

Malcolm McArthur, Esq., of the township of Lobo.

Three Directors now retire by rotation. They are Richard Biddulph, Moses Springer, M.P.P., and James Armstrong, Esq., who are eligible for re-election.

All of which is respectfully submitted.
D. C. MACDONALD, CROWELL WILLSON,
Secretary. President.

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKET.

From our own Reporter.

MONTREAL, March 2nd, 1875.

During the early part of the week the weather was comparatively mild, but without any decided thaws. On Saturday night the temperature again fell and all Sunday was cold, with high wind. On Monday morning the thermometer again indicated 13° below zero. Snow fell yesterday afternoon, and more or less all day to-day. Roads badly drifted.

We fully expected to have been able this week to have recorded some improvement in business, but so far from that being the case, the week under review has been the dullest of the season. The demand from country districts is very small. Merchants do not seem inclined to buy, except for the supply of pressing wants. Groceries have been dull, in sympathy with the unsettled state of the New York market. Dry goods are still without the usual activity. Drugs and chemicals are dull and nominal. Hardware is unchanged. Breadstuffs have been rather more active, with tendency to higher prices. Provisions dull. Ashes easier.

ASHES—Pots.—Since the date of our last report there has been a decline in value, attributable to the low rate of exchange and tightness of money. In the early part of the week our last closing quotations were realized; but latterly the price for firsts fell to \$5.80 5.90; seconds, \$5; thirds, \$4—at which the market closes. Pearls—Market is very quiet; a few bills of firsts were placed at \$6.70 to 6.75; market closing at our outside quotations. Inferiors are nominal. The stocks in store on the 1st inst. were, Pots, 914 bbls.; Pearls, 1,110 bbls.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—We have no change to report in the state of this trade; prices are unchanged as follows:—Mens stoga boots, \$2.25 to 2.75; do Kip do \$2.75 to 3.25; do French calf \$3.50 to 3.75; Boys stoga boots \$1.75 to 2.00; do Kip do \$2.00 to 2.25; Youths stoga \$1.40 to \$1.60; Youths Kip do \$1.50 to \$1.60; Womens split boots 90c to \$1.10; do Buff do \$1.15 to 1.40; do pebbled grainbals. \$1.20 to 1.50; Misses heavy split boots 75 to 90c; do Buff do 90c to 1.25; do pebbled grain bals \$1.00 to 1.25; Childs pebbled grain bals. 75 to 90c; do. heavy buff boots 65 to 75c.

CATTLE.—The market was better supplied yesterday, but hardly equal to the demand, prices realized were higher than the previous week; the averaged price realized was \$5 to 5.25 for some as high as \$5.50 per 100 lbs. was paid, while some inferior cattle were bought for \$4.50 per 100 lbs. Sheep—a few sheep were on the stand for which \$8.00 to \$9.00 each was asked, dressed carcasses \$8.50 to 9.00 per 100 lbs. Hogs—No live hogs in the market; dressed hogs sell at \$8.50 per 100 lbs.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—Inactivity is still the ruling feature in this trade, but as stocks are very low it would be difficult to meet a heavy demand. Our quotations this week are almost nominal in the absence of transactions. Bi Carb is still quoted at \$5.00 to 5.25; Sal Soda is scarce and sells at \$1.80 to 1.90; Alum is a shade easier at \$2.25 to 2.37; Cream Tartar Crystals

28 to 29c.; ditto ground 30 to 31c.; Caustic Soda is nominal; Saltpetre \$8.25; Bleaching Powder is scarce, and holders are firm in their views, asking 3c. In other articles just now the market is nominal and lifeless.

DRY GOODS.—We have not yet been favored with the usual Spring demand, travellers in the country complain about the state of the roads, and say there will be very little activity till there is some improvement in the roads. The stocks in the country are generally large. Buyers have not yet begun to come to town, when they do they will find the stocks of spring goods very complete. There has been a little improvement in the clothing trade, and orders are better than for some time past. Remittances are not what could be desired.

