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## THE MINING BOURSE.

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\$25,000 Winnipeg Consolidated at 50 per cent .: \$5 deposit and \$20 on allotment.

\$10,000 Lake Winnipey at \$5 per share.

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JOHN K. BRYDON, SOLICITOR, CONVEYANCER, Notary Public, Commissioner in B. R., c. Main Street, Rat Portage, Manitoba.

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Mirror Plates, Paints, Colors, White Lead, Oils? Varnishes, Brushes, &c.

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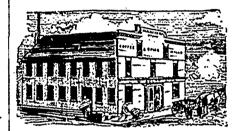
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Subscription Price......\$2.00 per annum in advance; OFFICE: 31 BANNATYNE ST., EAST, WINNIPEG, MAN. II. T. McPHILLIPS, L. N. CARON, II. T. McPHILLIPS,

Manitoba Steam Coffee and Spice Mills.



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They Give Entire Satisfaction.

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Ample experience as to the requirements of Manitoba and the North-west Territories; very best connections with Eastern manufacturers; large stock constantly on hand; reasonable prices and liberal terms should commend, this firm to the favorable consideration of the present prospective Retail Merchants of Manitoba and our great North-west.

35 Queen St. East, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

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STOCK LARGE AND WELL ASSORTED. PRICES LOW TO CASH AND PROMPT MEN.

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> Valentias in Half Boxes, Valentias in Quarter Boxes, Currants in Barrels, Currants in Half Barrels.

MALAGA PRUIT EXPECTED DAILY.

Turner, MacKeand & Co.,

BANNATYNE STREET.



**VOL. 1.** 

WINNIPEG, JANUARY 30, 1883.

NO 18.

## The Commercial

Journal devoted to kupping a comprehensive record of the transactions of the Monetary, Mercantile and Manufacturing interests of Manitoba and the Canadian North-West.

### ISSUED EVERY TUESDAY

THE COMMERCIAL will be mailed to any address in Canada, United States or Great Britain at \$2.00 a year in advance:

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		ADVERTISING	RATES	. <b>.</b>		
_1	month,	weekly insertion.		80	30	per line.
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Casual rates for all advertisements inserted for a less period than one month, or for all transient advertising, 10 cents per line each insertion.

Reading notices in news columns, 15 cents per line each insertion. Special location will be charged extra.

THE COMMERCIAL will be circulated extensively amongst wholesale and retail Merchants, Jobbers, Bankers, Brokers, Manufacturers, Hotel Keepers, Insurance and Loan Agencies throughout the entire Canadian North-West

Book, Newspaper, Rallroad, Commercial and Job Printing specialties

Laroffice, 16 James St. East.

STEEN & BOYCE.

Publishere.

#### WINNIPEG, JAN. 30, 1883.

- E. D. Worthington, dealer in confectionery, is selling out.
- J. P. Biglow, general store, Virden, has made an assignment in trust.

The sheriff is in possession of the premises of Mrs. L. Black, milliner, Winnipeg.

Higginson & Vineburg, physicians, Portage a Prairie, have dissolved partnership.

A. G. McKay, dealer in gents' furnishings, Winnipeg, has sold out to Alex. Ross.

The sheriff is in possession of the premises of R. J. Orris, dealer in fruits, Winnipeg.

The sheriff is in possession of the premises of T K. McQueen, dealer in fruits, Winnipeg.

The scavenger system is again before the City Council. Let the cost be what it may the city should be kept as clean as a new pin.

The average monthly less by tire in the United States and Canada is over seven millions, or nearly a quarter of a million daily.

Butler & Hick, jewelers, Winnipeg, have dissolved partnership, the business being continued under the designation of Butler & Co.

Mr. Jas. Fraser, manager for James O'Brien & Co., wholesale clothiers is at present on an eastern tour making purchases of spring goods.

This afternoon the Winnipeg Board of Trade will meet in the City Council Chambers, when the election of officers for 1883 will take place.

The past week shows a blank so far as the fire record of the city is concerned. It is just possible that some of the insurance companies doing business here will raise rates on hearing of this.

The city of Indianapolis taxes telegraph poles with a view to compelling the telegraph and telephone companies to put the wires beneath the ground.

There is considerable irregularity in the mails both from the east and west, and returns from several of THE COMMERCIAL's correspondents have not reached the office in time for publication this week.

N. Bawlf, dealer in grain is contemplating the erection of an extensive warehouse and offices at the corner of Princess and James Sts. and will probably commence operations as soon as spring opens.

During the next ten days G. F. & J. Galt, wholesale grocers will move into their new quarters on Princess Street near James. They will have one of the most solidly constructed buildings in Winnipeg, and plenty of space for their rapidly swelling volume of business.

CANADIAN and American Companies are prospecting for petroleum in the Oilheim and Linneburg districts of Germany. They are going down two thousand feet and have already met with encouraging indications. The German companies have neither had the capital nor the appliances proposed by the cis-atlantic compa-

A flect of eteamers is said to be at present being constructed on the Clyde to run in opposition to the Richelieu and Ontario line controls of which is now in the hands of the Grand Trunk. The new vessels are to be of steel and of the same pattern as those which are to be placed on the upper lakes to run in connection with the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Mr. George McDonald of Ottawa has invented a new automatic fire alarm signal, which he has named the "thermstat." When the room | delivery.

becomes hotter than a certain degree the alarm is sounded. The thermstat is being introduced in Ottawa hotels and manufacturing establishments. A Scotch inventor named Symington has had a similar contrivance in use for fifteen years.

The plans for the new post office have been approved of by the Minister of Public Works. The building will be of brick and will occupy all the site of the present building. The cost of building and fixtures will be in the neighborhood of \$200,000. Plans for a new custom house to cost a like sum are also under consideration, and probably its construction will be proceeded with this year. The post office business will be transacted in temporary premises.

Harris, Son &Co., wholesale dealers in farming machinery, have moved into their new premises on Market Square, where they have four floors of 33 by 100 feet. The building is admirably arranged and laid out. The show room is on the street floor, the offices on the second, the storage rooms in the basement and rear of second and third floors. On the top floor are sleeping quarters for the employer, and the building, although near fire-proof as possible, has fire-escapes in the rear, by which safe decent from any floor is easy in case of a conflagration.

Messrs. John Woodley & Co., have entered upon possession of the Kildonan brewery, which will in future be known as "The British Brewery" with the Union Jack as the trade mark of its ales and porters, The senior partner, Mr. Woodley, belongs to what is known as a brewing family, and has been trained in the business from tender years upwards., For about five years Mr. Woodley was brewer for Bass & Co., and he says that the water, which is of prime importance in brewing, is more like that of the Trent than anything he has seen elsewhere. It is Mr. Woodley's intention to make quality his object before quantity, and he promises to produce an article superior to any brewd in Canada and equal to the best English bitter. The water and the hops are here and the constant personal attention of a competent brewer, financially supported, is all that is required to make Winnipeg the brewing head-quarters of the North-west. Mr. Woodley will not supply those who have not proper means for keeping his stock in good condition after

#### MINING NOTES.

Amovement is on foot to creat a coal miners' union in the United States. Of workers in bituminous there are 170,000.

The anthracite production in the United States last year was 29,500,000 tons, the largest on record by 1,000,000 tons.

Analagous to carrying coals to Newcastle might be said to be the carrying of nails to Dudley. Yet the United States, which only a few years ago imported all the nails used, last year shipped them to England, Ireland and Scotland. The British possessions in Africa took 581,987 lbs. Canadian axes and American hammers now compete successfully in England, simply owing to the fact that the native manufacturers are paying less and less attention to quality,

M. L. B Dumas, member of the French Academy of Sciences, has discovered that water saturated with alum, has superior value in extinguishing fires—a value supposed to be due to the coating it gives to objects wet with it, which prevents contact with the oxygen of the air, and thus diminishes the rapidity of the combustion. Experiments are to be made by supplying the firemen of Paris with instruments to throw it, and the Minister of the Interior has recommended that the firemen of the French communes or towns be supplied with facilities to use such solutions of alum. Le Monde de la Science.

The Keewatin company are working vigorously on Hay Island. The walls are perfect, and it will be possible to dispense with timber ing the shaft. The pay-streak is widening almost with mathematical regularity, and the superintendent reports himself perfectly satisfied with the progress made. The class of rock being hard trap without fissures a dry shaft below the lake level is assured. The Vice President of this company is at present in New York attending to its interests and those of the Lake Winnipeg company. He expects before his return to make arrangements to bring in a mill in the spring.

The Superintendent of the George Heenan Company came into town last week for instructions before locating the shaft. It has been decided to dispense with the costly work of stripping the lead, and to sink a shaft ten or twelve feet back from the drift in which the original owners had been quarrying. The water being very low in the Lake of the Woods a few shots will be put in below where the quarrying took place, so as to ascertain the patch of the vein, and then the angle of the main shaft will be determined upon, so that the veins may either be intersected or reached by a short cross-cut below the lake level.

