

Manitoba

W. S. Grout has opened a general store at Minto.

J. H. Wrieger has started in the vehicle and machine business at Rosenfeld.

McTavish, grocer, Minto, has a contract let for the erection of a new store building.

Smith Bros., butchers, McGregor, have dissolved partnership. W. J. Smith continues the business.

W. A. Prest who recently disposed of his book store business at Portage la Prairie, leaves next week for British Columbia.

D. W. Flack has purchased the stock of E. C. Bush, Swan Lake, and has added largely to it since commencing business.

The boot and shoe stock of R. D. Young, at Neepawa, has been purchased by T. Finklestein, of Winnipeg. It is the intention of the purchaser to amalgamate the stock with another which he already owns in that town.

F. Osenbrugge, a well known Winnipeg furrier, is moving to the United States after a residence of twenty-three years in Manitoba, intends engaging in sheep raising in Virginia, Ill., ill-health necessitating a change of occupation.

A car load of very fine Washington naval oranges, consisting of 336 boxes arrived this week for the Rublee Fruit company, Winnipeg, direct from Dr. Montgomery's ranch at San Dinis, California. The doctor was a former Winnipegger.

A short time ago the sum of \$1,000 was stolen from the store of Clifton Watkins, at Forrest, and no evidence has yet been obtained that will indicate who the robber was. The money belonged to Parrish, Lindsay & Co., and was for the purchase of grain.

J. A. Thompson, who recently opened in hardware and lumber at the new town of Elgin, on the Belmont extension of the Northern Pacific railway, has bought out the hardware stock of J. B. Temple, who opened in business a short time ago at the same place.

Assiniboia.

Millar Bros., flour and feed, Regina, are burned out.

John Brown, blacksmith, Indian Head, has sold out to Alex. Brown.

N. Hobson has bought the butchering business of the Grenfell Cattle Co. of Grenfell.

The new Assiniboia hotel at Medicine Hat was formally opened for the reception of guests on Monday, the 12th inst. The total investment in this hotel is \$30,000.

Benj. Carey, lately with Tinning & Gilroy, of Regina, will open business for himself at Moose Jaw about the first of the year, in dry goods, millinery and gents' furnishings.

Northwest Ontario.

Jalies & Leggart intend opening up a bake shop at Rat Portage this month. Both have been employed with some of the local bakeries.

John Gardner & Co., of Rat Portage, have closed their branch of business at Norman. The stock will be sent to Rat Portage and the Wabigoon branch.

Grocery Trade Notes.

Cable advices report further damage to the Burmah rice crop by continued dry weather.

The American Sugar Refinery company, of New York, on December 22, announced a reduction in the price of package sugar from 5.18 to 5.00 cents, equal to 1-8 of a cent a pound.

Advices from Sicily state that the stocks of filberts remaining there are small and exchange having declined prices for shipment are higher.

Wholesale merchants at Montreal have been discussing the imposition of a 5c duty on teas, but opinion is divided as to the advisability of such a move.

At Montreal there is a good deal of inquiry from jobbers for Japan teas of low grade, and some difficulty is being experienced in obtaining supplies.

Sugars are steadier, says a Toronto report, and dealers believe prices will go no lower. They say there was no reason for the recent reduction in prices. It had the effect of unsettling business.

The Hills Bros. Co. say regarding currants: "Buyers for round lots appear to be holding off awaiting the arrival of the Pocasset, due early next week. From Greece the market is calmer quiet, with little variation in price. The market there is sustained by the expectation that the commercial treaty with Russia will soon be negotiated, thus opening a large field for the article. Should this hope be realized we shall no doubt see a considerable advance in price, at least for a time. From England the market is reported somewhat depressed, stocks being larger than in previous years at this time, and importers as usual trying to realize on their goods before the end of the year."

Dry Goods Trade.

