

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKET.

From our own Reporter.

MONTREAL, April, 15, 1873.

The unpropitious state of the weather and the holidays during the past week have interfered a good deal with business, but as we have now the prospect of an early opening of navigation, an improvement in all branches of trade is looked for. Dry goods have been in less demand but prices are generally firm. Hardware business improving with the approach of open navigation. Groceries dull. Chemicals only in retail demand. Breadstuffs quiet and nominal. Ashes easier. Provisions firm.

With the exception of Thursday and Friday which were really spring days, the weather has been wet and cold since my last report. Rain every day. The streets are now almost clear of snow. All crossing on the river ceased on Sunday and late on Sunday night a heavy "shove" took place piling up the ice in many places to a considerable height and opposite the Bonsecours market on to the street. The lake ice is expected down to-day and if an opening does not take place about Longueuil, a flood is looked for, and many parties are taking precautions in case of such an event. The expectation is that the river will be open by Monday.

ASHES.—*Pots*—Receipts have been small this week but the demand has been fairly active. Sales generally have had a downward tendency from \$6.95 to 6.80; market to-day closing quiet and nominal at \$6.75 to 6.80 for first sort; seconds \$6 to 6.05 and thirds \$5.30. *Pearls*—Stocks are not freely offered just now and very few transactions have transpired the nominal price to-day is for firsts \$9.25, seconds \$8.50. The stocks at present held at the Inspection stores are pots 922 brls, pearls 233 brls.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—Our wholesale houses are busy preparing goods for shipment as soon as navigation is open. Orders are coming in very freely from travellers, the fulfilment of which keep stocks from accumulating. Prices keep very steady, our list showing very little change. We quote:—Men's Kip Boots \$2.65 to 3.10; ditto French Calf \$3.00 to 3.75; ditto Split Brogans \$1 to 1.25; ditto Buff Congress \$1.75 to 2; ditto Prunella Congress \$1.50 to 2.00; Boys Split Brogans 90c to \$1; Womens Buff Boots \$1.15 to 1.25; ditto Split ditto 90c to \$1.05; ditto Prunella Congress 75c to \$1.75; ditto Fine Kid Balmorals \$2 to 2.50.

CATTLE.—Our markets have been well supplied this week with prime beef said to be the best ever brought into this market, most of these fine cattle came from Guelph Whitby Toronto and Kingston, the prices realized ranged from \$7 to 10. per 100 lbs. live weight according to quality. *Sheep and Lambs.*—Supply only moderate, prices when sold by the score \$4.50 to 6; single animals \$5.00 to 12.00. *Hogs* \$7 to 8 per 100 lbs.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—The state of this market presents no new feature since last report, the business done being chiefly confined to retail lots within our range of quotations. Cream Tartar is firmer no sales reported under 30c. Saltpetre is steady and the price of \$10.50 to 11.50 is well maintained; *Sal Soda* has declined sales reported at 2½ to 2½c; *Soda Ash* 3½c; *Bi Carb* in small supply, prices are stiff at \$5.75 to 6.00; *Caustic Soda* is steady at 5½; Some sales of Bleaching Powder to arrive are reported at 3½ to 3½c; *Alum* unchanged at 2½c; *Epsom Salts* 1½ to 2c but principally sold at our outside quotation; *Blue Vitriol* 7½ to 8c; Refined borax 30c; *Copperas* \$1.25 to 1.50; Sulphur and Brimstone are unchanged.

DRY GOODS.—The holidays and the state of the weather has interfered a good deal this week

with business, and the demand has been lighter than for sometime past, however the business is again expected to be brisk as the opening of navigation is near, prices of all lines of goods are reported to be firm. Very little doing in Fancy Goods. Clothing quiet very few buyers at present in the City.

FISH.—*Dry Cod*—is very scarce and holders will not sell under \$4.75 to 5.00. For Labrador Herrings there is now no demand, and the stock is low—the price is nominal at \$3.50 to 3.75. *Salmon*—per lb., \$15.00. Stocks of all kinds of fish are now very low.