The American Mail says: "The finest gold ever assayed at the United States Assay Office, New York, was recently received from the mines of the Canada Consolidated Gold Mining Company, of Ontario. Of two bars agregating nearly 2,000, one was 992 fine, and the other of about \$1,200, was 998 fine. One small bar even ran 999. The gold was produced by chlorination from the gold bearing arsenical sulphurets treated by this company. The assays show

that from 90 to 97 per cent. of the gold is obtained by this method." This company work the Gatling mino, which the lack of Canadian enterprise threw into the hands of Americans, in the same manner as the original owners lost Silver Islet.

The Journal of Charcoal Ironworkers gives interesting figures in regard to the by-products obtained in making charcoal from a cord of wood. From average wood weighing 3,600 pounds per cord, wood spirit will be obtained to the extent of 2.25 cwt. to 3.20 cwt. The number of heat-units obtainable from the byproducts of a cord of wood are in round numbers 2,764,000, or 1-10th of what is contained in a ton of anthracite. Fuel in this form, it is said, will do three times the work of that in a solid condition, and, in conclusion, it is stated that if the by-products from a cord of wood were consumed in a properly constructed furnace the useful effect would be equal to 3-10th of a ton of anthracite.

The stringency of the money market during the past week probably had something to do with the absence of any demand for mining shares, the quotations for which at the Bourse remain: Keewatin \$7.25; Winnipeg Consolidated \$25; Lake Winnipeg \$4.50. The great anxiety of a few investors to realize is causing more annoyance than can well be imagined. If men purchase mining shares at a heavy discount they should be prepared to wait a few weeks or months to obtain an advance on the prices paid. At this stage of mining shares are sold at what they are supposed to be worth, the basis of calculation being the amount of work done and the amount of "pay" in sight, and picayune speculators as are hawking their few shares round the city are a curse to mining, and the companies might well consider the advisability of instructing their brokers to bring them all in.

Mr. D. K. Brown, of the Bourse, has received assurances from prominent capitalists in the United States that they will visit the mining belt when the snow disappears, with a view to lending a hand towards development. The aid of English capitalists is also being invoked, and there is reasonable hope of all the money necessary being forth coming. Owners of claims will. however, have to be more modest in their demands, or they will find that capitalists will employ prospectors of their own, so as to secure locations at a reasonable price. Men, who last June would have hailed the advent of a man with a thousand dollars as a deliverer from the bondage of poverty now unblushingly ask fifty times the amount they then were willing to accept. Something much like a system of blackmail is also being attempted when claims are purchased. No sooner is a location purchased from the person in whose name registration of survey has been made at Ottawa and Toronto. than some pliant lawyer is employed to issue a notice of trespass on behalf of some one who has at one time or another attempted to jump the claim. As there is no court in the disputed territory competent to issue an injunction, a little shot gun litigation may take place, if the would be blackmailers attempt to take possession. There is, besides, a criminal court, and the wou d be blackmailers may find themselves com-

pelled to defend their alleged titles in a way they do not expect. It is as well to understand and at the outset of this business that purchasers of claims will not be safe unless they deal directly with the original locator, leaving him to deal with grub-stakers and those who may have acquired an interest in the location claim.

The severe weather of the past three weeks has to some extent interfered with work at the mines in the Keewatin district. Work, in the shafts has, however, been vigorously prosecuted. In the Winnipeg Consolidated, location F 22, the shaft is now down sixty feet, and the pay streak has widened to fully two feet, the quartz taken therefrom being thoroughly decomposed and showing free wiry gold of a very fine color. This ore will be very easily milled, and is of the best class of free milling. The company has about concluded the purchase of a pulverizer mill, and should nothing interfere will produce the first brick in about a months' time, when the charter will have passed the Council, which is at present busy over the approaching meeting of Parliament. Supt. Brown, during his visit to the city last week, said that his most sanguine expectations had been more than ex ceeded. The work of sinking on location F 22, is also progressing favorable, and the quality of the ore continues to improve. Though F 22 is now considerably below the level of the lake, the shaft continues free from water. The company is now working three eight hour shifts, and will increase the force of men when a hundred foot level is reached.

## Commercial Travelers.

The Shipping List says:-"The system of selling merchandise by traveling salesmen in this country is mainly the outsgrowth of the last twenty-five years and very few who are not immediately concerned have any adequate idea of the enormous proportions to which the business has attained. According to statistics presented before the Wholesale Druggists' Convention, lately held at Cleveland, the number of salesmen who sell goods by sample throughout the States and Territories is roundly stated to be not less than 200,000, maintained at an average cost to their employers, in the shape of salary; traveling expenses, hotel bills etc., of \$3,000 for each salesman, or an aggregate of \$600,000,000 per annum. The system was undoubtedly modeled after the system of English 'bagmen,' who traveled throughout the United Kingdom and sold goods for the merchants of the chief commercial capitals long before traveling salesmen in this country were thought of. Though scarcely more than a quarter of a century old, the commercial traveler system has kept pace with the increasing facilities of travel furnished by our great railroad system. As the railroads have brought a market to every farmer's and producer's door, so have they brought to every country merchant's door the enterprising commercial traveler with his different wares. Commercial travelers have wonderfully promoted trade between; remote sections, and in many ways have been of great benefit, both to their employers and to the merchants who purchase their wares. They have been instrumental in gaining wider markets for the distributing merchants and in economising time and money for the country merchants. Yot not a few business men have come to regard the traveling system as too expensive, in comparison with the results obtained, besides being fraught with evil, and would be glad to dispense with it if it were possible to do so. But to abandon the system would be 'on a par with abandoning railroads and going back to stage coaches, or to rely upon the mails instead of the telegraph for the dissemination of valuable information. No, the commercial traveler system has become too important a factor in business to dispense with at this late day. The distributing merchant or manufacturer who should in these days sit down to wait for trade to come to him would have a decidedly slow and unremunerative time of it. The rank and file of traveling salesman, it is generally conceded, is composed of bright, intelligent, honorable and upright men of good address and of large experience; but it also contains not a few who are unscrupulous, or unfixed habits and without business training. The problem is how to 'separate the goats from the sheep.' In the opinion of the chairman of the Druggists' Convention, the system can best be reformed by the merchants especially educating their clerks as to their own methods of business, and then require themto strictly adhere to that system, leaving the responsibility of success or failure to the cm ployers. In addition to which the ranks of traveling salesmen, it is said, need to be thinned out. They are becoming so numerous, so heavy a tax and burden upon the business of the country, that unless some limit is put upon the system, it must go down of its own weight. The merchants undoubtedly have it in their power to raise the standard of commercial integrity among commercial travelers, and to the credit of the Commercial Travelers' Association, be it said, it is a work which they themselves are doing.'-

## One Word for Another.

The American Mail, in a recent issue, under the designation "A Word to our Canadian Friends," says: "Ontario's commercial interests lie in cultivating the most friendly relations with the United States, instead of snarling, as is too much the case with her press and public speakers. The United States is just in the mood at present to build a wall along the frontier over which the Ontario farmor cannot peep from the tops of his tallest trees, and the American-born men of that American province may wake up some morning and find out that their Anglican friends have cut them off from their people on this side commercially and officially. Our consuls have given fair warning both to Canada and the United States, that this effort to keep the Americans on both sides of the line divided may succeed, in which event there would be nothing left for the men born on American soil but to pull up stakes and come to the United States where they can find more congeniality, instead of being tied to the wheels of European prejudices and domination. A glance at a single year's exports will satisfy our Ontario friends that the American Con-gress could in a single hour's legislation bankrupt their province, while as far as their mark et is concerned, it would not be a drop in the ocean of American commerce. According to Consul Pace, the value of declared exports from the United States Consulate at Port Sarnia to the United States during the fiscal year ended

June 30, 1882, was \$634,235.15, being an increase of \$53,341.48 over the preceding year.

It is always a pleasure as well as a duty to correct a courtoous and usually well-informed journal when it is involuntarily laboring under a misapprohension. It is true that commercially Ontario is closely identified with the United States, but it is impossible to say that the metropolitan province is part and parcel of a country which is divorced from that province by a tariff on the average at least twice as high as that prevailing in the province. Ontario invites United States' product by a tariff whose basis is 25 per cent. The United States repels Ontario by a tariff whose basis certainly exceeds 50 per cent.

The United States may at present be in a mood to build the wall of tariff hostility against this country still higher, but the movement in Congress to appoint a reciprocity commission seems to indicate that the decreased market in Canada for United States' products is having an opposite effect. The effect of the national policy upon imports has been to materially decrease those from the United States and increase those from Great Britain. We are surprised that a journal so well informed as the Mail should talk about "European prejudices and domination" in Canada. Canada is ruled by Canadians and while there is a not unhealthy respect for the systems of the past, all of our legislation is based on Democratic principles and the current of social life sets steadily away from the aristocratic form. The only European domination that is worthy of consideration in summing up the social, political and commercial influences at work in Canada, is the domination of Threadneedle Street, and by the investment of American and Dutch capital in the North-west, this domination is in a fair way of being counterbalanced.

