

FIRE RECORD.

ONTARIO.—St. Thomas, April 8.—Elliott Bros. saw mill, near here, burned, loss \$4,000.—Collingwood, 5th.—Lockerie's boat house burned.—C. Telfer's book store partially burned.—Welland, 7th.—A brick house occupied by J. E. Kelly, burned, insured in the London for \$1,000.—Belleville, 7th.—A frame store occupied by C. Lapoint partially consumed insured for \$300.—Belleville, 12th.—A dwelling house owned by Hiram Young burned, insured in Queen for \$1,300.—Newmarket, 10th.—Wm. Cane & Son's planing mill, destroyed, loss \$50,000, insurance as follows, Queen \$3,000, Gore District, \$2,000, Hartford, \$2,000, Waterloo Mutual, \$2,000.—Pembroke, 15th.—McAllister's woollen mill burned; loss \$16,000; insured for \$5,500 in Western.—Brighton, 16th.—Clark's Variety Hall and seven other buildings destroyed, and the whole village in danger, no particulars.

OTHER PROVINCES.—Winnipeg, April 4th.—A large building occupied by several families completely gutted, loss \$10,000. Total insurance \$10,000.—Alberton, P.E.I., 6th.—A fire occurred last night and destroyed Benjamin Rogers' store and stock, value \$10,000; A. Clarke's building value \$3,000; Henderson & Gordon's store, value \$4,000; Alex. McLeod's stock, value \$15,000; Wallace's store, Phidham's photo saloon, and the dry goods store of Birch & Dyer. Rogers is insured for \$6,000 on his stock and \$1,600 on buildings. Insurance on Clarke's stock, \$1,200; Henderson & Gordon's, \$3,000; McLeod, \$1,000, and Birch & Dyer, \$3,000.—Montreal, 13th.—A large barn owned by D. Day and occupied by four hackmen burned, loss \$3,000, partially insured.—Quebec 10th.—The house and outbuildings of F. E. Lamothe destroyed, loss \$3,000 no insurance.—Brandon, 11th.—The Albion hotel burned; insurance \$1,000 in City of London.

STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, April 15th, 1885.

STOCKS.	Sellers.	Buyers.	Highest Point in Week.	Lowest Point in Week.	Total Traded in Week.	Average Price like date 1884.
Montreal	196	195½	193	738	195½	190½
“ x.d.						
Ontario	111	109	47½	51	21	63
People's	175	112		167	112	
Molson's	182	181½	180	105	181	
Toronto		51				
Jac. Cartier	112½	112	114½	225	112	
Merchants	122	121½	120	797	121½	
Commerce						
Eastern Tys						
Union						
Federal	46½	45				
Exchange						
Mon. Tel.	119½	118½	118	27½	118½	115
Dom. Tel.						
Rich.&O.	56	55½	54	450	55½	
City Pass	120	119½	119	350	120	120½
Gas	177½	176½	176½	1230	177½	
C. Pacific R.R.	37½	36				
N.W. Land ...	35½	35				

THE MEXICAN STORE KEEPER.

Mexican merchants never classify their goods. They have no system in arranging them. Silks and cottons are indiscriminately mixed on the shelves. There is no place for anything, and nothing is ever in place. Hence shopping requires the exercise of a vast deal of patience. I went to buy a pair of gloves the other day. The clerk pulled open a drawer in which were shoes, corsets and ribbons. He found some gloves, but there being none in the box to fit, he hunted around on the shelves and in the drawers until he discovered another lot.

Nor are goods ever delivered at the residences of purchasers. If your package is too bulky to carry in your hands or in your carriage, it is sent to your house by a licensed carrier, similar to the district messenger boy of New York, to whom you pay a fee. Each carrier has a brass badge like a policeman's, bearing a number, and if he does not deliver the goods promptly and in good order, you report him at police headquarters, where he is heavily fined. On the other hand, if he can not find your residence, or there is a mistake in the directions, he takes the goods to police headquarters, and you can find them there, and discover the reasons why they were not delivered.—Correspondent N. Y. Times.

