

destroyed by fire, and defendants claim that assessments made by them were unpaid and in arrears, and that after the transfer of the policy, defendants had nothing to do with plaintiff; plaintiff set up that a by-law had been adopted by the Company, extending the time of levying assessments, but that it had never been enforced, and he was unaware that they were levied monthly.

After the examination of two witnesses for the plaintiff and one for defendants, His Lordship ordered a nonsuit, with leave to enter a verdict for \$1,000 if it was proved by law, he was entitled to recover.

Commercial.

Toronto Market.

The prevailing feeling in business circles is still one of dullness, though we think there are signs of an improvement. There is still a lack of confidence, which tends greatly to restrict business. Money is also closer under an increased demand. We are not disposed at all to take a gloomy view of the incoming season's business. The present stringency is largely due to the detention of produce by the farmers, which should have been exchanged for money, and which would ere this have passed into the hands of the country merchants and thence to the wholesale trade. But as this produce is still in the country it has yet to come out, and when it moves a healthy reaction will ensue. This must come at some time within the next three months at the farthest. We are inclined to think that though present appearances are not flattering, the spring trade will at least compare favorably with the winter trade, and probably exceed the anticipations now generally formed of it.

GROCERIES.—A good business has been done in sugars and teas at steady prices. Other articles quiet.

HARDWARE.—Tin keeps firm and our quotations are fully maintained. As a sign of progress we may mention that Messrs. Lyman & McNab, one of our best firms, have removed from their old premises on King street to a new and most eligible business site on Front street. The steady expansion of the business of this house required better facilities, and these are amply secured at the new establishment.

GRAIN.—*Wheat*—Receipts for the week, 1,460 bushels, and 7,140 last week. There is a better feeling in the market, though the amount of business done was very moderate. Spring is firmer; there is a good enquiry for May delivery at 95c, and at 90c to 92c on the spot; holders are asking 95c to 97c for cargo lots; no sales reported. Fall is held at about \$1.05 f.o.b., but is dull; there is some enquiry, and probably good samples could be placed at \$1.00. *Barley*—Receipts, 500 bush., and 900 bush. last week. Berley is dull, and offering at \$1.20 to \$1.25, without buyers. *Peas*—Receipts, 500 bush., and — bush. last week. There is a considerable amount offering, and ears are selling at 70c to 75c, but there is not much demand. *Oats*—Receipts light. They are in good demand at 50c on the track. *Rye*—Selling on the street at 60c to 65c. *Seeds*—Clover is dull; holders ask \$6.25 to \$6.50, with buyers of small lots at \$5.75 to \$6. Timothy is in fair demand at \$2 to \$2.50; held at \$2.25 to \$2.75. Flax, \$2 to \$2.25.

FLOUR.—Receipts 1,026 brls., and 1,300 brls. last week. The market is firmer, owing to advices of an improvement in England; No. 1 Superfine is held at \$4.10 to \$4.15, with buyers at \$4 to \$4.05; no sales reported. Fancy, nominal. Extra has been taken pretty freely for export at \$4.40 to \$4.50; the market closing nominal at these prices. Sales—1,000 brls. Extra, at \$4.40 f.o.b. cars at Malton; 500 brls. at \$4.47 f.o.b. cars here, and 500 brls. at \$4.50 f.o.b. cars here.

PROVISIONS.—*Butter*—Is a little easier under good receipts, a small lot choice tub sold at 24½c.

and another lot at 25c; ordinary neglected. *Dressed Hogs*—Receipts light, a small business done at quotations. *Pork*—Mess in light stock, not much demand, it is worth \$26 in lots. *Bacon*—Stocks have run low, retail lots selling at quotations. *Hams*—A lot of good smoked sold at 13½c. *Cheese*—Firm and in light supply. *Eggs*—Are still high but must soon drop.

FREIGHTS.—Rates by Grand Trunk Railway:—Flour to all stations from Belleville to Lynn, inclusive, 35c.; grain per 100 lbs. 18c.; flour to Brockville and Cornwall, inclusive, 43c. grain 22c. flour to Montreal 50c. grain 25c.; flour to all stations between Island Pond and Portland, inclusive, 85c. grain 43c.; flour to Boston 90c.; gold, grain 45c.; flour to Halifax 98c., grain —c.; flour to St. John 98c. Boxed Meats to Liverpool per gross ton \$28. 6d.; lard or butter in tins 87s. 6d.; Pork 11s. per tierce; flour 5s. 6d. per barrel; grain 12s. per 480 pounds. Rates by Great Western Railway—Flour, Toronto to Suspension Bridge 25c. gold; thence to New York, 92c. U. S. currency per bbl.; to Boston \$1.02. Grain to Bridge 13c., gold; thence to New York 46c. U. S. currency; to Boston 51c. Grain, Toronto to Detroit, 18c. per 100 lbs.; flour 35c. per bbl.

Demerara Sugar Market.

The following is from Sandbach, Parker & Co.'s Market Report, dated Georgetown, 23rd Feb., 1869:—

We have had an active fortnight for business. Imports have been in excess, and prices have, in most instances, favored buyers. The transactions have been on a large scale, and our markets have presented more animation than for some time past. The arrivals consist of five vessels from United Kingdom, ten from United States, thirteen from British Provinces, and fifteen from neighbouring Colonies.

SUGARS.—An active demand, and but little offering, has forced up prices. Many vessels are detained for want of Sugars, and we confidently look forward to higher rates being paid. Vacuum Pans of the best grades are scarce, and when offered for sale the competition is very keen. Muscovadoes have also advanced, but the offerings for the fortnight have not exceeded 100 hhds., and for these outside quotations have not been given.

