

the whole. In nearly all cases where the rate of interest promised is published, it is seven or eight per cent., and in a large number of cases the roads have not yet been completed, and will require a further outlay of capital before they can begin to repay investors. Although some of the defaults were, no doubt, caused or precipitated by the panic last fall, yet the conclusion may still be reached that the business of railroad building has been overdone in the West.

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKET.

From our own Reporter.

MONTREAL, August 11, 1874.

The wholesale market during the past week has exhibited very little change, business has been on the whole quiet and values are very little altered since our last report. The prospects of an abundant harvest gives confidence to buyers, and a large fall business in all the leading lines is anticipated. Dry Goods moderately active. Hardware moves slowly. Groceries, demand has improved for sugar and spices. Chemicals quiet. Breadstuffs quiet. Provisions advancing. Ashes have been unsettled, market closing steady.

Tonnage continues in abundant supply and rates remain much as last week. The number of vessels arrived from sea from opening of navigation to 6th Aug. was 414 representing 239,050 tons, against 358 vessels representing 219,092 tons during the corresponding period of 1873, being an increase of 58 vessels equal to 19,958 tons.

The weather has been fine and warm and all that could be desired for harvest operations.

A very serious fire occurred here on Sunday morning in Hendersons saw-mill near the Canal, which consumed the mill buildings, an immense quantity of Lumber, the new government Flour shed, a steamer, new harbour dredge, and a Barge valued in all at about \$200,000.

ASHES.—In the early part of the week prices of first *Pots* receded to \$5.90 to 5.92½, latterly however prices again advanced and desirable tares were placed at \$6.00; while poor tares brought from \$5.92½ to 5.95; market closing firm at these quotations. *Pearls* are now in better supply than they have been for sometime past, and nothing over \$7.45 to 7.50, which were our closing quotations of last week, has been paid for firsts, a small parcel of seconds was placed at \$6.00, but there is very little demand for inferiors. Stocks at present in store are pots 1,711 bbls; *Pearls* 602.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—Wholesale houses are well satisfied with the operations of their travellers. Orders have been liberal and remittances are now fully up to the average. We have no change to make on late quotations:—Men's stoga boots \$2.25 to 2.50; do. kip do. \$2.75 to 3.25; do. French calf do. \$3.50 to 3.75; boys stoga boots \$1.75 to 2.00; do. kip do. \$2 to 2.25; women's split boots 90c to \$1.10; do. buff do. \$1.15 to 1.25; do. pebbled grain bals. \$1.20 to \$1.50; do. fine sewed do. \$1.50 to 1.75; misses heavy split boots 75c to 90c; do. buff do. 90c to \$1.00.

CATTLE.—The supply at present is only moderate, and all offering are readily bought up; some distillery fed cattle sold at \$5.25 to 5.75 per 100 lb the live-weight. For well conditioned grass fed cattle from \$4 to 5.00 is paid. *Sheep* and *Lambs* are scarce; for the former \$4 to 6.00 is paid, and for the latter \$2.50 to 3.50. A few *Hogs* are coming in and sell at \$7.50 to \$7.75.

DRY GOODS.—There has been an increased demand for goods in the line during the past week. The orders from travellers are coming to hand freely, and as stocks are now well as-

sorted, the usual influx of buyers from the country may be expected. There is not quite so much demand for Canadian woollens. Clothing trade continues fairly active. For fancy goods there is a pretty fair demand. Prospect for remittance are good owing to the appearance of an abundant harvest and an easy money market.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—We have had a quiet market this week. Some lots of *Bi Carb* changed hands at \$4.70 to 4.80. *Sal Soda* \$1.40 and \$1.50; *Caustic Soda* a shade dearer, sales ranging from 3¼ to 4c. *Bleaching Powder* in fair supply, demand moderate at 2½c. *Soda Ash* has been dealt in to some extent at 2c. *Cream Tartar Crystals* are scarce and sell from 28 to 30c. *Alum* 2½ to 2½c. *Epsom Salts* steady and unchanged at \$1.70 to 2.00. *Copperas* 1 to 1½c. *Borax* 16 to 22c. *Blue Vitrol* 7 to 7½c. *Saltpetre* \$8.50 to 9.00.

