

suffered severely by the large fires of the present year, but the British Companies were sending money out of the country at the same time that the Home Companies were paying dividends, and they have lost more money in proportion to premium than our own have. They should remember that we organized our own companies to relieve ourselves of their monopoly and extortion, and that we have gained more than the whole amount of our investments by the reduced rates we have enjoyed even from our virtuous British friends who have seldom scrupled to take any rate we have chosen to insist on, and if they will but think that no business has been profitable for some time past, they will perceive why we are not dismayed because our insurance companies have not. Now that the tide has turned we expect to be more prosperous, we expect to pay better rates for insurance, and we expect to make our own companies prosperous, so we trust that when Justin emigrates with his British Company he will leave us a "lock of his hair."

## JUSTIFICATION.

Montreal, Oct. 18th, 1876.

## THE INSOLVENT COURT.

To the Editor of the *Journal of Commerce*.

SIR,—I have had occasion to attend Court lately, and, judging from the frequent postponement of cases requiring immediate decision, it occurred to me that the appointment of a Judge whose sole attention should be given to cases in bankruptcy would be a most desirable acquisition.

Yours, &c.,  
SENEX.

Montreal, 18 Oct., 1876.

## THE STADACONA'S REPLY.

To the Editor of the *Journal of Commerce*.

SIR,—In reply to your correspondent "P," I would say that the "Stadacona" uniformly refuses to recognize anonymous attacks on it. The published assertions, statements, or views of any one anxious to criticise the standing and position of the Company must be made over real names, to receive any attention.

GEO. J. PYKE,  
General Manager,  
Stadacona F. & L. Ins. Co.

Quebec, 16th Oct., 1876.

## Commercial.

## MONTREAL GENERAL MARKETS.

MONTREAL, Oct. 19th, 1876.

The rumors of war in Europe during the week have somewhat excited the markets. A fair business continues to be done in most departments, as may be seen under their respective headings. Remittances can scarcely be characterized as fair, but country storekeepers should now be able to collect from their farm customers and make an improvement in this respect.

**ASHES.**—Receipts have been moderate. First declined to \$1.45 for light tines, and \$4.50 for heavy, but are worth at the close \$4.55 to 4.60 for first sort; seconds sold at \$3.50; thirds are nominal. **PEARLS** are in fair request at \$6.00 for first Sort and Seconds are purely nominal, no transactions having been reported for some weeks. The receipts for the year to date are 11,827 brls. Pots and 1,145 brls. Pearls; the deliveries 10,561 brls. Pots and 1,310 brls. Pearls, and the stock in store this evening 3,347 brls. Pots and 849 brls. Pearls.

**BOOTS AND SHOES.**—A fair trade is still doing although purchases are chiefly made in small amounts, to replenish broken stocks. Prices are firm and without material change since last reports.

**CATTLE.**—The total arrivals last week were 37 carloads of cattle, 16 of hogs and 3 mixed. At the St. Gabriel cattle market on Monday, there were twelve carloads of cattle, two of mixed cattle and hogs, and a mixed one of cattle and sheep, besides two or three small lots

of cattle held over from the previous week. The supplies hailed from Alisa Craig, 4 carloads; Berlin, 2 carloads; Brockville, 2 carloads; Perth, 3 carloads; Gananoque, 1 carload; Guelph, 1 carload. Prices of cattle were not so high as last week but the quality was inferior. Four steers, weighing a little over 1,100 lbs. each, were sold on Thursday, at \$5 per 100 lbs.; being the highest price paid for some time past for so large a lot; Monday there were none sold by weight for more than \$4.50 per 100, but some were sold by the piece at rather higher rates. Eight steers sold at an average rate of \$4.50 per 100 lbs. A pair of oxen weighing nearly 3000 lbs. sold at \$4.50 per 100 lbs. The supply of hogs was from Ingersoll, St. Thomas, Watford, Toronto, Peterborough and Brighton. Hogs fetched from \$5.50 to \$5.90 per 100 lbs. A good many sheep and lambs were disposed of at ordinary rates. Hides, pelts and tallow unchanged.

**DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.**—In this line there is a continuation of the activity noted last week, especially in Sal Soda, Soda Bicarb. and Caustic Soda, and several sales have been made at advanced figures. The stocks coming out this fall are lighter than usual, and this, with the upward tendency in the English markets, have caused prices to go up here. We quote as follows:—Soda Ash, \$2 to \$2.25; Sal Soda, \$1.40 to \$1.60; Soda Bicarb., \$1.60 to \$3.75; Caustic Soda, 3/4c. to 3/4c.; Alum, 2c. to 2 1/2c.; Bleaching Powder, 1 1/2c. to 2c.; Extract of Logwood, bulk, 10c. to 11c., and packages in proportion.

**DAY GOODS.**—A number of small country buyers are in town, but large buyers seem somewhat reluctant in consequence of the unsettled state of the European markets. Canadian manufactures remain unchanged, but the Spring prices are likely to be low. It is impossible to tell the exact state of the market until something definite is known in regard to the policy of European Governments in relation to the expected war.

**FISH.**—Very short catch Labrador Herrings, holders very firm at \$6.00 to \$6.25; Large Greenfish scarce, firm at \$7.00; Draft small. No. 1; in brls., \$6.00. Gaspe Dry fish, firm at \$5.75 to 6.00. Salmon dull at \$13.50, \$12.50 and \$11.50 for 1, 2 and 3. No Mackerel.

**FLOURS.**—Not so firm; engagements have been made 6s. 3d. but 6s. to 6s. 3d. may be done as the rate to Liverpool. Flour 3s. 3d. to 2s. 6d. Provisions 40s. to Glasgow, a trifle higher for London. No tonnage has been offering.

**FURS AND SKINS.**—No change in business or prices this week. The retail trade is scarcely as brisk as usual for the season. We quote:—Beaver, \$1.50 to \$1.75; Prime Black Bear, \$6.00 to \$12.00, according to size; Fisher, \$5.00 to \$7.00; Silver Fox, \$25.00 to \$60.00; Cross Fox, \$2.00 to \$5.00; Red Fox, \$1.25 to \$1.50; Lynx, \$1.50 to \$2.25; dark Labrador Martin, \$5.00 to \$7.00; pale Martin, \$1.50 to \$2.00; prime fresh dark Mink \$2.00 to \$2.50; fine dark Otter, \$7 to \$9; Fall Muskrat, 13c.; Winter do, 15c. to 18c.; Spring do, 22c.; Raccoon, 25c. to 30c.; Skunk, 20c. to 50c.

**FLOUR AND GRAIN.**—Stocks in warehouse:—

	16 Oct. '76.	2d Oct. '76.	15 Oct. '75
Wheat.....	426,321	362,791	227,568
Corn.....	69,132	49,657	32,166
Pears.....	2,430	21,814	16,704
Oats.....	84,534	84,572	5,411
Barley.....	32,109	12,088	15,086
Flour.....	82,941	53,902	63,363

Receipts for the week ending 19th Oct., 37, 110 brls. Holders have advanced their views for Flour yesterday and to-day on account of the war news from Europe, and in sympathy with other markets. The general feeling on 'Change among holders of Flour is to abstain from offering at present, until they see further developments in reference to the present war-like state of affairs. The English markets have materially advanced, flour being 1s. higher per barrel, and all grades of wheat 2d. dearer. The Montreal market to-day was very firm, holders asking an advance of 20c. per barrel, which has had the effect of checking business, buyers holding all. Sales of Spring Extra were effected at \$5.35 and Extras at \$5.70 to 5.75. Busi-

ness done was very limited. At present it is impossible to state with any degree of accuracy what course the market may take. There were sales to-day of Spring Extra at \$5.25; Fancy at \$5.50; Extra \$5.65 and Superior Extra \$5.85 to 6.10. Oatmeal sold at \$5.00. Canada Spring Wheat may be quoted at \$1.19 to 1.21. Corn 53c. Peas 91c. to 92c.

