

## COMMERCIAL SUMMARY.

The state of Rivera, Brazil, has been placed under martial law.

The Lake Carriers' Association has advanced the wages of sailors.

Major Sam Hughes, M. P., has invented a system of ventilation for railway cars.

Briseo's tannery, the first in the Territories, was formerly opened at Calgary, last week.

The capital stock of the Western Union Telegraph Co., has been increased from \$82,000,000 to \$100,000,000.

Mr. W. McDonald has been selected by the conservatives of East Assinibola to succeed the Hon. Edgar Dewdney.

Burrell, Houghton & Co., boot and shoe manufacturers, of Boston, have failed. Liabilities, \$125,000; assets, \$80,000.

Some of the cotton manufacturers in North and Northeastern Lancashire are arranging to run their mills half time.

Experiments by two Bavarian professors seem to show that local and not individual conditions engender cholera.

A fire, last week, at St. John's Newfoundland, destroyed Harvey's tobacco and biscuit factories, which were valued at \$80,000.

*La Canadian* says the voyages of Ministers Hall and Casgrain to Europe has for its object the effecting of a new Quebec loan on the London market.

Gross earnings of the Canadian Pacific from January 1, to September 30, were \$14,311,002, an increase of \$1,031,302; net earnings \$5,572,414, an increase of \$109,627.

The judicial enquiry into the affairs of the Panama Canal Company has resulted in a decision being reached that a prosecution of the directors of the company is not justified.

The American Federation of Labor has made an appeal that December 13th shall be set aside as a day on which contributions shall be made for the strikers at Homestead.

A report that there were five cases of cholera on board the Allan steamship, Circassian, which arrived at Farther Point last week, is denied. They were simply cases of dysentery.

Irregularities having been discovered in connection with the free entry of goods for Government uses, a uniform certificate has been agreed upon, which must accompany each entry.

Major General Herbert has been summoned to Halifax to give his opinion as a military man on questions connected with the negotiations now going on there between representatives of Canada and Newfoundland.

Mr. Norman, one of the original promoters of the Three Rivers dead meat scheme says:—"Now that Canadian cattle have been scheduled and there is a possibility of building up a large export trade in dead meat to Britain, the Three Rivers project will be revived."

A report from Vienna says that the Australian Reichsrath will soon discuss a project to join the Oder and Danube rivers by way of a canal, thus making a complete waterway between the Baltic

Sea and the Black Sea. A French syndicate is surveying a route for the proposed canal.

A north of England paper announces the discovery of a new process of producing caustic soda, chlorine and other chemicals direct from brine by electricity. The new process, it is asserted, effects a saving of fifty per cent. compared with the cost of the old methods. Eminent chemists have pronounced the new process a great and pronounced success.

It has been said that the United States Government has advised the British Government that a large portion of the facts embraced in the case which it has prepared for the Behring's Sea arbitration has been found to be false, and that it will make corrections in the amended case which it will submit. The United States Government claims to have been misled by one of its agents.

The English Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Herbert Gardner, speaking recently at the Colchester Oyster Feast, had no remedy to offer to prevent what seems to be the gradual extinction of wheat growing in that country, or to make its cultivation more profitable to British farmers. He suggested that their farmers should devote their skill and energy to other farm products, such as butter, eggs, fruit, etc., of which the imports exceed 20 millions sterling per annum. This is, however, Beerholm's List comments, poor comfort to the ordinary wheat grower, because in the production of butter, eggs, fruit, and poultry, the competition from abroad is almost equally as keen as that in wheat from America.

We note, with regret, that a grocers' journal revives the old charge against the trade of "how some grocers become rich (sic) a good deal quicker than they ought to. Men in trade make a practice of charging up three and one half or seven pounds of sugar that were never ordered or delivered; five pounds of butter when only three were sent, and so on. In this way some men whose legitimate business would only yield a comfortable support have been enabled to purchase property worth many thousands in a few years." How many men permanently in business does this paper suppose practice any such fraud? The sharks of the trade, the trade pirates—rovers who have no responsibilities and are freebooters by instinct—may do this sort of thing, but does any rational man suppose it is possible to build up a business and carry on this practice?

## WORLD'S FAIR SOUVENIRS.

The World's Fair souvenir coins are "going like hot cakes," and those who want to get one or more of them will have to bestir themselves or they will be too late. The desire for one of these mementoes of the Exposition seems to be almost as universal as the interest in the Exposition itself, and orders for them have been sent in from all parts of the United States and also from foreign countries.

This souvenir half dollar, it is reported from Washington, will be the most artistic coin ever issued from the mint. On the obverse side will appear the head of Columbus, designed from the Lotto portrait and

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surrounding it words, "World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago, 1892." On the reverse side will appear a caravel, representing Columbus' flag-ship and beneath it two hemispheres. About the caravel will be "United States of America," and beneath the hemispheres, "Columbian Half Dollar." There is no doubt that this coin will be regarded as the most distinctive and highest prized cheap souvenir of the World's Fair.

All of these souvenir coins, except five, are being sold at a uniform price of one dollar each. For the first coin struck off, \$10,000 has already been offered, and various prices have been bid for the 400th, 1492nd, 1892nd and the last coin.

A vast number of enquiries by letter have been received at exposition headquarters asking how the coins may be obtained. The best way is to get them through U. S. banks, all of which are no doubt willing to accommodate in that way their patrons and the residents of the city or town in which they are doing business. If, however, for any reason it is desired to obtain them otherwise, the proper method is to form a club of subscribers for fifty coins, or some multiple of fifty, and select some one member of the club to send on the order and money, and to distribute the coins when received.

It is probable that the coins will not be ready for distribution until some time in December. But the orders are being sent in rapidly, and will be filled in the order received. Therefore, it is important that all who desire coins should put in their orders as soon as possible.