FISH.—There is no particular demand in this market as yet. The news from Gaspé regarding the Cod Fishery is for encouraging the catch, not being up to the average. *Dry Cod* sells at \$4.75; no *Green Cod* in market. Sales of *New Salmon* are taking place from \$15.50 to 16.00.

FREIGHTS.—The market closes dull owing to the supply of tonnage being greater than the demand. Latest engagements for heavy grain by steam to Liverpool 6/9, to Glasgow 4/6 to 4/9, to London 5/6. Flour to these ports 2/6; heavy grain to Liverpool and Glasgow by sail 4/6, flour 2/3. To the River Plate lumber per 1000 feet \$20 to 21. Coal from Picton to Montreal \$2.50; ditto from Sydney to Montreal \$2.10.

FURS.—We have no change to note this week we repeat quotations, but they are nominal. Beaver per lb. \$1.75 to 2.00; black bear large \$8 to 10; ditto small \$6 to 8; fisher \$6 to 8; silver fox \$25 to 50; cross fox \$2 to 5; red fox \$1.50; lynx \$2 to 2.25; martin dark labrador \$7 to 8; ditto pale \$1.25 to 1.75; mink dark prime \$3 to 3.50; ditto dark 2nds \$1.50 to 2.00; otter fine dark \$9 to 11; fall muskrat 12c; ditto winter 15 to 17c; ditto spring 22 to 27c; Raccoon 25 to 50c; skunk 20 to 30c.

FLOUR.—Receipts for the past week 11,186 bbls; total receipts from 1st January to date 591,229 bbls; being an increase of 13,374 bbls. on the receipts for the corresponding period of 1873. Shipments during the past week 14,556 bbls; total shipments from 1st January to date 423,659 bbls. being a decrease of 18,698 bbls. on the shipments for the corresponding period of 1873. A moderate business has been done during the week both in round lots, and in parcels for meeting immediate local wants. Prices have not varied much, market to-day closing quiet with sales within our range of quotations. Sup. Extra \$6.20 to 6.40; extra \$6.05 to 6.12½; strong bakers flour \$5.70 to 6.10; fancy \$5.70 to 5.80 nominal; spring extra \$5.25 to 5.35; superfine \$5.10 to 5.15; fine \$4.90 to 5.00; middlings \$4.45 to 4.70; Pollards, \$4.30; U. C. bags \$2.65 to 2.70. Oatmeal dull at \$5.50 to 5.60. Cornmeal \$3.40 to 3.75.

GRAIN.—*Wheat.*—Receipts for the past week, 115,559 bushels; total receipts from 1st January to date, 5,035,563 bushels, being an increase of 1,269,347 bushels on the receipts for the corresponding period of 1873; shipments during the past week 188,469 bush, total shipments from 1st January to date 5,111,385 bush, being an increase of 1,824,846 bush on the shipments for the corresponding period of 1873. There has been no business doing in wheat for the past week beyond some small sales for the local wants, no cargo sales having been reported. Quotations at the moment are quite nominal; a sale of a cargo of Michigan white on p. t. was reported at the close. *Maize.*—During the latter part of the week this market has been much firmer and sales were at 70 to 71c, closing firm with a fair business doing at 71½ to 72c. *Peas.*

—Market steady at \$1 to 1.03. *Oats.*—Very little has been offering, holders firm at 51 to 52½c. *Barley* quiet and nominal. *Pot* and *Pearl.*—Owing to extreme prices asking for the raw grain there is none making at present, and the high price of the manufactured article keeps back the demand.

