

there is no immediate danger of much less production, and the supply should be equal to ordinary requirements until the domestic crop of Louisiana is at hand next month, which crop always meets a certain portion of the demand. A few English refined are on the way here, but the American granulated still remains comparatively cheapest, all things considered.

### North Dakota Crop Report.

The North Dakota state crop report says—The month of August was chiefly characterized by a period of extreme heat from the 1st to the 17th, followed the remainder of the month by a temperature slightly below the normal. The warm weather of the first half of the month combined with the almost general absence of precipitation had a very damaging effect upon the crops of the state. The latter half of the month was a decided improvement for agricultural purposes, excepting that rain occurred a little too frequently and heavily in the eastern counties and too infrequently in the western.

The monthly fall of rain was very unequally distributed. It was considerably above the normal in the Red River valley counties and the south central portion of the state, while in the remaining portion, particularly in the west Missouri counties, it was greatly below.

The first light frosts of the season occurred at Fort Buford on the 18th. On the 30th a light frost was general over the state and a heavy frost on the same morning at Woodbridge, Cavalier county. No damage was occasioned by these frosts except a slight one to garden produce.

### The Wood Mountain Country.

The Regina *Leader* recently contained an article descriptive of the rich country south of that place toward the boundary. This district, known as the Wood Mountain country, is one of the best in the Territories, and only needs to be properly advertised to be filled up with a desirable class of settlers and its vast resources developed. To show the varied capabilities of the district, which at present is almost unsettled, the following extracts from the article may be interesting: "About eighty-five miles S.W. by S. of Regina in range 37, west of the 2nd initial meridian about twenty-five miles from the International boundary, lies the hamlet of Willow Bunch. Here is a Roman Catholic mission, presided over by the Rev. Father St. Germain, one of the pioneer missionaries of the Northwest. In the large garden attached to it may be seen every kind of vegetable, including potatoes which attain an unusual degree of excellence in the rich alluvial soil of the bottom. One of the features of the landscape is Mr. Legare's cheese factory, which turns out an article already well known here. The log houses of the half-breeds, whose cattle may be seen scattered along the bottom, form picturesque groups here and there, while the well wooded coulees and ravines form a suitable back ground. The adaptability of the country for stock raising must be apparent to the keenest intelligence. The great sheltered valleys with their numerous ravines which in some cases penetrate for two or three miles into the plateau, and the excellence and abundance of the pasture, all combine to make one of the finest stock districts in the world. Some twelve miles west of Willow Bunch lies a fresh water lake, fed by running streams of clear spring water, which meander for a considerable distance through rolling prairies clothed with magnificent pasture. But apart from the agricultural and stock raising advantages of the district, there are others which will eventually tend as much if not more to its future settlement. The high backs of the valleys and ravines contain vast beds of lignite coal which may be seen showing on their faces. Further, in these hillsides are clays of the finest description for the making of pottery, brick and terra cotta; from the finest white clay to golden yellow, ochre and blue. There can be no doubt that these clays are of the greatest economic value, and they exist in no limited quantities. Travelling west towards Wood Mountain, the country gradually becomes more hilly in character, while further west still the "Bad lands" are reached, which stretch along the White Mud river. Here nothing grows save cactus and bush and a few stunted willows. The scenery is of the wildest description. The lofty banks of the White Mud are scored by the waters of melting snows into the most fantastic shapes, which at a distance remind the traveller of the domes and spires of distant cities. It is a strange wild weird country, forsaken alike by white men, Indians and animals, while to render it still more strange, the bare hillside sparkle here and there mysteriously in the sunshine, with crystals of gypsum; and the wanderer in these solitudes may fill his wallet if he be a naturalist with curious shells, and pieces of huge ganoid fossil fishes, whose scales still retain their original pearly lustre, and other relics of primeval times."

### A New Western Mill.

The new flour mill established a Calgary, Alberta, this summer, is now about completed and will be ready for work inside of two weeks. The building is stone, 40 x 50 feet, three stories, with engine and boiler house 20 x 40 feet. The cost of the plant and building is \$18,000. The capacity of the mill is 125 barrels per 24 hours, but the building has been constructed with a view to increasing the output to 500. The machinery is mostly from Stratford, Ontario, and it is being placed in position by Johnston Bros., of Goderich, Ont.

