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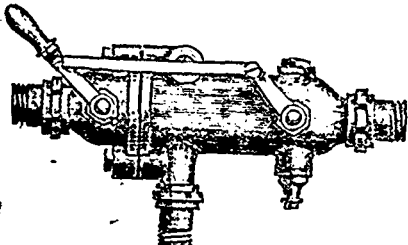
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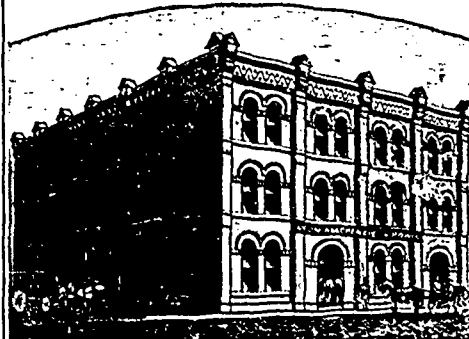
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# The Commercial

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE FINANCIAL, MERCANTILE AND MANUFACTURING INTERESTS OF THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

Published by James E. Steen—Every Tuesday—Subscription, \$2 per annum

VOL. 3.

WINNIPEG, OCTOBER 28, 1884.

NO. 5

## The Commercial

Journal devoted to keeping a comprehensive record of the transactions of the Monetary, Mercantile and Manufacturing Interests of Manitoba and the Canadian Northwest.

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JAS. E. STEEN,  
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WINNIPEG, OCTOBER 28, 1884.

SWORD & MOORE, of the Brandon planing mill, has assigned in trust.

THE Municipality of Birtle have voted a bonus of \$40,000 to the M. & N. Western.

THE livery stable of T. D. Kavanaugh, at Elk Horn, has been destroyed by fire.

JOHN TAYLOR, butcher, Emerson, is giving up business there and removing to Winnipeg.

GEO. SMITH, blacksmith, Stonewall, has sold out his business to Mitchell & Sutherland.

A CORRESPONDENT of a Winnipeg daily reports a sale of 188 tubs of butter to a Winnipeg firm.

THE Oatmeal mill at Portage la Prairie is now in full blast. As high as 30¢ has been paid.

THE saddlery and harness stock of C. H. Field & Co., of Winnipeg, is being offered for sale en bloc.

WE had the first smell of real winter last week, and the snow of Sunday finished up the appearance.

WORK on the extension of the M. & N. Western west of Minnedosa is about to be stopped for the winter.

HEIMAN & Co., liquor dealers, of Emerson, Gretna & Morden, have taken a Mr Parr into partnership in the Gretna business.

MESSRS. FARREL & COMPTON intend starting a pump factory at Neepawa. They will erect a building on the flats for that purpose.

It is now pretty certain that we shall have a contest for the mayoralty of Winnipeg, Mr. Logan having decided to enter the field.

THE old Hudson Bay Company's mill at west Emerson has been leased by a Mr. Payton, from Quebec, and will be in operation again in a few days.

CARMAN & Co., druggists, of Emerson and Moosomin, contemplate giving up their Emerson establishment and confining their business operations in future to Moosomin.

MR. GALBRAITH, the publisher of the *Nelson Mountaineer*, has removed his plant to Morden where he will issue the *News*. The *Mountaineer* has been discontinued.

JOHN SPRING, dealer in clothing, Winnipeg, intimates his intention of giving up business. he has been one of the successful retail merchants of the city, and can afford to retire.

THE Dominion City Milling Co., have sold out their mills to Waddell & McKeracher, who will give up their lumber business and give their entire attention to the milling business.

SNOWDEN & Co., hardware merchants, of Winnipeg, announce their intention of giving up business here. They have been closing out for a year past, but this time they say they mean it.

THE recent fire at Rat Portage burned out the millinery store of M. Alexander & Son, Larborge & Burk's restaurant and the drug store of T. H. Munson, and did considerable damage to the premises and clothing stock of White, Manahan & Co.

FROM England comes the news of the death of Sir Robert Torrens, the creator of the Torrens' system of land transfer. There is some probability of an Act based upon his principle being passed by the Manitoba Legislature at its next session. Such an Act would be a fitting tribute to the genius of this truly great and truly practical man.

THE C. P. R. are issuing return tickets to the east and back at excursion rates. From Winnipeg to Montreal and back is sold at \$50; to Ottawa and back \$45, and to Toronto and back \$40.

IF we are to have an assessment rate of taxation of sixteen and a half mills on the \$, and a property valuation approaching to \$30,000,000, the people of Winnipeg may well sound the alarm of retrenchment and reform.

A MEETING of citizens is called for Wednesday evening in Trinity Hall, which will be addressed by the candidates nominated at the late Citizen's Convention. All are invited who take any interest in the affairs of the city.

IT is the intention of Hancock & Co. to start a broom factory at Stonewall. They will make them on a limited scale this winter, but we are given to understand will build a suitable building in the spring. Their first consignment of corn has already arrived.

THE importation of butter from the eastern provinces has not ceased, several car loads being now on their way here. Still it is not the quantity so much as the quality of the local butter supply, which prevents its from being ample for our home demand.

DEAKE, BURROWS & RUTHERFORD, lumber dealers, Selkirk, have assigned in trust, as far as can be learned their difficulties are of a temporary nature, and assignment has been resorted to as a matter of protection. They show a very large surplus of available assets, and they will doubtless settle with an extension.

THE pressure brought on by the absconding of Frank Rigney, of Rigney & Haverty, has compelled his partner John Haverty to assign in trust. Mr. Haverty deserves the sympathy of every person, and it is to be hoped that he will have no difficulty in securing a settlement with his creditors, and get his business into running shape.

DONALD GRANT, the well known railway contractor, left Winnipeg for Medicine Hat last week, to make arrangements for the speedy constructions of the narrow gauge railway from the Galt mines to the C. P. R. track. It is expected that the road will be completed in about three months. Anyhow, no time will be lost in pushing the construction.

### Business East. ONTARIO.

B. Gillan, hotel keeper, Thorold, is dead.  
A. Findlater, jeweller, Lucknow, is dead.  
Matthew Howles, stove, etc., have assigned.  
Theodore Martin, baker, Aylmer, has sold out.

James Grieve, hotel keeper, Cobourg, is dead.

Wray & Morton, grocers, Tweed, have dissolved.

M. S. Campbell, banker, Watford, has suspended.

A. E. Bisson, general store, McGregor, has assigned.

A. J. Morrings' general store, Dacie, was burned up.

R. Megary, grocer, Seaforth, has sold out to M. Jordan.

J. S. McQueen, grocer, Niagara Falls is reported away.

F. D. Mitchell, grocer, Paris, has sold out to G. J. Simpson.

Reid & Co., tailors, Toronto, are winding up their business.

D. R. McRae, hardware, Deseronto, has assigned in trust.

Duncan & Co., general store, Fergus, have removed to Mitchell.

W. O. Smith & Co., bankers, Thornbury, have assigned in trust.

The sheriff is in possession of C. Watson's marble works, Toronto.

Samuel Drewry, hotel keeper, Toronto, has sold out to Wm. Walsh.

Mrs. J. Donoy, general store, Tyrone, has sold out to James Stutt.

C. T. Scott & Co., bankers, Wingham and Oakville, have assigned.

The sheriff is in possession of Reynold & Sons' general store, Markdale.

Wm. Lind & Co., wholesale hats and caps, London, have assigned in trust.

Duncan Bros, general store, Richard's Landing, have sold out to John Smith.

Baer, Moore, & Co., carriage manufacturers, Doon, have dissolved partnership.

Henderson, Mullen & Bolton, wall-paper, etc., Toronto, dissolving; Bolton retiring.

The stock of J. A. McIntosh, general store, Parkhill, is advertised for sale by assignee.

The effects of the Brantford Farm and Dairy Utensil Manufacturing Co. have been sold by auction.

W. H. Johnson, hotel keeper, and S. Shields & Son, general store, Victoria Road, were burned out.

O'Halloran & Co., cigar manufacturers, Toronto, have dissolved; D. O'Halloran will continue the business.

Higgins & Jordan, billiard table manufacturers, Toronto have dissolved; C. Higgins will continue the business.

A. Duncan & Co., wholesale dry goods, Hamilton, the style of the firm has been changed to Knox, Morgan & Co.

Scott & Fletcher, auctioneer, Chatham, have dissolved; the business will be carried on under the name of Fletcher & Thompson.

The Fletcher Manufacturing Co., Toronto, have dissolved; G. H. Fletcher retiring. B. Fletcher will continue under the same style.

James Campbell, wholesale books, etc., Wm. Hewit, commission merchant, and Woltz Bros. & Co., jewellers, Toronto, have assigned in trust.

### QUEBEC.

A. V. Dostaler, St. Narcisse has assigned in trust.

Taylor & Co., brewers, Montreal, have dissolved.

Juteau & Leduc, builders, Montreal, have dissolved.

Robert Morgan, music dealer, Quebec, has assigned in trust.

The saloon of J. Paris, St. Jean Baptiste was damaged by fire.

Avila Palle, hotel keeper, Louisvillie, is trying to compromise.

H. B. Prentiss, general store, Chelsea, is trying to compromise.

J. B. Brun, crockery, etc., Montreal, is arranging to compromise.

H. J. Doherty, of the firm of H. J. Doherty & Co., manufacturers agents, St. Hyacinthe, is dead.

Edward Bastien, printer, and Jos. Cleophas, Gaudy, grocer, Montreal, have assigned in trust.

