

The Commercial

A Journal of Commerce, Industry and Finance, especially devoted to the interests of Western Canada, including that portion of Ontario west of Lake Superior, the provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia and the Territories.

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The Commercial certainly enjoys a very much larger circulation among the business community of the country between Lake Superior and the Pacific Coast, than any other paper in Canada, daily or weekly. By a thorough system of personal solicitation, carried out annually, this journal has been placed upon the desks of the great majority of business men in the vast district designated above, and including northwest Ontario, the provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia, and the territories of Assiniboia, Alberta and Saskatchewan. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, AUGUST 14, 1893.

Toronto Markets

Flour—No demand. Millers are not offering to any extent.

Millfeed—Offerings light and demand good at \$11 50 here for bran, and \$15 to \$16 Toronto freights for shorts.

Wheat—Very little doing. Not much offered or wanted. White and red are worth 61c north and west, there being sales at that figure to day. A few odd bags of new wheat are being bought by the mills outside at 55c. In Manitoba, wheat there was not much done excepting in samples and in No. 2 hard, which is wanted and is offered sparingly at 79c west, and 80c east for odd cars.

Barley—Steady, with some enquiry for exports.

Oats—Sales of mixed are being made for less money, but they are regarded as confidential, as an effort is being made to sustain values. Heavy white milling, however, are steady and in demand at 37 to 37½c outside, and 41c here. Manitobas are offered freely at 39c, and choice Ontario mixed at 40c here.

Our prices are:—Flour, Toronto freights, Manitoba patents, \$3.90 to 4.05; Manitoba strong bakers', \$3.60 to 3.80; Ontario patents, \$3.10 to 3.30; straight roller, \$2.80 to 3.00; extra, \$2.40 to 2.60; low grades per bag, 90c to \$1.10. Bran—\$11.00 to 13.00. Shorts—\$16 to 17. Wheat—(west and north points)—White, 59 to 60c; spring, 57 to 58c; red winter, 59 to 60c; goose, 60; spring Midland, 59 to 60c; No 1 hard, 81 to 82c; No 2 hard, 79 to 80c; No 3 hard, 73 to 74c; No 1 frosted, 65 to 66c; peas (outside) 58 to 60c. Barley, (outside)—No 1, 45c; No 2, 40c; No 3 extra, 36 to 40c; No 3, 32 to 33c; Rye (outside) 55 to 56c. Buckwheat (outside) 50c. Oats, 39 to 41c.

Eggs—Receipts were very large to day and prices in consequence were easier; dealers were paying 10½c for offerings and asking 11 to 11½c for trade lots. The local demand is only fair.

Dressed Meats—Demand very dull and offerings large. Prices are easy and rule as follows: Beef, forequarters, per lb. 1 to 5c; hindquarters, do. 7½ to 9c; lamb, 10 to 11c; mutton, 8 to 7c; veal, 7½ to 9c.

Dried Apples—Dull and weak; job lots sell at about 4c and dealers pay 3½ to 3¾c for farmers' offerings.

Produce—Quotations are: Beans per bush.—Out of store, \$1.25 to \$1.50. Dressed meats, per lb.—Beef, fore, 3½ to 3¾c; hinds, 8 to 9½c; veal, 7½ to 9c; mutton, 4½c to 6c; lamb, 10 to 11c. Dried apples jobbing at 4½c; evaporated, 8½ to 9c. Eggs—Fresh, 11½c. Hay—Timothy, on track, \$10.00 to \$10.50. Straw, \$5.50. Hides—Cured, 5½ to 5¾c; green, No. 1, cows, 4½c. Skins—Sheepskins, \$1 to 1.35; calf, 5 to 8c. Hops—Canadian, 1892 crop, 10 to 14c. Honey—Extracted, 8 to 8½c; sections, 13 to 14c. Potatoes, new, per barrel, \$2.00 to 2.25. Poultry—chickens, per pair, 40 to 50c; geese, per lb., 8c; ducks, per pair, 60 to 65c; turkeys, 8 to 9½c per lb.

Provisions—Quotations are: Mesa pork, Canadian, \$20 to 21; short cut, \$21 to 22; shoulder mess, \$18.50 to 19; bacon, long clear, per lb, 10½ to 11c; lard, Canadian tierces, 12½ to 12¾c; tubs and pails, 13 to 13½c; in tins, from 4 to 5 lbs, 13½ to 14c; compound do, 10 to 10½c. Smoked meats—Hams per lb, 13 to 13½c; bellies 13 to 13½c; rolls, per lb, 10½ to 10¾c; backs, per lb, 12¾c.

Butter—Receipts were light to day, and the market firm for all grades. Choice dairy tub sold at 18 to 18½c and store packed tub butter, when really choice, brought 16½ to 17c. Quite a lot of large rolls came in and sold at 17c. Creameries were in good demand and firm at 20c for tub and 21 to 23c for rolls.

Cheese—Firm; dealers ask 9½ to 10c for job lots of new.

