

REPORT OF
GRAIN STANDARD DELEGATES.

WINNIPEG, 30th, April, 1889.

To the Council of the Winnipeg Board of Trade;

GENTLEMEN,

In accordance with the instructions from the board, your delegation left for Ottawa on the 9th inst. and were joined at Port Arthur by Mr. F. E. Gibbs, as a representative of the Port Arthur board, and at Ottawa by Mr. N. Bawlf.

Immediately after arriving in Ottawa with such of the members from Manitoba and the Northwest as could be communicated with, we waited on the Minister and Commissioner of Inland Revenue and explained the details of the petitions sent to the Department by the western boards of trade. Some changes in the bill as prepared for submission to the House were pressed for. In the evening the delegates were invited by the Hon. Mr. Costigan to meet a large deputation from the Toronto board of trade. As no instructions had been received to confer with any delegates from eastern boards we were decidedly averse to holding any discussion, but felt compelled to meet the wishes of the Minister. The meeting was held and while it was at once apparent that the gentlemen from Toronto had never seen a copy of the petition sent in by the western boards nor the draft of the bill as prepared by the Minister, they made such statements that we felt compelled to answer them.

It is only necessary to state that the Toronto delegates claimed that there were no exporters of grain in Manitoba, that there was not in the Province a grain man capable of selecting proper grain standards, and that the Winnipeg board was alone in asking for any changes in the Act. Such statements with many others equally incorrect and absurd were refuted on the spot and the Ministers de-