—The International Coal Co. will apply to the coming session of Parliament for power to issue mortgage bonds in order to pay the balance due on its mining properties and rights and for other purposes, and to work, maintain and extend the railway existing in connection with the properties acquired by said company and for other purposes.

—According to a report of the Internal Revenue Department of the United States, the amount of beer which paid taxes in the States last year was 588,000,000 gallons. Add to this the beer exported and evading the tax, and the amount was 600,000,000 gallons. The United States now ranks third in the list of beer-producing countries in the world. England is at the head of all beer-producing countries, with 27,000 breweries and a product of 990,000,000 gallons annually; while Germany, with 25,000 breweries, makes 900 000,000 gallons yearly. The United States, with only 3,000 breweries, makes about 600,000,000 gallons per annum. Then come France, with 3,000 breweries, and a production of 157,500,000 gallons; and Austria and Hungary, with 2,093 breweries, but a production of 280,000,000 gallons. Belgium has 1,250 breweries, which produced last year 210,-250,000 gallons; Holland, 34,000,000 gallons; Russia, 8 000,000 gallons; Switzerland, 3,500,-000 gallons; Denmark, 28 000,000 gallons; Sweden, 21,000,000 gallons; and Italy, only 4,000,000 gallons.

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, Feb. 11th, 1885.

The commercial situation is generally unchanged. Reports from dry goods travellers returning from their first spring trip, are rather better than was expected earlier in the season; still buying has been on the light side, retailers generally having adopted a conservative policy much to be commended. Other lines are pretty quiet. The heavy storm of Monday and Tuesday, will likely block the country roads badly, and thus afford another excuse for slow remittances which most lines complain of. The money market continues easy with ample supplies, and rates unchanged. Stocks have been slightly easier with a fair amount of trading among brokers, but outside orders are not numerous.

ASHES.—The market is again a turn stronger owing probably to the very light receipts, as well as to the fact that there is another buyer in the market. The English market still rules very dull. No. 1 pots are selling at $3.55 to $3.60, the majority bringing the latter figure. Seconds $3.00, and very few offering. Nothing whatever doing in pearls, and no quotation can be made.

DRY GOODS.—A number of travellers are getting home from first spring trip, and upon comparing notes and results it is generally conceded that business has been better than the numerous complaints earlier in the season would lead one to expect. From several houses we hear that the aggregate of goods sold thus far is rather higher than last year. The complaints as to remittances continue to the 4th of the month, passed off only fairly, and houses who got 50 per cent. of their bills paid, considered that they did well. City retail trade is dull, as need be only expected after Carnival time, and many are occupied stock taking, &c. Cottons, matters as regards the combination are understood to be further advanced, and we hear it stated to-day that the advance has been fixed on greys, the price to be equal to 21c. per lb., or equivalent to about a raise of 15 per cent.

CEMENTS, FIRECLAY, &c.—We quote Portland cement, $3.25; Roman, $2 75; Canadian, $1 75; fireclay, $2 per bag, $12 per ton; firebricks, $25 to $30 per thousand, $3.25 in small lots.

FLOUR.—In this line there has been an almost total absence of demand for some days past, and stocks at the beginning of the week showed a gain of some 6,000 brls. Prices are consequently not strong, and concessions would probably be made from quotations: Superior Extra $4.15 to $4.20; Extra Superfine, $4.00 to $4.05; Fancy $3.75 to $3.85; Spring Extra, $3.70 to $3.75; Superfine, $3.45 to $3.55; Strong Bakers' (Canadian), $4 to $4.25; Strong Bakers' (American), $4.50 to $5.00; Fine, $3.25 to $3.30; Middlings, $3.00 to 3.10; Pollards, $2.80 to $2.90.

FISH.—There is not the amount of business doing in this line that is usually done at this season, now so close to Lent, and whether this is due to the fact that meat is cheap, or that the quality of fish has been below the standard, the last two years, is hard to say. Prices are unchanged: No. 1 salmon is pretty well cleared out, having been bought up for the American market. We quote: Labrador herrings, $5.50; eastern shore, $4.75 to 5; fat July, C.B., $5.25; dry cod, Gaspe $4.50; American cod, $3.00 to $3.25; green cod, No. 1 being sold at $4 00 to $4.25; large No. 1, $4.75 to $0; No. 2 about $3 to 3 25; North Shore salmon, $14, $13 and $12 for Nos. 1, 2, and 3 respectively; British Columbia salmon, $11 to $00; Mackerel, $4 to $6; lake trout $4.25 to $4.50.

FURS.—The great fur sales of the year take place in London next month, and the date of the Hudson Bay sale has been postponed from the 9th and following days to the 12th. Every thing points at the moment to an era of low prices, and the general expectation seems to be that the March sales will result in pretty general shrinkage all round. We quote:—Beaver, fall $2.00 to $2 25; do winter, $2.50 to $2.75; Bear, $8.00 to $10.00; do., cub, $4.00 to $6.00; Fisher, $6.00; Red Fox, $1.00 to $1.30; Cross do., $2.00 to $3.00; Marten, $1.00; Lynx $2 50 to $3.50; Mink, average 50c; fall muskrat 5c.; winter Muskrat, 8c.; spring muskrat will be about 12½c.; Otter, $8 00 to $10.00; Raccoon, 50c. average; Skunk, 40 to 60c.

GROCERIES.—In this line the volume of trade is comparatively well sustained, and payments are better than in most other lines. Sugars are a shade easier than a week ago; refinery price for granulated is 6¾c., though 6⅝c. would probably buy. Low grade yellows are scarce, and nothing under 4½c. Molasses on the quiet

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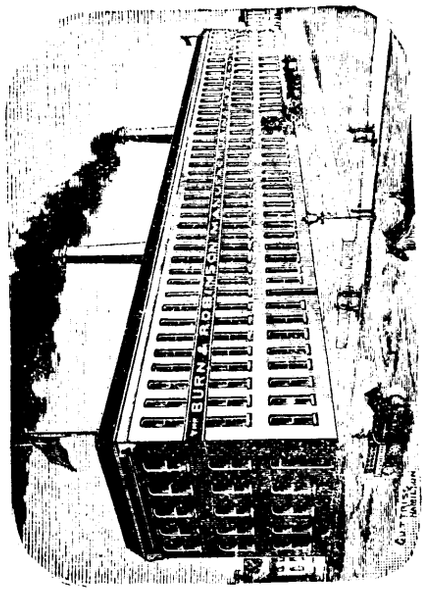

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