

—The Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce have resolved to take measures to obtain an Act of Parliament for the punishment of fraudulent debtors, and to co-operate with the Merchant Company and the Scottish Trade Protection Society for the purpose.—*London Grocer*.

—A valuable deposit of ochre and other mineral clay has been discovered in Dudswell township, Eastern Townships, and purchased by Mr. Orren Webster of Sherbrooke. A company is to be organized to work the deposit, so says the *News*.

## Commercial.

### MONTREAL MARKET.

From our own Reporter.

MONTREAL, Jan. 9 1877.

The dullness in trade which always prevails for a few weeks after the New Year, has been increased by the troubles in the railway traffic; but now that these are over it is expected that business will soon begin to show signs of life. The only branch of trade which exhibits any marked firmness is flour, and this week we advance our quotations from 15 to 25c all round but at our present prices there is not much doing. In almost all other branches quotations in the absence of sales are nominal, not a single transaction in grain has been reported this week.

The weather since this day week has been comparatively mild and on Sunday snow fell to the depth of 14 inches which has made roads very heavy and prevented buyers getting into market; however the snow will do good as many places roads were very bare last night the Thermometer fell to 15° below zero and the cold has continued very intense all day.

**ASHES.**—*Pots*.—The ashes market for the past week has been very quiet, receipts have been small owing to the railway troubles and prices since our last report showing very little fluctuation. Sales of firsts at \$4.40 to 4.50 at which the market closes. Nothing doing in seconds or thirds which are nominal. *Pearls* have also been very quiet, a few small sales have been reported since our last at \$5.40, latterly they were quite neglected and the market closed nominal both for firsts and seconds.

**BOOTS AND SAOTS.**—A fair amount of orders for spring are being received, and there is a prospect for a good spring trade. Prices are firm, with a tendency to an advance, as hides and leather of all kinds are still going up. Our opening prices are: Men's kip boots, \$2.75 to 3; do. calf do., \$3.25 to 3.50; do. split brogans, \$1.10 to 1.20; do. kip do., \$1.30 to 1.40; do. buff Congress, \$1.50 to 2; do. brogans and Oxford ties, \$1.40 to 2.25; do. prunella Congress, \$1.20 to 1.75; women's pebbled and buff Balmorals, \$1.20 to 1.75; do. prunella Bals, \$0.75 to 1.75; do. Congress, 60c. to \$1.75; do. do. buskins, 50 to 90c.; do. kid slippers, 80c. to \$1.50; misses pebbled and buff Bals, \$1 to 1.20; do. prunella do. 70c. to \$1.25; do. do. Congress, 60c. to \$1.00; child's pebbled and buff Bals, 55 to 75c.; do. enamelled do., 55c. to 65c.; do. infants' cacks, 25c. to 50c.

**CATTLE.**—During the week 14 car-loads of cattle arrived by rail for which a very fair demand has been experienced, the stock was mostly all first class, and yesterday sales averaged from \$4.50 to 5.37½ per 100 lbs. live weight; second and third class bringing from \$3.00 to 4.00 per 100 lbs. live weight. A considerable number of *Sheep* were sold at \$5.00 each. *Dressed hogs* were not in much demand, sales reported were \$7.25 to 7.40 per 100 lbs.

**DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.**—We have nothing special to report this week, the usual holiday quietness still prevails and it will probably be a week or two before there is any movement of

consequence; transactions have been of a retail character on which it is impossible to base quotations for round lots. We quote: *Bi Carb* \$3.50 to 4.00; *Sal Soda* firm at \$1.40 to 1.45; *Caustic Soda* \$3.25 to 3.50; *Soda Ash* 2 to 2½c; *Coppera* 1½c; *Alum* 2 to 2½c; *Epsom Salts* 2c; *Salt-petre* \$8.00 to 8.50; *Brimstone* \$2.50 to 2.75; *Sulphur* \$3.50; *Bleaching Powder* 1½ to 2; *Blue Vitriol* firm at 6½ to 7½c; *Cream Tartar* ground 29 to 30c; *Cream Tartar Crystals* 26c; *Borax* 14 to 16c; *Madder* 9 to 12c.

