

introducing salt water, that the formation of additional Aqueducts will increase the supply of water form the present source. What steps will be eventually taken remains to be seen.

The liability of companies for the loss arising from the blowing up of buildings to check conflagrations, is a vexed question, just now among underwriters and legal experts. The Boston fire having brought the question to the surface,—the Adjustors sought legal opinions on the question of liability. The gentlemen referred to Messrs. Hoar, of Massachusetts, Chamberlin, of Connecticut, and Blodgett, of Chicago, were of opinion the companies were liable, so that the duty of procuring relief for the companies under these circumstances, is a principal part of the purposes of Mr. Hope and his committee.

(To be continued.)

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKET.

From our own Reporter.

MONTREAL, March, 25. 1873.

A very severe snow storm set in last Thursday night continuing most part of Friday covering the ground to the depth of fully 12 inches, a good deal also fell on Saturday and Sunday, during the night of Sunday and Monday morning the Thermometer fell to 1 degree below zero, and on Monday it froze hard all day, to-day the air is cold and clear but the Ther. does not indicate so low a temperature as yesterday. Railway travel has been a good deal impeded by the storm, and business has generally been interrupted. Groceries have been dull and quiet and a shade easier. Dry goods active. Hardware moderately active. Leather dull. Breadstuffs inactive. Ashes firm and advancing. Provisions firm.

ASHES.—Pots.—The sales of first sort reported after the date of our last report were at the same rate as our closing quotations, but further on in the week prices advanced to \$7.00 to 7.05 and in a few instances to \$7.10. The market to-day closes very firm at \$7.05 to 7.10; for seconds sorts the demand has been rather light and have not advanced in the same proportion as firsts, latest sales were at \$6.10; thirds are scarce and nominal at \$5.60. **Pearls.**—Very little doing in this kind of ash, early in the week a sale was reported at \$9.00. The market closing firm at \$9.05 for firsts; seconds are nominal at \$8.00. The stocks at present in store are pots 939 brls; pearls 396 brls.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—Trade during the week has been very active. Orders from travellers have been very large and nearly all orders in the city will be executed by the end of the month. Very few buyers have as yet come into town. Payments are hardly up the mark and a good many renewals have to be made. Our quotations this week show a rise on a good many articles in our list:—Men's Kip Boot \$2.65 to 3.10; ditto French Calf \$3.00 to 3.75; ditto Split Brogans \$1 to 1.25; ditto Buff Congress \$1.75 to 2; ditto Prunella Congress \$1.50 to 2.00; Boys Split Brogans 90c to \$1; Womens Buff Boots \$1.15 to 1.25; ditto Split ditto 90c to \$1.05; ditto Prunella Congress 75c to \$1.75; ditto Fine Kid Balmorals \$2 to 2.50.

CATTLE.—Our markets are now better supplied, but the demand is not very large at present as is usually the case during Lent. We quote 1st quality \$7; 2nd quality \$5.50 to 6; per 100 lbs dressed weight. **Sheep and Lambs** sell readily by the score at \$3.50 to 5; single animals bring from \$4 to 10, according to quality. **Hogs.**—Are in demand, but the supply is light the ruling prices are \$6.50 to 7 dressed weight.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—Not much doing in the wholesale way during the week, but in retail lots there has been a very fair business done in most of the following articles within our range of quotations:—**Cream Tartar Crystals** scarce 28 to 30c; **Ground Cream Tartar** 30 to 32c; **Bi Carb** \$5.75 to 6; **Sal Soda** 2½ to 2¾c; **Soda Ash** 3½ to 3¾c; **Caustic Soda** 5½ to 5¾c; **Copperas** 1 to 1¼c; **Bleaching Powder** 3½ to 4c; **Sulphur** 3½ to 3¾c; **Brimstone** 2½ to 3c; **Epsom Salts** 2 to 2½c; **Blue Vitroil** 8 to 9c; **Borax** 28 to 30c; **Saltpetre** \$10 to 11.

