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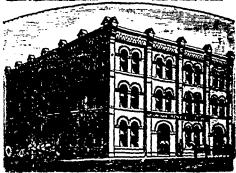
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WINNIPEG. DECEMBER 15, 1885,

NO. 12

The Commercial

Journal devoted to keeping a comprehensive record of the transactions of the Monetary, Mercantile and Manufacturing intensits of Manufacturing intensits of Manufacturing and the Canadian Vorthwest.

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JAS, R. STERN, Publisher.

WINNIPEG. DECEMBER 15, 1885.

No. 1 wheat is worth \$1 per bushel at Edmonton.

THEBEROE & SON have started a bakery at Manitov.

J. Everall has opened a furniture store at Nechawa.

JAMES GORDON will open a lumber yard at Crystal City.

W. J. BARBER will open a general store at Prince Albert.

Powerl, of Winnipeg, will open a butcher shop at Neepawa.

The out-put of the Galt coal mine at Lethbridge is 300 tons pe. day.

N. BAWLF, of Winnipeg, has leased the Johnston elevator at Minnedosa.

DAVIDSON & HAMILTON, general storckeepers, Neepawa, are closing out their business. McIntyre & DavidsonThave opened out as watchmakers and jewellers at Minnedosa.

Kenn Bros., general storekeepers, late of Batoche, are opening up business at La Salle.

Thos. Broad, of Winnipeg, has opened a grocery en Mein street, opposite the railway depot.

THE Carberry Miling Co. has been changed into the Carberry Milling and Brewing Co., limited.

WATSON & CORVANY, carrying on business as hotelkeepers. Winnipeg, have dissolved partnership.

W. H. Muckle, general storekeeper, Neepawa, is trying to arrange a compromise with his creditors.

J. F. LAWLER, general storekeeper, Glendinning, is giving up business there, and opening up at Killarney.

Over 300 head of fat cattle have been shipped from Gladstone station during the year, finding a market in Wianipeg.

GURNETT & Co., hotelkeepers, grocery and liquor dealers, Port Arthur, are giving up their grocery and liquor business.

G. W. McLAREN, druggist, of Manitou, has bought out J. W. Smaill in the same line at Crystal City, which business he will continue as a branch.

THE anthracite coal deposits near Banff, on the C. P. R., have been visited by American capitalists, and it is reported that they will be operated shortly.

THERE appears to be a scarcity of cars for shipping grain from stations on the C. P. R. west. Local papers are complaining of a lack of transport facilities.

The early closing movement is receiving attention from the merchants of Port Arthur. It is expected that arrangements will be made for the closing of all stores at 7 o'clock during the winter.

THE newsdealers and stationers of Winnipeg are the last to fall in line in the early closing movement, they having agreed to close their places of business at 7 c'clock after the first of January.

FARMERS and merchants at Neepawa and vicinity are agitating for a stock company to build a flour mill and elevator at that point.

The civit elections in Winnipeg yesterday resulted in the election of Mr. Wesbrook as Mayor by a majority of 270. A good council was elected, composed of five of the old Aldermer and seven new ones.

The merchants of Calgary are endeavoring to arrange with the C. P. R. for two trains per week during the winter season, instead of but one train, as has been customary heretofore after the 15th of December.

HOWARD, of Birtle, has opened a branch of his general store at Solsgirth, the terminus of the Manitoba & Northwestern railway. Nelson is opening an hotel in the same place, and grain buyers are expected in a few days.

The annual crop of applications for railway charters is now sprorting, and Brandon seems to be the central point for these schemes. The charter for the Northwest Central is to be renewed, and a new company are applying for a charter to cover the same field. A charter will also be asked for the Rock Lake, Souris & Brandon Railway, and another for a line of railway from Brandon to the Souris coal region.

THE annual meeting of the Northwest Commercial Travellers Association was held in the Grand Union hotel, in this city, on Saturday evening. The annual statement of the association was read and showed a very prosperous state of affairs, the membership having nearly doubled during the year. The election of office- bearers for the ensuing year followed, when most of the old incumbents were re-elected. the following being the choice Mr. Thos. Johnson, president; Mr. J. J. Fanning, vicepresident; Mr. M. N. Porter, treasurer; Mr. G. M. O'Loughlin, secretary; and Messis. Joseph Campbell, E. Griffin, Fred Chilcott and W. R. Carscaden, directors. The subject of insurance was discussed, and it was decided to secure a \$1,000 accident policy for each member. A committee were appointed to draft a letter of condolence to the winow of the late Mr. W. Higgins. After arranging for the annual dinner of the association on the 23rd inst., and ome matters of detail, the meeting adjourned,

Business East. ONTARIO.

