

MONTREAL PRODUCE MARKET.

Akin & Kirkpatrick,
Cameron & Ross,
Crawford, James,
Dunholm, George,
Dougall, John, & Co.
Follinsby & Williamson,
Hill, W. G., & Co.
Hilwood, Thomas, & Co.
Kirkwood, Livingston & Co.

Laidlaw, Middleton & Co.
Lalng, M.
Leeming & Buchanan,
Morris, J., & Co.
Nislin, Wm., & Co.
Raphod, Thomas W.
Savapana & Co.
Shelley, Jack & Co.
Stewart, W. W.

THE general features of the trade continue as at date of our last. Receipts of Produce generally are trifling owing mainly to deficiency of cars. Considerable activity in moving certain products to the States prior to the close of the Reciprocity Treaty, has prevailed, but the amount of business has been restricted for want of forwarding facilities. Arrangements are, however, made for the clearing out of all accumulations between now and final close of the Treaty.

FLOUR.—With limited receipts and an improved consumptive demand, the quantity arriving has been insufficient to meet the wants of the trade, and notwithstanding the heavy stock still in store, prices have latterly improved somewhat. The higher grades are in very small compass, and quotations are mostly based on sales in broken parcels. Strong superfines from actual deficiency are freely taken at some advance on late rates commanding from \$5.70 to \$5.90, according to sample, quality, &c. Ordinary samples as well as brands from Western wheat have also improved in value, and find buyers to a moderate extent at \$5.50 to 5.60. No. 2 and lower grades have become scarce, and may be quoted ten to fifteen cents advanced. *Bag flour*, though more liberally supplied, falls within the wants of the trade, and though some decline from the extensive rates of last week must be noted, prices are pretty well sustained; fair to good samples moving freely at \$3.05 to \$3.15.

OAT-MEAL.—Receipts are trifling; and in the absence of wholesale demand, quotations may be considered nominal.

WHEAT.—Arrivals are on a very limited scale, and transactions few, some sales have taken place, but mostly at rates not permitted to transpire.

COARSE GRAINS.—Sales for future delivery have been reported to some extent, but there is little speculation, and the business done is mostly on quotations.

PORK.—The general features of the market remain as last noted. Some unimportant sales of Mess have been made through financial pressure, at somewhat under recognised rates, but holders are mostly firm, at former figures; and buyers, on the other hand, content themselves with laying in only for existing wants. The stock of the lower grades is small, and in few hands; and although there are buyers at current rates, the bulk of wheat at this point is held off the market for the higher prices likely to rule in the spring.

HOGS.—Farmers' deliveries during the week have been heavy and receipts by Rail have been much in excess of expectations, which, added to the restricted consumption during the least season, has caused sales to drag on at some decline in price. Latterly farmers' hogs have sold at \$7.50 to \$8.00 as to quality; while owing to the unusually large proportion of soft carcasses in the parcels from Canada West, they have been extremely difficult to quit at any reasonable reduction, some parcels of such have changed hands at \$7.00 to \$7.25, and are little in favour even at these relatively low figures.

LARD.—Is in better demand, and quotations are now readily obtainable.

TALLOW.—Is a slow sale at 9 to 9½, outside rates being extremely difficult to secure.

BUTTER.—Much of the surplus formerly weighing on the market has gone to the States, leaving the supplies barely adequate to the augmented Lent demand; and within the past few days higher rates have been made for whatever has offered. We quote 18 to 20 cents as ruling rates for fair to good store-packed and 20 to 22 for medium to choice dairy. Very little however of the latter grade remains in stock, and scarcely any of what arrives would fetch over 20 cents.

ASHES.—Since our last, the demand for all grades of Pots has been extremely languid, and latterly have declined to \$5.40 for first sorts, and \$5.50 to \$5.60 less deductions for inferior. Pearls have continued scarce; inferiors have been somewhat excited in the course of the week, some parcels of seconds bringing \$9.50, and in exceptional cases rather over. Firsts have ranged from \$7.75 to \$7.85.

Ever since the undue excitement of last fall, the ashes market has been so unsettled that prices have been vastly more regulated by the caprice of speculators

than by advices from abroad, and frequently sales have been impracticable, at any price, for want of buyers; and although some of the commercial authorities have repeated quotations day after day, in the absence of transactions, no real price has been established, until one or more, according to the ideas of speculators, have forced sales at possibly 35 to 50c. below nominal rates of the previous day. Under such a state of things the prices obtained are frequently more the result of accident than any established market rate, and no approach to regularity in the returns has been possible, under the circumstances. After the close of the Treaty, one may hope for a more steady market, as rates will be more regulated by Britain than hitherto.

RECEIPTS OF PRODUCE.

VIA GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY AND CANAL.

	For the week ending Wednesday, Mar. 7, 1866.	From the 1st January to Mar. 7, 1866.	To corresponding period 1865.
Wheat, bushels	330	52,150	78,055
Flour, barrels	2,141	41,815	52,067
Corn, bushels .....	.....	.....	.....
Peas, " .....	.....	1,570	464
Oats, "	2,675	42,705	70
Barley, "	1,450	9,120	6,984
Rye, " .....	.....	3,115	210
Oat and Corn Meal, barrels .....	.....	749	123
Ashe, barrels	392	3,714	3,323
Butter, kegs	525	5,962	6,705
Cheese, boxes	22	111	457
Pork, barrels	8	2,614	150
Lard, "	17	816	220
Tallow, "	9	291	85
Whiskey & H. Wines, &c., &c., and punches, &c.	160	2,125	1,517

The Paris Exhibition of 1867.