DRY GOODS.—All our leading houses have had a very active week, and business done has been fully more than what was looked for so early in the season, and judging from appearances the importations this year will not be much beyond the requirements of trade. A good many buyers are at present in town. Fancy Goods are also in active demand. Clothing is very active stocks, are getting pretty well cleared out, the business done this year has been much in excess of last, especially in Boys clothing, and although prices have been barely up to last year still the extra trade has made things satisfactory to the manufacturer. There are some complaints about payments but not to any great extent.

FISH.—There is not much change in this market, supplies at present are light, and the demand during Lent being large prices are very firm. Fine dry Cod is worth \$4.75 to 5, the latter for very choice. Green Cod is nominal at \$4 to 5, but there is none in the market. Salmon scarce and wanted at \$15 to 16. Labrador Herrings \$3.50 to 3.75. Canso splits \$2 to 2.50.

FURS.—Very few furs coming in at present, but all offering are at once bought up within our range of quotations, which the London sales have not as yet affected. The report of all the sales has not yet come to hand. We continue to quote:—**Beaver** \$2 to 2.50 per lb; **black bear**, \$10 to 12; **fisher**, \$6 to 7; **silver fox**, \$25 to 50; **cross fox**, \$2 to 5; **red fox**, \$1.62½; **lynx**, \$1.75 to 2; **dark marten**, \$5 to 7; **pale marten** \$2 to 2.50; **dark mink**, \$3 to 4; **mink**, prime, 2d \$1.50 to 2; **fall muskrat**, 8c to 10c winter do., 15c; **spring do.**, 20c; **raccoon**, 40c to 50c; **skunk**, 25c; **otter**, \$10 to 12.

FLOUR.—Receipts during the week 13,400 brls total receipts from 1st January to date 102,228 brls, being an increase of 4,639 brls. on the receipts for the corresponding period of 1872. Total recorded shipments from 1st January to date 34,867 brls. Prices in England and the West have generally favored buyers and in this market, the business done has been small, and prices do not exhibit much change. Buyers do not care about operating extensively at present looking for lower prices. To-day the market closes quiet but steady at the following quotations:—**Extra** \$6.95 to 7.25; **Fancy** \$6.50 to 6.60; **Ordinary supers** from Canada wheat \$5.90 to 5.95; **Strong Bakers Flour** \$6.07½ to 6.20; **Canada super No. 2** \$5.60 to 5.65; **Fine** \$5 to 5.10; **Middlings** \$4 to 4.25; **Pollards** \$2.75 to 3.50; **Upper Canada Bags** \$2.80 to 2.90; **Oatmeal** in good demand at \$5 to 5.20; **Cornmeal** unchanged.

GRAIN.—Wheat.—Receipts during the past week 11,950 bush; total receipts from 1st January to date 99,830 bush, being an increase of 44,005 bush. on the receipts for the corresponding period of 1872. Nothing doing in this grain and prices are entirely nominal. **Maize.**—Market inactive, latest sales of car loads at 59c. **Peas.**—Market quiet at 80 to 82½c. **Oats.**—Very little doing just now worth 30 to 31c at which small sales are reported. **Barley.**—Dull and nominal at 45 to 60c. **Pot and Pearl Barley**, all making at the mills here is taken up at \$5.75 for pot and \$10 for pearl. **Timothy seed.**—Is somewhat firmer than during the previous week and now commands from \$3.00 to 3.15.