Jas. Kelly, grocer, Sarnia, has sold out.

Jas. Kelly, grocer, Samia, has sold out.

Thos. Johnson, grocer, Seaton Village, is dead.

G. G. Cruickshank, notelkeeper, London, bas sold out.

A. Brockie, grocer, Paisley, has sold out to D. Shanks.

E. B. Reid, baker, Alliston, has sold out to John Bryce.

Mrs. M. A. Graham, milliner, Toronto; stock damaged by fire.

Geo. Offord, Jr. shoemaker, Port Arthur, has assigned in trust.

Thos. Mossop, hotelkeeper, Toronto, has sold out to Wm. Boyd.

S. Zoelinsky, druggist, Kleinburg, advertises his business for sale.

J. C. Smith, hotelkeeper, Oshawa, has sold out to S. G. Bennett.

James Scanlan, shoe maker, Stratford; stock sold to Thos. Lawson.

R. J. McGill, general storekeeper, Greenock, has removed to Blyth.

David Shanks, general sto exceper, Turner's has removed to Paisley.

W. H. Watson, general storekeeper, Blyth, has sold out to J. McGill.

George Gunder, of the Ridgetown Grist Mill, Ridgetown, has assigned.

Alex. McFarlane, general storekeeper, Suton, is removing to Claremout.

Michael Sullivan, hotelkeeper, Markdale, bas sold out to D. McLean.

L. N. Morrison, carriage maker, Blymer, advertises his business for sale.

B. H. Rothwell, bookseller, Brantford, has sold out to H. R. Blackwood,

A. J. Arnold, hotelkeeper, Port Elgin, has sold out to Sparling & Milkie.

S. Ostrander, stove dealer, Tilsonburg, is selling out to R. T. Williams,

Barton, Thompson & Co., coffee and spice manufacturers, Toronto, bave dissolved; style now Barton, Son & Co.

OUEBEC.

E. C. McKay, hotelkeeper, Gould, has assigned.

E. Shutan, tobacconist, Montreal, has assigned.

Thos. Webster, toilor, Montreal, has assigned.

H. Cromwell, confectionery dealer, Montreal, has assigned.

Thos. J. Samson, hotelkeeper, Victoriaville, has assigned.

M. Feiner, clothing manufacturer, Montreal, has compromised.

Vezina & Guyon, general storekeeper, Vercheres, have assigned.

Thos. E. Mahoney, hotelkeeper, Paresboro', is giving up business.

J. A. Gadoua & Frere, confectionery dealers, Montreal, have assigned.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Joseph Dobson, grocer and hotelkeeper, Sydney, is dead.

Peter Campbell, general storekeeper, Port Hastings, has assigned.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Josephus Howard, grocer, Moneton, has assigned.

Wm. Davidson, general storekeeper, Tracadio, has gone out of business.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Bartholemew Pickard, grocer, Chatlett-town, is dead.

Are All Hand Fire Grenades Humbugs?

Mr. P. G. Tower, B. S. of the agricultural college at Lansing, Mich., has made some experiments regarding conditions of inflammability and efficacy of fire extinguishers. A Harden hand grenade was opened, and the solution contained qualitatively analyzed. It consisted of common salt, sulphate of lime, and a small amount of acetate of sods. The principal in gredient was common sait. Upon trying a number of these grenades upon a bonfire, no effect was visible. Very fortunately at thia time a general agent for the company was in the vicinity and consented to give an exhibibition of the fire-extinguishing qualities before the students of the institution. Being provided with a vertical platform of pine boards, six by eight feet in size, he poured kerosene on the wood and then costed the surface with pitch. Setting this on fire he allowed it to get well to burning, and then throwing in rapid succession six of the pint grenades, he succeeded in rearly extinguishing the fire. Taking the exhibition as a fair example of what the greundes could do in skilled hands, the effort was made to determine (1) whether the solution in the grenades had any more extinguishing power than water; (2) if the solution had extinguishing power greater than water, what was the essential ingredient in the solution.

