

FROM THE NORTH-WEST.

Notes by S. W. HILL.

GRAND RAPIDS, N. W. T.,
Sept. 23rd, 1882.

I have been waiting in this place twelve days for the Winnipeg boat which has now arrived, and is at the dock unloading freight, which will occupy one or two days more, then I will be on my way back. All freight going up the river is transhipped here, and taken to the river boats over a tramway of three and one-half miles in length—that causes much delay and breakage. The river here is not navigable owing to boulder rocks and rapid current. It is an unpleasant point in the traveller's journey, who values time, or the comforts of life to be kept in a place like this for two weeks. It is a wooded country, inhabited entirely by Indians with the exception of those who are occupied at the Hudson Bay Post and the Navigation Company. I will give the Indians credit for civility, which is more than I can say of the Manager of the Navigation Company and some others. One would naturally suppose that business interests together with the advantages of civilization, and the claims of the traveller by the expenditure of money for through tickets with said company, would entitle him to common civility at least, but stern facts prove it to be otherwise, as only after a good deal of persuasion by myself and some others, was the Manager induced to spread a canvas to protect us from the elements during those days of watching, and no efforts on his part to put us in the way of procuring food by information or otherwise. But out of this privation and disappointment good may come to many others, for I feel by those privations and days of observations we have purchased knowledge to many who are looking to the great North-West for a home, or as a business point, and believe it a duty to give the facts as they come under our observation at the different shipping points on this circuitous route. Our sympathies go out to the settlers and business men who are waiting and wondering why their goods do not arrive. I can tell them that the goods are where they have been for the last six months—lying outside the store houses at the shipping points, exposed to the weather entirely unprotected, and in many instances packages broken and contents nearly gone, while the goods of the Hudson Bay Co. are protected and sent forward. What it needs to enhance the interests of all classes in this country is a good healthy competition, not only on this river, but the time is close at hand when boats will run on the South branch in connection with the C. P. R., which would give a great impetus to business and the settlement of the country, and would be hailed by the people of this country as a great achievement, and as a means of speedy transit. When I reach Winnipeg I will have travelled nine hundred miles by boat from Prince Albert—a long weary journey, and coupled with delays. I would advise the settler to avoid this as much as possible. The water in the river is very low. Goods are only being shipped from here to Cumberland, which is above Cedar Lake and distant about two hundred miles up the river. They are stored there for early shipment in the spring, for the river is clear of ice earlier there than it is here. Thus the merchant may get his goods next season, if they are not crowded out by the Hudson Bay Co.

My last communication was mailed at Stobart, in which I promised to say something in regard to the products of

the country, and if possible procure samples of grain. The latter I have failed to do, for I left the Temperance Colony on the 19th of August for Prince Albert, a distance of about one hundred miles—going to Stobart with our own conveyance. The team and men that came with me returned to the colony, and after a stay of two days I engaged passage with the mail to Prince Albert. The country is becoming settled about Stobart and all the way to Prince Albert. I passed some fine wheat fields which were being harvested. Barley and oats were fine samples and promised a good yield. Considering the cultivation given one would be surprised to see what crops are grown, for the farmers have not the appliances here for thorough cultivation, besides they too easily accept the position and fail to use effectually the implements that are at hand—relying upon the strength of the soil to bring forth the crop with very crude cultivation. I am sure farmers in Ontario would not expect thirty or thirty-five bushels of wheat per acre, with a half cultivation. Potatoes and roots of various kinds are good, and can be grown successfully and of the very best quality. But from observation I am convinced one of the best industries for the North-West, and one that would be the source of great wealth, would be the growing and manufacture of flax, for I think there is no crop that would yield a greater profit with the amount of labor expended. And the water power that the Temperance Colonization Society are in possession of could be utilized for the establishment of Flax mills. I believe it would be wise for them to foster the industry by soliciting emigrants who are skilled not only in the manufacture of oil, but in the fiber also, for the heavy dues of this country would act as a powerful auxiliary in preparing the fiber for the manufacturer, and one source of profit would be in getting a greater value to market, with less tonnage than grain growing for market, with long shipments. An idea has occurred to me since leaving the colony of a cheap and durable way of fencing those prairie farms. The poplar is a tree that grows very rapidly in the West or North-west, and endures well. A farmer owning a block of land wishing to fence it could plow six or eight furrows around it, and plant the poplars twenty or twenty-five feet apart. Small trees are easily procured, and not difficult to make live; the plowing would prevent the prairie fires injuring them, and as the tree becomes sufficiently large the wire could be put on, making a fence with but little outlay, and one that would seldom need repairing.

