

which ought not to be allowed to exist; and the only way in which I think this evil can be removed is to give our chartered banks the power I have suggested. The banks, I am sure, would gladly undertake the issue of this smaller currency, for the business would be a profitable one to them, inasmuch as the circulation of bills of a quarter-dollar each could not fail to be much more extended, and continue, as the phrase is, 'longer out,' than the present circulation of bills of one dollar and upwards."

### Railway News.

NORTHERN RAILWAY.—Traffic Receipts for week ending 29th August, 1868.

Passengers.....	\$3,587 66
Freight.....	8,782 91
Mails and sundries.....	216 67

Total receipts for week.....	\$12,587 24
Corresponding week 1867..	10,057 01

Increase.....	\$2,530 23
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Traffic Receipts for week ending Sept. 5, 1868:

Passengers.....	\$3,419 30
Freight.....	7,295 70
Mails and Sundries.....	1,168 04

Total Receipts for week.....	\$11,883 04
Corresponding week 1867....	7,067 60

Increase.....	\$4,815 44
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GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—Traffic for week ending 21st August, 1868.

Passengers.....	\$33,172 74
Freight and live stock.....	29,046 02
Mails and sundries.....	2,127 26

Corresponding Week of '67.	\$64,346 02
	63,052 45

Decrease.....	\$1,293 57
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WELLINGTON, GREY AND BRUCE RAILWAY.—The ratepayers of Hamilton, on the 2nd inst., voted on the by-law authorizing the transfer of the city stock in the Great Western Railway, amounting to \$100,000, to the Wellington, Grey and Bruce. At the close of the polls the vote stood 720 for and 84 against.

### Commercial.

#### Montreal Correspondence.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Montreal, 8th Sept., 1868.

Since my last an increased activity is discernable in business circles, not that there are many actual transactions to report, but the desire to do business is obviously more than it has been for sometime past. Merchants appear more cheerful, and instead of the hackneyed remark, "Nothing doing," is now heard, "Business is decidedly brisker." There are many causes which will tend to soon give an impetus to trade; the certainty that the harvest is a success as far as regards the great crop, viz., wheat; plenty of money, and though last, not least, the provincial rifle match and agricultural exhibition, both of which will attract large numbers of persons from all parts of the Dominion, most of whom will combine business with pleasure, so that in ten days or a fortnight we may look for considerable activity. So far, the preparations for the exhibition proceed very quietly and unostentatiously, and except in the immediate neighborhood of the buildings there is nothing to indicate that anything unusual is going on. I am glad to note that the harvest east of Quebec is safely housed, and bids fair to prove the largest yield for years past.

Our PRODUCE MARKET—Generally is dull, but for the last few days flour has been more active, prices have steadily receded since my last, considerable sales of city brands at \$6, strong superfines have ranged from \$6 15 to \$6 35, fancy has realized in lots \$6 25 and \$6 45 for small parcels. The stock here is about 20,000 brls., being much the same that it was last year at this time. In grain the receipts are very light and prices not yet established; U. C. spring ex cars worth \$1 35, other qualities nominal. A cargo sale of mixed corn was made at 84c. Pork is very quiet. In dairy products, butter and cheese are in demand at high rates. Western butter is worth 19c to 20c, and choice dairy 21c to 22c. Cheese ranges from 10c to 11c.

The GROCERY market is reviving, and goods of all descriptions meet with more demand. Sugars have ruled very low, but I fancy the bottom has been touched, and as prices are rather better in New York and London, we may look for increased stiffness, if not a rise here. Some parcels of teas are selling chiefly for local trade, but large buyers and Western men will hold off till the cargo sales. A number of the fall auctions are already advertised, they take place rather later this year than usual. The first will be held to-morrow. It is a cargo sale of Mediterranean goods on account of Messrs. Reuter, Lionnais & Co. I give you the names and dates of the other sales, as it will interest your Western subscribers:—September 29, Victor Hudon; and Rimmer, Gunn & Co.; September 30, Buchanan, Leckie & Co.; October 1, D. Torrance & Co., and Chapman, Fraser & Co.; September 2, A. Urquhart & Co. D. Torrance & Co's is purely a tea sale, the others comprise all sorts of groceries, two of them chiefly of Mediterranean goods imported direct.

DRY GOODS.—Our importers are very busy. Next week I shall be able to write you more fully, as then the prices of the fall trade will be over, and I will be in a better position to draw a comparison between the amount of business done this year and the preceding ones.

