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 Undivided Profits 823,000 00
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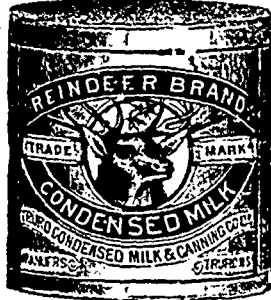
Notice is hereby given that a dividend of 3 1/2% on the capital stock of this company has been declared for the current half year, and that the same will be payable at the office of the company on and after Monday the 1st day of June next.

The transfer books will be closed from the 15th of May to the 1st of June both days inclusive. By order of the board.

W. Barclay Stephens,
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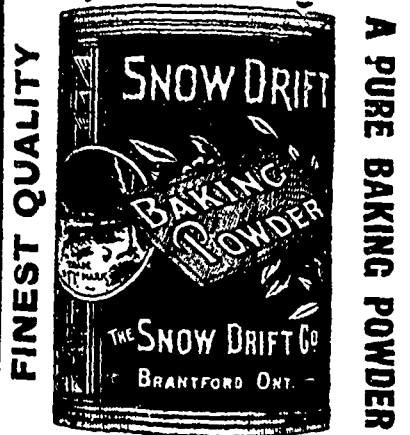
THE DISPUTE AS TO THE JUDGES' AWARD FOR OATMEAL EXHIBITED AT THE WINNIPEG INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION OF 1895 HAS AT LAST BEEN SETTLED.

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DOW & CURRY

PILOT MOUND
HAS BEEN AWARDED
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FIRST ON STANDARD OATMEAL

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YOU WANT THE BEST
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EDWARDSBURG STARCHES IS THE FACT THAT THEY HAVE THE LARGEST SALE OF ANY STARCHES IN MANITOBA & NORTHWEST
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OVER 15,000,000 PACKETS
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The Commercial

A Journal of Commerce, Industry and Finance, especially devoted to the interests of Western Canada, including that portion of Ontario west of Lake Superior, the provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia and the Territories.

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WINNIPEG, MAY 25, 1896.

Manitoba.

J. H. Ashdown is arranging to remodel and improve his large Main street block.

Mrs. L. A. McKague, general store, Clarklough, is succeeded by F. William.

Robinson & Co., dry goods, Winnipeg, are adding groceries.

Thomas H. Giles, hotel, of Austin, is selling out to Mrs. D. McDougall.

A. S. Crerar, flour, feed and lumber dealer, Binscarth, has sold out the lumber business to F. McPherson.

Peter McArthur, of McArthur's Landing, is forming a company to carry on a fish business on Lake Manitoba. Freezers and boats are now being built for this summer's work.

It has been proposed to establish a free market in Winnipeg, but alderman Andrews states that after enquiry he has come to the conclusion that the farmers do not want a free market day. What they want is proper shelter at the market.

Letters patent have been issued incorporating Grotina as a village, and the municipal commissioner is making an apportionment of the surplus of assets between the municipality of Rhineland, which formerly included Grotina, and the village as now incorporated. The municipality of Rhineland has a surplus of \$7,250.44, with no indebtedness.

Owing to some slight errors in wording, the Winnipeg city by-law regulating the inspection of dairies and the sale of milk, has been quashed. It is hoped the by-law will be amended at once, as the closest inspection of dairies is necessary, in the interest of the health of the public. Diseased milk is one of the most frequent causes of sickness, and one of the great dangers of early childhood.

Work on the cold storage warehouse of the Winnipeg Cold Storage and Refrigerating Co., being pushed as vigorously as the wet weather will permit. Whenever the rain ceases a large force of men are put on. The stone walls of the basement are very massive in appearance and the structure throughout will be as substantial as it can be made. The basement walls alone consumed 125 barrels of cement.

The Winnipeg Retailers' Association held a meeting Tuesday evening at which there was a large attendance of members. The report of the entertainment committee was read and after consideration it was decided to hold a picnic during the summer. A strong com-

mittee was appointed with power to make arrangements with the organizers of the caterers' picnic for a joint affair. The desirability of endeavoring to obtain cheap excursions from surrounding districts every month and making such occasion known as "bargain day," and hence induce farmers and others to come to our city, was also debated.

Assiniboia.

Sinclair & Leslie, general storekeepers, Saskatoon, have dissolved partnership. John Leslie will continue the business.

Parrot & McGrath, general storekeepers, Saltcoats, have dissolved partnership. The business will be continued by J. E. Parrot.

Dry Goods Trade Notes.

Dress goods buyers recently arrived from abroad state that they expect boucles and other curl effects on plain and plaid grounds will be leaders for this fall's trade. The Canadian manufacturers are showing some lines in this make, which are worthy of attention. Tweeds are thought to be a good second. Colored fancy goods will likely receive a fair attention. Blacks are staple and will remain good sellers. Tweeds are always good property, and any balance carried over to the early spring then find a ready sale. Tweeds and plain goods are the most appropriate for general use. In London plain goods are much in evidence. Mill prices of colored, grey and white cottons are firm. Prices for the fall trade are expected to continue steady, with not much likelihood of a change until next spring's crop is placed on the market. Occasionally a clearing line at the end of the season is thrown on the market, but the quantity is rarely enough to give uneasiness, and is not a fair criterion of values.

The Toronto Globe dry goods report says: Prices in flannels are certainly lower at the present time than they were last season. Some manufacturers who decided upon changing off from flannels to other goods determined to close out what were in stock at a concession in prices. The same lines cannot be repeated except at old quotations. With this exception the market practically remains the same. Wholesale merchants deem it in the interest of all concerned to defer offering fall goods and confine the attention of buyers more particularly to seasonable lines. It would be well for all practical business retail merchants throughout the country to support the wholesale merchants in this important matter of avoiding the tendency to advance seasons.

A few ranges of fall goods have been placed in the hands of travellers, but this is not general. Separate waists still receive a good share of attention, retailers having done a good business during the hot spell. The demand for white turnover collars to go with colored blouse waists is good. Manufacturers are giving more attention to children's underwear each season, and mothers are showing more of a disposition to buy their children's undergarments. This trade will no doubt increase in fair proportion to ladies' lingerie. The beautifully and skillfully designed garments recently placed on the market have improved the chances of success in ladies' underwear.—Globe.

Bradstreets, of May 16 says of the situation in the United States: "Cotton fabrics are still selling low compared with the cost, and the market is still depressed through over-supplies. Some mills have sold quite freely of brown goods of late, and at low prices. Printed fabrics are moving slow, outside of some fancy specialties that manage to keep well sold up. Ginghams are quiet.

Dress woollens are slow of sale, and while the mills are fairly engaged on fall orders, new business comes to hand. Men's-wear woollens are dull and the market is yet much depressed, with a large amount of machinery idle."

Northwest Ontario.

It is reported from Rat Portage that the Ophir mine in which Winnipeg people are interested, has been sold for \$30,000 cash. There were three bids on for the property. The purchaser is said to be Mr. Caldwell, proprietor of the Sultana, which is the property adjoining to the Ophir.

From letters received from the Empress mine at Jack Fish, it appears that another extraordinarily rich find has been made on the vein at the foot of the hill. Superintendent Peters estimates that the rock will easily go \$100 per ton in free gold.

At the late annual meeting of the Rat Portage board of trade it was moved by Mr. Chadwick, seconded by Mr. Colclough, "that the heartiest thanks of this board be tendered George Drewry for the able manner in which he has filled the important position of president of the Rainy River district board of trade during the past eighteen months, and for the talent and energy he had devoted to the fulfillment of the duties of that office." It was decided to print the council's report and president's address in pamphlet form for circulation. The officer elected for the coming year are: President, J. M. Savage, vice-president, R. A. Mather; secretary E. A. Chapman; members of council, Messrs. Drewry, Chadwick, Mayor Barnes, Carmichael, Margach, Neads, Rice, and Colclough.

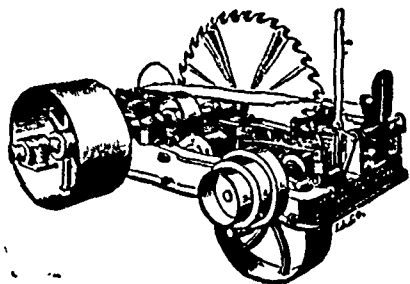
R. A. Mather, of the Keewatin Lumber company, Rat Portage, speaking of mining matters recently said that the activity was of a substantial character in the Lake of the Woods district. The final payment of \$15,000 was paid last week by a syndicate to a party of four young men for property on the Seine River where experts have been prospecting and sinking a shaft for several months.

New Process of Tanning.

A corporation has been organized at Newark, New Jersey, with a capital of \$600,000 which promises to revolutionize the leather industry of that country. Heretofore it is used to take several months to properly tan hides for sole, belting and harness leather, but under the process to be utilized by the new concern, the work can be done in forty-eight hours. The new method is known as the Durio process, and has been in use for some time in the village of Culman, Alsace, Germany.

There are two stories in the May number of Ev'ry Month which aid in sustaining the character of that magazine. The public seems to have developed an appetite for crisp stories, and these here mentioned will go as far as any other to appease it. The number contains the best literary criticism which Edward Al has contributed to that magazine thus far. Photos of Minnie Madder Fiske, Maxine Elliott, Borchgrevink, the explorer, David Belasco, the playwright, Sousa, Tom Platt and Stephan Crane, together with a number of paintings are among the illustrations. The music selections are Just Tell Them That You Saw Me, arranged as a waltz, Kiss Me Goodbye, song and refrain by Charles Miller. Nobility, two step, by Theo. F. Morse, and When the Children Say Good-Night, by Edouard Holst. Howley, Haviland & Co., 4 East 20th Street, New York.

A mining exchange has been started in Rossland with a capital stock of \$50,000. The organizers are Chicago men. Seats are \$500 each.

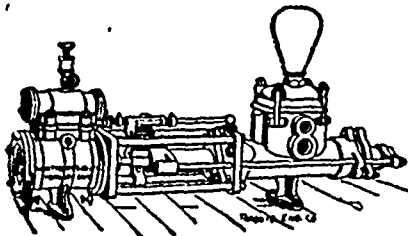


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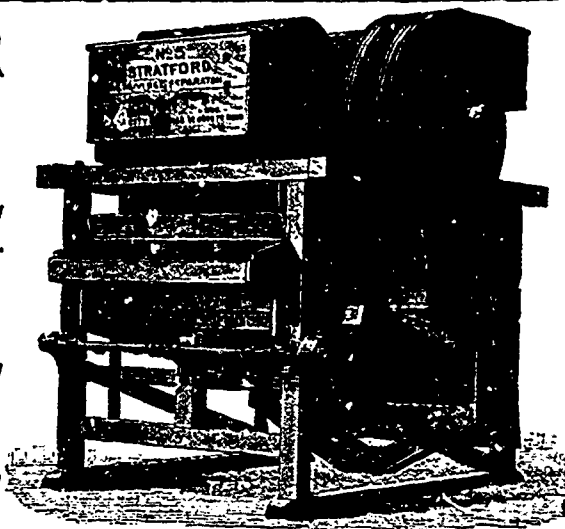
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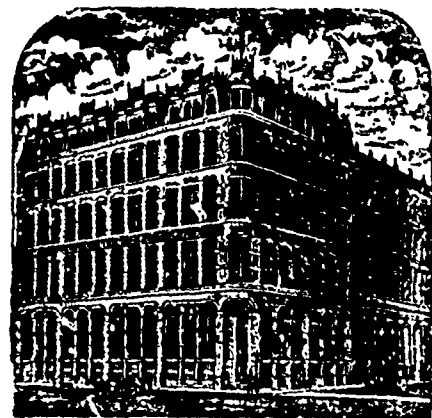
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Crum's Prints. Tokio Pongees.
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Also a very large range of COTTON GOODS
Samples with C. J. REDMOND, Room 18,
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FALL and SORTING ORDERS now being taken by our Traveller, who will wait upon you shortly. Don't buy until you see our samples. Mail orders attended to promptly.

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Boot and Shoe Manufacturers
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MAIN STREET, WINNIPEG.

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* Shelf and Heavy Hardware
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Special attention given to import and export trade.
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Try these Brands. They are Unsurpassed.

BRYAN & LEE, Winnipeg.

The Commercial

WINNIPEG, MAY 25, 1896.

RESTRICTING IMMIGRATION.

The United States congress is having quite a time of late in discussing the question of immigration. Several bills have been offered providing for the restriction of immigration, showing widely divergent opinion on the question. The more moderate expression of opinion upon the question is generally in favor of restricting immigration by preventing the incoming of illiterate persons. Other legislators are so extreme in their views as to favor the exclusion of all immigration, in every way possible. One of these bills appears to be directed particularly against Canadians, who go to the United States to work. Of course, the labor sentiment has a great deal to do with the question of restricting immigration to the United States, and with an election close at hand, there is considerable angling to catch the labor vote.

DEGRADING THE PRESS.

The present political campaign in Canada is being carried on with extreme bitterness, if one may be permitted to judge from the utterances of the party press. The papers are teeming with the most violent expressions and the campaign appears to be conducted with a bitterness, or we might even say viciousness, which a person inclined to independent thought in political matters will find it difficult to account for. Our own local papers are not taking a back seat and in the violence of their utterances are holding their own with the extreme party press of other parts. The most scandalous statements are made and re-iterated about the opposing candidates by the party papers on each side, until one would be led to believe, if any credence could be placed in what the party papers say, that all the leading party men of Canada were fit subjects for the hangman, the penitentiary, or the asylum. As a sample of the disgusting statements appearing these days in the party press we note the words "arch-fiend" applied by a Winnipeg city daily to the leader of the opposing party, this so called arch-fiend being no less a personage than the premier of Canada. Such language as this, quite aside from the respect due to persons occupying so exalted a position, is simply beastly. The heat of political warfare can afford no justification for such journalistic indecency. It is such loathsomeness as this which brings discredit upon the press in general and reduces the honorable calling of journalism to a position of mistrust and abhorrence in the estimation of respectable people.

BOUNTY ON AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS.

There has been considerable agitation of late in the United States in favor of a government bounty on exports of agricultural products. The Orange Judd Farmer has been taking a vote of its readers upon this question and it is somewhat surprising to learn that the farmers are opposed to the bounty pro-

posals two to one. This is very creditable to the farmers, and indicates that they (or at least those of them who read the Orange Judd Farmer) are possessed of more intelligence or knowledge of trade questions than they are generally credited with. On the face of the question, the proposal to give a bounty on exports of agricultural products would seem very alluring, but as a policy or principle it could not be too severely condemned. The farmers therefore do well to reject any such proposal even though it might appear that they would be temporary gainers thereby, on the ground that the principle is wrong.

