

A bill has been introduced in the Illinois legislature by Mr. Kennedy reducing the deposit required of life, accident, and plate-glass insurance companies from \$100,000 to \$50,000. Also a bill to prohibit fire companies from reinsuring risks in companies not authorized to transact business in the State.

Of 116 fires in the mills insured by the New England manufacturing mutuals, the following are the known causes: Friction 32, unknown or not reported 19, spontaneous 16, foreign matter in stock 14, matches 6, cutting bale hoops 5, gas 4, lamps 3, lightning 3, incendiary 3, boiler furnaces 3, steam pipes 2, hot flues 1, sparks 1, pistol 1, electricity in belts 1, gasoline vapor 1, breaking of shaft 1.

Mr. W. A. Wright has resigned the general agency in this city of the Standard Life Assurance Co. Mr. Charles Hunter, who has for several years been Inspector of the Coy., has been, we understand, appointed general agent in Toronto of the Standard.

Will the New York Legislature, repeal the law prohibiting foreign companies from publishing their statements? asks a contemporary. If you will inform us just what proportion of the members of the present legislature are possessed of common sense and common honesty, we will answer the question without difficulty.

A Fire brigade has been organized in Regina, Manitoba, with Mr. Cottingham as chief. The citizens have subscribed \$800 in aid of its equipment. The chief was made by the Commissioners Inspector of the condition of the city from the point of view of liability of fires. He reports 400 substantial buildings in Regina and 1,000 population.

A bill in the Connecticut Legislature asks that the capital of the Etna Life be increased to an amount not exceeding two million dollars. The increase will be apportioned *pro rata* among the stockholders, and no greater annual dividend than ten per cent can be paid. This additional stock is to be paid in cash or by the application of such surplus funds or profits as may be derived, or are the proceeds of the business of accident or the stock non-participating plan of insurance, as the directors of the company may deem proper. The bill has been reported on favorably by the insurance committee.

United States and Canada insurers have not had all the bad luck that was going. The syndicate of French Companies finds that "in 1882, despite the rainy season, the losses have been above the normal, and have to be paid with reduced tariff." The syndicate has arrived at the not very novel conclusion that "the situation requires prompt and vigorous measures." On this the U. S. Review remarks: "so say we all; but what are the measures and how shall they be applied?"

The Spectator thus quotes the rates in several of the leading retail dry goods stocks in New York: A. T. Stewart & Co. seventy-five cents, James McCreery & Co. seventy-five cents, Arnold Constable & Co. \$1.1, J. & G. Johnston, \$1.1, Stern Brothers \$1, Altman & Co. \$1.1, Lord & Taylor \$1.1, R. H. Macy & Co. \$1.25, Simpson, Crawford & Simpson \$1.25, Hugh O'Neil \$1.25, E. Ridley & Sons \$1.25, Ehrich Brothers, \$1.25. These are the present rates. The first two have been unchanged for several years. The balance represent the advances of the past twelve months. Some of the one twenty-five risks paid only eighty cents last year.

The National Marriage Aid Association, of Topeka, Kan., existed a little more than one year, and on the 20th of last month an examination showed assets amounting to \$20 and liabilities of \$13,000. The managers are under arrest for fraud, which they deny, though they do own up to the impracticability of paying \$13,000 of debt with \$20, and consequently to the association's insolvency. What fools its creditors are! The concern was found to have collected \$30,000 or \$40,000 in the single year of its existence.

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, 14th March, 1883.

No improvement in trade can be reported. The better indications of last week were only temporary, and further developments show that business is unprofitable; and show that the cautious policy adopted by leading monetary and mercantile institutions was a wise one in the general interest. Failures of more or less import con-

tinue to occur among traders; and there is no room to doubt that there are too many attempting to do the trade of the country. As a consequence, much of the business done is at a profit unequal to the capital involved and the risk run.

Money is even easier in the open market than a week ago. Call loans are made at 6 to 6½ per cent; prime mercantile discounts can be had at 7 to 7½ per cent.

