

Now let me compare the Winnipeg prices with those charged in Dakota and Minneapolis:—

	Fargo, D.T.	Minneapolis.	Winnipeg.
Self-binder, 6 ft. cut.....	\$210 00	\$210	\$225 to \$240
Mowing machine.....	70	75	72 to 77
Farm waggo's	75	65 to \$70	70 to 75
Breaking plough, 12 inches.....	26 50	22	20 to 21
Sulky plough.	65	60	65
Gang plough.	100	85	100
Seeders.....	75	55 to \$60	72
Hay rake.....	30	35	36

Notwithstanding the policy adopted by the Government, it has resulted in a reduction of the prices on these articles to the consumer, and I think I may say in reference to every leading industry of the country, whether agricultural implements, sugar, cotton, woollens, in fact all articles that enter into the consumption of every-day life, especially among the masses of people, that there has scarcely been any article, with the exception, perhaps, of coal, on which there has been an increase to the consumer. On the contrary, owing to strong competition on the part of the manufacturers, which competition is sharp at the present moment, and has been for some time past, the manufacturers are compelled to sell at a small profit, the result of the policy, generally having been in the public interest, giving

EMPLOYMENT TO A VAST NUMBER OF PEOPLE.

Take for instance the products of fish, whether caused by the bounties introduced two years ago I do not know, but it appears that for five years, from 1874 to 1878, the value of fish and fish oils produced was \$58,468,333, while from 1879 to 1883 the value was \$77,628,679. Then with regard to the exports of fish. For the first named five years the value was \$28,902,219, while for the last five years it has been \$36,867,439. The value of our cattle exports from 1874 to 1878 was \$11,417,642; from 1879 to 1884, \$11,058,474, or an increase of \$29,640,832. Then there is the question of the general effect of this policy on the industries of the country. Recently enquiries were made by two commissioners appointed by the Government to investigate the number of factories, etc., in the leading towns of the Dominion. Their report will be in the hands of hon. gentlemen shortly, but in the meantime I may perhaps summarize their report. These gentlemen estimate that they visited factories employing about two-thirds of the operatives of the Dominion. The number in 1884 was 2,096, and of these 1,501 were in existence in 1878; or in five years there was an increase of 595. The number of hands now employed is 77,346, against 42,794 in 1878, or an increase of 34,552. The yearly wages in 1884 were \$24,396,165; in 1878 they were \$13,833,733, or an increase of \$10,562,432. The value of manufactured products in 1884 was \$102,870,166, against \$49,963,882, or an increase of nearly \$53,000,000, while the capital now invested is \$67,293,373, against \$37,819,931, or an increase of \$29,473,442. If we add fifty per cent to that, supposing their calculations are correct, and the results should be found to be the same, it would appear that the adoption of this policy in 1879 had increased the number of factories by 892, that the increase in the number of hands employed is 51,828, that the increase in the yearly wages is \$15,843,643, the increase of products \$79,360,436, and the increase of capital invested \$44,210,360. Under these circumstances I think we have every reason to be satisfied with the results of this policy during the first five years of its existence.

(To be continued in our next.)

A SUGGESTION re THE BANKRUPTCY BILL.

A gentleman of long experience in business affairs writes: "Why should there be such difficulty made about giving a bankrupt a discharge? If his failure is brought about by the exigencies of trade, and not by his own culpability, surely he is entitled to a discharge when he surrenders all he has in the world to his creditors.

I would suggest that the new Act, *ipso facto*, discharge the debtor from all debts entered in his schedule upon his making an assignment of his estate according to the Act, giving the creditors power—either separately in their own names, or conjointly in the name of the assignee, by a majority vote—to take suit against him, and if they can prove any acts of fraud or reckless trading, such as would be considered sufficient to refuse him a discharge—take judgment for their claims against him, giving the judge power in certain cases to inflict a punishment of imprisonment besides. This seems a more direct and satisfactory way to deal with this vexed question."

FIRE RECORD.

ONTARIO.—*Guelph*, March 7.—Jno. Stevens' house occupied by A. H. Lemmon; building insured \$500, Wellington Mutual; furniture \$500, same company. *Penetanguishene*, 7.—J. M. Smith's house and contents; uninsured. *Simcoe*, 5.—Mr. Hurst, dry goods, \$7,000; H. Dobson, books, \$1,000; latter covered by insurance. *Cobourg*, 9.—Office *Sentinel Star*, loss \$1,000, insured in North British, British America, Queen's and Imperial; D. York, barber, \$500, insurance \$400, Phoenix; and F. Graham, \$200 insured in a Toronto company. Building covered by insurance in Queen's and City of London. *Waterloo*, 9.—Tenement of D. Kurtz, \$600; origin unknown; No insurance.

