

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKET.

From our own Reporter.

MONTREAL, Dec. 10, 1872.

Winter has set in very severely this week, a snow storm begun on Saturday night and continued with very little intermission till this afternoon, as the snow was soft it packed well and made excellent winter roads, last night the wind was very high and has drifted the snow to a considerable depth in many places. The ice extends a good way across the river, but as the water has not yet begun to rise it looks as if it would be sometime yet before the ice bridge is formed.

Trade in most branches has been very quiet, and very little business has to be recorded beyond supplying retail wants, but prices generally are regarded as satisfactory. Bread-stuffs quiet and lower. Provisions dull. Ashes unsettled.

ASHES.—*Pots.*—The advance noted in this description of ash in our last report has been maintained. The demand all week has been good, and a fair quantity of firsts were placed at \$6.90 to 7, the market closes very firm at our outside quotation. Seconds have also been largely dealt with, and brought from \$6. to 6.25. Thirds changing hands at \$5.40; *Pearls.*—This ash is very scarce at present and holders are not disposed to sell at the present time, the nominal price is \$8.40 to 8.45. The stocks at present in store are Pots 837 brls., Pearls 354 brls.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—The demand for felt goods is good, as is also Buff Boots, in other kinds of stock there is little doing and manufacturers are beginning to prepare for the spring trade. We have no change to report in prices which are nominally as follows:—Men's No. 1 stogas \$2.50 to 2.60; ditto No. 2 \$2.25 to 2.30; kid clumps \$3; calf clumps \$3.75; calf congress \$2.50 to 3; buff congress \$2.20 to 2.30; bops boots \$2 to 2.25; women's calf boots, D S, \$1.30; ditto buff D S, \$1.25; ditto split D S, \$1.10 to 20; buff congress D S, \$1.15 to 1.30; felt bal-morals D S, \$1.05 to 1.75.

CATTLE.—There is a much larger demand for good cattle at the present time than the supply can meet. Prices consequently are very firm. First quality \$6.50 to 7.00; second ditto \$5.75 to 6.00; third ditto \$4.50 to 5.00; *Sheep* steady at \$4.00 to 6.00; and *Lambs* \$2.50 to 4.00. *Live Hogs* \$4.25 to 4.75.

DRY GOODS.—There is nothing of a wholesale character doing in this business at present, some small orders are being filled for country merchants whose stocks were not quite full. Business in the country districts is reported as being very good now that the roads are in a good state for travelling. Manufacturers of Clothing are now beginning on their spring goods and prices are likely to rule high.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—Very little doing just now, some small sales of *Sal Soda* are reported at \$2.12½ to 2.20; *Bi Carbonate of Soda* sold at a shade under last weeks prices viz., at \$5.40 to 5.50; *Epsom salts* dull and nominal at \$1.75; *Saltpetre* \$10.25 to 10.50; *Soda ash* 3½ to 3¾; *Alum* 2 to 2½; *Bleaching Powder* 3½ to 3¾; *Cream Tartar* 28 to 31c; *Refined Borax* 20 to 24c. In absence of wholesale transactions the prices of these latter articles are nominal.

FISH.—Almost all kinds of fish are in good demand. *Dry Cod* firm at \$4.25 to 4.50; *Green Cod* \$3.00 to 3.25; *Salmon* \$16. to 17.50; *Labrador Herrings* \$3.75 to 4.00; *Canso* split herrings \$2.50 to 3.25; *Mackerel* is scarce and as high as \$6. to 7.00 has been paid.

FURS.—Mink continues dull of sale and hardly returns the price to the collectors. A large business is doing here at present in manufactured furs—and prices are well maintained, but to

effect sales of Mink lower prices would have to be taken; we continue to quote:—beaver, \$2.00 to 2.50 per lb; black bear, \$10 to 12; fisher, \$6 to 7; silver fox, \$25 to 50; cross fox, \$2 to 5; red fox \$1.50; lynx, \$1.50 to 1.75; dark marten, \$5 to 7; pale marten \$2 to 2.50; dark mink, \$4. to 5; mink prime 2d \$2 to 3; fall muskrat, 10c. to 12½c; winter do., 15c; spring do., 25c; racoon, 40c. to 50c; skunk, 25c; otter, \$10 to 12.

