

have already reduced the quality of the crop in some parts of the country. Manitoba hard wheats are the best in the world, and the grain men believe that our farmers should stick to these varieties, which already have a world-wide reputation. The fact that in some sections of the country the crop is becoming mixed by the sowing of different varieties of wheat, is a matter which has several times engaged the attention of the Exchange, and has always been condemned.

#### CONVENTION OF GRAIN MEN.

In compliance with a request from the boards of trade of Brandon and Portage la Prairie the Exchange called a meeting in October last to discuss the system of grain inspection. Delegates were present from a number of boards of trade, and others interested in the grain trade. It was resolved that the clamping of the system of inspection to secure greater uniformity is desirable. The secretary of the Winnipeg Exchange was requested to collect such information as could be had regarding the systems in use at other grain centres.

#### EXPORTING TRICKLES.

The difficulties that least one exporter on account of their having to ship a large portion of their grain via foreign ports New York and Boston, etc., is a matter which perhaps more than any other has engaged the attention of the Exchange. This has been frequently discussed in *The Commercial*, and those who have followed the matter in this journal are familiar with the situation. The fact that Manitoba grain exported to Europe and going via United States ports, must be forwarded in bond, is a serious inconvenience to shippers, and a source of much annoyance and expense. On account of the grain having to be forwarded in bond, its identity must be preserved, and this causes delay, annoyances, and special charges at terminal points. President Mitchell, of the Exchange, attended a meeting of railway officials at New York, when the question was discussed, and arrangements were made for exporting three grades of Manitoba wheat via United States ports. The wheat goes forward in bond, with the certificate of inspection attached, and is bonded in New York or other port, as the case may be, in accordance with the Canadian certificate of inspection attached to the way bills.

#### MIXING GRAIN.

The question of mixing grain in terminal elevators was warmly discussed by the Exchange during the past season, growing out of certain usage at Fort William elevators. The Exchange decided that it would be in the interest

of the grain trade if no mixing of grades were allowed in public terminal elevators. The principle was endorsed by eastern boards of trade, and in accordance with this request, the Inland Revenue department at Ottawa, which is authority in grain inspection matters, notified inspectors to issue certificates, so as to allow what cargoes were composed of, in case of any mixing of grades in the cargo.

These were the principal matters engaging the attention of the Exchange during the past year, besides regular routine business, arbitrating in disputes, rail trading, etc. In addition to being a deliberative body, the Exchange is also a trading body, daily meetings being held to buy and sell on exchange. With the rapidly expanding grain trade of the country the Winnipeg Exchange promises to at once become the most important organization of the kind in Canada if indeed it has not already taken first place.

### IMMIGRATION TO THE WEST.

A GRAND SHOWING FOR 1892, AND BUT  
THAT EXPECTED FOR THIS YEAR.

Western Canada as a home for immigrants from abroad, is gradually receiving increased attention. The returns for last year show a marked increase in the number of new settlers coming into the country. The records of the Dominion office at Winnipeg show that 16,200 new settlers came into Manitoba and the territories during the year 1891, while in 1892 the number of arrivals was increased to 24,000 or more than double. These figures are borne out by the land sales of the large land companies, sales for last year being more than double what they were in 1891.

One new and important feature of immigration into Western Canada during 1892, is the beginning of a stream of immigration from the United States. In 1891 a few struggling settlers arrived from the United States, and a number of parties came in from various states to look over the country, with a view to learn of its advantages for settlement, and report to their friends at home. These reports were evidently very favorable, for during the past season quite a stream of settlement came in from the States, principally from North and South Dakota, Idaho, Washington, Minnesota, and Nebraska. Smaller numbers came from Kansas, Wisconsin, Michigan, Oregon, and other states. A large number of persons also visited the country as delegates for their friends at home during the past season, and in every instance their reports have

been very favorable. Following is a report of three Nebraska farmers who visited Alberta territory last fall:

SCHUYLER NEWS, Dec. 10, 1892.  
Hider, Hamilton & Nanton, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

GENTLEMEN—Having made the tour of the Canadian Territories, and now thanking you for courtesies to us, we desire to say that in the respective parts of the country we have lived we have never seen such fine crops as we have seen harvested in Alberta during the last season. The Edmonton country is especially fine, but ourselves and friends prefer the part of the country between Calgary and Edmonton, about fifty-eight miles north of Calgary, at Olds Station, where so many from our country are settled. The soil is rich, black vegetable mould and crops were enormous all along the road. Some farmers were complaining because ours were only yielding thirty-five bushels to the acre, wheat twenty-five bushels of No. 1. The grass is excellent and cuts on the ground. The farms of Murray & Rossin and Mitchell, James Brothers, four miles from Olds Station, and found their cattle rolling sugar, were assured that the stock had never been fed hay. From our eye Schuyler alone our tongues have entered and purchased 11,000 acres, all in the vicinity of Olds Station. There is plenty of land of excellent quality to be entered or purchased that party was composed of farmers who hoped to settle up the State of Nebraska in 1891, and they do not consider they had one-half the advantages offered them as our country affords. Coal and wool are abundant everywhere, while Nebraska is entirely destitute of both. Again thinking you for courtesies shown, we are, yours very truly:

JOSEPH EDMONDSON,  
MALCOLM T. WILLIAMS,  
JAMES GARDNER.

Formerly of Bedford, England.

This is only one of a dozen or more reports from parties from various states of the Union, who have visited Western Canada the past season, and we may say that this report is couched in about the least glowing language of any one we have seen. We produce it here because it is the last one to hand and has not previously appeared in this journal. A number of the other reports were published in previous issues and all were given in language which showed that the delegates were delighted with the country.

The fact that Canada has received a considerable influx of good settlers from the United States the past year is also shown in the land sales. In 1891 the Canadian Pacific railway company