COAL.—Demand continues good; sales of small lots are made at \$7.25 to 7.50 for stove, chestnut, egg, and furnace.

DRY GOODS.—Trade has been exceedingly slow and orders that are coming in are now of the sorting up kind. The unseasonable weather, travellers on the road say, is interfering much with trade and remittances.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—There has been a fair overturn of goods and factories are running on full time. The failure, however, of Fogarty Bros. has caused some uneasiness and was unexpected. Their reported liabilities are large, being estimated as high as \$130,000.

FLOUR AND GRAIN.—The trade remains stagnant, and no change is noticeable in values. We quote superior extra at \$5.10; superfine, \$4.60 to 4.70; Canadian Strong bakers, \$5.25 to 5.50; American, 6.20 to 6.80. In grain, Canada red winter wheat is worth \$1.18; spring do. \$1.14 to 1.15; white winter, \$1.14 to 1.15; corn in bond 80c.; oats, 89 to 40c.; peas, 93 to 95c.

GROCERIES.—Trade is much better in this department relatively than any other, and although the output is not seasonably large still there are fair country orders daily arriving which gives the market a moderate air of activity. We quote Teas—Japans, common to medium, 15 to 20c.; good common to medium, 22 to 27c.; fair to good 30 to 35c.; fine to finest 33 to 43c.; young hyson, firsts, 40 to 47c. seconds, 33 to 40c., thirds, 27 to 30c., fourths, 18 to 23c.; gunpowder, low grades 23 to 32c., good to fine, 35 to 45c.; imperial, medium to good, 33 to 38c.; Oolong, common 33 to 38c.; fine to finest, 40 to 60c. Sugars.—Granulated 8½ to 9c.; grocers' "A" 8½ to 8¾c.; bright, 8c.; medium 7½ to 8¾c.; Yellows 7½ to 7¾c. Syrups and Molasses.—Antigua, 50 to 51c.; Cienfuegos, 47 to 48c.; Trinidad, 49 to 51c.; Sugar house, 36 to 38c.; Barbadoes, 52½ to 55c.; extra bright syrups, 60 to 65c.; Amber, 55 to 58c. Coffees.—Mocha, 29 to 31c.; Old Govt. Java, 23 to 25c.; Plantation "C" 19 to 22c.; Maracaibo, 12 to 14c. Rio, 10 to 12½c.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—This market shows no increase in activity still merchants are very firm on Quinine, Morphia and Opium in sympathy with foreign markets. We quote the general list as follows: Bi. Carb Soda \$2.75 to \$3.00. Soda Ash, \$1.75 to 2.00; Bi. Chromate of Potash, per 100 lbs., \$12.50 to \$13.00; Arrowroot per lb. 10 to 14c.; Borax, refined, 1½ to 16c.; Tartaric Acid crystals 53c. per lb.; Cream Tartar 35 to 40c.; Caustic Soda, white 80 per cent., \$2.25 to 2.30; Sugar of Lead, 12½ to 13c.; Bleaching Powder, \$1.75 to 2.00; Alum, \$1.80 to \$1.95; Copperas, per 100 lbs., \$1.00 to \$1.25; Flour Sulphur, \$2.75 to \$3.00 per 100 lbs.

SALT.—Business has been unusually light and sales have been confined to small parcels of Coarse at 70 to 75c. for elevens. Factory filled is quiet and unchanged at \$1.50 to 1.45.

FISH.—There is no change for the better in volume and prices are tending in buyers' favor. Labrador herring \$6.25 to \$6.50, other kinds \$4.50 and \$5.50. No 1 green cod fish \$7.00; dry cod \$6.00 to \$6.25, British Columbia salmon \$17.00 per bbl.; whitefish \$6.00 per half-bbl.; trout \$5.00.

