

Commercial.

MONTREAL MARKET.

From our own Reporter.

MONTREAL, February 3, 1874.

Under the influence of seasonable weather and the quietness following the general election, business begins to show some signs of revival, but as yet there is no activity in any particular business, but merchants are looking forward to having their hands full of orders very soon. The very cold weather noticed in our last report still continues, the thermometer having been below zero every night during the week just ended. To-day a good deal of snow has fallen with the appearance of more.

We would call attention to the stock of flour in store on the 1st inst. which is 51,504 barrels in excess of the stock held here on the 1st Feb., 1873.

ASHES.—*Pots*.—We have had a steady but very quiet market for ashes all week. First sort have maintained our closing prices of last week, viz., \$5.80 to 5.82½; seconds, not many offering, sales reported at \$5.10 to 5.13½; thirds, dull and nominal. *Pearls*.—There has been rather more done in this description of ash, though some weeks' previous, firsts mixed freely at \$7.30 to 7.35; seconds, \$6.15. The market for both pots and pearls closes firm with a marked degree of activity. The stocks at present in the inspection stores are pots 1,835 brls; pearls, 513 brls.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—Travellers are sanguine of doing a good Spring business and orders to a very fair extent are coming in for spring goods. Our quotations show no change this week but prices are steady:—Men's thick boots, \$2.25 to 2.75; ditto kip do., \$2.50 to 3.50; boys' thick boots, \$1.75 to 2.75; ditto kip do. \$2 to 2.20; women's buff boots, \$1.15 to 1.25; do. split do., 90c to \$1.10; do. pebbled buff bals., \$1.25 to 1.50; Misses' do. \$1 to 1.25; do. buff boots, 90c to \$1; do. split do, 50 to 60c; beefboots \$11 to 12 per doz.; men's mocassins \$10 to 15 per doz.

CATTLE.—This market continues the same as last week, a good demand for all desirable stock both of cattle and sheep. The only change we have to note in prices is in *dressed hogs*, which are selling by the load at \$7.25.

DRY GOODS.—Signs of improvement now begin to show themselves in this branch of business, and most of the wholesale houses are sending out their travellers. Importations are arriving, and an active trade is looked for. Clothing is moderately active, and country orders are pretty heavy, as a rule remittances are satisfactory.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—This trade has been very quiet, but prices generally have kept very firm. *Bi carb.*—Is in fair demand and a shade dearer than last week, holders asking and obtaining \$5.87½ to 6. *Alum.*—Is a trifle easier and is now procurable at \$2.50. *Sal soda.*—Remains firm at \$2.50. *Copperas.*—Is in limited supply and sells at from \$1.25 to 1.50. *Blue vitriol* steady at 8x to 9c. *Saltpetre* \$10.50 to 11. *Refined Borax* 20 to 25c. *Cream tartar crystals* are unchanged at 27 to 28c. *Bleaching powder* 2½ to 3c. *Epsom salts* \$1.87½ to 2.

FURS.—Dullness still pervades this market, importations just now continue very small, and our market is without any particular change:—Beaver \$1.75 to 2 per lb; black bear large \$8 to 10 ditto small \$6 to 8; fisher \$6 to 7.50; silver fox \$25 to 50; cross fox \$5.00; red fox \$1.50; lynx \$2 to 2.50; marten, dark Labrador, \$7 to 8; pale marten \$1.75 to 2.00; prime dark mink \$3 to 3.50; mink dark 2nds \$1.50 to 2; otter \$10 to 12; fall muskrat 12c; winter muskrat 15c; spring muskrat 22c; racoon 25 to 50c; skunk 20c.

FISH.—In *dry cod* there is nothing doing just now and prices are nominally unchanged at \$4.50 to 5. *Salmon.*—Is not asked for. *Green cod.*—In good demand, but market bare. *Labrador herrings.*—Are scarce and what few are in the market command from \$6 to 6.50. No. 4 mackerel is unchanged. Our quotations are for city inspected fish.