Of course, in a country where a high protective policy is in force, a bounty on exports of agricultural products would be in keeping with the general trade policy of the country. The farmers cannot be protected by tariff taxation, at least in a country which produces a surplus of agricultural products, while they are obliged to pay higher prices for much of the goods they are obliged to purchase, on account of the high tariff. They might therefore reasonably claim a bounty on their exports, as an offset to the protection afforded to manufacturers, and also as an offset to the burdens imposed upon them by the high tariff. Two wrongs, however, will not make a right, and the farmers would act wisely in following the lead of the readers of the Orange Judd Farmer in rejecting the bounty proposals.

THE SCHOOL QUESTION IN POLITICS.

The Commercial did not intend to make any further reference to the political situation during the present campaign, but we may be permitted to say a word again, since the article in our last issue has been the subject of some comment. The Winnipeg Free Press says:

The Commercial's views on matters within its domain are seldom lacking in sound sense; but when it comes to the school question it is out of its usual field of review, and its facts and conclusions are consequently astray. It ridicules the idea that the School Question is not the principal issue in this campaign.

The Free Press may be quite right in its contention that the School Question is not an important issue in the campaign, and The Commercial therefore possibly altogether wrong. The Commercial certainly does not pose as an authority in party matters. We are quite willing to take such a position in this respect, and will not attempt to argue the matter with our contemporary. At the same time it might not be amiss to remark that in the general popular opinion the School Question is the one great issue in this campaign, and The Commercial will be excused if it cannot obtain an insight into such matters beyond that of the plebeian crowd. We will leave to the Free Press the full point of proving (to its own satisfaction) that the School Question is not an issue in the present political fight. Nevertheless the School Question will settle the fate of the great majority of the candidates, and moreover, it is the School Question which is causing the upheaval in old party lines and driving thousands of the electors from one party to the other.

As to the statement of The Commercial last week that the one party was in favor of, and the other party opposed to coercion, it will be noticed that this statement was applied to the action of the two great parties "in parliament." Certainly one party tried to force, or made a show at least of trying to force a measure of coercion through parliament, while the other party as vigorously opposed this policy, even to the extreme point of obstruction. The statement of The Commercial is therefore true to the letter, and cannot possibly be denied or squirmed around by any theoretical plan of reasoning.

At the same time it is quite true that the Liberal leader, if correctly reported, has recently made statements which would indicate that under certain conditions, he also would feel compelled to resort to coercive measures. The Commercial has no party interests to serve, nor party tactics to defend in this matter, and we therefore make the statement freely, wishing to be perfectly fair to all. If Mr. Laurier's recent statements are not in accord with the anti-coercive policy of his party, or the policy at least of the majority of the candidates under his banner, it is for them to excuse or repudiate his utterances. The policy of the party in parliament, however, is of more importance than statements made during an election campaign, for at such a time one can believe very little of what he reads in the press, whose chief object just now seems to be to distort everything pertaining to political matters.

But whatever the chief issue of the campaign may be, the probability is, in the humble opinion of this journal, that an attempt will not be made again to force a coercive measure through parliament, win which may.

UNITED STATES EXPORT TRADE.

The war scare over the Venezuelan question happily proved of short duration, and is now long since forgotten. To those familiar with the export trade of the United States, however, it will indeed seem strange that there should have been any great popular sentiment in that country in favor of a war with Great Britain. Next to their home market, the farmers of the United States are dependent upon the markets of the United Kingdom. Their surplus flour, wheat, bacon, beef, butter, cheese, cotton and many other products are sold principally to Great Britain. In fact, they have practically no foreign market for some of their products outside of the United Kingdom. Under these circumstances the war idea which developed so suddenly and strongly in the United States, if actually brought about, would have proved disastrous to the farmers of that country. Leaving aside, therefore, all other arguments against the heinous crime of war between Great Britain and the United States, one would suppose that the export trade of the latter country to the United Kingdom would form a sufficiently strong argument to prevent any popular feeling in favor of such a war. The reason why this trade question was not taken into more general consideration during the late war scare, is probably owing to a lack of information among the general

population as to these commercial conditions. The American Agriculturist, a leading agricultural journal, seems to have sized up the situation in this respect, which it did in the following words:

"A war with Great Britain could not fail to disastrously affect American farmers. Great Britain is the greatest market for their surplus products. Any material interruption to our foreign commerce would not only deprive our farmers of a much-needed outlet for their surplus, but it would enormously stimulate the agricultural development of other sections of the world which would be quick to seize this opportunity to supplant United States grains, meats, cotton and dairy products in the British markets."

THE NORTH COUNTRY.

The vast region to the north of the settled or partly settled portions of Manitoba and the territories, may in time play an important part in the material development of this country. Regarding this vast northern region, very little is known at present. What great sources of wealth may yet be found there, can only now be surmised of by those of fertile imagination. In a region of such vast extent, it is only reasonable to suppose that some valuable mineral districts will yet be discovered there. The northern country is supposed to contain large petroleum deposits, and various other minerals have been discovered, though the country is yet very imperfectly explored, and large areas are still marked on the maps as unexplored. This north country, however, which at the present time supports only the native Indian population and a few white missionaries, will in time no doubt support a considerable civilized population. When this vast north country is developed, and its resources, whatever they may be, are being made use of, it will be a considerable source of wealth to the agricultural regions further south, in furnishing a market for foodstuffs. In fact this great northern country is already becoming recognized as of some value in providing a market for the product of regions further south. At the last meeting of the board of trade of the town of Edmonton, northern Alberta, president J. A. McDougall made a reference to the value of the north country. He said:

"While we hope to be able to do a large business and find a market for a large portion of our products in British Columbia, we will have to meet keen competition. But this is not our only market, as the immense country to the north of us reaching to the Arctic ocean, is zealously consuming more food supplies. It is only a few years ago when flour was a luxury in the north, and was rationed out in pint pots with great care to the fortunate few, and was beyond the reach of the Indians. Now, however, thousands of bags of flour go north every year as well as quantities of bacon and other food supplies. The Indians now have more time to hunt furs and don't have to spend half their time hunting for something to eat. The result is that the Indians of the north are mostly prosperous and well-to-do, and were never so well off as they are now. In this district we have no railway rates to worry over, the advantage is all in our favor and the north country is our hope for years to come."

Money and the Creditor Class.

It is always an interesting inquiry when a

now measure of public policy is proposed, more particularly when it involves economic questions—what is the benefit to be derived, and what particular part of the community will receive the most advantage, if it so happens that it does not fall upon all alike, as of course all public measures ought to do.

The enquiry has especial reference to the money question that is at the present moment the chief political issue before the people. There is much talking about gold and silver coinage, about "gold bugs" and "silver lunatics," about "50-cent dollars" and "coinage at 16 to 1," about "Wall street" and "the silver camp," and much time is spent in fulminating epithets when it might be better employed in argument.

Probably no question that has ever been made a political issue appeals more strongly to our selfishness than the money question. The value of all the property we possess is expressed in terms of money, and not our property only but our labor.

A horse, a cow, a corner lot, a share of stock, a bond or a note are all measured as to their transferable value by money. They are worth so much. So of our labor, whether in the professions, the skillful trades or in more manual employments. We are worth so much an hour or a day or a week by the services we are able to render, and we are paid accordingly. The result is, if we are not fools, that we want the best money that circulates in exchange for our services or our property, and the less our income the more we want the best.

The contention, therefore, seems unanswerable that a government or a community should establish the highest standard of money whereby to measure those exchanges of labor and property which constitute the business of the world. If this is not done and the measure of value becomes variable, who suffers? The men who have large resources behind them or the men who have nothing but their hands and brains? Most assuredly the latter. A well-known banker of this town has often been heard to say that the money standard did not and could not effect him, for he could make money whether we were on a gold or silver basis. So he could, and so could any capitalist. It is the man who depends upon his labor that would suffer by a depressed currency.

It is the creditor class of the community, therefore, which is most interested in preserving the stability of the currency and its high value. But of whom is the creditor class composed? Manifestly of those to whom something is due from day to day, from week to week and from month to month. These are the laboring people, the men of the desk, at the counter, at the forge, at the bench and at the plow. The toiler who patiently wields the shovel and the pick when nightfall comes is a creditor, and he is entitled to be paid for his day's labor in the best money the country affords. And so through the whole round of employment where men and women receive wages.

Is it not, then, inexplicable that a large proportion of those who in the sweat of their face earn their daily bread, laying by, perhaps a trifle from week to week toward a rainy day, depositing it in a savings bank—that these should be led away by the cry for cheap money, or "poor man's" money? If there is any difference why should they not have rich men's money?

And yet it is pretended that the laboring men—the poor men as well as those in moderate circumstances—desire most of all to have cheap coinage and cheap money. They demand that silver, which in the market rates 80 to 1 as compared with gold, shall be admitted to free coinage in our mints at the rate of 16 to 1. Then they propose to take those half-priced dollars for the money due them for their labor!

From every point of view except that of charity and philanthropy a more incompressible proposition was never addressed to a sane people.—Chicago Times-Herald.

Dairy Matters.

The Parsons Produce Co., Winnipeg, have arranged to operate this season in conjunction with Hodgson Bros., of Montreal and Liverpool, who are large handlers of butter and cheese.

The first meeting of the Brookville, Ontario, Cheese Board for 1896 was held on May 14 and 1,966 boxes were offered, of which 750 were colored, balance white. Sales were 451 boxes white at 7 18-16c and 106 colored at 7½c.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin says: "The new butter season opened with the lowest prices ever remembered in the history of the trade, choice fresh creamery having sold at 14c to 14½c in this market, against 16c a year ago. This week a few lots of grass butter have been received and these have brought 15c. One lot of fresh creamery sold as low as 10½c; but it was off flavor although fresh. As regards dairy, a fair demand has been experienced for Eastern Townships, which has sold at 18c to 14c, one or two lots of fresh Western bringing 11c to 12c. Advices from Quebec report sales of creamery at 11c to 14½c, and orders for fresh Western have been received from that city at 10c; but they cannot be filled for the money. 11c being the lowest it has been offered at. It is important that makers should cultivate the packing of butter in square packages, as it is evidently essential to the right prosecution of the English trade. Dealers and commission merchants who supply the local trade should encourage the packing of butter as much as possible in the square package from a purely economic point of view, as there can be no question that there is much less waste in cutting up from the square package than from the round."

Grocery Trade Notes.

The London Grocer's Gazette under date of May 2nd says:—Tea has been "booming" all around this week, and with the shutting down of public sales, even quicker than was expected, buyers are beginning to be very anxious about the future. Operators on the "terminal" market have been experiencing a high time of it, as prices for future have advanced almost hourly. Monday's and Wednesday's auctions showed marked advances all around, lower class leaf, or somelaf, selling at 5½d per lb., tea which in January took a lot of placing even at 4½d per lb. Good class Pekoe Souchongs, round about 8d per lb., now show a full 1d per lb. rise on the last three weeks, and are so scarce that it is almost impossible to say what the most desirable parcels will bring, while all Pekoe kinds up to 9½d per lb. grow daily dearer. From now on to the August bank holiday there will only be one day's auction a week, as the Monday's sales are to be discontinued, so that a much larger private business is seen to result. Fine teas, both broken and Pekoes, are again being enquired for, and tippy kinds went at strong prices in the last sales.

A letter received from Bordeaux states that the outlook for the French prune crop is favorable for a large yield and that the exporters there expect to again become a factor in the American markets this year.

The United States visible supply of coffee shows a decrease of 165,814 bags as compared with supplies of a year ago, and it is 33,500 bags less than it was two years ago.

To the TRADE!

Our Travellers are now out with a complete line of new samples of our specialties in

GLOVES, MITTS, MOCCASINS,
Etc., for 1896,

Expect an early call and kindly reserve orders till seeing our samples.

James Hall & Co.

Ontario Glove Works,
BRANCH,
150 PRINCESS ST. BROCKVILLE, ONT.

Kirkpatrick & Cookson

Established 1860.
MONTREAL.
Solicit consignments of BUTTER, ETC
ALSO OFFERS OF

OATS
WHEAT of the Various Grades.
FEED BARLEY.

S. A. D. BERTRAND,

OFFICIAL ASSIGNEE

For the province of Manitoba, under the recommendation of the Board of Trade of the city of Winnipeg. Insolvent and Trust Estates Managed with Promptness and Economy.
Special attention to Confidential Business Enquiries.
Corner 2nd. Avenue and 2nd St. North,
WINNIPEG MAN

RAW FURS

WANTED.

WRITE FOR PRICE LIST.

R. C. MACFIE & CO.,

Established 1874. LONDON, ONT.

M. W. RUBLEE & CO.

Commission Merchants

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Green and Dried Fruits.

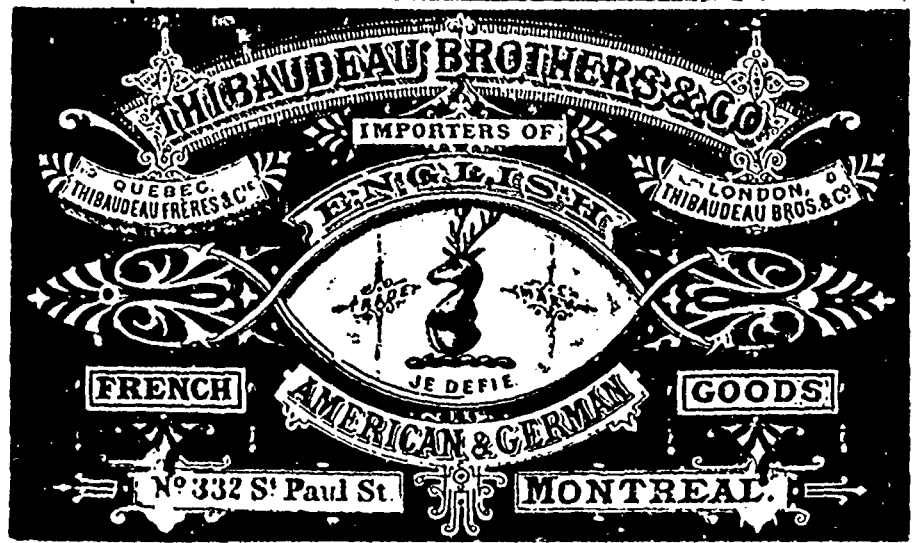
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Commission -:- Merchant

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NELSON, - - B.C.
Grocers supplies and General Merchandise handled on Commission. Best Cold Storage warehouse in West Kootenay. Correspondence and Consignments Solicited.
LIBERAL ADVANCES MADE.



