

THRESHING IN MANITOBA.

The threshing season is now in full blast in Manitoba. Passing through the country the traveller will notice smoke arising here and there about the prairie, and if familiar with the country he will not require to be informed that this is caused by the steam threshers which are now busy segregating the wheat from the straw and chaff. At night the horizon will be lit up in many quarters by the red glare of fire,

Threshing in Manitoba is done practically entirely by the latest improved steam threshers. Last week our illustration was a reaping scene. This week we give another one appropriate to the season, showing one of the steam threshers at work, with the engine in the foreground. There are scarcely any of the old time horse-power machines in the country, but the number of steam threshing outfits is sufficient to handle the entire crop in a very short time. This year the great bulk of the crop will be

may be confined to grain stacks, but often when a fire occurs, the threshing outfit is also burned, as the fire spreads so rapidly that the machines cannot be moved away in time to save them. Sometimes buildings are burned; but thoughtful farmers do not have threshing done near their buildings. The grain is stacked in the fields, and usually only two to four stacks are made in one place. When these are threshed out, the machines are moved on to the next group of stacks. Thus on some of our large



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which is caused by the burning of the straw which remains after the threshing operation has been concluded. The destruction of the straw in this way is considered by some as very wasteful, but what are the farmers going to do with it? They cannot make use of it all themselves, and it is not saleable, except to a very limited extent. The easiest way to get it out of the road is to apply the torch, and at the same time destroy the millions of seeds of weeds which are in almost every straw pile.

threshed within the period of one month. The bright, dry weather has made the straw very favorable for threshing and the work goes ahead more rapidly than it would if the straw were tough, as it sometimes is in damp seasons. There is also less waste of grain in threshing when the straw is in good condition.

Sometimes fires occur at threshings, caused by a spark from the engine. This is particularly dangerous in dry, windy weather. Every season there is some loss on this account. The loss

on farms, stacks will be noticed standing in groups all over the farm. With the traction engines which are used, it is an easy matter to move from one group of stacks to another.

The danger of fires from steam threshers is considered so great, that the insurance companies refuse to pay losses caused by such fires, unless a special permit, containing many stringent provisions, has been obtained.

Turpentine has advanced 1c at Montreal, to 44 to 45c.