FURS.—London sales take place this week, result of which we hope to give in our next report; meanwhile quotations are unchanged; Beaver, \$1.50 to 1.75; Black Bear \$6.00 to 10.00, according to size; Fisher, \$5.00 to 7.00 Silver Fox \$25.00 to 50.00; Cross Fox; \$2.00 to 5.00; Red Fox \$1.25 to 1.50; Lynx \$1.50 to 1.75; Dark Labrador Martin \$7 to 8; Pale Martin \$1.25 to 1.75; Prime Dark Mink \$2.50; Dark Mink, 2nd, \$1.50 to 2.00; Fine Dark Otter \$8 to 10; Fall Muskrat 12 to 15c; Winter do 17 to 20c; Spring do 22 to 27c; Raccoon 25 to 50c; Skunk 20 to 30c.

FISH.—There has been a very fair demand for fish, but hardly so large as was expected during Lent. There has been a more active demand for Dry Cod at \$4.50 to 4.75. No barrel Cod Fish in market. Labrador Herrings are in light supply, and for which there is a good demand at \$5 to \$5.50. Salmon has been more active this week, with sales of No. 1 at \$15 and No. 2 at \$14. Mackerel are dull of sale at \$9 for No. 1 and \$8 for No. 2.

FLOUR.—The stocks in store and in the hands of millers on the morning of the 1st inst. were 55,091 bbls., against 63,098 bbls. on the 15th ult., and 95,847 bbls. on the 1st of March, 1874. The receipts during the past week were 4,501 bbls.; total receipts from 1st January to date were 52,803 bbls., being a decrease of 21,797 bbls. on the receipts for the corresponding period of 1874. The market this week has had an upward tendency, and in anticipation of a still further improvement, holders are not pressing sales. A pretty fair business has been done at an advance on last week's prices. Market closes quiet at the following quotations:—Superior Extra \$4.90 to 5.00; Extra Superfine \$4.70 to 4.75; Fancy \$4.50 to 4.60; Spring Extra \$4.30 to 4.40; Superfine \$4.00 to 4.10; Strong Baker's Flour \$4.40 to 4.75; Fine \$3.70 to 3.80; Middlings \$3.60 to 3.70; Pollards \$3.00 to 3.25; U.C. bag flour \$2.10 to 2.20; Oatmeal is quiet at \$5.20 to 5.50; Cornmeal \$4.00.

GRAIN.—Wheat.—The stock in store and in the hands of millers on the morning of the 1st inst. was 169,673 bushels, against 167,297 bushels on the 15th ult., and 631,463 bushels on the 1st of March, 1874. Receipts for the past week, 4,800 bushels; total receipts from 1st of January to date, 26,701 bushels, being a decrease of 53,986 bushels on the receipts for the corresponding period of 1874. There has been no movement in this grain as yet, as quotations are nominal. Maize.—Stock in store 19,589 bushels; market quiet at 77½ to 80c. Peas.—Stock in store 67,269 bushels; market unchanged at 94c. Oats.—Very little doing, but prices are firm at 42 to 44c. Barley.—Stock in store 1,426 bushels; market very quiet; quotations unchanged and nominal at 82½ to 87c. Pot Barley, \$8.75 to 9.

GROCERIES.—Teas.—This market continues in a very unsatisfactory state, indeed during the last week there has been nothing doing. Holders are anxious to sell, but as Buyers anticipate lower prices they are not inclined to meet the demands of holders—and very little business is looked for till the trade revives somewhat. The

