

cial agent, Charles Drummond Hay, farmer, Frederick Axford, merchant, Charles R L Canon, agent, and W.B. Axford, general merchant all of Belmont, Manitoba, as "The Belmont Elevator Company, Limited." The stock is placed at \$50,000.

From 65 to 70c has been paid at Broadview, Assa., for choice wheat for seed purposes. The Broadview agricultural society may make an exhibit of wheat at the Winnipeg Industrial this summer, in competition for the big prize, there being some very fine samples of wheat in the district. The Indians of Crooked Lakes' reserve have sold about 5,000 bushels of wheat at Broadview, one Indian, "Nepapones," selling a car load on sample to Mr. Thorburn.

At a meeting at Gainsboro, Assa., the chairman moved that a joint stock company be formed with a capital of \$20,000 to build a flour mill. After investigation it was resolved to build a 100 barrel mill, and that the capital account be increased to \$30,000. It is the determination of the mill committee to erect the best mill it is possible to build, fitted up with modern machinery, also to erect an elevator in connection with the same, of 50,000 bushels capacity.

The *Miller*, of London, England, says: "On Friday last we received a fine sample of "Ladoga" variety of spring wheat from Richard H. Skrine, of the Ceylon Farm, Grenfell, Assiniboia. We have submitted the sample to several of the leading corn merchants on Mark Lane, who value it from 42s to 43s per quarter, one of these gentlemen remarking, however, 'that it was absurd to think that the wheat would arrive in bulk in such good condition.' The natural weight of the sample is 64 lbs to the imperial bushel." Quotations elsewhere in *THE COMMERCIAL* will show how the price stated compares with other varieties of wheat, in the London market.

At a Farmer's institute meeting at Portage la Prairie, Man., last week the principal subject for discussion was a paper on "Co-operative Milling," given by Smith Curtis. The paper dealt with the necessity of a mill, showing the advantage it would be to the locality by reducing the price of flour and gristing, and proposed that it should be controlled by the farmers themselves, and thought that a mill of 100 barrel capacity with a 65 horse-power would suit the present requirements. The money to be raised by selling shares at \$25 each, the controlling interest to be in the hands of farmers. The meeting was united in the opinion that a milling company should be formed and steps will be taken to organize at once.

Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.

The *Chicago Trade Bulletin* of March 21 says: There was a fair business for the railroads the past week, and the rumors that the east bound lines were cutting rates were rather more numerous than of late. The tariff rates, however, remain unchanged and are quoted at 25c for flour and grain and 30c for provisions to New York. In through freights a fair business was done, and a stronger feeling prevailed, ocean freights being firm and advancing. Through rates to Liverpool ranged at 37 to 41c for flour 37c for grain and 46c to 55c for provisions. The demand for vessels was lighter, but the lake rates remain at 3c on wheat and 3c asked for corn to Buffalo.

The *Montreal Trade Bulletin* of March 18th, says: "The business contracted for spring ocean shipment up to the present time has been light. Some grain contracts have been made at 3s 6d to 3s 9d for steamers to the Bristol Channel ports, to Antwerp and for orders. The regular lines ask 3s to Liverpool, 3s 3d to Glasgow, and 3s 6d to London, and it is understood that some business has been done at about these prices. The rates for sack flour to each of these ports are 15s to 26s 3d and 17s 6d respectively, but we have heard of no contracts. Room for deals have been engaged at 47s 6d to 50s, and a considerable number of

cattle have been looked for May shipment without a rate being named.

A committee of the Dominion Live Stock association has had a conference with the general traffic managers of the Canadian Pacific and Grand Trunk railways with reference to freight rates on cattle from points in Ontario to Montreal. They pointed out that whereas the rate from the furthest western points in Ontario to Montreal was thirty cents, it was only thirty cents from Chicago to Boston, a distance of 1,100 miles, which gave cattle shippers of the United States a decided advantage. The railway officials agreed to a reduction of \$5 per car from all points west of Bowmanville to Montreal and a reduction of ten per cent. from all points east of the same points.

The *Minneapolis Northwestern Miller* of March 18 says: "Ocean rates on the whole are rather higher than they were a week ago. But comparatively little flour is being booked and business is dull with most line agents. Some shippers claim to be able to contract room for use after the opening of navigation, at practically the same ocean rates as are prevailing for prompt shipment. In most quarters pretty stiff rates are looked for, for about a month after the opening of the lakes, or until the accumulations of traffic have been reduced to a normal quantity. It is now confidently asserted that boats on the lakes will begin to move about April 15. No action has yet been taken relative to fixing east bound lake rates, but the prevailing sentiment is that the season's business will be opened on the same basis as at the close last fall—25c per 100 lbs to New York. Shippers say that more vessels than usual are going to be in the field for business this year and they are already counting on low flour rates to the seaboard. The representative of one large concern said on Tuesday that he looked for a 25c rate, Minneapolis to London, early in the summer. The lowest through rates per 100 lbs from Minneapolis obtainable Wednesday were: To London, 43c; Liverpool, 44c; Glasgow, 46 5/8; Leith, 47 1/2; Bristol, 46 1/2; Amsterdam, 47c.

British Grain Trade.

