

declined, and prices are irregular and uncertain. In Montreal, the price has fallen to \$3.60 to \$3.75, while here there were sales at \$4.60 to \$4.70, and some buyers from \$4.30 and upwards. These figures, however, must shortly give way very considerably. *Hay*—In fair supply; selling at \$10 to \$15. *Straw*—Scarce; at \$8 to \$10.

PROVISIONS.—The market has been quiet, and though a few round lots of Bacon and Hams changed hands, transactions in general have been of a retail character to supply local wants. *Butter*—very little choice coming in, which sells readily at full prices. No demand for inferior store packed, sales of which are difficult to make at any price. *Cheese*—sells at quotations for city consumption. *Eggs*—begin to arrive rather more freely, and are now quoted at 14c. for packed. *Pork*—There is some enquiry for mess, but buyers have reduced their views very considerably, and offer only \$19.50, holders asking \$20, and even as high as \$21 for choice. *Bacon and Hams*—have sold to some extent in round lots chiefly on p.t., but believed to be considerably under quotations. *Dressed Hogs*—are taken by the local butchers at at \$7.50 for light weights. Heavy are not now wanted, and are a slow sale at \$6.50 to \$6.75.

SALT.—Goderich is offering freely at previous prices, but is hard to sell at present, and little or nothing has been done except in small lots at \$1.37 to \$1.38.

WOOL.—Fleece has been inactive. In *Pulled* there were sales at 26c. for super, and 27c. to 27c. for combing qualities.

MONTREAL MARKET.

MONTREAL, March 21, 1871.

The mild weather which had prevailed for some time and which I noted in my last report, has been followed by a cold snap which lasted till Monday morning when a heavy snow storm commenced, which continued without intermission the whole day covering the ground to the depth of several inches, to-day the weather has been very fine and clear with warm sun, the snow melting fast.

There has been no crossing on the ice during the week, but the hard frost which has prevailed has prevented its breaking up. The dangerous state of the ice and country roads prevents farmers coming to market, business has in consequence been dull, with very little chance of much activity for one or two weeks yet. Dry goods are active, breadstuffs dull with downward tendency. Ashes steady, provisions dull. Stocks are quiet, sterling exchange steady at 109½ for bankers 60 day bills.

ASHES.—*Pots*—Market during the week has been steady and unchanged in price, the principal sales have been at \$5.90 to \$5.95; some extra tares bringing an exceptional price. We may state, however, that chiefly owing to the small receipts and the lightness of the stock held here the market closes with a decidedly upward tendency. *Seconds* have changed hands at \$5.30 and thirds at \$4.60. *Pearls*—Nothing doing in this ash, no receipts and none shipped. The latest sale which has transpired was reported last week at \$7 which is still the nominal price; stocks now in store are pots, 578 brls.; pearls, 195 brls.; being an increase of 17 brls. pots on the stock in store last week, there having been neither receipts nor shipments of pearls during that period.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—Business in this department has been very active and would have been more so but for the bad state of the roads, buyers from the west are in town and are making large purchases, stocks are well assorted and fully equal to meet all requirements. The general feeling, however, is that the demand this year will be much in excess of former years, there is no change in quotations which remain as in last week's report, and are firm at these prices.

COALS.—The removal of the duty on this article will not affect prices till navigation opens

as all the stock at present held in the city is duty paid. Business has not been very active and prices are unchanged for the past few weeks. The following are the current rates to-day, ex-yard Scotch steam, \$5.50 to \$6; Welsh anthracite, \$7.50 to \$7.75; Smith's coal, \$6.50 to \$7; American anthracite, \$8.25 to \$8.50; Pictou steam, \$5 to \$5.25.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.—A large number of sales for future delivery have been made, but the business done for immediate wants has only been moderate. Saltpetre is scarce none at present offering, the nominal price being \$12; alum is nominal at \$2.12½ to \$2.25; borax, 15c. to 18c.; the former price for the article to arrive. Epsom salts, dull, 2c.; bleaching powder is still scarce and has again advanced being now held for 2½c.; bicarb. firm and higher, \$3.37½ to \$3.50 being now asked without much desire to sell at these figures; caustic soda, active at 3½c. to 4c., with some large sales at about ½ less than these rates. Soda ash is nominal at 2c. to 2½c.; sal soda, firm \$1.40 to \$1.50; senna, 12c. to 17c.; legumaria paste, 12½c. to 20½c.; copperas, \$1 to \$1.10; sulphur, \$3.50 to \$4.