The stock, etc. of James O'Meally, fruit dealer, Montreal, is advertised for sale by bailiff.

The style of the firm of Cree, Auld, & Co., shirt manufacturers, Montreal, has been changed to that of Cree, Baker, & Co.

N. Larivee, dry goods merchant, Montreal, having compromised, has admitted D. A. Nadeau as partner, and will continue under the style of N. Larivee & Nadeau.

### NOVA SCOTIA.

Levy & Michaels, jewellers, Halifax, have sold out.

J. W. King's saw mill, Shubenacadie, was burned out.

Benjamin Cowan, fish and supplies, Ingoniche was burned out.

Wm. Buckley, hotel keeper, Amherst, has assigned in trust.

Wm. Ackhurst, commission agent, Halifax, is trying to compromise.

John Wisdom, of the firm of John Wisdom & Son, grocers, Dartmouth, is dead.

F. S. Hackett, general store, Weymouth, is reported away and stock is attached.

### NEW BRUNSWICK.

Chas. A. Cole, livery, Sackville, has assigned.

James H. Keltie, grocer, St. John, has closed up.

Prichard & Son, iron dealers, St. John, have assigned.

R. J. Coughlan, liquor dealer, St. John, has sold out.

Edward Purchase, fancy goods, St. John, has been sold out.

THE failures in the United Kingdom for the week ending September 27 reported to *Kemp's Mercantile Gazette* numbered 55, as compared with 164 and 195 in the corresponding weeks respectively of 1883 and 1882. England and Wales had 61 failures, as against 147 and 177 in the weeks specified; Scotland had 19, as against 45 and 16, and Ireland had 5, as against 2 in 1883 and 2 in 1882.

### The Recovery of the Paris Bourse.

In the opinion of the London *Statist* the re-cooperation of the Paris Bourse will be gradual, but slow. Many obstacles prevent a rapid improvement. The state of industry and commerce has rarely been so languishing as at present, and the landed interests have also severely suffered. M. Beaulieu, a competent authority, considers the chief obstacle to be the present policy of the country. The foreign policy of the country, he maintains, disturbs the peace of Europe, and the financial policy is not satisfactory. The government outlays have been too extensive, yearly and increasing deficits are incurred, and have necessitated the raising of loans well-nigh every twelvemonth. Now that the crisis of 1882 is approaching its termination, this latter feature he considers to be the chief obstacle to a speedy re-establishment of a financial market.—*Bradstreet's*.

### The Safety of Workmen.

The duties of the employers to those whom they employ have been defined in legislative acts in different states of our Union, as well as in foreign countries. Specific legislation has been restored to in order to mark out more clearly just where the duty of the employer leaves off and at what point the workman must look out for his own safety. All running machinery is more or less dangerous; but there are few cases where, by proper precaution, accidents cannot be made almost impossible, except by the grossest carelessness on the part of the operative. We understand that the stringent law passed in Germany some years ago had the immediate effect of decreasing the number of accidents to workmen to a remarkable degree.

One great point has always been at issue, and that is whether it is not contributory negligence on the part of an operative to remain employed in a factory or shop, the machinery of which he knows to be dangerous. On one side it looks as if an operative were courting fate to keep employment which he knows to be dangerous; but on the other hand the necessities of life must also be taken into account; and we think instances are on record where it has been decided that it is no defence of the employer to set up that the injured party knew the machinery to be defective, if the employer had been notified of the fact by the workmen. Of course, when an operative enters upon an extra hazardous employment he is supposed to take the risks incident to that employment; but we doubt if mangling on gear-wheels or on shafts is a risk incident to any business; at least such risks can be largely obviated by proper care on the part of the employer.

The point that we started out to make is that accident insurance is something in which both operative and employer might find a partial resolution of the question in their relations in the matter of the safety of the employe. Its cost is slight, and its benefits come when they are needed most. Working men appreciate the advantage, of such insurance as is shown in the provision they make for it is in their various societies. Abroad, the employers sometimes insure their operatives out of their own pockets, an example that might often be imitated advantageously in this country.—*Miller*.

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# The Commercial

WINNIPEG, OCTOBER 23, 1894.

## MERCANTILE PIRATING.

Although the latitude allowed for legitimate trading is wide and allows of full scope for commercial ingenuity, there still will be people who cannot be confined within its broad limits and who will persistently seek for some method of running business into illegitimate channels. The practices of such people may be designated under the broad heading of mercantile pirating, although the devices resorted to are many. We are all prepared to expect tricks and subterfuge from the class known as Cheap Jacks, but we usually look for something different from mercantile firms whose standing and reputation should be above suspicion. Unfortunately mercantile piracy extends into circles where it might not be looked for, and of late wholesale houses, from whom better might be expected, have descended to practices worthy of any hoister of the red flag.

A favorite system of piracy of late has been to mail samples of well known staple dry goods accompanied by a circular quoting prices which the merest novice in the trade knows to be much below regular value. At first sight it would seem that such a practice would soon bring its own cure but it is wonderful to what extent the practice can be carried of throwing out a sprat to catch a mackerel. The custom is usually adopted now by some eastern wholesale houses not possessed of a northwestern connection. A serious loss cannot be entailed by so doing as the quantity of such goods required by any retailer is not great, and a sale even at losing figures has the effect of opening up business with a new customer. Thus we find eastern houses, who avoided the Northwest during our late time of depression as they would a plague-stricken district and now find that they are minus a trade which must prove very profitable, ready to adopt such a course in order to again secure a footing in a country they not only forsook in time of trial, but were prepared to slander its merchants without stint. By thus throwing out the alluring sprat they hope to shake the confidence of the retailers of this country in the houses which have aided in carrying them through a time of pressure if

not of embarrassment. Once this confidence is thoroughly shaken by the dishonest sprat-throwing policy, the field formerly closed to the throwers is partially opened. Business men who go upon the principle of buying where they can get goods the cheapest can doubtless see no harm in swallowing the offered sprat, and no one can blame them, if they are only shrewd enough to avoid bartering away the much more reliable mackerel. How many of them will be sharp enough to thus come out ahead we will not attempt to estimate, but it is certain that all run great risk of accomplishing opposite results.

Houses which are not ready to step into open competition with opponents in such a wide field as this country offers should at all times be looked upon with suspicion. We have scores of eastern wholesale houses which do a large and profitable business here, and the links between them and their customers are justly closed and binding. It is totally different, however, with the pirating class we refer to. They have but one aim, and that is to secure a footing here at all risk and as little loss as possible. It is not difficult to see the motives of such people, and it is to be hoped that any of our retail merchants who may do business with them will be shrewd enough to baffle them in their ulterior motive. The safest plan, however, is to let them alone, and especially that portion of them who withdrew from the Northwest in the time of danger. Gratitude is not a necessary thing for commercial success, but after all there is safety in having, like the successful Irish immigrant, a pleasant remembrance of the old boat that carried them over to better fortune.

It is an axiom of business that a loss will not be deliberately made by any sane man without the prospect of eventual gain. All the loss entailed by this system of baiting will in the end have to be paid by the purchaser, and there are few men so thoroughly masters of their business as to be beyond being baited and afterwards duped.

## RESTRICTING PRODUCTION.

When we look back over the past few months, and notice the number of meetings of different manufacturers, which have adopted a policy of restricting production, we might be tempted to believe that the whole world, or at least the

whole continent of North America had been seized with a fever of economy, and that the consumption of every necessary of life had fallen to the lowest possible ebb, that would admit of existence. Manufacturers of textile fabrics, iron goods, lumber and other articles of every day demand have all gone in more or less for curtailing their productions, and in coal mining and other auxiliaries to manufactures a similar policy has been adopted. Yet there seems to be no falling off in the demand for such goods by the consumer, the field for such consumption being every day widening. There must therefore be some very urgent reason for this shortening policy, and the answer given by those most interested is overstocked markets.

There is no use in trying to deny the fact, that the whole continent of North America has become over productive in manufactured goods, and the very fact that restricted production is necessary, is positive proof that it has reached that state. Some influence has been at work to bring about this very undesirable state of affairs, and we have no hesitation in stating, that it is to be attributed to the bolstering protective legislation of every country on this continent. The United States has grown to a great industrial nation, but its manufacturers are as yet unable to compete profitably in the markets of crowded Europe. Goods manufactured there do reach the British market, when they are admitted duty free, but the question arises when do they reach that market? They reach it only when some outlet is necessary through which to slaughter them, and relieve a crowded home market, without forcing down its prices. Thus it is that the British consumer invariably purchases his American goods at lower figures, than can the consumer in the country where they are made. But relief of that description acts like the old system of bleeding to relieve pain, and cannot be carried too far without causing great injury or actual death. When, therefore, slaughter in a foreign market entails more loss than can be borne; restricted production becomes the only alternative, and when that is reached industry has come to a level which cannot be otherwise than humiliating to the advocates of high protective tariffs. Even their demagoguish argument of increased remuneration to the laborer is gone, for the artisan with

wages increased twenty per cent., and subject to a forced idleness for twenty per cent. of his time, is no better off, even when the actual amount of his pay only is considered, and when the high prices for the necessaries of life caused by increased cost of production are taken into consideration, he is the greatest sufferer from what protectionists tell him is legislation specially on his behalf.

