

sugar in the Maritime Provinces, if of a thoughtful cast of mind, would feel better pleased if such subscription graced the name of some capitalists not connected with the Montreal Redpath refinery. For it is desirable that competition, on at least a reasonable scale should be maintained among the Dominion sugar refineries. Still, there is no law to prevent Redpath from joining any sugar refining company that may anywhere be formed in Canada.

We would sooner see the Messrs. Redpaths' name down for \$25,000 than for \$100,000. To give them a controlling influence in the proposed Halifax refinery would be a fatal mistake, as it would leave sellers of raw sugars and buyers of refined at their mercy.

STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

Montreal, 20th August, 3 p.m.

Stocks.	Lowest Point in Week.	Highest Point in Week.	Total Transactions in Week.	Buyers.	Sellers.	Average Price for the Date, 1898.
Montreal	125½	133½	2150	129	129½	169½
" x.d.						
Ontario	55½	25	56	57	82	
Consolidated	10	167	9	12½	75½	
Peoples x.d.	40	270	4	42		
Molsons	52½	65	291	64	65	54
Toronto				110	112	137½
Jacques Cartier	58	55	58	59½	43½	
Merchants	71	74	620	73	73½	94½
Commerce	107	17½	228	107	107½	111½
" x.d.						
Union						
Hamilton						
Exchange				21	30	
Mon. Tel.	88½	91	980	9	94½	114½
" x.d.						
Dom. Tel.						
Rich. & O. Nav.	42½	47½	135	42	42½	63
City Pass				80	82½	
Gas	115½	117½	223	117½	118	149½
Eastern T's						
R. C. Ins. Co				43	45	
Sterling Ex						

FIRE RECORD.

ONTARIO.—Morrison Township, Aug. 8. H. Heidman's barn burned, insured in Standard for \$500. —Manotic, 13th. John Brymner's shoe shop burned, with all the adjoining buildings, belonging to J. A. Berreul, who is insured in the Standard. —Prescott, Aug. 13. Wm. Noble's dwelling with contents burned, loss \$1,500. —Chatham, 13th Steamer "Steinhoff" burned, insurance \$8,000. —Georgetown, Aug. 14th. James Reid's barn with three year's crop burned by lightning. —Cambray, 14th. Angus McFayden's barn with contents burned by lightning. —St. Mary's, 14th. Peter Dunlop killed by lightning and his barn burned. —Caledon, 14th. J. B. Conboy's barn burned by lightning, insured in Sovereign for \$750. —Aylmer, 14th. Isaac Wooley's house with contents burned by lightning. —Dorchester, 14th. J. Crockett's barn with contents burned by lightning. —Cannington, 14th. Mr. Hurd's house, occupied by Jos. Elliott, with contents burned; Mr. Hurd was insured for \$700. —Toronto, 14th. Cosgrave's brewery damaged \$9,000 by fire. —Adelaide, 14th. F. Pitch's barn burned by lightning, insured \$700. —Tara, 16th.—Richard Walker's house burned, loss about \$1200. —Seaforth. W. Ballantyne's house burned, insured for \$400. —Grimsby, 19th. Teeter's hotel burned. London, 19th. Nath. Tackabury's barn burned, insured for \$400. Cayuga, 19th. Wm. Munn's blacksmith's shop burned, partially insured. J. Mitchell's house, occupied by Miss Elliott, dressmaker, also burned; house insured for \$600.

OTHER PROVINCES.—Petitcodiac N. S. Aug. 14.—Calvin McFee's dwelling house and out

buildings burned. No insurance.—Hemingsford, Que. Aug. 15. E. M. Gate's store at Covey Hill burned, not insured.—Montreal, Aug. 16.—Joseph Campte, house damaged, insured in British America \$1100.—St. Pierre, Miquelon, Aug. 15.—The Government Buildings, about a dozen stores, and as many private houses, burned. The Queen is said to have insurance of about £8,000 sterling.

THE TRUE BASIS OF A SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS CAREER.