Export Cattle—Trade was rather slow, although good export cattle appeared to sell well and invariably brought good prices. Common cattle were at a discount, and sold lower than they have for weeks. Sales of choice cattle were made at 4½c and occasionally 5c per lb., but common stuff brought anywhere from 4¼ to 4½c. At the close a large number of cattle were unsold, and these will probably be put on the market next week.

Butchers' Cattle—Weak and irregular. Prices ranged generally from 3¼ to 3½c per lb. for good stock and 2½ to 3c for common. A few picked lots extra choice heaves sold at 3½c per lb. The demand was only fair, and a large number of poor cattle were unsold at the close. Amongst the sales were: 22 cattle, averaging 1,025 lbs, at \$38 per head; one load, 1,100, at \$3.20 per cwt; one load, 1,025, at \$3.15 per cwt; one load choice, averaging 1,025 lbs, at \$3.62 per cwt; two cattle, averaging 950 lbs, at \$34 per head.

Sheep and Lambs—Trade demoralized by the heavy receipts. Lambs sold slowly at \$3 to \$3.50 per head, and sheep at \$4 to \$4.25. The local demand was slow and nothing was taken for outside account. A large number were unsold at the close.

Hogs—Market dull and weak; best fat hogs brought 5½ to 6c per lb off the cars; store hogs sold at about 5c. Rough hogs and stags were not wanted at any price. The decline was due to the demoralization in Chicago.—*Empire*, Aug. 8.

Manitoba and Northwestern Difficulties.

A petition has been presented to the court in the suit of Allan against the Manitoba and Northwestern Railway company on behalf of the English bondholders. The petitioners are Lieut.-Col. Grey, of East Sheen, Surrey, and Sir John Robert Heron, Maxwell, baronet of Hamilton House, Tooting, Surrey, England. In April, 1886, the first 180 miles of the road extended from Portage la Prairie to Langenburg were conveyed to the petitioners to secure bonds amounting to 540,000 pounds which had

been issued by the company. Interest on the bonds fell due 1st June, amounting to 16,200 pounds, which interest has not yet been paid. A provision was made that in case default should be made in payment of any interest upon the bonds it should be lawful for the petitioners to take possession of the property and to operate the road. The petition asks that the receiver may be directed to keep separate accounts of monies received in respect of the operation of the first division of the railway being the 180 miles thereof, between Portage la Prairie and Langenburg, and that he be further directed not to expend any moneys received in respect of that portion of the line upon other points thereof, and that he may be further directed to apply the net earnings and income to be from time to time derived from the said first division, or from any part thereof, in payment to the petitioners of the amount overdue in respect of the interest upon the said bonds until the same shall have been fully paid and satisfied. Mr. Ewart, C., for the petitioner; Mr. Tupper, Q.C., and Mr. Phippen for the plaintiffs in the suit; Mr. I. Campbell, Q.C., for the defendants, the railway company.

Condition of the Boot and Shoe Trade.

The contrast in the shoe traffic between this year and last is very marked. Then there was activity everywhere; now there is not much of it anywhere. The manufacturers, many of them, have progressed so far with the production of goods sold for fall distribution that they have discontinued cutting, which is an unprecedented thing. The backward season has been a hindrance to business. The wholesale dealers in ordinary seasons would have closed out their summer goods before summer began. They have at this time—six weeks later—quantities on hand. The greatest disappointment of all has been the sale of tennis shoes. It was anticipated that the demand for them would be the largest for years, but it is much less than it was up to the same time last year. There are three reasons for this. Colored shoes have taken their places to some extent, fewer of them have been wanted owing to the unfavorable weather, and the advanced prices have restricted the sales. But there is also a diminishing call for shoes of all kinds. People appear to be economizing in the use of them. Dealers are certainly keeping their stock down to the closest limits practicable, with due consideration for the importance of always having anything and everything on hand which is likely to be called for. They do not want to run up any larger bills than they are obliged to, nor do the parties they buy of feel inclined to increase the indebtedness of their customers unless they are in extra good circumstances, and those are the ones to whom it is the hardest to sell. They generally buy for money when they do buy, and if money is commanding usurious rates of interest they are apt to hold on to it and make the most out of it as anybody would be who made a business of lending.—*Shoe and Leather Reporter*.

Canadian Cottons at the World's Fair.

The display of cotton goods made by Canada at the World's Fair has attracted considerable attention and received many compliments. The correspondent of the *New York Journal of Commerce* thus refers to the exhibit.

"Canada makes an excellent display of cotton goods as it does of almost everything else at the Fair. In two large cases, each 75 by 20, are the exhibits of the leading cotton manufacturers of the Dominion. They embrace sheetings, shirtings, prints, gingham, webbing, bindings, tickings, dairy cloths, flannels, and nearly every kind of fabric made in this country of Great Britain. The Montreal Company, whose works are at Valleyfield, show as many kinds of goods as are produced in any establishment in this country or Great Britain, and to all appearance they are of excellent quality."