

STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

Montreal, 17th December, 3 p.m.

Stocks.	Lowest Point in Week.	Highest Point in Week.	Total Transact'ns in Week.	Buyers.	Sellers.	Average Price, like Date, 1878.
Montreal.....	138	142½	1585	138	139	140½
" x.d.....						
Ontario.....	72	125	68½			69
Consolidated.....	60	37	71½			61
Peoples.....			5	118	122	118
Molson.....	59	150	58			60
Toronto.....	86	89	779	86	86½	81
Jac. Cartier.....	118½	119½	400	B	C	
Merchants.....						
Commerce.....						
Union.....						
Hamilton.....						
Exchange.....						
Mon. Tel.....	95	97½	1296	96	97	110
Dom. Tel.....						
Rich. & O. Nav.....	41½	42	255	40½	41½	47
City Pass.....				70	79	79
Gas.....	114½	119½	1456	115½	116	107½
R. C. Ins. Co.....						
Merchants x.d.....						
Eastern T'ps.....						
Sterling Ex.....						
Commerce x.d.....	115	25	114½	114½		102½

OIL MATTERS IN PETROLIA.

PETROLIA, 16th Dec., 1879.

Crude market has kept very firm during the week, prices have been fully sustained and the figure of \$1.60 has been paid; \$1.58 to \$1.60 may be regarded as the correct average quotation. Refined very firm. As the cheap summer contracts and stocks are being worked off the demand at current quotations is increasing.

FIRE RECORD.

ONTARIO.—Ancaster, 6th—Heaslip & Garret's shoe factory and an adjoining house destroyed by fire, loss about \$6,000, insured \$3,800 in Waterloo & Grand River Co.—New Hamburg, 7th—Chas. Wood's brick dwelling destroyed, contents mostly saved, loss \$500.—Chatham, 6th—Wing's wooden bakery wrecked by fire and water; loss over \$1,000 on stock, insured \$485 in Lancashire; Hooper King owns the building, insured in Merchants and Mnf's. for \$500.—Campbellford, 3rd—James McDaniel's barn and stables destroyed, insured in Agricultural Mutual for \$400.—Martintown, 5th—Jno. Robertson's house destroyed, loss \$250, insured in Isolated Risk \$400.—Manotick 9th—Hotel of A. Davidson took fire, kitchen destroyed, loss \$1200, insured \$700 in Canada.—Sunderland, 8th.—D. McKinnon's frame dwelling burned, not insured.—Millbank, 8th.—Rob Roy hotel and stables burned, insured \$1500 in Waterloo Mutual.—St. Catharines, 8th.—Welland House damaged \$1,000 by fire in oil room, believed insured.—Toronto, 10th.—The shoe store of Duncan Fuller & Co. damaged by fire, building owned by J. G. Beard, covered in Western, stock by policy of \$7,000 in Dominion.—Point Edward, 9th.—Judge's hotel partially burned; insured in Western and stock in Citizens.—Glen Williams, 9th.—Beaumont's shoddy mill burned, stock and machinery insured in Canada Farmers for \$1000.—Blandford, 9th.—Jos. Matthiesons barn and stable burned.—East Zorra.—W. Hubbel's barn and contents, insured in Waterloo Mutual.—Manotick, 10th.—Alex. Davidson's hotel burned, insured in Canada Fire and Marine for \$700.—Manotick 17th.—Carrigan & Harts and John Hicks wagon shop burned, building owned by Thomas McCorkill, who loses \$600 and is but slightly insured.—Chesley, 13th.—Arch. McDonald's saw-mill burned loss \$1,200 small insurance.—Pickanock, 12th.—Dr. Duhamel's residence destroyed.—St. Catharines.—Sam. Wenton's barn burned, no insurance.

OTHER PROVINCES.—Dorchester, N.B., 8th—W. H. Couillard, furniture dealer, burned out, losing \$2,500; no insurance.—Sackville, 4th—Wm. Wheaton's dwelling house burned; not insured.—Montreal, 2nd—The farm buildings of R. Macdonald, Lachine Road, together with eighteen cows, two horses and season's crops, destroyed by fire; loss about \$10,000; partly insured.—9th—Fire broke out in Miller Bros. & Mitchell's machine shops; damage covered by insurance; the building, owned by H. R. Ives & Co., not insured.—6th—Farm building of John Broder, Cote St. Luc, burned with contents; partly covered in National.—Halifax, 12th.—Acadia Hotel gutted, furniture insured in Imperial \$2,500, building in Queen \$5,000.

NEWFOUNDLAND TRADE.

A St. John's letter of Dec. 2nd states that vessels have discharged cargo earlier than last year, and returned home. This has been owing to the fact of having such fine weather in the month of November. The returns are as favorable as were expected. The only drawback to complete satisfaction is the low price of fish. It appears from the *Commercial Journal* of November 26th that the export of codfish from 1st August to that date amounts to 281,640 qtls, against 220,814 qtls for the corresponding period of last year; nearly 50,000 qtls of the excess were shipped to the Brazilian markets. 1,593 tons cod oil have been shipped against 1,205 tons last year, and 1,930 tons seal oil against 1,468 tons. Salmon shows an excess on the export of 286 tierces, and herring of 965 barrels.