GROCERIES.—*Teas.*—The demand has been rather brisker this week, stocks are now heavy, and the prices paid are rather under the views of importers. Considerable sales of new Japans have been made from 60 to 65c, chiefly at the inside figure; low grade Japans would find a ready sale at 40c, but of this kind there is very little in the market. Some greens and blacks have been selling to jobbers. *Coffee.*—Business continues light, the market, however, is firm and any sales reported were within our range of quotations. Java 30 to 32c; Ceylon 23 to 26c; Singapore 24 to 26c; Jamaica 22 to 25c. *Sugar.*—Market firm but quiet, sales limited. For Scotch refined there has been an active demand at 7½ to 8½c. Nothing doing in raw sugar. The following are the current rates for local refined: Crushed A. 9½c; Ground 10½c; Extra Ground, 10½c; Dry Crushed 10½; Yellows 7½ to 8½c. *Molasses.*—Stocks are still small, consequently prices are firm, but the demand is light. The only transactions of any consequence were a cargo of Centrifugal at 33½c; and some 200 puncheons of Barbadoes at 47c, these being the only kinds at present in stock. *Syrups.*—Amber 68c; Golden 48c. *Rice* has been largely dealt in, prices being easier than last week; we quote \$4 to 4.25, according to the size of the lots. *Spices* are active with strong upward tendency. *Cloves* 45 to 50c; black pepper very firm and held for 18 to 19c. Sales in the early part of the week took place to a considerable extent rather under 18c, but the exact price did not transpire. Nutmegs change hands from 95 to \$1.15; Cassia 21 to 22½c; other articles in this line are unchanged. *Fruit.*—Stocks of all kinds are small, and only 100 box lots of Layer Raisins are procurable at \$2.80 to 3; no Valencias now in stock. *Cucumbers*—the demand is beyond the supply at present and prices are firm at 6 to 6½c; other kinds of fruit are unchanged.

HIDES AND PELTS.—The market has been rather better supplied and quotations are now firm but unchanged. We quote No. 1 hides \$9.00; No. 2 ditto \$8.00 to 8.50; No. 3 ditto \$7.00 to 7.50; Clipped sheeps pelts 25 to 30c.; Lambskin 50 to 60c.

HARDWARE.—We this week advance our quotations for Pig Iron to the equivalent of the English market. There is very little demand purchasers being only in small lots for immediate requirements, stocks are small and in few hands. There is a good demand for Tin Plates, stocks of which are light. Business so far this season is fully up to that of previous years at the same time. We now quote:—*Pig Iron* per ton: Calder, No. 29, \$29.00 to 30.00; Gartscherrie, \$32.00; Glengarnock, \$30.00 to 30.50; Carnbroe, \$30.00; Summerle and Langloan, \$31 to 32; Eglington, \$29 to 30; Hematite, \$41.50 to 42. *Bar Iron* per 100 lbs. Scotch and Staffordshire, \$2.75 to 3.00; best ditto, \$3 to 3.25; Swedes and Norway, \$5.50 to 6.50 Lowmoor and Bowling, \$7.00 to 7.50. *Canada Plates* per box—Glamorgan and Budd, \$5.50 to 6.00; Arrow and Garth, \$5.50 to 5.75; F. and W. Crown, \$5.75 to 6.00; Hatton and Penn., \$5.25 to 5.50; Squares and 14 x 20, 25c extra. *Tin Plates* per box—Charcoal IC, \$10.50 to 10.75; ditto IX, \$12.50 to 12.75; ditto DC, \$9.50 to 10.; Coke IX, \$8.50 to 9.00. *Tinned sheets* No. 26 Charcoal best 15c; *Galvanized sheets* 9½ to 10½c. *Hoops and Bands* per 100 lbs, \$3.75 to 0.00; Sheets, best brands, \$4.00; Lowmoor & Bowling \$8.50 to 9.00; Boiler plate per 100 lbs, \$3.75 to 4.00; *Cut Nails* per 100 lbs, 4.00 to \$4.75. *Pressed Spikes* per 100 lbs, \$5.50 to 6. *Shot*, Canadian, per 100