GROCERIES.—Teas.—This market in sympathy with New York has been dull when the arrivals of Japan Tea by sailing ships have been very large. The stocks here at present are very ample for all requirements—business has been confined to job lots at late quotations. **Sugars.**—Nothing doing in Raw at present sufficient to alter quotations which are nominal. Montreal refined in fair demand at 11¾c for crushed A. and 11½ to 12c for dry crushed. **Molasses.**—There has been rather more doing in this article during the past week. Demrara has sold in small parcels at 36c; Centrifugal 23c; Clayed scarce 24c; Trinidad 30 to 32½c; Barbadoes in small supply at 38 to 40c; **Syrups** golden 44c; amber 72c. **Rice.**—The demand is improving and prices advancing sales from \$4.25 to 4.50 according to sample. **Coffee.**—Demand has been light but prices are firm owing to the small stocks held here at present. Java 23 to 24c; Singapore 19 to 20c; Ceylon 20 to 24c. **Spices.**—Only small sales reported, prices are firm and are expected to be maintained for sometime at the following figures. **Black Pepper** 16c; **White ditto** 40c; **Cloves** 22 to 25c; **Nutmegs** 90c to \$1.00; **Pimento** 7 to 8c; **Mace** \$1.40 to 1.50; **Cassia** 22 to 23c. **Fruit.**—Market improving and prices somewhat harder and a further rise is looked for. **Layer Raisins** are placed from \$1.50 to 1.60, and **Valencias** 5½ to 6c; **Currants** 6 to 6½c; **Filberts** 10 to 10½c; **Almonds** 14 to 15c; **No Walnuts** in market; **Turkey Figs** 7½ to 12½c according to size of package.

HIDES AND PELTS.—This market is firmer and although we do not at present change our quotations it is questionable if they could be purchased any under our outside quotation. Meantime we continue to quote:—**Salted hides** \$9.50 to 10; **No. 1 green**, \$9 to 9.50; **No. 2 ditto**, 8.50 to 9; **No. 3 and bulls**, \$7 to 8; **sheep and lambskins**, \$1.50 to 2.

HARDWARE.—The demand for heavy goods has increased considerably since last week and prices are fully maintained and in some instances we believe prices higher than we quote have been obtained, and an advance of Pigs and Bars is looked for. Canada Plates are advanced in England and as soon as the demand begins here purchasers may expect to have to pay a large advance on present quotations. Our price list this week presents very little change:—**Pig Iron**—Coltness, none in market, Gartsherrie, \$48.00 to 50.00; **Summerlee** \$49.00 to 50; **Glengarnock**, \$47 to 48; **Laug loan**, \$49 to 50; **Eglinton**, \$45 to 46; **Clyde**, \$43 to 44; **Hematite**, \$50 to 52. **Bars**—Scotch or Staffordshire, \$70 to 75; best refined, \$80 to 85; **Swedes**, \$100 to 120. **Hoop and Band**, \$4.50 to 6.00. **Sheets**, \$6 to 7.50. **Plates**—Best, \$5 to 7; **Lowmoor or Bowling**, \$9 to 10. **Nails**—Cut, \$5 to 6.50; pressed, \$7 to 11.00; pressed spikes, \$6.50 to 7; **Canada Plates**—Hatton, \$7.25 to 7.50; **Swansea**, \$7.75 to 8; **Crown** \$7.75 to 8. **Tin Plates**—Charcoal 1C, \$13.00 to 13.50; ditto IX, \$15.00 to 15.50; **coke**, 1C, \$12.50 to 13. **Sheet Lead**, \$7 to 7.50; **pig lead**, \$6 to 7. **Zinc**—Spelter, \$6.50 to 7; **sheet**, \$7.50 to 8. **Galvanized Iron**, 12c to 13½c. **Cast Steel**, 14c to 16c; **spring do.**, 6c to 6½c; **sleigh shoe**, 5½c to 6c. **Window Glass**—For good 4th quality, under 25 united inches, \$3; to 40 inches, \$3.20; to 50 inches, \$3.50.

LEATHER.—This market continues dull and no great movement is reported in any kind of leather stocks of which are well assorted, although large shipments of spanish leather have been made to the English market. There is no demand worth naming in this market, prices of which is steady. Very little doing in heavy waxed upper but light can be placed to a moderate extent at our quotations. We quote—**Spanish sole**, No. 1 26 to 27c; **do.** No. 2, 24 to 25c; **Buffalo sole** No. 1, 23c; **do.** No. 2, 21c; **Henlock slaughter** 28 to 30c;