FLOUR.—Receipts for the past week were 7,800 brls; total receipts from 1st January to date 31,200 brls being an increase of 4,902 brls on the receipts for the corresponding period of 1873. The stocks in store and in the hands of millers on the morning of the 1st inst., were 89,069 brls against 89,359 brls on the 15th ult., and 37,565 brls on the 1st of February 1873. The market for this article has been dull and neglected all week, the merest retail sales being reported, and these hardly sufficient to establish quotations. Retail dealers only buying for the supply of the most pressing wants, to-day the market closes quite nominal as follows:—Superior extra \$6.50 to 6.70; Extra superfine \$6.30 to 6.40; Spring extra \$5.75 to 5.80; Superfine \$5.40 to 5.50; Strong Bakers flour \$6.00 to 6.25; fine \$4.85 to 5.00; Middlings \$4.45 to 4.50; Pollards \$3.50 to 3.75; Upper Canada bags \$2.70 to 2.80; Oatmeal \$5. to 5.15; Cornmeal \$3 to 3.20.

GRAIN.—*Wheat.*—Receipts for the past week 10,850 bush.; total receipts from 1st January to date 26,250 bush. being an increase of 6,300 bush. on the receipts for the corresponding period of 1873. The stocks in store and in the hands of millers on the morning of the 1st inst., were 684,329 bush. against 735,713 bush. on the 15th ult., and 127,584 bush. on the 1st Feb. 1873. This market has been without transactions, and quotations are entirely nominal. *Maize.*—Stocks in store on the 1st inst., were 289,798 bushels. Market all week has been quiet, but firm at 70 to 75c. *Peas.*—Stocks in store on the 1st inst., 2184 bushels. Owing to small stock and a good demand prices are very firm, and Peas are now held for 85c per 66 lbs., latest sale reported was at that price. *Oats.*—Stocks in store on the 1st inst., 25,968 bush. Market steady and unchanged at 36 to 38c. *Barley.*—Stocks in store on the 1st Feb. 3,350 bush. Not much doing beyond some small sales at \$1.00 to 1.10. *Pot Barley* \$8. *Pearl Barley* \$15.

GROCERIES.—*Teas.*—There has been a very active market for Japan teas this week, and large quantities have changed hands. Advices from Yokohama by mail dated 23rd Dec., report that market firm for all grades; arrivals small and good medium was quoted \$32 to 34 per picul. A telegram received from Yokohama yesterday reports good medium \$35. This news has again stiffened the market here, well as stocks are low holders are able to obtain their own terms. *Coffee.*—Stocks are still very light and no prospect for sometime of being replenished, but high prices have rather stopped the demand, but there seems little doubt that buyers must accommodate themselves to the high prices. Javass are now quoted here at 35 to 37½c; Maracaibo 29 to 32c; Ceylon 29. *Sugars.*—There is some enquiry now for the better grades of sugar, but transactions have been small, we quote: Muscovado 8½ to 8¾c; Port Rio 8½ to 8¾c; Scotch refined 8½ to 9½c; New York 10½ to 10¾c; Canada refined dry crushed 10½ to 10¾c; ground table 10½ to 10¾c; crushed A 10 to 10½c; yellow refined 7½ to 9½c. *Molasses.*—Good grades are scarce, Barbadoes 40 to 42c; Trinidad 32 to 35c; Centrifugal 24 to 26c. *Rice.*—Market active and held for our last weeks quotations \$5 to 5.02½. *Spices.*—Stocks are small and prices firm with advancing tendency. Black pepper 21 to 22c; white ditto 34 to 36c; cassia 23 to 25c; nutmegs 90c to \$1. *Fruit.*—We have again to report an advance in the price of fruit. Layer Raisins have advanced to \$2.40 to 2.50; Valentias 7½c for round lots;

Sultanas 11½ to 12½c; currants 5½ to 6½c; Filberts 11 to 12½c; Walnuts 8 to 10c; Figs 10 to 11c; Dates in mats 5c.

HIDES AND PELTS.—The amount of business doing in this trade is very light at present and quotations are unchanged.