The question that first arose regarding the composition of the grenades was: Did they contain carbon di-oxide gas, or any substance that would give up the gas when heated? Opening the grenades under water and collecting the gas that escaped, it was found that the average amount of carbon di-oxide contained was about one cubic inch per grenade. Boiling the solution liberated a slight amount of gas in addition; but altogether the gas was not enough to be of any practical benefit in extinguishing the fire. It was then certain that the extinguishing power was in the solution itself. Replacing the solution in the grenade with pure water the extinguishing power, while greater than water thrown from a dish upon the flaming boards, was still much less than the power exceted by the solution.

By a careful series of trials we found that the essential ingredient is common salt. From a number of experiments it was found that when a grenade, or bottle containing a strong brine, was broken, in the midst of the burning kerosene, the flames were almost instantly extinguished. A vapor seemed to spread in all directions from where the salt solution struct the board, extinguishing the flame as it went. Strong solutions were also made of sulphate of sode, by rosulphite of soda, borax (bi-borate of

soda), and bi-carbonate of soda and tried as extinguishers. Some worked ac well, but none any better than salt in extinguishing fire. The experiment was then tried of charging bettles with brine and generating carbon di-oxide by by adding lime dust and sulphuric acid and corking tightly. No practical increase in extinguishing power from this addition was noticed. In most instances, the carbon di-oxide gas escaped from the bottle inside of four days, proving that it is impracticable to attempt to use glass vessels with corks as a means of storing CO2, under pressure for fire extinguishing purposes.

The conclusion arrived at from these and many more experiments, was that the Harden grenade solution possessed much greater extinguishing power than water alone, and that it owed this power to common salt held in solution. We then constructed some lome-made grenades, using flat bottles, bound together side by side with wire. Using two bottles in this way insures their being broken on striking the burning body, which would not always occur when only one bottle was used. Bottles thus charged with brine and bound together were broken side by side with the Harden grenades and found equally valuable. It thus appears from the experiments that any person can construct as good and effective grenades as those offered on the market at \$7 and \$10 per dozen. Bottles filled with brine and placed around the premises, will afford considerable protection, especially when used on the flames when the fire just begins. Salt solutions have the further advantage of not being easily frozen, never enough to burst the containing bottle.

The Lewis hand fire extinguisher was next investigated. This instrument consists of a tin tube about two feet long, containing 34 fluid ounces of a solution consisting of a sulphate of soda in weak caustic ammonia. From the trials made we could not notice any appreciable superiority over the salt solution, as used in the Harden grenade. It has the disadvantage of not being made to break by being throwa, but must be opened by having a cork extracted from one end of a tin tube, requiring a smart jerk. The solution is then sprinkled on the fire by the operator. The principal value of this form of extinguisher must consist in the advice to the consumer printed upon the outside of the instrument, to "keep cool-not get excited, each, which, seeing that he holds the tin case in his hand while distributing the contents on the flames, allows him to consult and follow this most excellent advice .- U.S. Miller.

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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 15, 1885.

THE HOLIDAY TRADE.

The season for holiday goods has once more come round, and for the past two or three weeks quite a respectable proportion of the wholesale trade of this and other cities have been busily engaged, in supplying calls for such.

A year ago we called attention to how much the holiday trade had gained in commercial importance during the present century. How less than a century ago it was a kind of windfall only to the itinerant vendor of toys, sweat-meats and such like, whereas now it caused quitea stir in at least one-half of the branches of trade. The comparison gives a very decided proof of how our commercial ideas are guided to a great extent by our social customs or religious beliefs, or perhaps as some will say, how our aptitude in trade matters enables us to turn social customs and religious observances to commercial profit. This is probably the true way of putting the matter, for in trade matters our conscience does not trouble us as much as theologians would wish; for the Christain manufacturer of Birmingham or Massachusetts can manufacture metallic gods, for a heathen to bow before, or the vessels for a Christain altar, provided there is profit in the job.