We beg to assure the Mail that the American Congress could not in an hour, nor in a century bankrupt the province of Ontario, the loss of whose American trade, while it would certainly be felt, would not cause a great commotion either in agricultural or commercial circles. If the Mail will excuse us we would like to say right out in meeting that Americans have too long shown a contempt for Canadians, except in positions of responsibility across the lines, which has borne its fruit in a determination to be commercially independent of Britain and the United States, let the cost be what it may.

Canadian commissioners have gone hat in hand to Washington for the last time. Canadians mean to have no more jug-handled trade arrangements. If the Americans will meet Canadians as equals and talk fair and square business, in Canadians they will find every desire to live commer rally as well as politically friendly. If the voice of the Americans is for commercial war the Canadians do not care how scon the Fiery Cross goes upon its mission. Their political and commercial experience has taught Canadians how to suffer, endure and conquer. In the North-west they have a Star of Hope; in themselves they feel that they have the "git-thar" and their voice is for peace, but not peace at any price. "Peace with profit" is now

the motto of Canadian commerce, and profit is not to be obtained by meeting American commerce upon any other than a reciprocally just basis.

## Crop Prospects for 1883.

The Miller's Journal in forcasting the crop prospects of 1883 says that they present some new features of more than usual interest, cspecially in Europe: "At no time for many years past have the autumn sowings in central and western Europe been prosecuted under greater disadvantages, or the subsequent weather conditions been more unfavorable to the germination of the seed and growth of the plants than in the present season. In . France, England and Germany a much smaller breadth of land has been seeded than usual, especially to wheat, and this cannot fail to exercise considerable influence upon the future of the markets, since, as a rule, spring-sown grain in those countries does not yield nearly so well as that sown in the autumn. Collectively, therefore, the harvest prospect in the countries mentioned cannot be considered, at present, otherwise than rather gloomy." Such being the outlook in Europe for the domestic supply it becomes of some interest to producers ou this continent to know the strength of the opposition they are likely to meet with in supplying the European deficiency. The Journal thus reviews the situation. "Late mail advices from British India report a plentiful rainfall in the more important grain growing provinces, with wheat, barley, oats and other so-called coldweather crops coming forward finely. From Australia the accounts are much less favorable to a good wheat crop, but from New Zealand they indicate a fair yield. In California the rainfall has been insufficient and the promise there leaves much to be desired. In the States east of the Rocky Mountains, however, the wheat plant is generally spoken of as looking hardy and promising well." From this it may safely be inferred that there is a strong probability that the prices for the crops of 1883 will at least fully equal those now current.

### Seed Wheat.

The efforts that have been put forth by the C. P. R. managers for the securing of first-class seed grain for the North-west, will be continued during the present spring, and farmers can have hard fite wheat for seeding porposes carried over the company's lines free of freight to any point. The Government at Ottawa have seconded this effort by allowing the duty free importation of hard fife from the United States, when intended for seeding purposes, and an order has been issued to that effect. This is a very wise policy, as first-class hard wheat to sow the acreage that will be in wheat in the North-west this year, is not to be had in the country, and it would be rather a hardship upon struggling pioneers to make them pay duty on their seed wheat. The aim of a protective tariff should be to assist tho weak, and the suspension of duty on wheat in this instance, is certainly a great assistance to a weak and struggling new country.

## The Commercial

WINNIPEG, JAN. 30, 1883.

## AN BLEVATOR SYSTEM FOR WINNIPEG.

In a former article THE COMMERCIAL discussed the advantages of having an elevator system in Winnipeg, showing that by having grain stored in this city the prices would be under the influence of the American and Canadian markets instead of being regulated solely by those of Eastern Canada. It is our intention now to show that apart from being advantageous it is absolu'ely necessary to the well-being alike of the grower and vendor of grain that the grading and storing of grain be done in this city instead of in a hamlet in the province of Ontario and on the .stant shore of Lake This year there has been Superior. great trouble about the grading of wheat, shipper in this market being left to the whim of inspectors of other markets. There has thus been no certainty whatever in sending grain south and east, whereas certainty could be assured were there an elevator system here and were grading done upon a recognized basis. The grading in the markets of Toronto and Montreal is too far from being regular to satisfy shippers in Winnipeg. Grading in Chicago is good, being perhaps the most regular on the continent. On the other hand grading in Minneapolis very elastic and bobs up and down like the mercury in October. ping to these markets it requires neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet to discover that shippers cannot know what the grading of their grain will be after it leaves here. The lack of an elevator system here, regular inspection and fixed grades also acts prejudically against the grain trade, by preventing purchasers in distant markets from buying here, simply because they do not know what class of grain they may receive. Before distant purchasers can buy in this market, before indeed any one can buy except by private inspection or through responsible agents, there must be an official grading of all grain offered in open market. must be a Winnipeg No. 1 or a Winni peg No. 2, as well known, and upon which as much dependence may be placed as upon Chicago No. 2 or No. 3. Until then the grain trade of the North west must be in a primitive and almost chaotic state, The former will cortainly lie under a feel-

ing that he is not having justice done to him, the purchaser must feel that in his dealings there is an unnecessary element of uncertainty and the exporter must conduct his operations upon a margin more speculative than is at all desirable in the best interests of all concerned. The attempt to do away with these drawbacks, the seriousness of which must increase with each year, by constructing an elevator system and grading grain in another province more than four hundred miles away from the commercial heart of the North-west, is so absurd as to resemble placing a poultice upon the big toe to cure It is impossible to discuss toothache. seriously such an egregious commercial blunder - and blunders of this sort are worse than crimes—as would be the location of the machinery of the grain trade of the North-west at Prince Arthur's Landing, with a waste of four hundred miles between the machinery and the motive power. But if the Canadian Pacific railway for the express purpose of securing the carrying control of all wheat grown in the North-west-a control that will turn the North-west into the hands of eastern millers-persist in locating the elevator system in Ontario, then private enterprise and capital must take hold and do what the public corporation for transparent reasons will not do if they can decently or unobtrusively avoid it. pend upon it, the American tariff on Canadian grain for milling purposes will be abolished in a very few years, and then, will be seen what the location of the elevator system at Winnipeg means. Even now it is incomprehensible that any one can be so dull of apprehension as to fail to see the advantage of having two markets instead of one. The city council which wastes much time and energy in wrestling with matters that might be left to the discretion of officials, were they competent, has not yet taken up this subject, though the establishment of the elevator sytem here will add vastly to the assessment of the city. It is time too for the Board of Trade to be stirring and some assistance should be forthcoming from the daily press, now that politics have fizzled out. If they will conjointly put forth their efforts the grain trade of the North-west will be organized on a proper basis and be retained under local control. Otherwise it will remain in its present unsatisfactory state until control

Whatever may be the commercial and industrial progress of the North-west, agriculture must be the backbone of its existence, and if Winnipeg is to be a capital in more than name it must hold a controlling power in agricultural affairs of the North-west

#### THE TEST OF PROSPERITY.

From the report of the United States Bureau of Statistics it appears that for the eleven months ending November the United States exported 778,500,767 lbs. of provisions, valued at \$84,863,003 against 1.254,725,776 lbs. valued at \$120, 345,092 in 1881. This remarkable falling off is accounted for by the great drought in 1881. Again in 1882 for ten months the imports of merchandse were \$637.980 193 and the exports \$504,037,206, in coin and bullion the imports were \$15,-213,642 and the exports were \$53,022,-060, showing an excess of imports over exports of \$6,134,569. In 1881 the conditions were the reverse the excess of exports over imports being \$85,409,803. In merchandise and provisions the declension in exports has been a sum of no less than \$172,000,000 which throws the balance of trade \$6,000-000 against the United States. The balance of trade is chronically against Great Britain, so the political economist stands face to face with the startling fact that two of the most powerful of the industrial nations, the two whose combined strength exceeds all the rest of the world have and maintain this strength in the face of the balance of trade being against them. It is evident that political economists will have to work up a new theory concerning the balance of trade and commercial prosperity. After two or three decades they will arrive at the conclusion long since apparent to the social economist that a nation's prosperity is to be gauged not by the values of the articles which she produces, but by her capacity for employing labor. the balance of trade be kicking the beam against a country, so long as that country can furnish room for those who are willing to work that country is prosperous. The element of permanent improvements is overlooked by all workers in the favorite puzzle of the balance of trade. Thus they are apt to bemoan such a circumstance as the adverse balance of six millions gained the United States, quite oblivious of the fact that the labor requisite to create a favorable balance may have taken a of it pass into ultra-provincial hands, different channel and been expended upon

creating permanent improvements within the country which will in other years increase the exporting power of the country. If political economists would look as often into the workman's dinner-pail as they do into tables of statistics they would arrive at sounder conclusions concerning in what the prosperity of a country consists.