**DRY GOODS.**—Very little business is looked for at this time, and the want of railway communication has made matters even duller this year than usual. The present snow blockade will make the roads heavy for travelling, thus keeping back many small buyers, who would otherwise have been in the city. Merchants generally are looking forward with sanguine expectations to the opening up of the spring trade. The arrival of goods has been a good deal interfered with by the railway strike.

**FISH.**—The market has been very quiet, but a considerable demand is expected towards the end of the month. *Dry Cod* \$5.00 to 5.50; *Green Cod* \$6.00 to 6.50 for No. 1; *Labrador Herrings* are in good supply at \$6.00 to 6.25; *Salmon* \$12.00, 11.00 and 10.00 for No. 1, 2 & 3 respectively.

**FURS.**—Wholesale dealers have for the most part been busy since the New Year taking stock; arrivals continue small and any sales reported are within our range, no further reduction in price is likely to take place, and it is generally believed that the market has now touched bottom. We quote *Beaver* \$1.75 to 2.00. *Bear large* \$8.00 to 10.00; ditto small \$4.00 to 7.00; *Fisher* \$6.00 to 8.00; *Silver Fox* \$25.00 to 60.00; *Cross Fox* \$2.00 to 5.00 *Red Fox* \$1.25 to 1.50; *Lynx* \$1.50 to 1.75; *Martin dark* Lab \$5.00 to 7.00; ditto pale \$1.25 to 1.00; *Mink dark prime* \$1.50 to 2.00 *Other fine, dark* \$6.00 to 8.00; *Fall Muskrat* 12 to 15c; *Raccoon* 25 to 60c; *Skunk* 20 to 40c.

**FLOUR.**—There has been no special demand during the past week, but market has been very firm and holders have advanced their demands, any small sales made have been at higher prices than those last quoted, still higher rates are confidently looked for, holders are not disposed to press sales, arrivals have been very light and the stock in store on the 1st inst were about 6000 barrels less than on the 15th ult. The market close quiet but very firm at the following quotations. *Superior Extra*, \$6.65 to 6.80; *Extra*, \$6.30 to 6.35; *Fancy* \$6.05 to 6.10; *Spring Extra* \$5.30 to 5.75; *Superfine*, \$5.30 to 5.35; *Strong Bakers' Flour*, \$6.05 to 6.10; *Fine*, \$4.70 to 4.80; *Middlings*, \$4.10 to 4.20; *Pollards*, \$3.50 to 3.75; *Oatmeal*, \$5.30 to \$5.50; *Cornmeal*, \$2.75 to 3.00.

**GRAIN.**—There has been nothing doing in grain of any kind, and prices are quite nominal.

**GROCERIES.**—*Teas*.—There is nothing doing just now in Japans beyond small sales to the trade, at from 22½ to 65c according to grade. Stocks held here at present are very large and the best grade command full prices. *Blacks and Greens* are dull and neglected. *Coffee*.—This market has not responded to the advance in New York although a good deal of firmness is exhibited which has tended to keep back business and sales have been quite of a retail nature within our range of quotations; stocks are small Java 29 to 32c; Maracaibo 22½ to 24c Singapore 24 to 28; *Sugar*.—The firmness which has ruled in this market for sometime past has passed away and there has been a decided downward tendency, the demand however has been small and holders to effect sales are now more inclined to meet the views of buyers. *Scotch refined* 9½ to 10½; *Granulated* 10½ to 11½; *Dry crushed* 11½ to 11½;

*Raws* are in very light demand Cuba 9 to 9½ Barbadoes 9½ to 9½c, no other kind of raw in stock. *Molasses*.—There has not been any particular movement in this article, but holders generally are firm in their views, Barbadoes 48 to 50c; Sugar-house 27½ to 33c; only small sales of other kinds are reported. *Syrups* are easier, Golden 45 to 50c; Amber 50 to 55c. *Rice* continues firm and is held at \$4.25 to 4.50, but sales have been insignificant. *Spices* have only been in a retail demand at our quotations, Black pepper 11c; White ditto 20c; Cloves 40c; Nutmegs 70 to 90c; Pimento 11 to 12c; Jamaica ginger 19 to 22½c. *Fruit*.—The supply of fruit is much greater than the present demand requires, and there is a marked weakness in the market: Layer raisins are selling at from \$1.50 to 1.60 according to size of lot; Loose Muscatel \$1.65 to 1.85; Valencias 7 to 7½c; Sultanias 10 to 10½c; Currants are not in over supply and are pretty firm at 6½ to 6½c; Figs, in mats, 4½ to 5c; ditto, in boxes 8 to 12c; Prunes 5 to 5½c; Walnuts 5½ to 8c; Filberts 8 to 9c; Almonds 14 to 15c.

