

**Grain and Milling.**

The amount of Manitoba wheat in store at Lake Superior elevators on Monday, Aug. 12, was 515,037 bushels. Shipments for the previous week were 83,900 bushels.

The grist mill, at Pilot Mound, Manitoba, is advertised for sale by legal process. This is a stone mill, which was located some distance from the railway, but recently moved to the station at Pilot Mound.

At a meeting held at Binscarth, Manitoba, to consider the advisability of erecting another grain warehouse, it was decided that one should be immediately erected. A list was opened and the full sum required was subscribed at once.

Smith & Brigham, of the Moosomin flour mill, have purchased the large mill building at Fort Ellice, Man., and are removing the timber and lumber to Moosomin, with which they purpose to erect a building to increase their storage capacity. The building at Fort Ellice was put up some years ago, under the stimulus of a bonus, but the project fell through before the mill was completed. No machinery was put in.

**A Secret Well Kept.**

Probably the only secret process which has been kept inviolate, and for ages openly defied the world of science, is the iron trade of Russia. The secret of making Russian sheet iron is owned by the Government, and is such an immense monopoly that it is currently supposed to defray the entire expenses of the Government. The works constitute an entire city,

isolated and fortified against the rest of the world. When a workman enters the service he bids a last farewell to his family and friends, and is practically lost to the balance of the world. He is never heard of afterwards, and whether he lives or dies all trace of him is forever lost. There have been several desperate attempts made to steal or betray the secret, but in every instance it has resulted in the death of the would-be traitor. In one case a letter attached to a kite, which was allowed to escape, was picked up by some peasants, and, despite their protestations that they could not read, they were at once put to death by the guards to whom they delivered the letter, and it was afterward decreed that the guards themselves should pass the remainder of their days within the works. The wonderful properties of this iron are so well known that it is unnecessary to enlarge upon them.—*Ex.*

**A British Columbia Fish Story.**

The unaccountable rise of the waters in Harrison lake and river, announced in these columns a few days ago, has brought several theories to the front, the most popular one being that the immense salmon run has been the cause of it. The theory is quite likely to be correct, for reports say that Harrison river is simply a mass of salmon moving toward the lake. They are running so thickly that the water is black with them from shore to shore, and boats have simply to plough a road through the fish in order to obtain a passage. The millions that enter the lake every day must neces-

sarily displace a large quantity of water, and, consequently, cause the lake to rise. The lake is about 40 miles long and several miles wide the most of its length, and therefore the number of salmon required to raise the water three feet in four weeks must have been something enormous. It is generally conceded that the salmon theory is correct.—*Westminster Columbian.*

**British Columbia.**

The Revelstoke *Star* says: Work on the smelter building is progressing favorably. The frames on the sampling works and engine room are up and they will be completed in a few days. The frames of the roasting furnace and smelter are ready to raise. The iron work for the roaster, boiler, crusher, rolls, sample grinders and engines are on the ground. A gang of men are cutting ditches to lay pipes from the creek near the station to the smelter. Dr. Campbell, the manager, informs us that he expects to be ready to treat ore by the end of the present month.

The Nanaimo *Courier* says: We understand that Arthur Bullock has disposed of his dry goods business to Mr. Stannard, of Victoria, who has for many years been known to the people of the capital in connection with the firm of W. Wilson & Co. The business will be conducted under the name of Stannard & Co. The present cost price sale will continue until the first of September, when Mr. Stannard enters into possession. Mr. Bullock will probably leave some time during the month of September for the Old Country, where he will engage in the real estate business in London, with the object of disposing of properties in this province.

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