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Monthly Review.

There is nothing in the transfers of real estate during the month of March that is of much significance to the market. Taking it in a general way the spring of 1897 has been well up to the aggregate of business done in the spring of last year, while everybody connected with the real estate market looks forward to an early improvement in general business that will bring about a more favourable condition of things for property owners.

The sales in St. Antoine Ward were principally of residential properties situated in the upper western part of the ward. In Westmount ten sales of vacant land and thirteen of houses make up the list for the month. Of the City Wards St. Jean Baptiste makes the best showing as regards the number of transfers, coming next to St. Antoine Ward in amount.

While the house buyer has been more in evidence during the month, the number of transactions actually closed has not borne out the hopes entertained earlier in the season. Many carefully nursed prospective sales have fallen through, and brokers report that they find it extremely difficult to bring negotiations to a successful conclusion. Some business may however be looked for in the house market during the summer months. It used to be the rule for this branch of the business—especially in the west end of the city—to shut down about the middle of June and to languish with but few sales until the early fall brought the summer tourists back to town, but in recent years there has been a fair amount of house-

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