**HARDWARE.**—Trade has been fair during the week, and considerable quantities of Shelf and Heavy Goods have been shipped. Appearances indicate that the season will close with light stocks in both lines. We would remind parties not holding freight contracts, that the Grand Trunk R. R. Co. is likely to advance the freight rates almost any day.

**LEATHER.**—No marked change the past week. Prices continue firm, with little demand for stock. The failure of another house in the trade is announced. No change to note in quotations. —See Prices Current.

**OILS.**—There is no change to note. The advance in Lined Oil, in sympathy with English reports, is maintained, and holders are firm at 2c. to 3c. higher than former prices; Raw is held at 55c. to 56c., and boiled at 58c. to 60c., and the feeling is that it will advance further. In other Oils there is no particular change to note, except a little firmer feeling in Olive Oil, of which stocks are light. Seal Oil retains the late advance, and Coal is firm and not much in the market. **NATURAL STORES.**—No change. **PAINTS.**—Still in good demand, with prices slightly lower than quoted for round lots. —See Prices Current.

**LUMBER.**—No change to note in business or prices. We quote here: *Shipping cuts*, \$8.00 per m. feet; *Spruce Siding*, \$8.00 do. *Pine*—Common boards and scantling, \$10.00 to \$16.00 per m.; Clear lumber, \$30.00 to \$15; First quality lumber, \$30.00 to \$35.00; Third class three inch deals, \$30 to \$36 per m, surface measure; Gull deals, \$18 to \$24 do.; do, dressed, \$35 to \$40 do.; 2 by 1 inch furrings \$4 per 100 pieces; Laths, \$1.30 to 1.50 per m; *Spruce* lumber, \$10 to \$12 per m feet; *Spruce* deals, \$24 per m feet, surface measure; *Hemlock* lumber, \$9 to \$11 per m feet; long pine lumber for building purposes, \$18 to \$34, according to length and size; long hemlock lumber is \$3 less per m feet than pine. *Dressed* lumber—1 inch boards, \$18 to \$20 per m feet; do. 1 1/2 inch roofing, \$20 do.; do. 1 1/2 inch flooring, \$20 to \$24 do.; do. 1 1/2 inch flooring, \$26 to \$30 do.; do 2 inch flooring \$28 to \$31 do. Prices—Quebec, *Pine* deals, 1st quality, \$90, per Quebec standard; 2nd do, \$56 do; 3rd do \$28. *Spruce* deals, 1st quality, \$32 do; 2nd do.

**PROVISIONS.**—*Butter*—Not much change since last week, but holders seem to be a shade easier on price. *Cheese*—Market dull not much doing here at present. At the Ingersoll market this week ten factories registered 5,080 boxes, buyers offered 12c. for fine, and holders wanted 12 1/2c. No sales reported. Market dull. Cable, 58s. At the Little Falls market this week—6,000 boxes offered and 3,000 sold; 1,500 at 13 1/2c.; 800 at 13 1/2c.; 500 at 15c.; one lot at 13 1/2c.; 600 on commission. Market dull prospects poor, many best factories holding. These prices are equal in gold as follows:—13c. U. S. is equal to 11.90; 13 1/2 is 12.12, 13 3/4 is 12.26. In New York—The receipts for the week were 10,933 boxes vs. 47,607 boxes the previous week, and 48,874 boxes for the corresponding week in 1875. The exports for the week were 1,586,548 lbs., vs. 2,152,365 lbs. the previous week, and 2,352,461 lbs. the corresponding week in 1875. The market has been dull, fancy factory has commanded full last weeks prices, but only to a limited extent. Export demand has fallen off, and so have deliveries from the interior. State factory, fancy, 13 1/2c. to 13 3/4c. for Sept. make. Freight from Ingersoll to Liverpool via G.T.R. Allan Line, 70c. and to Glasgow 75c.; N.Y. Central to Liverpool 87c.; Erie to Liverpool 87c. London 81c. To London via Temperley Line (G.T.R.), 75c. Dominion Line and Rail, to Liverpool 75c. G.W.R. via Hamilton and bont 65c. to Liverpool. Temperley Steamer sails 22nd Dominion Line Steamers sail from Quebec—Ontario, 28th Oct.