

not be permitted to go by without at least giving assurance that the friends of reciprocity are to have a possible chance at least to obtain their object.—*New York Shipping List.*

THE MESSRS. REID, paper dealers, Quebec, have effected a compromise at 50 cents in the dollar, cash.

THE stock and fixtures of the insolvent estate of Thomson & Buckley, have been sold for 67½ cents in the dollar, cash.

THE Canada Central Railway bill now before Parliament authorizes the extension of the line to Madoc and the Sault Ste. Marie, with power to bridge the St. Mary River.

## FIRE RECORD.

### ONTARIO.

**Chatham, March 7.**—Building owned by J. & W. McKeogh, and occupied by T. H. Smith, dry goods; building owned by McLean & Tate, and occupied by J. Watts, grocer; building owned and occupied by K. Urquhart, grocer; building belonging to Richard Miller, and occupied by A. J. Wilson, dry goods; building owned by the Wm. Green estate, and occupied by R. M. Northwood, confectioner, destroyed, and brick building in rear of Northwood's store damaged. Total loss about \$35,000; individual losses as follows:—J. & W. McKeogh, \$1,500; T. H. Smith, \$10,000; J. Watts, \$1,200, insured for \$800; McLean & Tate, \$1,000; K. Urquhart, stock, \$2,000, part of which was saved; building \$1,500; A. J. Wilson, \$1,000; stock nearly all saved, covered by insurance; Richard Miller, \$2,000; R. M. Northwood, stock, valued at \$10,000, nearly all saved, but considerably damaged, insured for \$1,725 in the Scottish Commercial and \$1,000 in the Royal Canadian; Wm. Green estate \$3,000. **Collingwood, 8.**—Frame building owned by Wm. Liddell, and occupied by a Mr. Blakely as a machine shop and dwelling, and an unoccupied building belonging to J. Greaves, destroyed. Loss about \$1,000. Liddell is insured for \$1,000 in the Phoenix. Greaves is uninsured. **Lanark.**—Saw and shingle mill belonging to A. Anderson, together with machinery and a quantity of shingles, destroyed. Loss about \$2,000; no insurance. **Granton, 8.**—Grain store owned by B. Blackwell and four other grain stores belonging to Carter & Co., St. Mary's, destroyed. Total loss about \$6,500; Carter's, \$4,500, insured for \$5,000 in the Mercantile; Blackwell's, \$1,200, insured for \$600 in the Economical; Granton Grain House Co.'s \$800; insured for \$375 in the Mercantile. **Reaboro, 9.**—Cheese factory and shingle mill owned and occupied by John Holbert, destroyed. Loss, \$2,500; insured for \$600 in the Canada Fire and Marine. **Whitby, 9.**—Large frame building belonging to the Draper estate, and occupied by J. Tanner as a grocery, butcher stall and dwelling, destroyed. Part of contents saved, Mr. Tanner loses considerably, but is partially insured. Building also insured.

### QUEBEC.

**Hochelaga, March 3.**—Works of B. J. Coghlin, steel spring manufacturer, destroyed, with the exception of engine room. Loss unknown; insured for \$6,000. **Hull, 5.**—Old untenanted house destroyed. Loss about \$200. **Granby, 8.**—C. F. Payne's general store, grocery, etc., destroyed. Books only saved. Loss about \$9,000; insurance, \$3,500. **Hull, 6.**—Wooden tenement occupied by a Mr. Farley destroyed. Loss about \$1,000. **Montreal, 10.**—Express Hotel, owned and kept by D. McChannagan, almost destroyed. Total loss estimated at \$24,000. Insurance as follows:—On building, British America, \$9,000; Scottish Commercial, \$6,000; Citizens', \$2,000; Commercial Union, \$5,000. On contents, British America, \$3,000; Royal, \$3,500; and Western, \$3,500.

### NEW BRUNSWICK.

**St. John, March 10.**—Small house on Kempt Road, owned by a Mr. Fleming, destroyed.

## Financial and Commercial.

### GENERAL MARKETS.

THURSDAY, March 11th, 1880.

