

A LETTER from a practical miner, Mr. John Johnson, written to the *Stellarton N.S. Journal*, concerns the Lethbridge Colliery on the Belly River, N.W.T. After referring to the trip to Medicine Hat, and getting to the mine from that point, he says:—"The coal is about five feet thick, and of first-class quality. It is very hard coal to cut. There is about an inch and a half of clay some two feet from the road. After going in thirty feet the seam is almost level. A road can be made and a car run anywhere. The coal is good; no mistake about it; but the prospects of getting it to market are not good, without laying a railroad across the prairie from Medicine Hat, for the river is only navigable for about two or three months in the year. The river is high from April to July. It is fed from the snow that melts off the mountains. It is going down fast now; and there is some fear the barge we have now loaded will not go down, and the river is only ten inches at low water in some places." A steamer has been built at that point, 170 feet long, to tow back the barges from Medicine Hat, but it is doubtful if she will be able to tow them in low water. There were four barges loaded since the first crowd landed—say 200 to 300 tons. Seven men are working in the mine just now, all the rest are building houses.

—The annual general meeting of the Albert Southern Railway Company was held some days ago at Albert, N. B. Those present represented about 1,900 shares amounting to \$95,000. The retiring president, Mr. C. A. Peck, made a full report of the proceedings of the company up to the present time, which report was unanimously approved and adopted. The following stock holders were duly elected directors for the ensuing year, viz:—C. A. Peck, F. O. Talbot, D. D. Lutwick, D. Cleveland, N. H. Foster, D. H. Calhoun, John Wallace M. P. At a subsequent meeting of the directors elect, F. O. Talbot, Esq., was unanimously elected president of the board and of the company.

—*Apocryphos* of the question, of rates I saw a case the other day, says a correspondent of the *Scottish Banking Magazine*, where the plans and particulars of an extra hazardous fire risk were sent to three offices (1.) An old tariff company; (2.) A non-tariff of some standing; (3.) A very young non-tariff. No. 1 surveyed and quoted £2, 12s. 6d. per cent., subject to very strict conditions. No. 2 declined, and would not even survey. No. 3 quoted 12s. 6d. per cent., without survey!!! Truly the ways of some offices are peculiar.

—The Scotch colliers are agitating for an advance of wages. In the West, coal has been advanced, and the men of the Motherwell district are agitating for a rise in that neighborhood.

STOCKS IN MONTREAL.

MONTREAL, August 15, 1883.

STOCKS.	Lowest Point in Week.	Highest Point in Week.	Total Transacted in Week.	Buyers.	Sellers.	Average Price, like Date 1882.
Montreal x.d.	197½	198½	596	199	178½	212
Ontario.....	114	114½	44	114	115	
People's.....		126	18	125	127	132
Molson's.....	183½	184½	500	184½	185	
Jac. Cartier.....		121½	185	101	109	
Merchants.....	121½	121½	185	121½	122½	131
Commerce.....		132½	38½	132½	132½	144
Eastern Tps.....		119	3		119½	
Union.....					90	
Hamilton.....						
Exchange.....				142½		
Mon. Tel.....	122½		160	122	123	133
Dom. Tel.....						
Rich.&O.....	78½	78½	100	78	79	74
City Pass.....	130½	131	420	130½	132½	
Gas.....	178	180½	5016	179½	180	183½
R. C. Ins. Co.....		56	8	55		

FIRE RECORD.

ONTARIO.—Paris, 12.—Wm. Patterson's frame barn and grain and hay contents burned. Albert Huson, owner; insured in Brant Farmers Mutual for \$300 on barn and \$350 on contents. —Fergus, 15th.—Dwelling of F. Driscoll in Nichol burned, cause presumed childred with matches upstairs; loss \$1,000, no insurance. —Owen Sound, 16th.—Coulson House Hotel took fire, attic gutted and roof spoiled. Contents much damaged by water which was plentiful from both water works and fire engine. —Toronto, 17th.—Club house and boat houses of

