TRADE AND COMMERCE OF

the chief cities of the United States and British America. At the suggestion of your Council, the merchants and dealers of this city commenced to enforce the system on the 1st November last, and nearly all the Boards of Trade in Canada have recommended its adoption.

INVESTIGATION INTO SHIPWRECKS.

At the request of the Council, the Government instituted an enquiry into the loss of the steamer Annette, and the barks Ellen and General Sale. The reports of the Commissioner, J. W. Dunscomb, Esq., have been published, and the members of the Board are acquainted with the result. Mr. Dunscomb recommended that an additional light should be placed at the South Traverse, and a steam trumpet or fog whistle on Red Island reef. The Council pressed these recommendations on the attention of the Government, and they are unofficially informed that it is purposed to carry them into effect next summer. Your Council have not neglected to urge on the authorities the necessity of having a permanent Court of Enquiry, open to the public, to avoid delay and secure prompt and reliable testimony, and they recommend this matter to further consideration by their successors.

SEIZURE OF VESSELS.

The seizure and serious detention of the ship *Transit*, Capt. Moore, off the Pillars, on the 26th June last, for the sum of \$60, was made the subject of complaint to the Council, and the matter was brought under the notice of the Attorney General for Lower Canada. The subject was referred by him to Geo. O. Stuart, Esq., who recommended the repeal of the Law, as far as the jurisdiction of the Circuit Court is concerned.

FLOUR INSPECTION AND WEIGHING.

A circular from the Hon. J. Young, Flour Inspector, Montreal, has been received, stating that he proposed this spring, in order to remedy the evil of short weight, to weigh every barrel, and recommending uniformity in the manufacture of barrels, so as to equalise tares. The Board of Examiners have recommended our Flour Inspector to adopt the same course. The standard samples of flour for the present year, have been adopted by the Board, and they are now in the custody of the Secretary.

WEIGHING COALS.

The coal merchants of this city have had under consideration, the difficulties and losses arising from short deliveries, and recommended that, in future, all cargoes should be weighed. The intervention of the Board was requested, and, at the last quarterly meeting, the following resolution was adopted : "That this Board, having taken into consideration the representations made by the merchants of this city, who are buyers of coal cargoes, relative to the present system of buying by bills of lading, recommend that, in future, vered, shall be of bills of ladi strongly of opin weight, and the the same rule in

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