HARDWARE.—Business begins to show signs of revival, and ere the month is out it is anticipated we shall be able to report a fair amount of business being done. Meantime we report the quotations which have prevailed for some weeks past. Stocks are not heavy and a good demand would send prices up in some lines of goods:—Canada Plates Budd Lion \$6.75 to 7; Tin Block per 100 lbs, \$32 to 34; Antimony \$16.00 to 17.00. *Pig Iron*—Gartsherrie \$37 to 38.00; Summerlee, \$36.00 to 37.00; Laugloan, \$36.00 to \$38.00; Eglington \$34.00 to 35.00; Glengarnock \$35 to 36; Carnbroe \$34 to 36; Monkland and Clyde \$33 to 35. *Hematite* \$42 to 44. *Bar Iron* per 100 lbs. Scotch \$3.25 to 3.35; Staffordshire \$3.25 to 3.35; ditto refined \$3.50 to 3.70; Swedes \$5.50 to 6.00. *Hoops and Bands* \$4.00 to 4.50; Sheets \$4.50 to 5.50; Boiler plate \$4.50 to 5.50; Russian sheets \$16 to 17; Galvanized sheets \$9.00 to 11. *Canada Plates* per box; Hatton \$6.50 to 6.75; Arrow and Garth \$6.75 to 7.00; F. and W. crown \$7.25 to 7.50. Budd Lion \$6.75 to 7.00; Glamorgan \$6.75 to 7. *Tin Plates* per box: Charcoal IC \$11.00 to 11.50; ditto IX \$13.00 to 13.50; ditto DC \$10.00 to 10.50; ditto DX \$12.00 to 12.50; Coke IC \$10.00 to 10.50. *Tin*—Block per 100 lbs \$34 to 35; Antimony \$18 to 19. *Zinc* sheet \$7.50 to 8.00; ditto spelter \$6.50 to 7. *Lead* per 100 lbs. Bar \$6.50 to 7; ditto sheet \$7 to 7.50; ditto pig \$6.25 to 6.75; shot \$7.00 to 7.50. *Nails* cut \$4.25 to 5.75; ditto pressed \$7 to 10; ditto horse 5 to 10 o/o disc off list; Spikes pressed \$6 to 7. *Steel.*—Cast \$14 to 16; ditto spring \$6 to 7; ditto sleigh shoe \$5.50 to 5.75; anvils \$10 to 11 per 100 lbs; vices \$12 to 14; anchors \$7.50 to 9; manila rope 13.50 first quality. *Blasting powder* \$3.50 to 4; sporting powder \$4.25 to 5. *Boiler tubes*, 2 in 22c; 2½ in 24c; 2½ in 26c; 3 in 31c; 3½ in 24c; 4 in 53c; 5 in \$1.00. *Iron* wire per bale up to No. 6 \$3.20 to 3.30.

LEATHER.—*Spanish sole* is in improved demand, and medium weights of desirable stock are in short supply. *Slaughter sole.*—All desirable lots are readily saleable. *Waxed Upper.*—No special demand, but prices are firm and stocks are small. *Harness.*—Prices favor buyers. *Splits.*—Are in moderate demand, light and medium are scarce. We now quote:—Hemlock Spanish sole No. 1 B. A. 25 to 26c; ditto No. 2 23 to 24c; Buffalo sole No. 1 22c; ditto No. 2 18 to 20c; Hemlock slaughter 28 to 31c; waxed upper light and medium 37½ to 42½c; ditto heavy 33 to 38c; grained upper 35 to 41c; splits large 26 to 32c; ditto small 18 to 25c; calfskins 27 to 36 lbs 60 to 80c; ditto 18 to 26 lbs 50 to 70c; sheepskin linings 30 to 42c; harness 27 to 30c; buffed cow 14 to 17c per ft; enamelled cow 18 to 19c; patent cow 18½ to 19½c; pebbled cow 14 to 17c; rough leather 27 to 29c.

LIQUORS.—*Brandy.*—Market firm with upward tendency, favorite brands in wood \$2.21 to \$3.50; brandy in cases \$6 to 12 according to brand. *Gin.*—Hollands in wood \$1.40 to 1.50; red cases \$7 to 7.75; green cases \$3.75 to 4.25; Jamaica rum \$1.90 to 2.10. *High wines.*—Moderately active at \$1.52½ to 1.55.

NAVAL STORES.—Market is quiet but if anything firmer than during the previous week. *Spirits* of turpentine 60 to 62½c; rosins are unchanged, also pitch and tar which are scarce.

O.LS.—*Linseed.*—Quiet at 72½ to 75c for raw, and 77½ to 80c for boiled. *Cod oil* is dull of sale at 55 to 60c. *Steam refined seal* 62½ to 65c ordinary pale seal 52½ to 55c; olive oil 95c to \$1.05. *Petroleum.*—There is not much change in the value of this article, but the demand is