There is a law of supply and demand which must find its level like water, and which if put at defiance will cause trouble. The wider the range given for the operation of this law, the less cause there is to apprehend trouble, and advocates of protective tariff have but a poor comprehension of its workings, if they think they can confine them within the limits of the country over which any system of protective tariff extends. Slaughter sales in foreign markets, restricted production and other untrade-like arrangements may be attached as safety valves, but they will all be found insufficient to prevent trouble, and indeed an actual injury to the interests they are intended to protect.

We cannot say that Canada has as yet done much in the foreign market slaughter sale, nor, indeed, are our industrial interests backed by sufficient wealth, to admit of much of that being practised. But the whole industrial system of the Dominion is suffering now from the pressure of over production caused by protective bolstering, and before a healthy state is reached, our manufacturers will find, that the depressive reaction will cause them losses, which will more than counter-balance all the gains they made during the first waves of inflation.

### THE CIVIC ELECTIONS.

There are a few ceremonious people in Winnipeg, who think that the city Board of Trade stepped aside from its proper sphere, and somewhat lowered its dignity in taking any action in connection with civic affairs. We suppose such people as a rule hold very fixed opinions, and it would be useless trying to convince them of the error of their views. It is fortunate, however, that the number of such people is very limited, and their displeasure the Board has no reason to fear. The unanimity with which the hundreds of ratepayers who attended the convention, endorsed the Board's action proved how truly grateful our citizens generally were

for the effort in favor of municipal reform, thus emanating from the first mercantile organization of Manitoba.

It is only natural that an organization of business men should be prompt to perceive mismanagement of the city's business, and they were only following out the policy of their every day life when they took steps to remedy the evil. Mercantile men above all others know the value of a good credit, and the pains necessary to preserve the same. It cannot be wondered at, therefore, that they should interpose to stop the ruin of the city's credit. In so doing they were only taking advantage of the rights possessed by all ratepayers, and the perfection with which they gave practical shape to their opinions, proves that their tact can be safely trusted in a matter where the interests of the citizens are at stake, while the fact that scarcely a member of the Board had any desire for municipal honors shows how disinterested was the spirit with which they took hold of the work. If they have accomplished nothing more, they gathered together the largest and by far the best representative connection which has as yet met in connection with Winnipeg municipal affairs, and it is idle talk to say, that the labors of such a convention will prove valueless. A full array of candidates for our civic offices has been put in the field backed by an organization, the united effort of which must ensure success. That they have selected the best available men in every instance, it would be folly to state. But they have certainly nominated candidates for mayor and council, who must, if elected, be a great improvement upon the "Baker's dozen" who have so muddled our municipal affairs during the past year.

That this ticket of the citizens will meet with bitter opposition in several quarters we must expect. The fact that it fails entirely to represent the bummer element is enough to bring out opposition. For that element unfortunately holds some power in Winnipeg, and it has been so pampered and petted of late, by men whom the citizens have placed in office, that it has grown arrogant. Arrogance usually precedes a fall, and all that is necessary to secure its collapse is unity on the part of the active business element of the city. Once secure thorough unanimity in that element, and no other combination of elements can stand against it either in a municipal or any other election.

### CLEAN YOUR WHEAT.

If there ever was a doubt about the necessity for cleaning elevators throughout Manitoba it has certainly been dispelled during the past few weeks by the state in which wheat has reached not only Winnipeg but markets in the east. Eastern millers have been loud in their complaints about the dirty state in which wheat has come to them from the Northwest, and the eastern press, or at least that portion of it which is hostile to Manitoba, has not failed to make capital out of the grumbling of the millers. How much injury such reports will do to the country it does not require great foresight to see.

But it is not only the enemies of the Northwest who have complained of late about dirty wheat. Men who are deeply interested in the country's welfare have had good reason to complain. Since the crop of 1884 began to come to market it is safe to say that three out of every four cars were so dirty that they would fall short one or perhaps more grades of what they would reach under any system of inspection were they properly cleaned, and some were in such a state that no elevator company would have received them into store or issued a receipt for them. All this is the result of want of cleaning arrangements at points where grain is taken from the farmers, for it was a noticeable fact that grain coming from points where elevators were was in much better condition.

The grain movement of this season has settled the fact that our grain must reach market in a cleaned state or the whole country, and especially the farming community, must be heavy losers. The question naturally arises, where shall it be cleaned? and it is not very difficult to answer. Our farmers are too poor, and are likely to be so for years to come, to provide themselves with close barns, fanning mills and separators for the work. They have already spent enough on machinery, and most of them are carrying a load in consequence. The cleaning must, therefore, take place at the country grain market, and every effort to establish a flat warehousing system is a pull against the best interests of the Northwest. A cheap elevator with thorough cleaning arrangements is absolutely necessary, and the man who constructs such at any point confers a boon upon the surrounding farmers, and need have no fear about making a paying investment. The managers of the C.P.R. make blunders at times, but they are certainly working for the welfare of the country when they set themselves against the construction of flat warehouses on their track.



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**WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.**

There has been scarcely any new features in connection with the money market of the city during the past week and matters have been moving along with a regular flow. In commercial circles it was thought that the absconding of a wholesale merchant and the discoveries of some forgeries he committed would have caused more or less of a tightening up on the part of banks, but the circumstances of his case were so exceptional that they have had no effect upon bank policy, and commercial monetary affairs have in no way been disturbed thereby. The demand for commercial discounts has been light as they usually are during the latter part of a month, but it has certainly been much more active than during the last days of September. There has been really no scarcity of funds for parties with regular lines arrayed, but those with promiscuous discounts and wishing small loans have not found the supply of money too free. The fact that the circulation of money in trade circles has been increasing has prevented stringency which might have been felt so much by such people. Rates of discount still stand at 8 per cent. for first-class paper; ordinary 9 to 10, and irregular and one-name paper 10 to 12. In loans on real estate mortgage business has been improving slightly. Payments of interest have been coming in more freely, and quite a number of applications for new loans have been received. Although one or two companies still keep from doing any new business, money for loans on good revenue yielding property is easily obtained, and in some cases of first-class investments can be had at one-half per cent. below the lowest quotable rates. Interest rates are unchanged, ranging from 8 to 10 per cent.

**WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.**

There has been a kind of mixed state of affairs in wholesale circles in this city during the past week which causes somewhat of a difficulty in reaching a general estimate. The general belief about the opening of the week was that the first demands of the winter trade were over, and that a week or two of a lull might be expected. This belief was steadily gaining ground until the cold of Tuesday set in, and on Wednesday as the intensity of the frost increased, quite a lively demand for sorts in winter goods for the city trade set in, and a day or two afterwards the country began to be heard from in a similar way. Since then there has been some renewed activity in lines of season goods, which has to some extent changed the aspect of affairs. In goods of every-day consumption there has not been a corresponding improvement, and some reports state that an increased quietness prevails. The business done in these lines, however, will reach at least an average aggregate, and complaints have been few. Lines connected with building operations have shown a decided falling off in sales, and houses of this class are now satisfied that their season's business is drawing near to a close. The report from collections shows that matters are improving although slowly. As the crop comes to market money returns from the country become more

plentiful, and although a few lines of business have the first call upon the money of the farmers, the wholesale trade generally is beginning to share in the returns. Still further improvement in this respect is looked for as the season advances, and the month of November will doubtless prove a much better cash month than October. How long the present little bustle, caused by the advent of cold weather, will last it is difficult to say, but during the next few weeks quite a lively sorting trade is looked for in most lines.

**AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.**

Sales of this class of goods have been few and far between during the past week. The sale of threshers is over for a season, and even the plow demand has almost ceased. The only activity has been in shipping to country agencies supplies of bob-sleds and other winter vehicles. The city trade has amounted to almost nothing. Collections are reported much improved. Cash returns from the country have increased in a marked degree, but houses state there is still room for improvement.

**HOOTS AND SHOES.**

Although the fall trade is over in a great measure, a steady good jog-along business is still being done in this line of goods. As in many other lines, opening fall orders have been light, and supplementary orders are consequently quite numerous. So far the season's business shows a great improvement upon that of 1883. Collections are reported fair to good and steadily improving.

**CLOTHING.**

This branch has been one of the gainers by the advent of cold weather, and during the latter part of the week there has been considerable activity. Winter goods have been going out pretty freely, and the month of October promises to have quite an encouraging close. Collections are reported fair.

**CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.**

There has been nothing remarkable about the state of this trade during the past week. The aggregate business has been about a fair average while collections have been fair to good.

**DRY GOODS.**

The cold weather of the past week has had a decidedly good effect upon this trade and has caused a return of activity. The city trade in particular has increased quickly and the demand for sorts has raised the business of the week to quite a respectable aggregate. From the country, demands for goods are now coming in which will keep the remainder of this month rather lively. Collections are reported improved but as yet they can only be classed fair to good.

**DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.**

There has been a slight improvement in the state of this trade which is attributable to a desire on the part of country dealers to fill up stocks before the depths of winter is reached. The week's sales have, therefore, been considerably above an average.

**FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.**

There has been considerable activity in this trade during the week although the rush which

was general with the opening of October is over. The sales of the week have been of a varied description and their wide range shows that the sorting trade has fairly set in. Collections are reported good and decidedly better than might be expected.

