taken to coming down suddenly on them like the wolf on the fold, on bicycles. Mr. Frank Robertson, representing Messrs. John Macdonald & Co., Toronto firm, arrived in town this way on Thursday, having sent his boxes by train. He made the run from Kingston to Napanee in three and a half hours."

-An impression has become current that the Canada Pacific Railway Company is negotiating for the acquisition of the Northern Railway, and that the sudden departure for Britain of Mr. Donald A. Smith, was for the purpose of negotiating to that end. Possibly this might, if true, be welcome intelligence to some London firms, Morton, Rose & Co. among the number, who have Northern Railway bonds to dispose of. But later news is of a different character. From a private cable of yesterday, we gather that the impression on the London Stock Exchange is that it is not the C. P. R., but the Great Western Railway, which is aiming to acquire control of the Northern. If this should prove to be the case, and such a step should be consummated, it may be doubted whether Toronto interests would be satisfied, however much Hamilton might be pleased. Mr. Lethbridge is reported to be coming to Canada in the interest of the bondholders, and when he inspects the property he will see the importance of maintaining the Northern as an independent line.

The public should be on guard against the delusive efforts of a company called the Hartford Life and Annuity, which is seeking to do co-operative life insurance business in an illegal manner in Canada. Its deceptive certificates have been repeatedly exposed in Hartford and New York journals, and also recently in Ottawa. It has no deposit with the Canadian Government, and has been excluded from issuing certificates in New York and many other states.

### STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, August 17, 1881.

	MONTREAD, August 11, 1001.					
Stocks.	Lowest Point in Week.	Highest Point in Week.	Total Transac'n in Week.	Buyers.	Sellers.	Average Price, like Date 1880
Montreal	1951		1423	197	1971	148
Ontario Consolidated	803	83 1	2129	803	81	861
People's				91	95	79
	116	1163	90		119	
Toronto				155}		136
out. Cartier		100		105	106	831
Merchants	125	127	396	1264	127	103
Commerce	. 1439	145	1261	144 }	145	1291
Californ Tree		117	50		117	! <b>.</b>
				92	100	
44thilton	1			1 400 5	1 412	
"ACDANGA V d			13154	$\frac{140}{1334}$	143 1333	123
		135	13104	96	100	1207
Dom. Tel.			988			524
Rich & O.Nav	1 100	68		00	1394	
City Pass	139 148			1481		139
R C. Ins. Co	149	140	200	461		
Commerce x.d.	1			104		
Ml. Tel. Co. x d		1				
- Ja. CU. A U	1		1			1

—Since the opening of navigation this year twenty eight vessels have loaded lumber at Montreal, received dispatch for South American ports.

#### OIL MATTERS IN PETROLIA.

PETROLIA, Aug 15th, 1881.

The market for Crude oil is very firm, although the quotation is not raised over that of last week, \$1.80 having been paid for a quantity in tank to day. Refined has advanced definitely to 18½c at Petrolia. Buyers are making many enquiries. Lubricants and Parafin wax firm, with good demand.

#### FIRE RECORD.

ONTARIO. --- Sawyerville, 13th. -- A. Fletcher's mill was struck by lightning and destroyed, loss \$1,000.—Barrie 11.—Coulter's blacksmith shop McCutcheon's paint shop and the Central School house burned; loss on school \$3,073, insured in Royal \$5,000. Shops owned by Mrs McKee, insured in Western \$1,150, McCutcheon's loss \$600, covered in Scottish Commercial. Sabath School damaged \$200, covered in Royal.—
Beverley.—John Clelland's barns with contents destroyed, insured London Mutual, \$800.—
Waubaushene 14 —Georgian Bay Lumber Co's mills burned, no particulars.—Cornwall 13.—Custom House, McAdam's confectionery, frame building owned by A. Hodge, P. Denny's residence, also Jno. Denny's residence and outbuildings burned. McAdaminsured in Western \$1,200 on stock; building \$1,000 in Queens. His loss about \$1,800.—Halifax, N. S. 12.—F. Allan's tannery at Dartmouth destroyed, insured on building and machinery \$1,400 in Ætna and stock \$1,500 in Phenix.

TIMBER AND DEALS AT QUEBEC. The sales of last week are as follow:—A first-class raft of White Pine about 53 feet, on p. t. but reported to be 32 cents. Also, one of 48 feet, at 28 cents. A fair average raft of about 46 feet, at 24 cents; and an ordinary raft of 53 to 55 feet, including some Waney of 20 inch average, at 22 cents. First-class Waney board, long lengths, 19½ to 20 inch average, has been sold at 38 cents. Red Pine, in conjunction with the above, has been sold at 13 to 18 cents, according to average and quality. For Oak and Elm there is very little enquiry, but they are held firm. White Pine Deals—A sale was made at \$103 for first, \$65 for second, and \$33 for thirds. For Spruce Deals the market value is about \$38, \$26, and \$22.

—The British Railway News publishes a supplement giving some particulars of an interesting character as to the railways of the world. It states that the total capital expended in the construction of railways throughout the world amounts to £3,773,354,000, the estimated total receipts £333,000,000, the estimated total expenditure £183,000,000, and the estimated total net earnings £150,000,000.

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