### LAKE NAVIGATION.

"In time of peace prepare for war, is an old proverb which may be adapted to lake navigation by saying when the vessels are in harbor have a load line painted upon them. The disasters which during the past few years have invariably marked the close of navigation, have been in each succeeding winter forgotten. Canadian Plimsoll is sadly needed, for upon the lakes there are many vessels plying which are simply floating coffins. When the "Asia," went down, causing the death of over twenty persons, a great outcry was made and assurances were given that the government would act a paternal part and see that stringent regulations were made at the next session of parliament. Since then all that the public is aware of having been done is the holding of a farcical investigation. less some private member have made it his business to frame a shipping act it is more than probable that these floating coffins will get what the Scotch call "a lick" of paint and throw out their gangways for the reception of victims. It is time that the agitation for the inspection of hulls, equipment, engines, and boilers were renewed. In a few months more the stream of immigrants will be again pouring upon the shores of Canada and as it is the intention this year to utilize the upper lake and Thunder Bay route as much as possible, the government will be nothing short of criminal if it permit passenger vessels to ply without being previously inspected. And this inspection must be done thoroughly and not in the perfunctory farcical manner that has hitherto prevailed in inspecting steamships' boilers. The loss of the lives of twenty immigrants upon Lake Superior would be a calamity almost as great as a visit from the grasshoppers. The navigation of Lake Superior is as dangerous as that of the German Ocean, and the vessels plying upon the great inland sea ought to be built up to the highest class. There are some good vessels on the stations, but most of them should not be permitted to have a passenger list. The daily press throughout the country would do well to take up this theme and ding it into the ears of the government until assurances are given that a thorough system of steamship inspection will be provided.

### BRITISH TRADE.

The trade statistics of Great Britain for the first ten months of 1882 show some startling figures. The imports amounted to \$1,622,120,000, showing an increase of nearly \$68,000,000 over 1881. The imports of Great Britain, during this period, exceeded the imports and exports combined of the United States for the same period by no less a sum than \$126,-000,000. The value of British produce and manufactures exported during these ten months was \$986,580,000, in addition to which British firms exported probably in the neighborhood of \$200,000,000 of foreign produce and manufactures. This leaves an excess of \$480,570,000 over the imports. In these figures the statistican who contends that an adverse balance of trade means ruin has a hard nut to crack. This task is all the more difficult, when it is borne in mind that during the last eleven years the balance of trade against Great Britain has been a sum no less stupendous than \$5,350,000,000. Yet it is questionable if Great Britain pays out annually one dollar on behalf of her imports over her exports. Great Britain still does the bulk of the carrying trade af the world, and she is still the money market of the world. But it will not always be so, for her manufacturing ascendency cannot be long maintained, unless new markets be found. Year by year shows this great manufacturing power being slowly expelled from fooeign markets by domestic labor. The ascendency of Great Britain in the money market is also declining, for the allied forces of New York, Paris, Amsterdam and Hamburg are now equal to the task of holding their own against London. On the seas alone is British supremacy becoming more assured every day. The subsidies paid by France have failed in their objects, and German commerce is largely owned by the British, who in their facilities for the cheap construction of steel and iron ships hold the key of the seas. Until some other power can command the cheap labor and cheap material requisite to construct the vessels of the modern commercial navy Great Britain's rule over the seas will remain unchallenged, and her commercial ascendency will consequently be maintained, let the domestic paogress in other countries be what it may.

### ADULTERATION AND FALSE WEIGHT.

There can be no question in the mind of the average householder that in the city of Winnipeg, not only is adulteration extensively practised but that the conscience of many retailers are singularly elastic in what they consider full weight. For much of the adulteration which takes place in articles of food neither the retailer nor the wholesale dealer can fairly be held accountable, and as it is impossible in most cases to reach the manufacturer the prosecution of middle-men and retailers would be nothing less than persecution, But there are many articles which are adulterated immediately before reaching the consumer, and the vendors of such articles should be remorselessly dealt with. To supply the demand for nervous force in these days is a task which tries the strength of the most serviceable of stomachs, and often finds them wanting. To surreptitiously handicap the stomach with the digestion of poisons and delite rious matters is criminal, and ought to be rigorously punished. Another class of frauds, which is an invasion of the pocket instead of an outrage upon the human system, is short weight. Some retail dealers is this city are notorious offenders in this matter, and without the slightest compunction rob the consumer in weight Lazy housewives, who are too dignified to carry home a pound of tea, deserve little pity if they be mulcted by short weight in the cost of delivery; still right is right. and honesty should prevail. Profits are good on most articles which the shopman sells, and he ought to deal at all times squarely with his customer The federal government provides for the examination of all weights and measures, and we suppose at one time or another such an official must have been appointed for Winnipeg But who he was, or what has become of him is not known even to that veracious individua! "the oldest inhabitant." Very possibly the official is wintering in Bermuda, or has been lost in a blizzard. If there be such an official, and he be not hybernating, THE COMMERCIAL believes the public would be gratified to receive a report from him upon the weights and measures used in the city.

### THE ELECTIONS.

Concerning the political significance of the elections and the means taken to bring about the return to power of Mr. Norquay and the party which he represents, we leave politicians to quarrel among themselves, but we have a few words to say concerning the commercial aspect of the elections. The majority gained by the party which had the sustension of the Canadian Pacific Railway Charter as one of the planks in its platform, gives assurance that within the next four years at least no act of the local legislature will be passed prejudical to the agreement between the syndicate and the federal parliament. Inasmuch as the acts of the local legislature form the only official protests of which cognizance can be taken by the federal authorities, all attempts at representing the sentiment of this province as being adverse to the completion of the contract in its integrity must fall to the ground. The clamor may be kept up in the hopes of gaining some political advantage, but the result of the elections stands out as a confirmation by the province of the action of the federal authorities. Had this province, in whose prosperity the Canadian Pacific Railway has been a great factor, declared for the repudiation of the national faith the effect would have been very bad indeed upon capitalists. At rebellion no man seriously hinted, yet rebellion was and is still the only force which could break the contract. Governments may make laws but in Canada fortunately courte interpret them independently of the government, and besides there is a superior power to parliament itslef which in such an emergency as a contemplated violation of the sanctity of a covenant would step in to prevent the aggression of public whim upon private The verdict of the people has shown that they are imbued with the spirit of commercial justice and if their verdict have been in part a grateful recognition of what has been done for them, it may be said for them that a clear head is never in better company than when it is with an honest heart. In the discomfiture of the anti-disallowance party the province has made a distinct commercial gain for capital ir sensitive and if contracts made in good faith were to be open to revision at the whim of one party, the other party would have an equal right and then there would be an end to security in contract, without which capi-

tal would be invoked in vain. "Better bear with the ills we have, than to fly to those we know not of," is an old saying, and it has been the controling force in determining the votes of commercial men in this contest and their vote, have added moral strength, and we doubt not strength of a more substantial kind to the railway company and the government under whose agis the national work is being prosecuted. As the result conjointly of the syndicate's obtaining the capital required for this year's operations and the people of Manitoba expressing their confidence in the government's railway olicy we anticipate a cessotion of the attacks both upon the railway and the North-west, which have prejudicially affected Canadian securities and the prospective immigration of this year. The turmoil is now ended and it is to be hoped that polities will be sunk by both parties in an earnest endeavor to husband the provincial resource; and to promote the material welfare of Manitoba.

## Winnipeg Wholesale Trade.

The wholesale trade of Winnipeg during the last week may upon the whole be said to have maintained without materially improving upon the recovery last week from the stagnation of the holidays. Had it improved there would of course have been room for congratulation, but as it is the volume of business transacted and the prices prevailing are such as may be expected at this season of the year. Taking into consideration the cold spell, the severest and the most enduring in the commercial history of the city, as well as the stringency in the eastern money market re Sected here there is really cause for congratulation that trade has not been absolutely stagnant. That slow but sure progress should be made in the dullest part of the commercial year, and that such progress should be maintained in face of such heavy and unforeseen handicaps is testimony of the very strongest in support of the soundness and vitality of the wholesale trade generally. While buoyancy in trade cannot be expected for a month or six weeks to come the week closes with almost e certainty that the business of the past seven days will be excelled by that of the succeeding week. Travelers who were detained in town by the heavy travel in the provinces will this week start out to overtake their more courrageous brethern the report from whom gives every encouragement to believe in a brisk spring trade.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY, CARRIAGES, ETC.

Sales during the week were of no particular moment, and operations have almost entirely been confined to stocking up agencies, it being preferable to send out implements at this season when in mild weather teaming can be more easily and cheaply accomplished. Receipts four cars, shipments four cars, principally

seeders and harrows. On the way there are about fifteen cars principally movers and binders.

#### BOOTS AND SHOES.

The city trade during the week was dull, but travelers on the road are sending in satisfactory orders for sorts and spring goods. Spring go ds are being received in considerable quantities and warehouse men are busy. The immediate prosp ets are bright, but collections are rather slow.

#### CLOTHING.

In the clothing trade there has been during the week a steady demand, and the business done has been fully as good as was expected Collections have been good and the prospects ahead are perfectly satisfactory.

#### CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

The business of the last week was not brisk but was steady. High class goods are not in much demand orders being for medium qualities princially. The provincial demand does not show any improvement. Collections are about the same as last week, and though leaving something to be desired are not yet unsatisfactory.

#### DRY GOODS.

The volume of trade last week rather receded from than improved upon that of the preceeding week. The severity of the weather detered travelers from taking the road until late in the week and these have not yet been heard from. Country orders taken by representatives on the road are re-assuring for a healthy spring trade. Collections still leave much to be desired, but the slowness of payments is accounted for by the difficulties which retailers themselves find in making collections owing to the decrease t amount of money circulating on account of a partial suspension of work during the severe cold spell of weather. In this branch of business there is no reason for considering the immediate out-look other than good, and perfect satisfaction would be felt were obligations always promptly met.

