

thus detained us for nearly an hour on the road. But as we had the satisfaction of knowing that our seats in the building were each numbered, we felt no alarm about the loss of our places. So we enjoyed as we went along the gay appearance of the peasantry who on this occasion donned their best attire determined to make a fete day of the first of April, and lolled about sipping their coffee in the open air or stood gazing at the great folks as they passed by.

On our arrival at our destination we were much struck by the extraordinary efforts that had been successfully made to advance the works. Even in the Park, where I regret to say, very many buildings are still unfinished—where the grand international club house is a mere shell, and where many trees are yet to be planted—a flattering change had taken place in the *avenue d'honneur*, which was a perfect morass only the day before, but was now covered in with gay draperies, smoothed of its asperities and lined by soldiers looking really smart if not imposing. *Hero officiosa* were rushing in haste conveying orders; senators and ambassadors strutting about under a load of stars and ribbons—all in dinner dress. For every one was ordered to appear in frock coats and white neckcloths, while the commission kept flying about to ascertain their precise place in the procession which was to attend their majesties during their walk round the building. In a word I may sum up by saying I never saw a more stirring scene in my life—nor have I ever beheld more good humour displayed by all parties.

At two o'clock precisely the Imperial pair arrived, accompanied by their staff, all in plain clothes, but everything around them bespeaking their high position. They were not attended, as had been previously announced, by the Prince Imperial, and this threw a certain degree of gloom over the whole affair, as it was rumored that his Imperial Highness, who is generally beloved, was still suffering from severe illness.

The Emperor appeared well, and walked nearly twice around the building without seeming fatigued. The Empress looked better than I have seen her for years, while their loyal subjects for once repudiated their usual cold manner and enthusiastically greeted the august pair as they passed through each court and each nationality. Their Majesties were received at the entrance of the Royal Pavillon by Her Imperial Highness Princess Mathilde, their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Orange, (President of the Dutch Commission) and the Count de Flandre, (President of the Belgian Commission), by His Imperial Highness the Duke de Leuchtenberg, (President of the Russian Commission), and their Highnesses the Prince and Princess Murat.

Arrived at the Palace itself, their Majesties were received by the Imperial Commissioners, under the Presidency of Monsieur Kouher, Minister of Finance—a somewhat strange coincidence—since it was his Excellency who originally drew up the report which gave birth to the present exhibition.

All the Ministers and great officers of State were here assembled. His Majesty did not address them, but proceeded at once to the raised iron gallery, which runs all through the outer circle, and from where the machinery and other objects could be admirably viewed. As they proceeded the several chief commissioners joined the procession. Amongst others we recognized the Hon. T. D. Metcay, your worthy representative.

His Imperial Majesty wore a plain black coat, with the grand *ordon* of the Legion of Honour.

The Empress was dressed in crimson velvet, with a bonnet of the same colour, ornamented with a small garland representing golden oak leaves. On her shoulders she wore a black velvet cloak embroidered with jet.

M. Kouher pointed out each nationality as the august visitor passed through them, and particularly directed their attention to those courts and establishments where the goods were displayed by persons dressed in the strict costume of their country in some instances giving a very picturesque appearance to the show. For instance the Chinese—two men and two (little footed) women doing the harvest of the Tea Palace, and the Russian Restaurant served by Serfs in full costume. The edifice was not crowded, there being only 8,000 or 10,000 present. This may be accounted for by the fact that tickets for entrance on this day were fixed at 20 francs each. But, to Napoleon and his lovely partner it must have appeared that the building was crowded to excess, since the whole multitude rushed from spot to spot to watch and greet their majesties as they walked slowly along, preceded by the dignitaries of France and the Imperial Commissioners of the Exhibition.

For the next six days the entrance will be five francs and on and after the present week only one, thus affording a chance for the timid and exclusive classes to avoid a crowd, while later the great numbers will be admitted to see the exhibition for ten pence, for which, in an unfinished state, many of their betters have paid twenty times the amount. The absence of all foreign potentates was an object of some surprise, but it is generally understood that the grand day when the crowned heads are to appear, is adjourned till July, when many Sovereigns have signified their intention of being present at the distribution of prizes. The utter inability of the Imperial President (the young Prince) to receive his guests and the incomplete state of the Exposition itself, will account for the postponement of their official visits.