**FISH AND POULTRY.**

Business has been rather quiet in fish during the week and sales have all been of small lots, no car loads being shipped to foreign points. Prices have declined slightly since our last report, white fish being now quoted at 6c, and Lake Superior trout at 9c. Pickerel are slow sales at 4c.

**FRUIT.**

Business in this line has been fairly active during the week, while the variety of fresh fruit has varied very little from our last report. Tomatoes have disappeared, while California grapes are almost out of the market. Dates are still to be had in boxes at former prices. California pears are quoted at \$5.50 to 6.50, according to crate. Peanuts, pecans and Brazil nuts are still in the market and unchanged in price. Apples are quoted: good fall, \$3 to \$3.25; winter, \$3.25 to 3.50. A few fancy lots from Montreal are quoted at \$4.25.

**FUEL.**

There has been quite a stirring up in this trade during the week owing to the cold weather. Sales have been heavy and many are laying in winter stocks. Prices are: anthracite \$10.75 on track; bituminous \$9.50; Saskatchewan lignite \$7.50 delivered. Wood is quoted in round lots, tamarac \$4.00 to \$4.50; poplar, \$3 to \$4.

**FURNITURE.**

There is no improvement to report in this trade for the week. Sales have been confined to small lots and have not been numerous. So far the season has been but a poor one and there are no signs of material improvement.

**GROCERIES.**

Business in this staple line has been moving during the week in an uninteresting way. The volume of sales have been fully up to the average, while collections have shown a slight improvement upon our last report. There are no changes to report in prices, although sugars are reported firmer and teas easier than for several weeks, low grades of black only being scarce and firm. Coffees have not changed and are moderate firm. Quotations are as follows: Sugars, yellows, 6½ to 7c; granulated 8½c; Paris lurps 9½c. Coffees, Rio, 14 to 17c; Javas, 21 to 24c; Jamaicas, 17 to 20c, and Mocha 30 to 34c. Teas, Myyne gunpowder, 30 to 75c; new seasons, 65 to 85c; Japans, 25 to 50c, new seasons 40 to 55c; Congous 30 to 75c; new seasons 55 to 90c. Syrups, single crown \$2.50, and triple crown \$2.75 per keg.

**HARDWARE AND METALS.**

In all the branches of the hardware trade there has been a quiet feeling during the week and the season is fast approaching for entering upon several months of comparative activity. In metals there has been a similar feeling, and altogether matters have been rather slow. Collections have not been very encouraging although one or two reports are good. Prices

of staple goods have not changed, but any day we may expect to hear of a general advance in view of winter freight rates going into force. Quotations are as follows: Tin plate I.C., 14x20, \$6.25 to \$6.50 a box; I.C., 20x28, \$12.50 to \$13; Canada plates \$4 to \$4.25; sheet iron, 28 G., \$4.75 to \$5.25 per 100 lbs; iron pipe, 40 to 50 per cent. off list price; ingot tin, 25 to 30 per lb; pig lead, 6 to 6½c; galvanized iron, 7 to 7½c per lb; bar iron, \$2.75 to 3.25 per 100 lbs; cut rails, \$3.55 to \$3.75.

#### LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

There has been very little change in this trade during the week, the only one being a little ripple of activity caused by the advent of cold weather. Collections are reported moderately good and improving as the season advances. Prices of goods have not changed. Quotations are: Spanish sole, 33c to 35c; slaughter sole, 35c; French calf, first choice, \$1.40 to 1.50; domestic, 85c; B Z calf, \$1.00 to 1.10; French kip, \$1.00 to 1.25; B Z kip, 85c to 90c; slaughter kip, 65c to 75c. No. 1 wax upper, 55c; grain upper, 55c; harness-leather, 34c to 36c for plumb stock; English oak sole, 65c.

#### LUMBER.

The amount of business done in this trade during the week has not been heavy, although small sales for finishing work have been quite numerous. Mills are still running, although they are near to the end of their season's cut. While there are few reasons for congratulation about the season's trade, it is about to close with a much more hopeful outlook than it had a year ago. Stocks are very light compared with what they were near the close of 1883 and by spring will doubtless be so low as to warrant next season opening with prices on a paying level.

#### PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS.

Business has been moderately good in this line during the week but there has been no rush or bustle. Collections are reported fairly satisfactory but still open to improvement. While there has been signs of coming changes in prices, as yet none have gone into force and probably none will until the closing of lake navigation raises freights from the east. As yet the following quotations may be accepted although some changes may be looked for soon: Linsced oil raw, 67c per gal.; boiled, 70c; seal oil, ocean refined, \$1.10; no pale or straw seal in the market; castor, 15c per lb; lard, No. 1, \$1.30 per gal; olive, \$1.50 to \$2, according to quality; machine oils, brack 30c; oleine 50c; fine qualities 65c to \$1. Coal oils, headlight, 27c; water white 33c. Calcined plaster, \$4.00 per bbl.; Portland cement, \$6; white lead, genuine, \$5.00; No. 1, \$7.50; No. 2, \$7. Window glass, first break, are quoted at \$2.50.

#### SADDLERY AND HARNESS.

Business in this line, is reported good for the past week. There has not been the activity which existed two weeks ago but affairs are in a steady and satisfactory state. Collections are reported quite satisfactory.

#### STATIONERY AND PAPER.

There has been a growing improvement in this trade during the week and sales have been

steadily on the increase. Still there has not, during the entire fall season, been the activity which might be expected. Collections still keep good, and if the trade does has been small it has been safe.

#### WINES AND SPIRITS.

Business in this line has been moderately good during the week, while collections have been satisfactory. Prices of goods have not changed and quotations are as follows: Hennessy's one star, \$13 to \$14; in wood, \$4.50 to 5.00 per gallon; Martel, in case, one star, \$13 to \$14; Renault, 1-star, \$12, \$16 and \$20; Louis Fieres, in cases, qts., \$9; flasks, two dozen in a case, \$11; M. Dubois, in wood, \$3.50 per gallon; cases, quarts, flasks, \$8; Gin, \$9; Holland, in wood, \$3 per gallon; red cases, \$10.5 to 11.50; green \$5.50 to \$6.50; cases, Old Tom gin, Bernhard's, in wood, \$3.25 per gallon; Booth's, in wood, \$3.25; Booth's, in cases, quarts, \$3.50; Scotch whisky, Ramsay's, in wood, \$3.50 to \$4.00; Coal-Ha Islay, in wood, \$3.50; Stewart's, in cases, quarts, \$8.50; flasks, 10.50. Irish whisky, John Jameson & Sons, in wood, \$3.50 to \$4. Bernhard's, in cases, quarts, \$8; flasks, \$9.50. Jamaica rum, \$3.75 to \$4.00 per gallon. Champagne—Pomeroy, quarts, \$34; pints \$35 per case; Bollinger, quarts, \$33; pints \$34; Moet and Chandon, quarts, \$27; pints \$29; G. H. Mumm, quarts, \$28; pints, \$30; Carte Blanche, quarts, \$20; pints \$22. Sherry from \$2.50 to 5.00 per gallon, according to quality and brand; port, \$2.50 to 7.00, according to quality and brand; claret in cases \$5.00 to 7.00; Bass's ale in quarts \$3.50 per doz; pints \$2.25, Guinness, porter in quarts \$4.00, pints 2.50. Domestic whiskies, Gouderham & Wort's, in wood, \$1.55 to 2.25 per gallon; 65 o. p. rectified, in wood, \$2.52; W.F.L. five year old, \$2.50 per gallon cases, quarts, \$7.50; flasks \$5.50.

## THE MARKETS.

### WINNIPEG.

#### GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

The movement in grain during the past week has been decidedly heavy and the quantity of wheat alone which has been forwarded for eastern points has been considerably beyond 100,000 bushels. The quality of the same has been steadily improving, and No. 1 hard is not now so scarce a commodity as it was during the early part of this month. Oats are also becoming more plentiful and some prime lots have reached the city during the week. Barley has not yet commenced to move, but a few beautiful bright samples have been sent in which seems to give a flat contradiction to late reports that we had nothing but badly discolored barley this year. In provisions the business done has been liberal. In some lines of produce prices have been firmer, while some meats have declined in price.

#### WHEAT.

While No. 1 hard is becoming more plentiful it is still not as much so as millers would wish. It has sold at from 70 to 72c, only choice lots bringing the latter figure. No. 2 has been quite plentiful and has sold from 64 to 66c.

No. 1 regular is still very scarce. No. 2 has sold from 58 to 62c, according to sample. No. 3 is offered in abundance at 50 to 55c. Some damaged lots have sold ungraded as low as 40c.

#### OATS.

New oats are becoming more plentiful every day and prices are consequently on the decline. The highest figures near the end of the week was 35c and there are evident signs of a further decline.

#### BARLEY.

There has been no sales reported but samples are beginning to appear and receipts may be expected any day. No prices can yet be given.

#### FLOUR.

There has been a fair local demand during the week, while from western points there has been quite an active one. Shipments to eastern markets have not been heavy, being only about half a dozen cars in all. Prices have eased off 10c per 100 lbs., quotations now being: Patents \$2.70; strong bakers \$2.40; XXXX \$2, and superfine \$1.60 to \$1.80.