A New York contemporary says: In all cases where a merchant is doing a good business it will be found that while there may be advantages of location, etc., which he has been quick to discern, he himself is the main cause of his success. He has not spent any time in complaining of dull trade or waiting for business to improve, but has put in practice every means in his power to increase his sales and make his business remunerative. The habit of resting one's hope on the times, and of imagining that a better general business outlook will do for a man what he can only do for himself, is inimical to all success. A live business man may certainly expect to reap his share of the advantages of a stimulated demand and greater purchasing power among his customers, but in such a case it will be only such men who will reap the advantage. It should be understood by every merchant that the first requisite for success lies with himself, and if he does not conduct his business on principles which make it remunerative, the best times the country ever saw would be insufficient to supply the elements of success which are wanting in himself. The soundest policy is that of entire self-dependence. A good mercantile training and the qualifications which go to make up a thorough man of business are things which, once acquired, can at all times be relied on independently of outside influences, and they are the only factors on which any hopes of success can be placed. Provided a man is so qualified, the case is indeed hard where he will not be able not only to make both ends meet, but by systematic economy and a strict watch over his business to gain some headway. We believe that in nine cases out of ten where men have not succeeded within the past few years the fault has been mainly with themselves, and their inability to adapt themselves to the conditions of their trade.

It is getting to be well understood that no era of prosperity such as we have been looking forward to will in any sense supply the place of the hard work, economy and attention to business which are coming to be more and more regarded as essentials of success. We may reasonably hope for better times, but if they are to come in the aggregate it will be because merchants individually have been placing themselves on an improved footing. Good times do not mean an era of prosperity in which all classes of merchants, the good, the bad and the indifferent will share alike, independent of their own qualifications, but rather when the latter classes have dropped out of the race and the rewards of successful enterprise come to those who have deserved them. Let every man engaged in business strive to make the times for himself as prosperous as possible, by leaving no stone unturned and no means unemployed that will conduce to his success. Let him profit by judicious conduct of his business; and placing his greatest reliance on such means in preference to any others, he will have no reason to be discouraged by the gloomy accounts of persons less active than himself. When also, the varied industries of the country shall receive an additional and healthy stimulus, he will be in a position to take advantage of the

fact, because he has based his hopes mainly on his own qualifications as a merchant, and not alone on the fluctuations of the commercial world.

HOW WE TREAT OUR BRAINS,

Almost daily I am in contention with parents and guardians, schoolmasters and schoolmistresses, clergymen and professors, youths and maidens, boys and girls concerning the right way of building up the young brain, of ripening the adult brain, and of preserving the brain in age. Grievously ill do we take in hand to deal with this delicate member, and well it is that innate development overruns our schemes and brings the variety of natural good out of the monotony of human folly. It is dimly felt by society that the reign of bone and muscle is over, and that the reign of brain and nerve is taking its place. Even the Gibbonites now have the hydraulic ram and the steam felling machine; the spectacled general of forces fight in his tent by click of battery and wire, and his lieutenant hoists an iron-clad by the touch of two buttons on his waistcoat; the patient earth forgets the tread of horse and ox, and is plowed by steam; and ere long, no doubt, our ministers will wind sermons out of barrel organs, and our morning egg will be broken for us by a wafer of dynamite. Hence it is that all classes are for "education!" The village grocer's son goes to a "theological college," and sits up by night over his "Evidences," with green tea in his blood, and a wet cloth about his brows. The gardener's daughter pulls roses, and has become a pupil teacher; she is chlorotic at sixteen, and broken spirited at twenty. The country parson's son goes to a civil service or a navy "coach;" is plucked in his teens, and is left to begin life again with an exhausted brain and an incurable megrim; nay even the sons of peers are putting on the armor or light, and are deserting the field for the counting house. To meet this demand colleges of all kinds and degrees spring up—middle class seminaries, theological colleges, colleges of science, university boards, even the old universities are stirring from their scholarly ease, are sending out missionaries in *partibus*, and are cramming the youth of twenty counties in the art of making most show with least learning. All this, in a way, no doubt, must be and should be; but so sudden a volte face cannot be made without a wrench, and it is my desire now to see where the strain will tell and how to perform our social evolution with the least injury to persons.—*Popular Science Monthly.*

WOODEN CORKS.—American ingenuity, which is credited with evolving wooden nutmegs and ligneous hams, has struck out a new path in the shape of manufacturing wooden corks. The wood for the purpose is first made soft and pliant by being deprived of its resinous and glutinous qualities, which make its cellular tissue rigid and unyielding. Thus the wood is made soft like the cork, and probably more useful in its greater power of resisting acids. The method of softening the wood is just the secret of the inventor. But there seems to be something real in it, as a factory has already been erected at Sonoma for the manufacture of the new cork, and is daily sending out considerable quantities of them. The corks being produced in this way at half the ordinary cost. The invention is sufficiently important to encourage the hope of its becoming a commercial success if half the good things said of it are true. It is not to be supposed that the cork wood of commerce is about to be superseded, for it is applicable to many purposes now besides making stoppers for bottles.—*British Trade Review.*