

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKET.

From our own Reporter.

MONTREAL, March 3, 1874.

We have had a week of fine seasonable weather and everything indicates the near approach of spring, but from all appearances there is a danger of the snow being melted too soon by the very rapid thaw which set in here yesterday morning and still continues. The roads across the river are in many places covered with water rendering crossing especially for foot passenger rather an unpleasant task.

There has been very little activity in the wholesale market this week, if we except the single article of Tea for which there has been an active demand both for Tea on the spot and to arrive, large sales being recorded. Dry goods more active. Drugs and chemicals quiet. Hardware dull. Breadstuffs quiet, with downward tendency. Ashes steady. Provisions firm and tending to higher prices, especially butter.

ASHES.—*Pots.*—About 200 barrels have changed hands since this day week, at prices ranging from \$5.80 to 5.85, some very choice tares bringing 2½c more, to-day the market is again lower and closes quiet at \$5.80 to 5.82½; seconds are placed at \$5.00; thirds are nominal at \$4.60. *Pearls.*—The business done in this description continues to be very limited owing to the want of supplies, the few that were offered were readily taken up at \$7.35 to 7.40. No inferiors in the market. The stock at present in the inspection stores are pots 1981 brls; pearls 533 brls.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—The orders received so far from travellers are fully up to the business done at the same time of last year. A good number of orders are coming to hand for spring goods deliverable on the opening of navigation. We now quote the market as follows:—Men's kip boots, \$2.75 to 3.00; do calf do \$3 to 3.75; do do congress, \$3.50; do buff do \$1.75 to 2.25; do split brogans \$1.10 to 1.25; do kip do \$1.40 to 1.50; do prunella congress \$1.25 to 2.00; womens heavy boots, 90c to \$1.25; do pebbled grain balmorals, \$1.20 to 1.50; do prunella do 75c to \$1.75; misses heavy boots 75c to \$1.00; do pebbled buff balmorals \$1 to 1.20; child's do 60 to 80c; Infants shoes \$3.75 to 5 per doz.

CATTLE.—The market is steady with a light demand, quotations are unchanged as are those for sheep and lambs. For dressed hogs the market is rather easier since last week, and considerable sales have been made from \$7.50 to 7.75.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—This market has ruled very quiet all week and prices with a few trifling exceptions are unchanged. Bi carb has been selling in small lots at \$5.87½ to 6. Stocks are small and not likely to be replenished before the opening of navigation. *Sal soda* is held at \$2.50 being our outside quotations of last week. *Cream tartar crystals* 28c; *cream tartar ground* 30 to 33c. We have no change to note in other articles in this line.

DRY GOODS.—This business is now getting active and indications all point to a healthy trade being done. Orders to a very fair extent are coming in, but there seems to be no inclination to buy heavy stocks, as it is understood that large quantities of goods have been carried over by country merchants since last year. Remittances are reported to be satisfactory, and stocks here are now well assorted.

RAW FUR.—The London sales begin tomorrow, after which we will likely have some important changes to report. Large purchases of furs for the American market have been made last week in Ottawa, at prices within our range

of quotations, for prime dark mink we understood that \$4 was paid there, but nothing over \$3.50 has been reported in the Montreal market. We quote:—Beaver, \$1.50 to 1.75 per lb; black bear large \$8.00 to 10.00; ditto small \$6 to 8; fisher \$6 to 7.50; silver fox \$25 to 50; cross fox \$5.00; red fox \$1.50; lynx \$2 to 2.50; marten, dark Labrador, \$7 to 8; pale marten \$1.50 to 1.75; prime dark mink \$3 to 3.50; mink dark 2nds \$1.50 to 2; otter \$9 to 10; fall muskrat 12c; winter muskrat 15 spring muskrat 22c; racoon 25 to 50c; skunk 20c.

FISH.—Market very bare of all kinds of fish, while the demand is active and prices are unusually high. *Dry cod* is held at \$5. *Green cod* \$6.50. *Herrings* are nominal. *Salmon* \$14 to 14.50 and 15 being paid.