#### BRAN AND SHORTS.

All the output of our mills is still wanted for local supply, and prices have consequently held firm, quotations being: bran \$10 and shorts \$12 a ton on track.

#### POTATOES.

There has been very little demand during the week and offerings have been heavy. Still prices have held up well, 30c being the average figure with 3c for some choice lots.

#### EGGS

are growing daily scarcer. Ontario are quoted at 23 to 24c, while fresh local are worth 25c.

#### BUTTER.

The local supply has been rather on the increase during the week, lots held back in the country having come in freely. Really good butter is by no means too plentiful and sold freely when offered up to 21c, while a few choice lots held as high as 23c. Medium grades are worth from 15 to 18c, and inferior goods are not wanted.

#### CHEESE

has been on the upward tendency during the week. Good Manitoba is now held at \$15c and eastern at 14 to 15c.

#### BACON.

The feeling has been easier during the week although there has been no decline in prices. Dry salt is still quoted at 13½c while smoked is almost out of the market. Rolls are worth 15 to 15½c, and English breakfast 17c.

#### HAMS

hold steady in price, 17c being the regular quotation. The stock in the city is not very heavy at present.

#### MESS PORK.

There has been quite a drop in prices during the week, no doubt in sympathy with Chicago. Sales have been made for several days at \$21. The demand holds moderately active.

#### MESS BEEF.

A few barrels have changed hands during the week but the total is not very heavy. The fixed price has been \$17.

### MINNEAPOLIS.

The past week has witnessed a heavy drop in wheat, owing to the market and mills becoming glutted. Shipments were heavy and millers pushed their establishments to the utmost, but the farmers seemed to have an idea that there was no hope of improved prices, and the railroads rained wheat upon the city. Prices went so low as to leave a good margin for heavy shipments to lake markets, and many dealers took advantage of the fact. There was

a slight recovery to-day, but many dealers predict that prices will go lower before they go higher. Grades still go low, that is the proportion grading hard is small, but there is plenty of dry, sound grain, and nobody seems afraid that there will be any scarcity of good milling wheat this crop year. Street wheat is not coming in fast, and old dealers say this is a good indication that Minnesota farmers are holding their wheat.

Following were the highest and lowest wheat prices by grade on charge during the week ending to-day, together with to-day's closing prices and the prices one year ago:

Wheat.	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.	1885:
				Oct. 24.
No. 1 hard	77½	71½	72	\$1.02½
" 2 "	69	68	68½	.98
" 1 ..	65	62	63	92½
" 2 ..	62½	60	60	.88

Futures have been firm, No. 1 hard, November, closing at 73c, December 75c, and May 87½c; No. 2 hard, November, 69c, December 70c and May 77c.

MILLSTUFF—Has been dull and weak, bulk bran closing at \$6.90 to \$7 per ton, and shorts at \$10 to \$12.

FLOUR—The fame of the new crop wheat for milling would seem to have gone abroad, for in the face of a tumble in wheat and a very heavy production come advices that the flour market is growing stronger. Cables indicate that foreign buyers believe prices have touched bottom, and are showing inclinations to load up. At present the heaviest foreign demand is for bakers' grades. The domestic demand holds steady, with the general market fairly active and prices quite firm. Flour experts who have been here recently agree in saying that the new wheat makes a very strong, rich flour—probably the best ever turned out here. There is little talk about an advance in freight rates.

Quotations at the mills for car or round lots are as follows: Patents, \$4.75 to \$5; straights, \$4.35 to \$4.75; first bakers', \$3.70 to \$4; second bakers', \$3.10 to \$3.50; best low grades, \$1.80 to \$2.10, in bags; red dog, \$1.50 to \$1.70, in bags.

The mills of Minneapolis continue to run heavy and make a very large amount of flour. The production of last week only varied a few hundred barrels from the preceding week. It was prevented from being larger by a number of mills meeting with slight accidents, which caused stoppages, in themselves of no particular moment, but which together made quite a difference in the production. The number of barrels turned out was 145,000—an average of 24,833 bbls daily—against 145,800 bbls the preceding week. There is no change in the number of mills in operation, twenty-one out of twenty-two in the city, being kept moving. Each is pushed as hard as can consistently be done with good work, and yet mill owners clamor for more flour. The mills are now practically all grinding new wheat, and it seems to improve on better acquaintance, though it was considered very fine as it first came in. The flour market is very steady, and shows indications of improving, this being especially true of the export trade.

The following were the receipts at and shipments from Minneapolis for the weeks ending at the dates given:

	RECEIPTS.		
	Oct. 21.	Oct. 14.	Oct. 7.
Wheat, bush	1,193,000	1,093,930	1,054,700
Flour, lbs	650	752	249
Millstuff, tons.	26	12	34

	SHIPMENTS.		
	Oct. 21.	Oct. 14.	Oct. 7.
Wheat, bush	196,000	117,660	66,250
Flour, bbls	150,938	142,095	145,727
Millstuff, tons...	4,452	4,436	4,953

The wheat in store in Minneapolis elevators, as well as the stock at St. Paul and Duluth, is shown in the appended table:

MINNEAPOLIS.			
	Oct. 20.	Oct. 13.	
No. 1 hard	556,407	348,935	
No. 2 hard	19,394	13,763	
No. 1 ..	895,082	657,130	
No. 2 ..	116,483	93,085	
No. 3 ..	.....	32,480	
Rejected	25,829	36,639	
Condemned	.....	.....	
Special bins	429,348	214,216	
Total.....	2,042,543	1,396,248	

ST. PAUL.			
	Oct. 21.	Oct. 14.	Oct. 7.
In elevators, bus.....	136,200	102,700	73,200

DULUTH.			
	Oct. 21.	Oct. 14.	Oct. 7.
In elevators, bus ..	1,278,600	1,145,398	1,267,395

—Northwestern Miller.

CHICAGO.

On Monday a fair speculative business was done in wheat, the receipts being liberal and the arrivals at all points being large. There appeared, however, to be a less desire to realize. Prices closed about a quarter lower than Saturday. In corn the receipts were larger; there was a good business done and the feeling unsettled, prices fluctuating considerable. The receipt of hogs was liberal and shipping demand light. Lard shipments light, prices closing steady at medium figures.

	Oct.	Nov.
Wheat	\$0.72½	\$0.73½
Corn	47½	46½
Oats	25½	25½
Pork	16.00	.....
Lard	7.10	7.00

On Tuesday, in wheat the shipping demand continued light. Corn, only a moderate business done and prices somewhat irregular. In oats the receipts were large and prices closed firm. The receipts of hogs light, and in lard a firmer feeling prevails.

	Oct.	Nov.
Wheat	\$0.74½	\$0.75½
Corn	47½	46½
Oats	25½	26
Pork	15.75	.....
Lard	7.20	7.10

On Wednesday wheat closed weak, receipts continue large. Corn receipts smaller; prices irregular. In oats the market closed weak. The hog market and trading very limited. Prices in lard steady.

	Oct.	Nov.
Wheat ..	\$0.74½	\$0.75½
Corn ..	45	43½
Oats ..	25½	26½
Pork ..	15.75	.....
Lard ..	7.22½	7.10

On Thursday, wheat unsettled but firm and towards the close declined. Oats dull, and pork in good demand.

	Oct.	Nov.
Wheat ..	\$0.74½	\$0.75½
Corn ..	43½	43½
Oats ..	25½	26½
Pork ..	15.50	.....
Lard ..	7.15	7.07½

On Friday receipts showed a decrease in wheat but closed higher than on Thursday. Oats steady and corn unsettled.

	Oct.	Nov.
Wheat ..	\$0.73½	\$0.74½
Corn ..	43	42½
Oats ..	25½	25
Pork ..	15.50	.....
Lard ..	7.20	7.00

On Saturday wheat was quiet. Corn unsettled and weaker. Oats dull. Pork and lard weak and unchanged towards the close.

	Oct.	Nov.
Wheat ..	\$0.74	\$0.74½
Corn ..	44	44½
Oats ..	25½	26
Pork ..	15.50	.....
Lard ..	7.15	.....

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

The stock market of the past week has been quiet, the fluctuations being within a small range in almost every bank stock. In cases where a decline has taken place it has been trifling and in advances equally so, neither movements giving any evidence of a feeling one way or the other. Northwest Loan Co.'s stock has shown a lower tendency but has not suffered severely. A comparison of closing bids of Wednesday, 15th and 22nd October will show the tendency of the market.

	Oct. 15.	Oct. 22.
Montreal	190½	189½
Ontario	107	105½
Molson's	.....	.....
Toronto	174½	173½
Merchants	109	109
Commerce	117	116½
Imperial	129	129
Federal	50	49½
Dominion	188	184½
Standard	111½	111
Hamilton	117	117
Northwest Land	40	39

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

The steady increase in the receipts of grain during the past two weeks has at length brought prices downward and quite a decline has taken place during the past week. This has not been confined to any particular grain but has been general, the invariable report of each day being offerings heavy and demand limited. Buyers have evidently secured enough of the new crop to satisfy immediate wants and are holding off from buying in the belief that increasing receipts will soon bring much lower prices. It seems now as if it would be impossible to prevent. The business done in provisions has been very light owing mainly to the fact that offerings have been remarkably so. Prices have, however, held rather firm and in some goods there has been a scarcity which, if it continues, cannot fail to bring about advanced figures.

WHEAT.

