

would give employment to hundreds of thousands, and at the same time be a benefit to the country at large. If they do not do anything for the present emergency, they may look for breakers ahead!—*Ottawa Daily News*.

Supplement No. 2 of the Report of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries contains full statements of vessels owned and registered and new vessels built in the Dominion in 1874. The following is a statement by Provinces:

	Vessels.	Tons
Nova Scotia.....	2,787	479,669
New Brunswick.....	1,144	294,741
Quebec.....	1,837	218,946
Ontario.....	815	113,008
P. E. Island.....	312	48,388
British Columbia.....	35	3,661

Total..... 6,330 158,313

For the year 1874, 490 new vessels, registering 183,010 tons, were built and registered in the Dominion, besides 6 vessels of 7746 tons registered in Great Britain. The following is the statement by Provinces.

	Vessels.	Tons.
Nova Scotia.....	175	84,480
New Brunswick.....	104	49,468
Quebec.....	73	20,799
Ontario.....	50	10,798
P. E. Island.....	89	24,939
British Columbia.....	5	276
Total.....	396	190,736

The facetious Mark Twain objects to accident insurance, on the principle that so few people get hurt in proportion to the number that insure, adding in his humorous way that if he insured he would never have the luck to be hurt. Now we don't suppose those that are hurt want to be so. And how many people afford "local items" daily who are not insured? We have just noticed a list published by the Travellers Insurance Company, a well-known and old established one at Hartford, Connecticut, of a hundred selected cases of accidents, most of which might occur to any one in discharging their ordinary avocations, including of course our old enemies "didn't know it was loaded." The head office for the Dominion is in Montreal, under the management of Messrs. Foster, Wells and Brinley.

FIRE RECORD.

LOWER LACHINE, Sept. 9th.—A stable belonging to Mrs. Edmond, and a shed close by, owned by F. St. Denis, was totally destroyed here to-day. Loss about \$500, insured.

MONTREAL, Sept. 10th.—A row of nine tenement houses on Papineau Road, in course of construction, was totally destroyed last evening. Four belonged to a man named Hines; insured for \$600; five to one Galarneau, insured for \$800. These sums will scarcely cover the loss.

SARNIA, Sept. 10th.—Hibbard's saw mill at the mouth of the Black River, Port Huron, took fire at 1.30 p.m. to-day, and in a few minutes was a total wreck. A large amount of lumber, and considerable of the dock was destroyed. Loss about \$20,000.

DRESDEN, Sept. 13th.—About 3 o'clock this morning fire was discovered in A. Trevises & Co's saw mill; it being surrounded by piled lumber, it was feared the whole would be

burned but, through the exertions of citizens, the fire was confined to the mill, which was entirely consumed. Loss of mill \$7,000, on lumber \$300; mill insured for \$3000 in Provincial and Canadian Farmers'; lumber fully insured. Fire supposed to have originated from the boilers.

BRANTFORD, Sept. 13th.—The planing and sash factory of M. Burns & Son, of Hamilton and Brantford, were burnt this evening between 6 and 7 o'clock. The fire originated in the engine room. The building being frame burnt up very rapidly. A number of frame buildings adjoining were also burnt. A lot of lumber was saved by firemen. Loss will be very heavy. The building was insured, but the amount is unknown.

ONILLIA, Ont., Sept. 11th.—This morning the barn and stables of Mr. C. Doyle, lot 19 in the 11th of Mara, were destroyed by fire, over 400 bushels of threshed wheat, a quantity of other grain, together with 15 tons of hay, reaper, &c., were burned. Loss over \$3,000, insured for \$1100 in Beaver Mutual. Origin of fire unknown.

The damage by fire last Sunday to the store of Jno. E. Frankish, Toronto, was only two dollars.

ARKHUR, Ont., Sept. 10.—McLachlin Bros. steam mill and engine-house were burned down to-day.

Correspondence.

[Correspondence containing information of interest to the business community is desired; but, as our space is limited, facts briefly stated are all we can insert, and for such we shall be thankful. It must not be inferred, however, that we endorse the opinions of correspondents any more than we do all the opinions contained in the extracts we make from the leading papers of the day. If mistakes occur, we wish it to be understood that our columns are always freely opened for corrections.]

NEW BRUNSWICK AFFAIRS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

In the Maritime Provinces at the present time business of all kinds is in a state of utter stagnation—although New Brunswick will compare favorably with any of the Dominion Provinces or, in fact, with any State in the Union. In Saint John especially, while the general impression is that business is at almost a standstill for this year at any rate, (excepting a spasmodic reaction for the fall trade) and commercial men are adopting a conservative line of action, most of our dealers who have been considered as possessing any substantiality are apparently as well able to cope with a financial stringency as could be expected or even desired.

The crops in the province are in the aggregate a fair yield and may turn out better than the average of last year, notwithstanding the recent wet and unfavorable season. Hay of good quality, this season's growth is scarce at \$13 per ton.