FURS.—Market presents nothing of consequence to note at present, not much doing, but prices keep firm as follows:—Beaver \$2.00 to 2.50 per lb; black bear, \$10.00 to 12.00; fisher, \$6 to 7; silver fox, \$25 to 50; crossfox, \$2 to 5; red fox, \$1.50 to 1.60; lynx, \$1.75 to 2; dark marten, \$5 to 7; pale marten \$2 to 2.50; dark mink, \$3. to 4; mink, prime, 2d \$1.50 to 2; fall muskrat, 8c. to 10c winter do., 13 to 15c; spring do., 20c; racoon, 40c to 50c; skunk, 25c; otter, \$10 to 12.

FLOUR.—Receipts for the past week 7,700 brls; total receipts from 1st January to date 131,028 brls: being an increase of 20,439 brls on the receipts for the corresponding period of 1872. The stocks in store and in the hands of millers this morning were 77,443 brls, against 68,286 brls on the 1st inst, and 76,575 brls on 15th April, 1872. As will be observed from these figures the stock of flour is steadily increasing, although it does not amount to so much as was held prior to the opening of navigation in 1872. Market during the week ruled dull and prices generally in favor of buyers—trade has been confined chiefly to the supply of city wants. Nospeculative transactions have been reported. To-day the market was still quiet, but if anything there seemed more disposition to do business, and sales reported were within the following range of quotations:—Extra \$6.90 to 7.20; Fancy \$6.50 to 6.60; Ordinary supers from Canada wheat \$5.85 to 5.90; Strong Bakers Flour \$6.00 to 6.10; Canada super No. 2 \$5.60 to 5.65; Fine \$4.90 to 5.00; Middlings \$4 to 4.25; Pollards \$2.25 to 3.00; Upper Canada Bags \$2.80 to 2.85; Oatmeal in good demand at \$5 to 5.10, large sales for future delivery of Lower Canada brands at quotations; Cornmeal \$3 to 3.15.

GRAIN.—*Wheat*—No receipts reported this week. The stocks in store and in the hands of millers this morning were 138,535 bush against 137,137 bush on the 1st inst. and 153,557 bush on 15th April, 1872. The market is still nominal. Some Canada spring for May delivery was placed at \$1.35; \$1.28 has been offered for Chicago spring May delivery, holders asking 2c more without finding buyers. *Maize*—Stock in store 349,718 bush. Market is steady, sales of carloads at 5½ to 60c. *Oats*—Dull and nominal, 30 to 32c. *Peas*—Stock in store 3,987 bush. Market is firm owing to the scarcity of this grain, 82½ to 95c would readily be paid. *Barley*—Market quiet and unchanged, very little good grain offering but what would command 60c. *Timothy Seed*—Market firm with sales from \$3.15 to 3.30. *Flax Seed*—\$1.50 to 1.70. *Pot and Pearl Barley*—Are in good demand at unchanged prices.

GROCERIES.—*Teas*—We can hardly attempt to give quotations this week, business has been so dull that it was almost impossible to sell teas at any price, an active business however is expected as soon as it can be moved by water. *Coffee*—Market is quiet and if anything easier than last week. We quote Java, 22 to 25c; Ceylon, 20 to 25c; Singapore, 20 to 22c; nothing of any moment doing in South American or West India coffee. *Fruit*—There has been a good demand for layer raisins at advanced rates and our outside quotation of last week, viz: \$1.60 is now firmly maintained and buyers would now likely have to pay 5 to 10c

more for small parcels; valentia raisins are dull at 5 to 6c, the stocks on hand are large; currants are steady at 6 to 6½c; nuts of all kinds are scarce and nominal. *Sugars*—Only some few sales for the retail trade are reported this week at about the following rates: Cuba, 8½ to 9c; centrifugal, 9½c; yellow, 8½ to 9½c; English refined loaf, 12 to 12½c; Canada refined ground (table), 11½c; crushed A, 11c; yellow refined, 8½ to 9½c. *Molasses*—Some few small transactions are reported in Barbadoes at 38 to 40c; Muscovado, 27½ to 30c; clayed, 20 to 25c; centrifugal, 19 to 22c; golden syrup, 44c; amber do., 72c. *Spices*—Not much doing beyond the supply of retail wants and prices are nominally unchanged. *Rice*—Stocks are very low and our late quotations of \$4.25 to 4.50 are fully maintained.

