mercial News—Big Slump in Whest—
Rice Dearer—Unique Arbitration Case
—Shoe Trade for March—Failure of a

Trade. The latest branen of commerce to develop a desire in this respect into action is the wholesale hardware trade. There have been a number of failures of late among have been a number of failures of late among the commerce of the conditions.

Montreal Cigar Firm — The Lamb Market.

Trade has not developed any specially marked features during the week. The tone is gradually becoming more healthy, and the indications are favorable for a quiet and profitable trade. The unusually big prices recently paid for the several bankrupt stocks placed under the hammer emphasize the hope there is in the future. There is a stocks placed under the hammer emphasize the hope there is in the future. There is a little more doing in drygoods than a week ago, but the country merchants who have visited the city report that the recent cold weather did not help to improve business with them. Groceries are not moving so freely, particularly sugars, with which everybody seems at the moment well supplied. Leather is a good deal more active, although the condition of prices is still a source of some concern. Boot and shoe manufacturers report that a little more activity has authough the condition of prices is still a source of some concern. Boot and shoe manufacturers report that a little more activity has developed in trade with the warmer weather of the last few days. In hardware, the important parts before the guarantors of the woods.

Trade has developed some improvement, a fair jobbing business now being done. There are indications that a few days of warm weather would create a brisk trade. Prices are unchanged, clover selling at \$7.50 to \$8 a bushel and timothy at \$1.80 to \$2.

Trade is a little quieter and payments continue fair. Cannel goods keymed. At a scooks are of the canners a few days ago in a continue fair. Cannel goods keymed. At a scooks are of the canners a few days ago in a scook are of the canners a few days ago in a scook are of the canners a few days ago in a scook are of the canners a few days ago in a scook are of the canners a few days ago in a scook are of the canners a few days ago in a scook are of the canners a few days ago in a scook are of the canners a few days ago in a scook are of the canners a few days ago in a scook are of the canners a few days ago in a scook are of the canners a few days ago in a scook are of the canners a few days ago in the canner and the canner a few days ago in the canner and the can

TRADE AND FINANCIAL GOSSIP. The liquidation of the Ontario Express Company is proceeding but slowly, and in-eresting litigations are probable before the last act in the winding-up process is finished. Several of the shareholders, fearful of the burdens that may be put upon them, are trying to escape responsibility by surrendering their shares. Whether they will escape the onus by this move is a question which the courts will probably be called upon to decide.

The Montreal, Toronto and western dealers who are parties to the proposed combine in linseed oil have so far completed the details that the agreement will in all proba-bility go into force April 1, when prices will be advanced 5c a gallon. At present dealers sell on invoice price only, their only profit being the cash discount of 3 per cent,

is not confined to the wholesale drygoods Daily Budget of Financial and Com-Montreal Cigar Firm — The Lamb retailers which have not netted the creditor

developed in trade with the warmer weather of the last few days. In hardware the improvement is marked. Other lines remain much as before.

Payments are generally reported as fairly satisfactory for the season and on the whole more so than at the same time a year ago.

Trade continues good and payments fair.

There have not been many changes.

defunct Baring Bank are out of the woods.

day.

Canadian securities firm in London. Dominion 4's are 1 higher at 108, and Winnipeg 5's also 1 higher at 108. Toronto 4's unchanged at 101.

American securities were somewhat irregular to-day. Eric advanced 4'to 33'4. St. Paul 96 to 1096. New York Central 16 to 1094. Reading 16 to 1094.

Trade continues good and payments fair.

There have not been many changes. The DRUGS.

Trade continues good and payments fair. There have not been many changes. The most noteworthy is an advance of 12½ per cent, in glycerine.

Trade has developed some improvement, a

PATRONS OF INDUSTRY.

"Look here, World, I have something interesting to show you," remarked a well-known wholesale drygoods merchant to The World vesterday. Looking the rest. It is likely that \$50,000 will be added to "rest." making that fund \$1,400,000. How Farmer-Storekeepers Are Said Hides are in good demand and selling freely at 5c for cured. Skins dull and unchanged. Wool continues inactive and unchanged. There is practically nothing doing in fleece, price of which is nominal at 18c. Supers 22c to 23c and extras 26c to 27c.

