to 2.70. *Pearls*—Very lit-

tle has been done in this kind of ash; any sales reported were of first sort at \$4.40 to \$4.50. Stocks at present in store are: *Pots*, 1,759 brls; *Pearls*, 731 brls.

CATTLE.—The demand yesterday was small, and sales were difficult to effect, and although there were very few cattle offering there were more than there was a demand for. Prices ranged from \$3.50 to 4.25 per 100 lbs. live weight. *Hogs* were in pretty fair supply, but there was not very much demand. Prices ranged from \$4.25 to 4.75.

DRY GOODS.—Very little business is expected about this time, but this has been an exceptionally dull week, owing no doubt to the state of the weather, which has rendered country roads almost impassable, and the mildness of the temperature prevents the usual demand for heavy winter goods, the wholesale trade are looking anxiously for cold weather to cause some demand, and to make the roads in travelling condition to enable farmers and others to get to market. In clothing there has hardly been so much doing, but remittances are generally reported to be good which is satisfactory.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—The feeling in this market during the week has been firm, and some articles owing to scarcity are the turn clearer, but generally the articles on our list although firm are not quotably higher, business done has been small. We quote *Bi Carb Soda* \$3.25 to 3.50 per 112 lb. keg; *Soda Ash* 1½c. per lb.; *Cudbear* 12 to 15c per lb; *Arrow root* 15 to 50c per lb; *Borax* 10 to 11½c per lb; *Cream Tartar Crystals* 25 to 26c per lb; *do Ground* 28 to 29; *Caustic Soda* \$3.12½ per 100 lbs; *East India Senna* 12½ to 15c per lb; *Sugar of Lead* 14 to 15c per lb; *Bleaching Powder* 1½ to 1½c per lb; *Mad der* 8 to 12c per lb; *Alum* 1½ to 2c per lb; *Copperas* 1 to 1½c per lb; *Sulphur* 3½ to 3½c per lb; *Brimstone* 2½c per lb; *Epsom Salts* \$1.50 to 1.60 per 100 lbs; *Sal Soda* \$1.10 to 1.20 per 100 lbs; *Saltpetre* \$8.00 to 9.00 per 12 lb kegs; *Blue Vitrol* 6 to 6½c per lb.

FISH.—The market just now is pretty well supplied with all kinds of fish and the demand has been fair at our quotations which are rather in buyers favor as compared with this day week. We quote *Dry Cod* \$4.75; *Green Cod* \$5.00 to 6.00; *Lrbrabor Herrings* \$5.25; *Salmon* \$12. \$11. and \$10. for Nos. 1. 2 and 3 respectively.

RAW FURS.—The trade in raw furs is very dull, skins are now coming in freely, and of better quality, which were bought to-day at our quotations. But as there is little encouragement in prospect for exports to the European markets, Russia the principal buyer in former years, will not likely be buying to any extent this year on account of the war. The feeling in the trade is that present quotations may rule for some little time but the probabilities are that they will decline. We repeat our quotations of last week.

FREIGHTS.—There are one or two steamers yet in port; rates to Liverpool for heavy grain 8/- to 8/6.

FLOUR.—The stocks in store and in the hands of millers on the morning of the 15th. inst., were 42,098, against 49,941 barrels on the 1st., and 63,764, barrels on the 15th. November, 1876. Receipts during the week 29,230 barrels; total receipts from 1st. January to date 734,888 brls., being a decrease of 114,829 barrels on the receipts for the corresponding period of 1876. Shipments during the week 42,873 barrels; total shipments from 1st. January to date 652,997 brls. There has been a pretty fair demand for flour especially during the latter part of the week to complete shipping orders, which made holders a little firmer in their views and the decline which took place of about 5c in the early part of the week has been regained, market to day closes firm, but sales reported though fairly numerous were generally for small parcels at

about our outside quotations: *Superior extra*, \$5.85 to 5.90; *Extra*, \$5.65 to 5.75; *Fancy*, \$5.50 to 5.55; *Strong bakers flour*, \$5.55 to 5.75; *Spring extra*, \$5.37½ to 5.42½; *Super*, \$5.15 to 5.20; *Fine*, \$4.60 to 4.70; *Pollards*, \$2.75 to 3.00; *Middlings*, \$3.40 to 3.65; *Oatmeal*, \$4.40 to 4.50.

