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General Notes.

Strawberries are selling at 30 cents a quart in Winnipeg.

Toronto has a tax of 18 mills on the dollar and an assessment of \$130,000,000.

The Pennsylvania Railroad company has contributed \$275,000 to the Chicago World's Fair.

This has been reported and contradicted so often that we would like to know if it is really true this time.

The receipts of the Grand Trunk Railway last week were \$383,064, an increase of \$10,800 over the same period last year.

The Canadian Pacific Railway earnings for the week ending May 31, were, \$407,000; for the same week last year \$351,000.

The differences regarding passenger rates in the Northwestern States have been adjusted and the old rates will be restored June 10.

Mayor Grenier, of Montreal, will accompany Mr. Robb, City Comptroller, to Europe, to negotiate the \$2,000,000 loan for permanent improvements.

It is reported on good authority that a large Chinese bank will shortly be started at Shanghai with branches at all Chinese ports. American bankers are believed to be chiefly interested in the scheme.

The Port Huron, Sarnia & Duluth line of steamers have put into effect a new tariff on car-load lots of flour and grain products from Duluth to the east, making an advance of 2½ cents over former rates.

In order to encourage the development of the iron industry of Canada the Government are increasing the bounty now given on pig iron from \$1.50 to \$2 a ton. This rate, however, will not come into force till 1892.

Dakota farmers in the vicinity of Gretna are selling their wheat in that market. After paying the duty, 15c per bushel, they realize 5 to

7c better there than can be had at any station within 20 miles of the boundary south.

The customs returns at Vancouver for the month ending 31st May are as follows. Imports free, \$15,236, dutiable, \$63,742; total, \$81,978. Revenue duties collected, \$18,939.32; other revenues, \$7,501.24; total, \$26,491.56.

The first of the new vessels which are to be used by the Canadian Pacific Ry., for excursion trips around the world in connection with that line, will be ready about the first of November. The company intends to send them to the Pacific coast via the Suez Canal.

A private London cable received in New York says: "The Soo road has been absorbed by the Canadian Pacific which company will guarantee the Soo's first mortgage 5 per cent. gold bonds." This is said to be from reliable inside sources.—Winnipeg Free Press.

Instructions have been sent to agents of binding twine companies in Iowa to sell the different kinds of twine at about four cents below last year prices. This has given rise to the belief that the binding twine trust which has imposed such burdens on the farmers has been broken.

The Standard Oil Company have bought out the Forest Oil Company for \$1,600,000. They are also negotiating for the purchase of the Anchor Oil Company, the second largest and richest producing company in existence. If this deal is completed the Standard will be practically sole master of the producing as well as the refining field.

An arithmetical fiasco has evolved the following: Mr. Greenway says Manitoba and the Northwest will produce 20,000,000 bushels of wheat for export this year. This means 50,000 cars of 400 bushels each, or 3,333 trains of 15 each. That would demand 11 trains per day for 300 days, moving one article only, and this is exclusive of all other traffic, either merchandise or passenger.

There are 12,628 miles of railway in operation in the Dominion, of which 556 miles were constructed last year. The total capital invested paid up is set down at \$760,576,446, and the total earnings last year were \$42,149,615, while the expense amounted to \$31,033,045.

A recent organization is the Sarnia Milling & Mazea Company with a capital of \$25,000 and a monopoly for fifteen years to manufacture mazea in the Dominion. Mazea has a white, flake-like appearance and is made of corn. It is used for culinary purposes in a variety of ways. In the States it is extensively used, the supply not being equal to the demand.

A difficulty seems to have arisen in connection with the floating of Montreal's new civic loan. It seems that the last loan was put upon the market as a specific loan for £340,000, instead of as part of a loan to the extent of 15 per cent. of the assessed value of the real estate of the city, which the Legislature has authorized, and which enables the city every year to put upon the market bonds to the amount warranted by the increase in the assessments. This will in all probability necessitate the sending of the city comptroller to London, in order to induce to committee of the stock exchange to allow the first circular to be withdrawn, and one issued on the 15 per cent. basis to be substituted.

Manufacturers of woollen goods in the United States are in a dilemma. According to reports the wool clip this season will be fully equal to if it does not exceed that of previous years, and just what the effect will be on prices the manufacturers are trying to determine. A year ago the situation was just the reverse, the season opened with a much smaller stock than usual and every thing seemed to indicate a high range of prices, but the eagerness of buyers caused a boom in the early part of the season and a reaction set in which made prices the lowest they had been for some years in spite of the shortness of the supply. This year stocks are fully fifty per cent. larger than last, and the result probably will be that prices have to come down.