

Chinese Markets.

Among those registered at the Clarendon hotel is Mr. Granville Sharp, of Hong Kong, China. Mr. Sharp is an elderly gentleman, who has resided in the Celestial empire for no less than forty-one years, and who in consequence is well posted on most Chinese questions. He is just now returning from a visit to England and was met here by his brother, who has been for thirteen years professor of English in the university of Kyoto, Japan, and is now on his way to England, possibly to remain.

"We are now using Canadian flour in China," said Mr. Sharp, to a representative of the Free Press, "and the trade, though increasing, is not at all what it should be. China should be one of the best markets for Canadian produce, since the Chinese will use any article of food that is reasonable in price. There is a good demand for butter, the supplies of which are now brought from France and Holland. Australian butter has been tried, but cannot be brought across the line in good condition. Butter is worth in Hong Kong 60 to 70 cents a pound, silver standard, equal to 30 and 35 cents in your money. In North China, at Shanghai, butter is worth 38 and 40 cents a pound. Only Europeans and the wealthier Chinese can use butter at that price, however. It could be shipped from November to March with very little difficulty, I imagine."

"You Manitobans have excellent opportunities for raising hogs, I understand, and the Chinese market for that product might be easily developed, and if once Canadians become able to place bacon on the Chinese market at reasonable figures, the trade would develop enormously. There would simply be no limit to the amount of pork the Chinese would purchase. Bacon is now worth 25 cents a pound for the good qualities. Canada now furnishes us with three per cent of our imports when, from her geographical position, she should supply at least 30 per cent."

"The thing that is hindering Canada most is the appalling lack of labor. This no doubt strikes an old resident of China more forcibly than a visitor from any other country. In my several visits to Canada, I have noted its progress, and while this has been good, it might have been five times as great had there been more labor. In passing through Eastern Canada I saw fields thick with stumps, and now twelve years later I see those same stumps still in the fields. You cannot afford to take them out with men worth \$1 a day, but you could afford it with labor at 12 cents a day. I think you should have at least a million Chinese laborers in Canada. You can legislate to keep them down. Don't allow a Chinaman to be anything but a servant. There should be at least two Chinese servants in every family in Manitoba."

"The Chinese are good farmers, and they understand domestic work. Import sufficient Chinese and you could produce millions of bushels of grain, and thousands of sheep, cattle and hogs from the wide stretches of fertile prairie land which I now see lying idle."

Western Business Items.

J. H. Fleming, hotel, Maple Creek, Assn., has sold out.

W. H. Duncan has opened a harness shop at Austin, Man.

J. & J. Brown, butchers, Grenfell, have dissolved.

The Buckle Printing Co., Winnipeg, is succeeded by Buckle & Morris.

J. McBurney, has purchased the Gladstone bakery, Gladstone, Man.

Dr. R. H. Pitts, of Edinburgh, will take up his practice at Portage la Prairie, Man.

R. Muir & Co., millers, Gladstone, are opening a branch flour and feed business at Minnedosa.

J. B. Rutherford, a well-known business man of Stonewall, Man., is leaving to take up residence in California.

The Great West Life Assurance company, which has its head office in this city, will shortly open a branch in London, Eng.

Gordon & Ironside made their last shipment of cattle to the European market for this season on Tuesday, November 29. It consisted of six carloads.

Mr. Blunderfeld, who returned again recently from St. Paul, where he went with a shipment of stocker cattle, reports the markets south as still very unfavorable for selling stockers.

It is alleged that the Golden Star Mining Company's new ten stamp mill at Mine Centre, Ont., has been giving returns of 20 a ton on plates. The company is milling an average of 36 tons a day.

Cook Bros., Manitou, have dissolved. Adams Bros., harness, Virden, have sold their Oak Lake branch store to Hockin of that town.

J. McCatchon, of Morden, is going into the lumber business at Glenboro.

Jones & Warren have bought out S. Knight's business in live stock and produce at Winnipeg.

Two hundred head of stocker cattle were shipped from Carberry to St. Paul on Tuesday last.

J. L. Gibson, dealer in farm implements, Wokeley, has taken in D. Campbell as a partner and will open a branch at Sintaluta.

