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—A meeting of the Winnipeg grain exchange was held on Friday last, when the question of holding a dinner on the date of the annual meeting of the exchange, Jan. 11th, was discussed. It was decided that a dinner be given on that date, and a committee consisting of President Mitchell, Vice-president Atkinson, Secretary Bell and R. P. Roblin was appointed to make all necessary arrangements. It is probable that a departure will be made in this affair from the ordinary conventional dinner, and the lady friends of the members will be invited.

## Commercial.

## MONTREAL MARKETS.

**MONTREAL, Jan. 5th, 1893.**

**ASHES.**—Prices are again off a point, and \$4.25 may be quoted as now the outside figure for first quality pots, seconds about \$3.60. Pearls altogether nominal. Receipts are very limited, and there has been no recent export movement.

**DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.**—Orders are now beginning to come in fairly for the season after the holiday quiet. Carbolic acid is likely to advance considerably, as a combination has been effected among all the manufacturers of coal tar products. A combination is also reported among the producers of chloral hydrate, and prices have gone up materially. The demand for quinine is slow, and prices are unaltered. Opium, while very firm in Smyrna and Europe, has been reduced in price in New York, and it is supposed some speculative movement is afoot there. Canada balsam in low supply and firm; Copaiba and tolu easier; stocks of cubebs concentrated, and higher prices being asked; chamomile flowers tending upwards, also insect powder; buchu advancing, and senna also; glycerine firm, but quotations unaltered; menthol of all kinds in light supply and firming up.

**DRY GOODS.**—City retail business last week was fair, but hardly up to Xmas week. In wholesale circles a fair proportion of orders for spring goods is reported for the season; remittances show no improvement or otherwise. A leading house is just in receipt of cables from both London and Paris reporting an advance in cashmere of from 3 to a half-penny a yard; this was foreshadowed in our report of a fortnight ago. Mail advices just to hand also report an advance in prints, art muslins, checked muslins, cretonnes, and in fact nearly all lines of English cottons, of from 5 to 10 per cent.

**FURS.**—The raw fur trade is still very quiet, and no parcels of any consequence are yet offering. Values tend to weakness, and quotations of otter, beaver, mink and skunk, being furs entering most largely into local consumption, and for which the demand will shortly slacken, will likely be subject to some revision very soon. We quote for prime skins: Beaver, per lb., \$3.50 to 4.50; otter, per skin, \$9 to \$12; black bear, large, \$12 to \$18; do. med., \$7 to \$12; do. cub, \$3.50 to \$6; red fox, \$1 to 1.25; fisher, \$3 to \$4.50; muskrat, fall, 10c.; do. winter, 12c.; lynx, \$2 to \$3; mink, 75c. to \$1.50; marten, 60 to 90c.; skunk, 25, 50, 75c.; raccoon, 25, 50, 75c.

**GROCERIES.**—Travellers who have been home for the holidays, and for the furnishing up of their samples, are again all on the wing, but it will be several days before they will be heard from, and matters are quiet as regards country business. There has been quite an amount of trading in teas between jobbers, and it is reported that transactions aggregating some 2,600 packages of Japans principally transpired the last three days of '92, with a good many offers pending. The new year opened with some good offers from Chicago for teas, which, however, had been sold in the lots mentioned. The New York market is reported active and very firm for all sorts, and blacks offered very recently at 11½ cents are now held solid at 12 cents. Statistics of the last Japan crop show the yield to have been three million pounds less than '91, while the Canadian imports have been some six or seven million pounds less, the American trade having taken a proportionately larger quantity. On Saturday last sugars were advanced an eighth of a cent all round, making granulated at the factory 4½c., and the range for yellows from 3½ to 4c. A brief, terse circular of barely six lines has been received by the wholesale trade, to the effect that from date credit terms for McDonald's tobaccos will cease; that all