

TEAS. SUGARS, WINES, LIQUORS and GENERAL GROCERIES CORNER PRINCESS AND BANNATYNE STREETS, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

THE application of the term "Northwest" to this part of Canada is certainly a geographical anomaly. If those who use the expression will refer to a map of Canada, they will at once discover that the term "southwestern" would be far more applicable than northwestern. This part of Canada is really the southwestern, and not the northwestern portion of the Dominion. Then why persist in using an expression which is utterly at variance with the fact and with the geography of the country? The term "northwest" as applied to this portion of Canada, is a remarkable absurdity, and how it came into general and even official use, is a matter for wonder.

AN instance of injury resulting from the imposition of duty on baskets, etc., containing fruit, occurred here lately. A party imported a couple of baskets of grapes, the duty upon the baskets amounting to something like 41 cents. The fruit was detained, pending the arrangements to pass the custom, until it was spoiled, some papers necessary thereto not being to hand. Surely when the fruit is admitted duty free, this duty upon the packages which contain the fruit, is a small and annoying affair. It is the cause of much trouble and loss to importers, without resulting in any material gain to the revenue.

New discoveries of coal are continually being made in the western territories of Canada. These go to show that the early calculations as to the extent of the coal territory in Western Canada have been rather under than over the mark. Coal has been discovered at so many different points and at places hundreds of miles apart, that one is almost lead to conclude that a vast bed of coal underlies almost the entire area of the western portion of the territories. At any rate it is certain that the supply is practically inexhaustible. The latest discovery is at Cluny, near Gleichen station, Alberta. Coal has been found here at a depth of 25 feet, and said to be of a quality resembling the Lethbridge article. R. S. Macdonell, merchant, Chany, is the discoverer, and it is said he proposes developing his find,

CANADA is a big country. Here distances are measured by thousands of miles where in the countries of Europe they are measured by hundreds. Hence it is that people in one part of the Dominion frequently make various geographical blunders, in referring to more distant parts of the country. One of these errors appeared in a recent number of Canada s excellent illustrated journal-the Dominion Illustrated -published at Montreal. In referring to the famous black cod, the journal located the haunts of these fish off the coast of Prince Edward Island, when it should have been Queen Charlotte's Island. The distance between these two islands is something over 3,000 miles, consequently the Montreal journal was a long way out in its calculation. Queen Charlotte's Island is a portion of the Dominion about which very little is known by the majority of Canadians. Though forming a portion of the province of British Columbia, it is larger in extent than the little eastern province of Prince Edward Island. In addition to its fishing banks, the island is supposed to contain great coal wealth, and has the only anthracite coal so far discovered on the Pacific coast. The fish referred to are peculiar to the north Pacific coast and their principal haunts seem to be about Queen Charlotte's Island. The development of these fisheries, and also the development of the coal mines of the island have lately been begun, so that the island is likely, soon to be better known than it has been in the past. The island hes off the coast of British Columbia, roughly about 400 miles north of Victoria. The climate, influenced by the warm Japan current, is mild, but subject to rainy seasons.

It does not always pay in this country to receive presents from a distance, when such gifts are forwarded with the freight charges, etc., to be paid by the recipient. Many instances of such a nature are constantly coming to light here. Parties in the East who wish to do their friends in the West a favor in the way of sending them presents, should prepay charges upon any little presents sent, and the probability is, that when they find out these charges, they will not send the presents. Eastern peo-

## JAMES PYE.

218 Third Avenue South, MINNEAPOLIS, - MINN.

## A Manitoba Testimonial.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, Dec. 8th, 1887.

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James Pyr, Esq., Minneapolis, Minn., U.S.A.:

Dear Sir,—In handing you our check for \$1,801.24, in full for balance o 1 your contract for building and enlarging our mill, we without solicitation wish to state, that you have done your work in a manner highly satisfactory to this company. The capacity which you guaranteed at 275 barrels, we find considerably under the mark, as we are at present making over 800 barrels, and the quality of the ilour is all that we could wish for. Some of our largest purchasers frankly tell us, it is equal to any flour made in either Minnesota or this province. The yield also we find very ratisfactory. We must also bear testimony to your pleasing and gentlemanly mainer, and your willingness at all times to meet our wishes. This has made our business relations pleasant and we can honestly say, that we recommend you to any person, requireing anything in the util building or mill furnishing line. Wishing you the success that straight dealing merits, we are

Yours very truly,

THE PORTAGE MILLING CO.

THE PORTAGE MILLING CO. Jas. MacLenaghan, Managing Director.

ple, of course, are aware that apples are not extensively grown in Manitoba, and consequently they conclude that it would be a great treat to their friends in the West to present them with a barrel or two of choice apples. The apples are forwarded, but the unlucky recipient, who usually has the freight charges to pay, finds that these charges amount to from \$1 to \$2 per barrel more than the apples are selling for here. The number of persons in Manitoba who annually receive apples in this way from some sympathic friend in Ontario, is by no means insignificant. Dealers who import apples in car lots, can sell the fruit here at a considerably lower figure than the freight charges amount to on barrel lots. Another instance of a similar nature was recently mentioned by a Winnipeg wholesale dealer. The wholesale firm here received a notice from a soap factory in the United States, that a box of soap had been forwarded. The soap was sent as a sample box, and was a present from the manufacturing concern. In due time the soap arrived, and it proved to be worth about \$2, wholesale price here, but the freight, customs and brokerage charges which the Winnipeg firm had to pay, amounted to 85 cents more than the value of the soap. Parties in the east who wish to send presents to their western friends, should remember that freight charges are very high, and that the cost of freight on small consignments usually amounts to more than the same goods are being sold for here, when imported in carload lots. Another instance of a supposed favor resulting in an increased cost to a Winnipeg imorter, was related the other day by W. F. Doll, wholesale jeweller. Amongst other goods, he had ordered a number of clocks from a United States manufacturer, worth \$18 each. The manufacturer was short on this particular style of clock, and he substituted three clocks. worth 80 cents more each, but billed them at the same price as the \$18 clocks ordered. When it came to passing the customs here the trouble commenced. The goods were detained for a considerable length of time, on the claim of undervaluation, resulting in a serious loss to the importer, who required the goods to fill orders. Finally he was fined a small sum, amounting to