The total output of butter in the past season from the Regina creamery was 25,447 lbs. The Mounted Police were purchasers of 6,006 lbs., and there were other sales in Regina aggregating 2,599 lbs. The balance 16,842 lbs., was shipped to British Columbia markets.

The sum of \$100 was stolen from the office of the Wokeley Agency company at Wokeley a few days ago. The money belonged to D. H. McMillan & Co., grain dealers, Winnipeg.

W. H. Duncan has opened a harness shop at Austin.

Alberta.

B. G. Atkinson has purchased A. Allan & Co.'s stock of men's furnishings and commenced business at Calgary.

Legal Decisions.

Judge Prendergast has given judgment in a case of considerable interest to real estate men in the city. Sometime since Mr. Strevel the contractor met Mr. Walker, of the firm of Glines & Walker, and told him he was open to buy a property of a good character for investment. If Walker could recommend one, Walker suggested a terrace on Carlton street owned by Cross. He made an appointment with Cross and introduced him to Strevel, when the three went over

the terrace together. Subsequently Strevel told Walker he would let him know what he would do, and asked him to get the lowest price for the property.

In the meantime Douglas, another real estate man, went to Cross and told him he could find a purchaser for him. He saw him again and offered \$14,000, which Cross accepted, the purchaser being Strevel. Both Glines and Walker, and Douglas sued Cross for \$375, the amount of commission claimed.

Judge Prendergast has entered a verdict for Glines & Walker for \$375 and costs. Mr. McMeaus appeared for Glines & Walker, and Mr. Huggard for Cross.

In a second case of Douglas vs. Cross for the like amount for commission the action has been tried before Judge Prendergast and stands for judgment.

New York Stocks.

New York, Dec. 2.—Opening stocks.—The market opened irregular. Atchafson 10 5-8; Burlington 119 1-2; Louisville 64; Leather preferred 68 3-8; Manhattan 98 5-8; Missouri Pacific 37 1-2; Northwest 140 1-4; Northern Pacific 40 3-4; do. preferred 76; People's Gas 119 3-8; Rock Island 118 1-2; Sugar 120 1-4 to 1-2; Southern preferred 41 3-4; Union Pacific 70 3-8.

Noon.—Money on call nominally at 2 to 2 1-2 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 3 1-4 to 4 1-4 per cent. Sterling exchange steady at \$1.84 1-2 to 3-4 for demand and at \$1.8 11-2 to 3-4 for sixty days. Posted rates \$1.82 to 1-2 and at \$1.85 1-2. Commercial bills \$1.80 1-2. Silver certificates 60 1-2 to 61 1-2. Bar silver 59 3-8. Mexican dollars 40 3-8. Government bonds firm.

British Columbia Items.

J. Brown is starting a coffin factory at Nelson.

Bongard & Peickert, hotel Cody, are out of business.

D. M. Linnard is opening in flour and feed at Grand Forks.

Bannerman Bros., grocers, are opening at Greenwood City.

W. H. Brown & Co., teas, New Westminster, are out of business.

R. Thornton is opening in dry goods and men's furnishings at Silverton.

S. McLanlan, saw mill, etc., Vernon, sold out and contemplates starting a store at Greenwood.

The stock of J. A. Lawrence, confectioner, etc., Victoria, was advertised for sale on Nov. 30.

H. A. Peacey, & Co., druggs, Cumberland, have dissolved partnership, Dr. Robert Lawrence retiring.

The stock of J. C. Tom, clothier and tailor, Golden, has been sold to Donald Fraser, of Winnipeg, at 67 1-2c on the dollar.

At a meeting of trades' unions at Vancouver on December 2, it was decided that in the spring a demand will be made on the employers for an eight hour day.

This week a year ago, lake freights advanced 5c per bushel on wheat, Fort William to Buffalo. Two years ago the steamers were frozen in the river at Fort William on December 1, though one steamer got away from Port Arthur a day later. In 1885 the last boat cleared from Fort William on December 5, and in 1884 the last boat cleared on December 2. Last year the last boat cleared on December 10, though the river was open some days later.