FLOUR.—Receipts for the past week 12,900 brls; total receipts from 1st January to date 74,600 brls., being an increase of 7,572 brls on the receipts for the corresponding period of 1873. The stocks in store and in the hands of millers on the morning of the 1st inst. were 95,847 brls, against 95,915 brls on the 15th ult. and 54,617 brls on the 1st March, 1873. This market continues much in the same condition as during the previous week. Prices tend downward, and buyers show no disposition to operate, the sale being generally for local wants. A sale of spring extra for April delivery was made at \$5.90, and some superior extra deliverable in May at \$6.50. To-day the market closes with a slightly better feeling but not notably higher than yesterday. Our quotations are for:—Superior extra \$6.35 to 6.45; Extra superfine \$6.07½ to 6.20; Spring extra \$5.60 to 5.70; Superfine \$5.30 to 5.40; Strong Bakers flour \$5.80 to 6.00; fine \$4.75 to 4.85; Middlings \$4.30 to 4.40; Pollards \$3.50; Upper Canada bags \$2.70 to 2.80; Oatmeal \$5.15 to 5.40; Cornmeal \$3 to 3.20.

GRAIN.—*Wheat.*—Receipts for the past week 11,200 bush.; total receipts from 1st January to date 81,687 bush. being an increase of 17,257 bush. on the receipts for the corresponding period of 1873. The stocks in store and in the hands of millers on the morning of the 1st inst., were 631,468 bush. against 644,388 bush. on the 15th ult., and 123,354 bush. on 1st March 1873. Market remains dull and nominal, no transactions transpiring. *Maize.*—Stock in store 194,764 bush. Market quiet but firm at 7½ to 75c. *Peas.*—Stock in store 21,361 bushels. The fall in price in the English market has caused a decline in the price of this grain, latest sales were at 85 to 86c per 66 lbs. which is equal to 77½ to 80c per 60 lbs. *Oats.*—Market continues firm, and last weeks advance to 37 to 38c has been maintained. *Barley.*—Stock in store on the 1st inst., was only 1502 bush. This market is quiet and lower, sales this week having ranged from \$1.15 to 1.25. *Pot Barley* \$10.00. *Pearl Barley* \$18.00; *Clover* 9 to 10c; *Timothy* \$3.15 to \$3.40. Sales reported within our range of quotations.

GROCERIES.—*Teas.*—There has been an active demand all week for uncoloured Japans, and the market has been pretty well cleared. Large quantities both on the spot, and to arrive, having changed hands at satisfactory prices. Stock of the finer kinds are small, and the demand continues very brisk. *Coffee.*—Market quiet and stock are in few hands, holders are not disposed to give way in prices, as it is believed that high prices will shortly prevail in New York. Some small sale of Ceylon coffee are reported at 29½ to 30c; Java is held for 33 to 34c. *Sugar.*—A very fair business has been transacted, market being very steady. Sales of refining grades are made from 6½ to 6¾c, and grocery grades 7½ to 7¾c according to quality. *Scotch refined* has been in good request at 8 to 9c; local refined is a shade dearer than last week. *Dry crushed* 10

to 10½c; ground extra 10½ to 10¾c; crushed A 9½ to 10c. *Molasses.*—Market firm with a good deal changing hands. *Centrifugal* 22 to 23c; *Sugar house* 22 to 25c. *Syrups.*—Amber 60 to 68c; Golden 46 to 48; Extra Golden 50 to 52c. *Rice.*—Market very firm, owing to the advance in the European markets, stock are small, and our prices of last week \$4.95 to 5.25 are fully sustained. *Spices.*—Market firm and full prices are obtained for mostly all kinds. *Black pepper* 21 to 22c; white ditto 36 to 37c; *cloves* 50c and difficult to obtain at that price; *cassia* 22c; *nutmegs* 90c to \$1.00. *Fruit.*—Market dull and inactive, but prices are generally well maintained. *Layer raisins* \$2.50 to 2.60; *Valencias* 7½ to 7¾c; *Currants* 6 to 6½c for good samples. *Figs* 11 to 12½c; *Shelled almonds* 19 to 23. Other kinds of fruit are unchanged.