But after all the Christmas holiday trade is a powerful factor in socializing mankind engaged in trade. Its work in this respect can be seen by looking over the variety of presents given at one time in a western village. On the same Christmas tree hang the cuttlery of Sheffield, besides the laces of Malta; the toys of Leipsic besides the rude ornaments of the American Indian, or the finished piece of New-England mecanism besides the awkward and quaintly ornamented utensil from the Celestial Empire. While mixed in strange confusion are the manufactures of Old and New England, the polished knick-knackery of France and Germany, the spider like textures of Italy and India, the coral of the South Sea Islands, and useful and ornamented articles from almost every part of the universe. Here we have the products of every family of mankind, a sort of communism of industry met to add enjoyment to the day which Christains annually rejoice to see come

round. Undoubtedly the cheering influences of the Christmas time bavespread themselves widely since the present century ope red, and this spread is mainly due to the energy and ingenuity of mon in commercial pursuits. Christian theo. logians have labored for centuries, to make the day one in which all the world would rejoice and while they have made some progress in their work, they cannot show such a record in that direction as trade enterprise and ingenuity furnishes for the century now well run. Trade therefore is a socializer as well as a civilizer of mankind, and there is probably no branch or part of it, which has so much effect in this direction as the sale of holiday goods, and especially Christmas holiday goods. may therefore feel satisfied that this holiday trade has passed gradually from the hands of the pedlar, until it causes some commotion annually in wholesale mercantile, and even in large manufecturing centres.

COLONIZATION COMPANIES.

There has been many a joint-stock concern floated in connection with the settlement and development of the Canadian Northwest, and while many of these have accomplished much good work, and turned out prosperous concerns, many more have only been so many barnacles clinging to the country, and drawing support from it, but contributing very little if anything in return. Then we have another class, which might best be grouped under the heading of unnecessary, and organized seemingly only to appply joint-stock principles of manag e (of mis-management) to what in the ordinary course of progress, would prosper better without any such arrangements. The most prominent among such joint stock institutions must be included the colonization companies of the Northwest, and o have no hesitation in classing every one of these companies as unnecessary and cumbrous pieces of machinery, which it would be well for the Northwest if they had never existed.

From the pioneers, and especially the farming pioneer of a western country the cry against the middleman is often loud and bitter, and it no doubt does occur that the cry is at times misdirected, and sounded against those, who although middlemen, are as useful individuals as a new country can possess. The colonization company is a middleman institution, but

we cannot class it among the useful ones and we have yet to see where its usefulness comes in. So far as the company's services to the immigrant are concerned, they simply locate him on a quarter or half section of prairie or blutt' land, and allow him eight or ten years to pay from five to fifteen dollars an acre for what he could procure from the Dominion Government for a homestead fee and pre-emption payment. The other advantages given for the extra land price are a few patro. nizing attentions from the agents of the company, and the satisfaction that in the district where he is located the new settler will find for his neighbors other patronizing dupes like himself. Whether or not these are sufficient advantages for the burdens he has to assume, and the years of trial he has to undergo before he feels financially free, the immigrant would be able to judge for himself, were he in a position after reaching this country, to make a choice between the offers of the company, the Government or the private individual with lands for sale. But unfortunately such immigrants as take colonization company's lands, are hard and fast bound before they reach here, and have no choice left except the one allowed to that well known individual Mr. Hobson, and as a rule they are too poor to pull up stakes and make a new choice after they are located.

It will thus be seen that the settler, who is brought to this country by a colonization company, pays by far too much for the few favors bestowed upon him, and starts life in his new home badly handicapped, compared with the man, who takes advantages of what the Government offers to all bona fide settlers. Now the advantages to the country he is settled in are equally few, and equally dearly paid for. The country receives a lot of settlers, who for years to come must be bolstered up and enabled to make a living and pay the interest on the load they carry, and who in some instances must for many years to come be consumers only to the extent of the barest necessities of life. Were such sacrifices on their part likely to be to the eventual benefit of this country, they might look forward to great public benefits, in which they as well as others might share. But they are in almost every instance toiling to support well paid agents of the company they have been duped by, who enjoy the comforts of an eastern or European city home, and

preach the glorious prospects of a country the hardships of which they never dream of sharing. As yet the shareholders of such companies have not received heavy profits from their investments, and while the system of extravagant blundering in their management is continued, these profits are not likely to be very heavy.