#### DRUGS AND CHEMICALS,

The improvement recorded during the preceeding week was fully maintained last week, and the state of the trade may unhesitatingly be said to be quite satisfactory for this season of the year, being really better than was expected. The country trade is much better than that in the city and it is evident from the orders which are coming in that provincial dealers will not run the risk this year of being hampered as they were last year by a stoppage of supplies through the floods. The prospects for the spring trade are capital and collections during the week were moderately good.

#### FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

The volume of business done in fancy goods and smallwares during the week was moderate and quite equal to the preceeding week. Travelers having just gone out there has been no opportunity yet to form an idea of what the spring trade will be in the province. The collections have not been good during the week and indeed can hardly be called fair, but there is no reason for lack of confidence, the state of collections being satisfactorily explained by

the grounds upon which extended accommodation is asked.

#### FISH, POULTRY AND GAME.

In the market for fish poultry and game, there was no material alteration to record during the week. Whitefish are not plentiful but a fair supply is obtainable at 5c to 8c. River jack fish are abundant and are selling at 4c. Dried fish and poultry remain scarce and quotations cannot be given. The supply of game is not large and prices are without any definite range.

#### FRUIT.

During the past week the fruit market improved in firmness and demand, the variety remaining unchanged. Apples are quoted at from \$6.50 to \$6.50. Valencia oranges can be had at \$13 to 14 a case. Lemons were sold at \$5.50 to \$6.00, according to quality. Cranberris are scarce and held at \$18. Almeira grapes can be had at \$10 to \$11 a barrel, stock low. Figs are selling in mats at 10c; large boxes 14c; small boxes 20c. Raisins were plentiful and in fair demand, at the following prices: Valencia \$3:50; Black crown \$5.25; Triple crown \$8.75. Four crown \$8.75. The tendancy of the market is to improve in tone.

#### FUEL.

The fuel trade has settled down to a steady demand at unchanged prices. Current prices are: Anthracite \$13.75 on track, and \$15 delivered; Bituminous, \$13.50 for grate, and \$12.50 for steam. The price of wood during the week was variable, not alone on account of the uneven unality of what was offering, but to the irregularity in the supply. Poplar in car load could be bought at five dollars a cord and tamarac at six dollars. When these prices were exceeded it was to supply urgent needs. A break in prices is a possibility of the market this week if the weather remains open, for the stock in the country is very large.

#### FURS AND SKINS.

The supply of furs and hides during the past week continued light, but five car loads of hides were shipped east. Furs have not yet settled down to a definite range of prices, but hides are quoted: Raw He; Salted 64c to 64c; November 60c.

#### GROCERIES.

The volume of business transacted during the week left no cause for complaint to those who approached the dull season in a reasonable commercial spirit. There was no material change in prices. Syrups will likely advance next week. Dried fruits were firmer and have a tendency to advance. Dried apples advanced le and condensed milk was quoted \$1 per case higher. Canned meats are expected to advance 15c a case during this week, owing to an advance in price in southern markets. The sale here was slow. Collections were reported only fair.

#### HARDWARE AND METALS.

No improvement during the week was to be noticed either in the city or provincial demand for hardware either heavy or slight. Business was quiet and collections might have been better. In metals stocking up was continued

and sales were an average at this season of the year. The quotations continue steady. Tin plate 14 x 20 \$7.75 to \$8; 20 x28 \$15 to \$15.25; Bar iron \$3.75 to \$4; Sheet iron 5½c to 7c; Iron piping 25 per cent. off list prices; Ingot tin 32c to 33c; Pig lead 6½c to 7; Galvanized iron No. 28, 8½c to 9c according to brand.

#### LUMBER

In lumber little was doing, the demand being no better than what was recorded during the preceeding week. The prices remain unchanged, quotations being: Sheeting \$28; common dimensions \$30 to \$32; fencing \$28 to \$34; stock \$33 to \$40; flooring \$35 to \$45; graded clear \$50 to \$70; slingles \$4.50 to \$6; laths \$5.

#### STATIONERY AND PAPER.

The stationery and paper trade is subject to less fluctuations than most and the report for the past week was perhaps the most favorable in any line of business. The demand while not heavy was fair ordinary business and collections were satisfactory. In the school book department there has been more than the usual activity, so that the week may be said to record a decided improvement.

#### WINES AND SPIRITS.

In wines and spirits through retailers are running stocks low there was nevertheless a fair quiet business transacted. Collections have been only fair, hotels showing a slight improvement and shops a counter-balancing falling off. The state of the trade is satisfactory and an improved demand is expected soon.

#### WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

The stringency in the Winnipeg money market during the past week continued unabated and for any other than commercial purposes money could not be procured. The demand for money for real estate payments was not so large, but no accommodation whatever was procurable upon any terms. The funds on hand in the banks are just sufficient owing to the withdrawal of deposits for the east, to provide for commercial wants. Bankers report payments far from good. No easiness in the money market here may be expected before the middle of February, but the banks will attend to all purely commercial wants, though they would prefer to see fewer renewals. A fair business has been done by the loan companies upon improved properties, the rate charged being 10 per cent. Gilt edged commercial paper was discounted at 8 to 10 per cent. and ordinary paper was taken at 10 to 12.

#### THE MARKETS.

#### WINNIPEG.

#### GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

There has been a dull feeling in grain circles during the past week, and the movement has been very limited indeed. Receipts of every kind have been light, owing to bad roads and severe weather. The few days of mild weather near the close have not yet produced any marked effect, so that the whole week's receipts have been extremely light. By rail the number of cars of

#### WHEAT

have been very few, and the shipments to eastern points have only reached a few cars. The mills have lad quite a sufficiency for their de-

mands, and have kept them running steadily. The advance in eastern and American markets has not affected prices here and no change in figures has as yet taken place. The best lots of No. 1 hard have sold for 78c, but the general figure for the week has been 75c.

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The supply of oats during the week was abundant though the receipts by cars and from the street were not heavy, owing partly to the hard weather and partly to the expectation of holders that the prices would rise. Of this there is at present no indication, the prices remaining during the week steadily at 40c to 45c. The demand was fair and no immediate improvement is anticipated.

#### RARLEY.

The receipts during the week were not worth recording, nor were the sales of much importance. The market as regards prices remained unchanged. The samples shown of the stock on hand were of good quality, and quotations had a range of from 40e to 50e.

#### FLOUR.

There has been quite an active home demand for flour during the week, and the shipments to the east have been heavier than for several weeks. Somewhere about 25 cars have been sent to different points, and on one day eight were billed. There has been no change in prices, and quotations still are: patents \$3.'0 to \$3.20; 3 X or strong bakers \$2 50 to \$2 60; bakers \$2 to \$2 15; 2 X or traders \$1 50. There are some ominous hints about changes being made, but as to whether an advance or a decline is meant, millers are rather reticent.

#### BRAN.

There is a light but steady demand, and during the week prices have held steady at \$12 a ton on track or \$13 delivered.

#### SHORTS.

There has been a slow sale for this product during the week, but stocks in the city have not accumulated to any extent. Prices are the same as the week previous, \$14 a ton on track, \$15 delivered.

#### CHOPPED FEED.

This article is still quoted at \$30 a ton. The demand is light, and has fallen off much during the week.

#### POTATOES.

The demand for potatoes during the week more than equalled the supply, and an advance took place from \$1 to \$1.25 per bushel. Receipts were very small, but a better supply will be had during the next ten days, arrangements having been made to haul from the country if the weather be open. Outside stocks are good, but as the demand has every appearance of continuing brisk it is questionable if the gdvance will be lost.

#### BUTTER.

The supply of butter in the market continues good and the prices are even firmer than they were during the preceding week. Choice dairy read:'y commands 25c to 27c, extra fine lots being taken at 27c. Low grades were sold at 21c to 24c, the supply being more than equal to the demand. For the few parcels of Ontario creamery in the market 31c to 33c was freely paid.

#### CHEESE.

The firm prices of cheese during the preceeding week were fully maintained. No advance took place on 16c for prime, but the quotation is likely to advance a peg during this week.

#### EGGS.

The stock of eggs continues to be good, and as the visible supply is also large the quotation of 35c to 35c was continued unaltered during the week without the prospect of advance. Sales were satisfactory.

#### HAMS.

The demand for hams during the week was good both from the city and country. Stocks are still large, but prices are better fixed than during the previous week. The quotations ranged from 17½c to 18c for first-class smoked.

#### BACON.

The good business of the previous week was improved upon last week, the demand having steadily increased. The range of quotations, however, remained unaltered. Dry salt was sold from 15e to 15½; long clear 15½ to 16½c; spiced rool, 17½ to 18½c; American and Canadiain breakfast 18e to 18½c.

#### MESS PORK.

The settled price of mess pork remained un altered, and a fair business was done at \$25. There is not at present any probability of an advance, the supply in southern and eastern markets being quite equal to all demands.