The receipts of spring have been on the increase and prices have gone down somewhat

Early in the week No. 1 sold freely at 80c but later it was offered without being taken at 79c. No. 2 has gone down to 77c and freely offered at that. No. 2 fall ranged from 77c down to 65c, and No. 3 was latterly offered at 74c.

## OATS.

The supply has been abundant and prices have been going down. Good samples of white have sold as low as 30c, 31c being the highest paid. Poorer lots have been sold at 30c.

## BARLEY.

In spite of liberal receipts prices have held moderately well up especially for the higher grades. No. 1 still sells at 70c; No. 2 65 to 66c; extra No. 3, 55 to 59c, and No 3 at 53 to 54c.

## RYE.

No sales of round lots to report and street receipts have sold at 60c.

## PEAS.

Although but few offerings have been made buyers have been shy. Small lots have sold at 58 to 59c with 60 asked in some cases but not given.

## POTATOES.

Prices have eased off a little since our last report. The supply is still abundant, and only carefully selected lots have brought 40c. Poorer qualities have sold as low as 37c.

## BUTTER.

The supply of really good butter has been very light although prices have not gone up any. Choice dairy lots have all sold freely at 19c while medium lots were also in good demand at 15 to 17c. No shipping lots of prime were available.

## EGGS.

Receipts have been on the increase and prices during the week were a little lower. Fresh packed and sound lots went freely at 19½ to 20c. Fresh sold from farmers' wagons at 22c. No unaccepted offerings were made.

## PORK

has been rather scarce during the week, and prices have been a little higher. Small lots sold as a rule at \$21, with a few at \$20.50.

## BACON.

Scarcity has held prices firm during the week, but buyers are shy, and evidently look for lower prices, as soon as the supply becomes more plentiful. Cumberland in small lots sold at 10 to 10½c, and new long clear at 11 to 11½c. Rolls were worth 12c.

## HAMS.

The market has been almost without any hams during the week. Only a few new smoked were offered, which were quickly taken at 15 to 15½c.

## LARD

has been in slow demand, and selling at 10½ to 12c, according to quality.

## POULTRY.

Fowls have been selling freely, ranging in price from 45 to 55c per pair; Ducks were scarce and wanted at 60 to 75c. Turkey hens were worth from 75c to \$1.

## APPLS.

There has been a very light demand for shipping lots, while the supply has been steadily heavy. Prices have in consequence declined. Inferior lots ranged from 65c to \$1, and good to choice from \$1.25 to \$1.50. Choice winter lots sold up to \$1.75.

## New York Correspondence.

The liberal receipts of wheat at interior towns during the past week have not only called attention to the fact that farmers are not feeling obliged to hoard their grain owing to the exceptionally low prices, as reported for some time back by the *Chicago Tribune*, but emphasize the exhibits made by the *Railroad Gazette*

of Oct. 3, and by *Bradstreet's* of Oct. 11, respecting the movement of grain. Until within two weeks past the general impression conveyed by divers and sundry newspaper reports, was to the effect that farmers have been withholding their grain, for the reason above stated, and it has been further given out that 77 to 78c per bu for No. 2 red at Chicago, which left the producer but from 51 to 56c per bu, on the average, representing wheat raising at an absolute loss. The question now arises whether the so-called necessities of the farmers may be supposed to call for their marketing over 120,000,000 bus of the new crop at a loss in order to pay off their debts. Current estimates place the proportion of the new crop marketed at about 121,000,000 bus. The visible supply has increased 11,000,000 bus since July (end first week in October); the exports have amounted to 34,000,000 bus and the consumption at home, at the rate of 5,000,000 bus weekly has been about 74,000,000 bus. This indicates that over 23 per cent of the new crop has left the farmers' hands, while in fourteen weeks in the corresponding portion of 1883 (July 1 to Oct. 4), the exports were but 22,500,000, the consumption (say) 73,000,000 and the increase in the visible supply, but little over 9,000,000 bus, indicating that 101,000,000 had left farmers' hands, or about 26 per cent of the 400,000,000 bu crop. The proportion, of course, was greater than this year but absolutely was less. Farmers have evidently been quite as free with their grain at current low prices as they were with those of a year ago, when prices were about 20c higher per bushel. A detailed examination of the receipts of grain at primary markets for the nine weeks ended Sept. 27, made by the journal last named, brings out some striking facts. As pointed out, "the recently reported liberal shipments of wheat by farmers this season are confirmed, the total being heavier than since 1879. Receipts of oats, and barley too, have been full. Those of rye are but 60 per cent of those in 1883, while receipts of corn at primary markets have been but 70 per cent of those in 1883. But while wheat receipts have been heavier than in previous years, total grain receipts at interior points have been less, a circumstance which, with the late prevalent rate cutting, will go far to explain the discrepancy in grain, railroad earnings. The movement of breadstuffs to second hands has not been paralleled by the movement from interior points to tidewater, receipts at the seaboard showing a very marked decline. This tells a supplementary story as to decreased earnings of eastern railways. The falling away in the total western and eastern movement is found to be due almost directly to the scarcity of corn to ship. The retention of the grain crops in the country is therefore, by speculators and buyers at primary markets, not by the farmers." This retention is made clear when it is found that of the total receipts of wheat, corn, oats, barley and rye at the eight primary markets during the nine weeks specified, but 75 per cent went forward during that period, as compared with 80 per cent in a corresponding portion of 1883, and as against 81 per cent in 1882 and 74 per cent in 1881. Receipts at seaboard, too, of those grains, were but 37,400,000 bus in the

portion of 1884 noted, as against 66,500,000 bus received at primary markets; but 44,400,000 bus in 1883 (nine weeks), compared with 70,000,000 bus following harvesting in 1883; but 47,100,000 bus in 1882, against 52,100,000 received at interior points; but 48,700,000 against 62,400,000 in 1881; 63,300,000 against 68,000,000 in 1880, and as compared with 69,100,000 against 62,800,000 bus received at the west in a like portion of 1879. The loss in earnings due to carriage of grain would have therefore been absolute, even by western roads, as compared with 1883, (as it is), but by eastern trunk lines the loss should even have been greater (as has been the case), the retention of grain having been at intermediate points. The receipt of flour at initial western markets in the nine weeks, 1884, were the largest recorded, being 9.3 per cent heavier than in a like portion of 1883; nearly 18 per cent heavier than in 1882; 6.7 per cent larger than in 1881; 29 per cent larger than in 1880, and 38 per cent in excess of those in 1879. But it is because of short Indian corn shipments that the total of the grain movement falls behind the records of 1883 and 1880. The total receipts at eight primary markets for the nine weeks named in the year mentioned has been:

	Bus.
1884.....	18,800,000
1883.....	26,900,000
1882.....	12,600,000
1881.....	36,900,000
1880.....	31,500,000
1879.....	20,400,000

From this it will be seen that the movement is less than any of the preceeding five years, except 1882, following the year when the harvest of corn fell from over 1,700,000,000 to less than 1,200,000,000 bus. The total receipts of flour and grain at the interior markets (flour reduced to bushels of wheat) have been therefore in the nine weeks named this year, over 3,000,000 bus less than in the corresponding portion of 1883, due almost solely to the excessive falling away in the movement of Indian corn (from farmers' hands), for of wheat there was received over 5,500,000 bus more than in 1883.

The very full receipts at the west and heavy shipments to seaboard within the past week have been a primary cause of the lowered prices. Spot cash wheat, No. 2 red dropped about 2c per bu in the week ending the 10th inst., and the options kept pace with it. Indian corn went a little further, here, and lost 3c per bu for No. 3 mixed, on the spot, which was as much attributable to an utter absence of demand and colder weather west, as to anything else. For that matter both wheat and corn have been dull: the former has been growing more and more so, while the latter has remained a good deal of uniformity in the lack of animation. The exports of wheat this season are relatively heavier, over 11,200,000 bus in excess of 1883, for the quarter ending Sept. 30. A big bull here calls attention to the fact that this is at the rate of 176,000,000 bus per annum, but he knows that there is no more likelihood of our sending the latter quantity abroad in the year ending July 1 next than there is of his doing. Shipments of wheat from British India

are still checked, and St. Petersburg continues to send less to the United Kingdom. These facts are put out as bull points. Shipments from north Russian ports will cease in a fortnight hence, not to be renewed until May. The quantity of wheat on passage declined 1,500,000 bus, and that of corn 250,000 bus. These are named as additional bull points here.

Flour, low grades (old wheat) was firmer during the middle of the week at previous asking prices, but has since lost such renewed firmness as it had gained, and is dull at the lower levels. The lack of demand is given as the reason. Efforts are making here to cut down the terminal charges for receipts of both wheat and flour. As to the latter, storage facilities are wanted, and the trade is coming to realize it, wheat was weaker and corn firmer yesterday.

—*The Northwestern Miller.*

### Opposing Rateable Distribution.

Judgments have just been rendered by the Ontario Court of Appeal in three different suits, all resulting from attempts on the part of particular creditors to obtain an advantage over other creditors, after assignment for rateable distribution had been executed. Fortunately, in every case the decision has been adverse to the creditors who made these attempts. Our courts have gone so far from time to time, to protest against technical objections, assignments honestly intended to secure rateable division that it is to be hoped we have heard the last of those attempts to secure preferences in this particular way.

