

## EMERSON.

The rush of farmers' teams to Emerson since the roads have frozen up and made travel good, gives some idea how far the people in the country were run down in supplies. There has naturally been a great increase in the grain receipts during the week, and the general payment of small bills has made matters freer and pleasanter for merchants. The streets of the town have been unusually lively for several days, and a very prosperous run of trade is expected for the balance of the winter. The quality of the grain brought to town is varied, some of the wheat being fine hard Fife in good condition, and other loads being poor in quality. Some of the Menonite farmers have received a very expensive lesson regarding the grade of wheat suitable to this country, and it is to be hoped that hard Fife sowing will be general next spring. Prices have fallen somewhat, and still tend in a downward direction. Wheat has sold from 70c to 80c, but a decline is expected next week. Oats sell for 40c to 45c, and good barley for 60.

The *Daily Manitoban*, a new journal, made its appearance on Saturday, and will be published hereafter as an extreme reform journal.

It is understood that William Mills, hotel keeper at West Lynne has sold out his business to James Simeneau.

The disallowance of the Emerson and North-western charter by the Dominion Government, has in no way daunted the stock-holders of that railway, and at a meeting held at their office on Friday it was resolved to petition the Provincial government for a new charter. At the same meeting a new set of provisional directors were elected as follows: Messrs. F. E. Burnham, Thos. Carney, R. S. Chalmers, D. J. McInnes, Killer, Mutchmor, Bird and Broughton.

## PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE.

Good roads have made good trade in this city for the past week, and the increase to grain receipts still maintains for the Portage the position of the first grain point in the North-west outside of Winnipeg. Merchants are feeling a great improvement in business, and the freedom which is now general with regard to collections has strengthened trade confidence generally. Prices of grain have not changed much, but there is an indication of a decline. Wheat has sold from 70c to 80c; oats 45c; barley 50c to 60c; and potatoes 70c.

The fire mentioned last week caused injury to several parties, but the heaviest of the sufferers were Dr. Macklin and W. T. Adamson. Miss Davis, Milliner, and Dr. Lipsett, veterinary surgeon, are also sufferers. Adamson's bank has already found temporary quarters in the building formerly occupied by Alloway, Champion & Mowat, bankers, who will soon move into their new brick building at the corner of Dominion Street and Saskatchewan Avenue.

Messrs. Kastner & Shepard, of the Grand Pacific Hotel have dissolved partnership: J. Kastner going out of the business. The house will be conducted in future by William Shepard.

The *Marquette Review* of the 17th. says:—

"Since the Portage Manufacturing Company commenced manufacturing operations, they have shipped from their factory 3,000 boxes, 200 barrels of various classes of biscuits, and 10,000 three pound boxes of cream soda biscuits, also 400 pails and 1,500 boxes of candies." And the figures are not in any way exaggerated.

The telegraph line of the Great Western Telegraph Co., which used to run along the old government trail is being dispensed with, and a line strung upon substantial cedar posts to take its place, is being put up along the Portage Westbourne & North-western railway.

The feeling against the government policy of disallowance is still strong in this town, and another meeting of those opposed to it was held in the Fire Hall on Friday evening.

## BRANDON.

The mild weather of the past week has been most acceptable to persons interested in building. It has enabled work to be done which it was feared would have to be put off until spring.

Mr. T. D. McLean has purchased a lot between Ninth and Tenth streets on Rosser ave., on which he intends to erect a handsome jewelry store in the spring. Mr. P. E. Durst, in the same line of business, has put in the foundation for a large store on the same avenue between Eighth and Ninth streets.

North Brandon is looking up. Mr. F. Granville and others have bought a number of lots on which they intend erecting private residences. They hope to make this the aristocratic part of the town. The situation certainly is good, having a beautiful slope towards the south.

The owners of the First and Eighteenth street bridges are negotiating with the city for the sale of their structures. The matter has been before the City Council several times but no decision has been reached yet.

This week Alderman Smart will introduce a by-law to raise the sum of \$72,000, the amount required to cover the indebtedness of the city.

The *Mail*, of Brandon, is expected to be issued this week. Offices have been secured on Sixth street, and it is expected a lively paper will be edited.

L. M. Fortier & Co., it is understood, are having some trouble with the C. P. R. over their new warehouse, the company claiming that they have not fulfilled their contract, and will not let them load from the building. If they persist in this course they will be doing Brandon a great injury, to say nothing of personal loss.

Wheat has taken a fall to 70c. Oats retail at 50c; potatoes keep on the rise and now sell for \$1.25.

Business is good and promises to keep so, as wheat is beginning to come in freely; about ten carloads were shipped East last week.

J. H. Redman and H. T. Jackson of the Great Western Despatch Company, of New York, were in Winnipeg last week making arrangements regarding their business with the North-west. The company contract to carry goods from Europe to all parts of America, and their business in Manitoba is fast increasing.

## Another Travellers' Association.

Mr. James Sargent of Toronto, Secretary of the Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada has been in Winnipeg during the past week endeavoring to form a branch of the same association. The officers appointed were J. B. Stevenson, Vice-President, M. Bull, Secretary, Geo. McLean and T. Dorrity, Directors. Several of the commercial men resident in this city are, and have been, members of the association in question, and do not wish to connect themselves with the North-west Commercial Travellers' Association which was recently organized in this city. In this they are merely acting according to their own judgment, although it is to be regretted that they could not connect themselves with the local organization. The one they now seek to locate a branch of has many advantages to offer members, but it is very questionable if, and not at all likely that an association having its head-quarters in Toronto or any other eastern city, and conducted upon eastern principles, can fill the wants of the North-west. There is no reason to believe that the organization of this branch is meant to injure the local association, and there is still less reason to think that it will. Western enterprise depends but very little upon eastern recognition, and has nothing to fear from eastern opposition.

The first number of the *Daily Manitoban* has reached our table, and it speaks well for the enterprise of the city of Emerson, where it is published. It is a six-column folio sheet, and the first number is both newsy and well gotten up. As a commercial undertaking we wish the *Manitoban* every success; and while cautious people may wonder how two daily papers can pay in the city of Emerson, we have only to state that undertakings prove successful in the North-west which seem commercial folly in older countries.

## Percentage of Bread.

On this subject *The New York Producer Weekly Exchange* says:

The millers and bakers of the United States are much interested in a test of the bread-making qualities of the two kinds of flour, one made from the best spring wheat, and the other from No. 2 red winter wheat being a mixed wheat principally of the Fultz variety. The crop of the United States is about 75 per cent. of winter wheat. Hence, the importance of the test to a majority of millers and bakers. The selling price of the winter wheat flour described is about \$1.50 per barrel less than that of the spring wheat flour. This difference is claimed on the assumption that 196 pounds of spring wheat flour will take from forty to sixty pounds more water than 196 pounds of winter wheat flour, or the bread output of the spring is that much more than the winter.

It is a settled fact that the fine hard wheat produced in the North-west is unequalled for milling purposes, and yields the highest percentage of flour to the bushel. We can now assert that it is equally advantageous to the baker.