NOVA SCOTIA. *Truro*, March 5.—Woolen mills of the Union Manufacturing Co., loss \$18,000, insured for \$12,000 in the following: Liverpool & London & Globe, Lancashire, Northern, Western, and Phoenix. *Halifax*, 10.—Bellevue House, owned by British Government, valued \$50,000; origin unknown, uninsured. *Amherst*, 3.—Rhodes, Curry & Co.'s lumber yard, loss \$4,300, partially insured.

QUEBEC.—*Montreal*, March 7.—Unoccupied new house, McGill College Av., insured, \$4,000 Norwich Union. *Coaticook*, 11.—Albion Hotel occupied by B. Brooks; covered by \$3,500 in Citizens.

JOSEPH E. SEAGRAM, DISTILLER,

WATERLOO, ONTARIO.

Alcohol, 65 O.P.

Pure Spirits, 65 O.P.

Pure Spirits, 50 O.P.

Pure Spirits, 25 U.P.

Old Rye, Malt and Family Proof Whiskies

Sole manufacturer of the celebrated

WHITE WHEAT & "OLD TIMES"
WHISKEY.

MONTREAL WHOLESALE MARKETS.

MARCH 12, 1885.

The general trade of the country is quiet and steady, the only disturbance of any consequence being in wheat, which has advanced 2½c to 3c per bushel on the strength of war news. In money matters there is no decided change, good commercial paper being dis-

counted at 7 per cent, with call loans negotiable at 4 per cent on stock collateral, one large line being placed at a shade below that figure. Sterling exchange is quoted as follows:—Sixties between banks 87-8 to 9 per cent premium, and demand 9½ to 95-8. New York funds are at ½ premium. The following were the quotations of and business in Montreal stocks during the week:—

Banks.	Shares.	Highest price.	Lowest price.
Commerce.....	1826	123½	120
Eastern Townships.....	54	109	108
Jacques Cartier.....	22	55	55
Hochelaga.....	7	70	70
Merchants.....	678	113½	111½
Molson's.....	100	119	118
Montreal.....	1652	195	190½
Ontario.....	270	111½	110½
Toronto.....	434	184	180
Miscellaneous.			
Can. Central Bids.....	£400	98½	99
Can. Pac. Railway.....	100	39½	39½
Gas.....	3978	186½	183½
Mo. Invst. & Build.....	70	52½	52½
Mon. Tel. Co.....	1097	123½	120
Land Grant Bonds.....	\$3,500	95½	96
Passenger.....	125	121½	120
R. & O. Nav. Co.....	240	56	55
Windsor Hotel.....	10	95	95

ASHERS.—Receipts continue light, but prices have declined. About 30 brls have been sold at \$3.85, which is now the value of first pots. Second scarce, at \$3.25. Pearls are still neglected and unquotable. Receipts since 1st January 577 brls Pots, 28 brls Pearls. Deliveries 228 brls Pots, 17 brls Pearls. Stock in store at 6 o'clock on Wednesday evening 1805 brls Pots, 218 brls Pearls.

BOOTS AND SHOES.—Business at the moment is by no means brisk, most of the spring orders having been filled, and goods are being shipped both East and West. A few sorting-up orders have been received during the week but, apart from that, no new business is reported. Complaints are still heard of poor remittances.

COAL.—The demand has been very fair during the week, owing to the continuance of cold weather, and quite a number of small orders have been filled at last week's prices, which are as follows:—Store and chestnut \$6.00 per net ton delivered, and egg and furnace \$5.75. The anthracite coal trade is thus reported by a Philadelphia authority: "We are informed that from all along the seaboard, from Wilmington, Del., to Boston, there are daily being received in this city letters and telegrams asking prices and conditions for contract shipments of anthracite. These enquiries come from various classes of manufactures, including iron, sugar and textiles. While there is nothing like a "boom" expected upon the opening of the harbors to navigation, a steady and continuous demand for small cargoes is looked for. The removal of the snow will also relieve the railroads of their difficulty in shipping coal to some extent. The total amount of anthracite coal sent to market for the week ending Feb. 28th, as reported by the several carrying companies, was 374,174 tons, compared with 480,092 tons in the corresponding week last year—a decrease of 105,918 tons. The total amount of anthracite mined thus far in the year 1885 is 3,447,471 tons compared with 3,751,772 tons for the same period last year—a decrease of 304,301 tons.

DAIRY PRODUCE.—Butter.—The market is exceedingly dull, owing to the liberal stocks held here, and the amount still to come forward. Advices from Liverpool and Bristol are very