To sum the matter up, the colonization company is an organization, which sup plies 160 acres of land to the immigrant at from \$5 to \$16 an acre, which he, the immigrant can secure from the Dominion Government for a homestead fee of \$10 altogether. The balance between these opposite extremes is squandered as above indicated, and squaudered in such a way as to allow no benefit to either the settler or the country he settles in. Assuredly the colonization company is one of the most unnecessary joint stock concerns the Northwest has been afflicted with, and when we consider how their influence at Ottawa has been used in the past in misdirecting railway construction in this country, so that Southern Manitoba, where they held no lands, has been neglected, although better settled than any other district of the Northwest, we have a clear proof of how mischievious their selfishness has been.

But we have now a few things for consolation in connection with these companies, and the first is the grim satisfaction that their stockholders have made no profit out of their investments, and that no more will follow their foolish example, much to our relief. Then we have the assurance of the new Minister of the Interior given at the Press Banquet in Winnipeg lately that the aims of the Governmen, for the future will be for the actual settler, and against the land speculator. If such a policy be adopted, then the colonization company must go, for above all others it is the worst system of land speculation, and one in which the profit is too often based upon the toil, sweat and blood of the struggling pioneer.

STORED GRAIN.

We are now in the busiest part of the grain shipping season, and the Northwest is fast emptying out its crop of the preent year. There are special circumstances too, which stimulate the Jesine to get grain out of the country, and the most powerful one is the aim to get all wheat touched with frost into flour and in consumption during the winter months, so as

not to take any chances of its heating or otherwise spoiling with the return of warm weather in the spring. Our shipping record is not a very bright one at present so far as grades are concerned, and no doubt forms rather a dark contrast to what it will be when our cound wheat held back until the opening of lake navigation begins to move.

Heavy as our exports may now seem, when compared with those of 1884 or 18-83, the wheat is now moving out as fast as could be wished, owing to lack of cars on the C.P.R., a want for which the managers of the road are not to blame, but which is the result of wheat being sent east by all rail on that road instead of being stored at Port Arthur. Naturally the 700 to 1,000 miles extra of a haul demands a much heavier supply of cars to overtake the export work, and these the company do not yet possess. consequence of this is that at almost every roadside station west of this city there are thousands of bushels of wheat stored, sometimes in a very imperfect way, awaiting cars to carry it east. In Ontario and in the Centeral States they have been visited by blizzards of late, which have materially hindered railway traffic, even in these old settled parts of the country Notwithstanding all that has been said about the wild winters of our Northwest, we have had proof during the past three years that we are not so liable to these traffic-stopping blizzards as they are in either Ontario or the Central and Western States, a day's railway block from such a cause not having occured here during all that time, Still we are not bebeyond the reach of a blizzard, and should one occur at present, the quantity of east bound grain, which would be blocked up at roadside stations, would in a few days put a stop to all buying from the farmers as buyers would have no room for storage. Even were the storage capacity doubled at these points, the inconvenience would be great to dealers, for the handling of grain in store at points where no warehouse receipt can be used for banking security, is a pastime in which millionaires may engage in, but which is beyond the ability of men of limited capital. Besides banks here and elsewhere are not so scarce of funds, but they would be pleased to have some more employed in crop handling.

We have had many appeals made to us r storage elevators in this city, and we

believe the peculiarities ca our crop this year have only added another. Instead of hundreds of thousands of bushels of wheat being stored and waiting for shipment at points where no banking facilities could be had, the short havl to a centre like this, where if storage elevators were, bank funds would be available, would be a big relief to those engaged in the grain trade, and from this it could be moved leisurely during the latter portion of the winter, and all the financial advantages offered by banks made use of in its ship-

Many arguments of a most convincing character have been used by the advocates of storage elevators at this city, all of which have been based upon a sound wheat crop to store. But we believe a partially damaged crop like what we have this year, or a worse damaged one like in 1883, only adds potency to those that have been used. We hope, therefore, that when the crop of 1886 comes to market, Winnipeg will not be in its present helpless state with regard to storage facilities.

THE CIVIC ELECTION.

The annual contest for civic honors in Winnipeg is over, and while such contests always leave regret somewhere, the citizens have reason to be satisfied with the results Mr. Wesbrook the sucof yesterday. cessul candiate for mayor owes his majority of 270 purely to the fact of his having been in the field before his opponent Mr Crowe, and but for the groundless charges against the latter, trumped up by some of his opponents supporters that majority would undoubtedly have been larger. The equally groundless charges of Mr. Crowe being put forward by Mr. Norquay's Government would no doubt have reduced the majority, but for the prompt denial of any responsibility of making the charge on the part of Mr. Wesbrook. While we welcome Mr. Wesbrook as cur new Mayor, and have the fullest f ith in his desire and ability to guard the city's interests, we state that Mr Crowe has no reason to be ashamed of his record either as alderman or as may orality candiate.