GRAIN.—*Wheat.*—The stocks in store and in the hands of millers on the morning of the 15th inst. was 308,787 bushels, against 184,477 on the 1st inst. and 148,090 on the 15th Nov., 1876. Receipts during the past week 293,526 bush.; Total receipts from 1st January to date 6,962,449 bushels, showing an increase of 613,129 bushels on the receipts for the corresponding period of 1876. Shipments during the week 333,592 bushels; total shipments from 1st January to date 5,525,472 bushels, showing an increase of 577,532 bushels on the shipments for the corresponding period of 1876. There has been very little movement in this grain a few car loads of No. 2 spring were sold at \$1.18, and No. 1 at \$1.21. *Peas* by the car load sell at 78 to 80 per 66 lbs.; *Maize* is nominal at 56 to 57c; *Oats* nominal 27 to 29c; *Barley*, 55 to 62½, the outside price having been paid for a cargo of Ontario.

GROCERIES.—*Teas.*—There has been a much better feeling in this branch of the trade with more disposition shown both by buyers and sellers to do business. Japans of medium and low grades are most asked for, the former from 30 to 31c, and the latter from 20 to 26c. Sales of both are reported within our range. Fine Japans are very little asked for, although there have been some small sales at from 40 to 50c. Green Tea has been more enquired for, and small sales have been made from 35 to 53. Blacks are neglected. *Coffee*—Market quiet and prices generally favor buyers, but sales have been within very narrow compass; Java, 27 to 30c; Singapore, 22½ to 25c; Maracabo, 22 to 23c; Mocha, 32 to 33c. *Sugar*—This market has been in a very unsatisfactory state all week, and prices are decidedly lower, but there has been little movement at the decline, buyers preferring to wait to see how the market is going to move. Scotch we quote at 7½ to 9c, the outside price for bright samples; Granulated, 9½ to 9½c; Dry Crushed, 10½ to 10½c. Raw sugar is nominal. *Molasses*—A few job lots have been changing hands; of Barbadoes, at 47 to 48c; Porto Rico, at 47 to 47½c; Sugar House, 29 to 30c. *Rice* in fair jobbing demand, with sales at \$4.35 to 4.50, according to size of lot. *Sago*, 5½ to 6c. *Spices* have met with a fair jobbing demand, and prices generally rule firm: Black Pepper, 9½ to 10c; White do, 20 to 20½c; Cassia, 15 to 17c; Cloves are dearer at 45 to 47½c; Allspice, 12½ to 14c; Nutmegs, 65 to 90c; Jamaica Ginger, 20 to 23; Pimento, 12 to 13c; Mace, 75c to 80c. *Fruit.*—There has been a fair jobbing trade in prospect of the Christmas demand, prices however have not varied much since this day week. Layers are selling \$1.57½ to 1.65; loose Muscoteles \$1.85 to 1.95; London Layers are scarce at \$2.25 to 2.50; Sultanias 7½ to 8½c; Valencias 6½ to 7c; Seedless 6½ to 7c; Currants are not in large supply but are slow of sale at 6½ to 7c; No prunes in market. Figs 9 to 13c; according to size of box. Tarragona Almonds 13 to 14c; Filberts 7½ to 8½c; Walnuts are out of stock till new supplies arrive.

HIDES AND PELTS.—Contrary to expectation no reduction in the price of hides has taken place but the market is very dull with little demand and quotations are the same as last week. No 1 hides \$9.00; No 2 ditto \$8.00 No 3 ditto \$7.00; Lambskins 90c.

HARDWARE.—There has been no improvement to notice in this line of business during the past week. Some of the wholesale houses have been doing a freely active business, but it is only the final little rush previous to the clos-