The import of breadstuffs is short 355 cwt. bread, 10,392 barrels flour, 2,114 brls corn meal. Pork is deficient 2,834 brls., molasses 2,407 puns, coffee 103 cwt, manufactured tobacco 9,996 lbs, beef is in excess 174 brls, butter 1,603 cwt, rum 50 puns, sugar 1,111 cwt, tea 18,914 lbs. We append a comparative list of the imports during the year as given by the same journal. There will be few changes in the table henceforward as most of the stocks are in for the season.

TABLE OF IMPORTS—FROM JANUARY 1ST TO NOVEMBER 22ND.

	1878.	1879.
Biscuit, cwt,	805	440
Flour, brls,	244,361	233,969
Cornmeal, brls,	7,027	4,913
Pork brls,	26,162	23,328
Beef, brls,	2,141	2,315
Butter, cwts,	15,995	17,593
Rum, puns,	420	470
Molasses, puns,	10,483	8,076
Sugar, cwts,	13,676	14,787
Coffee, cwts,	826	723
Tobacco, lbs,	86,490	76,494
Tea, lbs,	522,472	541,386
Soap, boxes,	12,752	8,615
Candles, boxes,	620	1,658
Salt, tons,	20,883	23,301
Coals, tons,	42,091	40,298
Pitch and Tar, brls,	2,561	2,973
Potatoes, brls,	13,154	13,472
Oats, bush,	31,478	51,634
Kerosene Oil, brls,	4,638	5,690
Oxen and Cows, head,	3,085	4,221
Sheep,	5,001	6,038

RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

	Week ending	Total earnings.	Like period 1878.	Increase or decrease
G. T. R.....	Dec. 13	\$189,259	\$189,259	\$30,327 I
G. W. R.....	" 5	95,154	73,406	21,748 I.
I. C. R.....	Oct. 10			
N. & H. & N. W.	" 8	18,809	15,442	3,367 I
Midland.....	" 7	3,615	3,102	513 I.
T. G. & B.....	" 13	6,348	5,995	353 I.
T. & N.....	" 6	3,780	2,980	800 I.
W. P. & L.....				

THE cost of an ordinary railway passenger car is \$4,200; of a baggage or mail car \$2,400; of a drawing-room car, \$9,000 to \$12,000 furnished. The average cost of box cars is \$400 to \$450.

For a school-teacher's vacant post, at Oshawa, there were three hundred applicants the other day. A committee of trustees took three days and nights to wade through the 1200 pages of letters and testimonials, and their conclusion is, we believe, that a vast amount of physical ability is being wrongly directed.

—The new ship, the "Athlone" 1,418 tons register, was lately built at Spencer's Island, N.S., and is chartered to load at St. John N.B., for Liverpool at a good rate, one eighth of her is held by the captain, and seven eighths by D. M. Dickie & Son.

—In the case of John D. Martin, leather merchant of St. John Newfoundland, seven and six pence in the pound has been offered for the estate with security, and an arrangement will probably be made.

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, 16th Dec., 1879.

As the year draws to a close and there is not much doing, it is satisfying to hear the confidence expressed in commercial circles, that the improvement in business which has been experienced during the past few months will be more fully developed in the opening of next year's business. Tweed and cotton manufacturers are fully occupied and are advancing prices from 5 to 10 per cent. Hardware is very firm and judging from accounts from England, buyers in this market would do well to lay in their stocks at present prices as they cannot be replaced at anything like the figures now ruling. Groceries are quiet and easier and the refinery has lowered its price for granulated sugar to 10½c and yellow to 8½ to 9½c. Leather is quiet and steady. Breadstuffs are a little dearer but in light demand. Provisions are firm. There has been a good enquiry for butter but high prices asked stops business. The stock of Wheat in store yesterday shows an increase of 39,346 bushels, and flour a decrease of 11,927 barrels as compared with the stock in store on 15th Dec., 1878.

ASHES.—Pots.—The market continues to have an upward tendency with a moderate demand, stocks are steadily decreasing, while imports are light; prices range from from \$4.85 to 4.95; Pearls are quiet, last reported sale was at \$5.50. The stocks just now in store are Pots 452 brls; Pearls 77 brls.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—Business keeps extremely quiet as is usual at this season. Prices, however, in sympathy with material keep very firm. We quote. Men's Split brogans \$1.10; ditto Cowhide boots, \$2.50 to 2.75; ditto Kip Boots, \$2.75 to 3.25; ditto French Calf, \$3.50 to 3.75; ditto Buff Congress, \$2.00 to 2.50; ditto Split boots, \$2.00 to \$2.25; ditto Boys' stogas, \$1.70 to \$2.20; ditto Buff congress, \$1.60 to 1.75; ditto split brogans, \$1.00; Women's buff and pebbled Balmorals, \$1.25 to \$1.60; ditto split bala 85c to \$1.10; ditto Prunella boots, 80c. to \$2.00; Misses split balmorals 85 to 95c; ditto Buff and pebbled Balmorals \$1.10 to \$1.20; ditto Prunella boots 70c to \$1.20.