FLOUR.—Receipts for the past week 19,389 brls; total receipts from 1st January to date 859,091 brls; being a decrease of 55,492 brls on the receipts for the corresponding period of 1871; shipments for the past week 7510 brls; total shipments from 1st January to date 720,982 brls being an increase of 18,309 brls on the shipments for the corresponding period of 1871. This market since the close of navigation has been dull and lifeless nothing doing beyond supplying wants for local consumption, prices have a downward tendency and a decline of about 10c is noted on last Tuesday prices. We now quote.—Extra, \$6.90 to 7.10; fancy \$6.35 to 6.40; ordinary supers from Canada wheat, \$5.85 to 5.95; strong baker's flour, \$6.00 to 6.40; Welland Canal flour, nominal; Canada super No. 2, \$5.70 to 5.75; fine, \$5.10 to 5.20; middlings, \$4.00 to 4.20; Pollards, \$2.25 to 3; Upper Canada bags, \$2.65 to 2.85; oatmeal market steady holders are firm asking \$4.90 to 5.10; cornmeal, \$3 to 3.15.

GRAIN.—*Wheat.* Receipts for the past week 2,800 bush; total receipts from 1st January to date 4,501,932 bush, being a decrease of 3,478,177 bush on the receipts for the corresponding period of 1871; shipments for the week to Portland 25,007 bush; total shipments from 1st January to date 3,619,118 bush, being a decrease of 3,799,938 bush on the shipments for the corresponding period of 1871. There has been a very limited demand this week, some Car loads of Canada spring have sold at \$1.35 to 1.36 towards the close of the market there was no transactions to report, and prices are quite nominal. *Maize* quiet, worth about 55, to 57c for car loads. *Pease* 80c; *Barley* in better demand from 55c to 60 with sales within these rates. *Oats* steady and in active demand at 32c for new, and 34c for old crop, Pot Barley is taken for shipment at \$5.50 and Pearl at \$10 Montreal manufacture.

GROCERIES.—*Tea* Market quiet, without any demand, and holders are not anxious to press sales. Market is well supplied, we have no change to make on last week's rates. *Sugar*—Market is easier, very few large sales transpiring. Barbadoes and Demerara are quoted at 8½ to 9c; Porto Rico 8½ to 9½; Refined is a shade lower, Crushed 11½ to 12c; Ground 12½c, nodry crushed at present in stock; *Molasses* steady and perhaps a trifle more is paid than was obtainable last week but the business done has been limited to local wants with sales of clayed at 22 to 23c; Centrifugal 19 to 20c; Demerara in small quantities was placed at 37½c; syrups are scarce, Golden 44 to 46c; and amber 74c. *Spices* are quiet but prices are fully maintained. *Rice* is in steady demand at \$4.10 to 4.20; *Coffee*—There has been rather more enquiry for coffees lately but the sales do not amount to much. Java is firm at 22 to 23c; Rice is held at 17 to 19c; Ceylon is nominal 18 to 20c; *Fruit*—Market quiet some small sales of layer raisins at \$1.60 to 1.65 but it is understood that they could be bought in quantity somewhere near \$1.57. Valentias 7½ to 7¾c for round parcels and 8c for small; Sultanas nominal at 11c. New currants 6½ to 6¾c; old ditto are now out of stock. almonds 11 to 13½c; Filberts 10 to 11c; walnuts 7 to 9c; Prunes 6½ to 7c in cases; figs in cases 2lb boxes 12½c.

HIDES AND PELTS.—Market is steady and a fair quantity have been sold, but no change is noted in prices although they are quoted weak for Salted Hides \$9.50 to 10.00; No 1 Green Hides \$9. to 9.50; No 2 do \$8.50 to 9.; No 3

and Bulls \$7 to 8. Sheep and Lambskins are firm and a little higher, sales from 75c. to \$1.00.

