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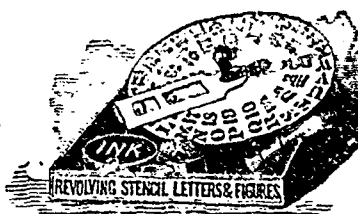
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or July at buyers' option, and to take 32s. per qr. for the grain. Soft red is 1s. to 1s. 6d. cheaper than No. 2 club, and the other principal varieties of Indian wheat preserve their ordinary range on either side of the above medium terms. From another quarter of the globe we have the Chilean new crop offered at 33s for April shipment, and the new wheat of the Argentine Republic at 31s. 6d. per qr. The remainder of the Californian surplus is offered at 34s. for prompt shipment, and there have been ready sellers of Australian to arrive about Easter at 33s. 6d. per qr.

The Indian new crop is put on official prices, which represent the necessity of competing with No. 1 Californian at 34s., with good Australian at 33s. 6d., and with fine English white at 33s. per qr. Such considerations as are exclusively Indian would point to a far higher price. The total shipments last year from all India aggregated 721,000 tons of wheat, of which 462,000 tons went from Bombay, 229,000 tons from Calcutta, and only 33,000 tons from Karachi, against 1,133,000 tons of wheat from all India in 1886, and 1,063,000 tons in 1885. India has been credited with an export surplus of 4,000,000 qrs. to 5,000,000 qrs. for 1888. But 2,896,000 qrs. in 1887 was a big falling off in the previous years, in each of which over 4,000,000 qrs. were shipped. The acreage is not increasing; while agriculture seems stationary, not so much from want of enterprise as from the unprofitableness of introducing European methods and machinery into a tropical country for use under a tropical sun and on a tropical soil. The yield this year is likely to be an average; but a total exportation of three million qrs. is probably as much as the most sanguine can fairly allow themselves to expect. India, therefore, cannot be regarded as a source of weakness.

Australia during February has been shipping wheat, but not with any eagerness, at such prices as now prevail. Victoria is stated to have from 14,562,000 bushels of wheat on 1,121,000 acres, being 13 bushels to the acre, against 11.7 bushels to the acre in January,

1887. The average yield in Victoria is, perhaps, 12 bushels. Of the 14,562,000 bushels grown, half will be required for home use, leaving about 900,000 qrs. for export.

Frequently imported wheat has been 3s. per qr. lower in price than fresh English samples, whereas now Duluth and some other fine foreign sorts are reckoned a couple of shillings higher than the home farmers' wheat. This change is probably due to the strong competition in recent years—1887-8—of American flour. *London Miller.*

### For Commercial Union.

The House committee on foreign relations, at Washington, unanimously voted to report favorably Mr. Hill's resolution "To promote commercial union with Canada." The bill provides that whenever Canada declares a desire to establish commercial union, having a uniform revenue system, like internal taxes to be collected and like import duties upon articles from other nations, with no duties upon trade between the United States and Canada, the President shall appoint three commissioners to meet a similar commission from Canada and prepare a plan for the assimilation of the import duties and internal revenue taxes of the two countries and an equitable division of receipts in a commercial union.

### An Elevator Enterprise.

The Scandinavian Elevator company, recently organized by C. C. Woolcut & Co. and the Farmers' Alliances of Minnesota and Dakota, promises to cut an important figure in the wheat trade of the northwest during the present season. The main object of the association, as set forth by those principally interested, is to prevent the adulteration of the spring wheat of the northwest, and in that way secure better prices in the Liverpool markets. It is claimed that under the present system of operations at Buffalo elevators, especially, the hard wheat of the Northwest and the soft grains of Kansas are mixed, then exported as Minnesota and Dakota No. 1 hard. As a result, the grades

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are reduced at the English warehouses, with a corresponding reduction in prices at the expense of the producers of the Northwest. The new elevator combination intends to send the hard wheat through to the Eastern or European markets without adulteration and thus maintain the high standard of the grain. It is claimed that the farmers are backing the scheme to the extent of their ability, and branch companies are being formed in Dakota. A new line of thirty-one elevators will be in operation during the present season, and large transfer elevators will be built in this city and Duluth. With the backing and influence of the farmers' alliance this novel competitor for the grain trade of the Northwest threatens to create a lively interest in more than one quarter before the next crop begins to move.—*St. Paul Pioneer-Press.*

### Dairy Matters.

The Emerson Times says: "It is proposed to start a cheese factory at Emerson. Dealers in butter have been losing so much money lately that their attention is directed now to the production of cheese." The Times should be informed that the loss in butter is due to the faulty nature of manufacturing and handling, rather than to the demand. No doubt there has been a good deal of money lost in butter, but at the same time it is doubtful if cheese manufacturing could be made much more profitable than butter manufacturing, when scientific principles are applied to each. There has never been a lack of demand for good butter at profitable figures in Manitoba. The trouble has been that the bulk of the butter handled here is unfit for table use. This will continue until the mode of manufacture and handling is changed. Apply the same system to butter manufacture that is applied to cheese and there need be no fear as to finding a profitable market. At the present time a bit of really choice butter can hardly be obtained in the Winnipeg market, whilst the country is glutted with medium and inferior grades.