KINGSTON & PEMBROKE RAILWAY.—The annual meeting of shareholders of the Kingston &

Pembroke Railway was held on Wednesday, 25th Feb. The earnings of the road for 1884 were \$118,878.66; expenditure, running account, \$102,340.54; leaving a profit of \$14,538.13 as compared with \$36,192.58 for 1883. The difference was occasioned by a great falling off in the amount of timber and iron ore carried. Mrs. Schley, of New York, bought \$982,000 worth of second preference bonds of the road at 75c. on the dollar. The following directors were elected: R. H. Flower, J. D. Flower, New York; J. Munson, Watertown; H. H. Porter, Chicago; C. F. Gildersleeve, J. Swift, W. Nickle, G. A. Kirkpatrick, and R. W. Folger, Kingston.

THE EAST INDIA TEA TRADE.

The quantity of tea exported from India to Great Britain from the 1st of May last to the 31st of January was 56,318,762 lbs. as compared with 53,284,872 lbs. exported in the corresponding period of last season. The exports to Australia and New Zealand during the same period were 1,054,934 lbs. as against 299,925 lbs.; whilst those to America were only 93,184 lbs. as against 155,476 lbs. The exports to other places were 286,002 lbs. as against 296,400 lbs.; and these figures make the total exports from Calcutta 57,655,882 lbs. as against 54,009,673 lbs. Turning to the exports of the month of January alone, it appears that 5,423,582 lbs. were sent to Great Britain, as against 5,887,625 lbs.; to Australia and New Zealand, 205,962 lbs. as against 70,000 lbs.; to America, 35,080 lbs. as against 33,785 lbs.; and to other places 49,913 lbs. as against 61,917 lbs. Comparing the exports of the present season with those of 1882-83, there has been an increase of a little over seven million pounds.

—Thousands of women and girls, says the Albany Argus, rushed to a dry goods store in Cohoes to purchase silk which it was advertised would be sold “three yards for 1 cent.” No less than 5,000 people crowded the store and street shortly after 10 o'clock. Pandemonium prevailed inside the store, and counters were pushed to one side, shelves broken, and several women actually jumped upon a lace counter and trod upon the material in their endeavor to get a few yards of the silk. Two women fainted away, but no attention was paid to them by other females, who acted as if they were mad. Several hundred dollars worth of lace goods, &c. were destroyed by being walked upon, and the clerks were obliged to stand upon counters and shelves. One old lady fell down and several fell over her, and the greatest excitement prevailed. It is said that many articles of value were stolen. But a few yards of the cheap silk were sold.

—A New York firm applied to Abraham Lincoln, some years before he became President, as to the financial standing of one of his neighbors. Mr. Lincoln replied as follows: “Yours of the 10th inst. received I am well acquainted with Mr. —, and know his circumstances. First of all, he has a wife and baby; together they ought to be worth \$50,000 to any man. Secondly, he has an office in which there is a table worth \$1.50, and three chairs worth, say \$1. Last of all there is in one corner a large rat-hole which will bear looking into. Respectfully yours,

A. LINCOLN.

—At the annual meeting of the shareholders of the St. Lawrence Sugar Refinery Company (limited) the following gentlemen were re-elected directors for the year ensuing; Messrs. James Crathern, J. M. Douglas, R. Wolff, M. B. Elmenhorst, A. Baumgarten and Theo. Labatt. After the adjournment of the general meeting a meeting of the new board was held, when Mr. M. B. Elmenhorst was re-elected president, Mr. A. Baumgarten re-elected vice-president, and Mr. Theo. Labatt re-elected secretary-treasurer.

—A St. Louis man has discovered that codfish skin may be tanned into elegant leather. It has a pearl-gray color and is very tough. This bids fair to prove another profitable way of disposing of these skins. They are now used principally for the manufacture of glue and isinglass.

—A lawyer received this indignant postal from a client to whom a type-writer letter had been sent: “I want you to understand that you needn't print letters sent to me. I can read writing, even yours; and I don't want to be insulted by reflections on my education.”

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, April 15th, 1885.

Now that spring seems pretty well assured, and spring freight rates gone into effect, there is a little more merchandise moving in a general way. But reports from country parts say that roads are in a bad state, and until they dry up and travel in the interior gets better no very marked improvement can be expected. Navigation must be late of opening this spring, as the ice still holds in the St. Lawrence. Payments continue to be slow and unsatisfactory. The stock market has ruled pretty strong, and Bank of Montreal sold to-day at 152½; Commerce 121½; Merchants 112; Toronto 181; Molsons 112½. Loan and discount rates are unchanged.