HARDWARE.—Imported. — Generally speaking trade is more than usually dull at this period. Some few houses have, nevertheless, been fully employed. It is expected that there will be plenty of buyers in about a fortnight, and considerable activity. Imports have been light, and although prices during the last five weeks have run down, it is expected that a change will take place and the market will stiffen, if not advance. The assortment here is excellent.

Home Manufactured.—The mills have been running full time all summer, except some few that had to stop during the intense heat. A ready sale is expected for all produced, there being sufficient orders on hand to pretty well work off all that can be turned out before the close of the season. Prices generally have been well maintained, and the trade altogether is in a healthy state.

#### Toronto Market.

The past week has witnessed a general opening up of the fall trade in all the leading branches. A great many county and town buyers from the various sections of Ontario, have been or are now in market, and the principal houses are exceedingly busy.

DRY GOODS.—In this branch the season has begun well; importers are looking hopeful, and now speak of a successful fall trade. A very considerable amount of goods has already been placed satisfactorily, and still the season is only fairly commenced. In view of the present hopeful views of buyers, and the early opening of the trade, we may fairly expect a good average business at least; the state of the weather, and other unforeseen contingencies, may have a marked influence on the aggregate result. Woolen Goods are moving off freely at unchanged prices. Even Canadian Woollens, which it was expected would go slow, owing to the pretty full stock of these goods on

the shelves of country merchants, have met with a fair demand; but this may be largely accounted for by the superior style and finish given them as compared with previous years. Cottons are firm and selling at full prices, the tendency being upward. We give the importations of dry goods at the port of Toronto for the month of August. These figures pretty well indicate the course of the trade thus far. It will be seen that due caution has been exercised, and the probability just now is that we shall not have such an accumulation of stock to hold over the coming winter, as we did that of 1868. We have no desire for the recurrence of such a gloomy state of affairs as existed at the beginning of the current year in this branch.

#### Imports of Dry Goods for August.

	1867.	1868.
Manufac. of Woollens.....	\$304,785	\$241,510
Do. Cottons.....	189,049	160,968
Do. Silks & Velvets.....	39,869	42,439
Do. Fancy Goods.....	14,942	7,557
Wearing Apparel.....	1,092	24
	\$549,737	\$452,498

BOOTS AND SHOES.—The houses in this line have had a busy week. Buyers are operating freely in anticipation of good demand for all seasonable goods. Prices are a shade lower than last week.

GROCERIES.—Trade is also brisk in this branch. Sugars—Continue to rule low, and importers profits are now cut very fine. The market is entirely in favor of buyers. Teas—Are steady in price and without noticeable change. We give the importations entered at Toronto for August of a few of the leading articles.

#### Imports of Groceries for August.

	1867.	1868.
Sugar, lbs.....	482,124	325,027
Tea, lbs.....	20,749	73,326
Tobacco Manufactured, lbs.....	4,690	6,224
Coffee, lbs.....	10,839	10,174
Confectionery.....	45,839	374

LIQUORS.—We have no change to note in prices; a full trade is reported at quotations.

#### Imports of Liquors for August.

	1867.	1868.
Wine, gallons.....	6,241	\$1,787
Brandy, ".....	283	5,686
Gin, ".....	207	993
Rum, ".....	593	39
Whiskey ".....	177	—

LEATHER.—There is more doing this week though the trade is still quiet and prices stationary.

PRODUCE.—Owing to the dullness of leading markets for breadstuffs and barley, and a falling off in the receipts, there was less business done immediately in this market during the past seven days. Wheat—Has gradually receded to our quotations, and closed dull but steady. There is little demand and only small lots offering. Sales of cars were offered at \$1.20 to \$1.25 for spring, and \$1.30 for fall. Barley—The receipts for the week from all sources would foot up to about 20,000 bushels, being about 10,000 bus. less than the previous week. Prices opened at 93 to 95c. and improved somewhat, closing at 95 to 98c.; some sales of car loads were reported within this range, and several cargo lots changed hands at about 97 to 98c.; there is a general disposition to keep terms private. There are still sellers at 98c. f.o.b. at a port on the Bay of Quinte. Peas—A cargo lot was offered at 98c. f.o.b. with 95½ offered, no sales. Oats—A small trade was done in car loads at 50 to 51c., the market closing with sellers at 50 to 51c. and buyers at 48c.

FLOUR.—Receipts light; superfine dull; there is a moderate demand for shipment to the Lower Provinces. A lot of 500 brls. choice superfine sold at \$6, and 1,000 brls. spring extra on p.t., while 100 brl lots of ordinary sold at \$5.85; superior and extra not much wanted; a lot of