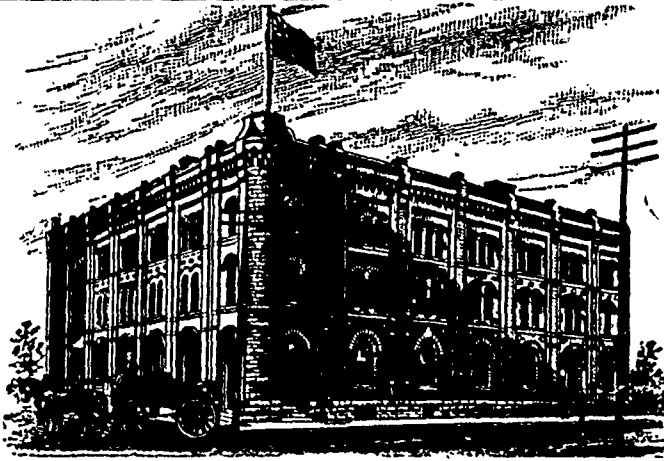


GOODS SOLD TO THE  
TRADE ONLY.GOODS SOLD TO THE  
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## G. F. & J. GALT,

### DIRECT IMPORTERS

#### TEAS, SUGARS, WINES, LIQUORS and GENERAL GROCERIES

CORNER PRINCESS AND BANNATYNE STREETS, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

An engraving of G. F. & J. Galt's new wholesale grocery warehouse will be noticed on this page. This is one of the buildings erected in Winnipeg during the past season, and it is one which does credit to the wholesale trade of the city. The building is a solid brick and stone structure, 35 x 99 feet, and giving on the three flats and basement a total storage room of about 5,400 feet. The building is claimed, and justly so, to be the finest wholesale grocery warehouse in Canada, and giving 1,000 feet more accommodation than any other. It has been designed and constructed throughout with special reference to excellence and convenience in carrying on the wholesale grocery trade. Bonded rooms have been arranged on three floors, and both frost proof and cool storage apartments have been provided. The butter room is a special feature. This is separate from the main building, though connected by a doorway, and so arranged that it will be always cool and well ventilated, a very necessary consideration in storing butter. Altogether the erection of such a warehouse speaks well for the prosperity of the wholesale trade of the city.

THE COMMERCIAL has several times referred in strong terms of condemnation to the arrangement of allowing Customs officials to share in fines exacted under certain customs regulations. The announcement made a short time ago, that in cases of undervaluation, officials would not hereafter be allowed to share in the fines, has been received with general approval by the press from one end of the country to the other. With the wide latitude allowed Customs officials in the matter of valuation, the practice of allowing them to share in the fines was a positively dangerous stipulation, and one which has caused a great deal of dissatisfaction among importers. The system of allowing officials to share in fines, is a vicious one in principle, aside from the encouragement which it gives for unjust decisions, which latter were actually possible under the Customs regulations. The decision to abolish the division of fines among officials will remove a feature to which leading importers have long taken serious and warranted objection.

Manitoba farmers seem to evidence a strong desire this season to hold their oats for higher prices. This is no doubt, partly due to the high prices which were paid for oats last season on account of the short crop in the West. This year the crop has been very heavy here, but the farmers evidently think that notwithstanding this they should obtain better prices than have yet been offered, judging from the slow movement in oats to date. Then, as oats have usually brought a higher price towards spring in this country, farmers have been in no hurry to market this grain so long as they have had wheat to deliver. An idea has also got abroad that there will be a sharp demand from Eastern Canada for our oats before long, owing to the short crop there during the past summer, and this is expected to advance prices later on. Some shipments of oats have already gone through to the East, and complaints have come back in several instances of the grain being very dirty. This is a fault which has been several times commented upon regarding Manitoba oats, and there is certainly a good deal of truth in the accusation. It is to be hoped our farmers will improve in this matter. Western oats are an excellent sample this year, and all they require is a little more attention in cleaning to make them the best in the market. The *Montreal Trade Bulletin*, in referring to the oats question says: "It will be remembered that we have repeatedly referred to the short crop of oats in Canada this year, but we scarcely thought that the shortage was as great as it is now turning out, and from present appearances we shall have to import during the coming winter in order to supply our home requirements. Shipments of Manitoba oats have already been received costing 37c laid down here on track, but we hear great complaints of the condition in which they are received, most of them being dirty and full of foreign substances. Manitoba farmers therefore should be more particular in cleaning them, as the samples we have seen were very dirty and consequently not worth as much as clean oats by 1c to 2c per bushel. It will therefore be seen how important it is for growers to exercise more care in cleaning their oats."

Oregon millers appear to be making good use of the new line of steamers put on by the C. P. R. between Vancouver and China and Japan. On each trip of these steamers we read of large shipments of flour across the Pacific to the land of the Japanese and Chinese. One Oregon miller has made the trip across the ocean himself, and telegraphs back large orders to his firm. He states that there is a big market for cheap flour in those populous countries. Manitoba millers would like to share in this trade, but the disadvantage of the long railway haul is rather too much to overcome. The Oregon millers, who are located directly at ocean ports are thus given a great lead in the competition. Another feature in favor of the Oregon millers is that cheap flours are wanted. The expense of shipping cheap grades of flour to the coast is of course just as great as for fine grades. Were fine grades of flour most in demand, Manitoba millers would be in a position to compete more successfully with the Oregon mills. The Oregon millers are still holding some trade in British Columbia, though their business in that direction, is only a fraction of what it was before Manitoba flour was placed in the field. In Victoria, particularly, there is quite a quantity of the Oregon flour still used, though this is perhaps partially owing to custom, the people having been so long used to the article that they are slow to change. A Portland paper of a late date also notes the shipment of a large lot of millstuffs and chopped feed to British Columbia. The ability of the Oregon millers to hold oat at all in British Columbia, against the Manitoba product, with the duties in favor of the latter, demonstrates the favorable position which they are in to handle the China and Japan trade.

There is to say the very least, something peculiar about the situation regarding Manitoba wheat in the markets of Eastern Canada. Trade journals and dealers there are loud in their praise of Manitoba flour, or flour made from Manitoba wheat. One leading trade paper of Montreal reports the demand for Manitoba flour so great, that a number of Ontario millers have decided to grind nothing but the hard wheats of the West. This flour is now becoming such a great favorite with the consuming public that it is getting difficult to handle other grades, thus necessitating the move above noted on the part of the Ontario millers. The strange feature of the situation is shown in the fact that with all this appreciation of the merits of Manitoba flour, apparently no corresponding appreciation is attached to Manitoba hard wheat. The same paper that notes this great demand for Western flour, shows in its market reports that Western wheat is not considered as valuable in Montreal as the soft wheats of the East, our No 1 hard being there quoted on a par with eastern grandes, whilst No. 2 hard and No. 1 northern were quoted lower than some eastern grades. There seems to be something decidedly wrong in this peculiar situation. The cause may perhaps be partially attributed to the fact that quotations for Ontario wheats at Montreal this season are often little more than nominal. Owing to the short crop in Ontario, local millers have wanted about all the wheat obtainable, and this has no doubt caused some undue appreciation in the prices of Ontario grades this season.