

Grain and Milling News.

Carson & McIntosh, millers, Pilot Mound have sold out to Taylor & White.

A five-acre field of oats near Edmonton has turned out 100 bushels to the acre.

803,000 bushels of wheat were destroyed by fire at Duluth on the night of November 27th.

The Regina grist mill will be put in operation at once. Grain will be brought from the east in car lots.

The farmers in the district along the recent extension of the Southwestern railway, are said to be greatly in need of flour mills.

More than half of the population of Canada get a living by cultivation of land. The whole population by the census of 1880 was 4,221,310, which at the rate of five persons to a family, would give 854,932 adult males. Of these 461,025 are classed as occupiers of land, 493,401 being owners, 75,245 tenants and 3,250 employees. The occupiers of 10 acres and under numbered 75,255; between 11 and 50 acres 92,327, between 51 and 100 acres 156,772, between 101 and 200 acres 102,113 and over 200 acres 36,492.

The following table will show the exports of wheat and flour from the United States, expressed in bushels, for the past four months, as compared with the two previous years:—

CROP YEAR.	1886-7.	1885-6.	1884-5.
July.....	10,915,000	6,288,000	9,691,000
August.....	15,758,000	5,711,000	15,633,000
September.....	14,209,000	6,316,000	12,932,000
October.....	11,000,000	7,588,000	11,046,000

The total exports in 1884-85 were 132,000,000 bushels, and the present year has so far more than kept pace with that year. The estimated exportable surplus for this year is about 160,000,000 bushels, including 30,000,000 bushels from last year's crop.

Macaroni, vermicelli, sea-biscuit, pilot-bread, plain crackers and common bread are about alike in composition and nutriment. Macaroni and vermicelli differ only in size of the tubes, both being made alike, and both are simply dough made of flour and water only, the same as pilot or sea bread and plain crackers. The wheat grown in Southern Europe contains more gluten and less starch than any other and therefore makes better macaroni. This gluten is nitrogenous, like lean meat, casein, or curd of milk, and strengthens one's muscles more than the starchy Northern flour. Starch is carbonaceous, supplying material for producing fat and promoting warmth in the system. Millions of people in Italy use macaroni as their chief, if not sole, the food the year round—the gluten answering for the lean meat consumed by other people to produce muscular strength or working power. Sea biscuit, pilot bread and plain crackers, those without the "shortening" of butter or lard, are simply flour and water, worked into tough dough, and baked instead of being air or sun dried as macaroni and vermicelli are. They are usually made of Northern grown wheat, containing more starch and less gluten than macaroni.

Wherever Indian wheat is used there is the same complaint about its poor qualities. Recently a shipment of wheat was made from India to Australia, and when the millers had turned it into flour it was found that the product was so inferior that Australian consumers

would not consent to consume it. Consequently the balance of the cargo will be ground into feed for the Australian hogs and cattle and Australia will make no more demands upon India for wheat. The Milling World has repeatedly asserted that the Indian wheat is essentially inferior to American wheat and that the chief use of the Asiatic grain is to hamper down the values of superior American and European grains. Other milling journals have taught the opposite, but our position is being strengthened every month by instances like the one quoted. Indian wheat does not grow in favor. Flour made from it alone would be unsaleable in any American market, as it is in European and Australian markets. It can be utilized only in mixtures with higher grade wheats of other countries. Great Britain is responsible for the presence of Indian wheat in the European markets, and it is noticeable that over 50 per cent. of the Indian export goes to the Continent. Great Britain wants and must have American wheat, and the British cheapeners are merely using the inferior Asiatic grain as a potent factor in cheapening our excellent grain. Wheat that is only fit for the hogs and cattle of Australia certainly cannot find a very extensive market in the most advanced and exacting countries of the world. *Milling World.*

British Columbia.

The Masons of Vancouver are agitating for the erection of a hall and opera house combined.