DONALD FRASER & CO.

—MANUFACTURERS OF—

MEN'S BOYS' YOUTH'S and CHILDREN'S

CLOTHING

Importers of HATS, CAPS AND MEN'S FURNISHINGS,

LIBERAL DISCOUNTS,
CLOSE PRICES.

WINNIPEG, MAN.

JOHN LOVE. J. K. McALLISTER. J. RILEY.

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WHOLESALE STATIONERS,

AND PAPER DEALERS

Carry a full stock of Office, School and General Stationery, Printer's Stock, Wrapping Papers, Paper Bags, Twines, Pipes, Combs, Musical Goods, Smallwares, Wall Papers, etc.

SEASONABLE GOODS—Children's Balls and Marbles, Express Wagons, Footballs, Baseball Goods, Croquet Sets, Tennis Racquets.

Also special lines and values in **LACROSSE STICKS**—Our No. 1 stock is the best in the market, and everyone guaranteed. Get our prices, and if possible see our samples before ordering.

LOVE, McALLISTER & CO.,

MITCHELL BLOCK, McDERMOTT AVE WINNIPEG.

Behind the Post Office,
P.O. Box 1240.

PORTER & CO.,

DIRECT IMPORTERS OF

Crockery.

GLASSWARE, CHINA,

Silverware, Cutlery, Lamps,
Fancy Goods, Etc.

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PRINTERS' STOCK,

Bookbinders' and Box Makers' Materials,
Wrapping Paper, Paper Bags and Twines.

HAMILTON, - ONTARIO.

Established 1860.

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"Crescent"

Steel Enamelled Ware

Tinware of every Description
Manufactured by

The Thos. Davidson Mfg. Co. Ltd.

MONTREAL

Merrick, Anderson & Co. Agents,
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BAGS BAGS

FOR WHEAT
FLOUR
BRAN
SHORTS
OATS

Also SEWING TWINES, JUTE,
COTTON and FLAX



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POTATOES
COAL
ORE

ALSO
BRANDING INKS
5-GALLON KEGS
BLUE AND RED

For EVERY PURPOSE

Large and Complete Stock Carried in Winnipeg. Write us for Samples and Prices.

W. F. HENDERSON & CO., 124 Princess St., Winnipeg, Agents.

GRANULAR OGILVIE'S HUNGARIAN CREAMY FLOUR. HAS NO EQUAL.

STANDS unparalleled in its Distinctive Qualities and Peculiar Advantages. We are aware others are attempting to imitate our Brands, which is the Strongest Guarantee of the Superiority of
"OGILVIE'S FLOUR."

Messrs THE OGILVIE MILLING Co., WINNIPEG, MAN.

Dear Sirs—We have pleasure in stating that the quality of the flour made in the Winnipeg mills, of which we have imported considerable on this crop has given the highest satisfaction to everyone who has baked it. Glasgow is pre-eminently a city of large baking establishments, some of them with a capacity of 2000 barrels per week, and all managed by gentlemen well qualified to give a sound verdict on the merits of any flour. With remarkable unanimity they have expressed the opinion that nothing finer than your Patent grade has ever been placed on the market. The baking results have been exceptionally high, both in regard to color and out-turn, and we can invariably command a higher price. We are, yours respectfully, WILLIAM MORRISON & SON.

—IN HANDLING—

OGILVIE'S FLOUR

YOU HAVE

THE BEST

Each bag guaranteed. Sewn with our Special Twine, Red White and Blue.

OGILVIE'S HUNGARIAN,

Unequalled for fine Cakes and Pastry. Stands unequalled for Bread Making. Make the sponge thin. Keep the dough soft. Do not make it stiff. For pastry use little less flour than usual.

THE RIDDELL MANUFACTURING CO.

—MANUFACTURERS OF—

HIGH CLASS BISCUITS AND CONFECTIONERY

When you are stocking up in Confectionery, TRY OUR VELVETS

We warrant them equal, if not superior to the best made on this continent.

FACTORY AND OFFICES: CORNER OF HIGGINS AND ARGYLE STREETS,
WINNIPEG, - MANITOBA.

British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, May 19, 1896.

Business is still brisk and collections fair. Preparations for the canning season have commenced and trade in the supply line is increasing. The lumber trade was not so brisk last week. The Vancouver market is becoming quite an important feature of trade. A suitable steamer is to be chartered to run between Chilliwack and Vancouver.

There are several changes in the market. The winter dairy butter from Manitoba is practically a glut on the market and commission merchants do not care to quote Manitoba dairy until the spring grades come in. The market is chiefly supplied by California dairy at 20 cents. Potatoes are being sold for almost anything offered, the best Ashcroft going at \$5. Trade is very dull in the flour and feed line, one dealer stated that in the rush for business firms had been selling at cost, or a little under, so that the old and reliable institutions were not at present pushing for business.

British Columbia Business Notes

F. Adie, hotel, Waneta, is out of business.

Hugh Mann, freighter, of Sandon, has assigned.

The machinery for the Chilliwack creamery has gone forward.

Jacob Haxenfratz, saloon, of Victoria, has sold out to Geo. E. Fisher.

The Pacific Varnish Co., of Vancouver, has sold out to Blackburn & Co.

Joseph Matty, fish, of Wellington, is reported to have left town.

H. A. Hicks, hotel, of Lauders Landing, has sold out to P. Shirley.

Madden & McGarry, hotel, of Burton City, are succeeded by Shewan & Hector.

Vancouver is to hold a flower show on the Hotel Vancouver lawn on the 30th of July.

The bailiff is in possession of the stock of T. W. Bucklee, paints, etc., Wellington.

Reports from all districts in British Columbia indicate that the fruit crop will be very large this season. Therefore, Manitoba, if she so desires, will be well supplied with British Columbia fruit.

The Langley Creamery Co. are promised Government support when 50 per cent of the stock is subscribed. The stock is being paid up with that end in view, when operations will at once commence.

The Pacific Casket Co. was burned down two years ago, loss almost \$30,000. There was some misunderstanding about insurance from the Scottish American Assurance Co., of British Columbia. A jury yesterday awarded plaintiffs in suit \$1,500.

Persistent rumors are in circulation that the largest capitalized company working outside the mines are to start an immense iron and pipe works, marine railway and dry docks in Vancouver. The news is believed by the uninitiated as a capitalized English Co. is acquiring foreshore rights and surveying for marine railway.

The review of Rithet & Co., Victoria, says: "Grain chartering for April is decidedly dull as owners prefer to await the harvest rather than accept current rates for old crop loading. Prospects for the coming crop are improving. The demand for lumber tonnage continues to widen, though freights remain at the same level. In the salmon fleet there are four fixtures for England. The rates are 37s 6d from the Fraser River."

British Columbia Mining News.

There are a large number of men at work on Granite Creek with good results.

The Canmore Coal Co. is supplying the Trail smelter.

The stock of Victor Watson, general store, of Wellington, has been seized under chattel mortgage.

The Le Roi declared a dividend of 10 per cent. last week. They made \$150,000 in dividends in six months. The mine will pay \$50,000 a month hereafter, say the owners.

The Hall mines smelter is burning Wales coke. The smelter has made four shipments of matte during the week.

The Gooderhams, of Toronto, are not going to buy the Noble Four mines after all. They objected to paying \$100,000 cash down so the deal is off.

The Northern Bell mines in South Kootenay have been sold to the International Trading Co. for \$60,000.

The Cariboo mine Boundary Creek, South Kootenay, has declared a dividend of \$16,000. They have paid \$79,000 in dividends in fourteen months.

SLOCAN.

There is lots of snow at Slocan Lake yet, about six feet. Miners have camped ready to wait for July if necessary.

Ed. Carpenter, the discoverer of Slocan country is a poor prospector still. He is emigrating to Spurgeon Creek this summer.

A fifth tunnel is being made in the Slocan Star. Twelve thousand tons of ore will be shipped to Omaha from this mine this summer.

R. Marpole has an option on the Highland Chief for \$35,000.

Options have been secured by Vancouver people for English capitalists on the following mines: True Friend, Black Prince, Dundas, Crusader and Ottawa.

It is prophesied that J. A. Finch will clear \$100,000 on his Enterprise mine. Immense bodies of ore are being uncovered.

The Spokesman Review of Spokane, quotes the famous English mining expert C. W. Calahan as saying enormous English capital had been withdrawn from Africa and Australia and capitalists await fuller and more explicit reports from British Columbia before placing these huge sums of pounds in this province.

Mr. Calahan has reported that no country under the sun has the mining possibilities of British Columbia.

Revelstoke has a miners association affiliated with the British Columbia association.

J. J. Kingsmill, Q. C. and W. C. Clowett of Toronto have formed a company of \$50,000 to work the Hera, Heba and Oper mineral claims.

The Dunsminers', Victoria's millionaires, are developing claims on Taxada Island, an island near Vancouver Island almost entirely mineral and of a large size.

It was predicted that Alber i mines were similar to the famous Rossland group. This appears to be the case. For the Victoria Island mines so far worked widen as they go down. The report that at 50 feet down the consolidated mine widened out to six feet six, and quartz still showing strongly in free gold caused great excitement.

ROSSLAND.

As the season advances it becomes more evident that the prophecy that Kootenay will output \$10,000,000 of ore this season will come true.

A new strike was made on the Josie last week.

The Josie mines will soon be in a position to ship 100 tons a day for 10 months.

A great deal of mining property has changed hands lately. There is much activity. Among the big mines sold are the Command, the Cand C, Monte Cristo, North Star, and the Polo Alt. and bought by syndicates.

It is thought the fine ore discovered in the long tunnel of the Center Star is the continuation of the Li Roi vein.

War Eagle stock has advanced 20 cents. It is expected the Iron Mask will declare a dividend May 28th.

The Li Roi has \$250,000 worth of ore on the dump, enough for five dividends.

They will commence washing on the Pond Orielle soon. They will wash 600 yards of gold bearing gravel a day.

F. C. Loring has sold the "Hil Top" by option at \$12,000.

Murphy Creek is showing up well.

Victoria capital has secured the Georgia. The Star also goes to Victoria the price being \$15,000.

English capitalists have hold of the Paymaster group, and will develop.

The mountain of Monte Cristo a half mile from Rossland is covered with good mines and all will be worked this summer.

The "City of Spokane" has been bonded by Englishmen for \$65,000. The mine is near the Red Mountain claim. The ore body of this mine is 20 feet wide as far as exported.

The United States has been sold in Spokane for \$1,750.

Sixty locations have been recorded at Deer Park, east of Arrow Lake. The scene of the latest mining excitement.

The Travelling Men.

A change has taken place in the western agency of McMaster & Co., wholesale dry goods, of Toronto. Mr. Wetmore, who has represented the firm in the west for some years, has been succeeded by J. J. Thorley. The latter gentleman, arrived in Winnipeg from Toronto last week, with full lines of fall samples, and will proceed to work the country as far as Victoria, B.C. This is Mr. Thorley's first trip west, though he has been with the firm for some years, in the east. He says his fall samples this year are the finest he ever carried. Mr. Wetmore, the late representative, will continue on the road in the west, as he has secured the agency for several specialties.

Lumber Trade News.

At McLeod, Alberta, a bonus by-law has been passed to assist in the building of a new mill by the McLaren company, whose mill was burned some time ago.

A large boom of logs broke from its moorings at Graham, Horne & Co.'s mill, Fort William, on Monday last, owing to the force of the strong current caused by late heavy rains. The boom floated down to elevator B, where it was stopped. Later, while the steamer Curry was moving from elevator B to C the boom broke from its cable jamming the Curry against the steamer Alberta. The tug Mary Ann pulled the boom up stream and only slight damage was done.

Ontario Crops.

A telegraphic report from Ontario, dated May 21 says: Crop prospects are generally good. Pasture is abundant, and the fruit crop is looking well. Winter wheat is not so promising as it might be, but owing to the reduced acreage in late years, the winter wheat crop is not so important as heretofore.

Secretaries Olney and Carlisle consented, for the first time since they held office, to be photographed seated at their desks. The pictures were taken at the request of The Ladies' Home Journal, and will be used to illustrate ex-President Harrison's article describing the working of the State Department in the July number of that Magazine.

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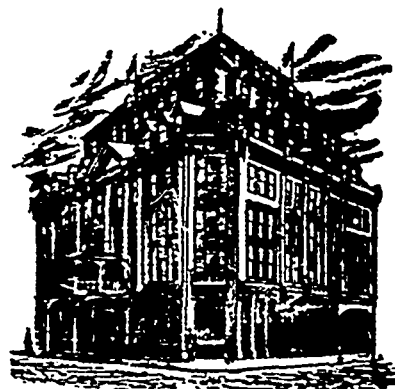
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At a reasonable figure, possession July 31, next, the premises situate on Thistle Street, now occupied by the Parsons Produce Co. A splendid warehouse with good offices, cellars and stabling. For particulars apply to

PARSONS PRODUCE CO., WINNIPEG

THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

WINNIPEG, Saturday, May 23, 1896.

The wet weather and bad roads have continued to greatly interfere with general wholesale trade and building operations, and the election campaign is a further demoralizing influence. It is a matter for regret that the campaign was not cut shorter. Bank clearings at Winnipeg show the first decrease for a long period, as compared with the corresponding week of last year, the decrease this week being nearly 6 per cent., but as compared with the corresponding week of 1894, there is an increase of about 16 per cent. Bank clearings at all Canadian cities—Winnipeg, Hamilton, Montreal, Toronto and Halifax—aggregate \$19,821,000 this week, compared with \$20,629,000 a week ago, \$19,721,000 in the third week of May last year and with \$13,900,000 in the like week two years ago.

The total number of business failures reported in Canada this week by Bradstreet's is 28, as compared with 31 last week, 25 in the week a year ago and 29 two years ago.

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

WINNIPEG, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, May 23.

[All quotations, unless otherwise specified, are wholesale for such quantities as are usually taken by retail dealers, and are subject to the usual reduction on large quantities and to cash discounts.]

COAL—The price of imported Anthracite is now \$9.50 per ton, or \$1 higher, but of course sales are very limited. Prices are being held firm at the mines, and on the present basis will be at least \$1 higher here next winter than the ruling price of last winter.

CORNWOOD—Dealers are holding prices very firm, and are asking \$1.25, and in some cases even \$1.50 for car lots of good tamarac, on track here. Pine about \$3.25 to \$3.50. No poplar offering.

DRUGS—Cable reports announce an advance of about \$5 per ton in glycerine. Prices are the same as quoted last week.

DRY GOODS—The wet weather and bad country roads have greatly interfered with business in this branch. Some travellers now have their fall samples made up.