### Queer Entries.

Many retail merchants have queer notions about keeping accounts. The entries on their books are intelligible to themselves, but no one else could understand them. The books of a bankrupt English retailer showed charges against patrons as follows: "Woman on the key, Jew woman, coal woman, market woman, a man, old woman, little milk girl, candle man, stableman, coachman, big woman, lame woman, quiet woman, egg man, little black girl, Jew man, old Irish woman, Mrs. in a cart, woman in Corn street, a lad, man, in the country, long Sal, Mrs. Irish woman, Mrs. feather bonnet, blue bonnet, green, blue britches, green coat, big britches, the woman that was married, and the woman, that told me of the man.—*Merchandise Sentinel*."

Thomas Brownlow, of Winnipeg, will open a dry goods store at Carberry.

The machinery for J. Spencer Brisco's tannery at Calgary, which was procured through McLaren & McBean, agents for the Watrous Engine Co., of Brantford, has arrived.

A. W. Rolston and A. Pierce will build a 50 foot front, two story building at Oxbow, Assa. The ground floor will be occupied as stores, and the upper stories fitted up as offices. The building will be heated throughout by hot air.

A joint stock company is being formed at Oxbow, Assa., for the purpose of establishing a flour mill. It will be capitalized at \$10,000 and about \$3,000 worth of stock has been disposed of. It is the intention of the company to have the mill in operation by January 1st.

The city council of Brantford, Ontario, has exempted from taxation for ten years the farmers' binder twine and agricultural implement factory. This, with the Ontario government twine factory, will make two new concerns in opposition to the Consumers' Cordage Co., providing of course the farmers' company ever gets under operations.

The *Toronto Empire* says: The report that a considerable quantity of the early shipments

of Valencia raisins intended for this market were in quarantine at Crosse Isle has stiffened the market for now stock, and houses which have been selling to arrive this week at 63¢ to 7¢ for off-stalk have drawn in and will not quote for prompt delivery. Spot stock is firmly held at 7½ to 7¾.

Wheat is beginning to make its appearance on the market in considerable quantities, says the *Carberry News*, and the top price offered is 54 cents. On Wednesday a load containing seeds arrived, over which there was great discussion among the buyers as to the amount of dockage—Huston's uniform dockage Bill was not regarded—so they took a bag that weighed 125 pounds, fanned it carefully and the clean wheat weighed only 105 pounds, a loss of ten bushels on the load. Such wheat should be cleaned. It does not pay to haul dirt to market.

During August 90 vessels entered and cleared from Fort William, their registered tonnage being 41,451 tons, crew 1,092 and freight landed 23,890 tons. The exports were as follows: Wheat, 576,294 bushels; oats, 322,000 bushels; flour, 58,320 barrels; scrap iron, 652 tons, and 253 tons sundries. The customs dues collected during the month amounted to \$11,195.15, an increase of \$1,632.53 over the receipts during August of last year.

Gordon & Ironside, of Pilot Mound, says the *Sentinel* have purchased about 1,350 head of cattle in the Northwest Territories. Mr. Ironside has been purchasing in the Saskatchewan country, with Prince Albert as headquarters. Mr. Gordon has been in Alberta, on the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. 550 have been forwarded by C.P.R. to Montreal for shipment to England. 800 head will be sent on immediately. Mr. Gordon will go to Montreal with the shipment.

The experiment which Messrs. Tuckett & Son entered upon when they commenced to make their "Myrtle Navy" tobacco was this: to give the public a tobacco of the very finest Virginia leaf at the smallest possible margin beyond its actual cost, in the hope that it would be so extensively bought as to remunerate them. By the end of three years the demand for it had grown so much as to give assurance that the success of the experiment was within reach. The demand for it to day is more than ten times greater than it was then and it is still increasing. Success has been reached.

At a session of the National Wholesale Druggists association at Montreal last week, Col. Weight, of Boston, explained the new system of advertising by stamps which has been approved by the post master general of the United States. He asked the co-operation of the delegates in adopting his system, which would largely assist in putting a stop to cutting rates and in bringing all branches of the trade into closer communion and produce a better understanding.

The *Farmers Advocate* makes the following announcement: "In response to a frequently expressed wish on the part of leading Manitoba and Territorial farmers and breeders, and believing the time to be fully ripe for such a step in advance, that always progressive monthly paper, the 'Farmer's Advocate,' Winnipeg, will after January 1st next, visit the homes of its readers twice every month. New type and other valuable new features are promised, and the price remains unchanged."

The *Canadian Gazette* of London, England, of Sept. 8, says:—At the half-yearly meeting of the Bank of British North America, held on Tuesday, a very satisfactory statement as to the position of the bank was made by the chairman, Gaspard Farrer. The deposit and current accounts on June 30th stood at a higher total than at any previous date, and while in the preceding seven years the average increase of deposits in all Canadian banks had been 63 per cent, the expansion in this institution was 68 per cent.