The first of these cases arose out of the failure of one Jarvis, a small trader in Port Sidney, Muskoka District. This gentleman being pressed by creditors, executed an assignment to Mr. Donaldson, an accountant of this city, for the general benefit of all creditors. It appears that the sheriff was at the time of the assignment, in possession under an execution in favor of a Hamilton firm. A suit was pending at the same time at the instance of a wholesale millinery house, in this city. The latter had their execution placed in the Sheriff's hands the day after the assignment took place. Instead of accepting the situation and recognizing the priority of this assignment they, however, insisted upon the Sheriff holding the goods on their behalf. The matter came up before the York County Judge and was decided in favor of the contesting creditors, on the ground that the assignment to Mr. Donaldson did not contain such a description of the goods covered, as to satisfy the provisions of the Chattle Mortgage and Bill of Sale statute which is held to be applicable to these assignments where there is not an immediate change of possession.

To set aside this decision the trustee resorted to the Court of Appeal, which has now rendered judgment in his favor. That Court holds that the Sheriff having been in possession at the time of the making of the assignment under a prior execution, it was not possible for Jarvis the debtor to transfer possession to the assignee, and that, consequently, a change of possession not being possible under the circumstances, the Chattle Mortgage law, which was intended to apply to cases where a change of possession

might have occurred, but was not effected, did not apply. The firm perhaps now conclude that it would have been the wiser, as well as the most proper course, for them in the first instance to accept their share of the assets like other creditors.

The other two appeals arose out of an attempt which has now become well-known, on the part of certain creditors to obtain advantage over the general body of creditors in reference to the affairs of Messrs. Bull & Ross, of Welland and Thorold. In this case an assignment prepared in the interest and at the request of creditors had been procured, after a great deal of difficulty, from the debtors to Mr. E. R. C. Clarkson of this city. All the principal creditors had concurred in the selection of the trustee, and no objection was made to him even by the opposing creditors. Nor was there any contention that there was any danger of loss through his management, nor were any of his acts, in dealing with the estate, complained of. It was, because it had to be, admitted that in the procuring of the assignment, and in every step that had been taken under it, the interest of all creditors had been impartially considered.

Notwithstanding all this proceedings were instituted on behalf of four Montreal firms, with a view to secure payment in full of their claims, on a ground of different technical objections to the deed of assignment. The suits brought by these creditors were tried before Chief Justice Wilson, who decided against all the contentions raised. The case was then carried to the full Court of Queen's Bench with a similar result. Now the Court of Appeal, before which the case has since been brought, has affirmed these decisions. The result is fortunately in favor of the estate without a single dissenting judge in any of the Courts.

This result, achieved as it must have been at very considerable expense, will surely prove an effectual lesson, at any rate to creditors who have thought proper to place themselves in the position which they have occupied at this contest. It would be just as well, that other creditors too, attempting a similar course, should take the lesson to heart.—*Monetary Times.*

### A Heavy Judgment.

The decision of the Court of Appeals at Albany, N. Y., in the case of John Baird against the Mayor, etc., of the city of New York, involves a judgment against the city of about \$1,500,000. The Court handed down a decision reversing the judgment of the General Term and affirming the judgment entered on the report of the Referee. The opinion written by Chief Judge Ruger, is concurred in by all the Judges. It is thought, that with costs and interest, the city will have to pay nearly \$1,500,000.

[This is the famous water-meter case which has come down as a reminiscence of the days of Boss Tweed. In 1871, when Commissioner of Public Works Tweed awarded a contract to Jose F. De Navarro for 10,000 water-meters at \$70 each. A competitive examination was held, and from the forty entries Mr. Edward H. Tracy selected the Navarro meter and recommended its adoption to Mr. Tweed. It appears

that the meters were furnished to the city according to contract, but for some reason they were never used and the municipal authorities refused payment. After the disclosure of the rascalities of the Tweed ring there was a suspicion that this contract might have been one of the ring jobs, and the claims of Navarro were stoutly resisted. This suit against the city was referred to Judge John K. Porter, who had the matter before him seven years, both sides being represented by very able counsel. Judge Porter finally rendered a judgment taken in favor of Mr. Navarro for \$1,125,000. An appeal being taken to the General Term by the city on opinion of Judge Davies the decision of the Referee was set aside both on the facts and the law. Mr. Navarro's assignee, John Baird, carried the suit to the Court of Appeals. The case was argued last June at Saratoga.]—*Chicago Journal of Commerce.*

### Recent Legal Decisions.

**CONTRACT—PART DELIVERY.**—In the case of the Mersey Steel & Iron Co., vs. Naylor et al, the House of Lords (England) held that the purchasers of steel from a company, wound up after a part of the first instalment was delivered, did not repudiate to take by refusing to pay for what had been delivered.

**DISCHARGE IN BANKRUPTCY.—DEFENSE.**—A discharge in bankruptcy will not avail as a defense against a creditor of the bankrupt where the latter, after his discharge, makes an unconditional promise to his debtors to pay him; the promise to pay, however, must be express and direct; the mere expression of an intention to pay will not avail, according to the decision of the Supreme Court of Illinois in the case of Katz vs. Moessinger, decided at the September term.

**PARTNERSHIP PROPERTY.**—The purchaser of an interest of one of the co-partners in partnership property acquires only such interest as the vendor had, and that is his share of the residue after the affairs of the partnership are wound up and the debts paid, including the balance due one partner from the other on the partnership account. *Ronsentiel vs. Gray et al.*, decided by the Supreme Court of Illinois on the 27th ult. and reported in the *Chicago Legal News.*

**WHOLESALE DEALER.—MEANING OF TERM.**—The question what constitutes a "wholesale dealer" was considered in an interesting way by the Kentucky Court of Appeals in the recent case of Pence vs. The Commonwealth. Touching the interpretation of the phrase the court said: In the absence of a statute giving a legal definition to the word wholesale with regard to a particular commodity, it is a question of fact whether, according to the usual course of trade in that commodity, a given transaction is to be regarded as at wholesale or retail. These are relative terms. Etymologically considered it might be said that the sale of a thing as prepared and put up by the manufacturer, to be sold as put up without subtraction, is a wholesale transaction; but if only a part of the thing is sold, if there is (as the word retail implies) a cutting or severing of the thing as put up, the sale is a retail transaction.

But even if the meanings of the words wholesale and retail are taken from the dictionary it is still a question of fact as to the minimum quantity of whisky, or of any other fluid, or of anything made entire, as nails, pins and needles which constitutes a whole package as originally put up. With respect to such matters it seems clear that the condition in which the wholesale dealer chooses, for safety or convenience, to keep his stock is unimportant. A dealer in grain may keep a hundred thousand bushels in an elevator; a dealer in liquors may keep them in casks of immense capacity, but it could not be said that the sale of fifty thousand bushels of the grain out of one elevator or the sale of one thousand gallons of wine out of one cask would therefore be a retail dealing. What constitutes a wholesale dealer in a given commodity, and what constitutes a wholesale transaction, if made by a wholesale dealer, are questions of fact to be proved by evidence and found by the jury. It is "the usual course of trade" which determines the answers. It may be that only a minimum quantity is considered in deciding whether a dealer is wholesale or retail, and it may be that the question as to the purpose of the purchaser, as whether buying for personal use or for resale, may be an element. But we do not think it can be assumed as a matter of law, that the sale of no quantity, however great, is a wholesale transaction unless the purchaser buys as a dealer to resell. —*Braidstreet*.

### Citizens Convention.

Conventions are not gatherings in which men of commerce usually take a leading part, but the Board of Trade of Winnipeg, at the earnest solicitation of hundreds of citizens outside of their membership, organized the convention of Wednesday and Thursday last for the nomination of candidates for Mayor and Aldermen for 1885. The Board were careful not to put forward any candidates of their own selection, but merely prepared the machinery, and collect together a gathering of representation ratepayers to whom they entrusted the right of selecting candidates. The consequence was that on Wednesday some 400 of the most prominent ratepayers of the city assembled in Trinity Hall at the call of the Board.

The chair was occupied by S. O. Shorey, Vice-President of the Board while the Secretary of the Board acted in the same capacity for the convention. Every ratepayer on entering the hall was furnished with a printed copy of the order of procedure, as prepared by the Board, which we give in full.

#### FIRST SESSION.

(1.) Opening remarks by chairman, (President or Vice-President of the Board of Trade.)

(2.) RESOLUTION.—Whereas the municipal affairs of the city of Winnipeg are in a most unsatisfactory condition, it is desirable that all good citizens co-operate for the election of a Council for the year 1885 that shall consist of responsible, honest and capable men; and with this end in view this convention will endeavor to nominate such men, regardless of all political or other considerations, for Mayor and Aldermen as a CITIZENS' TICKET, and will

individually and collectively accept such nominations as unanimous nominations, and use every legitimate means within our power to secure the return of such TICKET at the ensuing civil elections.

(3.) Five-minute speeches to the resolution.

(4.) Resolution to be put to the meeting.

(5.) Nomination of persons for the position of Mayor. Any two persons, present (mover and seconder), electors in the city, may nominate any person legally qualified.

(6.) Nomination of persons for Aldermen in the different wards, in order of their number. Any two electors present (mover and seconder) in the ward for which the nomination is made, may nominate any person legally qualified.

The Secretary will record all nominations, together with names of the persons making them.