FISH—Fresh fish now in the market, with jobbing prices are: Whitefish, 6c; Lake Superior trout, 9c; pickerel, 5c; sturgeon, 8c; salmon, 15c; halibut, 14c lb; smoked gold-eyes, 30c dozen; smoked salmon, 15c lb. Cured fish are quoted: Boneless codfish, 40lb boxes 7c, do crates 7½c; boneless fish, 40lb boxes, 5c; smoked herrings, 15 to 20c box; bloaters, large, \$1.35 per box; bloaters, small, \$1.00 per box; dry cod \$6 per box of 100 lbs.; salt whitefish, \$5.50 per barrel of 100 pounds; salt lake trout, \$6.50 per barrel; salt herring, ½ barrel \$1, salt salmon, 10c lb.

GREEN FRUITS—Navel oranges are about done, being now out of season. Now Messina lemons via direct ship to Montreal are now arriving here and are of fine quality. Prices are firm. Bananas of good quality are abundant. Strawberries are arriving freely. A few cold storage apples are offering at \$7 per barrel. Prices are: Lemons Messinas \$1 to \$1.75 per box; California navel oranges \$1.75 to \$5.00 per box; California seedlings, \$3.75 to \$1.00; California Mediterranean sweet oranges, \$1.50 per box; Bananas, \$2.50 to \$3.50 per bunch as to size, a few very small bunches sell as low as \$2.00; strawberries, \$1.50 per case, pineapples, \$3.50 to \$5 per dozen as to size; Apple cider, 35c per gallon, in 30 gallon barrels; comb honey \$5.25 per case of 21 sections. Now maplesugar, 10 to 12c per lb; maple syrup, \$1.10 per wine gallon,

in gallon tins; pie plant, \$1 per box of 50 pounds.

HARDWARE AND METALS.—The barb wire trade is in a very unsatisfactory state here this season. Quotations on this article are being made as low as \$3.10 f.o.b. Winnipeg for five to ten ton lots in one shipment. Last fall there was heavy buying of barb wire on the part of the local and western trade, in expectation of an advance. Now the trade throughout the country find themselves loaded with barb wire bought at comparatively high prices, on the basis of present values. These speculative purchases of this article are therefore proving very disappointing to holders. Jobbers and retailers alike are carrying large stocks of dear wire, which they are obliged to sell at little or no profit. This situation as again proved the error of buying so far in advance of requirements. It is said stocks now held throughout the country are in excess of the requirements for the season. Revised prices are as follows.

TIN, lamb and 56 and 28 lb. ingots, per lb, 19 to 20c.

TIN PLATES.—Charcoal plates, I. C., 10 by 14, 12 by 12 and 14 by 20, per box, \$1.50 to \$1.75; I. X., same sizes, per box, \$5.75 to \$6; I. C., charcoal, 20 by 28, 112 sheets to box, \$8.50 to 9.00; I. X., per box, 20 by 28, 112 sheets to box, \$10.50 to 11.00.

TERNE PLATES.—I. C., 20 by 28, \$8.00 to 8.50.

IRON AND STEEL.—Bar iron, per 100 lbs. base price, \$2.35 to \$2.50; band iron, per 100 lbs., \$2.85 to 3.00, Swedish iron, per 100 lbs., \$5.25 to 6; sleigh shoe steel, \$3.00 to 3.25; best cast tool steel, per lb, 11 to 12c; Russian sheet, per lb, 12 to 13c.

SHEET IRON.—10 to 20 gauge, \$3.00; 22 to 24 and 26 gauge, \$3.25; 28 gauge, \$3.50.

CANADA PLATES.—Garth and Blaina, \$3.00 to \$1.10.

GALVANIZED IRON.—Queen's Head, 22 to 24 gauge, per lb., 4½c; 26 gauge, per lb., 5c; 28 gauge, per lb., 5½c.

IRON PIPE.—50 to per 60 cent. off list.

LEAD.—Pig, per lb., 4½c.

SHEET ZINC.—In casks, 5.75 lb., broken lots, 7.25.

SOLDER.—Half and half (guar) per lb, 14 to 16c.

AMMUNITION.—Cartridges—Rim fire pistol, American, discount, 10 per cent.; rim fire cartridges, Dominion, 50 and 5; rim fire military, American, net list; central fire pistol and rifle, American, 12 per cent.; central fire cartridge, Dominion, 30 per cent.; shot shells, 12 gauge, \$6 to 7.50; shot, Canadian, soft, 5½c; shot, Canadian, chilled, 6c.

WIRE.—Galvanized barb wire, plain twisted wire and staples, \$3.10 to \$3.25 per 100 lbs.

ROPE.—Sisal, per lb., 7½ to 8c base; manilla, per lb., 9½ to 10½c base; cotton, ¼ to ½ inch and larger, 15c lb.

AXES.—Per box, \$6.50 to 15.50.

NAILS.—Cut, per keg, base price, \$3.21 for 60 d. with usual extras; common steel wire nails, 5 to 6 inch, \$3.90 per keg; 3 to 4 inch, \$1.22 keg; 2 inch, \$1.50 keg.

HORSE NAILS.—Pointed and finished, oval heads. List prices as follows: No. 5, \$7.50 box; No. 6, \$6.75 box; No. 7, \$6 box; No. 8, \$5.75 box; No. 9, 10 and 11, \$5.50 box. Discount off above list prices, 45 per cent.

LUMBER—The continued wet weather is greatly retarding building operations and lessening the immediate demand for lumber, but this will no doubt be made up later on; local prices are the same as last reported,

RAW FURS—A number of small lots are coming in, but the trade is not particularly active. The northern furs will begin to come in soon. Prices are the same as last reported.

WHEAT—GENERAL SITUATION—The general situation in wheat this week has been weakness, and prices have got down to a lower level again in leading markets. There have been reports of too much rain to delay seeding or damage crops in the northern spring wheat region, and Hessian fly damage in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana, but sentiment seemed bearish. Cables were generally lower and the decrease in stocks light, together with many favorable crop reports. Exports of wheat, flour included, from both coasts of the United States this week amount to 1,905,000 bushels, as compared with 1,933,000 bushels last week; 2,751,000 bushels in the week one year ago; 2,310,000 bushels two years ago, and 2,106,000 bushels three years ago.

WHEAT—LOCAL SITUATION—The weakness in leading markets has made the local market very quiet, as holders refuse to make concessions sufficient to induce business, while buyers are not anxious to operate on a weak and declining market. Shipments from Fort William last week show up large, several large charters having been made to Buffalo. Rates are easier, the rate from Duluth or Fort William on wheat to Buffalo being now under 3c. Receipts at Fort William for the week ended May 16 were 493,676 bushels; shipments, 1,200,000; in store 2,422,760 bushels. Receipts at Fort William for the corresponding week last year were 74,741 bushels and shipments 103,791 bushels. There has been no business doing in No. 1 hard Manitoba, worth mentioning. Latest offers heard of were at 6½c afloat Fort William, but this was fully 1c above the views of buyers. No. 2 hard quoted at about 59½c to 60c to-day.

FLOUR—It is quite a long time since there has been a change in flour, but this week millers reduced prices 10c all around. Sales by millers here are now made at \$1.75 to \$1.90 for patents and \$1.55 to \$1.60 for strong bakers per sack of 98 pounds, delivered to city retail dealers; second bakers \$1.30 to \$1.35; XXXX \$1.05 to \$1.10, delivered. Brands of country mills usually sell at 5 to 10c under these quotations.

MILLSTUFFS.—City mills are still selling at \$8 per ton for bran and \$10 for shorts, delivered in the city, in small lots. There has been a good demand, owing to the high price of hay lately.

OATS—No improvement in this grain, either as to demand or price. In fact eastern markets have been weak. Some sales of oats are being made in Ontario for export. There has been no business doing in the city in oats and owing to the bad roads, farmers are not bringing any in, but most dealers have ample stocks on hand, and car lots, if needed could be obtained, local freights paid, at 18 to 20c per bushel of 31 pounds. Farmers would be paid about 18c for loads. For eastern shipment, on through freight rate from country points, we quote car lots at 10 to 13c, but there is no movement worth mentioning.

BARLEY.—We quote barley for the local markets or seed purposes at 18 to 25c, the higher price for good clean seed grain, but not much wanted. No shipping demand, and car lots or through freights, nominal at 13 to 15c per bushel of 48 pounds.

WHEAT—Local farmers' market.—The price paid at the city mills for farmers' loads is nominal at 50c per bushel of 60 pounds for best quality.

GROUND FEED. Prices range from \$10 to \$12 per ton, as to quality, the top price for rolled oat feed, and the lowest price for mixed mill feed.

OATMEAL.—One of the important features of the week has been in connection with the oatmeal market. A meeting was held in Winnipeg at which representatives of all the Manitoba oatmeal mills were present, and an agreement was made for uniform prices. There has been considerable cutting in oatmeal the last two years, and prices have at times been unprofitable for millers. By the agreement, the four Manitoba mills—Winnipeg, Pilot Mound, Portage la Prairie and Brandon, will all quote a uniform price, and this new price will show an advance of about 10c per sack on old quotations, and as much as 15 to 20 cents per sack on some of the old cut rate sales. Prices to retail dealers are now quoted as follows for all brands: Rolled oats, 8½ lb sacks, \$1.35; 40 lb sacks, 70c; 2½ lb sacks, 35½c; Granulated and standard meal, 9½ pound sacks \$1.55, 49 lb sacks, 80c; rolled wheat, 80 lb sacks \$1.70.

OIL CAKE.—Oil cake holds at \$16 per ton, including bags, for nutted or ground meal.

BUTTER.—The feature of the butter trade is the beginning of the movement in creamery. Several sales of creamery have been made in the country, and good prices have been realized, in comparison with eastern markets, but this has been owing to the limited supply and the demand for the local and western trade. Prices paid have been considerably higher than could be paid for eastern shipment. In fact while fresh creamery has been quoted at 14 to 14½c at Montreal, from 14 to 16c has been paid in the country here, and this practically for fodder goods, while the Montreal quotation now represents full grass goods. Grass has made a splendid growth here, and the factories are now turning out grass goods. The wet weather and bad condition of the roads, however, has greatly interfered with the operation of the factories. While we quoted 14 to 16c as having been paid, the top range would not have been paid for some days, and about 15c represents the top for creamery, with a lower tendency as the supply increases. Eventually prices will have to come down, unless eastern or export values advance soon. In eastern Canada the pastures are fine this year, and the output of butter is enormous in comparison with last year. Dairy butter is quiet, and we quote values easier at 12½ for choice, fresh goods, jobbing price.

CHEESE.—Good prices have been realized for the little new cheese offered, the quantity so far not being in excess of local wants. From 7½ to 8½c has been paid for new cheese, by jobbers, as to quality, for limited quantities, but the finest small now are now jobbing at 9c. Jobbers are offering old stock at 6 cents to 9 cents as to quality. Mail advices to-day report a decline in eastern Canada markets. At Ingersoll, Ont., on Tuesday, sales were made at 6 1-16 to 6½c, but on the same day at the Belleville, Ont., cheese market, 7 7-16 to 7 9-16c was paid.

EGGS.—Unchanged since our last quotation. Dealers and packers are paying 8c, and the jobbing price is 9c.

LARD.—Prices are: Pure \$1.80 for 20 lb. pails, and \$1.50 for 50 lb. pails; pure leaf lard in 3, 5 and 10 pound tins, quoted at \$6.50 per case of 60 pounds, tierces 5½c pound; cases of 30, one lb. tins, \$3.60.

CURED MEATS.—For canvassed meats, add ½c per pound to prices below. Smoked meats are quoted: Hams, assorted sizes, 10½c; breakfast bacon, bellies, 11c; do., backs, 10c; picnic hams, 8c; short spiced rolls, 7½c long rolls, 7½c, shoulders, 7c smoked long clear, 8½c cents; Fancy clear, 8½c cents; smoked jowls, 5½c cents. Dry salt meats are quoted: Long clear bacon, 7c per lb; shoulders, 6c; backs, 8c; barrel pork, heavy mess \$13.00; clear mess \$13.00; short cut, \$16.00; rolled

shoulders, \$14 per barrel. Pork sundries; fresh sausage, 7c; bologna sausage, 6c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 10c per package; pickled hocks, 2½c; pickled tongues, 5c; sausage casings, 30c lb.

DRESSED MEATS.—We quote city dressed beef steady at 5 to 5½c. Fresh mutton is easier and has sold at 9 to 10c with the prospect that 9c will be the top price next week. City dressed hogs, 5½c. Veal scarce, owing to bad roads and quoted at 6 to 7c.

POULTRY.—The only poultry obtainable are chickens, which are taken at 70 to 90c per pair as to quality. Turkeys would bring 10c per lb live weight, if they could be had. No ducks or geese obtainable, and no game offering.

VEGETABLE.—Owing to bad roads potatoes have sold higher at 20 to 25c per bushel on the street market. Green stuff is now beginning to be offered to some extent.

HIDES.—There is some improvement in hides in leading markets, but this is probably owing to improved quality, and it is not likely that any advance would be paid for held stocks of long-haired winter hides. Sheepskins are very slow sale. Prices here are now uniform. We quote: Green city hides, No. 1, 4c, No. 2, 3c; calf, 8 to 15 lb. skins, 1 and 6c per lb.; deacons 15 to 20c each; kips 3 to 4c; sheep and lambskins 50 to 65c; clips 3 to 5c; tallow 3½ to 4c rendered and 2c rough.

WOOL.—The London wool sales have closed and the result has been unsatisfactory. Some 152,000 bales out of a total of 216,000 bales intended for the sale were not sold, owing to disappointment at the course of prices. Merinos sold 5 to 10 per cent lower, and crosses about 5 per cent lower. A week feature is the depression in the United States, where stocks are large, manufacturers buying very slowly and prices easy. Here we quote 8 to 9c for unwashed Manitoba fleeces, and fine, heavy shrinking wools at 5 to 7c.

SENECA ROOT.—No new root offered.

HAY.—Owing to the continued bad roads and wet weather to prevent baling, hay has continued very scarce and prices have been 100 per cent higher than prices ruling before the roads got bad. From \$3 to \$10 per ton has been paid for baled prairie hay, and scarce at that.

LIVE STOCK.

Two train loads of cattle were exported from the yards here this week, aggregating about 500 head. One was shipped by Gordon & Ironside, and the other by a combination of Northwestern railway district parties, including Kippen & Esat, of Russell. Gordon & Ironside expect to make only one more shipment of stall fed cattle, about June 3, and then there will be nothing further until grass cattle come in. Prices were weaker, owing to the bad state of export markets, and local prices were ½c lower, about 3½c being the top price now quoted here for export cattle. Butchers range from 2½ to 3c for fair to good, and inferior at 2 to 2½. Good fat cows would bring about 2½c.