#### CORNED BEEF.

The business of the week, which was ordinary, was transacted at \$18, and the market showed no tendency to change.

#### MINNEAPOLIS.

The week opened with a still further advance in flour the prices of which continue firm and appreciating. Owing to the small receipts wheat advanced slightly and was held firm; oats appreciated and corn remained firm with a tender : to appreciate.

On Tuesday the receipts were very light, being less than one-third the quantity required to run the local mills at their full capacity. Quotations based on the day's sales were:

WHEAT ranged: No. 1 hard, 1.09 to \$1.10. No. 1, j1.02 to 1.08. No., 2 hard, 1.07c to 1.08.

Conn was quoted: No. 2 new, 49c to 50c. Rejected new, 44c to 46c.

Oats ranged, No. 2 white, 36c to 38c. No. 2 mixed, 34c to 36c. Rejected, 32c to 34c. Samples 32c to 38c.

FLOUR quotations were: Patents, \$5.25 to \$6. 75. Straights, \$5.50 to \$6.25. Clears, \$5 to \$5.75. Low grades \$2 to \$3.

On Wednesday the markets were dull on account of light receipts. Wheat was lower in sympathy with Chicago; corn firm and stronger; oats steady. Quotations based on the day's sales were:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.08 to \$1.11. No. 1. \$1.02 to \$1.07. No. 2 hard, \$1.07 to \$1.08.

Conn, No. 2, 49c to 50c. Rejected, 43c to 46c according to samples.

OATS, No. 2 white, 37c to 38c. No. 2 mixed, 36c to 37c. Rejected, 32c to 34c. Samples, 22c to 38c.

32c to 3Sc.

FLOUR, Patents, \$5.25 to \$3.75. Straights, \$5.50 to \$6.25. Clears, \$5.00 to \$5.75; low grades \$2.25 to \$3.

On Thursday the markets were less buoyant, a reaction being expected. The following qu.

tations were based on to-day's sales: WHEAT, No. 1 hard \$1 07 to \$1.10; No. 1, \$1.06 to \$1.07; No. 2 hard \$1.06 to \$1.07.

CORN, No. 2, 49c to 50c: Rejected 44c to 47c, according to quality.

OATS, No. 2 white 36c to 38c; No. 2 mixed 35c to 36c; Rejected 33c to 34c.

FLOUR, Patents \$6 to \$6.75; Straights \$5.50 to \$6.25; Clears \$5.25 to \$5.75; low grades \$2.50 to \$3.22.

There was more trading on Friday's market, but prices varied very little from the previous day, and were represented as follows:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.08 to \$1.10. No. 1 \$1.09 to \$1.07\frac{1}{2}. No. 2 hard \$1.06 to 1.08.

Cons. No. 2 49c to 50c. Rejected 45c to 47c according to quality.

OATS, No. 2 white, 37c to 38c. No. 2 mixed, 37c to 37c. Rejected 33c to 35c. Samples, 33c to 38c.

FLOUR, Patents, \$6 to \$6.75, Straights, \$5.75 to \$6.25. Clears, \$5.25 to \$5.75.

The following quotations are based on Saturday's transactions:

WHEAT: No. 1 hard, \$1.09 to \$1 10. No. 1, \$1.07 to \$1.08. No. 2 hard, \$1.07 to 1.08.

Corn, No. 2 new, 49c to 50c. Rejected new, 47c to 48c.

OFTS, No. 2 white, 37c to 38c. No. 2 mixed, 36c to 37c. Rejected, 34c to 35c. Samples 34c to 38c.

FLOUR. Patents, \$6 to \$6.75. Straights, \$5.50 to \$6.25. Clears, \$5 to \$5.75.

#### CHICAGO.

The grain market was perturbed during the early part of the week and a slight decline took place all round. The law having been invoked to avoid liabilities in the January corner in corn caused a general shiftness in the market.

On Tuesday wheat was active and unsettled. Corn advanced early in the day, but issuing of injunctions restraining the closing out of the trade in January corn destroyed confidence which was not entirely regained during the afternoon. Flour was strong; provious dull and irregular. Quotations near the close were:

Wheat January, \$1.02c, February \$1.022c 691c, 593c Corn. " 381c, . 383c Oats. .. 17 " 17.424 Pork. 44 16.65. 44 10.773 Lard.

On Wednesday produce was less active and inclined to be weak. Corn active, but without marked fluctuation; oats and wheat declined: Quotations based on prices near the close were:

Wheat, January, \$1.011c. February, \$1.012c 681 58åc. Corn, .. 44 371 374c. Oats. .. .. \$17.43 \$17,30, Pork. .. " \$10.75. \$10.621. Lard.

On Thursday the markets were active and stronger. Quotations near the close:

Wheat, January, \$1 024c, February \$1.027c. 593c. 69c. Corn, " ٠. 371c. 371c. .Oats, £17.30, .. " \$17.413c.. Pork. " .. \$10.70, \$10.723c Lard.

Friday's market was a steady one all round: Quotations near closing were:

Wheat, January, \$1.022c. February, \$1.021c GS≩c, 5Sc Corn. 37½c, 17.40 .. .. 371c Oats. " 44 17.52% Pork, 10.65 46 10.70c Lard.

On Saturday quotations near the close were: Wheat, January, \$1.01%, February \$1,02c 683c, 5Sc Com, 371c. 17.521, •• • • 37c Oats, .. " 17.60, Pork. .. 10.623 10.55, Lard

## TORONTO.

#### STOCKS.

The buoyancy manifested in stocks during the week previous was fairly maintained on Monday, but on Tuesday the market began to tire, and on Wednesday the bears vigorously attacked leading stocks, in which they were aided by the apathy manifested by those who failed to strike the boom. The market, however, was firm, and the bears after going dangerously short found that the alteration which they succeeded

in making in prices was only trifling. Closing bids were: Montreal 2053; Ontario 112; Toronto 184; Merchants 1251; Commerce 135; Imperial 1392; Federal 1554; Dominion 200; Standard 116; Hamilton 115: North-west Land Co. 424, at this price 50 shares were sold.

#### GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

Up to Wednesday the markets showed strong prices, holders being averse to selling even at the advanced prices. The quantities offered being small, sales also were small, but stocks in store are equal to last year.

#### FROUR.

Was in active demand and prices advanced 15c to 20c on the week. Superior extra sold on Tuesday at \$4.45 f.o.c., but choice brands were held on Wednesday at \$4.50; uninspected lying outside being offered at \$4.40; extra was quoted at \$4.30 on Tuesday, and on Wednesday the feeling was somewhat easier.

#### WHEAT.

Values were showing a tendency to advance but the market was inactive, owing to supplies being short. No. 1 spring was worth from 90c at \$1; Nr. 2 was worth 98c; No. 2 fall 97c to 98c; No. 3 94c. On the street fall sold at 96c to 98c, spring 97c to \$1; goose 924c.

#### DATS

All offered were sold at 40c to 41c on track; street 42c to 43c.

All offered has been wanted at shifting prices for different grades. No. 1 78c; No. 2 72c; extra No. 3 65c; No. 3 55c, and lower; street 60c to 73c.

#### POTATOES,

Buyers offeaed 65c, cars; stree. 5c to 85c per bag.

Market quiet; choice dairy, 19e to 21e; good shipping 17e to 18e; culls 13e.

#### CHEESE.

Small market; choice 12c to 13c; medium 11c to 114c.

#### MEATS.

Pork quiet at \$21 to \$21.50; bacon, good trade in futures, 11c for February and 10% for March: Cumberland slow; 11c to 11% for long clear.

## Markets by Telegraph.

Special Dispatch to The Commercial.

#### STOCKS.

Tononto, Jan. 29.—Stocks fairly active at generally advancing prices all week closing steady. Closing bids: Montreal 20, sales 20; Ontario 1134, sales 113 to 1134; Toronto 186; sales 186; Merchants 1267; Commerce 1364, sales 136; Imperial 1424, sales 141 to 1414; Federal 158, sales 157 to 158; Dominion 200, sales 2007 and 2004; Standard 116, sales 116; Manitoba Land 1224; North west Land 414, sales 41. Money much as before, but increased casiness is expected.

#### Special Despatch to the Commercial:

#### GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

Toronto, Jan. 29.—Produce generally has been firmer for several days. Flour scarce to-day, superior extra sold 4 40, which was repeat able; choice extra was worth 4.35; bran was scarce, and sold 13.25 a ton; oatmeal was steady at 4,70 to 4.85; wheat has advanced, No. 2 fall to-day sold 983; No. 2 spring 1.00; No. 3 spring has brought 96c. No number 1 oftered. Oats unchanged and firm, sales 41c. Barley closed with rather easy feeling, sales, No. 1 at 77c. No. 2 at 72c; extra No. 3 at 65c; No. 3 nominal 51c to 55c. Peas inactiae, 73c to 74c. Butter scarce, steady, 18c to 20c choice dairy or large rolls, medium nominal, inferior 13c to 14c. Eggs scarce, firm, 25c to 26c. Meats quiet, held firm 11c, long clear. Hides declined, half cent Np. 1 green 7c. Seeds firm 8.25 to 8.50 for clover, and 10 50 to 12.00 for alsike.

