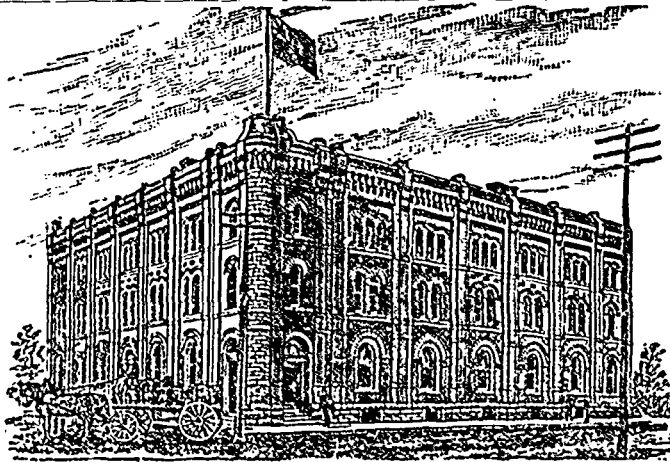


GOODS SOLD TO THE  
TRADE ONLY.



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TRADE ONLY.

## G. F. & J. GALT,

### DIRECT IMPORTERS

TEAS, SUGARS, WINES, LIQUORS and GENERAL GROCERIES  
CORNER PRINCESS AND BANNATYNE STREETS, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

WITHIN the past week two letters have reached the office of THE COMMERCIAL from prominent merchants in British Columbia containing complaints that the extortionate rates on the C. P. R. from the Pacific Coast to points in Manitoba and the Territories effectually block a trade being done therein by British Columbians. In both letters the writers state that had they rates in any way approaching those given to Eastern Canadian shippers, they could do a profitable business in the districts referred to. Evidently British Columbians are feeling a little of the discrimination under which Manitoba groaned for several years. If they expect to have the privileges which the C. P. R. Company give to eastern shippers they will live in disappointment until they are in a position to force such a concession. They will learn ere long, if indeed they have already learnt, that the C. P. R. policy is to discourage trade growth in the west as much as possible and concentrate it in the east. Once they have thoroughly realised this fact, they will be able to understand why Manitoba is making such terrible sacrifices, to free itself from the monopoly which thus discriminates against it.

Few people outside of the political monomaniacs and party henchmen will be sorry that the Royal Commission lately appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor came to such an abrupt stop, before it had actually entered on its work. The outside public were but little interested in knowing the inner workings of a quarrel, which is a disgrace to the province, especially as the scope of the inquiry was to be confined to matters, affecting only the personal reputations of politicians in and out of office, and not in any way to clear up points which are of interest to the general public. The Premier and the Attorney-General had the commissions powers limited to an enquiry into two charges of bribe taking, of which they were accused, while the *Free Press* and *Call* crowd wanted a general search of the political affairs of the past two years, with a view of unearthing official rascality somewhere, and the result is that there will be no investigation at all. The whole affair resembles very much an attempt to

arrange a mill between two pugilists, neither of whom are very anxious to fight, and both of whom are determined to start with a decided advantage if a fight is forced. The ministers wanted a fight on strict P. R. rules, but the *Free Press* and *Call* wanted one rough and tumble, and consequently no fight will come off. Had one been arranged it would doubtless been as disgusting as any pugilistic mill ever was, and doubtless the wider its scope the more disgusting it would have been. It is to be hoped that this quarrel will be withdrawn from the public view, or if still continued, that it will not be so persistently thrust before a disgusted people. It has not favorably impressed the minds of the masses regarding public men, and it has certainly not elevated the province in the respect of outsiders.

THE election excitement through which the United States has just passed, has been watched with more than the usual amount of interest in this country. Pending international questions between Canada and the United States, which are likely to be influenced to some extent by the result of the election, are partly the cause for this increased interest in the political affairs of our neighbors. The principal matter of course is the fishery question, which has played so important a part in international negotiations of late. There are also the Behrings Sea difficulty, the commercial union or reciprocity question, the canals dispute, the retaliatory proposals, and the annexation proposals from United States Senators, all of which are matters of interest between this country and the United States. These questions have been given more or less attention in the election contest just terminated, and it is a matter for regret, that in order to influence the votes of a section of the people who are hostile to the British Empire, and therefore hostile to Canada, a good deal of unfriendliness has been shown this country by the United States. The threats of retaliation for instance may be considered as put forward solely for political party purposes. At one time it was believed that Canada would receive more square and honorable treatment from a Democratic Government, but this idea has been

## JAMES PYE, FLOUR MILL BUILDER

CONSULTING ENGINEER, &c.

218 Third Avenue South,

MINNEAPOLIS, - MINN.

### A Manitoba Testimonial.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, Dec. 8th, 1887.

JAMES PYE, Esq., Minneapolis, Minn., U.S.A.:  
DEAR SIR, - In handing you our check for \$1,301.24, in full for balance on your contract for building and enlarging our mill, we without solicitation wish to state, that you have done your work in a manner highly satisfactory to this company. The capacity which you guaranteed at 275 barrels we find considerably under the mark, as we are at present making over 300 barrels, and the quality of the flour is all that we could wish for. Some of our largest purchasers frankly tell us, it is equal to any flour made in either Minnesota or this province. The yield also we find very satisfactory. We must also bear testimony to your pleasing and gentlemanly manner, and your willingness at all times to meet our wishes. This has made our business relations pleasant and we can honestly say, that we recommend you to any person, requiring anything in the mill building or mill furnishing line. Wishing you the success that straight dealing merits, we are  
Yours very truly,

THE PORTAGE MILLING CO.

Jas. MacLennan, Managing Director.

somewhat dissipated of late, and the impression now seems to be that so far as this country is concerned, the return of the Republican party to power once more will make but little difference to us. On the fisheries question, however, the Republicans have done so much blustering, that the party is almost committed to a more aggressive policy than has been followed by the present administration, which will now be obliged to retire. In trade matters also it would seem that the Democratic party, with its free trade sympathies, would be inclined to be more liberal than the Republican party, pledged to extreme protectionist principles. Canadians who hoped for more liberal trade intercourse between the two countries have therefore little to hope from the incoming administration.

### The Canadian Pacific in Maine.

When the Canadian Pacific Railway Company began the construction of its line across the State of Maine it was supposed it would get into operation early this year. But unexpected engineering difficulties were encountered, the weather last winter was exceedingly unfavorable, and the directors were accordingly forced to report at the annual meeting in May that "it is not now expected that this line will be ready for traffic before the end of the coming summer." Even this anticipation has not been realized. The work of building a first-class railroad through the unbroken wilderness of northern Maine has proven difficult beyond all calculations, and traffic can hardly begin before next spring. It seems not unlikely, however, that communication will be established between Montreal and Bangor and the towns on the Maine Central and New Brunswick systems east and west, by way of the Bangor & Piscataquis road, which connects with the Canadian Pacific at Greenville, by the beginning of the coming winter.

Most of the grading has been finished throughout the entire distance from the former terminus of the International road on the boundary between Maine and Quebec and the junction with the Maine Central line at Mattawamkeag. The length of new track covering