

Assiniboia.

The Qu'Appelle Progress of June 8 says the settlers in the Davia district have finished threshing, and report the grain in excellent condition. John Caldwell's wheat yielded 42 bushels per acre, and oats over 70. There is in this settlement 25 per cent. more grain sown this year than there was last season.

Northwest Ontario.

Armstrong & Sproule is the name of a new flour and feed firm at Fort William.

Port Arthur has offered Fort William a one-third or one-half interest in the street railway upon paying the same proportion of its cost, the road to be operated by a commission.

The Rat Portage reduction works have finally been put into complete running order and are now working at the ore and will continue to do so as long as ore is supplied.

Saskatchewan.

The Government immigration hall at Prince Albert is completed.

James Sanderson contemplates establishing a woolen factory in Prince Albert.

H. J. Starforth has opened his new hotel at Prince Albert. It is called the royal.

Mr. Buckley, of Prince Albert, has received and opened out a carload of furniture. This is a new business venture.

C. Mair, of Prince Albert, purposes starting business in Nelson, a thriving town and settlement in the Kootenay valley, B.C.

E. J. Cann, stationer, has disposed of his stock and good will to Geo. W. Baker. The latter was recently in the employ of F. C. Baker.

E. J. Cann, Prince Albert, will at once begin the erection of a solid brick building, 70 x 20 feet in size, to be occupied by R. B. Way, the post office, and George W. Baker, stationer.

Grain and Milling.

Grain shipments from Morden, Man., to date this crop year are 662,000 bushels.

The Pacific coast will produce a good wheat crop this year. Harvesting is in progress in California.

Hartney, Man., and vicinity are voting on a \$5,000 bonus to build a hundred and fifty barrel flour mill.

B. Fraser is contemplating enlargements to the present capacity of his flour mill at Morden, Manitoba.

Armstrong's grain warehouse, Oak River, Man., fell down recently, with 1,200 bushels of wheat. The warehouse is pretty badly wrecked.

W. W. Watson, grain broker, Winnipeg, returned last week from a trip as far west as Virden. He reports the country as looking splendid. Plenty of threshers were at work between this city and Brandon.

The farmers are talking of putting up an elevator or mill this summer at Alexander, Man. E. A. Osterout is around with the stock book and meeting with considerable success. They had a public mass meeting when Mr. Braithwaite, of Portage la Prairie, addressed a large audience on the benefits of an elevator or mill.

A meeting of the executive committee of the Dominion Millers Association was held at Toronto on June 15, at which the date of the annual meeting of the association was fixed for Tuesday and Wednesday, August 2 and 3. The question of Manitoba wheat was also discussed. It was stated that grading was much below the government standard. It was decided to communicate with the authorities at Ottawa on the subject.

The capacity of the Imperial mill, Duluth, proves to be even greater than was expected. The old mill's maximum output for a single day was 2,922 bbls. Last Saturday the new mill turned out 3,160 bbls. This gives the plant an actual demonstrated capacity of 6,082 bbls, and manager Church says the new machinery can turn out 300 bbls more in a day than it did Saturday. When it does the capacity will be shown to be about 100 bbls daily.

W. D. Byers is canvassing for the proposed co-operative flour mill at Portage la Prairie. The shares are \$25 each, payable on or before 1st December next. It is held out that if sufficient shares are taken to ensure the erection of a mill that A 1 quality of flour can be given shareholders at a price from 75 cents to \$1 per hundred below present prices. Only those who are shareholders will be entitled to get flour at the reduced price. The farmers have responded freely in taking shares.

The North Dakota correspondent of the *Northwestern Miller*, writing from Grand Forks on June 6 says: As wheat seeding is completed, the farmers are beginning to thresh the grain in stack and shock which stood out last winter. Some of the stacks are in good condition, while others are nearly worthless. The aggregate result, however, is a pleasant surprise to the majority, as much of the grain grades No. 2 northern and No. 3, with the smaller proportion going rejected. The greatest surprise is the comparatively good condition of the wheat in the shock. It has, in many cases, proven to be in better condition than that in the stack. As to the amount of wheat in the stack in the Red river valley, it certainly is large. As aptly put by a farmer: "There is still a good average crop on the ground." Our millers are a little chary in handling this wheat until they have determined just how it will mill, but the general opinion is that if fairly dry it is all right.

Live Stock Market.

At Liverpool on June 13 the feeling was stronger in the cattle market, owing to limited offerings of Canadian cattle. The price realized was about 6½d for average mixed lots. The cable said that the present high values for cattle are maintained only on the short supply, and a reaction will come with increased Irish supplies.