DRY GOODS.—There has been a marked improvement in this branch of trade during the week, and country buyers, who are arriving now in considerable numbers since the Ontario elections are over, are purchasing freely. The city trade has also been favorable. There has been a large demand for light materials, small wares and cotton goods, which are low priced compared with former years, have met with a fair enquiry. It is not believed that prices of this description of goods will go any lower, as a slight advance has taken place in England. Travelers are doing a good business, but complain of some difficulty in making collections, owing to the tightness of money.

FISH.—This market has been very dull all week, and prices are unchanged, or nearly so. *Dry Cod*—Has been disposed of in limited quantities at \$5.75 to \$6. *Green Cod*—Is neglected; none offering, and very little in stock. *Salmon*—In barrels, would still command \$15.50 to \$16. *Herrings*—Of all kinds, are dull and unchanged.

FURS.—We have no particular feature to notice in this branch of business this week; an average amount of trade has been done, and prices remain firm and steady at last week's rates, which were as follows:—Red fox, \$1.25 to \$1.50; marten, \$1.25 to \$1.75; mink \$3 to \$4; bear \$7 \$10; lynx, \$1; wolf, \$2 to \$3; fisher, \$4 to \$5; beaver, \$1.20 to \$1.40 per lb.; muskrat, (fall), 10c.; ditto winter, 12½c., racoon, 30c. to 40c.; skunk, 15c. to 20c.; otter, \$6 to \$8.

FLOUR.—Receipts during the past week 2,498 barrels. Total receipts from 1st January to date, 74,160 barrels, being an increase of 4,566 barrels on the receipts to the corresponding dates of 1870. The repeal of the duty on flour has had the effect of unsettling the market, but the general opinion seems to be that the influence in prices will not be appreciable. Consequently, the market was firmer; but, owing to the decline in England, closes dull and drooping, with limited sales, at the following quotations:—Superfine extra, \$7.30 to \$7.50; extra, \$6.90 to \$7; fancy, \$6.45 to \$6.65; fresh supers from Canada wheat, \$6.30 to \$6.40; Western States supers (free), \$6.25 to \$6.30; medium strong supers \$6.25 to \$6.45; strong bakers' flour, \$6.50 to \$6.60; Welland Canal flour, \$6.10 to \$6.20; Canada super No. 2, \$5.90 to \$6; fine, \$5.50 to \$5.60; middlings, \$5 to \$5.25; Upper Canada bag flour, \$3 to \$3.20; oatmeal, \$5.90 to \$6.

GRAIN.—*Wheat*—There has been no business of any consequence done this week, and in the absence of transactions no quotation is given. The repeal of the duty will of course release the stock now in bond, but it is not expected otherwise to influence the market. *Maize*—no business of any amount has transpired in this cereal and prices remain nominal at 85c. to 90c. *Oats*—

owing to the state of the roads, no farmers' loads are coming in and very little by rail, prices are steady at 44½c. to 45c. *Barley*—very little activity in this grain, prices have experienced, however, a slight advance for really good samples, 62½c. to 65c. being now paid. *Peas*—have been in good demand at 95c. to \$1.00 being an advance on last week's rate, these prices have been well sustained all week. *Seeds*—Timothy continues firm and in brisk demand at \$4.55 to \$4.50. *Clover*—\$5.15 to \$5.40, much higher prices have been obtained for small parcels.