ASHES.—Rather more activity is shown in shipments, and receipts continue small, but prices are if anything easier. We quote \$4 to \$4.05 for No. 1 Pots, with nothing doing in either seconds or pearls, and quotations for these latter lines purely nominal. It is not expected that there will be any receipts of consequence until the opening of navigation.

DRY GOODS.—Matters are rather brighter than they were, though there is still ample room for improvement, and reports from outside hardly warrant the sending out of travellers on the sorting trip yet. A few buyers have appeared in town and city retailers are getting busier with the fine, sunshiny days and dry sidewalks. One benefit from the prolonged winter has been the reduction of wholesale stocks of certain lines of woollens, such as underwear, &c., to very narrow limits. Cottons continue pretty firm, and the mills seem fairly employed. Linens in Britain are also firm and liable to advance if war is declared. Some houses report a little improvement in remittances during the last day or two, but the majority report matters in this respect as not materially altered from what they were.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—There is nothing specially new in these lines, except that European complications are likely to affect the price of some sorts of chemicals, and some are already quoting advanced figures for saltpetre and some other articles, but there has been no well defined advance so far. Quinine, opium and kindred drugs remain the same. We quote: Sal Soda, \$1.10 per 100 lbs.; Bi-Carb Soda, \$2.50 to 2.60; Soda Ash, \$1.65 to \$1.75. Bichromate of Potash, per 100 lbs.; \$850 to 10.00; Borax, refined, 11 to 12½; Cream Tartar crystals, 32 to 34c; do., ground, 36 to 38c; Tartaric Acid crystals, 52½ to 55c; do. powders 55 to 58c per lb.; Caustic Soda, white, \$2.40 to 2.60; Sugar of Lead, 9 to 11c; Bleaching Powder, \$2.50 to 2.75 according to lot; Alum, \$1.85 to 2.00; Copperas, per 100 lbs., \$1.00; Ground Sulphur, \$2.75 to 3.00; Flowers Sulphur, sublim. per 100 lbs., \$3.00 to 3.25; Roll Sulphur, \$2.40 to 2.60; Sulphate of Copper, \$5.00 to 5.75; Epsom Salts, \$1.25 to \$1.40; Saltpetre, \$9 to 9.50; German Quinine, about \$1.10 to \$1.15 American do. \$1.20, Howard's about \$1.25; Opium \$4.35 to 4.50; Morphia, \$2.20 to 2.30; Gum Arabic, sorts, 35 to 40; White, 45 to 60c; Carbolie 5 acid, 4 to 50c; Iodide Potassium, \$4.25 to 4.50 per lb.; Iodine, \$5.00 to 5.50; Iodoform, \$7.50 to 8.00.

FISH.—Little doing in this line. With the exception of a few odd brls., herrings are out of the market, also green cod and other lines except dry cod \$3.25 to \$4.50 as to quality; North Shore salmon \$14, \$13, and \$11.50 for Nos. 1, 2 and 3; British Columbia \$11: boneless cod 8½c; boneless fish 4½c.

FURS.—The market for raw furs is virtually dead, and dealers are declining to buy any shipping furs, in view of the serious aspect of matters in Europe. In event of war all lambskins, linings and European furs generally will be advanced. The quotations here following are nominal Beaver, fall \$2; do winter, \$2.50; spring Beaver \$3; Bear, \$7.00 to \$10.00; do., cub, \$4.00 to \$6.00; Fisher, \$3.00 to \$5.00; Red Fox, 75c. to 90c.; Cross do., \$2.00 to \$3.00; Marten, 60 to 80c.; Lynx, \$1.75 to \$2.75; Mink, average 35c; fall muskrat 5c.; winter Muskrat, 8c.; spring, muskrat will be about 12c.; Otter, \$5.00 to \$7.50, Raccoon, 50c. average; Skunk, 15 to 50c. Referring to late London sales we quote from a late issue of the “Canadian Gazette,” published in London, as follows: “We regret to have to report that the prices realized at these sales are about 30 per cent. less than those of last year. Last March there was an average rise of 15 per cent., and it would not have been surprising had this been lost, but the fall of