"Look here, World, I have something interesting to show you," remarked a well-known wholesale drygoods merchant to The World yesterday. Leading the way to his desk he picked up a sheet of note-head. It to 23c and extras 26c to 27c. Wool continues inactive and unchanged. There is practically nothing doing in fleece, price of which is nominal at 18c. Supers 22c to 23c and extras 26c to 27c.

BOOTS AND SHOES.
Trade has improved during the last three or four days. Previous to thatit was not up to expectations. Travelers took the road again this week with samples for the sorting rade. Payments continue of an average character.

Trade is a good deal b. isker both on local and eastern account. Prices, however, are not any better and no improvement in this particular is expected before June when they begin to buy for fall trade. The feeling seems healthier. Stocks are small throughout the country, but those in wholesale hands are ample, local dealers are still shipping a good deal of continued to their stores. If the patrons of Industry will spend their stores. If the patro

Stocks are small chands are ample. Local dealers are still shipping a good deal of sole leather to England.

PAINTS AND OLES.

There is no material change. Turpentine shows another advance, now being quoted at 57c. It took a jump of 3c in Savannah, and consignments to arrive here next week will be quoted a couple of cents higher than present prices. Demand is not good for turpentine. Linesed oil is in good demand at 55c for raw and at 55c for boiled. White lead is slow owing to the unfavorable weather. The first consignment of spring glass is due here about April 1. Payments continue fair.

HARDWARE.

There is a marked improvement in the state of trade generally, and the tone is healthier. Metals are a good deal framer. This applies more particularly to copper, which has advanced fully 10 per cent.



BIG SLUMP IN WHEAT.

Break in The New York Stock Market Corn Closed Dull — Financial and Trade Gossip—Local Markets. WEDNESDAY EVENING, March 28.
Consols closed unchanged at 95 11-16 for money and at 95% for account.

Grand Trunk firsts opened in London at 60% and closed at 60%; seconds at 50% and closed at The wheat crop of the world in 1891 is put at 2,282,537,497 bushels, as against 2,203,880,562 in 1890.

The Canada Cotton Mill is to be taken over by the Canada Colored Mills Company. The shareholders of the former are to receive \$400,000 in bonds and \$165,000 in notes and cass, the new proprietors assuming the \$30,000 of bonds.

The feature of the market to-day was the strength of Canadian Pacific, which sold up to 88¼. Torento was wanted at 234, a decline of 1 point. Commerce sold in the morning at of 1 point. Commerce sold in the morning at 1 lower, with bids ½ hig her. Dominion was 1 lower, with bids ½ hig her. Dominion was 1 easier. 271 being asked and 209½ bid. Bids for British America declined ½ to 87. Western Assurance was held 1½ lower, with bids ½ lower, surance was held 1½ lower, with bids ½ lower, surance was held 1½ lower, the afternoon at 100½. Northwest Land was firmer, buyers being ½ higher in their yiews. Incandescent Light was held ½ lower, with bids unchanged. Commercial Cable sold in the morning at 151½ and at the closs 152 was bid. Bell Tel. was held ½ lower, with bids 162 higher. Quotations are:

their state of trade generally, and the tone is state of trade generally, and the tone is healthier. Metals are a good dead firmer. This applies more particularly to copper, which has advanced fully 10 per cent. Stocks are gradually being the safely said that the indications favor a revival of trade.

Trade continues quiet, but if anything there is a slight improvement. There have been a few more customers in the city than a week ago and they all complain that the context old spell retarded trade. The indications are now more favorable. Ladies' bouses in different materials, cheffon ties and e'heffon trimmings, printed French delaines and lustre dress goods, are selling well, while for staples and printed sateens there is a moderate enquiry. Payments are fair considering the season and are quite as good, if not better, than the same time last year.

GROCERIES.

Trade is a little quieter and payments continue fair. Canned goods keep firm and stocks are gradually being reduced. At a meeting of the canners a few days ago it was shown that none of them had peas, corn or tomatoze to offer. This, while practically some two offers. This, while practically some two of the gent and transfer their patronage to the regular transfer their patronage to the mark to during the story patronage to the mark.

