

Notwithstanding the increased vigilance of the sanitary police, the public health of the city is still far from satisfactory. The death rate last year rose to within a fraction of 40 per 1,000, or 1 in every 25; that of Boston averaging 1 in 44, and the island of Montreal, outside the city, 1 in 66. The average weekly death rate of children last year, in winter, was 64 per 1,000; in spring and autumn, 90 per 1,000; summer, 146 per 1,000, which rose in one week to 209 per 1,000, against one winter week of 44 per 1,000. These results show how much in this important department is yet to be done. Our Health Committee should have power to prohibit the erection of dwellings upon low or swampy ground, without proper drainage; and our inspector of buildings should be empowered to prevent the construction of any building, intended either for factory or dwelling, without proper regard to ventilation through and through. All wooden drains should be taken up and replaced with good vitrified clay pipe. Sewers and drains should be ventilated at their highest point, and trapped and flushed in warm weather, and every means taken to prevent the people from saturating the soil in their yards and courts with slops and filthy water.

As previously shown, our city is rich in means for all the necessary discipline and requirements towards perfect efficiency in every department. The revenue for the year just closed exceeds by over a hundred thousand dollars that of the previous year—it is \$812,300. The chief items of expenditure during the past year are as follows:

Roads.....	\$138,429
Water.....	\$74,994
Do. Permanent Works..	60,477
Fire.....	24,811
Light.....	18,634
Health.....	5,818
Police.....	74,088
Recorder's Court.....	10,312
	\$407,563

Commercial.

Toronto Market.

Business continues generally quiet; in the retail department there are loud complaints of dullness. For several days the produce trade has been in a state of panic. Prices of wheat, barley and peas have undergone a serious decline as our quotations show, greatly augmenting the losses previously incurred from the late steady downward tendency in prices. Confidence has been shaken by the sudden disappearance of Mr. W. H. Taylor, a dealer who for the past season occupied a prominent place, principally as a dealer in barley, which he bought and sold to a very large extent. He has always been regarded as a reckless operator, and this quality brought him to the verge of bankruptcy before. It is quite impossible to ascertain the extent of his assets or liabilities, as he has carried his books off with him. The Quebec Bank is supposed to be a considerable loser; other banks are no doubt short to some extent, and one individual loses some \$4,000. Money was raised on fraudulent warehouse receipts issued by a party named Scott, who had possession of Church-street wharf. Mr. Scott has also left the country. Since this escapade all produce paper has been closely scrutinized by the banks, and a good many refusals have been given.

GROCERIES.—There was a decided improvement in business as compared with last week. *Teas*—were in better demand and some lines are moving pretty freely for both city and country trade. *Sugars*—are easier, all grades of yellow refined can now be purchased on the basis of 10½c. for No. 24; stocks of raw are uncommonly light, and in very few brands, and in consequence, the market is firm. *Syrups*—are firm, not having sympathized with the decline in sugar, owing to scarcity. *Tobacco*—are firm, with a prospect of an advance of 5 to 10 per cent., consequent upon a rise in the

price of leaf in the Southwestern States. *Fish*.—With the approaching end of the Lenten season the demand has fallen off, and the market is pretty well cleared out. *Fruit*—nominal.

GRAIN.—*Wheat*—Receipts 4,900 bush., and 6,800 last week. The market is in an unsettled and panicky state, in consequence of the failure and flight of a prominent operator and a warehouseman, who had issued to him fraudulent warehouse receipts. Produce paper is scanned by the banks with unusual care, and money, so far as produce operators are concerned, is tight. Spring wheat is dull and nominal, no car loads offering and no demand; on the street 80½ to 85c. is paid for sleigh loads. Fall nominal at 85 to 90c.; none offering. There are no buyers of either spring or fall, and in the present state of the market holders think it useless to offer. *Barley*—Receipts 900 bush., and 1,750 bush. last week. The market is unsettled and sales are difficult to make except in small lots; it is nominally worth \$1.15 to \$1.25; four cars sold at \$1.20 free of charges, and one car at \$1.25. *Peas*—Receipts 500 bush., and 1,000 bush. last week. Car loads are offering at 70c., without buyers; on the street 65 to 73c. was paid. *Oats*—Receipts 1,200 bush., and 2,533 bush. last week. Oats are selling at 49 to 50c. on track, but there is no demand. *Rye*—Selling on the street at 65c. *Seeds*—Timothy is quiet at \$1.75 to \$2.25 for common, and \$2.50 to \$2.75 for No. 1. There is a fair demand for clover at \$6.50 to \$7. Flax is worth \$1.75 to \$2, and tares the same price.