HARDWARE.—The usual dullness consequent on the close of navigation has been very marked this week and very little activity is looked for till the beginning of the year, but it is expected that an advance in the price of many articles will then take place, meantime we have no change to note on last weeks quotations which we now repeat.—*Pig Iron*—Coltness, \$44 to 45; Gartsherrie, \$43.00 to 44.00; Summerlee, \$42 to 43; Glengarnock, \$41 to 42; Laugloan, \$41 to 42; Eglinton, \$40 to 41; Clyde, \$38 to 39; Hematite, \$46 to 47.00. *Bars*—Scotch or Staffordshire, \$65 to 70; best refined, \$75 to 80; Swedes, \$100 to 120. *Hoop and Band*, \$4.50 to 6.00. *Sheets*, \$6 to 7.50 *Plates*—Best, \$5 to 7; Lowmoor and Bowling, \$9 to 10. *Nails*—Cut, \$6 to 7; pressed, \$7 to 11; pressed spikes, \$6.50 to 7. *Canada Plates*—Hatton, \$7.75 to 8.00; Swansea, \$8.00 to 8.25. *Tin Plates*—Charcoal IC, \$13.00 to 13.50; ditto IX, \$15.00 to 15.50; coke, IC, \$12.50 to 13. *Sheet Lead*, \$7 to 7.50; pig lead, \$6 to 7. *Zinc*—Spelter, \$6.50 to 7; sheet, \$7.50 to 8. *Galvanized Iron*, 11c to 13c. *Cast Steel*, 14c to 16c; spring do., 6c to 6½c; sleigh shoe, 5½c to 6c. *Window Glass*—For good 4th quality, under 25 united inches, \$3; to 40 inches, \$3.20; to 50 inches, \$3.50, owing to the large demand for the English and other markets, and the high price of Coal, no decline in these prices can be expected.

LEATHER.—Trade keeps very quiet, and very little change can be noted in prices; holders of sole leather are not pushing sales, as an advance in that article is looked for as soon as trade begins to revive. Harness has been in rather more request, but in other kinds of leather there has been nothing of any consequence doing. We quote:—No. 1 Spanish sole, 26c to 27c; do. No. 2, 24 to 25c; Buffalo sole No. 1 23; do No. 2, 21c; slaughter sole No. 1. 30c; light waxed upper, 40 to 42c; heavy do. 36 to 38c; grained upper 38 to 42c; large splits, 26 to 34c; small do. 26 to 30c; sheepskin linings, 30 to 36c; harness, 29 to 31c; buffed cow, 14 to 17c. pebbled cow, 14 to 17c; patent cow, 19 to 20c.

LIQUORS.—*Brandy*—Market steady, sales of favorite brands such as Martell's and Hennessy's in wood are reported at \$2.05 to 2.15. Cases are firmly held of these brands for \$8.50 to 9. *Gin* in moderate demand, De Kuyper's in wood, \$1.42½ to 1.45, and Houtman's, \$1.30 to 1.35; red cases, \$6.50 to 6.60; green cases, \$3.60 to 3.65. *Highwines* moderately active. Upper Canada brands, \$1.47½ to 1.50; Montreal brands, \$1.52½ to 1.55.

NAVAL STORES.—Market quiet. Spirits of turpentine keep well up in price, and our quotations to-day are 77½ to 80c, being 5c over last Tuesday's prices. No change to notice in rosins, which, in the absence of transactions are nominal. A good demand exists for pine pitch and tar at \$5.50; coal pitch and tar are scarce, and sell at \$2.75 to 3.

OILS.—Very little animation noticeable in this market, and sales reported have been very light. *Linseed* is dull, 74 to 75c for raw, and 79 to 80c for boiled being the general quotations. *Oliver* is quiet, with some few sales at \$1.05 to 1.10. *Cod* quiet at 55c; *Pale Seal*, 65 to 66c; steam refined, 67½ to 69c; straw seal, 57½ to 60c; palm oil, 8½ to 9c per lb; bleached whale, 70 to 75c, and crude 55 to 57½c nominal. *Petroleum*—We have no change to note in price of this article, car lots being placed at 38c, and smaller quantities 40 to 42½c, the demand is hardly as great as during the previous week.

PROVISIONS.—*Butter.*—Receipts 2,098 kegs; shipments 1917 kegs, the demand has been confined to local wants at 15 to 18c for good to choice Western, and 12 to 13c for fair dairy market closed dull. *Cheese.*—Receipts 2,765