

burning of the Midland Railroad station buildings, by the town paying for the rebuilding of brick, \$4,000, which buildings are a credit to the town and a comfort to the public in general. If insurance companies complain of the great losses they sustain in general, this should be no reason that certain places should be made victims to cover such losses.

The way in which insurance business is conducted is badly in need of reform indeed, and I will endeavor to point to a remedy. I hardly think anyone could safely throw a stone on our business streets without hitting some insurance agent, as they number legion, and all have to live, and by whom?

The answer is easily solved:—Risks are eagerly looked after, and the greater the amount the better, as no inspection is required. Has not such a mode of insuring a tendency to incendiary fires? And who is to be blamed for such a way of doing business. Why not employ inspectors who have a pecuniary interest as shareholders in Companies whose chief aim should be to examine buildings and goods insured and at what amount, classify buildings according to construction and surroundings, and I am sure the losses and expense could be considerably reduced with benefit to insurance companies as well as the insured. I could point out many other defects, but will refrain in taking up too much space.

Yours truly,  
WM. LECH.

Peterboro, 13th July, 1885.

#### MONTREAL WHOLESALE MARKETS.

JULY 16, 1885.

Business, though not brisk in any particular line of the wholesale trade, shows greater volume, generally. Among shippers it is hoped that the movement of grain will shortly be increased as a result of the recent reduction in canal tolls and the new war-cloud in Asia. About 25 per cent. of last year's crop is in dealers' hands, another 25 per cent is held back by farmers. The weather has been favorable for the hay crop, and it is likely to be saved in good condition. In Western Ontario the wheat harvest is said to have commenced, and there is every reason to believe that an excellent yield will be secured. Local stocks have been active and firm. The failure record is a light one. Money rules easy at 3 to 4 per cent on call in this market. Sterling Exchange was quoted at 8 9-16 to 8 11-16 prem for 60-day bills between banks; 8 13-16 to 8 15-16 prem demand; New York funds 1-8 to 1-16 discount. Counter rates slightly higher. Documentary bills 84 to 84c; cattle bills 8 5 8. British Consols opened in London at 98 7-8 to 99 1-8. At 12.30 they were 99½, and at 4 p.m. 99 5-16; and the war scare was said to have subsided. At this morning's session of the Stock Exchange prices generally improved. Bank of Montreal sold to the extent of 200 shares at 195. Other sales were:—65 Toronto, 181½; 25 Ontario, 107; 34 Townships, 104½; 5 do, 104½; 107 Merchants, 112½; 100 Commerce, 125; 20 Telegraph, 123½; 155 do, 124; 125 do, 123½; 75 Richelieu, 58½; 3 Gas, 182; 125 do, 182½; 25 Passenger, 119½; 50 do, 120. In the afternoon Montreal stocks were excited and in many instances, higher. Bank of Montreal after selling at 195½ went back to 195; Ontario changed hands at 107½ and 107; Toronto at 182½, Molsons at 119, Commerce at 125, 126½ and 127, Merchants at 112½, Gas at 183, Telegraph at 124, and Passenger at 120½ to 121½. The following were the total sales, and highest and lowest prices of Montreal stocks for the week:—

Banks.	No. Shares.	Highest price.	Lowest price.
Commerce .....	680	127	120½
Eastern Townships .....	76	104½	104
Hochelaga .....	7	75	75
Merchants .....	500	112½	110½
Molsons .....	26	119	116
Montreal .....	1,338	195½	192½
Ontario .....	178	107½	106
Peoples .....	43	61	60
Toronto .....	504	182½	170½
Union .....		50	50
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>			
Can. Central Bnds..	£6 10	101	101
Can. Pac. Ry.....	200	45	41½
Gas .....	1198	183	182
Mon. Tel. Co.....	747	124	122½
Passenger.....	1135	121½	117
R. & O. Nav. Co....	335	58½	58½

ASHES.—Receipts are fair, but not so good for first half of July as for same period last year. There has been an active demand this week for first Pots, and at the close market is steady at \$3.70 to \$3.75. Seconds \$3.30. No Thirds offering. Pearls are nominal; no demand whatever. Receipts since 1st January 2766 brls. Pots, 141 brls. Pearls. Deliveries 2668 brls. Pots, 199 brls. Pearls. Stock in store at 6 p.m. on Wednesday. 1554 brls. Pots, 149 brls. Pearls.

CHEMICALS AND DRUGS.—The past week was a quiet and uninteresting one, with few changes. Carbolic acid is firm and is said to be scarcer. Cream Tartar is in slightly better demand, and a check is being put to adulterations by prosecutions before the courts. Camphor continues firm and quinine depressed. A few revisions will be noticed in our prices current.

COAL AND WOOD.—There has been a little more enquiry, but the market is best described as quiet but steady. We quote American anthracite in a wholesale way as follows:—Stove \$5.65, nut \$5.35, and egg and furnace \$5.15. Ordinary distributing prices, according to quantity, are: stove, \$5.75 to \$6; chestnut, \$5.50 to \$5.75; egg and furnace \$5.25 to \$5.50. Cape Breton \$3.10 to \$3.20; Pictou \$3.50 to \$3.60, as to mine, and Scotch steam at \$4 to \$4.20. Cordwood is dull. Yard prices per long cord are as follows:—Maple, \$6; birch \$5.50; beech \$5; tamarac, \$4.50; Hemlock, \$4. Wharf prices about 50c lower.

DAIRY PRODUCE AND PROVISIONS.—Creamery butter has been in improved demand at firm prices with the sale of a round lot at 19½c. Dairy stock is still quiet, there being no export demand. A tifle more than our quotations can be obtained for jobbing selections. Cheese closes firm, with prospects favoring a strong market. Considerable business was done yesterday at an advance of 1-8c, Liverpool prices being 1s higher, at 41s. Some holders wanted 84c, but 84c was really the top of the market, over 1,000 boxes being placed at that figure. Sales of less desirable stock occurred at 7 3-8c and 8c, and there were sales of the French make at 7c, 7½c and 7¾c as to quality. Provisions.—The market is firm, owing to higher prices in the West, and buyers are more willing to operate, fearing an advance here. Eggs sold at 12½c, and for selected 13c might be obtained.

DRY GOODS.—Travellers in the country on the fall trip are meeting with fair success, and the outlook has improved. A party in yesterday from the London district said that the wheat crop was almost safe. Letters being received by the leading city houses from the most reliable sources concur in the opinion that the crops never looked so well at this season.

# CARSLEY & CO.

## WHOLESALE

# DRY

# GOODS

## 93 St. Peter St.

## MONTREAL

—AND—

## 18 Bartholomew Close,

## LONDON, England.