

Grain and Milling News.

The flour mill at Necpawa, Man., has closed down until after harvest.

On this crop the three Pillsbury mills at Minneapolis have made over 2,000,000 bbls of flour.

A car load of flour from the Asessippi roller mill has been shipped to Ontario. This is the first flour exported from Northwestern Manitoba to the east.

In Eastern Canada the wheat has been harvested in good condition, and coarse grain has been gathered, but owing to the excessively dry weather, will show a shortage.

Alexander, Kelly & Co's mill at Brandon, has closed for repairs. All the old machinery is being overhauled, and new machinery put in. Additional warehouse room will also be added.

Mills throughout the province are generally being put in repair and undergoing improvements to be ready to commence on the new crop. Some new wheat has already been ground.

Machinery for the completion of the mill at Moosomin, Assa., is arriving, and the mill will be completed by the close of September. E. P. Allis & Co have the contract. A grain store house will be built in connection with the mill.

The Lake Superior steamers carry consignments of Manitoba wheat and flour on each trip, from Fort William and Port Arthur. The Sarnia line of steamers are also carrying considerable quantities of Duluth flour eastward.

Late cable advices reduce the estimates of the wheat crop of the United Kingdom to 80,000,000 to 84,000,000 bushels, against 63,347,885 bushels in 1886, and as compared with an average from 1876 to 1885 of 81,452,364 bushels.

In France the wheat crop seems likely to reach 115,000,000 hectolitres, or 10,000,000 more than last year, reducing the outside requirements of France to about 16,000,000 bus, against 34,000,000 bus in the year just passed.

On the 18th inst., a car load of new oats were shipped from Gretna, Man., to Winnipeg. This is the first shipment of new crop in the country. There will be a great quantity of grain marketed there this season, and probably over 200,000 bushels of flax seed.

Joyner & Rickard, millers, Fort Qu'Appelle, Assa., have dissolved partnership. S. C. Rickard retires and H. B. Joyner becomes responsible for the past business of the firm. The latter gentleman has formed a partnership with S. C. Elkington, and the business will be continued under the firm name Joyner & Elkington.

The present indications point to a more than average European crop. The Russian and Austrian crops are of fine promise. That of Spain is mediocre. In Germany, France and England reports are generally favorable. The Indian crop, harvested a few months ago, will be 20,000,000 bus less than the preceding year, say 233,000,000 bus. Austria will produce probably 15,000,000 bus more than in 1885-86, or 37,000,000 bus. The product of the world promises to be quite as much as for each of the two preceding harvests. Present indications do not promise a material increase in prices; but they certainly do not demand lower prices.

The Ogilvie elevator at Deloraine has been completed.

The first load of new wheat arrived in the Brandon market on Wednesday.

The formation of a joint stock flour and woolen mill company is being agitated at Minnedosa, Man.

Jas. Pyc, of Minneapolis, has the contract for overhauling and doubling the capacity of the Portage la Prairie mill.

The order which the Ogilvie Company has received from Japan for flour, is to be duplicated each month until further notice. Formerly the flour went from California.

A correspondent at Minnedosa, Man., writes that a party of millers from Huntington, Pa., are making arrangements to build a large water-power mill there this fall equal to anything in the country.

Stonewall merchants are forming a syndicate to purchase grain. Heretofore it has been the custom of farmers in that district to haul their grain to Winnipeg, to the detriment of the trade of the former place.

Northwestern Miller: The matter of Minneapolis elevators advancing storage charges has been settled by their making the summer storage rate $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ for every 15 days. Winter rates are to begin November 1st, and end May 31st. It is expected that the handling charges will shortly be lowered from $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢.

The area devoted to spring wheat in the United States in 1886 was 12,273,798 acres, which produced 154,842,000 bushels. The acreage reported for 1887, as compared with 1886 is 106.1 per cent, which would make the aggregate area 13,022,500 acres. The condition reported last August was 80.1 per cent, and the average yield was 12.61 bu per acre. The condition reported this year is 78.8 per cent, equal to 12.39 bu per acre. This would make a total aggregate yield of 161,338,000 bu, or 6,496,000 bu more than reported last year.

The Canadian oatmeal millers held a meeting lately at Toronto. The committee appointed at a former meeting for the purpose of ascertaining the manufacturing capacity, and also the consumption of oatmeal in Canada and quantity exported to Great Britain, reported as follows: "We find that the capacity of the mills—62 in number—is 8,500,000 bus yearly, equal to 800,000 barrels; that 160,000 barrels of oatmeal were consumed in the Dominion last year and 70,000 barrels exported, making a total of 230,000 barrels manufactured in Canada; that if all the mills were running for a period of two and a half months the demand for oatmeal for the Dominion for an entire year would be supplied, and if running for three and a half months they would supply all the meal sold in Canada and exported during the last twelve months, which explains the very unsatisfactory state of the oatmeal business during the past two or three years." It is proposed to form a combination to regulate prices and exportation of oatmeal.

About a year ago a bonus by-law was passed to grant \$6,000 in aid of the establishment of a roller flour mill at McGregor Station, Man. Up to the present time, however, nothing has been done toward building the mill. It is

understood the bonus was to be given to a resident of the district, named Edgar. There now appears to be something of bonus trafficking in the transaction, as it is reported that Edgar turned the grant over to other parties, for a pecuniary consideration amounting to about \$500. Indeed, some are of the opinion that Edgar had no intention of building the mill, and merely accepted the bonus on 'spec.' The parties who it is understood have now undertaken the establishing of the mill are A. E. Hughes and C. H. Steele, both of the Hudson's Bay mill at Winnipeg. The former party has heretofore figured in bonus schemes, not to the entire satisfaction of the ratepayers who had voted the bonus. It is likely that the bonus fever has seen its best days here, and there are now indications of a reaction which will undoubtedly be to the advantage of the country. But whatever differences of opinion there may be regarding the utility of granting bonuses, there can be no controverting the statement, that reliable parties should be dealt with in connection with bonused enterprises. The party or parties undertaking to carry out such a scheme, should be possessed of a reasonable amount of capital, otherwise they should be so avoided. Moreover, the conditions should be arranged that the mill should be completed and thoroughly tested before the proffered aid is handed over. If municipalities will grant bonuses, the officials should at least see that no opportunity is afforded for men without capital to undertake to dally with the scheme on speculation.

Ontario Crops.

The Ontario Bureau of Industries has issued a digest of reports made on the 12th inst. by nearly 600 correspondents on the year's crop and harvest, and the field of principal crops computed for their estimates.

The estimated yield of oats is only 30 bushels per acre, whereas the average yield of the past five years was 37 bushels. The total estimate is 8,000,000 less than the yield of last year, 5,000,000 less than the average.

Spring wheat is almost a total failure in Western Ontario, and only a few districts in the east report even a fair crop. The estimated yield is about 6,030,440 or 4,500,000 bushels less than the average of the five years, 1882-6.

Fall wheat has suffered from a succession of reverses, extending all through the growing season. Where threshing has been reported the yield runs generally from 10 to 18 bushels per acre, the average being about 16 bushels, or 5 bushels less than the average of the past five years. The general yield will probably not exceed two-thirds of an average crop, the estimate being 14,435,505 bushels against 20,635,813 for the average.

Owing to the prolonged heat and drouth, barley was ready for cutting almost as soon as fall wheat. This early maturing had its effect on the berry, which is reported as rather small, and likely to prove two or three pounds light in the bushel. The estimated total yield is 174,363,322 bushels, being 2,136,000 bushels less than the average of the five years 1882-6, although the breadth in crop is 50,000 acres more.