GROCERIES.—*Teas*—Market has been very quiet all week, no wholesale transactions are reported, and only a few job lots of young hysons and uncoloured Japans have changed hands at late rates. *Sugar*—The amount of business done has been small but there is no apparent firmness in the market, holders being unwilling to make any concessions in buyers favor, it is understood that large transactions would take place at a small decline on present quotations. We quote Cuba, 8½c. to 8½c.; Barbadoes, 8½c. to 9½c.; Demarara, 8½c. to 8½c.; Porto Rico, 8½c. to 9½c.; refiners are not increasing their stocks but have ample to meet present demand at the following prices:—Yellow, 9½c. to 10½c.; crushed A, 12½c.; dry crushed, 13c.; ground, 13c., standard syrup, 44c.; golden ditto, 50c.; amber ditto, 80c. *Molasses*—Large sales of centrifugal were made at 20c. 21c.; small lots of clayed brought 23c.; Trinidad, 30c. to 33c.; Barbadoes, 36c. to 38c.; Porto Rico, 38c. to 40c. *Spices*—Pepper, firm at 14c. to 15c.; Nutmegs are scarce and firm at 50c. to 65c.; the inside figure for choice samples; cassia 31½c. to 35c.; Jamaica ginger, 17c. to 20c. *Fruit*—Market very dull and very little changing hands, and prices are lower. Layers will only bring \$1.70; Valencias are quiet, and lower 6½c. to 7c. being the outside rates; currants are getting scarce and are held for 7c. to 8c. *Coffee*—Is dull and prices are unchanged from last week. Stocks are no more than will be required till opening of navigation.

HARDWARE.—There has been a large amount of business done this week, Ontario orders having come in to great numbers, probably having been kept back by the elections. Some kinds of tin plates are firmer, and are now quoted: Charcoal I. C., \$8.50 to \$8.75; ditto I. X., \$10.25 to \$10.50; ditto D. C., \$7.55 to \$7.60; ditto D. X., \$9.25 to \$9.50. Coke I. C., \$7.25 to \$7.50. Cast Steel is a trifle lower, 12½c. to 16c. being the quotation. Pig Lead, \$6.50 to \$7. Sheet lead, \$7 to \$7.50. No change to note in any other article. Nails are still scarce, and as the mills will be stopped for some time, owing to the water being let out of the canal, are likely to continue so.

LEATHER.—The market this week has been quiet, but prices continue firm. Sole leather, No. 1 B.A. 25½c. to 26c.; No. 2 ditto, 23½c. to 24c.; Buffalo sole, No. 1, 21c. to 21½c.; oak sole, 40c. to 44c.; light waxed upper, 43c. to 45c.; heavy ditto, 40c. to 43c.; upper grain, 43c. to 45c.; large splits 31c. to 37c.; small ditto, 29c. to 32c.; harness, 32c. to 34c.; pebble grain, 16c. to 17c.; pink linings, \$4.70 to \$5.50; red roans, \$6.50 to \$8; light French calf, \$1.25 to \$1.40; grained, 18c. to 19c.

LIQUORS.—*Brandy*—There has been a slight depreciation in this price of this article, but a fair amount of business has been done, we quote Hennings \$2.25 to \$2.50; Martells \$2.20 to \$2.40; Otard, Dupuy & Co., \$2.10 to \$2.25; Jules Robins \$2.10 to \$2.30; Pinit's \$1.95 to \$2.05. *Gin*—is also rather easier, De Kuypus \$3.55 to \$3.60 for green and \$6.75 to \$6.87½ for red cases; Houtman's green cases \$3.45 to \$4.50 - Red ditto \$6.50. *Rum*—has only been dealt in to a limited extent, Jamaica at \$1.75 to \$2.10; Demarara \$1.75 to \$1.80; Cuba \$1.60 to \$1.67½. *High Wines*—have been in better demand and a large lots of Upper Canada changed hands at 50c. Montreal make was also largely disposed of at 50c. to 52½c. according to the size of lots. Rye Whiskey is steady at 83c. to 85c.

PETROLEUM.—There have been no large tran-