

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

The past week has been one of disappointment in mercantile circles regarding the monetary state of affairs in the city. Instead of an easier feeling taking place after the safe passing of the dreaded fourth, the financial stringency in connection with commercial affairs has become more severe, and the impression has steadily gained ground among business men, that the resources at the disposal of the banks are altogether inadequate to the demands of the commerce of the city. The general report is that the banks supply all the demands of regular customers; but the number included in the term regular customers has been narrowed down much of late, and first-class paper has during the week had in many instances to seek a discount market in private quarters. The regular rates of the banks for commercial paper has been 8 to 10 for gilt edge, and 10 to 12 for ordinary, but quite a share of good paper has been discounted at much higher rates by private parties.

In loans on landed mortgage security the demand has been active during the week, and companies have had almost as much business as they desired. The rates of interest have ranged from 8 to 10 per cent, but there has been an upward tendency, and the latter figure has been more general than during the week previous.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

The past week has been one of considerable anxiety in wholesale circles, and towards its close there was more or less of a feeling of relief felt in almost every line of mercantile business. The fourth of June, while it produced more or less financial irregularity, passed off more quietly than many expected, and trade thereafter settled down as a rule to somewhat of a quiet state, which might be interpreted as a kind of breathing spell. In the staple branches a steady but not over heavy volume of business is being done, but the trade of the past week goes to show, that retrenchment is general, and fancy lines have not been patronized to any extent. The demands from the west and Southern Manitoba have been reasonably active, but in the city and immediate neighborhood a decided quietness has been felt. Altogether there has been no improvement in matters generally, and the minds of wholesale merchants are now settled in the belief, that trade will display no actual buoyancy, until the crops of 1883 are about ready for harvesting. The only exceptions to this belief are to be found in those branches immediately affected by immigration.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

While most branches of trade are becoming more or less depressed, in this line there is plenty of activity, and each week as the season advances towards harvest dealers become more hopeful. The beautiful weather and refreshing showers of the past ten days have given a fresh impetus to retail sales, and the depot houses in the city are beginning to receive fresh orders from their country agents. Some dealers are beginning to predict, that this season as well as

last the supply of harvesting machinery in the country will be found insufficient for the demand, but if such is likely to be the case, it is altogether premature to make any calculations as yet. Altogether this branch of trade is in a most satisfactory condition, and promises to continue so, while such crop prospects as the present exist.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

From this line the report of the past week is not a very brilliant one, although it is scarcely as discouraging as that of the previous one. Trade is certainly quiet, and wholesalers by a conservative course of action are not making any special efforts to extend it. Orders during the week have been for the filling of present and it might be said immediate wants, and have been consequently light in the aggregate. Collections are reported as good as could be expected, and June has opened with a prospect of a slight improvement upon May.

CLOTHING.

From this line the report of the week is rather varied. Complaints of actual dullness come from one source, a limited trade in sorts is the report from another, while a third reports a steady and satisfactory volume of business. Taken altogether the aggregate is only fair, but not disappointing, as all wholesalers expect a lull during June. Collections are reported rather improved, and a feeling of reconciliation rather than satisfaction is felt among the trade generally.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

Business during the week has been about up to the average, but not rushed in any way. Country orders have been coming in fairly and city trade is about the usual run. Collections have been fair to good.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

In this as in other fancy lines the feeling of quietness is beginning to be felt, and the report of the past week is far from being as bright as during the early part of May. There is no dullness, however, and wholesalers are in no way disappointed with the present state of affairs. Staples are still in steady demand, but it is in the fancy lines, that the falling off is most observable. Collections are not too good, but may be rated fair.

DRY GOODS.

In this staple line trade is still in an unsatisfactory state. While the retail trade is slowly recovering from the overstocking of last winter and spring, the demand for new goods is very limited, and the wholesale trade are consequently unusually quiet. To this must be added the fact, that a very cautious system of extending trade is being carried out, amounting almost to commercial timidity. Confidence is not gaining ground very fast, and it may safely be concluded that the trade for this summer is much demoralized. Yet there have been some hopeful developments during the past ten days, one of which was the unexpectedly large proportion of paper met on the 4th of June and since. The whole trade seems combined in an effort to carry the load which it now has, and with a good crop prospect this is steadily becoming lighter, and should a good harvest be

realized, it will be relieved altogether much sooner than was anticipated some weeks ago.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALL WARES.

Business in this line although not very heavy is much better than could have been expected at this season of the year. There is, however, quite a falling off from the rush of two weeks ago. Collections are reported as fair, and the trade generally is in a satisfactory condition.

FISH AND POULTRY.

There has been a fair trade done during the week. There are no novelties in the market. The supply of pike and whitefish is fully equal to the demand and are worth 4 and 8c per lb. respectively. Lake Superior fish have not yet come in so freely as was expected, but a better supply from there is looked for shortly.

FRUIT.

The supply of delicacies in the fruit line is still very limited and not in such quantities as to warrant wholesale quotations. Apples are becoming scarce and are worth from \$3 to 9 per barrel, according to quality. It is expected that new apples will reach the market here in a week or two. Oranges are not very plentiful and are quoted at \$7.50 to 8. Lemons hold steady at the old figure, \$7.50. Quotations in dried fruit are; Loose Muscatel raisins, \$3; black crown, \$1.75; triple crown, \$8; golden dates 11 to 12c in mats and 16c in boxes. A very fair trade has been done during the week and the general state of business is satisfactory.

FUEL.

There has not as yet been any change in the price of coal, the influence of Port Arthur rates not having made itself felt. Anthracite is quoted at \$15 delivered, and bituminous from \$13.50 to 14.50. Wood is in good supply. Tamarac in lots of ten cars or over sells at \$6.50; smaller lots \$6.75. Poplar is quoted at \$5 for large lots and \$5.50 for smaller quantities.

FURNITURE.

There has been quite a revival in the furniture business of late and the factories are kept pretty busy. Collections are reported considerably better than they were some time ago, but there is still lots of room for improvement.

GROCERIES.

The leading houses report a good steady trade for the week, but nothing of a rash. This was not to be expected at this season of the year. Orders from the country have come in with tolerable freedom, and the city trade continues in its usual condition. Collections have been moderately good. Prices of staples are about the same as last week with the exception of sugars, which are a shade easier. Yellows are quoted at 9½ to 10c; granulated 10½ to 11c. Coffees remain unchanged at 15 to 18c for Rios, and 22 to 27c for Javas. Teas are quoted at, Japan 25 to 45c; Moyune gunpowders from 35 to 75c; Hysons 26½ to 70c. Next week new season blacks will be quoted, by which time the first arrivals of the season are expected.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

Business in this line has been very quiet, in fact disappointing to the dealers, who had con-