

the line during the present year, 12 engines, 12 passenger cars and about 500 box freight cars. There are now under construction by the Pullman Co. for this Road, nine Palace Cars, in addition to the three recently built and already running.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—Traffic for week ending Dec. 2, 1870.

Passengers.....	\$27,587 87
Freight and Live Stock.....	54,075 16
Mails and Sundries.....	2,074 '50
Total Receipts for week....	\$83,737 53
Corresponding week, 1869..	89,483 04
Decrease.....	\$5,745 51

GREAT WESTERN.—The gauge of the Toronto and Hamilton branch, was changed from the broad to the narrow gauge, on Saturday last, it being now 4 ft. 8½ in. This avoids the expense and delay of transshipping freight at Hamilton as formerly. The change was made with very little inconvenience to the traffic.

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKET.

MONTREAL, Dec. 23, 1870.

We have now hard winter, the thermometer yesterday indicating 7° above zero, a good deal of snow has fallen, and the country roads are now in a good condition for travelling enabling farmers and country merchants to come to market, this has caused much more activity in most branches of trade and as the holiday season is fast approaching, a brisk business in all departments is looked for.

The river is still open, but since Saturday large quantities of floating ice and snow are coming down, and the water beginning to rise so that with a few hard days, we may expect it to "freeze" and open up communication with the south side.

The Breadstuffs market has been very dull. Provisions have been rather active. Ashes dull and easier.

ASHES.—*Pots*—There was an improved feeling in this market early in the week, and prices advanced to \$5.95; some round lots changed hands at that price, since then they have again declined, and market to-day closes quiet at \$5.80 to \$5.90; Seconds \$5.00; Thirds \$4.50. *Pearls*—This ash is nominal and unchanged in price, there has no business been done, the quotations current here are \$6.20 to \$6.10; no seconds offered. The stock at present in store are Pots 549 barrels; Pearls 608 barrels being a decrease of 225 brls. Pots, and an increase of 132 barrels Pearls on the stock in store at the same period of 1869.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—A fair amount of business is doing for the season of the year, travelers are now out and orders come in freely, but no change is reported in any of the staple goods.

CATTLE.—As usual about Christmas the market has been well supplied with Cattle of best quality which were readily bought up at \$7.00 to \$7.50, and \$8.00 per 100 lbs. Sheep and Lambs are now more plentiful, and \$3.00 to \$3.50 for Sheep has been the current rate during the week. Dressed Hogs are rather scarce yet, but large supplies are now looked for, the prices are firm from \$6.50 to \$7.00 according to condition and size, it is not expected that these prices will be maintained. A few of the packing houses are at work, but none as yet to their full capacity. There have been no transactions in Live Hogs on which to base quotations.

COALS.—There is no change in prices to note in this article this week, in the early part trade was very dull, but with the cold weather, a brisker business, and higher prices are looked for.

DRY GOODS.—There has been very little animation in this department owing to the want of

winter roads. Wholesale houses have sent out travelers to dispose of the surplus stock here, but country merchants are generally well supplied in the meantime, now that the winter roads are formed, it is believed that the stocks in the city will be readily taken up, and a healthy business is now looked for.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—This market has been very active for the season, and an advance in most articles is noted. Arrow root, however, is lower and quoted 13c. to 15c. The following are the current prices for some of the principal articles: refined Borax 18c. to 19c.; Cream Tartar Crystals 22c. to 23c.; Caustic Soda 3½c. to 3½c.; Sugar Lead 12½c. to 15c.; Bleaching Powder 2½c. to 2½c.; Alum \$2.15 to \$2.25; Copperas \$1.00 to \$1.10; Blue Vitriol 7c. to 8c.; Soda Ash 2c. to 2½c.; Carbonate of Soda \$3.25; Sulphur \$3.20 to \$3.30; Sal Soda \$1.50 to \$1.60; Saltpetre \$12.00.

FISH.—With the exception of Dry Cod, there has been very little demand for fish. Herrings are unchanged in price; Dry Cod being 12½c. higher, and has been sold in considerable quantities at \$5.12½ to \$5.25; nothing doing in Salmon.

FLOUR.—Receipts for the past week, 10,719 brls.; total receipts from 1st January to date 1,014,225 barrels, against 953,321 brls. in the corresponding period of 1869, being an increase of 60,904 brls. The stock of flour in store and in the hands of millers on the 15th inst., was 114,397 brls., against 88,412 brls. on the 1st inst., and 57,055 brls. on the 15th Dec., 1869; this is probably the largest stock ever held in Montreal at this season of the year. The amount of business done this week has been small, and we have not heard of any round lots changing hands, and the demand has been limited to the merest retail sales for city consumption—there has been none shipping. The following are the prices for to days market, which closes very dull and quiet: Superior Extra, \$6.40 to \$6.50; Extra, \$6.20 to \$6.30; Fancy, \$5.75 to \$5.80; Fresh Supers Canada Wheat, \$5.50 to \$5.60; Western States Supers free, \$5.50; Strong Bakers Flour, \$5.85 to \$6.15; Welland Canal Flour free, is nominal; Canada No. 2 Super, \$4.90 to \$5; Fine, \$4.60 to \$4.70; Middlings, \$4 to \$4.20; Pollards, \$3.25 to \$3.50; Upper Canada Bag Flour, \$2.50 to \$2.60; Oatmeal is still very scarce, and nothing has been sold under \$5.70 to \$5.90.

FREIGHTS.—The following are the rates to Liverpool per Grand Trunk Railway and Montreal Ocean Steamship Co's steamers: Wheat, 8s; Flour, 3s 6d; Potash, 40s; Pearlash 50s; Butter and Cheese, 22s 6d; Pork and Beef, 6s per brl. Engagements are reported at these rates.