In the aldermanic elections the city has gained some valuable new blood, and retained some of the best of the old. the whole, however, we do not think the Council of 1886 will be an improvement upon that of 1885. But we are satisfied that it contains no very dangerous elements, and we have reason to trust that the work of getting the city out of the sink hole it was plunged into by the Councils of 1883-t, will be vigorously pushed, and if it is so, with the recovery in trade which is now setting in, our new Council will be able by the close of next year to give a good account of their

stewardship.

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50 KING STREET.

WINNIPEG, -MAN.

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Corner of William and Princess Streets

WINNIPEG.

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

Moretary affirs in the city are still moving Along in their steady flow, and without any marked features about them. In commercial circles the circulation of money thoughout the country has been making quite a marked impression upon the volume of trade discounts. Quite a large share of the transactions which formerly went into paper with the opening of each menth, were paid and discounts secured in November, and this month retailers are doing even more in that way. As a consequence commercial paper at the banks is by no means too pleutiful, and by no means as much so as bank mauagers wish. More than one complaint has been heard during the week that business of this kind is getting much lighter. The scattered demand for promiscuous discounts is also very limited owing to similar causes, so that outside of the funds called for in the handling of the crop, the banking field is now rather circumscribed, and a competition for business is fast making headway. Rates of discount are now quoted 7 per cent. for first class paper: 8 to 9 for ordinary and 9 to 10 for promisenous or good one name. Loans on real estate mortgage are still in steady demand in small amounts but no new heavy transactions are reported. Payments of interest generally are coming in freely, and with the exception of some old boom day business which is still in a shaky condition. affairs in this line are in a satisfactory condition. Interest rates on new loans are quoted at 8 to 10 per cent., while first class heavy transactions could be made at 7 to 71c.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

In wholesale circles of the city during the past week the evidence was very plain that the business of the winter season was coming very near to z close, and the little activity which was apparent in many branches had attending symptoms which indicated the close at hand. In season goods the sorts called for were evidently the last wants of a season, and although varied in their extent reached a very limited aggregate. In lines dependant upon building and contracting the same was the case, and demands were those of men hurrying to complete a contract before the close of the year. Still in all these lines there was a feeling of satisfaction, and in some, which opened the spring with very poor pro-pacts, the results of the latter half of the season have been gratifying. Goods of every day consumpt have shown no falling off in the volume of sales, but in a few have slightly increased, especially in those affected by holiday demands. In farcy lines of a purely holiday character business reached quite a rush, and the aggregate of such sales promise to be far in excess of those of last year. These are the only lines in which there was any bustle, although in staples sales held up well above an average, but were made in that steady going strain which causes least trouble for the amount of business done. In collections the report is naturally much less definite than our last, as since the fourth of the month the volume of money falling due has been very light. But no complaint regarding cash returns was heard from any branch, and a few instances

came under our notice where country customers had remitted to meet obligations maturing in January. Altogether collections are unusually free, and the falling off in sales which has taken place is only natural at this time of the year.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

During the week a few cutters and bob sleds have been called for, but beyond these there were no sales reported. The work of making collections still goes on satisfactory, and each house without exception has furnished a very satisfactory report in that respect. There are some slow payments reported, but the number is very small compared with the poor expectations expressed two months ago.

BOOTS AND SHORS.

This branch has reached a very quiet state so far as sales of winter goods are concerned, and last week's aggregate was certainly a small ove. There has also been a slight falling off in sales of goods from spring samples, but this is not unlooked for before the holiday time. The collections report, however, is very satisfactory.

CLOTHING.

Like other season lines there has been a quiet feeling in this branch during the week. Calls for winter sorts were few and light, and orders for spring delivery have also fallen off quite a little since December opened, and are expected to be a little slow until 1886 opens. There is still the same satisfactory report on collections, and a feeling of hope and satisfaction pervades the trade.

CROCKERY AND OLASSWARE.

