

MINNEAPOLIS.

Another quiet and uneventful week has gone by, and although wheat shows some firmness, there are no signs of a material change in values, or greater activity, save a slight improvement in the export flour trade. Millers are as yet undecided as to the nature of this change. The sales effected the past ten days at better prices than have been bid for some time, may supply the demand for the present, but if foreign buyers continue to take flour freely, they will have to pay for it on an ascending scale, owing to the uncertainty regarding freight rates. As has been heretofore pointed out, a lively, firm flour market will cause a boom in wheat, but when wheat must drag flour in its train, healthy progress upward is slow and difficult.

Receipts and shipments here the last week have been the largest ever recorded in a similar period, and there is over half a million bushels on track here now which has not figured in statistics.

The highest and lowest wheat prices by grade on change during the week ending Nov. 13th, closing prices, and the prices one year ago were.

WHEAT—	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.	Nov 13 1885.
No. 1 hard	72½	71½	71½	59
" 1 northern	70	69½	70	56
" 2	63	61½	63	50

Futures were rather quiet, December 1 hard closing at 71½c, January at 72½c, and May at 73½c; December 1 northern at 70c, January at 71c, and May at 76½c.

MILLSTUFF—Has been weak and declined a dollar early in the week, bulk bran closing at \$7.50@8 and shorts at \$8.50@9.25 per ton.

FLOUR.—Domestic business is still restricted by the apathy of buyers, who demand liberal concessions, while millers are quite firm in their views. Exporters are bidding higher and some good sized sales have been effected, the past ten days, at an advance of a shilling over previous bids, the bulk of sales being, as usual, of bakers' grades. Shipments keep very close to production, leaving little in store. A Dakota blizzard has raged here for the past 24 hours, and at 4 p. m. to-day work in the milling district was practically suspended.

Quotations at the mills for car or round lot are: Patents, \$4.15 to \$4.30; straights, \$3.95 to \$4.15; first bakers', \$3.40 to \$3.60; second bakers', \$2.80 to \$3.00; low grades, \$1.70 to \$1.90, in bags; red dog, \$1.30 to \$1.40, in bags.

These quotations are on flour in barrels, except as stated. The rule is to discount 25c per bbl for 250 and 149 lb jute bags, 20c for 98 lb cotton sacks, 15c for 49 lb cotton sacks, 10c for 24 lb cotton & cks. In half barrels, the extra charge is 30c per bbl
—Northwest Miller.

The Visible Supply.

The amount of wheat in store at principal points in Canada and the United States, on November 16th, was as follows:

Total in store	55,514,434
Afloat—	
New York	520,000
Total in store and afloat	56,034,434
On lakes	866,709
On canal	1,408,000

Grand totals..... 58,309,144
Correspond'g week last year 53,110,805

By this statement it will be seen that the visible supply of wheat increased 749,498 bushels over the previous week.

The following shows the exports of wheat, including wheat in flour, from all American ports and Montreal from September 1 to October 16, for the years named:

	Wheat, bus.
1886.....	22,747,000
1885.....	9,032,000
1884.....	18,973,000
1883.....	17,365,000
1882.....	27,810,000
1881.....	19,520,000
1880.....	29,838,000

British Columbia.

Geo. Feuson, saw mill, Nicola, has sold out. John Fannin, boots and shoes, Hastings, will leave here.

S. Pedgriff, boots and shoes, Vancouver, is reported away.

Robt. McGill, of the firm of Johnson & Co. tanners, Vancouver, is dead.

A. W. Huson, grocer, Vancouver, has sold out to his son, C. L. Huson.

J. A. Finney, auctioneer, Vancouver, has sold out and gone to the United States.

Taylor & Holmes, oils, Vancouver, have dissolved partnership, C. M. Holmes continues.

The Vancouver House, Victoria, has changed hands, B. Wrede having sold out to John Hill, of San Francisco.

The Vancouver Gas Co., incorporated with \$100,000 capital, will, it is said, shortly commence operations.