only sale we hear of was 600 hb chests of Japan at 45c. A few small sales of Green Imperial at 42c: nothing doing in Black teas. Coffee.—Stocks are moderate, but quite sufficient for the present demand; market is if anything turn lower. We quote Maracaibo 22 to 24c; Jamaica 21 to 22c; these are the only kinds in demand, other sorts are nominal. Sugar.—There has been hardly any demand for raw sugars and prices are nominal. For local refined there has been a fair demand at a shade under our quotations of last week, we now quote Grocers A 8½. Confectioners A 9c. Ground 9½. Extra Ground 9½. Scotch refined is now scarce in this market, and the nominal price is 8c. to 8½c. Molasses.—There has been a small demand for medium grades, but this kind are scarce and command from 42½ to 47½c.; Holders of molasses are now showing more disposition to sell, and the different kinds could be bought at about the following prices: Barbadoes 46 to 51c; Sugar House 39c; Centrifugal 42½ to 45c. Syrups are rather scarce at present, and holders are firm at last week's quotations. Rice, nothing doing beyond a retail demand at \$4.25 to 4.50. Spices, we have had very little demand this week, and the tendency of the market has been to lower prices. We now quote Nutmegs at 90c to \$1.05; Cloves 47c to 48c; Cassia 22c to 23; Mace \$1.40 to 1.50; Black Pepper 17 to 17½c; Ginger 24 to 25. Fruit, there is no wholesale demand existing at present. Retail dealers only buying to meet immediate wants. Layer Raisins at \$2.85 to 2.90; Sultanias are firm at 15 to 16; Valencias 8½; Currants 6 to 6½; Turkey Figs in small boxes 14 to 16; Dates 5 to 8c., according to quality. Tarragona Almonds 14 to 15c; Walnuts 8 to 9c; Filberts 10 to 11; Prunes 7½ to 7¾.

HIDES AND SKINS.—As we anticipated last week we have to note a decline in the price of hides. There is very little doing, and till some improvement takes place in the tanning trade in Quebec and elsewhere, we do not look for much activity here. We quote No. 1 hides \$7; No. 2 ditto \$6; No. 3 ditto \$5. Calfskins any few coming in sell at 13c per lb.

HARDWARE.—An improvement is observable in this line of business, and we may look for more life in trade as the month advances. Travellers are doing better, and in the course of another week it is expected that a few buyers will visit the City, which will tend to give a slight impetus to trade. Stocks of Shelf Goods are being assorted by importations from Europe and the U. S., but the high freights via Portland and Boston precludes the importation of heavy goods except in the smallest possible quantities. Prices are firm at a slight reduction on last weeks quotations. Remittances are rather unsatisfactory. We quote Pig Iron per ton. Eglington, & Clyde \$31 to 32; Summerlee, and Calder \$34.50 to 35.00; American, \$32 to 34; Hematite \$41.50 to 42.00. Bars per 100 lbs. Scotch and Staffordshire, \$2.65 to 2.75; best, ditto, \$2.75 to 3.00, Swedes and Norway, \$5.50 to 6.50; Lowmoor and Bowling, \$6.50 to 7.00. Canada Plates per box—Glamorgan and Budd, \$5.50 to 5.60; Arrow, \$5.75 to 6.00; Garth, \$5.50 to 5.75; Hatton \$5.25 to 5.50. Tin Plate per box—Charcoal IC, \$10.25 to 10.50; ditto, IX, \$12.25 to 12.50; DC, \$9.25 to 9.50; Coke IC, \$8.25 to 8.50; 14 x 20, 25c extra. Tinned sheets Charcoal best No. 26 14c. Galvanized sheets best brands No. 28, 10c. Hoops and Bands per 100 lbs., \$3.25 to 3.50; Sheets best brands, \$3.75 to 4.00; Boiler Plates ordinary brands \$3.75 to 4.00; Best brands \$4.00 to 4.25; Russian Sheet Iron per lb. 16 to 17c; Cut Nails 2 D Lath, \$5.25; ditto, 2½d to 4d shingle \$4.50; ditto, 5d to 10d, \$4.00; ditto 12d and larger \$3.75; ditto patent Chisel points 25c extra. Pressed Spikes \$5.00 to 5.25; Shot Canadian \$7 to 7.25; Lead—Pig, per 100 lbs \$6.50; do sheets, \$6.50; do Bar, \$6.50; Steel cast, per lb. 13 to 14c;