In this line basiness during the past week has continued fairly good with the principal trading still in fancies to meet the requirements of the holiday season. In staple lines there was also a pretty fair demand, and collections are reported as having been very good.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

In this trade a pretty steady business has continued all through the past week with a fair average of sales, the demand predominating from the outlying country towns. Collections are also said to have been satisfactory.

PANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

In this branch there has been real activity during the past week, and fency lines for the holidays have been in big demand causing a bustle and activity which taxes the working powers of wholesalers. The sales of the week, however, have been confined almost to fancies, there being scarcely any call for staple goods. Collections are reported very satisfactory.

DRY GOODS.

In this staple branch there has been almost nothing doing in the way of sales, only an occasional sorting order being received. Stocktaking is now over with all the houses, and the work of preparing samples of spring goods has commenced, and it is very likely that travellers will be on the road with these before January is out instead of holding off till near the end of February as was done in 1884 and 1885. As yet consignments of spring goods are not coming in, but quite a large quantity of these are now on their way here. There are still the same satisfactory, and in some cases enthusiastic reports regarding collections.

FIGIE

The trade in fresh fish during the past week has continued fairly active, the supply being pretty fair and apparently able to fill all wants at present. Sales are still being made at 5c for round lots and 5ic for smaller quantities. A good supply of smoked haddocks are now on the market, and these have been selling off very well at 11ic. Salt white fish continues to sell off at 4ic a lb in half barrels. The only saltsea fish as yet in the market is Labrador herrings which brings \$8 per barrel; and Salmon which brings \$17 per barrel, \$9 per half barrel and \$5 per quarter barrel. A car load is on the way and should be on hand shortly.

FRUIT.

In this trade business is reported as having been rather quiet during the past week, but matters should show a decided improvement within the next week or so as the holiday demand should set in by then. Florida oranges are now on the market and are selling off at \$7 to \$7.50 per box; California pears are easier at \$4.50 to \$4.75; and Oregon pears at \$4.25 to \$4.50; Fancy colored apples at \$5; Southern cranberries from \$9 to \$11 per barrel; Lemons \$6.50 to \$7.00 a box; Valencia raisins \$3.25; London layer raisins \$4 to \$4.25; Black Crown \$5.25 to \$5.50 and black baskets in or. boxes \$1.35 to \$1.45; Malaga grapes \$8 to \$8.50 a barrel; Walnuts 20ca lb; almonde, 20c a lb.; filberts 124c a lb; pecans, 16c a lb; peanuts 16c a lb; figs 18 to 20c a lb, and dates 10c a lb.

FUKL.

In this line business is reported to have been quite lively during the last week owing, to the increased demand brought on by the cold weather which set in lately. Round lots of tamarac are now quoted by dealers at \$5.50 to to \$6 delivered, and poplar at \$4 to \$4.50 delivered. The price laying on track would probably be 75c less. Hard coal is quoted at \$10.25, and soft at \$8 delivered. Galt coal also at \$8.

FURNITURE.

? this line business is stated to have kept up fairly well during the past week owing to a good demand in the city, while country orders appear to have been rather few, and these very light. Collections are reported as satisfactory and showing some improvement.

GROCKRIES.

In this staple trade there has been steady activity all week, while the approach of the holidays has added an increased demand for fancy lines. There will probably be no falling off during the balance of this year, unless during a day or two at the Christmas time. Collections are reported free and satisfactory. Prices of staple lines are still unchanged, although the quotations of last week are somewhat strained in the upward direction. They are as follows: sugars, yellow 61 to 71c; granulated 84c; lump 104 to 102c. Coffees, Rios 13 to 15c, Government Java 32 to 33c, other Javas 22 to 27c Moc'as 31 to 34c; Teas range, Moyune gunpowder 25 to 70c pun fired Japan 23 to 45c, basket-fired 25 to 40c, Ping Sucy young hyson 20 to 30c, Moyune young hyson 25 to 50c, Season's congous, 1885-86, 20 to 55c

HARDWARE AND METALS.