SHEEP.—The tendency continues lower, and we quote ½c lower at 3½ to 4c as to quality off cars here. Lambs, (\$2.50) to \$1 each as to quality.

HOGS.—Steady at 2½c off cars here, for average car loads of packing hogs.

The Live Stock Trade.

The stock yards in Winnipeg are in a most deplorable condition, owing to the long continued wet weather. Better drainage and more solid bottom to the yards is greatly needed.

"A number of Beulah, Man., farmers who can make up about a train load of stall fed animals between them," says the Birtle Observer, "are discussing the advisability of

co-operating to ship them to the old country market. One of themselves would go with the consignment and the experiment would satisfy the shippers if the right figures had been offered them by provincial stock dealers." If the farmers make the experiment they will learn something about the cost of handling live stock which will surprise them.

At Liverpool on May 11 the demand for cattle was slow on account of warm weather and prices declined ½ to ¾c per lb., best United States being quoted at 10c and Argentinos at 9c. Sheep were strong on account of small supplies, and values advanced 1 to 2c per pound to 13c for best. At London best sheep were quoted at 12½c. A private cable from Liverpool quoted choice Canadian and United States cattle at 9½ to 10c, and stated that heavy United States steers were unsaleable at 9½c.

At the East End abattoir market at Montreal on May 11, the market was steady and values showed no material change. The feature of the trade was the improved demand from exporters and the bulk of the stock suitable for shipment was picked up a 3½c to 1c per lb. Choice butchers' steers and heifers sold at 3½c to 4c; good 3½ to 3½c; fair 2½ to 3c, and common 2 to 2½c per lb., live weight. Spring lambs met with a good sale at from \$2.50 to \$1 each as to size and quality. Old sheep sold at \$3.50 to \$6 each.

At Toronto on May 12 prices for cattle were weak, on account of large supplies. Car loads of good export cattle sold at 3½ to 4c. A few picked head 1½; per lb to \$1.40 per 100 lbs. The supply of butchers' cattle was excessive and prices were ½c lower, 3½c being the top price, and some loads selling at only 2½c. Sheep and Lambs.—The market was overstocked. Good grain-fed yearlings, with the wool on, were quoted at from 4½ to 5c per lb. Spring lambs from \$2 to \$3.50 per head. Good sheep sold at 9c per pound. Hogs.—Although offerings were fairly heavy to-day the market held its own. For best selections of bacon hogs, weighed off the cars, 4c per lb. was paid. Thick fat were low at 3½c per lb. Stores steady at 3½c per lb.; sows 9c per lb.; stags and rough hogs 2c per lb.

At London on May 18, cattle trade was poor, owing to increased supplies and warm weather. Prices declined ½c per lb. Best United States cattle brought 9½c, and choice Canadians at Liverpool sold at 9½c per lb. The demand for sheep was fair and prices ranged from 11 to 13c.

At Montreal on Monday, May 18, cattle were ½c lower. Shippers paid 3½ to 4½c for choice. Choice butcher, 3½ to 3½c, and down to 2 to 2½ for common to fair cattle. Lambs, \$2.50 to \$3 each; sheep, \$1 to \$6 each; hogs, sold at \$3.90 to \$1.20 per 100 pounds.

At Toronto on Tuesday, May 19, export cattle ranged from 3½c to 4c for good. Butchers' cattle were slow, scarcely any going over 3c, general sales being at about 2½c and down to 2½ to 2½c. Sheep, 8c per lb. Choice yearlings, 4½ to 5c. Lambs, \$3 to \$1 each. Hogs, active and firmer at 4½c per lb., for good bacon, stores, 3½ to 4c.

At Chicago on May 20 sales of hogs were mostly made at \$3.25 to \$3.30; common to choice heavy selling at \$3 to \$3.35; medium mixed weights at \$3.20 to \$3.45, and light at \$3.20 to \$3.50.

Winnipeg Clearing House.

Clearings for the week ending May 21, were \$895,193; balances, \$192,216. For the previous week clearings were \$1,026,591. For the corresponding week of last year clearings were \$950,773 and for the week two years ago, \$778,012. For the month of April, clearings were \$1,032,458 as compared with \$3,093,079 for April, 1895, and \$2,938,866 for April, 1894.

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E. P. BLACKFORD & CO,

Toronto, Ontario.

British Columbia Markets.

(BY WIRE TO THE COMMERCIAL.)

Vancouver, May 23, 1896.

The principal feature is the drop in flour on Monday last of 80c.

Butter.—Man. Dairy butter, 16c; Manitoba creamery, 22c; California dairy, 20c; creamery, 22c. Manitoba cheese, 10 to 10½c per lb.

Cured Meats.—Hams 11½c; breakfast bacon 11½c; backs 11c; long, clear 8½c; short rolls 9c; smoked sides 9½c. Lard is held at the following figures: Tins 10c per pound; in rails and tubs 9½c. Mess pork \$14; short cut \$15.

Fish.—Prices are: Flounders 9c; smolt 4c; sea bass 4c; black cod 6c; rock cod 4c; red cod 4c; tommy cod 4c; herring 4c; spring salmon 7½c; whiting 6c; solos 6c; steel heads, 6c; crabs 60c dozen; smoked halibut 8c; bloaters 10c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c; oolachan 5c; smoked salmon 12½c.

Vegetables.—Potatoes \$5 to \$6 per ton; ashcroft potatoes, \$5 to 7 per ton; onions silver skins, 4½c lb.; sweet potatoes \$2.25 per 100 lbs.; cabbage, 1½c lb.; carrots, turnips and beets, \$10 a ton.

Eggs.—Fresh, local, 15 to 16 cents. Oregon eggs, 16c; Manitoba, 14c.

Fruits.—Fruit is sold by box unless otherwise quoted. Standard American boxes measure one foot ten and a half inches by eleven and a half inches with depth of eleven inches, inside measurement, and contain from 280 to 350 lemons, from 125 to 300 seedling oranges, or from 12 to 150 naval oranges. Standard Australian boxes for apples, etc., are smaller and contain from 125 to 150 apples in a box. California seedling oranges \$2 to \$2.50 per box; navels \$1.25 per box; California lemons, \$3.00 per box; Australian apples \$2.50 to \$2.75 per box; bananas \$3.75 per bunch.

Evaporated Fruits.—Apricots 11c per lb; peaches 7½c; plums 7c; prunes, French, 4c; loose Muscatel raisins 4c; London layer raisins \$1.65 box.

Nuts.—Almonds, 13c; filberts, 12½c; peanuts, 10c; Brazil, 12½c; walnuts, 10 to 16c lb.

Meal.—National mills rolled oats, 90 lb sacks, \$3.00; 45 pound sacks, \$3.10; 22½ pound sacks, \$3.30; 10.7 sacks, \$2.00. Oatmeal, 10-10's, \$3.25; 2-50's, \$3.00. Off grades, 90 lbs, \$2.25; 2-45's, \$2.35. Manitoba Rolled Oats, 90's, \$2.25 45's \$2.35.

Flour.—Manitoba patent, per bbl., \$1.40; strong bakers, \$1.10; Oregon, \$1.20; Oak Lake patent \$1.20; do. strong bakers \$1.10.

Grain.—Washington State wheat \$30.00 per ton f. o. b. Vancouver, duty paid. Oats 16.00 per ton.

Ground Feed.—National mills chop, \$21 to \$23 per ton; ground barley, \$22 ton; shorts, \$18.00 ton; bran \$16.00; oil cake meal, \$26 ton; F. O. B. Vancouver, including duty paid on import stuff.

Hay.—Nominal at \$8 per ton.

Dressed Meats.—Beef, 8½ to 9c; mutton, 8½c; pork, 6 to 7c; veal, 7 to 8½c per lb.

Live Stock.—Steers, \$1.50 to \$1.60; per hundred lbs.; sheep, \$1.00 to \$1.25 per head; hogs, \$5.75 to \$6.00; lamb \$3.50 to \$4 per 100 pounds.

Poultry.—Chickens, \$6 per dozen, scarce.

Sugars.—Powdered and icing, 6½c; Paris lump, 6½c; granulated, 5½c; extra C, 5½c; fancy yellows 4½c; yellow 4½c per lb.

Syrups.—30 gallon barrels, 1½c per pound; 10 gallon kegs, 2½c; 5 gallon kegs, \$1.50 each; 1 gallon tins, \$1 per case of 10; ½ gallon tins, \$1.75 per case of 20.

Teas.—Congo: Fair, 11½c; good, 18c. choice 26c. Ceylons: Fair 25c; good 30c; choice 35c per lb.

Chicago Board of Trade Prices.

The prices below are board of trade quotations for Chicago No. 2 wheat, No. 2 oats and No. 2 corn, per bushel. Pork is quoted per barrel and lard and short ribs per 100 pounds.

Wheat was weak on Monday, though in the morning reports of too much rain in the Northwest kept prices up. Later prices declined, under weak cables, small decrease in stocks and speculative selling. Prices were 1½c lower than Saturday. Closing prices were:

	May.	July.	Sept.
Wheat.....	60½	61½	62
Corn.....	—	29½	30½
Oats.....	—	19½	19½
Mess Pork..	—	7 65	7 80
Lard.....	—	4 62½	—
Short Ribs..	—	4 05	—

On Tuesday wheat declined under weak cables and favorable crop reports, recovering later on a reversal of crop news and smaller exports from foreign countries. Closing prices were:

	May.	July.	Sept.
Wheat.....	60½	61½	62½
Corn.....	28½	29½	30½
Oats.....	19½	19½	19½
Mess Pork..	7 65	7 72½	7 87½
Lard.....	4 52½	4 60	4 72½
Short Ribs..	3 97½	4 02½	4 17½

Prices for wheat were firmer again on Wednesday, the principal news being crop damage reports from central winter wheat states by the Hessian fly. Prices advanced and closed as follows:

	May.	July.	Sept.
Wheat....	61½	62	63½
Corn.....	28½	29½	30½
Oats.....	19	19½	19½
Mess Pork..	7 50	7 55	7 67½
Lard.....	4 45	4 52½	4 65
Short Ribs..	3 87½	3 92½	4 05

Prices for wheat took a downward turn on Thursday. There were crop damage reports from excessive rain in the south west and insects in the northwestern winter wheat region, but the sentiment was bearish and prices declined on realizing sales. Closing prices were:

	May.	July.	Sept.
Wheat....	59½	61	61½
Corn.....	28½	29½	30½
Oats.....	18½	19½	19½
Pork.....	7 30	7 35	7 55
Lard.....	4 30	4 37½	4 52½
Short Ribs..	3 80	3 85	4 00

Favorable crop news and realizing sales kept wheat prices easy on Friday. Closing prices were:

	May.	July.	Sept.
Wheat....	59½	60½	61½
Corn.....	28½	29½	30½
Oats.....	18½	18½	19½
Mess Pork..	7 15	7 22½	7 40
Lard.....	4 27½	4 35	4 50
Short Ribs..	3 80	3 87½	4 00

July wheat opened at 60½c on Saturday, and ranged between 60½ and 61½c. Closing prices were:

	May.	July.	Sept.
Wheat....	60	61	62
Corn.....	28½	29½	30½
Oats.....	18½	18½	19½
Mess Pork..	7 25	7 30	7 47½
Lard.....	4 35	4 40	4 57½
Short Ribs..	3 87½	3 92½	4 05

A week ago to-day, July wheat closed at 62½c and a year ago at 79½c and two years ago, at 55½c.

Minneapolis Wheat.

No. 1 Northern wheat closed on Saturday as follows: July delivery at 59c, September 59½c. A week ago July wheat closed at 60c.

New York Wheat.

On Saturday, May 23, July delivery closed at 67½c and Sept delivery at 67½c. A week ago July closed at 68½c.

Duluth Wheat Market.

No. 1 Northern wheat at Duluth closed as follows on each day of the week: Monday—May, — c, July 61c, Sept. 61c. Tuesday—May, — c, July 61½c, Sept. 61½c. Wednesday—May, — c, July 62c, Sept. 62½c. Thursday—May, — c, July 61c, Sept. 61c. Friday—May, — c, July, 61c, Sept. 61c. Saturday—May 61½c July, 62c Sept. 62½c.

A week ago Saturday price closed at 62½c for July. A year ago May delivery closed at 80½c and July at 78½c. Two years ago May closed at 57½c and three years ago at 66½c.

Minneapolis Flour Market.

The Market Record of May 21 reports flour steady and fairly firm with prices as follows in barrels, f.o.b.: First patents, \$3.27 to \$3.50; Second patents, \$3.15 to \$3.20; First clears, \$2.45 to \$2.50; second clear, \$2; Export baker's, \$2.45; second export baker's \$2 to \$2.10; Rod Dog, per ton 140 lbs. net, \$9.50. These prices are the same as a week ago.

Milstuffs.—Bran in bulk \$6.00 to \$5.25. Bran in sacks, 200 lbs, \$7 to \$7.25. Bran in sacks, 100 lbs, \$7.50 to \$7.75; Shorts \$5.00 to \$6.25; Middlings, fine, \$7.50.

Crop Conditions.

There was considerable rain again throughout a large portion of the wheat belt of Manitoba and the adjoining region westward, during the early part of this week. The latter part of the week was more favorable. In some districts wheat seeding has been about finished, but in other sections very little crop of any kind has been put in yet owing to the wet weather. Some papers advise the farmers to keep right on sowing wheat for two or three weeks yet, but in the opinion of the best authorities this is a mistake. To sow wheat after this date is at best taking very great risk, and early ripening crops can only now be counted upon to mature with any degree of certainty. To give figures as to crop area is only guess work, but there will undoubtedly be a decrease in the wheat area of anywhere between 10 and 25 per cent., as compared with last year.

A mining exchange has been started in Rossland with a capital stock of \$50,000. The organizers are Chicago men. Seats at \$500 each.

At Treherne, Man., on May 22, the Farmers' elevator was discovered to be on fire. The flames soon got beyond control, and the elevator with its contents, about 27,000 bushels of wheat, was totally consumed. The building was valued at \$15,000, and was insured for \$10,000. The origin of the fire is not known. The office and books were burned.

At Rapid City, Man., on May 22, Geo. Mc Culloch & Co.'s woollen mills were completely destroyed by fire. The loss will reach \$10,000, with insurance of \$3,000, as follows: Phoenix \$1,500; Atlas and Guardian \$7,500 each. The efforts of the people of the town saved the flour mill and elevator adjoining. The cause of the fire was overheating in the drying room.

