

latter month the city had sent to the front some two thousand men as soldiers, teamsters, transport men and other branches of the service. Such an exodus had a very bad effect upon the retail trade of the city, there being so many less to supply with the necessaries of life, not to mention the comforts and luxuries.

On industrial affairs the effect was also unfavorable, and so many artisans went to the front, that quite a few manufacturing concerns were practically at a standstill for three or four months.

On the wholesale trade after the first shock was over, the effect was not so unfavorable, although the lines dependant upon building and contracting suffered very severely, as no building was undertaken until after midsummer, and heavy undertakings of every kind were postponed until after the return of the troops from the front.

The recovery in the city's trade since the close of the rebellion has been very marked and rapid, but it would be unwise to calculate all as an index to what we are to expect from this time forward. Into the last four or five months of the year were crowded quite a portion of the business which should have been done in spring and summer, and the rush thus caused in many branches is too easily mistaken for signs of permanent activity. Still Winnipeg's trade has recovered amazingly during 1885, and the recovery has been more in the direction of safety and confidence, than in magnitude of turn over. The statistical report of the city's trade for the year will be found elsewhere in this work, and its figures corroborate what we now state.