JAMES B. LANG, of Lang & Son, Golden City, has been appointed a justice of the peace for the district of Kootenay.

Langly & Co, druggists Vancouver, have admitted Y. M. & J. M. Henderson into partnership. Style remains the same.

B. Gordon, of Winnipeg, has arrived at Vancouver, where he will open a wholesale grocery in company with another gentleman.

W. Howat, late of Brandon, Man., where he carried on a pork-packing business, has arrived at Vancouver, where he will engage in business.

Miller & Vair, hardware, Kamloops, will close their branch at Vancouver. The business will in future be carried on under the style of James Vair.

W. Heathorn, wholesale boot and shoe manufacturer, has about completed the restoration of his large block at Victoria, burned a few months ago.

The Victoria Standard man calls the Quebec Liberals "rogues." This might constitute ground for a libel were it not that in politics everything goes.

The British bark Glen Lyon was towed out recently from Moodyville; loaded with 437,106 feet of rough lumber valued at \$3,843.94. Her destination is Buenos Ayres, South America.

The Vancouver city council have offered to exempt the proposed C.P.R. work shops from taxation for twenty years, provided the Company will locate the shops to the satisfaction of the council.

The Vancouverites are beginning an active opposition to the Chinese. The Knights of Labor have passed strong resolutions against them and a general system of boycotting will be inaugurated.

The C. P. R. contemplate building a branch road four miles in length, starting from Vancouver, to open up a section said to be well adapted to agriculture. The tract is said to contain 50,000 acres of good arable land.

— MERRITT is opening a furniture store at Brandon.

DR. SANDERSON, Emerson, will move to Park River, Dakota.

Geo. PHILLIPS will establish a machine shop at Selkirk. The large shipping interest centred at Selkirk makes the establishment of such an institution necessary.

The Canadian Gazette London, England says: Further inquiries have been made during the past week in the Canadian Agricultural Court in regard to the possibilities of extended flax culture in the Northwest. There would indeed seem, judging from the nature of the inquiries, to be a probability of a genuine start being made with the industry next year in the Northwest.

A WINNIPEG merchant tailor was lately heard to engage in a lengthy declamation against those who have been in the habit of sending east for their ordered clothing. These people were denounced in unmeasured terms by the justly indignant knight of the shears, who wound up by declaring them as unworthy the name of citizens of this great western metropolis. And all the time the tailor's desk was covered with letter heads, bill heads, envelopes, and other printed stationery procured from the East. "O Consistency, thou art a virtue."

Selections.

The Toronto Monetary Times publishes the complimentary notices received from subscribers, accompanying remittances for subscriptions. THE COMMERCIAL could fill its columns with this kind of matter about this time of year, but for its innate modesty.

An English exchange remarks that as a result of the paper read at the Iron and Steel Institute meeting at London on Friday last, experiments are about to be tried to make steel by eliminating the phosphorus from the Cleveland iron ore by the Siemens-Martin process, which, it is expected will be a cheaper method than that which has hitherto been adopted.

Gift Allurements.

The Leather Gazette comments on the custom of giving presents with purchases in the following pertinent manner, and the remarks will apply with equal force to all legitimate lines of trade: "We regret to notice the gift business being introduced into the shoe trade. The legitimate developments of the business will bring more than enough complications into it, without encumbering it with such catch-penny arrangements as giving away knives. It may be only because that sort of thing has been heretofore associated with Cheap John enterprises, but it has an unsavory odor that does not sit well on a straight business, such as shoe manufacturing. And really we are disposed to think the enterprise will be a failure. Gift schemes may prove a drawing card with consumers of goods, but it is doubtful if they commend themselves to dealers. No merchant needs to be told that the price of the knife is taken out of the shoe, and in the case of a cheap shoe even a very poor knife will cut deeply into the quality. There will never be any objection to legitimate enterprise in the development of the shoe trade, but we believe both manufacturers and dealers, as well as trade journals, should use their influence against the introduction of such methods."