On the whole, the 1st of April 1867 will be long remembered, as a gay festival, a strange show of the world's wonders. Every one seemed pleased and contented, every one seemed in good humour—even the Emperor—who must have felt much disappointed at the absence of his beloved son, who must have been annoyed at the incomplete state of his pet project and on whom the pressure of instant warfare intrudes so heavily—that nothing but his great talents can save France from a fierce and dangerous struggle—inaugurated the Exposition *Universelle*, with a calm dignity and a smiling countenance.—*Correspondence Gazette.*

MONEY MARKET.

THE demand for money is not very active, and is easily met by the banks. Exchange on London has advanced in New York, yesterday's quotations being 109½ to 109, for bankers' 60-day bills on London. Montreal banks are also drawing at these rates for cash, the rate for discount being 110½. Gold drafts on New York are selling at par.

GOLD in New York has still further advanced, in consequence of the warlike Continental news, the decline in cotton, and the decline on the London Stock Exchange, of U S bonds, touching 112 yesterday, but closing at 110½, the fluctuations being more rapid than usual.

SILVER is abundant, buying at 4 and selling at 4 per cent discount.

THE GROCERY TRADE.

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|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Baldwin, C. H., & Co | Anderson, John, & Co |
| Chapman, Fraser & Tyee | Nugent & Kinloch |
| Chapman H. & Co. | Leeming, Thomas & Co |
| Child, George, & Co. | Mitchell James |
| Conroy, Andrew & Lamb | Phelan, Joseph |
| Davis, Clark, & Clayton | Robertson & Beattie |
| Fitzpatrick & Moore | Robertson David |
| Fourmier Jules | Sheelar, Jack & Co. |
| Frank, J. G. & Co. | Smith, Joe & Son |
| Gillette, Moffatt & Co. | Thompson, Murray & Co |
| Jaffery, Brothers & Co. | Torrance, David, & Co. |
- West, Brew.

BUSINESS in this line during the week has been comparatively stagnant, both as regards the trade with the country, and the jobbing trade of the city. Navigation, however, may in another week be expected to be freed from the icy fetters of winter, and much more animation in every way follow as a matter of course.

COFFEE—Is unaltered, and without enquiry

FISH—Are inactive, and prices nominally unchanged.

FRUIT—In Layer Raisins, some considerable transactions have taken place at \$2 25. Valentins are scarce and in demand and are unobtainable below 5½c per lb. Currants have sold in lots at 4½c to 4¾c.

MOLASSES—The stock of Muscovado in market is not very heavy, but the demand is limited. Some sales in lots are reported at 37½c.

RICE—Continues scarce. Some small sales have been made at \$3.90.

SALT—Owing to the near approach of open navigation and to almost entire absence of demand, holders of Liverpool Coarse are less firm, and sales have been made at rather lower figures than previously asked.

STOAN—In r sugars there is very little activity, refinery sugars having almost entirely driven them out of the market. Sales have been made of Barbadoes in 10 and 15 hds lots at \$7 75 to \$8 per 100 lbs.

TEAS—Are without animation. Twankays continue scarce, and the high prices asked have checked sales. We hear of sales of about 300 pkgs at figures which have not transpired. Japans are moving slowly at about our quotations. In Greens, some few hundred packages have been sold for western account on private terms.

WINES AND SPIRITS—Are very dull and without change.

THE DRY GOODS TRADE.

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|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Baillie, James, Co. | Markar, Joseph, & Bro |
| Bankhead, Jack & Co. | May, Joseph |
| Blackburn, James, & Co. | Max, Thomas, & Co. |
| Clark, Jas. H. & Co. | McIntosh, Jack & Co. |
| Claxton, T. James & Co. | McIntyre, Dennis & Co. |
| Davis, Welsh & Co. | Moss, S. H., & J |
| Ewart, Shearer & Co. | Muir, W. & R. |
| Faulds & Henderson | Mundreth & Steenken |
| Gault, Bro & Co. | Ogden & Co. |
| Gilmour, J. Y. & Co. | Pitblair, Auldin & Co. |
| Greenhalgh, S., Son & Co. | Robertson, A., & Co. |
| Hampson, James, & Co. | Roy, Jas., & Co. |
| Lewis, Ray & Co. | Scrimgeour, William, & Co. |
| Macdonald, Andrew, & Co. | Struthers, McCall & Co. |
| MacKenzie, J. G. & Co. | Thomson, Thilo-dan & Co. |