I will mail this at Winnipeg, which I hope to reach without much further delay, for I am away from home now one month longer than I intended to be when I left it, but I do not regret having spent the summer in roaming over the wilds of the North-west, for I have seen in its beauty and magnitude what could never have been pictured or described to me, and in closing I will reiterate the advice of Horace Greeley, "Go west."

Orin Catlin, 49 Pearl Street Buffalo, N. Y., says: I tried various remedies for the piles but found no relief until I used Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil, which entirely cured me after a few applications.

Wag, seeing a door nearly off its hinges, in which condition it had been for some time, observed that when it had fallen and killed some one, it would probably be hung.

Will some of our friends be kind enough to send us a copy of the CANADIAN FARMER for Jan. 4th, 1882, and for Oct. 6th, 1881? We need these copies to complete our file.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, 149 Porter's Block, Rochester, N. Y.

Irishman, after attentively surveying tourist's bicycle: "Arrah, now, an' shure the little wheel will never kape up with the big wan at all!"

By looking at the quotations of the Virginia tobacco markets, it will be found that the highest price paid for "fillers"—which is the tobacco which forms the body of the plug—very closely corresponds with the invoiced price of tobacco leaf imported into Ontario. As over four-fifths of all the leaf imported into the Province is for "Myrtle Navy" stock, this fact is official proof of the claim that the "Myrtle Navy" is made of the finest Virginia leaf.

COMMERCIAL.

TORONTO, Oct. 2, 1882.

Since our last report, no important change has taken place in the Old Country market, there being as yet, no indication of a resumption of higher prices.

New York is rather lower, and western although higher for a few days, are now also slightly down. In Montreal the market is quiet and prices also generally lower. Red winter is at \$1.05 to \$1.08. In flour there has been a slight renewal of activity. Superior extra is at \$5.50 to \$5.55; spring extra is at \$5.25 to \$5.30; strong bakers \$6.00 to \$6.50, and fine \$3.75 to \$4.00.

In regard to the dairy market a contemporary says:—

In butter, the market was quiet, the scarcity of choice and the liberal supply of medium grades being still the leading features of the situation. The following were the shipments of dairy produce from Montreal during the week ending September 30th, with comparisons:

Steamship	Destination	Cheese, lbs.	Butter, pkgs.
Circassian	Liverpool	2,500	462
Sarnia	Liverpool	2,993	500
L. Manitoba	Liverpool	2,518	...
Lucerne	Glasgow	30	200
Titanic	Glasgow	159	30
Arragon	Bristol	4,239	2,533
Standard	W. Hartley's	998	...
Carmona	London	50	...
Total		23,551	3,732
" week previous		16,189	3,323
Corresponding week, 1881		20,361	16,416

It will be seen that the exports of butter for the corresponding week last year were more than four times greater than those leaving this week. The cheese market was quiet, but the recent drop in the cable has not yet made any perceptible difference in the price of finest goods, at least so buyers told us who have tried the market. The off grades, however, are decidedly easier.

BUTTER—Wholesale prices:	
Creamery, good to choice, per lb.	24 @ 25
Townships, per lb.	23 @ 24
Morrisburg, per lb.	19 @ 21
Brockville, per lb.	18 @ 20
Western dairy, per lb.	17 @ 18
CHEESE	
July	10 @ 10
August	10 1/2 @ 11
September	11 @ 11 1/2

Here on the produce market matters are rather dull. Wheat is not offering very largely. No. 2 fall ranges from 95c to \$1.02, and No. 2 spring at \$1.03 to \$1.07.

On the street grain has come in fairly well for the past week.

Fall brings from 95c to \$1.00, and spring \$1.00 to \$1.08. Oats bring about 40 to 42c, and barley ranges from 38c to 39c. Butter is fairly high, bringing 22c to 25c for lb. rolls and tub dairy 19c to 20c.

PRICES AT FARMERS' WAGGONS.