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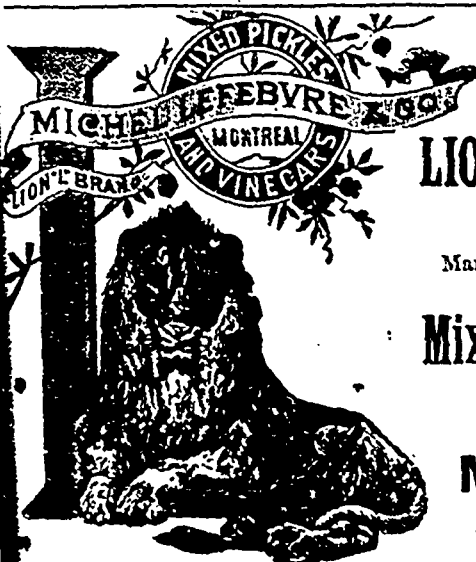
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20 1st Prizes.

REGISTERED TRADE MARK

Wheat Stocks.

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ended May 16, 1897, shows a decrease of 851,000 bushels, against a decrease of 3,139,000 for the corresponding week last year, a decrease of 1,435,000 bushels the corresponding week two years ago, and a decrease of 1,051,000 bushels three years ago.

The following table shows the total visible supply of wheat at the end of the first trade week of each month for four years, as compiled by the Chicago board of trade and includes stocks at most important points of accumulation in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains. There are some important points not covered by this statement:

	1895.	1891.	1893.	1897.
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.
Jan. 2...	88,631,000	80,223,000	81,238,000	15,907,000
Feb. 5...	83,378,000	79,503,000	81,393,000	43,161,000
Mar. 4...	78,765,000	75,669,000	79,038,000	41,666,000
April 1...	74,308,000	71,458,000	77,054,000	41,038,000
May 6...	62,106,000	65,158,000	73,069,000	36,190,000
June 3...	62,229,000	69,391,000	71,030,000	27,910,000
July 1...	41,810,000	54,657,000	62,316,000	24,260,000
Aug. 3...	28,617,000	67,010,000	59,124,000	28,079,000
Sept. 7...	36,731,000	69,163,000	68,110,000	33,709,000
Oct. 7...	41,332,000	73,811,000	63,271,000	61,250,000
Nov. 4...	62,940,000	80,477,000	71,390,000	61,717,000
Dec. 2...	63,903,000	85,179,000	78,091,000	72,580,000

The following shows the visible supply by weeks, for four years:

	1896.	1895.	1891.	1897.
Jan. 4...	69,842,000	87,830,000	79,953,000	81,736,000
" 11...	68,945,000	86,015,000	80,433,000	87,080,000
" 18...	67,938,000	85,268,000	81,382,000	82,227,000
" 25...	67,623,000	81,665,000	80,231,000	81,487,000
Feb. 1...	66,731,000	83,378,000	78,843,000	81,300,000
" 8...	66,119,000	82,322,000	79,660,000	80,973,000
" 15...	65,226,000	81,733,000	78,067,000	81,214,000
" 22...	65,011,000	79,476,000	77,257,000	79,418,000
March 1...	64,089,000	77,717,000	75,509,000	79,033,000
" 7...	62,690,000	77,717,000	74,017,000	78,103,000
" 14...	62,123,000	76,373,000	71,959,000	79,010,000
" 21...	61,318,000	75,773,000	72,101,000	78,203,000
" 28...	61,018,000	74,308,000	71,480,000	77,614,000
April 4...	60,322,000	73,703,000	70,610,000	77,293,000
" 11...	59,330,000	70,487,000	69,217,000	76,090,000
" 18...	58,483,000	68,010,000	68,425,000	74,569,000
" 25...	57,016,000	65,776,000	66,548,000	75,017,000
May 2...	55,419,000	62,196,000	65,156,000	73,009,000
" 9...	54,000,000	60,423,000	63,510,000	72,042,000
" 16...	54,116,000	60,410,000	62,944,000	71,528,000

Bradstreet's report of stocks of wheat in Canada on May 9 is as follows:

	Bushels.
Montreal.....	681,000
Toronto.....	30,000
Kingston.....	4,000
Winnipeg.....	287,000
Manitoba interior elevators	2,910,000
Fort William, Port Arthur & Keowatin.....	3,531,000

Total stocks in the United States and Canada as reported by Bradstreet's were as follows, on May 9 1896:

	Bushels.
East of the Mountains.....	77,737,000
Pacific Coast.....	3,182,000
Total stocks a year ago were:	bushels.
East of the Mountains.....	72,832,000
Pacific Coast.....	10,150,000

Bradstreet's report for the week ended May 16, shows a decrease of 2,629,000 bushels in stocks of wheat east of the mountains, making the total 75,108,000 bushels on the latter date.

World's stocks of wheat on May 1, 1896. (United States, Canada, in Europe and afloat for Europe) were 131,316,000 bushels, as compared with 151,930,000 bushels on May 1, 1895. 170,695,000 bushels on May 1, 1891, 172,039,000 bushels on that date in 1893, and as contrasted with 125,891,000 bushels on May 1, 1892, and with similar totals on May 1 in preceding years.

Winnipeg Wheat Inspection.

The following shows the number of cars of wheat inspected at *Winnipeg for the weeks ended on the dates named, compared with the number of cars inspected for the corre-

sponding weeks a year ago, as reported by Inspector Horn to the Board of Trade:

Grade.	Apr. 18	Apr. 25	May 2	May 9	May 16
Extra Manitoba	0	0	0	0	0
hard.....	11	10	10	11	43
No. 1 hard.....	3	2	2	9	10
No. 2 hard.....	0	2	3	13	27
No. 3 hard.....	1	3	1	11	3
No. 1 North'n.....	0	0	2	7	1
No. 2 North'n.....	0	0	0	2	0
No. 3 North'n.....	1	0	0	0	0
No. 1 white type	1	0	0	0	0
No. 2 white type	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 Spring.....	0	0	2	9	6
No. 2 Spring.....	0	0	1	0	2
No. 1 frosted.....	3	0	6	13	13
No. 2 frosted.....	0	1	5	3	6
No. 3 Fro ted.....	0	1	0	0	1
No. 1 Rejected.....	4	2	7	17	21
No. 2 Rejected.....	1	3	2	23	16
No Grade.....	2	1	2	3	1
Feed.....	3	0	0	0	0
Total.....	90	30	43	120	159
Same week last year.....	100	129	131	151	130

Oats.—For week ended May 2—No. 1 white, 0; No. 2 white, 1; No. 3 white, 0; No. 2 black, 0; No. 2 mixed 0; feed, 2; rejected, 0; total, 3.

Barley.—For week ended May 2—No. 2, 0; No. 3, 0; feed, 1; total, 1.

*Wheat inspected at Emerson going out via the Northern Pacific to Duluth, is included in Winnipeg returns. A considerable portion of the wheat moving is inspected at Fort William, and does not show in these figures.

Comparative Prices in Staples:

Prices at New York compared with a year ago.

	Nov 15, 1896.	May 17, 1895.
Flour, straight spring.....	\$3.10 to \$3.10	\$1.5 to \$3.85
Flour, straight winter.....	\$3.25 to \$3.75	\$3.20 to \$3.75
Wheat, No. 2 red.....	7½c	7½ to 7½c
Corn, No. 2 mixed.....	5½c	5½ to 5½c
Oats, No. 2.....	24 c	3½c
Rye, No. 2, Western.....	40 c
Barley, No. 2 Milwaukee.....
Cotton, mid. upld.....	8½c	6 15-16c
Print cloths, 0x64.....	29 1½c	2½c
Wool, Ohio & Pa., X.....	16c	15 to 15½c
Wool, No. 1 cmbg.....	19 to 21c	19 to 21c
Pork, mess new.....	\$3.75 to \$9.75	\$13.25 to 14.00
Lard, westn., sim.....	4.85 to 4.90c	6.90c
Butter, creamery.....	16½	17c
Chese, ch. east fr.....	9½c	6½c
Sugar, centrif., 96.....	4½c	3½c
Sugar, granulated.....	5½c	4 7-16 to 4½c
Coffee, Rio, No. 7.....	14½ to 14½c	16½c
Petroleum, N. T. Co.....	\$1.20	\$1.73
Petroleum, rfd. gal.....	6 95c	\$1.60c
*Iron, bess. pg.....	\$12.75	\$11.40
*Steel billets, ton.....	\$12.50	\$16.50
Ocean Steam Freight.....
Grain, Liverpool.....	2d	1½ d
Cotton.....	3-32d	3-32d

* Pittsburgh.

Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.

The Montreal Gazette of May 15 says: There is still some business reported in grain, engagements having been made for London at 1s. 10½d with 2s now asked, and for Glasgow 1s 7½d with 1s 9d now asked. Room for Bristol has been taken at 2s with 2s 3d now asked. Liverpool engagements reported at 1s 7½d, and we quote 1s 7½d to 1s 9d. Sack flour is quoted at 10s London and Glasgow, 7s 6d Liverpool, and 10s Bristol. Cattle have been taken at 40s London, Liverpool and Glasgow, and 35s Bristol. Horses 70s London and 80s Glasgow. Cheese has been booked at 20s London and Glasgow. 25s Bristol, and 17s 6d Liverpool. The chief feature in lake freights, as far as Montreal is concerned, is the charter of the vessels "Elphicks," "Wright," and the large boat "Yale" to carry wheat from Fort William to Buffalo at 3c per bushel, which means that United States boats are after our Manitoba wheat trade again. Engagements have also been made at 7½c per bushel for wheat from Duluth and Fort William through to Montreal. From Buffalo to New York the rate on wheat is still 3½c, and on corn 3c. From Kingston to Montreal 2½c wheat, and 2½c corn.

Winnipeg Prices a Year Ago.

This week last year was the week of the bulge in wheat at Chicago, when an enormous speculative business was done, transactions in one day representing about 300,000,000 bushels of wheat. The local market likewise made a big spurt and prices ranged 6 to 15c higher than the previous week. Manitoba wheat at Fort Williams old 8 to 5c higher than Duluth. Flour also "boomed," advancing 15c and later 10c per 98-lb sack. Following were Winnipeg prices this week last year:

- Wheat.—No. 1 hard, Fort William, afloat sold during the week at 90c to \$1.00.
- Flour.—Local price, per sack, 25c higher at: Patents, \$2.45; Bakers, \$2.25.
- Bran.—Per ton, \$12.
- Shorts.—Per ton, \$13.
- Oats.—Per bushel, car lots, local freights, 82 to 83c.
- Barley.—Per bushel, about 40c, local freights.
- Flax Seed.—Small sales for seed at \$1.50 per bushel.
- Butter.—Country dairy 10 to 12c in a small way.
- Cheese.—New Sc.
- Eggs.—Fresh, 7½c net, jobbing 8½c.
- Beef.—City dressed, 6 to 6½c.
- Mutton.—Fresh, 10c.
- Hogs.—City dressed, 6c.
- Cattle.—Butchers' 3 to 3½c, export 3½ to 4c.
- Hogs.—Live, off cars, 4½c.
- Sheep.—4 to 4½c.
- Seneca Root.—Dry 17 to 20c lb.
- Poultry.—Chickens, 8c, turkeys, 10c, geese, 9 to 10c, ducks 8c.
- Hides.—No. 1 cows, 6½c.
- Wool.—Unwashed Manitoba fleece, 9 to 10½c.
- Potatoes.—30 to 35c per bushel.
- Hay.—\$1.00 per ton, car lots

Grain and Milling Notes.

The Lake of the Woods Milling Company have filled an order through their Montreal office for 2,000 sacks of flour for Sydney, Australia. The flour will be shipped via Vancouver. The order will be filled by the company's Portage la Prairie mill. This is the second lot of Manitoba flour sold for Australia recently.

Fire did \$30,000 damage to the flour and oatmeal mills of the Bing Milling Company, at Sarnia, Ontario, recently.

It is feared that the wet weather this spring has damaged some wheat held by farmers, owing to leaky granaries.

The total receipts of wheat at the four principal United States winter wheat points, Toledo, St. Louis, Detroit and Kansas City, from July 1st to date are 26,733,482 bushels against 32,345,469 bushels in 1895 and 43,169,780 bushels in 1891. The total receipts at the four principal spring wheat points since August 1, the beginning of the crop year, set out as follows: Minneapolis 70,402,672 bushels; Duluth 51,023,010 bushels; Chicago 20,114,999 bushels; Milwaukee & 475,202 bushels making a total of 151,120,883 bushels against 101,604,807 bushels during the same time last year and 98,127,731 bushels in 1891.

The German agrarian party has won a victory in the passage by the Reichstag of a bill that is expected to put an end to speculative dealing in grain. The evident sequel to the bill is not only to prohibit trading in "privileges," but to prevent the sale of grain and flour for future delivery altogether. The bill must be approved by the German Federal Council before it becomes a law. Should it meet with this approval it will become law next month.

James Rousseau, tanner, of New Westminster, has assigned.



PLYMOUTH BINDER TWINE..

SEASON 1896.

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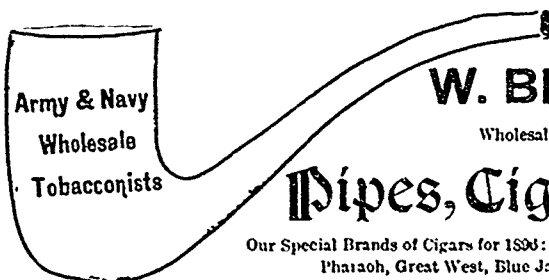
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.... New Cabbage and Spanish Onions.

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Pointers for Cheese Makers.

The following circular has been issued from the Manitoba department of agriculture, by C. C. Macdonald, provincial dairy superintendent: As the cheese season is now about opening up I desire to offer the following suggestions with a view to aiding the cheese makers of Manitoba to prepare their output of cheese in a proper manner to suit the markets of England and Scotland. From information gained from the best authority in Europe the requirements of those markets are cheese of sixty pounds weight, and over, under. Cheese to be of uniform size as nearly as practicable, having square edges, and to stand up straight, free from any cracks or cracks, close cutting and uniform color. In order to insure uniformity in size it would be found very advantageous to weigh the curd when putting it into the hoops. This would ensure a uniform size at heat of each days make. I would strongly advise weighing all the curd for each hoop each day.

Color.—The color should be medium, not too high, about one ounce of good cheese color per 1000 pounds of milk will be sufficient to make the cheese the proper uniform color.