HIDES AND PELTS.—Not much doing just now; market quiet; quotations are firm as follows:—Salted hides \$9.50 to 10 No. 1 green, \$9 to 9.50; No. 2 ditto, 8.50 to 9; No. 3 and bulls, \$7 to 8; sheep and lambskins, \$1.50 to 2.

HARDWARE.—There has been a temporary lull in business this week, but as soon as navigation opens the shipments of goods west will revive, as all the leading houses are fairly supplied with orders, to be sent forward per first boats. For Pig Iron the demand continues as heavy as ever, and what is expected to arrive by first ships has already been sold. It is feared that the supplies of bars purchased in England may be late of coming to hand, consequently a good deal has been taken up. Prices remain steady at the following rates:—*Pig Iron*—Coltness, none in market, Gartsherrie, \$48.00 to 50.00; Summerlee \$48.00 to 49.00; Glengarnock, \$47 to 48; Laug loan, \$47 to 48.00; Eglinton, \$44 to 45; Clyde, \$43 to 44; Hematite, \$49 to 50. *Bars*—Scotch or Staffordshire, \$70 to 75; best refined, \$80 to 85; Swedes, \$100 to 120. *Hoop and Band*, \$4.50 to 6.00. *Sheets*, \$6 to 7.50. *Plates*—Best, \$5 to 7; Lowmoor or Bowling, \$9 to 10. *Nails*—Cut, \$5 to 6.50; pressed, \$7 to 11.00; pressed spikes, \$6.50 to 7; *Canada Plates*—Hutton, \$7.25 to 7.50; Swansea, \$7.75 to 8; Crown \$8 to 8.50. *Tin Plates*—Charcoal IC, \$12.50 to 13.00; ditto IX, \$14.50 to 15.00; coke, IC, \$11.50 to 12. *Sheet Lead*, \$7.25 to \$7.75; pig lead, \$6.50 to \$7.00; shot lead, \$7.00 to \$7.50. *Zinc*—Spelter, \$6.50 to 7; sheet, \$7.75 to 8.25. *Galvanized Iron*, 12c to 13½c. *Cast Steel*, 15c to 16c; spring do., 6c to 7c; sleigh shoe, 6c to 6½c. *Window Glass*—For good 4th quality, under 25 united inches, \$3; to 40 inches, \$3.20; to 50 inches, \$3.50 nominal.

LEATHER.—We hear of a large sale of medium splits at 30c. The imports have been fair of most descriptions of leather, and a steady business has been done within our range of quotations, which are unchanged since last week:—Spanish sole, No. 1 26 to 27c; do. No. 2, 24 to 25c; Buffalo sole No. 1, 23c; do. No. 2, 21c; Henlock slaughter 28 to 30c; waxed upper light and medium 37½ to 42½c; do. heavy 35 to 37½c; grained upper 35 to 41c; large splits, 26 to 34c; do. small 26 to 30; calf skins (27 to 36 lbs) 65 to 75c; do. (18 to 26 lb) 55 to 65c; sheep-skin linings, 20 to 36c; harness, 28 to 32c; buffed cow, 14 to 17c. per foot; enamelled cow 18 to 19c; patent cow 19 to 20c; pebbled cow, 14 to 17c; rough leather 26 to 30.

LIQUORS.—*Brandy*—The market is firm but not much business doing just now. We quote the favorite brands such as Hennessys and Martells at \$2.00 to 2.50 in wood and \$7.15 to 9.00 in cases. *Gin*—Is firm and prices tend upwards stocks light, DeKuypers is held at \$1.45; Green cases \$3.75; Red cases \$6.75—and a further advance on these prices is confidently expected. *High Wines*—In active demand at \$1.50.

NAVAL STORES.—The advance noted on Spirits of Turpentine last week has been sustained, and the demand for that article is brisk at 80c. The