

continued depression of trade at home, and also in Russia and the United States, leads them to the opinion that reduced prices are likely to continue, consequently they do not feel justified in recommending the payment of an interim dividend. The mild weather does not allow this branch of trade any scope and business is exceptionally quiet for the time of year. Prices remain weak.

HARDWARE.—There is nothing to note, business being quiet and the trade very generally engaged in taking stock. *See Prices Current.*

LEATHER.—Although very little is doing in this line, prices are much firmer, and we quote an advance in Slaughter Sole, Buffalo Sole, Splits and Waxed Upper. Hides continue to advance both in the New York and this market. There will be very little activity in Leather till January. *See Prices Current.*

LIQUORS.—Nothing new to report since our last. Navigation having closed, business is dull, and sales are chiefly restricted to retail requirements. *See Prices Current.*

LIVE STOCK.—The few arrivals of last week resulted in a slight advance in prices, which was again counteracted by the increased supply of the present week, and prices generally are unchanged from those of two or three weeks ago. But 15 carloads of cattle, and 8 mixed loads arrived last week; the arrivals on Monday were 16 carloads of cattle and 8 mixed carloads. Among the sales on that day at the St. Gabriel market were four first class steers weighing together 4,760 lbs. at \$4.90 per 100 lbs. A fine two year old bull weighing 1,600 lbs. was sold for \$75. The demand was good, and the cattle were generally of a better quality than usual. Hogs sold with a light demand at \$5 to \$5.70 per 100 lbs. A superior lot of hogs was held at \$6, but with no purchasers. A lot of fine sheep and lambs was sold at \$4.50 per 100 lbs. The advance in hides is still maintained. We quote:—No. 1, inspected, \$6.50 to \$7; No. 2, \$5.60 to \$6, and No. 3, \$4.50 to \$5 per 100 lbs; calfskins, 8c. per lb.; sheep and lambskins, 85c. to \$1.00 each: tallow, rough, 54c. per lb.

PROVISIONS.—*Butter.*—The market is decidedly dull, owing to unfavorable advices from the English Markets. Shippers as a rule are doing nothing, preferring to remain idle than to follow the market at the reduced rates which holders of stock are willing to allow. *Cheese.*—Market is very strong, and in the face of such very lights stocks in Canada, holders are very firm in their views. Sales have been made at 13c. to 13½c. the latter price would be cheerfully paid by shippers for more if they could obtain it.

Tobacco.—In manufactured plug, the demand continues fair for the season, and, as stocks in second hands are light, will likely continue during the winter months. Prices remain steady, and are quoted in bond for black chewing which comprises tens and twelves in boxes sixes and eights in half boxes, and Navy halves sixes and Solace in caddies, for common to fair 15c. to 18c., fair to good 18c. to 24c. Mahogany and bright smoking in solace sixes, eights gold bar, Rough and Ready, Twist, &c., for common to fair 13c. to 25c., fair to good 25c. to 50c. Little is now done in imported manufactures, and this only in the finest grades. Our manufacturers are now working bright smoking plug which will compare well with the finest Virginia make. There is no improvement in the cut tobacco trade. It is quoted in bond for common to fair 4c. to 10c., fair to good 10c. to 80c.; fine cut chewing from 35c. to 65c.

Cigars.—There is little change to note. The demand has, if anything, fallen off to some extent, but this is to be expected as the year draws to a close; prices remain similar to last quoted.

WHOLESALE GROCERY MARKET.—Winter railway freight rates, as usual at this season, have to do with diminished business. The produce trade here now is agitating for a modification of rates so as to give the trade of this city some fair chance in competition, and general trade, especially grocery and hardware interests, are concerned in securing lower winter rates than have hitherto been current. It has been a short-

sighted policy of the railway people to put up rates, as has been done year after year as winter comes in, and the result usually has been in the direction of diverting business to other quarters, so that both railway and merchants have suffered. It would appear to be getting a necessity that another competing railway should be got up to run westward. The changing of G.T.R. policy, as indicated, may prevent this necessity for the present. In business there is little to note. *Sugars* are quiet and nominally without any special change. Firm in England and dull in the United States and this country. *Molasses and Syrup* also about as *Sugars* reported. *Teas*—Ordinary business at former prices. *Fruits* show no change worth particular notice. Market not active. *Spices*—Pimento firm at advance before reported. Pepper is also quite firm. *Rice*—A speculative demand has about cleared the market of loose lots at about \$3.90 to 3.95, and now held at \$4 to 4.20, mostly condensed in few hands. The East India threatened famine unhappily has to do, it is considered, with the advance. *Fish*—Herrings firmer. Other Fish quiet. Navigation of the St. Lawrence is about as free as in May so far.

Wood.—No change since last week. Maple, \$7.00; Birch, \$6.50; Beech, \$6.00; Tamarac, \$5.60.