#### Iron in House Construction.

The North-west Lumberman contains a description of a house which will be constructed entirely of iron. This material is now extensively used in the construction of mills where inflamable material is in for se of manufacture but hitherto the only attempt that we have heard of at using iron for house building purposes was made by Dundas S. Porteous, a celebrated Scotch engineer who brilt himself a subteraneau house of iron which was to be his burrying place and in which he nearly lost his life through failing to provide means for opening the door from the inside. The following is the description of the house which Mr. George L. Huston of Farkersburg, Pa, is credited with intending to build: "The floors of the hall, vestibule and library will be laid with polished cast-iron tiles, in which different qualities of iron will be used to produce the same variety of color as in ordinary tile flooring. All the other floors of the house will be of stout iron plates firmly bolted to the iron joists. The outside walls and inside partitions will be composed of two courses of iron plates firmly bolted together, so as to be airtight. These hollow iron walls and partitions will be used instead of chimneys and for conveying heat to different parts of the house, and for ventilation. The hot smoke and gases from the furnaces passing through the sides of the rooms in this way will, it is claimed, be almost sufficient to keep the house comfortable in the coldest wether, so that the heating can be done with about one-half of the fuel required in ordinary houses. All the doors and window sashes will also be iron, but will be constructed in such a light way and so nicely balanced upon hinges and weights as to open and shut as easily as those made of wood. In the parlor will be a mantle of polished steel handsomely omamented. There will be a similar one in the dining-room, upon which will be engraved hunting scenes. In the library will be a massive mantel, so constructed that it will look as if it were made of pig iron fused together. Mr. Huston admits that his house may cost him twice or three times as much as an ordinary house, but claims with a little attention it will last for centuries without repairs, and will never cost a cent for insurance. The foundation of the house will be solid rock."

### A New Building Material.

Terra Cotta Lumber is the name of a new building material a description of which is given in the Fireman's Journal. "It is made by mixing the kaolinite or 'top' clay, which is found in immense quantities throughout Middle tex County, with sawdust until the consistency of dough is obtained, when it is cast in large square blocks and and burned in kilns, in a manper similar to that of ordinary brick. This results in a peculiar terra cotta ware possessing poculiar properties. It has no fibrous texture like wood, the strength of the material arising from incipient vitrification, obtained in firing, and half-inch boards made of it, smoothly planed and joined, show greater strength and tenacity than dry oak of equal thickness. Every shape Which can be given to wood by edged tools can

he given to terra cotta lumber. It is as easily worked as pine or spruce, is half the weight of building brick, and tightly retains plastering without the aid of lathing. In order to display the resistant qualities of terra cotta lumber to fire and water, an experiment was made with it. A furnace tender, with a long pair of steel tongs, took from the centre of the furnace a small block of the ware which had attained a white heat and plunged it into a pail of water. After cooling it was placed on a forge, and the water with which it was saturated expelled in the form of steam; petroleum was next poured over it, and afterwards ignited, the block continuing to burn with a steady flame for several minutes. Subsequent examination of the block by sawing it in two showed no difference in appearance from other material which had not been submitted to so severe a test." With such vast quantities of scrub wood as exist in the disputed territory where clay also abounds the manufacture of terra cotta lumber possessing as it does such desirable qualities may be regarded prospectively as a North-west industry.

## Mining Statistics.

The following is a summary of mining dividends paid in 1882:—

Arizona							\$2,262,500
Colorado	•						2,326,650
California	•					-	4,407,047
Dakota	•		٠				1,110,000
Montana	-	•					221,516
Michigan	-						2,730,000
Nevada				•			693,262
Utah -	•		•		•		2,129,600
Miscellane	ous	•		•		•	1,370,000

Grand Total · · \$14,219,975

This is the amount of dividend paid by sixty-five mines, and by no means represents all the dividends paid; and yet there are journals which say that it is questionable if mining pays any country. The bullion product of Colorado alone in 1882 was \$26,750,898.

D. R. O'Neil, from Paris, Ont., is about to open up business in Regina, as a dealer in grain and provisions.

The iron work for the Broadway bridge having arrived, the work of construction will be proceeded with without further delay.

The new C. P. R. depot being covered in the work of plastering inside has commenced, and by the first of March it is expected the building will be fit for use.

On Sunday the several railway blocks, south, east and west, were practically removed, and on Monday it was announced that the C.P.R. track was clear over all its main line and branches.

The Hudson's Ray Company are going to build a bridge across the river at Qu'Appelle, on their town site. Mr. T. W. Jackson will also build one on his town site to cross the river. The public will be well supplied next summer.

Dun, Wiman & Co. have issued the first number of their Mercantile Test and Legal Record for the North-west. The publication will in future appear semi-monthly, and will no doubt

prove a very useful institution in business circles.

The one train a day to and from the south is beginning to be felt an annoyance by some business men. The CPR. can probably do all the traffic with one train, but Winnipeg people having been accustomed to two are probably spoiled a little.

There was some chance of a slight searcity of wood early in the week, but considerably over 100 cars have arrived during the past few days, and the mild weather having lessened the demand, a searcity is no longer probable. The railway yards at Selkirk are almost blockaded with cord wood, awaiting transit to Winnipeg.

There are threats of no less than eight of the past elections being contested, and terribly dark insinuations of personal bribery are abundant. Considering the crowd on both sides who appealed to the electors of Manitoba, it might be well to let matters rest us they are. It is just possible that the electoral purity of the Province would not shine out brightly if close investigation of all the elections was made.

Before Chief Justice Wallbridge yesterday a case was tried which tested the validity of a chattel mortgage. Townsend & Co., druggists, Winnipeg, gave a chattel mortgage on their stock to one Perkins, and Bleasdell & Co. of Toronto sought to set aslde the same on the ground that they (Townsend & Co.) were insolvent when the same was given. His Lordship, after hearing the evidence declared tremortgage null and void.

Mr. S. McIllvanie's paper mill at Portage la Prairie is at last in full swing, and running day and night. Some two weeks ago a full and inexhaustible supply of water was secured, and matters were at once got into running order, and on Wednesday the mill commenced running to stop only for the rest of Sunday. The proprietor has now more orders for building and tar paper than he can fill by night and day running for two months. As soon as these are filled he will commence to wraping paper, for the manufacture of which he has already two car loads of waste paper in waiting. It is more than likely that during the summer the manufacture of print paper will be reached, and in that case there are numbers of Winnipeg houses ready to use up all the mills can turn out.

The Pride of the West rooms on Post Office Street are to be turned into a hotel and restaurant during the next two weeks, and will be conducted by ---- Keefer. The new hotel will be called the Board of Trade House, and will be a kind of commercial rendezvous. The proprietor will have in the reading room the leading commercial journals of Cauada, the United States and Great Britain, so that his patrons can know the trade events of the continents of America and Europe. It is his intention also to creet a bulletin hoped, and make arrangements to have telegrams each day of the leading stock and grain markets of America. The Board of Trade House will be quite a novelty in the hotel line, and will be well patronized, as it certainly ought to be by busi ness men generally. We wish Mr. Reefer or ry success in connection with his new undertaking,

### BRANDON.

Business is still dull, and grain receipts are very light.

The Post Office is about to be fitted up with Yale lock boxes.

T. S. Durham has sold the building known as the Nailonal hotel for \$800.

Thos. H. Lee, harness maker, of this city, is opening a branch at Carberry.

It is rumored that a large hotel is about to be erected on Rosser avenue, west of Tenth street.

Thos. H. Munson, of the city drug store, has gone west to Regina to carry on the same business there.

Capt. Vivian has procured the patent for his estate, and is prepared to furnish deeds for lots already disposed of.

Messrs. Whitehead & Whitlaw have bought out F. Osburn's stock of groceries, and will continue business in the former stand.

A site has been chosen in the west end of the town, for the purpose of erecting the court house, &c., for the Western Judicial district.

On account of the large increase in the population of the city, is is being found necessary to procure the services of a police magistrate.

J. M. Rusberry & Co. have purchased lots on Ninth street, for the purpose of creeting a machine and repair shop; this will supply a want greatly felt in this section.

### EMERSON.

Business is dull at Pembina Crossing.

A new frame building is being erected on Main Street by McQuarrie Bros.

John Carmichael, blacksmith, has sold out. Custom house and post office business has fallen off.

New life has been infused into the Duluth & Winnipeg Railway, which is expected to reach Pembina before long.

Mr. A. Rinskopf has purchased a large grocery store at St. Leon, and will put Mr. Win. Allen, his assistant here, in charge.

Stauffner, Curran & Fraser have added a large amount of new machinery to their nill, and are now able to manufacture by the patent process.

The deliveries of grain during the week have been small and the prices have remained low. No. 1 hard sold at 75c; oats 33c to 35c; barley 38c; potatoes 75c.

The Hon, the Minister of Public Works has approved of the plans for the new bridge, which will be located at the foot of Morris Street, the estimated cost being \$200,000. In this is included \$20,000 for the iron wor' required for the rebuilding of the old bridge.