The Manitoba cheese of last year showed a little too much firmness for the European market, this can easily be remedied. Cook the curd in the whey to 98 degrees, allow between $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch of acid to develop by the hot iron test. Before drawing the whey firm the curd well by stirring with the rake before acid develop, or, if fast working curd, draw the whey for hot iron test and firm after the whey is drawn. When the curd is sufficiently firm, known by its squeaking taken between the teeth, or, in other words, will roll around like peas, it should be piled up on each side of the vat and kept to a temperature between 94 and 98 degrees up to milling time. When the curd has developed acid enough to make it mellow and a velvety feeling it should be milled.

Salting.—For the month of May use 2½ pounds of salt, best brand; in June use 2½ pounds; July 2½ pounds; August, September and October 3 pounds for 1000 pounds of milk. After the salt is thoroughly stirred in allow the curd to stand piled up in the vat until the color becomes uniform, which usually takes from 20 to 30 minutes, before putting to press. Press lightly at first, gradually increasing the pressure until all the pressure of the press is applied, previous to removal to the curing room.

Boxes.—The boxes should be made strong and durable; at least 45 nails should be used in making each box, this will prevent the boxes from being broken in transit and will present the cheese in a neat, tidy condition.

Boxing.—The boxes should be cut down close to the top of the cheese so that the cheese cannot move from side to side in the box. This is important. Always use scaleboard on the top and bottom of the cheese. The best scaleboards are the cheapest as they always prevent the cheese from becoming discolored on the surface. Nail all covers on securely so that they cannot become broken. Use every precaution to have the cheese reach its destination in a perfectly sound condition.

Branding.—Do not brand the boxes on the cover. Get a neat little brand with letters about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch in length, no more, giving simply the name of the factory and post-office address. Get a numerical stencil with figures from 1 to 10. These figures may be one inch in length. Place the factory brand on the hollow side of the box, where the lap comes, and then the net weight of the cheese to the right and side of the factory brand. Have no other figures on the box. Endeavor to please the eye of the customer as well as the taste for therein the profit lies.

Grinding Wheat in Bond.

A report from Duluth, Minnesota, says: Private advices have been received here from the east to the effect that the treasury department has just made a ruling that wheat passing through this country from Canada to Europe, or back to Canada, may be ground into flour in this country by the payment of duty and when the product is shipped out of this country, a drawback of all but 1 per cent can be had. For instance, Manitoba wheat can be shipped to Duluth as at present in bond; on its arrival here on payment of 20 per cent ad valorem duty it can be taken to the mills and ground into flour, and when the resulting flour leaves for New York 19 twentieths of the duty will be paid back by this government. The customs officials have been unaware of such a construction of the existing laws and no official notification of the ruling has as yet been received here. Of course the ruling would apply as well to Minneapolis as to Duluth. It is understood that the head of the lakes millers have obtained this construction of the law through the Wisconsin delegation in congress. It will afford the head of the lakes mills a larger field in which to seek for grain, and may stimulate greatly the shipments of Manitoba wheat in bond through this point. During the present crop year Manitoba has shipped more bonded wheat to Duluth than ever—2,003,592 bushels. This is the first season that coarse grains have come here in bond, the consignment of barley being 10,900 bushels; oats, 24,000, and flax, 90,225.

Hardware and Paint Trade.

The Toronto Globe says: "Cut nails are now \$2.75 basis. Plumbers' supplies have all advanced and another combination has been formed by brass manufacturers. Trade in this line is improving nicely. Canada plates are now \$2.35 to \$2.40 basis, and are being freely booked for fall delivery. Harvest and garden tools, such as rubber hose, spray pumps, shears, etc., are in good active demand."

The Montreal Gazette says: "A fair business has been passing in naval stores, there being a good demand for small lots of all lines. Colored cotton waste if firmer and the inside price for round lots is now 4½c, while small quantities are selling at 5½c. A stronger feeling has prevailed in ordinary oakum and prices have advanced $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1c, with recent sales at 5 to 7c, as to quantity. Turpentine is fairly enquired for and steady at 43c. The prospects for cordage this season is very fair, and a good business is looked forward to later on."

The Canadian Paint Company of Montreal have been for some time calling attention to a new feature in painting by means of which the painter can arrive at an exact shade by very simple means, the essences of the particular shades being provided specially in what are called "Triple Strength Tints." We learn from the makers that the demand for these has exceeded all expectations. They are now calling attention to another special feature, namely, the introduction of water colors for wall tints, which are soluble simply in cold water and notwithstanding produce a hard and attractive surface, in this way simplifying very much the operations of the tradesman or amateur. All these new features deserve a hearty response on the part of buyers.

Mushroom Cultivation in France.

Four of the United States consuls in France have made reports on mushroom cultivation in that country. "The industry is a very considerable one, employing capital in and around Paris alone of over a million and a quarter sterling, the production being valued

at nearly half a million sterling, while sixty wholesale firms in Paris deal exclusively in mushrooms. The utmost care appears to be required in every one of the processes necessary for the artificial production, neglect in any one spoiling the whole crop. There must be a cool and even temperature, a certain moisture in the atmosphere, and darkness, or at least an absence of sunshine. A slight, steady air current, moving always in the same direction, and if possible from north to south, is also important. In the department of the Seine alone there are said to be over 3,000 caves in which mushrooms are grown, and in these live about 300 people, champignonnistes, who rarely see the daylight. The caves are usually exhausted stone quarries, the descent into them being by way of rope ladders. A mushroom bed yields daily for about three months, and then the soil is exhausted and is of no more use, and a new bed has to be prepared. Hence, by timely preparations of fresh beds, mushrooms can be picked fresh throughout the year."

British Wheat Markets.

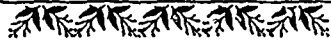
The London Miller reviews British wheat markets for the month of April as follows.

The firm feeling that marked the trade at the opening of April was not extinguished by the interlude of Eastern holidays, for on the resumption of business it was observed that buyers generally took more interest in the market, prompted thereto by colder weather, and, mayhap, by a practical recognition of the smallness of reserves and floating supplies. The speculative movement in the American markets was another cause of the firmness over here; and when the English millers discovered that neither the demand for flour nor the selling price was improved in proportion to the rising demands of wheat sellers, they became less desirous of holding wheat on the precarious security of Transatlantic notions of value. The chief buyers during the period of relative activity were London, Liverpool and Hull. Merchants, factors and millers at these ports took freely of South Russian at 24s. 3d. to 26s. 6d.; Bessarabian and Azima, 23s. 9d. to 25s. 6d.; Danube and Varna, 23s. 9d. to 24s. 9d., nearly all for April-May shipment. It is remarkable that very few showed faith enough to allow June to appear in the contracts. American Reds came in for a share of attention; No. 1 Northern Spring, April, sold at 26s. 6d. to 26s. 9d. and No. 1 Hard Duluth at 27s., April, but Ghirka and Azima were considered to be the better value. Before the third week of the month had been fulfilled, the elasticity of the trade began to slacken, and lately shippers and importers are sorely exercised to discover how it is that with uncommonly small stocks (the quarterly returns revealed supplies in United Kingdom ports of 2,000,000 qrs, now reduced to 1,500,000 qrs.), millers seek only to satisfy immediate wants, and passively resist the blandishments of factors who try to induce them to engage in c. i. f. contracts. The spread of commercial information is so universal that any intelligent miller is thoroughly able to judge of the situation. Shippers and sellers possess no occult intelligence, and the key of knowledge is in many hands. The spasm of improvement was as evanescent at many of its predecessors, and the month of April closed with nervous and weak American trading, which condition is faithfully reflected here, and with values of wheat running 6d. to 1s. lower than they were some three weeks ago.

Silver.

The silver market has been firmer this week. Exports from the United States continue on a fairly large scale by almost every steamer. Silver prices on May 15 were—London 81½d; New York 68½c.—Bradstreet's

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FRESH EGGS WANTED.

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Special attention to consignments of Furs and Skins, Butter and Eggs.

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Quote prices on first quality Dairy Butter or consign it to us and get top market prices.

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Wanted in an established and growing jobbing and retail business, a partner with business energy and some business experience sufficient to manage the commercial part of the business, while the subscriber manages the practical part. A capital of about \$3,000 necessary. To the proper party, the opening is an exceptionally good one.

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J. Y. GRIFFIN & CO., Pork Packers and Commission Merchants, **Winnipeg**

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 No. 1 Hard Wheat.
BRAN, SHORTS
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 Gold Label, as patronized by Royalty and the Leading Physicians.
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NOTE—Best facilities and largest and most varied stock from which to supply your many wants.

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Wall Papers—Nice Assortment for Spring Trade

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WINNIPEG, MAN.

A Permanent International Tribunal.

The conference which has been in session at Washington, for the purpose of taking such action as may be necessary to bring about the creation of a permanent international arbitration tribunal, is made up of leading and representative men from all parts of the country.

The list of those in Boston who were invited to come to this gathering comprised the names of some hundred or more who would be everywhere recognized as representing the intelligence, public spirit and conscience of our city, as well as to quite a degree its commercial interests, and we have every reason for believing that those from the other centres of population who were invited and who were present at this gathering were equally representative of the best type of American citizenship.

These gentlemen have not engaged in any chimerical enterprise, even though the project that they are endeavoring to advance is a novel one. No doubt those who insisted in former days that the individual, instead of seeking to revenge himself on the one whom he believed had wronged him should secure justice through an appeal to courts of law, were looked upon by many as theoretical innovators.

The great step from darkness toward the light which can be taken as the first movement in a general improvement will be the establishment of a permanent international tribunal to adjust the differences which may arise between the two great nations of the English-speaking race. This is in some respects, though not in others, an easier problem to solve than would be an agreement made between people having different languages and different political, social and religious conditions, all of which engender and increase national hostility. No doubt, the close business intercourse that brings the English and the American people together is also the cause of a great many differences of opinion, rivalry and contentions; but these make it all the more desirable that some permanent form of adjudication should be established.

Naturally those we have the most to do with are those with whom we are most likely to quarrel. We have in the city of Boston a certain degree of trade rivalry with New York city and its people in respect to a large number of our trade interests, but we have no jealousy, amounting at times to hostility, for San Francisco, for the reason that our business intercourse with San Francisco is relatively so slight and its influence upon our well-being is so infinitesimal that no ground is given for aroused feelings.

If our republic was organized after the manner of the republics of Greece we should probably be at war with New York in much the same way that Athens was at war with

Sparta; but modern methods make it evident that we can get along much better with our nearest neighbor and keenest trade rival by a peaceful adjustment of differences than by any form of force.

For reasons kindred to those we have just given, while the establishment of an international tribunal for arbitrating differences that might arise between, say the United States and the kingdom of Roumania, might be arranged, for the reason that there would hardly be once in a decade of years that the least difference would exist, the real merit of the proposed method would be brought out by putting it in force among those who, beside common race, tongue, creed, political, and to quite a degree social, institutions have also to an exceptional extent, common trade interests. We have every reason for believing that the reforms which the conference at Washington has been organized to promote is one which will be taken up and supported by many thousands of the best men and women of Great Britain.—Boston Herald.

Montreal Grocery Market.

There has been no change in the situation of the sugar market. The foreign markets for beet are somewhat irregular at present and prices fluctuate according to the weather report. The demand for refined here continues slow and the market is very quiet and steady. The prospects, however, for the future are encouraging as there is every indication for one of the largest crops of fruit this season that the country has had for the past twenty-five years, and if nothing happens to injure it a brisk demand for sugar is looked for later on as stocks throughout the country in second hands are very small and orders now are only for small lots to fill actual wants. We quote: Granulated at 4½¢ in 250-barrel lots and over; 4 11-16¢ in 100-barrel lots, and 4½¢ in smaller quantities. Yellows range from 3¼ to 4¼¢, as to quality, at the factory.

In syrup, business has also been quiet and the market is without any new feature of note. The stock in refiners' hands is small and prices rule firm at 1½ to 2½¢ per lb, as to quality at the factory.

There was no change in the molasses market, business being very quiet and prices about steady. New crop Barbadoes in round lots is offering to arrive at 29½¢, Porto Rico on spot at 31¢, and Antigua at 27¢.

The demand for rice has been fair and the market rules moderately active, with a good business for this season at steady prices. We quote: Japan standard, \$1.25 to \$1.40; crystal Japan \$1.75 to \$5; standard B. \$3.45; Patna \$1.25 to \$5; and Carolina at \$6.50 to \$7.50.

In spices business has continued quiet and

little improvement is looked forward to as jobbers generally have ample supplies on hand. The following quotations are what jobbers can buy at only: Penang black pepper 6 to 7½¢; white pepper 10 to 12½¢; cloves 7½ to 9¢; cassia 8½ to 9½¢; nutmegs 60 to 90¢; and Jamaica ginger 15½ to 18½¢.

The market for coffees has ruled quiet, the demand being only for small lots to fill actual requirements at steady prices. We quote: Maracaibo at 17½ to 18¢; Rico 16 to 17½¢; Java 23 to 25¢; and Mocha 23 to 26¢.

During the past week a little more business has been done in teas there being a demand for Congous and low grade Japans, and some fair sized lots have changed hands. A lot of 200 half-chests of Congous sold at 12 to 18¢, and several lots of low grade Japans at about 11¢. In regard to the new crop no official advices have been received yet, outside of a cable which stated that the shipments this season to date are about 10,000 piculs less than the corresponding time last year.—Gazette, May 17.

900 Tons of Electrical Machinery.

The Canadian General Electric Co. have just concluded some of the largest contracts for electrical apparatus ever awarded in any country. They have sold to the Lachine Rapids Hydraulic and Lind Company, of which Senator B. Ireland, of Montreal, is president, twelve three-phase, generators of one thousand horse power each; this being the second largest power transmission contract in the world.

A contract has also been made within the last week with the Montreal Street Railway Company for a two thousand horse-power generator, this being the twelfth of its size manufactured, and making a total of eight thousand horse-power of generators made by the Canadian General Electric Co. for the Montreal Street Railway, and five thousand for the Toronto Railway.

Contracts for the equipment of the London Street Railway, Halifax Street Railway, Hamilton Radial Railway, Moncton Street Railway, Hull and Aylmer Railway, Cornwall Street Railway, etc., have been closed recently, in addition to large orders for increased equipment for the Toronto Railway, Montreal Street Railway, Vancouver, B.C., Street Railway, and Victoria, B. C., Street Railway.

The sale of electric lighting apparatus during the past few months has exceeded all previous records; the value of contracts under way by this Canadian company exceeding four hundred thousand dollars.

A. A. Atkinson, lately in the grain trade at Winnipeg, has returned from Toronto, where he has been for some months.

Commercial Federation.

