

ten ; in groceries and provisions, fourteen ; in dry goods and clothing, eight ; in lumber and lumber manufactures, including furniture, twelve ; in farm machinery and implements, including carriages, nine ; in hardware, metals, stoves and such goods, ten ; in boots and shoes, harness and leather goods, four ; and miscellaneous, two.

In 1886 as in 1885 the grain and milling business takes the lead in aggregate turn over for the year, the figures for the past year being \$3,812,319.

Second in importance comes the fourteen houses in groceries and provisions, with an aggregate business for the year of \$3,559,507.

From this there is a very heavy drop to dry goods and clothing, the third on the list, which furnishes an aggregate business of \$1,668,290.

Lumber stands fourth on the list, with an aggregate of \$1,432,000, while close behind it comes hardware and metals with a total of \$1,396,180.

Farm machinery and carriages has a total of \$1,265,660 ; boots and shoes, harness and leather goods, \$521,000 ; and the twenty-one miscellaneous houses, which embrace paints, oils and colors, crockery, stationery, drugs and chemicals and several other minor branches, show an aggregate of \$2,003,400, making a grand total of wholesale business done in the city during the year, of \$15,659,356, or an increase of \$1,811,281 on the figures of 1885.

The gratifying increase is made up as follows : In grain and milling, \$293,967 ; in groceries and provisions, \$161,661 ; in dry goods and clothing, \$63,840 ; in timber, lumber manufactures and furniture, \$175,000 ; in farm machinery, carriages and other vehicles, \$201,233 ; in hardware, metals, stoves and such like, \$170,000 ; in boots and shoes, harness and leather goods, \$5,000 ; and in the miscellaneous branches above mentioned, \$740,000.

The increase in the value of grain and mill products, although not as large as might be looked for, is after all quite encouraging, when we consider that during the entire year there had been a depressed state of markets, the average price of wheat and flour having been lower than during any former year since regular markets were established in the western portion of this continent. Had prices been anywhere near to those of 1882 or even 1883, the aggregate value of business done in this branch of trade would have ranged from four and a half millions to five millions of dollars.