Wheat, fall, per bush	\$0 06	\$1 00
Wheat, spring, do	00	1 08
Barley, do	00	0 62
Oats, do	00	0 43
Pears, do	00	0 75
Apples, do	00	0 68
Clover seed, do	00	0 00
Dressed hogs per 100 lbs.	8 50	9 00
Mutton, by carcass, per 100 lbs.	none	...
Chickens, per pair	0 45	0 55
Ducks, per pair	0 60	0 65
Geese, each	0 65	0 75
Turkeys, each	1 00	1 50
Butter, pound rolls	0 23	0 25
Do, large rolls	none	...
Do, tub dairy	0 19	0 20
Eggs, fresh, per doz	0 21	0 23
Potatoes, per bag	0 75	0 80
Apples, per bbl	1 50	2 75
Onions, per doz	0 15	0 20
Cabbage, per doz	0 30	0 40
Cauliflower, per doz	0 70	1 20
Celery per doz	0 30	0 75
Turnips, per doz	0 25	0 30
Carrots, per doz	0 15	0 25
Beets, per doz	0 15	0 25
Parasips, per bag	0 30	0 40
Rhubarb, per doz	none	...
Asparagus, per doz	0 00	0 00
Hay, per ton	12 00	14 50
Straw, per ton	8 50	12 00
Wool, per lb.	0 18	0 20

THE APPLE TRADE.

Messrs. Dewar Rowat & Co. of 14 Campbell Street, Glasgow, in their circular of Sept. 16th, last, say American apples are now arriving in our market and meeting with a lively demand. The principal kinds coming forward are Orange pippins and red fall apples, and these are selling at 16s to 30s per barrel. Belgian and Hamburg apples are fetching 16s. to 17s. per cwt.

Messrs. Wm. Bryce & Co., Glasgow and London, on their circular of 19th Sept., say—"American Apples—Earlier Sorts—are now appearing on our market in small quantities; but nothing fine has yet been received. Prices obtained during the week ranged from 24s to 30s per barrel. European crops, as we previously advised you, are all short, and as we cannot now expect large supplies from your side, prices will undoubtedly rule high here this season."

Yours,
WM. BRYCE & Co.

THE HORSE MARKET.

("Gazette.")

MONTREAL, Sept. 29.

During the past week a slightly better inquiry has been experienced for horses, although at the moment it has slackened off somewhat, only one or two American buyers being on the market. Mr. James Haw, of Port Hope, brought in a car of fine horses last week, most of which have been sold at pretty fair prices. At the City Market, on College street, sales have been made during the past few days of 2 carriage horses \$350, 1 bay mare \$175, 1 grey mare \$135, 1 bay horse \$135, a pair of carriage horses \$350, 1 horse \$100, 1 carriage horse \$155, 1 bay mare \$115, 1 bay carriage mare \$160, 1 black mare \$155, 1 grey mare \$107 50, 1 horse \$100. The shipments from this city during the week ending September 23rd were 41 horses, costing \$5,895.50, against 21 horses, costing \$3,418, for the corresponding week in 1881. This week, to date, there have been shipped 23 horses, costing \$3,677.82, as follows—September 25th, 8 horses, \$335; September 26th, 2 do., \$100, 8 do., \$890.10, 1 do., \$115, September 27th, 3 do., \$321, 6 do., \$587.50.

MILCH COWS.

("Gazette.")

MONTREAL, Sept. 29.

The supply of good to choice milch cows still falls to meet the demand, and prices for such are well maintained. To-day three good milch cows were sold at \$56.50 each to Mr. Brown. Mr. W. N. Lorne sold a pretty fair heifer for \$47. An extra choice cow was reported sold for \$70, and Mr. Jas. Robb refused \$64 for a choice milker. Two good cows sold at \$45 each, medium to fair qualities selling at \$35 to \$48 each, and inferior grades at \$25 to \$35 each. A few old strip-pers sold at \$18 to \$22 each. Country dealers stated this morning that farmers as a rule would not part with their good milch cows, and hence the scarcity.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Montreal.

Sept. 30—Flour—Receipts, 1,860 bbls.; sales reported, 125 bbls. superior extra, \$5.52; 100 bbls. do., \$5.67; 200 bbls. extra, \$5.40; 200 bbls. Canada strong bakers