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COMMERCIAL SUMMARY.

Seeding is almost finished at Calgary.

A superior class of immigrants is arriving at Halifax.

The capital of the Bell Telephone Co. has been increased to $17,000,000.

The railways are contemplating an increase in through rates from England.

The Standard Oil Trust has decided dissolve, and the property is to be sold by the trustees.

The cattle rate out of Montreal has been fixed by the steamship companies at sixty shillings.

Lewis Cardigan, the last French survivor of the celebrated naval battle at Trafalgar, has just died at Hyeres, France, aged 101.

The French chamber has passed a bill inflicting the death penalty on all persons convicted of destroying property by the use of dynamite.

Capt. Baker, of the Netherlands-American SS. Obdam, has been sentenced at Amsterdam to a year's imprisonment for shooting a mutinous fireman.

The C. P. R. officials have been notified by the Admiralty that two hundred and three seamen, with three officers, will proceed over their line to Esquimalt in May.

Manager Hogg, of the Bank of Montreal, Winnipeg, has left for the London branch. He will be succeeded at Winnipeg by Manager Kirkland, of Chatham, Ont.

Amongst the legislation which the city of Winnipeg is now seeking is the power to take over the water works, to be managed by three commissioners. Also the power to purchase 600 acres of land for park purposes, which will also be managed by a commission.

In the Nova Scotia Assembly, Premier Fielding has made the annual financial statement of the province, from which it appeared the expenditures for the past year were $692,538, the largest item being $215,484 for education. The revenue was $661,511, leaving a balance against the province of $30,997. The largest items of income were $432,822, the Dominion subsidy, and $169,287 from mines and royalties.

A Norwegian farmer has devised a curious lock in which the bolt is released by a stroke from a pendulum bob. The pendulum, invisible from the outside, is moved sufficiently by blowing sharply several times through a hole in the door, but the puffs of air can be given at the proper time only by swinging a key pendulum, previously adjusted, to vibrate in unison with the lock pendulum.

The *Jewish Trade Unionist*, a paper circulating among Hebrew workers in the east end of London, states, on what it alleges to be reliable authority, that Government contracts have been given to Jewish tailors who have sub-let them, paying men with large families two, three and five shillings per week, in defiance of the fair wages law. The paper denounces this state of affairs, and says the fact that the offenders are people of their own race will not prevent the Jews from calling them to account. The matter will be made the subject of an interpellation in the House of Commons.

The Winnipeg branch of the Bank du Hochelaga was opened Monday, March 28.

Extensive improvements are contemplated at the Winnipeg depot of the C.P.R.

Sealing vessels returned to St. John's, Newfoundland, have made large catches.

In 1890, Canada exported to Newfoundland 10,335 barrels of flour; in 1891, 99,438 barrels.

More pressed hay is being shipped to the United States from Kingston this year than for many years past.

The Canada Cotton Manufacturing Co's plant and interests have been acquired by the Canada Colored Mills Co.

The Gananoque carriage works have sent over twenty carloads of carriages to the Northwest during the past month.

Eugene Kirby, the defaulting bank cashier of Marshall, Mich., has been sentenced to ten years in State prison for forgery.

D. R. Karn & Company's piano factory at Woodstock, was destroyed by fire. Loss about $50,000; insurance about one half.

Fire, one night last week, destroyed four buildings in Lethbridge, N. W. T., occupied by I. G. Baker & Co., A. C. Macdonnel, George Rowe, Blythe & McKenzie. The loss was $3,000 and insurance but $600.

An influential deputation waited upon Provincial Treasurer Hall, of Quebec, to urge the abolition of the commercial corporation tax and mining tax. The minister said he was in accord with the request and would do all he could to grant it.

The new English warship Empress of India, which has just been finished, is the farthest advanced of her class, and is one of the largest battle ships afloat. This vessel is of 14,500 tons displacement, and her engines are of 13,000 horse power.

The chief of the Bureau of Statistics at Washington reports that the total values of the exports of merchandise from the United States during the twelve months ending February 29 were $828,142,234, and and for the same period in 1891, $825,196,035.

It is reported from Washington that the Chinese Government has written to the U. S. Government a long and vigorous protest against the absolute exclusion of Chinese from the United States, claiming that it is a violation of treaty, and is without precedent in international affairs.

The March number of *The Manitoban* is a most creditable production. Among the contents which go to make up this excellent magazine are "A Hudson's Bay Railway," by a well known writer—"The Daw-Route Expedition," by a private of the force, containing many humorous sketches of individuals. "Things 'neath our Feet" is a well written article on a subject dear to the agriculturist. "The Hudson's Bay Company and Julian Ralph" is ably handled by Archer Martin, Esq., in which the writer takes Julian Ralph, of *Harper's Monthly*, to task for incorrect statements contained in the article "Skin for Skin," in the January number of that magazine. "The History of a Well-known Family" is ably narrated by Rev. Dr. Bryce. Altogether *The Manitoban* contains information on many subjects of interest to Canadians.