## QU'APPELLE.

Telegraphic communication between this place and Fort Qu'Appelle was opened this day, (Friday).

The hotels have been doing a good business on account of the irregularity of the trains, some parties traveling east having to wait five days for a train.

Owing to the severity of the weather business has been very dull here for the past two weeks; in fact no person that could afford to stay indoors moved out.

The weather has moderated considerably and building operations are going on again. Another store is to be built here by a firm at present in business at the Fort.

Much inconvenience is caused by the freight trains not running, and if this continues an advance in prices will follow. Very little trade news here at all, every body reporting business to be dull.

#### Transit Trade.

U. S. Consular Agent Dutcher, stationed . . Port Hope, thus writes to his government: -"There is scarcely a subject upon which Canadians are more exercised than the great Northwest, and the facilities which its development will afford them of successfully competing with the United States. The Canadian Pacific Railway, they claim, will render the Northwest the 'land of promise,' in unfolding its resources as a superior grazing and grain-growing country, besides being in the future an outlet to the Pacific coast. The Canadians are certainly on the alert to develop whatever may be valuable in then country. Since the completion of the Welland Canal, connecting Lakes Ontario and Eric, they expect to be able materially to influence the shipping interest. They say that with a continuous water-way from Chicago to Quebec, they must attract the trade to the St Lawrence. Indeed, some of their papers claim that one-half of the trade of Chicago already goes by that route. They seem confident that with such superior advantages, New York will not be a formidable rival, and that the major part of the immense trade of our own Northwest centring in Chicago will be placed on board English vessels at Montreal, and transported direct to some European port; and this highway once established, no Congressional legislation can permanently affect them." That the new Welland Canal will secure a full share of American Trade in transit is undoubted, but the dues will have to be removed to counterbalance their abolition on the Eric. To secure all of the through traffic, the Georgian Bay Canal will have to be built.

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- Materials to be used in construction—wood, brick

B.—Materials to be used in construction—wood, brick veneer, or stone.
C.—Whether you wish to supply any materials, and if so what quantities and kinds.
D.—Size, height, arrangements, numbers and uses of rooms and floors.
E.—Style and amount of outside finish—porches, verandals, balconies, bay windows, tower, etc.
F.—Outbuilding and offices, and distance of same from main building, also fences.
G.—What improvements are wished—rain water system, drahage, heating, ventilation, baths, W.C's, etc.
H.—Prices of labor and material in your locality.
E. Give full name and address with nearest Post Office.

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A Full Stock of Patent Hungarian, Strong Bakers' and Spring Extra Flour; Oatmeal, Pot and Pearl Barley, Graham Flour, Cracked Wheat, Bran, Shorts, Ground Feed, Oats, Barley, etc., always on hand.

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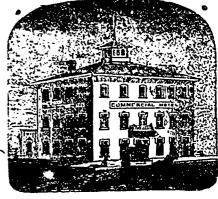
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GOOD ACCOMMODATION FGR COMMERCIAL TRAVELERS. SPLENDID SAMPLE ROOMS. JOHN W. KASTNER, Proprietor.

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FISH Boneless Cod, Mackerel in Kits, Trout,

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Finest Prunes in Kegs, Valencia Raisins, London Layers, Muscatelles, Currants, Elmo Figs, Leghorn Lem-on Peel, Orange Peel, Citron Peel, etc., etc.

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Orders by Mail and Wire Promptly Attended to.

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Agents for Montreal Optical ('o. Office and Sample Rooms, Bird Block, 433 Main Street.

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## Canadian Pacific R'y Co.



(WESTERN DIVISION)

## CHANGE OF TIME

er October 1st, 1882, Trains will move as Golng west. Going East 8.15 a.m. leave Winnipeg arrive 6.15 p.m.
10.35 , Portage la Prafrie 3.55 ,
1.55 p.m. Brandon 12.5 ,
4.16 , Qak Lake 10.29 a.m.
11.30 , Broadview 3.39 ,
5.55 a.m arrive Regina leave 8.39 p.m.

9.40 a.m. leave Rat Portage arrive 4.03 p m. 1.45 p.m. Whitemouth 12.20 ... 3.45 ... Scikirk 9.50 a.m. 4.55 ... arrive Winnipeg leave 8.45 ...

8.25 am. leave Winnipeg arrive 5.15 p.m 9.45 ,, arrive Stonewall leave 3.40 ,, Daily except Sundays.

ing South, Winnipeg Arrive, 7.35 a.m. \*7.35 p.m. 7.05 p.m. \$6.50 a.m. Otterburn.
9.00 a.m. 8.50 p.m. 5.50 p.m. 5.20 a.m. Emerson.
10.25 a.m. 10.18 p.m. 4.40 p.m. 4.05 a.m. Arrive, St. Vincent. Leave. Going South. Going North.

10.25 a.m. 10.18 p.m. 4.40 Arrive. St. Vincent. Arrive. St. V 10.40 a.m. 10.23 p.m. § Daily except Mondays. • Daily except Saturdays. 4,20 p.m. 3.45 a.m.

### SPECIAL NOTICE.

Magnificent Palaco Sleeping Cars will be run daily, without change, between Winnipeg and Regina.

Trains run on Winnipeg time.

JOHN M. EGAN, Gen. Superintendent. W. C. VAN HORNE. Gen. Manager.

WM. HARDER.

Ass't Traffic Manager.

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MATRASSES, WINDOW BLINDS, LAMBERKINS, &c. MADE TO ORDER ON SHORT NOTICE.

LET All orders will have our personal supervision. South-west Corner of King and McWilliam Sts. Winnipeg.

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We are now prepared to fill all orders entrusted to us with dispatch.

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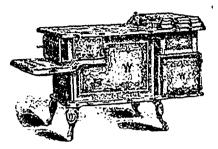
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Smart & Shepherd, Brockville, Hardware.

Hamilton Industrial Works, Wringers and Washers, J. W. Paterson & Co., Montreal, Rooting Felt, &c.

### Michigan Cantral.

Express trains leave Chicago at 6.46 a. m., 9.30 a. m. 3:30 p.m., 5:15 p.m. and 9:10 p.m.; arriving at Detroit at 6:15 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 11:40 p.m., 4:35 a.m. and 3:00 a.m. All trains make close connection at Detroit with the Great Western and Canada Southern for points east, through sleepers being attached.

WESTWARD.

Express Trains leave Detroit at 7:00 a m., 0:30 a m., 8:00 p.m. and 9:50 p.m., arriving in Chicago at 0:50 p.m., 7:40 p.m., 7:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m.
These trains take the through sleepers from Great Western, and Canada Southern, and make close connection at Chicago with the trains of other roads.
Dining cars on trains for Breakfast and supper.

## St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba.

SOUTHEASTWARD.

Express leaves St. Vincent at 11 15 p.m., and 11.30 a..., s arriving at St. Paul at 6.20 p.m. and 8.10 em the day following, making close connections with nm. running in all directions.

NORTHEASTWARD.

Express leaves St. Paul at 7.00 p.m. and 8.00 a.m., arriving at St. Vincent at 4.20 p.m. and 3.45 a.m. the day following, making close connections with the Canadian Pacific.

Pacific.

Trains run between St. Paul and Minnea; olis almost

every hour.

Sleeping cars on all nigh trains,
Trains run on St. Paul time.

## Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Omaha, & North-Western Railways.

GOING BAST.

Express trains leave Minneapolis at 1.00 p.m. and 3.00 p.m.; and 3t. Paul, 1.45 p.m. and 8.45 p.m.; arring in hicago at 7.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m. control west.

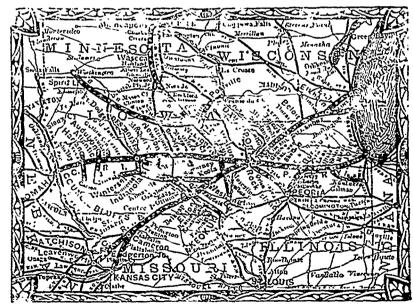
Express trains leave Chicago at 11.30 a.m. (except Sunday) and 9.00 p.m., arriving at St. Paul at 6.16 a.m. and 12.45 p.m., and Minneapolis at 7.00 a.m. and 1.30 p.m., This is the only line between St. Paul and Chicago run-

ning the Pullman Smoking Room Sleepers, and Palace dining cars.

Ooing Southwest.

The Chicago 5 p.m., and Omaha trains leave St. Paul for Sioux City, Omaha 'Kansas City and San Francisco at .10 a.m. and 3.30 p.m.

#### MAP OF THE



The favorite route from the North to Chicago and the East. Chicago fast express leaves Minneapolis at 6.30 P. M. daily, arriving at Chicago 3 r. M. next day. This is a solid train, consisting of Pullman Cars, Coaches and Baggag Trains leaving Minneapolis at 3:30 r. x and 7:55 A. x., connect through to Cars, running through without change. Chicago via the C., R. I. & P. Ry.

J. F. McFARLANE, Gen. Northwestern Agent, WINNIPEG, MAN.

E. ST. JOH G. T A. C. R. I. & P

Ç.

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On improved farm and city projectly mortgages bought.

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