(7.) Adjournment until 2 p.m. on Thursday.

#### SECOND SESSION.

(1.) Persons who have made nominations will report upon their nominees that they will accept the nomination of the convention if made, or contrary, as the case may be, in the order in which they are called by the Secretary.

All nominees not guaranteed to accept will be struck from the list.

(2.) Further nominations will be received under the same conditions as at previous session, though on this occasion no nominations will be accepted unless the persons making them guarantee acceptance.

(3.) The Chairman shall appoint a committee of scrutineers consisting of five persons.

(4.) Ballot for the final nomination of a candidate for the Mayoralty from amongst the nominees before the convention.

Ballots shall be taken till one person receives a majority of the votes cast, the person receiving the least number of votes at each voting till that is attained to be dropped. The person first receiving a majority of the total votes cast to be the nominee of the convention.

(5.) Ballot for the final nomination of candidates for Aldermen in the order of the numbers of the wards. Only persons who are electors in the ward for which the nomination is being made shall vote, and each such elector may cast two ballots (two aldermen having to be elected.) The same mode of procedure to be observed as in the nomination for Mayor. The first two persons receiving majorities of the total votes cast to be the nominees of the convention.

(6.) RESOLUTION.—This convention declares all the nominations made unanimous nominations.

(7.) Volunteer motions and dissolution.

JAS. E. STEEN, Secretary.

The Chairman in calling the meeting to order stated, that the Board had no intention of dictating to the ratepayers as to who they should nominate or elect to civic offices, but being satisfied that our civic affairs were so unsatisfactory, they, as representing the commercial interests of the city had called this convention for the purpose of nominating mayoralty and aldermanic candidates for 1885, such as would look after the city's interests, and en-

deavor to lift the city out of its present unenviable condition of having ruin staring ratepayers in the face.

Mr. R. J. Whitla moved the adoption of the resolution No. 2 in the order of procedure of the first day, and in so doing asked that unanimity be the feeling of the convention.

Mr. A. Killam seconded the resolution and spoke strongly in favor of united action on the part of all present.

Mr. C. E. Hamilton, Mr. G. Towler, Dr. Phillips, Mr. W. F. Luxton and Mr. S. C. Biggs also spoke in support of the resolution, which on being put to the meeting was unanimously carried amid considerable enthusiasm.

The Chairman called for nomination for mayor when the following names were proposed: Mr. Duncan MacArthur, Mr. C. E. Hamilton, Mr. Robert Strang, Mr. Joseph Mulbolland, Mayor Logan, Mr. H. S. Westbrook, Mr. J. H. Ashdown, Mr. C. J. Brydges, Ex-Mayor McMicken, Mr. R. J. Whitla, Capt. D. H. McMillan.

Following were the nominations for aldermen.

Ward 1—A. C. Killam, Ald. G. H. Ham, Ald. Stewart Mulvey, Thomas Nixon, C. S. Drummond, G. W. Girdlestone, J. B. MacArthur, and F. H. Mathewson.

Ward 2—J. D. McVicar, Mark Fortune, G. B. Spencer, H. S. Westbrook, R. J. Whitla, Alfred Pearson, Thos. Nixon, A. P. Cameron, S. O. Shorey, T. J. Lyskey, Alex McDonald, C. E. Hamilton.

Ward 3—Stewart McDonald, John Hargrave, E. C. Goulding, A. F. Eden, Dr. Phillips.

Ward 4—Geo. Young, Robert Strang, R. W. Jamieson, Mr. Brock, H. S. Westbrook, L. M. Jones, C. E. Hamilton, Geo. D. McVicar, W. L. Hutton, Alfred McKean, Alex. McIntyre, Thos. Ryan, P. C. McIntyre, Ald. Bawlf, John McDonald, Wm. Bathgate, Chas. Whart, Allen McDonald, A. McNee, J. H. Ashdown, G. F. Carruthers.

Ward 5—W. W. Banning, Alexander Brown, Alexander Woods, J. R. Crowe, H. S. Crotty, Geo. H. Campbell, J. B. More, J. A. Wright, W. G. Fonseca, R. T. Riley, John Hoasser, Robert McGee.

Ward 6—Ald. McCreary, Ald. Carruthers, Ald. Drewry, W. G. Fonseca.

The convention then adjourned till 2 o'clock Thursday afternoon.

On Thursday the convention was again opened by the chairman.

The list of nominees were called over by the secretary, and their names and seconders asked if the candidates agreed to accept the nomination of the convention. When this was concluded the list of candidates was ordered to be the following.

#### FOR MAYOR.

C. E. Hamilton and Robert Strang.

#### FOR ALDERMEN.

Ward 1—Stewart Mulvey and D. S. Drummond.

Ward 2—Mark Fortune, Alfred Pearson, Thos. Nixon, A. P. Cameron and T. J. Lyskey.

Ward 3—Stewart McDonald and Dr. Phillips.

Ward 4—George Young, R. W. Jamieson, C. E. Hamilton and Allen McDonald.

Ward 5—Alex Woods, C. R. Crowe, G. H. Campbell.

Ward 6—Ald. McCreary, Ald. Carruthers and W. G. Fonseca.

Further nominations were then called for and the following names were then added to the ticket.—Ward 2, Wm. Higgins; Ward 5, Ald. S. Polson, T. J. Lynskey and Ald. K. N. L. McDonald.

The following gentlemen were appointed scrutineers:—Capt. Young, J. H. Brock, John Housser, A. McCharles and G. W. Girdlestone.

The work of balloting was proceeded with, and resulted in the nomination of the following candidates.

**MAYOR.**

Mr. C. E. Hamilton.

**FOR ALDERMEN.**

Ward 1, Stewart Mulvey and C. S. Drummond.

Ward 2, Alf. Pearson and Thos. Nixon.

Ward 3, Ald. S. McDonald and Dr. Phillips.

Ward 4, Capt. Geo. Young and Mr. T. Ryan.

Ward 5, Mr. G. R. Crowe and Mr. G. H. Campbell.

Ward 6, Ald. McCreary and Ald. Carruthers.

Mr. J. H. Brock moved and Mr. W. T. Luxton seconded that the nominations of the convention be declared unanimous. Several gentlemen spoke in favor of the motion which was enthusiastically carried.

Mr. C. E. Hamilton, the nominee for mayor, and other gentlemen addressed the convention, which after appointing a committee to carry on the campaign, matters was declared closed by the chairman.

**N. BAWLF,**

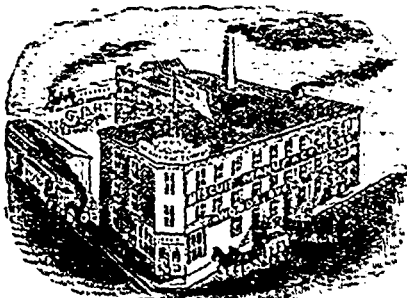
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**Canadian Pacific Railway.**  
(WESTERN DIVISION)

**CHANGE OF TIME**

On and after July 24th, 1891, Trains will move as follows:

Going West.	Going East.
8.37 a.m. leave Winnipeg	arrive 6.15 p.m.
10.38 " " Portage la Prairie	2.60 " "
2.30 p.m. " " Brandon	12.00 a.m.
9.00 " " Broadview	2.45 " "
3.05 a.m. " " Regina	10.20 p.m.
6.45 " " Moose Jaw	7.45 " "
1.00 p.m. " " Swift Current	1.00 p.m.
7.20 p.m. " " Maple Creek	7.40 a.m.
11.45 p.m. " " Medicine Hat	3.45 a.m.
1.30 p.m. arrive Calgary	leave 3.50 p.m.

Three trains a week will run west of Moose Jaw, leaving Winnipeg on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, with Sleeping Car attached, and will run through to Calgary. Returning train will leave Calgary Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, and arrive at Winnipeg Thursdays, Saturdays and Mondays. Daily trains will run between Winnipeg and Moose Jaw.

Going East	Going West
7.20 p.m. leave Winnipeg	arrive 12.00 a.m.
11.50 p.m. " " Portage	1.05 a.m.
4.55 a.m. " " Barclay	8.05 p.m.
2.30 p.m. arrive at Arthur	leave 9.15 a.m.

Going South.	Going North.
8.35 p.m. leave Winnipeg	arrive 6.40 a.m.
10.50 p.m. " " Emerson	4.00 a.m.
18.40, 9.15 a.m., leave Winnipeg	arrive 4.00, 7.00 p.m.
10.30, 11.55 a.m., " " Morris	1.20, 5.05 p.m.
11.40 a.m., " " Greta	1.00 p.m.
5.00 p.m. " " Manitoba	2.30 a.m.

Train leaves for Manitou Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays only, returning next day.

Train leaves Winnipeg for Stonewall, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 9.30 a.m., arriving at Stonewall 10.30 a.m. and Stonewall at 10.15 a.m. Return same days, leaving Stonewall at 1.30 p.m. and Stonewall at 2 p.m., arriving at Winnipeg 3 p.m.

Train leaves Winnipeg for West Selkirk Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 4 p.m., arriving at West Selkirk 5.40 p.m., returning leaves West Selkirk Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 7.10 a.m., arriving at Winnipeg 8.50 a.m.

- 1 Daily.
- 2 Daily except Mondays.
- 3 Daily except Saturdays.
- 4 Daily except Sundays.

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