The well known wholesale woollen firm of Hutchinson, Nisbet & Auld, of Toronto, has been appointed sole selling agents for Ontario for the Oxford Woollen mills, of Oxford, N. S., manufacturers of Oxford tweeds.

Among materials for dress goods on the cards for next spring, coverts are prominent. The colors are blue and brown, brown and gold, tan and white, royal blue and tan, black and gray, blue and gray, army blue and white, and green effects. Chevrons and mohair are popular, too. In the more expensive goods Venetians and zibeline plaids figure prominently. Popular fabrics at popular prices embrace checks more or less pronounced; mixed grounds in pepper-in-salt effects will be ornamented with hair-line over checks.

Tweeds are likely to be given the preference over serges for the coming spring, says an eastern authority. Last year there was quite a run on serges for suitings, but the indications point strongly to tweeds becoming more popular, although serges will doubtless be inquired for to a considerable extent. Tweeds in brown and green mixtures will probably be the most popular. The same writer speaking of the glove trade says: "A good inquiry is now being experienced for gloves, and pointers in this line from Paris are always in order. In Paris white gloves of all kinds are still the rage, from the high grade extremely long for evening use with short sleeves, as well as the more

moderate length for general use. Suede in white is also the correct style, finger and thumb seams being double or colored. Dark shades are less used than formerly and seem to be going out of style, while black, that were so fashionable, are seldom seen except for mourning. The ruling colors are white, pale grey, cream and a flesh color that is almost a pink, also grey and a light brown verging on yellow.

The Lumber Trade.

G. B. Housser & Co., of Portage la Prairie, Man., will erect a large lumber shed in their yard.

The Minneapolis Lumberman predicts an advance of 50 cents on No. 3 and No. 4 boards.

W. A. Ward, of Victoria, B. C., who has returned from the mill owners' conference at San Francisco, says the price of lumber has been raised from \$8 to \$9 per thousand. The advance is caused by the big rush of orders from China and Siberia.

Prices of hardwood lumber are advancing in the United States. A Chicago report says: Last week witnessed a better demand from the furniture trade, with sales in round lots at an advance of 50 cents to \$2 over prices current sixty days ago.

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 10.—The shingle mills in the state of Washington are still closing down and there are very few of the 220 odd in operation at this writing. This is having a good effect on the trade and prices are somewhat stiffer than they have been in six weeks. Stocks on hand are very low and the log supply is short. It is believed that a meeting of the manufacturers will be called during the early part of January.

The Assiniboine Lumber company, of Brandon, has sent a gang of men to the timber limits on the Little Saskatchewan, in charge of Foreman Beasley. The company are putting in a portable saw mill with which they will cut the timber in the locality at which it is felled. The ties as they are cut will be floated down the river to Minnedosa and there loaded on cars. The Shell river cut of timber will be floated down the Assiniboine to the company's saw mill at Brandon.

Freight Rates.

A reduction has been made by the Canadian Pacific railway on the all rail freight rate on wheat and flour for export from Fort William to West St. John, Boston and New York, all rail. The former schedule rate was 23 cents per 100 pounds, and the new rate is 25 cents per 100 pounds. If wheat prices would look up a bit, a large all rail export business would be done this winter. As it is, some lots for all rail movement have been taken.

ACTIVE SOLICITORS WANTED EVERYWHERE for "The Story of the Philippines," by Murat Halstead, commissioned by the Government as Official Historian to the War Department. The book was written in army camps at San Francisco, on the Pacific with General Merritt, in the hospitals at Honolulu, in Hong Kong, in the American trenches at Manila, in the insurgent camps with Aguinaldo, on the deck of the Olympia with Dewey, and in the roar of battle at the fall of Manila. Bonanza for agents. Brimful of original pictures taken by government photographers on the spot. Large book. Low prices. Big profits. Freight paid. Credit given. Drop all trashy unofficial war books. Outfit free. Address: F. T. Barber, Sec., Star Insurance Bldg., Chicago.