the Riverside Rowing Club burned down last night, seventeen boats lost; loss \$1,000, partly insured. —Peterboro, 18th.—Pump factory of Wright & Payton with contents, destroyed. Their loss is about \$800 or \$900, covered by insurance of \$600. S. de Saultel's blacksmith adjoining on the west, was destroyed. Loss, \$1,500; no insurance. Moore & Sons' marble work, were also destroyed with part of their contents. Loss \$1,800; insured for \$600. Mr. A. Comstock's cabinet shop next to this was gutted. Loss \$2,500; insured for \$1,000; buildings owned by Mr. George Taylor, whose loss is about \$3000, insurance \$1,500. —Belmont 20th. —Hector Cameron's barn was set on fire while threshing, presumably by a spark from a steam thrasher, and \$3,000 worth of property destroyed. Insured for \$1,700 in Westminster Mutual. —Owen Sound, 20th.—James Sutherland's storehouse, burned, with 65 tons press d hay, 500 bushels oats &c., loss about \$2,400, mostly covered by insurance. —Rednorsville, 18th.—Jacob Wilson's house struck by lightning during a storm and damaged. —Ameliasburg, 18th.—Nicholas Patterson's barn struck by lightning and burned; loss \$2,000, insured \$300. —St. Catharines, 18th.—Steamer *Glenfinlas*, from Port Arthur, bound for Montreal burned to the water's edge, and sunk, in the new Welland Canal. Her cargo, furs, hides, whiskey and 23,000 bushels corn is partly covered by insurance. The vessel was insured for \$16,000, divided up in the following companies:—Continental, of Buffalo, \$7,500; Anchor, \$3,500, (which was reinsured), and Western, \$5,000.

OTHER PROVINCES.—Sackville, N. B., 14th.—During a violent thunderstorm, lightning struck the chimney of the Brunswick House Hotel and set fire to the building, but by great effort the fire was kept from spreading. Mr. Estabrook's loss is heavy, he has \$3,000 insurance on hotel and \$500 on furniture. —Abbotsford, Que. 14th. Three barns, belonging to Mrs. Abbot Whitney burned, with 40 tons of hay; cause, children playing with matches. Loss \$1,000; no insurance. —Newcastle, N. B. 15th.—Edward Sinclair's saw mill burned down; loss \$12,000 to \$15,000, insurance \$5,000. —Moncton, N. B., 17th.—A building used by the Intercolonial Railway for a blacksmith shop, in the Moncton yard near the main track, destroyed by fire this morning. Loss about \$700. —Victoria Corner, N. B. 14th.—A barn, with its contents, 8 tons of hay, owned by Mr. George Bowser, was totally destroyed by fire. —Emerson, Man. 14th.—R. Johnson's stables burned to the ground, loss \$300, not insured; cause children playing with matches. —Rat Portage, Aug. 20.—The Rainy Lake Company's mill here was destroyed by fire at Saturday midnight. It was caused by fire working through the brickwork of the boiler-room into the sawdust. Loss \$80,000; insurance, \$30,000. —Montreal, 19th.—Robert McCready & Co.'s boot and shoe factory took fire and was thoroughly gutted, stock and machinery almost destroyed. Loss probably not far from \$50,000. Insured for \$75,000 as follows: Lancashire Insurance Co., \$5,000; Western, \$5,000; Scottish Union & National, \$15,000; Fire Insurance of London, \$5,000; Quebec, \$5,000; Queen, \$5,000; North British & Mercantile, \$10,000; Guardian, \$5,000; British America, \$5,000; National Association of Ireland \$8,500; Sovereign Fire Company, \$6,500. A fire took place in Chas. R. Curtis' dwelling, arising from sulphur fumigation, damage slight. Wm. Moore's residence on Forfar St. took fire, damaged mostly by water to extent of \$500. —QUEBEC.—Aug. 17.—A barn and 3,000 bushels of hay, a mill and a number of vehicles belonging to Victor Paradis, of Charlesburg, were destroyed by fire. The loss is estimated at \$2,200. There was no insurance. Children playing with matches was the cause of the fire.

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June, 1883.

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