Much progress has already been made in the construction of the palace in which is to be held the greatest industrial exhibition the world has yet seen. The building is arranged on a plan different from any yet tried, and giving great advantages for the classification and examination of the various articles collected. It is in the form of a broad ellipse, with avenues running from a common centre. These, again, are to be intersected by circular concentric avenues. The mode of classification, then, is to give each country a certain space from the centre to the circumference for its products, the least bulky to be shown near the centre, the most cumbersome to be displayed as the space widens to the circumference. The arrangement for the articles from all countries being alike, it will be seen that by simply following any one of the circular avenues, an opportunity is given of examining the same article, to whatever department of industry it may belong, as exhibited by all the different countries represented; and by going from centre to circumference, or vice versa, one sees all the various products of a single country. It is of very great importance that Canada should be well represented at this exhibition. We hope that private enterprise will meet with sufficient public support to secure the transmission to Paris of samples of every single thing of which, in any way, this country is a producer; and to this end, any aid which it may be the intention of Government to give, should be given with as little delay as possible.

Latest Quotations of Colonial Securities.

Buffalo and Lake Huron, 7½ to 7¾, do 7 per cent., 7½ to 7¾; do arrears to 29th September, 1865, 3½ to 3¾; do. 7 per cent. preference issued, 66s. 8d., 6½ to 6¾; Grand Trunk of Canada, 46½ to 47; do. Atlantic and St. Lawrence, 4 per cent., 60 to 62; do. 5 per cent. 1st preference bonds, 67 to 69, do 5 per cent. 2nd preference bonds, 62 to 63. do 4 per cent. 3rd preference stock, 48 to 49. do 3 per cent. 4th preference stock, 39 to 39½; Great Western of Canada, 17½ to 17¾; do new shares, 3½ to 3¾ dis.; Government 6 per cent., January and July, 96, do. February and August, 94, do. March and September, 96; 5 per cent., January and July, 81, do. Inscribed Stock, 79; N. B. Government 6 per cent., 95; N. S. 6 per cent. sterling, 99.

Bank of England.

Returns of February 14th, give the notes issued at £27,050,185, based on £14,650,000 Government debt and other securities, and £12,400,185 coin and bullion. The active circulation was £20,763,240.

Bullion.

Prices of Gold and Silver in the English Market have declined. The China demand for silver has fallen off, and with no immediate prospect for its resumption, bar silver has declined ¼d. per oz., with very little doing. There was no demand for gold for exportation in any direction.

Imports for February.

The total Imports at the Port of Montreal during the month of February were:—

In 1866..... \$1,905,821
In 1865..... 688,859

Showing an increase in 1866 of \$1,216,962

Of these Imports, the most important items consisted of Cottons, Woollens, &c., and were as follows:—

	Cottons.	Woollens.	Silks and Velvets.
In 1866.....	\$611,253	\$510,830	\$106,682
In 1865.....	189,602	173,107	10,198
	\$421,751	\$337,723	\$96,484

The Cattle Plague.

The English Government are about to try more stringent measures for the purpose of arresting the progress of the plague, by slaughtering infected animals at once, allowing owners a certain sum as compensation.

WAGES AND IMMIGRATION.

TIME, and again has the attention of the Government of this country been called to the subject of immigration. Again and again have we and others shown that unless some more liberal disposal of our waste lands was made, it was useless to attempt to attract immigration on a large scale. For who that is disposed to emigrate from a foreign country to better his condition, will immigrate to one whose inhabitants are continually leaving it? or who will emigrate from Europe to a country in which the wages of labour are so little higher than can be had in the manufacturing towns of Great Britain? Or of what greater absurdity could any Government be guilty than that of inducing people to come to a country in which there is already a surplus of labour in proportion to capital; and yet in which that Government refuses to comply with the only terms which can raise the rate of wages, and thereby stimulate our surplus labour, and attract that of other countries to the development of our resources?

Months ago we demonstrated that without a liberal disposal of our Crown lands, extensive immigration was as mythical as the stories which at that time filled the papers stating that the increase of population was greater in Canada than in the United States. We showed then, and we believe now, that the increase of population in Canada, by immigration, ought to be as great absolutely as in the States; whereas, all that could be said by those journals was that the increase was as great, proportionately, to the respective populations.

What the people of Canada, and particularly the working people, demand of the Government, is the opening up of roads through the waste lands; (in Lower Canada especially,) and the granting of lands *gratis* to all who wish to settle thereon, that we believe to be the cure for all our ills. Without that, or a great inflow of capital, of which latter there appears no immediate probability, we see no way in which the surplus labour is to be drawn from the great cities and towns, emigration to the United States stopped, and population increased to any extent.

The labouring people of Canada do not expect, nor do they wish that protection should be accorded to them, to the extent to which it exists in the United States, that is, to the ruin of the Western farmers.

Nor have we heard them demand protection in any shape. But they do demand that the Government shall not employ its means in accumulating more working people in a Province, in which the labour market is already overstocked, without opening up in a proper manner means for that labour to be employed. We do not believe in the forcing of any particular business by means of Legislation, but the opening up of waste lands cannot be classed in that category. And if (as we all believe to be the case) immigration is a national necessity, it follows as an economic necessity, to provide for the employment of that labour; and undoubtedly the best way in which that can be done, is by using it in developing the agricultural resources of the country, that we may the better be able to develop the mineral and commercial.

But there is a political phase to this question which, in the present aspect of affairs, is perhaps one of the most serious. There are thousands of Lower Canadians who every year emigrate to the United States, and who are continually corresponding with and often revisiting their friends. None are more rabid republicans and annexationists; and to them may, to a great extent, be traced those principles which are to be found in an occasional person in this country. It is