The *Montreal Gazette* of June 13 says: "The purchase of the Waterloo distillers by the Bickerdike-Crowe company is the most important deal of the year, and as they only cost about 5c per pound, a very good profit is expected if the English markets maintain the improvement noted in to-day's cables. Glasgow, London and Newcastle have all made more or less money during the week, and the prospects are very favorable for the shippers getting back some of the money they lost earlier in the season. The only space not contracted for is on the regular liner, and they are expected to ask 70 shillings at least, while some shippers would not be surprised to receive a bill on an 80 shilling basis. The local markets show a marked improvement this morning. The supply of cattle was light and prices 25 to 30c per cwt higher. Hogs were also firmer. Business at the Grand Trunk yards is reported as follows: Considerable trade was done in export stock during the past week at these yards. Prices were if anything weaker, 5c being the top quotation. For the local trade butchers were not anxious to buy, and good cattle sold for the most part at low figures. Small receipts of sheep. The continued heavy supply of hogs has glutted the market, as low as 4½c being paid, with a number of hogs left on hand. We quote the following as being fair values: Cattle, export, 4½ to 5c; cattle, butchers' good, 3½ to 4½c; cattle, butchers' medium, 3 to 3½c; cattle, butchers' culls, 2 to 3c; sheep and lambs ¾ to 1c; hogs 4½ to 5c; calves \$2 to \$5. There was a light run of butchers' cattle at the Point St. Charles yards on June 13. The Meat com-

pany bought about three cars, including 12 head of export stock weighing 1,334 pounds at 4½c; good butchers' cattle sold at about 4½c. The demand for hogs was very fair and the receipts being light the market was stronger at \$5 to \$5.15 per cwt. At the east end abattoir on June 13 the demand for cattle was not very brisk, but the supply was light and prices were fully ½c higher. The best butchers' cattle sold at 4½c, and pretty good cattle at 4½ to 4¾c. Good calves were in good demand at prices ranging from \$5 to \$10, the inferior beasts selling down to \$1. Sheep sold at \$3 to \$5, and lambs at \$2.50 to \$3.50.

Butter Grading a Success.

We have been told that since the system of butter grading has been introduced here there has been a very decided improvement in the quality brought in. The farmers almost invariably say that before the introduction of the system they had no encouragement to try to do their best and in the majority of cases did not do so, but that now they can get a higher price for a prime article they will do their best. A number of those whose first lots graded No. 2 are now getting No. 1 tickets and price for which so far has been about 2 cents per lb more than would have been given under the old system. The merchants of Solsgrith and Beulah have followed the example set by Birtle and buy by grade only. If the other towns in this part of the province fall into line, the success of the system is assured, the farmers greatly benefited financially and the merchants save a large amount of grumbling and often loss.—*Birtle Observer*.

Merchants Bank.

In his address at the annual meeting of the Merchant's Bank held at Montreal on June 15; General Manager Hague said: "The past year had not been supposed to be a year of much saving with farmers, but it is a fact that out of 29 branches where farmers deposits are received in 27 of them there had been an increase. I have no doubt this experience has been common." Referring to the condition of business in the north west Mr. Hague said: There can be no doubt a healthy condition of trade prevails in its principal centre, Winnipeg, and we hear from our manager that all trading lines have been profitable. Crops, it is well known, were immense in quantity but bad weather and delay in shipping deteriorated its value largely and holding over for better prices proved a terribly mistaken policy, as it has often done in Ontario, but in spite of all this the Northwest has made considerable progress during the year and the prospects for the future are excellent."

A Ottawa telegram says. It is in contemplation by the government to embark on a very vigorous policy looking to the completion of the 14 foot chain of navigation from the tide-water to Lake Superior by July 1st, 1891. It is felt that a considerable saving in superintendence, wages of staff, etc., can be effected if the canals at present in course of construction or enlargement are pushed more rapidly, and the Government's determination to press forward with the work will, doubtless, be hailed with satisfaction by Canadian shippers.

Among the results of Secretary Blaine's resignation, says *Bradstreet's*, has been the termination of the conference with the Canadian commissioners looking to an adjustment of the differences between the United States and Canada growing out of the question of discrimination in connection with tolls imposed on United States vessels passing through the Welland and St. Lawrence canals. This conference was begun last week, but was brought to a sudden close on Saturday, it is said, by the unexpected statement from Mr. Blaine that it was useless to continue the negotiations at present, for the reason that he was about to sever his official relations with the administration.