Judging from the fact that six vessels are about to be built for the East India trade, we should conclude that our shipbuilding interests are not very seriously affected by the dull times. Very few traders in this Province took advantage of the Insolvent Act immediately prior to the 1st inst., and these few did not aggregate to any appreciable extent, being very small dealers and likely to go at any time. Several instances have of late appeared to the observation of your correspondent, in which legitimate traders, although not possessing any great business reputation, having a good stock on hand, and selling in sufficient quantities to pay all liabilities maturing, provided they might secure cash payments in return for their goods, have, like others, taken notes from good customers; and yet when they have an obligation to remove at their own bank, can do nothing with this country paper towards freeing themselves. This is a sample of the manner in which quite a number of our lesser commercial lights are extinguished.

St. John, N. B., Sept., 1865.

Commercial.

MONTREAL, Sept. 16, 1875.

There has been little or no improvement to note in the general trade of the city during the week. Remittances are yet somewhat slow in coming forward, and there is partly on that account a pretty general indication of a continuance of a conservative policy on the part of wholesale dealers in disposing of their diminished stocks. When the crops are entirely harvested it is confidently anticipated that a very decided change for the better will take place, and it will be hailed by all our merchants and bankers with lively satisfaction. Whether the revival in trade and the return of confidence in our commercial circles warrants the sanguine expectations of some of our prominent business men or not, it is impossible at present to say, but that the requirements of grain and especially barley for the English market will necessitate the purchasing in this country of large quantities of our produce cannot admit of a doubt, nor can it be questioned that the effect on all departments of trade here will be exceedingly beneficial.

ASHES.—The receipts of Pots continue moderate; the sales for the week amount to about 250 brls. 1st sort at \$5.10 for light tares and \$5.15 for good tares of shipping parcels, and \$5.05 to \$5.124 for small bills from first hand. A few seconds sold at \$4.05 and thirds at \$3.25; Pearls are excessively dull; a sale of 50 brls. firsts, at about \$5.10; seconds are nominal. No receipts of this quality for some time. The receipts from 1st July to 16th Sept., are 11,658 brls. Pots; 1,865 brls. Pearls, deliveries 9,891 brls. Pots; 1,529 Pearls, and the stock in store this evening was 2,158 brls. Pots, and 1,329 brls. Pearls.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—A moderate business is still being done mostly in filling travelers orders. Few buyers are in town; prices remain steady and without material change. We note prices as follows:—Men's kip boots, \$2.75 to 3.30; ditto French calf, \$3.50 to 3.75; ditto buff congress, \$2.00 to 2.50; ditto split brogans, \$1.10 to 1.25; ditto kip brogans, \$1.30 to 1.50; boys' stoga boots, \$1.25 to \$1.90; ditto buff and pebbled congress, \$1.40 to \$1.50; women's buff and pebbled balmorals, \$1.30 to \$1.75; ditto prunella balmorals, 75c. to \$1.75; ditto congress, 75c. to \$1.75; misses buff and pebbled balmorals, \$1.00 to \$1.25; ditto prunella balmorals and congress, 70c. to \$1.25; children's ditto ditto, 50c. to 75c.; turned clogs, 25c. to 50c.

FLOUR.—The receipts by railway and canal for the week ending the 9th September are 20,903 brls. Total receipts from 1st January to 16th September are 651,204 brls. Shipments during the week ending 16th September, by River St. Lawrence and other channels, 11,086 barrels. Since our last report it will be seen that prices have fallen considerably. This is doubtless, chiefly owing to the brilliant crop yields in this country, and their better condition in Europe. We quote as follows:—Superior Extra, \$5.95 to 6.00; Extra Superfine, \$5.60 to 5.65; Fancy, \$5.45 to 6.00; Spring Extra, \$5.25 to 5.30; Superfine, \$4.95 to 5.00; Strong Bakers, \$5.50 to 5.75; Fine, \$4.50 to 4.60; Middlings, \$4.25 to 4.30; Pollards, \$3.00 to 3.70; U.G. bag flour (per 100 lbs.) nominal at \$2.45; City Bags (delivered) \$2.60 to 2.65.

FISH.—Fish continues very scarce. A large sale of 600 quintals sold this week in Quebec for Newfoundland. No arrival of Herrings yet. Mackerel \$9.00 No. 1, \$8.00 No. 2 scarce. *Codfish*, Table fish here \$5. Canned goods very dull of sale. We quote prices for dry Cod, at \$1.75 to \$5.00. We quote *New Salmon*, the stocks of which are not large, at \$15.00 to \$17.00 per brl. *Canned Lobsters* are worth \$1.40 to \$1.60, and *Canned Salmon* \$1.75 to \$1.85.

DRY GOODS.—Nothing fresh to report in this department. All buyers are acting cautiously and not disposed to over-estimate their wants.