HIDES AND SKINS.—Our market presents no new feature, quotations remain the same as during the previous week. We quote per 100 lbs., No. 1 inspected \$8. No. 2 ditto \$7; No. 3 ditto \$6. *Sheep and lambs pelts* \$1.25 to 1.50. *Calfskins* 15c per lb.

HARDWARE.—There is a marked improvement in the demand for leading lines of heavy goods, and stocks are being rapidly reduced, indeed it is almost impossible to get a good general order filled completely, and no relief need be looked for until opening of navigation when the spring stock arrives. There is little or no change in quotations since our last, nor need any further reduction be expected for sometime to come. Remittances are about the average of this season of the year:—*Pig Iron*—Gartsherrie \$37.00 to 38.00; Summerlee, \$36.00 to 37.00; Laugloan, \$36.00 to \$38.00; Eglington \$34.00 to 35.00; Glengarnock \$34 to 35; Carnbroe \$34 to 35; Monkland and Clyde \$33 to 35. *Hematite* \$42 to 44. *Bar Iron* per 100 lbs. *Scotch* \$3.20 to 3.30; *Staffordshire* \$3.20 to 3.30; ditto refined \$3.50 to 3.70; *Swedes* \$5.50 to 6.00 *Hoops and Bands* \$3.80 to 4.00; *Sheets* \$4.50 to 5.50; *Boiler plate* \$4.50 to 5.50; *Russian sheets* \$16 to 17; *Galvanized sheets* \$9.00 to 11. *Canada Plates* per box; *Hatton* \$6.25 to 6.50; *Arrow and Garth* \$6.50 to 6.75; *F. and W. crown* \$7.00 to 7.25. *Budd Lion* \$6.50 to 6.75; *Glamorgan* \$6.50 to 6.75 *Tin Plates* per box; *Charcoal* IC \$10.50 to 11; ditto IX \$12.50 to 13.00; ditto DC \$9.50 to 10.00; ditto DX \$11.50 to 12.00; *Coke* IC \$9.50 to 10.00. *Tin*—Block per 100 lbs \$3 to 32; *Antimony* \$16 to 17. *Zinc sheet* \$7.50 to 8.00; ditto spelter \$6.50 to 7. *Lead* per 100 lbs. *Bar* \$6.50 to 7; ditto sheet \$7 to 7.50; ditto pig \$6.25 to 6.75; shot \$7.00 to 7.50. *Nails* cut \$4.25 to 5.75; ditto pressed \$7 to 10; ditto horse 5 to 10 o/o discot off list; *Spikes* pressed \$6 to 7. *Steel.*—Cast \$13 to 15; ditto spring \$5.75 to 6; ditto sleigh shoe \$5.50 to 5.75; *anvils* \$10 to 11 per 100 lbs; *vices* \$12 to 14; *anchors* \$7.50 to 9; *manillarope* \$13 to 13.50 first quality. *Blasting powder* \$3.50 to 4; *sporting powder* \$4.25 to 5. *Boiler tubes*, 2 in 22c; 2½ in 24c; 3 in 26c; 3 in 31c; 3½ in 24c; 4 in 53c; 5 in \$1.00. *Iron wire* per bale up to No. 6 \$3.20 to 3.30.

LEATHER.—Business has been moderately active during the past week. Receipts have been liberal and stocks generally are well assorted. For real good quality of slaughter sole there exists a fair demand. We have no change to notice this week in quotations. *Hemlock Spanish sole* No. 1 B. A. 25 to 26c; ditto No. 2 23 to 24c; *Buffalo sole* No. 1 22 to 23c; ditto No. 2 18 to 20c; *Hemlock slaughter* 28 to 31c; *waxed upper light and medium* 34 to 42½c; ditto heavy 33 to 38c; *grained upper* 35 to 41c; *splits large* 26 to 32c; ditto small 18 to 25c; *calfskins* 27 to 36 lbs to 60 75c; ditto 18 to 26 lbs 50 to 65c; *sheepskin linings* 30 to 42c; *harness* 27 to 30; *buffed cow* 14 to 17c per ft.; *enamelled cow* 18 to 19c; *patent cow* 19 to 20c; *pebbled cow* 14 to 17c; *rough leather* 27 to 29c.

LIQUORS.—*Brandy.*—Only a small demand