The following is a synopsis of the prize essay written by J. G. Colmer, C.M.G., on the Commercial Federation of the Empire in connection with The Statist thousand guineas competition on the subject. The essay was published in full in The Statist of May 2nd.

The scheme may be divided into four parts:

1. The granting of preferential treatment to Colonial and Indian products in the United Kingdom. 2. Preferential treatment of British products in the Colonies and India. 3. The additional revenue so derived to form a fund, if the Mother Country and the Colonies and India agree, with a view to improve and supplement the defences of the Empire outside the United Kingdom. 4. The formation of a Colonial Council to give the Colonies a greater voice in Imperial affairs, and to provide for the administration of the fund.

1. It is suggested that in the United Kingdom small specific duties should be placed on certain enumerated articles, about twenty in number, when imported from foreign countries—similar imports from the Colonies and India to remain duty free, as at present. That the proposals are moderate in their nature will be understood when it is stated that the duties, with one or two exceptions, are equivalent to an ad valorem duty of about 3 per cent. on foreign imports of the articles specified. On foreign wheat and flour a revival of the duties in force up to 1839, of about 1s. per quarter, is recommended. The imports in 1891 of the enumerated articles from foreign countries were valued at £85,539,791, and from the Colonies and India at £11,953,350. The duties, it is anticipated, would realise about £2,700,000.

The enumerated articles are live animals, meats, cheese, butter, wheat, flour, hemp and other fibres, ivory, undressed leather, sugar, unrefined and refined, wool, tallow, seal skins, fish oil, logwood, mahogany, and nuts and kernels for oil. It would have been easy to mention many other articles produced in the Colonies on foreign imports of which duties might be imposed, such as india-rubber, indigo, farinaceous substances, ornamental feathers, fish, fruits, gutta-percha, hides, palm oil, rice, furs, skins, silver and tin ore, wine and wood. But, in the judgment of the writer of the essay, Commercial Federation will have a greater chance of immediate adoption and success if it is inaugurated on a moderate basis.

It is also proposed to reduce by one-half the existing duties on imports from the Colonies and India of cocoa, coffee, and tea, the duties on the foreign imports of those articles to remain as at present. This arrangement of the existing tariff, with a reduction of 5 per cent. in the duties on tobacco from all countries, would mean a decrease in the revenue to the extent of about £2,000,000. It will be seen, therefore, that the scheme involves, roughly speaking, a net increase in revenue of the United Kingdom of about £700,000.

It is urged that an increase in price is not likely to result from the placing of duties on foreign imports of the enumerated articles, at any rate to the extent of the proposed duties. In every case there would still be a considerable importation of the different commodities from the Colonies and India. As they would remain duty free, the supplies coming from within the Empire would dominate the market, and, with the foreign competition, have a tendency to prevent the increase in prices which perhaps might follow if duties were placed upon such imports from all countries.

2. As the fiscal systems in the Colonies and India are so varied, and the nature of their trade exchanges so different, it has apparently been found difficult to make any proposal for giving preferential treatment of a uniform character to British imports in those markets,

in return for the concessions suggested on the part of the United Kingdom. It is, therefore, recommended in the essay that the Mother Country should take the initiative in the matter, inform the Colonies and India what advantages the United Kingdom is prepared to offer to the imports of the articles enumerated from within the Empire, and ask what concessions of a preferential character they would be prepared to extend to imports from the United Kingdom over imports from foreign countries. It is believed that correspondence of this nature would pave the way for an Imperial conference, at which the details of the proposals would be discussed, and definite arrangements agreed upon, by which in every part of the Empire there would be preferential treatment, on a moderate scale, for Inter-Imperial trade. The scheme, which is essentially in the nature of a "family arrangement" between the Colonies and Possessions and the Mother Country, would naturally be subject to alteration from time to time, as required, in the interests of all the parties concerned.

3. Assuming that the colonies were prepared to grant preferential treatment to British trade, (upon which no doubt appears to exist in view of the resolutions of the Ottawa Conference), assuming also that India was ready to follow their example, and that they rearranged their tariffs in favor of British trade in a manner satisfactory to the United Kingdom, it is fair to assume that additional revenue in the colonies and India, equal at least to the net amount of additional revenue (£700,000) to be raised in the United Kingdom, would be forthcoming. In one of the appendices of the essay a suggestion for the apportionment of the £700,000 among the colonies and India is made. This would provide a fund of nearly £1,500,000 per annum, the joint contribution of the colonies and possessions and the United Kingdom, which it is suggested could be used to supplement and improve the existing defences, including graving docks and coaling stations, in the outlying parts of the empire. Among other things the maintenance of guard-ships in the leading ports of the empire is proposed. These vessels would be useful not only for harbor defence, but in connection with the training of naval militia, which it is believed could easily be formed in the leading maritime ports of the empire. This force would not only be valuable locally, but would be available for drafting on Her Majesty's ships that might be operating in the neighborhood of the colonies in time of war.

4. In order to give the colonies a larger voice in the affairs of the empire than they now have, and to enable them to participate in the administration of the proposed fund for defence the formation of a colonial council is suggested. It would consist of the Secretaries of State for the Colonies, Foreign Affairs, India, and War, the First Lord of the Admiralty, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Colonial Secretary being president. The High Commissioner for Canada and the Agents-General of the self-governing colonies—or such other persons as the colonies might appoint—would be members of the council. It would be as its name implies a council in which the colonies would have a voice through their representatives in regard to any matters arising out of preferential trade arrangements, and upon all other subjects in which the colonies they represented had the right to consult, or be consulted by, the Imperial government.

The only serious obstacle of an international character in the way of carrying out the scheme is contained in the restrictive clauses of the commercial treaties with Belgium and Germany, which obliges the colonies to admit imports from those countries on the same terms as those from the United Kingdom. By the action of the most-favored nation clauses in other treaties this obliga-

tion is made more or less general. As British imports from Belgium and Germany are greater than British exports to those countries, and as, even if the objectionable clauses were cancelled, the colonies could still be made amenable to the general most-favored nation clause, which forms part of the treaties, it is suggested that if the proposition were made to the countries in question they would prefer the modification of the treaties rather than their abrogation. The treaties are terminable in any case on twelve months' notice.

Retaliation on the part of foreign countries is not anticipated as the result of the scheme, as their import duties are now as high, generally speaking, as they can be made, and any increase would react on the countries themselves. Besides with the Imperial Customs Union in existence, a policy of retaliation would hardly be lightly undertaken.

The following are some of the advantages which it is claimed would be derived by the mother country on the one hand and the colonies and possessions on the other, from the adoption of a scheme of commercial federation. It would bring the mother country into closer union with the colonies. By giving preferential treatment, on a moderate scale, to British trade within the limits of the empire, the bond of unity would be material as well as sentimental. By such preference the doctrines of free trade that prevail in the United Kingdom would not be seriously endangered, and freer trade than at present would be made possible within the empire. On the other hand, the British manufacturer would retain the control of the rapidly increasing colonial markets. There would be a unity for the defence of the outlying parts of the empire, and a colonial council for mutual consultation on matters of general interest. Greater attention than ever would be attracted to the colonies. Emigration would flow in larger numbers to their shores and increase the demand for British goods. The investment of capital in the colonies would be encouraged, and their powers of production be so increased that the United Kingdom would year by year depend less upon foreign sources for her food supplies.

Attached to the essay are several statistical appendices, illustrating the commercial affairs of the empire, and showing that, relatively speaking, the trade of the United Kingdom with the colonies has been increasing in a greater ratio than the trade with the other parts of the world.

England's Newspapers.

The London Times says: "There are 483 newspapers published in London, and 1,357 in the rest of England; Wales is responsible for 100, Scotland for 226, Ireland for 169, and the British Coast Isles for 20, a total of 2,355. Besides these the magazines now in course of publication number 2,097, of which 507 are of a religious character. Over 200 of these magazines were produced for the first time during the past year. It is estimated that £1,000,000 a year is spent in advertisements, and that 1,500,000,000 copies of newspapers are sold annually in London alone."

Bret Harte's new story and Jerome K. Jerome's latest piece of fiction have both been secured by The Ladies' Home Journal for immediate publication. Jerome's story is called "Reginald Blake; Financier and Cad," and sketches an incident in fashionable London society. Bret Harte calls his story "The Indication of Elsbeth," and pictures the romance of a young American who falls in love with a German princess, masquerading as a dairy maid.

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English vs American Clothing.

The last United States consular report contains a note from United States Consul Meeker, of Bradford, which refers to an experiment recently made to demonstrate the difference between the price of American and English ready-made clothing. Consul Meeker says that last fall a Bradford manufacturer visiting this country was so much pleased with certain styles of American ready-made clothing that he not only purchased an \$18 suit in a ready-made clothing store in New York city, but he also secured samples of children's suitings, which he took home with him for the purpose of determining whether they could not be sent to England and profitably disposed of. The result of this attempt was to prove that on the whole the prices of children's ready-made clothing, with the exception possibly of boys' knee pants, were slightly lower in England than in the United States. The difference was not great, but was probably enough to interfere with the establishment of a trade. On the other hand, it was conceded, even by the English themselves—and this concession will be promptly confirmed by all Americans who have had the opportunity to make a personal examination of the matter—that the American garments were much superior in style and workmanship to those produced by English clothiers, a fact which might lead to their sale in England even at higher prices, but at the same price would unquestionably give them the preference. Those who have had the personal experience we have referred to do not need to be told that there is no possibility whatsoever of English ready-made clothing coming into this market to compete with the outputs of our American wholesale manufacturers. The American purchaser would no more buy a suit of ready-made English clothing than he would buy an American suit of style of ten years ago. Where the English have an advantage over us in clothing is in the prices of their custom-made goods, which though ordinarily finished in a manner far inferior to American made garments, are none the less sold at a price that to many Americans travelling in England seems exceedingly attractive.—Boston Herald.

Gold Past and Present

The following is taken from Chambers' Journal: "Just before the Californian discoveries, namely, in 1819, the world's annual output of gold was only about £3,000,000. Then came the American and Australian booms, raising the quantity produced in 1853 to the value of £30,000,000. After 1853 there was a gradual decline to less than £20,000,000 in 1883. This was the lowest period and then the DeKamp and other discoveries in Africa began to raise the total slowly again. Between 1833 and 1887 the El Callao mine in South America and the Mount Morgan in Australia helped greatly to enlarge the output, and then in 1887 the 'Rand' began to yield of its riches. The following are the estimates of a mining expert of the world's gold production during the five years 1893-91, namely: 1891, £23,700,000; 1891, £26,130,000; 1892, £29,260,000; 1893, £31,110,000; 1894, £36,000,000. In these estimates no distinction seems to have been made between mine valuations and mint valuations, but it will be observed that the estimate for 1891 corresponds with that of the United States mint authorities.

As to the future of the South African sources of supply, it is estimated by Messrs. Hatch & Chalmers, mining engineers, who have lately published an exhaustive work on the subject, that before the end of the present century the Witwatersrand mines alone will be yielding gold to the value of £20,000,000 annually, that early next century they will turn out £26,000,000 annually and that the

known resources of the district are equal to a total production within the next half century of £700,000,000, of which £200,000,000 will be clear profit over the cost of mining."

Cold Storage for Butter Exports.

Arrangements have been concluded by the Dominion Dairy commissioner with Elder, Dempster & Co., to fit out three steamships of the New Dominion Line, sailing between Montreal and Avonmouth (Bristol); with mechanical refrigerators of the latest and best kind, to carry butter at a temperature of about 30 degrees Fahr., and cheese and fruit at a temperature of from 31 to 38 degrees Fahr. Each of the three steamships is to have a cold storage capacity of about 20,000 cubic feet or space sufficient to carry about 300 tons of cheese or butter per trip.

The steamship company will carry butter in the refrigerating chambers at a charge of ten shillings per ton, and cheese at a charge of five shillings per ten, in addition to the usual current charge for freight on butter and cheese. The company will also fit up two steamships with insulated compartments for the carriage of chilled butter. These two steamships will have a capacity of about 3,000 packages of butter each. They will be cooled by the use of ice in galvanized iron cylinders. The butter will be thoroughly chilled before it is put in them. For that carriage the extra freight charge is not to be more than five shillings per ton. In addition to the usual current charge for freight on butter and cheese.

Besides the assistance required for fitting the refrigerator plants and cold storage compartments, one half of the cost of operating the refrigerating plants is to be borne by the government, up to a sum not exceeding \$50 per trip per steamer. It is not expected that the additional consumption of coal will be large, and the ship's engineers with a bonus per trip, will be able to look after the refrigerating machinery to ensure the temperature as required.

The space available for cargo in cold storage shall be allotted to the different shippers about three days before the date of the sailing of each steamship, and in any case where the space for cargo in cold storage is inadequate for the quantity offered, the space shall be allotted to the several shippers on the basis pro rata of the average of previous shipments, and in all cases fresh-made creamery butter shall have the preference over other cargo.

Mediterranean Fruit

The cargo of the second fruit steamer to arrive at Montreal with oranges and lemons was sold there on May 12. The attendance of buyers was good. About two-thirds of the cargo of lemons were sold for United States account. The cargo consisted of 5,000 boxes and 5,000 half-boxes of Messina oranges, 1,000 boxes and 7,610 half-boxes of Catania oranges, and 17,500 boxes Messina lemons, 6,000 Palermo, and 4,000 Catania. The following are the prices realized: Lemons, finest, \$2.70 to \$3.10 per box, choice at \$2.30 to \$2.50, and common at \$1.20 to \$2.10, and the oranges sold at \$1.95 to \$3.20 per box, and at 90c to \$2.40 per half boxes. The prices of lemons were about equal to those of the first sale, but oranges showed a decline of 30 to 50c per box.

T. L. Metcalf, solicitor for John S. Douglas, recently in the fur trade at Winnipeg, has issued a statement of claim at Montreal against L. F. Neadinger, Soles, of Montreal, and R. McLellan and D. Fraser of Winnipeg, for \$5,000 damages. The action arises out of the arrest of Douglas in Montreal a short time ago on a charge of obtaining goods with intent to defraud. The defendant was acquitted on a preliminary hearing.

Binder Twine.

The Consumers' Cordage Company, of Montreal, the Kingston Cordage Company, of Kingston, Alex. Main & Son, of Hamilton, and the Continental Twine & Cordage Company, of Toronto and Brantford have entered into an agreement for the sale of binder twine this season. They offer a rebate of 8 per cent. on all purchases of cordage, etc., from 4,000 lbs. up to 20,000 lbs., and 5 per cent. on all purchases exceeding 20,000 lbs. This offer it is understood is good to parties only who buy exclusively from the concerns mentioned above.

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