THE FRUIT TRADE.

THE FRUIT

wheat at Green River and pay the cost of the lateness of the season, is not up to the lateness of the season, is not up to the lateness of the season, is not up to the lateness of the season, is not up to the lateness of the season, is not up to the lateness of the season, is not up to the lateness of the season, is not up to the lateness of the season, is not up to the lateness of the season, is not up to the lateness of the season, is not up to the season is when you get hold of them they're like heapy to the season when the season is the season is

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New York funds...| 1/6 to 1/4 | par | 1-92 pr sterling, 00 days....| 91/6 to 195/6 | 9 5-16 | 99/6 | 9 11-16 | 99/6 | BATES IN NEW YORK.

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FOREIGN EXCHANGE. reported by H. F. Wyatt

RICE LEWIS & (Limited)

GRAIN AND FLOUR.

The markets opened with a stronger tone. Cables were firmer and the American markets were advancing. Later cables, however, were easier and the American closed weak and 114c to 3c lower. The local market closed weak in Flour-Dull and easy. Manitoba flours have a firmer tendency owing to the difficulty of getting them down.

Millfeed—Bran quiet and easy. One car on rack sold at \$14; a local mill sold a large lot at \$14.50, but broken lots sell at \$15.

Whoat—Spring quiet and steadler, but it was all lost at the close. There was a better export enquiry. Heavy spring and fail ware wanted at \$50 west for export, and odd cars of straight wheat lying in same direction offered at 86; 976 was bid for No. 1 white here. No. 1 Manitoba hard was wanted at \$1.03 North Bay and to arrive \$1.05 was asked and \$1.04% bid. No. 2 hard sold at 38c. North Bay. No. 1 regular offered at 80e via Point Edward, grinding in transit privileges, Winniper inspection, with 76e bid. A car sold by sample at \$1.03 to arrive at North Bay.

Oats—Much as before. One car of mixed on track sold at 316c and another to arrive here next week at 33c. White offered on spot at 38c. With 336e bid. Manitoba oats sold at 38c. North Bay. Mixed and white of Ontario growth were quoted at 28c and 29c respectively.

Rye—Unchanged; 80c was asked and 75e bid outside.

Peas—Dull and weak, 60c being asked west and

Pens.-Dull and weak, 60c being asked west and 58c bid. GRAINLETS.

J.W.LANG&CO WHOLESALE GROCERS, Cor. of Front and Church-streets 246 TORONTO,

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Receipts of all kinds were small to-day and demand poor. Prices unchanger it to 15c.

Receipts of all kinds were small to-day and demand poor. Prices unchanger it to 15c.

Eggs.—Pentila iliberal and prices easy; pound, mutaness of the process and palsis if to 15c.

Router—Str.: large rois, 17 to 18c; tubs, crocks and palsis if to 16c.

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Router—And the str.:

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Private wires to New York and Chicago. Telephone 2212.

Lowest Rates. No Commission
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Receipts and shipments in Toledo: Wheat 9000 and 28,000 bushels, corn 54,000 and 2400, rye 1000 and 4000. THOMSON, HENDERSON & BELL,

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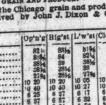
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QUEBEC BANK CHAMBERS

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Telephone 1714. 2 Toronto-street

St. Lawrence Market.

Receipts of all kinds were small to-day and demand poor. Prices unchanged.

Eggs—Plentiful and easier at 14c to 15c.

Eggs—Plentiful and easier at 14c to 15c.

Eggs—Plentiful and prices easy: pound rolls 20c to 22c: large rolls, 17c to 18c; tubs, as of the community of th

W. H. SMITH, 186 King-street East. Guff From Gotham,

Canada Life Assurance Building.

Stocks. Bonds, Grain and Provisions bought and sold for cash or on margin.

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PRODUCE RECEIPTS.

Receipts of produce at Toronto yesterday:

St. Receipts of produce at Toronto yesterday:

Receipts of produce at Toronto yesterday:

St. Livers of the Rockies.

Acable from Buenos Ayres says that owing to the fall in prices for produce abroad and the fall in gold there last year. Frops to the extent of its gold there last year.