**HIDES AND PELTS.**—Another advance has taken place in hides, brought about by the competition of firms now in the trade here. All coming into market are readily bought up at our quotations. No. 1 hides \$8.00; No. 2 ditto \$7; No. 3 ditto \$6.00; Sheepskins remain much as last quoted, \$1.00 to 1.10, but very little doing at present.

**HARDWARE.**—At no time could business be quieter than it has been for the past week; stock taking is about over and in nearly all cases the amount is much below that of previous years. However the present prospects are much better than at this time last year and when travellers get started on the road a fair winter business may be expected. Quotations are the same as previously quoted. Tin plates have recently advanced 1/ per box on the other side, and as the stocks here are small prices are not likely to be lower. We quote: *Pig Iron*.—Eglington and Clyde \$19.50 to 20.00; American \$21.00 to 22.00; Summerlee and Calder \$20.75 to \$21.25; Langloan and Gartsherrie \$22.00 to 22.50; Hematite \$26.00 to 27.00. *Bar*, per 100 lbs., Scotch and Staffordshire, \$2.00 to 2.05; best do., \$2.20 to 2.30, Swedes and Norway \$4.75 to 5.00; Lowmoor and Bowling, \$6.00 to 6.50. *Canada Plates* per box, Glamorgan and Budd, \$3.60 to 3.75; Garth and Penn \$3.75 to 4.00; Arrow \$4.00 to 4.15; Hatton \$3.50 to 3.60. *Tin Plates* per box, good brands—Charcoal IC, \$7.00 to 7.25; ditto, IX, \$9.00 to 9.25; ditto DC, \$6 to 6.25 Coke IC, \$6.00 to 6.25; *Tinned sheets* Charcoal best No. 23, 12½ to 13c; *Galvanized sheets* best brands No 28, 8½ to 9c per lb. *Hoops and Bands* \$2.60 to 2.75; *Sheets* best brands, \$2.90 to 3.15; *Boiler Plates* ordinary brands \$2.75 to 3.00; do best brands \$3.25 to 3.50; *Russian Sheet Iron* 12 to 13c; *Cut Nails*, 2 d Lath, \$4.50; ditto, 2½ d to 4; shingle \$3.70; do., 5d to 10d, \$3.20; do. 12d & larger 2.90; 100 keg lots 5 per cent. discount. Cut nails patent Chisel pointed 25c extra. *Pressed Spikes* \$4.00 to 4.25; *Shot* Canadian \$7.00 to 7.25. *Lead*—Pig, per 100 lbs \$5.75 to 6.25; do. sheets 6.00 to \$6.50; ditto. *Bar*, \$6.00 to 6.50; *Steel cast*, 13 to 14c; *Spring* \$4.25 to 4.50; *Tire ditto*, \$3.75 to 4.00. *Ingot Tin* 20 to 21c; *Ingot Copper*, 21½ to 22c; *Horse Shoes* \$4.50 to 5.00; *Proved Coil Chain*, 8 in., \$5.50 to 6.00; *Anchors* 7 to 8c; *Anvils* 10 to 12c. *Iron wire* \$2.30 to 2.40.

**LEATHER.**—Business has been quiet the past week, as the shoe trade, anticipating an advance in prices had purchased freely during the past month. Holders are firm and in some lines are asking an advance which in view of the increased cost of hides is likely to be realized. *Spanish Sole* except of good medium and heavy B. A. the market is well supplied the demand only moderate *Slaughter Sole* meets with good enquiry but only the choicest stock will