Travellers for the principal lines of country store supply have pretty much completed their sales of spring goods, and are now mostly returned to the city. The sum of their operations and reports for the season is exceedingly good, and in many instances even sanguine expectations have been fully met. The overselling of stocks, heretofore noticed, is a more general and prominent feature in the dry goods trade than at first appeared, and some of our leading houses are in a real quandary as to how to meet the difficulty. English advices as to prices and tendency continue "strong, and stronger still." The hardware trade is far more quiet. Leather shows symptoms of continued weakness. Hides are generally accounted on the eve of a further decline. Fruit is generally firm in price, but quite inactive. The extraordinary disparity in reported results attending different shipments of apples to England is a noticeable feature. Cheese is unchanged in this market, stock and demand being purely retail in character, but abroad a marked reaction has set in. Wool is reported hardly so strong for domestic; foreign wools continue to show great firmness. The trouble with the U.S. customs officials naturally excites no little interest in this trade. The matter will be found more particularly referred to in our report of the wool market. The local wheat market, what there is of it, is lower in sympathy with Chicago, where a sharp break has occurred suggestive of the final collapse of blockading operations. Money is still quoted 5 per cent. on call, 6 on short time, and 7 for discounting good mercantile paper, with exceptions above and below, according to name, &c. Sterling exchange is higher at 9½ to 9¾ premium for 60-day bills between banks, and 8½ for documentary. The upward movement on the Stock Exchange, of which there have been premonitions for some time past, and which took more definite shape last week, has continued through the present, becoming yet more clear in outline. It has taken a long while to disabuse the public mind of the distrust engendered by the bank catastrophes of last summer, but in some instances at least this would now appear fully accomplished. The most considerable advance for the week is in People's Bank, 5 per cent., from 62 to 67. The rise in other bank shares is not particularly marked, but the special features of the market is a general further advance, succeeding a fortnight of constant improvement under a light well distributed business and accompanied by occasional ebbies of reaction. These conditions bespeak a thoroughly stable market, and are calculated to give shareholders and others confidence in the future course of prices. Our summary of business on the Stock Exchange for the week is as follows: 899 Merchants Bank at 94 to 92½ to 95 to 94½; 273 Bank of Montreal at 141 to 140 to 141½ to 141½; 150 Ontario at 72½ to 72 to 72½; 7 Eastern Townships at 99½; 634 Commerce at 118 to 117½ to 119; 80 People's at 62 to 67; 25 Molsons at \$1; 20 Union at 67½ to 68½; 25 Montr at Building Association at 47; 25 Intercolonial Coal at 16½; 736 Montreal Telegraph at 91½ to 92 to 92½; 150 City Gas at 116 to 116½; 14 Royal Canadian Insurance at 46; 140 Richelieu Navigation at 37½ to 38½; 64 Montreal Loan and Mortgage at 100; 5 Canada Cotton at 35; and 40 City Passenger Railway at 93. To day's sales are as follows: 89 Bank of Montreal

at 140 to 140½; 42 Peoples, 63½; 50 Molsons, 81½ to 81; 230 Jacques Cartier, 67 to 67½; 264 Merchants, 94½ to 94 to 94½; 200 Commerce, 119 to 118½; 25 Eastern Townships, 99; 25 Intercolonial Coal, 17; 225 Montreal Telegraph, 92½ to 91½; 47 Richelieu Navigation, 39 to 39½ to 39½; 25 City Gas, 116½, and \$10,000 Montreal City 6 p.c. stock, 110½.

**ASRES.**—Receipts are growing lighter. First Pota uncommonly quiet, and have declined to \$3.50, at which sales have been made. Seconds scarce, \$3.10. *Pearls*, no sales. A car load arrived on Thursday morning not yet offered. It is impossible to give a reliable quotation, the whole stock being in one hand. At retail \$7.25 has been paid, they must fall to lend to business. Receipts since 1st January, 1,651 barrels Pota, 286 barrels Pearls. Deliveries, 1,200 barrels Pota, 99 barrels Pearls. Stock in store on Wednesday evening, 823 barrels Pota, 291 barrels Pearls.

**BOOTS AND SHOES.**—There is no change worthy of notice since last reports; manufacturers are busy with orders on hand, which will keep them fully employed for some weeks. Prices are firm and without change.

**Dry Goods.**—Travellers have nearly all returned, and the full record of their sales for the season is a most satisfactory one as to volume, although making far from a pleasing account as to prices. The trade is probably even more generally oversold than our report of last week indicated. Further special inquiry on this point leads to the belief that pretty much all our leading houses are in the same box, that is, they are at their wit's end to fill the orders already booked. The foreign market for goods of all descriptions is still up and greatly excited, and neither fear nor favor can induce anything in the way of concessions. The advanced prices are exacted rigidly, and suggestions that "delays are dangerous" are freely offered. Leeds and Bradbury agents are here, and are firm in asking 4½d. for goods which were done at 3½d. at the opening of the season. The business for the month has opened unexpectedly well; not a few merchant buyers are already in town, or have been, and they are reported paying the new prices with alacrity. As to payments our advices vary somewhat. Some houses are agreeably surprised at the manner in which bills were met on the 4th, others rather the contrary, but there was a very general anticipation of poor payments, owing to the bad roads, as we have before noticed, and, viewed in this light, the result is commonly admitted to be not unsatisfactory.

**DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.**—We have little of importance to report respecting goods in this line. Business has been moderately active, and prices are without material alteration except Bicarb Soda, which is a little higher, and is held firmly at the advance. We believe only small lots could be obtained at our inside quotation, the ruling figures being the outside price named.

**FLOUR AND GRAIN.**—The local market for wheat continues stagnant. Small sales of Canada Spring No. 2 were reported early in the week at \$1.41, but the price has since receded to \$1.30, or lower, without inducing further business. The complexion of the Chicago market has undergone a sudden change since last week, and the indications now are that blockading operations are about breaking up. A drop of 6c. per bushel following prices which, counting interest and expenses, must have shown an enormous loss to the bull combination is serious enough, and it may be assumed that for a time all efforts to force prices will be abandoned. A healthier market must necessarily ensue, whatever prices may obtain, and the regular transport of grain to meet European requirements will doubtless soon be resumed. Apropos of the monopoly of storage in Chicago by speculators, a remedy is sug-