St. Per Grand Trunk—Wheat 1166 bushels, peas 4

Per Grand Trunk—Wheat 1166 bushels, peas 4

Per Grand Trunk—Wheat 1166 bushels, peas 4

Per Grand Trunk—Wheat 1160 bushels, peas 4

Per

9000 and 28,000 business, corn of the proposed of the proposed

The Public Are Asked to Express Their Opinions Freely

Canadian Mutual Loan and In- Considerable Interest Manifested In the Question.

> vill It Pay to Fight the Combines in the Interest of the Consumers?

In Saturday's Empire we asked for expres ions of public opinion by answering the fol 1. Do combines operate in the interest of 2. Is the existence of middlemen of benefit

3. Is it an advantage to the public to have watches described illustrated and catalogued with prices quoted in plain figures?
We are fighting tremendous odds, and although assured of success we want to know if the majority endorse our policy.
We will pay for this information, and in the contract of sand us their honest and

vite everyons to send us their honest and candid opinion. We cannot expect the public to take up their time with our affairs lic to take up their time with our artains without some incentive other than the honest desire to champion the dealer whose motto is "Unrestricted Trade," and therefore, we have decided to offer an additional inducement as follows: We will send by registered mail, postpaid, a Gentleman's 14-karat Gold Filled Vest Chain, guaranteed to wear equal to solid gold for 10 years, retail price \$5, upon receipt of your answers to the above three questions and the nominal and \$2. Hose.

sum of \$2.

15,000 of these chains will be given away to create an interest with the public in our great fight, Frank S. Taggart & Co, versus the Canadian Association of Jobbers in American Watches.

The first mail on Monday brought us a large number of replies. We would like to large number of replies. We would like to print all of them, but space costs money, so we give but a few of the answers received, yet everyone we have had is of the one opinion. William White, Palgrave, Ont., says:

Mr. J. E. Gerdon, Tweed, says: Dear Sig.—My answers are as follows: First

No. Second—No. Third—Certainly. \$2 enclosed; send me nice pattern. F. J. C. Tighe, Emerald, Amherst Island, Ont., writes: To the first and second questions given in Ex-pire I answer, "No," and to the third, "Yes." Also kindly send me your catalogue of watches and sporting goods.

Ira E. Smith, Hespeler, Ont., says: Ira E. Smith, hespeler, Ohr., says:

I will respectfully give you my opinion to your
questions in Saturday's Empire. First—Combines do not opegate in the interest of the people.

Second—The existence of middlemen is of no
benefit to consumers. Third—It is of great advantage to have watches described and catalogued, as people living at a distance can buy as well
as if they were in the store.

OFFICES TO BENT-THAT DESIRABLE scite in the Canadan Bank of Commerce Buildig, at present occupied by Ross, Cameron & McAndrew. Apply to Mr. Meldram bank head office. 13 ELGIN-AVENUE, \$25, 10 ROOMS Key 266 Bloor-street west. 71 PRINCE ARTHUR-AVENUE, 10 rooms, \$30. Key 260 Bloor-street

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INCANDESCENT DYNAMOS, Direct current, low tension, absolutely Automatic and

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New Goods Received This Week. Windsor Scarfs,

Derby Scarfs, Knot Scarfs. Low and Medium-priced UM-BRELLAS.

RUBBER COATS with 24-inch Fashion Plates Cape; special value. Fast Black Cotton Half-Hose.

INSPECTION INVITED.

Fast Black Cashmere Half-Embroidered Cashmere HalfNEW ARRIVALS OF

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GOODS. Special lines of Worsteds,

Black Trouserings, Serges and Scotch Tweeds.

TRIMMINGS Stock always well assorted with every requisite for the

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We show the largest and bost assortment in Juvenile All Garments Well-made and of Durable Materials.

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A Large and Well-Selected Stock with Prices to Suit All. Open Day and Night.

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DENTISTRY. THE BEST TEETH INSERTED ON RUBBER or celluloid for \$8 and \$10, including ex	AF/TICLES WANTE

nce day or night. TICLES WANTED. HEST CASH PRICE PAID FO

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