WOOL.—The wool trade has suffered a depression in the United States since the Presidential Election, and sales are said to be lighter than for the same period for many years. The political situation has engaged the attention of every body, to the detriment of business. No great improvement is expected until this is definitely settled. The advance on fine Wools in Canada is still maintained, coarse is held at quotations with little demand at present.

RAILWAY RETURNS.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.—Return of traffic for week ending Nov. 25th, 1876, and the corresponding week, 1875. 1876.—Passengers, Mails and Express freight \$55,894; Merchandise, \$125,069; Total, \$180,963. 1875.—Passengers, Mails and Express Freight, \$58,965; Merchandise, \$156,735; Total, \$215,700. Decrease \$34,737.

MIDLAND RAILWAY OF CANADA.—Port Hope, Dec. 5th, 1876. Statement of traffic receipts for week, from 21st to 30th November, 1876, in comparison with same period last year:—Passengers, \$2,098.13; Freight, \$4,169.24; Mails and Express, \$301.77; Total, \$6,569.14. Same week last year, \$4,345.23. Increase \$2,223.91. Total traffic to date, \$259,399.70; do year previous, \$271,212.52. Decrease, \$11,812.82.

F. WHITEHEAD,

Secretary.

NORTHERN RAILWAY OF CANADA.—The traffic receipts for week ending 30th Nov., 1876.—Passengers, \$5,700.24; Freight, \$8,315.41; Mails and Sundries, \$2,055.11; Total receipts for current week, 1876, \$16,070.76. Corresponding week of 1875, \$16,051.70. Increase \$19.06. Total traffic to date, 1876, \$736,698.19. Total traffic to date, 1875, \$689,088.64. Increase, \$47,609.55.

THOS. HAMILTON,

Secretary.

Toronto, 6th Dec., 1876.

IMPORTS.

Comparative statement of Imports at the Port of Montreal per Grand Trunk Railway, Lachine Canal and the River, from 1st January to 7th December, 1875 and 1876:

	1875.	1876.
Ashes.....	17,195	14,519
Bacon.....	29	249
Barley.....	138,912	231,451
Butter.....	137,901	131,303
Cheese.....	540,485	335,844
Corn.....	1,721,430	3,833,197
Flour.....	987,529	894,477
Lard.....	350	37,086
Oats.....	167,616	2,415,910
Pens.....	943,123	762,745
Pork.....	21,788	13,739
Wheat.....	7,938,963	5,976,916

REMARKS.

Ashes.—Receipts for the week, 126 brls. Pot, 2 brls. Pearl. Decrease, 2,676 brls.

Butter.—Receipts, 1,128 brls. Decrease, 6,508 brls.

Barley.—Receipts, 2,468 bush. Increase, 92,533 bush.

Bacon.—Receipts, none. Increase, 220 boxes.

Cheese.—Receipts, 2,644 boxes. Decrease, 204,641 boxes.

Corn.—Receipts, 400 bush. Increase, 2,116,767 bush.

Flour.—Receipts, 9,030 brls. Decrease, 93,052 brls.

Lard.—Receipts, 2,036 brls. Increase, 37,333 brls.

Oats.—Receipts, 500 bush. Increase, 2,249,294 bush.

Pens.—Receipts, 450 bush. Decrease, 180,378 ush.

Pork.—Receipts, 70 brls. Decrease, 8,043 brls.

Wheat.—Receipts, 1,600 bush. Decrease, 1,962,047 bush.

EXPORTS.

Comparative statement of Exports of leading articles at the Port of Montreal, from the 1st January to 7th December, 1875 and 1876.

	1875.	1876.
Ashes.....	14,948	12,934
Bacon.....	14,646	34,334
Barley.....	1,304	81,929
Butter.....	153,386	191,114
Corn.....	1,686,235	3,729,369
Cheese.....	530,752	526,941
Flour.....	426,226	390,223
Lard.....	19,854	42,836
Oats.....	193,069	3,017,746
Pens.....	1,682,127	1,417,740
Pork.....	6,836	10,517
Wheat.....	7,271,655	5,246,073

REMARKS.

Ashes.—Exports for the week, brls. Pots. Decrease, 2,014 brls.

Butter.—Exports, 5,086 brls. Increase, 37,728 brls.

Barley.—Exports, 3 bush. Increase, 80,625 bush.

Bacon.—Exports, 386 boxes. Increase, 19,686 boxes.

Cheese.—Exports, 2,651 boxes. Decrease, 3,811 boxes.

Corn.—Exports, 19,978 bush. Increase, 2,043,084 bush.

Flour.—Exports, 7,197 brls. Decrease, 35,974 brls.

Lard.—Exports, 15 brls. Increase, 22,982 brls.

Oats.—Exports, bush. Increase, 2,819,677 bush.

Pens.—Exports, 195 bush. Decrease, 264,387 bush.

Pork.—Exports, 450 brls. Increase, 3,681 brls.

Wheat.—Exports, bush. Decrease, 2,025,582 bush.

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