

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, Feb., 13, 1884.

Business has hardly yet recovered from the enforced dullness of Carnival Week. A great many travellers came home for the great event, and though country dealers were in town in great numbers it must be said that the great majority were altogether on pleasure bent. What travellers are out meet with small encouragement. Business in the Ottawa district is reported as almost at a standstill owing to the heavy snowfalls, and further west does not seem much better. City retail trade has greatly benefited by the carnival, and a very large sum of money must have passed into the tills of our shop-keepers. Considering the general dullness payments keep up very well, and we do not hear any really serious complaints on this score. Money continues in good supply at our banks, and call loans are obtainable at 5 per cent. the discount rate remains at 7 per cent. for good mercantile paper. Exchange is a degree firmer, counter rates for 60 day bills being 9½, demand 10½ to 10¾. The stock market has shown some signs of strength, Montreal Bank having sold higher than last week.

ASHES.—The market is "all broke up" to use a slang phrase, and is decidedly weak at from \$4.20 to 4.30 for No 1 pots; No. 2 \$3.70. It is rather difficult to account for this state of affairs. Some say that people using potash in Great Britain are dissatisfied at the way the market for Canadian ashes is manipulated and are using substitutes very largely. Receipts have been only moderate of late but this does not seem to help prices. Shipments last week about 400 bbls. Pearls are worth \$6.25 to \$6.35.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—Travellers as find a rule a difficulty in selling any large bills, and country stocks are reported pretty full. This with the evident desire of manufacturers to curtail credits will no doubt result in a smaller volume of trade than last year. We hear of one manufacturer discharging ten cutlers last week, and a much larger proportion of workmen is reported out of employment than usual.

DRY GOODS.—The Carnival brought a good many buyers to town, and while some fair orders for spring goods are reported, many left without purchasing, having apparently come for "a good time" only. Orders from travellers continue to be slim, and the conservative feeling of retailers continues. The same sort of feeling is evinced by wholesalers themselves, who are not buying Canadian Tweeds &c. in the same quantity as at this time last year. The city retailers had a harvest last week, sales being reported far ahead of Carnival week of last year. Payments are reported fair all things considered, indeed some houses express themselves agreeably surprised at the way remittances are coming in.

DRUGS.—There is no great amount of business doing; heavy chemicals are not in much demand and what trade is doing is mainly in small sorting orders. A large number of drug men were in town during Carnival but not to buy goods. The combination of quinine manufacturers is broken owing to the withdrawal of the Howards of England and prices have fallen considerably in consequence as noted below:—*Sal Soda*, \$1.15 to 1.25 per 100 lbs.; *Bi. Ch. Soda*, \$2.65 to 2.75; *Soda Ash* \$1.50 to 1.75; *Bichromate of Potash* per 100 lbs., \$10.00 to 11.00; *Borax* refined, 14c. to 00 *Cream Tartar* crystals, 30¼ to 32c.; do ground 36c. to 38c.; *Tartaric Acid*, 57c. to 60c. per lb.; *Caustic Soda*, white, \$2.40 to 2.60; *Sugar of Lead*, 11 to 12½c.; *Bleaching Powder*, 00.00 to 2.75; *Alum* \$1.80 to \$2.00; *Copperas*, per 100 lbs., 90c. to \$1.00; *Flowers Sulphur*, per 100 lbs., \$2.75 to \$2.90; *Roll Sulphur*, \$2.40 to \$2.60; *Sulphate of Copper*, \$5.50 to \$5.75; *Epsom Salts*, \$1.10 to \$1.25; *Saltpetre*, \$9.00 to 9.50; *Quinine*, \$1.75 to \$1.90; as to makers, per oz. bottles; *Opium*, \$4.10 to \$4.25; *Morphia*, \$2.15 to \$2.30.

FISH.—For fish there is a little livelier demand as Lent approaches, and prices give evidence of more firmness. Herrings are dearer; Cape Breton No 1 are worth \$5.60 to 5.75; No. 1 Labrador in the market and good; No. 2 not too plentiful at \$4.00 to 4.50; No. 3 Labrador \$3.00 to 3.50; Mackerel \$11, \$10, and \$9 as to quality. Green Cod is rather higher, and probably \$5.50 would be asked, Dry Cod \$5.00 to \$5.25. No

Whitefish in market. Lake Trout \$4.25 to 4.50; smoked Salmon 15c. per lb.; smoked eels 10c. per lb.

FLOUR.—There are no changes in the situation; trade is slack and holders do not seem disposed to press sales. We quote Superior Extra \$5.55 to 5.60; Extra Superfine \$5.35 to 5.40; Spring Extra \$4.90 to 5.00; Superfine \$4.50 to 4.70; Canadian Strong Bakers, \$5.25 to 5.50; American ditto \$5.45 to 5.85.