FLOUR.—Receipts 1,475 bbls., and 6,800 bbls. last week. No. 1 superfine is dull and offering at \$4 in store, with a limited demand at about that price; a lot of 800 bbls. sold at \$4 in store. In other grades there is nothing doing.

PROVISIONS.—*Butter*—No. 1 lots are a ready sale at 20 to 23c.; common and inferior lots are not saleable. *Pork*—Mess is offering at \$25.75 to \$26, not much demand; some business was done at \$25.50 to \$25.75. *Cutmeats*—Unchanged. *Dressed Hogs*—Are in good demand, but are scarce. *Eggs*—Packed are selling at 15c.

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 \$1.10, grain 55c.; flour to St. John \$1.02. Boxed Meats to Liverpool per gross ton 80s.; lard or butter in tins 85s.; 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 47c. U. S. currency; to Boston 51c. Grain, Toronto to Detroit, 18c. per 100 lbs; flour 35c. per bbl.

Salt Production in the United States.

The Chicago *Republican* has the following interesting accounts, embracing statistics of the salt product of the Saginaw Valley and the Onondaga Springs. It is peculiarly satisfactory to notice the marked improvement in the business of manufacturing salt in the Saginaw Valley. Our saline waters are an inexhaustible resource; the product they afford take away none of the natural wealth of the country, while their development has had the effect to render valuable for staves and heading many varieties of timber of but little worth before, and the immense quantities of fuel consumed in the kettle boiling process in particular, has caused the clearing of thousands of acres of land, which is thus being brought rapidly into profitable use for agricultural purposes.

From 1864 to 1866 there was a falling off in the saline product, the number of barrels manufactured in 1866 being 58,359 less than the number manufactured in 1863, even, and 121,076 less than

the number manufactured in 1864. In 1867 there was an increase of 66,734 barrels over the product of the previous year, and last year, 1868, the product exceeded that of any former year, 26,617 barrels, being the excess over the product of 1864, up to this time the leading year in the salt business.

The following summary of the manufacture of salt since the business was inaugurated is given:

	Barrels.
1860.....	4,000
1861.....	125,000
1862.....	243,000
1863.....	466,356
1864.....	529,073
1865.....	477,200
1866.....	407,997
1867.....	474,721
1868.....	555,690

Nine years ago the first barrel of salt was made in the Saginaw Valley.

The Saginaw and Bay Salt Company, which has handled four-fifths of the salt shipped from the Saginaw Valley during the past year has shipped and sold 382,352 barrels, of which 41,360 barrels were home sales. Chicago received and consumed the largest amount, and Cleveland and Toledo next. The company have agents at every port of any consequence on the lakes, and also at inland cities. The amount delivered to the association during the season is as follows:

	Barrels.
First District (Bay county).....	153,141
Second District (part of Carrollton).....	57,990
Third District (Rochester Works to Buffalo Salt Company's Works).....	74,507
Fourth District (all works south of above).....	139,194
Bought by Company.....	17,141
Total.....	392,335

Production and Stock of Petroleum.

From the monthly petroleum report of the Titusville *Herald* we take the following table which shows the production during February, the average per day, the production previously reported in 1869, and the average per day since Jan. 1st: Total shipment of Crude for February of bbls., of 45 gallons each bbl..... 252,415

Add to reduce to bbls. of 43 galls. each, bbls..... 11,740

Total shipment of bbls. of 43 galls. each, bbls..... 264,155

Stock on hand Feb. 1st, bbls... 274,167

Stock on hand March 1st bbls... 282,450

Add increase on March 1st, bbls..... 8,283

Total production during February, bbls. 272,438

Average per day for 28 days, bbls... 9,765

Production previously reported, bbls..... 315,953

Total product since January 1st, bbls... 588,391

Average per day for 59 days, bbls... 9,973

On the 1st of March there were 334 wells being drilled, seven less than on the first of February.

Exports of Petroleum.

Exports from New York from Jan. 1, galls..... 7,746,040

Exports from New York same time last year, galls..... 7,575,024

The following is the quantity exported from other ports, Jan. 1 to March 6:

	1869.	1868.
From Boston..... galls.	536,439	418,200
Philadelphia.....	3,454,032	3,568,985
Baltimore.....	73,654	205,155
Portland.....		6,800
Cleveland.....		

Total..... 4,061,125 4,199,200

Total exports from the U.S. 12,115,233 11,835,963

Same time in 1867..... 7,025,889

Same time in 1866..... 9,762,291