The Nanaimo *Free Press* reports that three new and valuable seams of coal have been opened up in that district.

A coal seam at Sumas, eight feet in depth, has been discovered, and preparations have been made for working the claim.

The Victoria Sunday Star has changed hands and will hereafter be published by a stock company, in the interest of the Liberal party.

The collieries of Nanaimo and district sent to San Francisco, during the month of October, 26,707 tons of coal, and 168,033 tons from Jan. 1st, to Nov.

J McLean, from Big Bend, reports much activity on the various creeks that empty into the Big Bend by the Columbia. One company has taken out \$4000 in gold from bar and bench diggings.

The balances to the credit of depositors in the Dominion Savings Banks in this province, on the 30th of last September, were as follows: Victoria, \$1,619,769.26; New Westminster, \$293,133.82; Nanaimo, \$336,894.51.

Wilson Bros., of Victoria, have shipped to China the necessary machinery for a large river steamer which is now in course of construction there. This is the finest exportation of machinery made by the city to a foreign country.

An agitation is being worked up for the extension of the Nanaimo railway to the north end of Vancouver Island. It is proposed to ask the Dominion government to grant for this and other purposes not less than \$100,000 per annum for a limited number of years (say twenty) British Columbia contributing forty thousand dollars per annum, either in money or land, for a similar period for the same purpose. It is claimed the construction of the railway is

necessary to the settlement of Vancouver island and the adjacent archipelago and developing trade with the Northwest coast and Alaska. The length of the extension will be about 175 miles, and the cost of construction about \$5,000,000.

Montreal Trade Notes.

Wheat has been firmly held, in consequence of continued good cables. We quote: Canada red winter wheat 81c to 82c; white winter 80c to 82c; Canada spring 80c to 82c; peas, 65c to 65½c per 66 lbs; oats, 27c to 28c per 32 lbs.; barley, 55c to 60c.

Flour was firmly held. Prices were: Patent, \$4 to \$4.55; spring extra, \$3.50 to \$3.55; superfine, \$3 to \$3.20; Canada strong bakers, \$3.90 to \$4.05; Manitoba strong bakers', \$4.30; American strong bakers', \$4.35 to \$4.55.

The exports of dairy produce for the season of navigation show a serious falling off both in quantity and value. The shipment of butter is the smallest of any year back to 1874, being only 55,220 packages—a decrease of 11,316 packages from 1885. The value of the butter exports has fallen from \$2,580,000 to \$510,000 in 1886. It is evident that cheese has increased at the expense of butter, as the figures when compared with former years demonstrate. The exports of cheese this season were 894,456 boxes. These figures make out a decrease of 182,145 boxes from 1885. The value of the cheese exported was less than in the four preceding seasons, but greater than in those before.

Items of Interest.

Calgary will purchase a fire engine and hose reel, to cost \$4,000.

The Calgary council has refused to allow the erection of telephone poles on the streets, confining them to the lanes.

The *Monetary Times* says: The final drawing of Father Labelle's "Colonization Lottery" took place on Friday last in Montreal, when the reverend father announced that the colonization society realized no profit out of the scheme, so he is going to start a new one, offering \$50,000 instead of \$100,000. This is a most demoralizing business. Such affairs should be put down. They pander to a weakness of human nature which aims to get something valuable for next to nothing. It is a gambling spirit which needs to be repressed rather than cultivated or encouraged.

A Doubtful Market.

"Now, my dear," he said as he prepared to leave home after supper, "the market has been feverish all day."

"I see."

"If wheat should go up a cent or two this evening I might not be home until late."

"Exactly."

"And in case wheat goes down don't expect me before midnight."

"I see. Well, dear, you run along and keep your eye on wheat and stay as long as you care to, for I've asked Col. Haskins over to play whist this evening, and he'll be sure to stay until midnight."

The fever subsided and wheat stood still, and the husband was back before nine o'clock. *Wall Street News.*