FURS.—Very few ra furs are arriving in market, and to the heavy snow is attributed the prevailing quietness, trappers being unable to hunt. The big London sales of Beaver and Muskrat took place on January 29th. Muskrat sold firm and Beaver at an advance and we make some changes in quotations. We quote: *Beaver*, \$3.00; to \$3.50; *Bear*, \$8.00 to \$10.00; *do. Cub*, \$3.00 to \$5.00; *Fisher*, \$4.00 to \$6.00; *Red Fox*, \$1.25 to; *Cross do.*, \$2.00 \$3.00; *Lynx*, \$2.00 to \$3.00; *Marten*, 75c to \$1; *Mink*, 75c. \$1.25; *Muskrat*, 10 to 15c.; *Otter*, \$8 to \$10.00; *Raccoon*, 40 to 50c.; *Skunk* average 40 to 50c.

GROCERIES.—Of trade in this line there is only a very moderate volume; a good many country customers were in town last week, but left comparatively few orders, and as travellers have been at home in good numbers, matters are yet rather quiet, payments cannot be classed as better than fair which is not to be wondered at when all the drawbacks of the season are considered. Houses who pick their customers and have the best class of trade acknowledge that a certain amount of accommodation has been asked for by a good many, but this week shows rather an improvement in this respect. For *Teas* there are numerous enquiries but transactions are not in proportion, prices offered being considerably behind London and New York quotations, and such as holders are not generally disposed to sell at. The London market is reported very active, and merchants there have in some cases declined to forward samples, as lines would likely be cleared out before samples reached here. Young Hysons are reported to be going forward to New York in large lots, and low grade Blacks to Boston, Japans continue very active in New York; no medium quality tea can be got here under 25c. and prices range from that up to 45c. for best. Sugars are stationary, though better class Yellows are rather scarce, owing to refineries running on heavy orders from British Columbia. We hear of some ear lots of Barbadoes molasses being sold at 43c. Business in fruits is now only of a hand to mouth character. Valencias bring 5¼ to 6¼c. as to quality; Currants 5¼ to 7¼c. for finest; Rice \$3.50 mill price; Pepper a little higher in England; Cloves slightly easier; Ginger 12¼ to 22c. as to quality. In canned goods Salmon is getting scarce, price now \$1.55 net per dozen.

Leading Wholesale Trade of Hamilton.

E. & C. GURNEY & CO.,

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BROWN, BALFOUR & CO.,
Wholesale Grocers & Importers
HAMILTON.

Teas

New Season's Japan, all kinds, Japan Pekoe, Moyune, and Ping Suey, Young Hy-on and Gunpowder, India Teas, Black and Green, Moning Kaisow and Paklin, Congous, Hyson, Oolong, Large Stock, well assorted.

Sugars

Canada, Glasgow, and Liverpool refined all sorts. A full stock of Tobaccos, Syrups, Coffees, Fruits and General Groceries.

Hamilton, 1st Feb. 1884.

SIMPSON, STUART & CO.,
Importers &

Wholesale

Grocers,

HAMILTON, ONT.



James Turner & Co.,

ARE NOW OFFERING

No. 1, Bay Split Herrings, in half barrels.
" " " " in barrels.
Very Choice Cape Breton Herrings in bbls.
Strictly Medium Scaled Herrings in Boxes.
Prime Large Hard Dried Table Cod in Q. is.
" " " " Cask " "
Canned Mackerel, 1 lb. Tall Tins.
" " 1 lb. Flat Tins.
" Lobsters, 1 lb. Tall Tins.

HAMILTON.

TEAS

Having anticipated recent advance by importing large y at lowest point of the market, are in a position to offer special inducements, and can with confidence solicit the attention of the trade to samples now in hands of our travellers.

We pay particular attention to this branch of the business, and can recommend every line we offer as possessing superior cup quality.

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WHOLESALE GROCERS,

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ADAM HOPE & CO.

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Hardware and Metal Merchants.

CROSS-CUT SAWS—with the latest improvements.

AXES—"Gladstone" all Steel, and "Choppers Hope" and other brands.

STEEL—Sleigh Shoe Steel; Tyre Steel, "Sweets" and other makes; also Fanning Mill Steel.

SCALES—Platform, all weights, and Counter Scales, Gurney & Ware, Burrows, Stewart & Milne, manufacture equal to Fairbank's in quality and lower in price.

FIRE BRICK—"Ramsay's" make.

February, 1884.

ADAM HOPE & CO.