OILS.—The transactions have been light and wholly of a jobbing character. Lincseed boiled per imperial gallon 65 to 70c. ditto raw 60 to 65c. Olive \$1.05 to \$1.10, Cod 64 to 67c. pale seal 80 to 85c. ditto refined 95c. ditto straw 65c. to 67½c. Cod liver \$1.70 to \$1.75. Lard 95c. to \$1 for extra. Petroleum refined 17 to 18c. in round lots, broken lots 18 to 19c. Single bbls., 19 to 20c.

LEATHER.—The business done has not been altogether a satisfactory one. The chief business is in Sole. Prices are tending slightly lower and are as follows: Spanish sole, No 1 B. A. 25 to 26c. No. 2 ditto B. A. 23 to 24c. China No. 1, 22 to 23c. ditto No. 2, 19 to 21c. Buffalo No. 1, 21 to 22c. ditto No. 2, 19 to 21c. Slaughter No. 1 25 to 27c.; rough (light) 25 to 28c.; harness 29 to 32c. waxed uppers (light) 36 to 38c. grained uppers (long) 37 to 38c. Calfskins (light) 60 to 75c. Splits, med., 26 to 27c.

HIDES.—Receipts continue to be light but quite ample for the demand and prices have un-

dergone no changes. We quote green butchers' at 7, 6 and 5c. per lb. for Nos. 1, 2 and 3 respectively. Tanners pay ½c. to 1c. more for inspected. The Chicago market rules firmer and slightly dearer.

RAW FURS.—The weekly receipts continue to decrease however there are very few buyers in the market and prices are as follows, Mink \$1,

Leading Wholesale Trade of Hamilton.

Teas, Sugars, Coffees, Syrups

ONE THOUSAND HALF CHESTS

Choicest Japan and Moyune, Young Hyson Tea ex-steamships "Devonshire" and "Harter," and via Pacific Mail and San Francisco.

A full assortment of Pure Scotch and Canadian

REFINED SUGARS.

Rio, Jamaica, and Java Coffees direct from countries of growth.

A large stock of Syrups—Sugar goods—excellent values,

ALL OFFERED AT CLOSE PRICES.

BROWN, BALFOUR & CO., HAMILTON.



The subscribers are now offering to the trade

SPLIT BAY HERRINGS, Barrels.
SPLIT SHELburne HERRINGS, Barrels.
SPLIT LABRADOR HERRINGS, Barrels.
PRIME MESS SHAD, 15-lb. Kitts.
MACKEREL, 15-lb. Kitts.

also Choice CANNED MACKEREL, 1lb cans, and bbls. CODFISH, CUSK and LING.

JAMES TURNER & CO., HAMILTON, Ont.

SIMPSON, STUART & CO., IMPORTERS & WHOLESALE GROCERS, HAMILTON, ONT.

Have purchased the stock of the ONTARIO PACKING COY, composed of

6,000 Cases TOMATOES, 2 and 3 lb.
1,000 " APPLES, 3s.
1,000 " CORN, 2s.
1,000 " PEAS, 2s.
500 " PUMPKINS, 3s.
500 " BEANS, 2s.
500 " PEACHES, Grimsby, 2s.
500 " " American, 3s.
500 " " Pie, 3s.

Also Simcoe packing of Strawberries, Blue Berries, Bartlett Pears, Cherries, red and white, Blue Plums, together with the usual assortment of Goods kept by first class grocers, which we offer at close figures.

E. & C. GURNEY & CO., HAMILTON, ONT.,

MANUFACTURERS OF

STOVES, HOLLOW WARE, &c.

E. & C. GURNEY & CO., TORONTO, ONT.,

Manufacturers of

STOVES, HOLLOW WARE, &c., &c.

E. & C. GURNEY & CO., 336 St. Paul St., Montreal, Q., Jobbers of Stoves and Hollow Ware.

E. & C. GURNEY & CO Rupert St., Winnipeg, Man., Jobbers of Stoves and Hollow Ware

GURNEY & WARE,

MANUFACTURERS OF

Platform and Counter Scales of every description.

HAMILTON, ONT.