The *Mark Lane Express*, of March 21, in its weekly review of the British grain trade, says: English wheats are stronger. The average advance of prices in London is 9d and in the provinces 6d. Foreign wheats are exceedingly depressed by the continued arrival. With the slackened demand some cargoes have dropped 1s; sales of California have been pressed at 38s 6d. Flour is 6d lower and corn is down 3d. The imports of corn since Jan. 1 have amounted to 1,671,000 qrs., against 1,016,300 qrs. during the corresponding time last year. Oats are firm and barley weak. At to-day's market there was a further advance of 6d in English wheats and foreign wheats are rather firmer. Flour was very weak and declined 6d; barley was neglected, with oats slow at a decline of 3d; flat corn was 3d lower; round corn was steady, and beans and peas were quiet.

Review of the English Market.

The *London Miller* gives the following review of British wheat markets for the month of February:—

The month's trade began on Feb. 1 with a discouraged London market. Wheat prices were 1s lower on the week, and 6d decline was allowed on flour. On the second Hull was 1s per quarter lower for wheat, while Liverpool declined 1d per cental. On the 3rd at Glasgow wheat was 1s and flour 6d lower. On the 4th Birmingham, Bristol, Plymouth, Manchester, all admitted the same decline. On the 5th London was depressed in tone, but a 35s average was quoted against a country average of 33s 1d only on the 6th. London was firmer on the 8th, and so was Liverpool on the 9th, but Glasgow on the 10th was again 6d lower for both wheat and flour. On the 11th at Bristol fine white wheat was held for 6d improvement,

while other sorts were neglected. On the 12th the London wheat average fell to 33s 1d, but Liverpool did not give way. On the 13th a slight advance on English wheat was realised at Colchester, Doncaster, Gloucester, Leicester, Newcastle, Northampton, Peterborough and Wisbech, and the weather having become cold and winterly, London was 1s dearer on the 15th. On the 16th Hull was 6d to 1s higher, and Liverpool, with a snowstorm driving vessels down St. George's Channel instead of up, it was 3d. per cental dearer. Cautious Scotland on Wednesday, saw Glasgow and Edinburgh merchants refusing to sell at old prices, and millers equally reticent over buying at an advance. All the markets of the 18th were 6d. to 1s. dearer, winter having apparently returned with full December rigor. London on the 19th quoted an average of 33s 10d., an improvement of 9d on the week. Liverpool was 2d dearer, making 5d per cental improvement on the week. The country markets of the 20th although not brisk, were in sellers favour, and on the 22nd London made the previous 9d advance into 1s. On the 23rd, the thaw and sunshine here and a reaction in prices at New York, the Liverpool market lost 2d of its recent 5d per cental advance. The Scotch markets of the 24th were firm, but Bristol and Birmingham on the 25th found the advance of the 18th by no means easy to maintain. On the 26th London quoted wheat at 33s 2d, or 8d decline, and on the 27th rather lower prices were accepted at Gloucester, Canterbury, Colchester, Shrewsbury and Wisbech. On the 29th London was steady for English wheat and flour, but a full 6d cheaper for all imported descriptions.

English Wheat and Flour Prices.

Following prices are in shillings and pence:—

	Prices Mar. 9, 1891.		Prices Mar. 7, 1892.	
English Wheats, per 504 lbs.—				
Kent or Essex, White, New.....	35	40	34	42
“ “ Red “	33	36	32	38
Old White	36	40	38	43
“ Red	34	38	36	40
Norfolk, White	34	37	34	40
“ Red	32	35	32	36
“Rivetts”	28	33	30	34
Foreign Wheat, per 426 lbs.—				
Duluth	42	43	42	43
No. 2 Spring	37	38	41	43
Red Winter Wheat	37	39	41	43
Californian and Oregon	40	42	42	44
Canadian	38	40	42	44
Chilian	none	41	42	44
Australia	39	43	43	45
New Zealand	38	40	42	45
Bombay, White	36	38	39	41
“ Red	33	31	36	40
Calcutta, white	36	36	38	40
“ Red	32	34	36	37
Karachi	33	35	36	37
Persian	30	37	32	40
Danubian	38	41	42	45
Danubian and Roumanian	33	36	33	40
Konigsberg, Rostock, etc	37	39	42	44
Hungarian	35	38	42	44
Azima	33	37	39	43
Petersburg	35	38	42	44
Saxonska	37	39	42	44
Sebastopol	35	38	41	44
Odessa, Ghirka	33	36	38	41
Taganrog	34	35	33	41
English Flour, per sk. of 280 lbs.—				
London, top-price brands	36	—	39	—
“ Town whites	29	6 31	33	31
“ “ household	27	6 29	31	32 6
“ No 2	25	6 26	28	6 30 8
Country Households, Norfolk	25	26	26	6 28
Essex and Suffolk	26	6 28	27	6 30
Surrey, Kent, Sussex, and Hert	24	6 29	27	6 30
North Country	27	6 28	27	6 30
Cones, from “Rivetts”	22	24	25	26
Cones, from Rice	20	6 22	26	—
Rice Flour	23	6 —	26	6 27
Rice Meal, per ton	95	—	120	—
Foreign Flour, per 250 lbs.—				
American Patent Spring	31	6 34	30	6 32
1st Bakers	27	6 29	27	6 28 6
2nd Bakers	25	26	28	6 24 6
Low Grade	18	23	16	6 20 6
Winter Wheat slight	29	31	26	28 9 9
Milwaukee	—	—	27	6 31
Illinois	—	—	30	31
Californian	29	33	31	9 —

—London Miller.