GRAIN.—*Wheat*—There have been no receipts this week. The total receipts for the year fall short by 854,978 bushels on the receipts of 1869. The stock in store and in the hands of millers on the 15th inst., was 448,581 bushels, against 502,610 bushels on the 1st, and 577,585 bushels on 15th Dec., 1869. There has been no transactions on the spot and prices of all grades here are nominal, it is reported that several sales have been made for future delivery at prices which are not allowed to transpire. *Oats*—are dull, and prices have ranged very steady from 42½c. to 44c., closing quiet at outside figure; the stock in the city on the 15th inst., was 15,000 bushels. *Barley*—very little doing in this grain and prices are easy, about 55c. to 60c. being the nominal price; the stock in store on the 15th inst. 5,334 bushels. *Pears*—very few have been offering, and any small lots sold on the street brought about 85c. per 66 lbs.; the stock in store on the 15th inst. was 10,485 bushels. *Seeds*—are very quiet, Timothy, \$3.29 to \$3.40, per 45 lbs.; Flax, \$1.50 to \$1.60 per 60 lbs.

GROCERIES.—*Teas*—A good business has been done in most kinds, and at late rates. The following prices were obtained at a trade sale, held on the 15th inst.: 5 half chests Souchong 37c.; 5 do. Imperial Pung Suey 30c.; 10 do uncoloured Japan 50c.; 5 do. do. do. 35c.; 10 do. Moyune

Young Hyson 62½c.; 40 catties extra fine Gunpowder 74c.; 10 half chests Japan 56c.; 10 do. do. 55c.; balance 53c.; 36 catties Souchong 42½c. *Sugar*—market has been quiet but prices are firm and well maintained, we do not hear of any sales under \$3 to \$4. Refined is in large demand and prices are very firm, Yellow 9½ to 10½c.; Crushed 12½c.; Dry Crushed 12½c.; Ground 12½c., Golden Syrup 50c.; Standard 55c.; Amber 78c. *Molasses* are dull, and only retail sales reported, Muscovado 33 to 34c.; Barbadoes 40 to 45c.; clayed 22 to 24c.; Centrifugal 21 to 22c. *Fruit*—There is a good enquiry for all kinds, and prices are firm, Layer Raisins \$1.75 to \$1.77½; Valencias 7c. to 7½c.; Currants are steady at 6½c. to 6½c. Other fruits are in demand at unchanged prices. *Coffee*—Has been in moderate request; Java 19c. to 23½c.; Maracaibo 17c. to 19c.; Rio 15½c. to 16c.

HIDES AND SKINS.—Market fairly active; Hides 8½c. to 10c. per lb.; Pelts 60c. to 90c. a piece.

HARDWARE.—The principal business for this year is now over, and very few orders are coming in. Some old orders are still to fill up, and a good country trade is looked for now that the country roads are in a condition for winter traffic. Prices of all kinds are very firm but not higher, although an advance is looked for in spring; stocks of all kinds are large and well assorted.

LIQUORS.—*Brandy*—A considerable advance is noted in most brands; Hennessys \$2.30 to \$2.50; Martells \$2.25 to \$2.40; Otard, Dupuy & Co., \$2.10 to \$2.25, and other kinds in proportion. *Rum*—has also sustained an advance; Jamaica 16 per cent. \$2.00 to \$2.10 per gal.; Gin is unchanged in price, but the demand has been good. *High Wines*—are rather easier, and no sales have been reported over \$1.55.

LEATHER.—Business has been moderately active for desirable stock, but no change can be made in prices, an upward tendency is however visible; probably next week's report may show an advance in all the leading lines.

NAVAL STORES.—There has not been much done this week. Spirits of Turpentine are firm and held for 60c.; no change in Rosins; Pine Pitch and Tar are nominal at \$3.50; Coal Pitch and Tar \$3.00.

OILS.—Business generally has been dull with the exception of Cod which has been in demand at 55c. to 56c. in other kinds, there is no animation, and no change to note in prices which are nominal. *Petroleum*—For good samples 27c. to 30c. can be obtained; for ordinary 23½c. to 25c. is the market price.

PROVISIONS.—*Butter*—Receipts for past week, 1,725 kegs; shipments via Portland, 1,398 kegs. There has been some business doing for shipping this week at from 16c. to 18c., for common to medium lots, really choice is scarce and wanted, and for which high prices would be paid. *Cheese*—receipts very small; shipped by Portland, 1,615 boxes, market quiet and steady at 13c. to 13½c. *Pork*—This market has been rather depressed all week and a decline is noted Mess Pork quiet, \$20; Thin Mess in moderate demand, at \$17.50 to \$18.50; Prime dull, \$14 to \$14.50; Extra Prime, \$14. It is expected that as soon as the rivers are frozen over and ready access had to the lumbering regions that there will be considerable advance on these prices. *Lard*—is in light supply and prices are steady at 12c. to 13c. *Tallow*—quiet 6c. per lbs.

HICK.—There have been some small sales at \$3.70 to \$3.85 for ordinary lots, but very choice samples cannot be bought under \$3.90 to \$4, at which prices it is now held.

SALT.—As usual at this season there is nothing doing in salt, the stock at present on hand is not very large and are held firm, at 73c. to 75c.; coarse, 50c., and factory filled, \$1.35 to \$1.45.

WOOL.—There is no change as yet to note on the prices of wool; but holders are very stiff in their views, and it is expected that an advance of 2c. per lb. will be made on present rates.