DURING the week under review this market has not been characterized by animation. Buyers are operating very cautiously, and only purchasing according to absolute wants, this although not immediately satisfactory to the importers, will in due time result in a more general demand for goods which if late will be sound and healthy. We think about the usual number of buyers for the season have been in town, still the aggregate purchases have not been large, and some of our importers have still on hand large stocks, too large for the season. The fact is apparent that even with a decreased quantity imported compared with last year more goods have been brought into the market, than the country legitimately wants. Should this state of things be continued another season, doubtless there would be considerable trouble in carrying stocks over. The present season should be a lesson, and our importers be governed by more

caution and judgment for the future. Again, the fact must not be overlooked that the price of cotton goods being at present so much lower, compared with the highest point reached during the war, nearly double the quantity is brought out for the same amount of money put into this line of goods.

Stocks continue well assorted for the season, all staples being in moderate supply. Novelties in fancy goods are getting pretty well cleaned out, but no difficulty is experienced yet by buyers in finding all they want. Cotton continues to fall, and has now touched a lower price than for the past four years, being about 10½d for middling Orleans, and we see no reasonable prospects of the price again advancing. Goods have not gone down in sympathy with the raw material to the same extent, indeed we have seen recent invoices in which prices are charged the same as bought at the lowest point in December last, and the statement accompanying it that the goods could not be charged less; we cannot find out that any of the standard makers have reduced their lists, still we think the time is not far distant when this will be the case; but as manufacturers complain that they have been working at a loss for some time past they now insist upon a profit. There is nothing special to report respecting other classes of goods.

We are glad to observe from the reports of the imports at this port a continued weekly decrease. This is in the right direction, which if continued for some time longer, will help to make stocks healthy and light, which is desirable at the close of the season.

MONTREAL PRODUCE MARKET.

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|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Akin & Kirkpatrick | Laidlaw, Middleton & Co. |
| Cameron & Ross | Leeming, Thomas & Co |
| Conners, Colson & Lamb | Mitchell, Holt |
| Crawford, James | Raphael, Thomas W. |
| Edwin, Thomas & Co. | Sheelar, Jack & Co. |
| Hirkwood, Livingstone & Co | Seymour, C. E. |

FLOUR.—The market generally has been very dull. Receipts have been liberal for the season, and the outward movements trifling, while even the local enquiry has been on a very restricted scale, we have therefore to note an easy feeling although rates are not notably lower. The transactions in the higher grades have been of a purely retail character, and rates various. Strong super owing to comparative scarcity is not forced, and for the little changing hands from \$8.50 to \$9.00 is obtained; ordinary samples however are a dragging sale at about \$8.40 to \$8.45; while to move a quantity considerable concessions on these rates would, it is presumed, be made. No. 2 and the lower grades partake of the general inaction, and little has changed hands for some days past. *Ray Flour* is the turn lower, latest sales noted being at \$5.85. *Bag Flour*—Has been latterly in better supply, some of the winter accumulations at certain points having at length come forward, and former extreme rates are not now obtainable. Latest sales of best samples have been at \$4.10 to \$4.15, while some inferior lots repeatedly offered at relatively low figures, are still untouched. Operations are in a measure retarded by the protracted close of navigation to Quebec, and those most largely interested though disappointed in their calculations of an earlier demand, are content to await the probable inquiry likely to arise as soon as navigation fairly opens. Opinions as to prospects are much divided, those interested professing confidence in still higher prices, taking the view (which however is but partially shared) that the supplies will ultimately prove short of the country's requirements. These in the position of buyers, on the other hand, regard prospects as so precarious, both on account of the exceptional range of prices and the presumed liability of a large proportion of the flour in stock to become sour or heated as soon as warm weather fairly sets in, that they willingly incur any risk of advance when pressed to fill orders, to lay in supplies in advance at the current prices.

CATTLE—Continues firm with less doing, rates for good Upper Canada range from \$2.60 to \$2.70.

WHEAT—There are no sales noted and rates are purely nominal.

PEASE—Are less active, but the recent advance is still maintained, with a fair inquiry for delivery.

OLDS—There are but few operations on the spot, but being wanted a fair sample would command from 42c to 43c.

PORK—The market continues firm and without any material change. There has been a moderate demand during the last few days to complete orders for the fisheries, &c., by schooners now in port, and which are expected shortly to commence loading. Prices