MOLASSES.—The inquiry is active, and both Vacuum Pan and Muscovado are sought after at the extreme limits of anything like good quality.

RUH.—Has been weaker with us, and about 100 puns. have been reported sold from 46c to 48c.

SUGARS (package included) sold by 100 lbs. Dutch, 10 per cent. tare.

Muscavadoes, equal to No. 8	
Dutch Standard \$4.10 @ 100 lbs.	
No. 10 do. \$4.25	In hhds.
" 12 do. \$4.75	of about
Vacuum Pan No. 12 do. \$5.50	1800 lbs. each.
" " 14 do. 5.75	
" " 16 do. 6.00	
" " 17 do. 6.20	
" " 18 do. 6.40	

MOLASSES (package included, sold by Imperial gallon.)

Muscovado, from 23 @ 26 cents, as to color and density	In puns
Vacuum Pan from 27 @ 32 cents, as to color and density	of
	100 gals.

RUH (colored, package included, sold by Imperial gal. from 35 per cent. @ 38 overproof 40 @ 45 cents. From 38 per cent. @ 40 overproof, 45 @ 50 cents. Ditto.

Halifax Market.

BREADSTUFFS.—March 23.—We have to report a concession of 5c. to 10c. per barrel on last week's quotations. The demand for Supers. continues, holders offering at \$5.65, accepting \$5.60. The demand for White Wheat, Extra and Fancy, has been very limited, buyers rejecting them even at a reduced rate. Oatmeal continues without

any demand, and large stocks. Corn Meal has declined still further, lots having changed hands at \$4 for K. D. White Beans, at Auction last week, realized \$2 per 60 lbs. for good new.

White Wheat Extra (Fall) \$6.50 to \$6.60. Fancy \$6.10 to \$6.25. Bakers' Strong \$5.75 to \$5.90. Supers. \$5.60 to \$5.65. No. 2, \$4.50 to \$4.75. Middlings \$4.25 to \$4.50. Rye \$4.75. Cornmeal K. D. \$4.00 to \$4.10. F. G. \$3.80 to \$3.90. Oatmeal \$7.00.

PROVISIONS.—We notice no change in Pork, transactions are very limited, dealers looking forward to more liberal receipts from Outports at opening of navigation. Beef is still dull and unchanged. Butter more active at advanced rates. Lard in request. Cheese inactive, stocks light.

WEST INDIA PRODUCE.—We note the sale of several cargoes of Molasses at 42c. to 42½ for Cienfuegos, being about ½c. advance on former sales. There still exists a diversity of opinion as to present prices, and dealers are unwilling to operate largely, and hold off for lower figures. Sugars are unchanged, receipts particularly of Cuba continue very light. Rum unchanged, without transactions. Coffee inactive.

EXCHANGE.—Bank Drafts London at 60 days at 13 per cent. Montreal sight 4 per cent. New York Gold 4 per cent. Currency 10 per cent. dis. St. John, N. B., 3 per cent. prem.—R. C. Hamilton & Co's. Circular.

The Sugar Duties.

The following order in Council is passed, dated the 25th inst., on recommendation of the Minister of Customs: From and after this date there shall be allowed for tare on sugar imported in hogsheads, 12 per cent., and in tierces 14 per cent. of the gross weight of each; and on barrels an allowance of 26 pounds each; on bags in which sugar is imported an average tare shall be allowed, to be ascertained by weighing one bag out of every ten. If in any case objection is taken to the above scale of allowances for tare, then the actual tare according to the original invoice may be allowed, subject, however, to such examination, either by actual weighing or appraisement, as may be thought necessary by the Collector of the Port, to prove that the actual weight of the package is not less than that stated in such invoice.

Pork Packing for 1868-9.

The Cincinnati Price Current publishes its complete figures of the packing of the season just closed, which compares with its figures for the past two seasons, as follows:—

States.	1868-9.	Hogs cut up. 1867-8.	1866-7.
Ohio.....	544,561	562,955	557,899
Illinois.....	806,633	1,068,495	1,072,553
Indiana.....	326,658	321,888	323,978
Iowa.....	126,335	182,944	177,044
Wisconsin.....	129,094	164,958	163,495
Missouri.....	361,067	333,111	328,611
Kentucky.....	183,426	157,880	157,880

Totals 2,477,264 2,792,032 2,781,460
Or 325,668 less than last season; and 304,106 less than the season before.

The average weight and average yield of lard per hog, compare for two years, as follows:—

	Av. weight per hog. 1868-9.	1867-8.	Av. yield of lard. 1868-9.	1867-8.
Ohio.....	224 1-2	204 1-2	24 5-8	24 1-2
Illinois.....	202 4-5	205 5-8	23 5-7	22 1-6
Indiana.....	205 1-4	202 3-8	23 5-8	22 5-8
Kentucky.....	207 1-2	207 1-6	24 1-2	22
Missouri.....	206 1-2	198 7-9	28 3-8	21 1-2
Iowa.....	201 1-2	196 1-4	22	21 1-4
Wisconsin.....	211	189 3-4	24	19

The general average according to the Price Current is 206½ lbs. and 24½ lbs. lard, against 201 and 21½ lbs. last season, and 235 1-7 and 29½ lbs. the previous season.

Taking the average given above as a basis, the virtual decrease from last season in the number of hogs packed is given as 244,901 hogs on the