In this trade there is no material change noticed this week excepting perhaps that light hardwares have been quieter if anything, and heavy metals have been moving along in a quiet way. Collections have continued quite satisfactory. Prices are unchanged, the following being dealers' quotations: cut nails, 10d and larger \$3.50 to \$3.75; I.C. tin plates, \$5.50 to \$5.75; I.C. tin plates, double, \$11 to \$11.50; Canada plates, \$3.50 to \$3.75; cheet iron, \$3.00 to \$4.50, according to grade, iron-pipe, 40 to 50 per cent. off list prices; ingot-tin, 25 to 30c per lb.; galvanized iron, 26 gauge, 7 to 74c per 1b., according to quality, bar-iron, \$2.50 to \$3. per 100 lb.; shot, 6 to 64c a lb.; tarred felt, \$2.50 to \$2.75 per 100 lbs.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

In this branch business during the week has remained rather quiet owing to a falling off in the demand. Collections are stated to have been very good. Quotations being as follows: Spanish sole, 31 to 33c; slaughter sole, 33 to 35c; French calf, first choice, \$1.40 to 1.50; domestic 85c; B Z calf, \$1 to 1.10; French kip, \$1 to 1.10; B Z kip, \$5 to 90c; slaughter kip, 65 to 75c; No. 1 wax upper, 50c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, 33 to 35c for plumb stock; American oak sole, 60c.

LUMBER.

In this branch of trade business during the past week has not shown any material change or improvement since our last report. There appears to be still a few orders coming in now and again, the larger number of these being from the country, apparently only to fill immediate wants which have arisen in different perts of the province. The aggregate of sales taking it all through have been less this week than before, and are seemingly falling off and not much activity is expected before spring trading sets in.

PAINTS, GILS AND COLORS.

In this trade business on the whole has been very good during the past week owing to an active demand in the city, especially for glass and such other articles as bave been brought into demand by the cold weather which has set in. Collections were fairly good and prices have remained unchanged, quotacions being as follows: Linseed oil, raw 75c per gal, boiled 78c; sea oil, steam refined, \$1.10; castor, 15c per lb; lacd, No. 1 \$1.25 per gal.; olive, \$1.50 to \$2, according to quality; machine oils, black 25e; oleine 40c; fine qualities, 50 to 73c. Coal oils, headlight, 25c; water white, 30c. Calcined plaster, \$4.25 per bbl.; Portland cereat, \$5; white lead, genuine, \$7.73; No. 1 \$6.75; No. 2, \$6.25 and window glass, first breed., \$2.50.

SADDLERY AND HARNESS.

In this branch of trade some improvement is also reported owing to the better demand which spring up in the event of the cold weather we are having of late, while collections are reported as satisfactory on the whole.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

This business is reported to have continued very good during the last week, the lively deniand of the previous two orthree weeks having tept up, this being also exhibitanted by the delight samples.

mand for holiday goods. Collections were also very good.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

In this trade business on the whole was fairly good last week, although the demand was rather quiet in the city, the principal orders rec ived having been from the country. Collections are reported as having been rather slow. Quotations are as follows: Gooderham & Wort's, 5year old, \$2.75; 7 year old, \$3.25; old r. 9, \$1.80; Jules Robin brandy, \$4.50 Bisquet, Debouche & Co., \$4.75; Martell, \$6; Hennesy, \$6.50; DeKuyper gin, \$2.75; Port Wine \$2.25 and upwards; Sherry, \$2.25 and upwards; Jarraica rum, \$3.50; DeKuyper 1 and gin \$11 per ease; DeKuyper green gin \$6 per ease; Martell and Henessy's brandy \$13.50 per ease of 12 bottles.

THE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

The past week has shown a decided falling off in the grain movement all over the province, and a corresponding falling off in the receipts to and passing this point. The principal cause for this has been the searcity of cars on the C. P.R. caused by the heavy all through by rail shipment to the east. Other causes have been at work, and among those the direct one of a decrease in receipts at most of the leading points along the main line and branches of the C.P.R. The local mills too have been stocking up in flous, most - them being likely to close down for a considerable time for repairs after the holidays. In this way flour shipments to the east have also been light, and will continue to be so during the balance of this year. In provisions the business done has been rather above on average, and prices have been well mancained. Dairy products have been slightly upward in their tendency, while meats have been sterdy. Altogether the provision business of the week has been satisfactory and much more active than that of grain.

WHEAT.

During the latter part of the week east-bound receipts were increasing, but they were mostly of damaged lots, while the receipts of higher grades were very light. Prices are practically unchanged and in ear lots range as follows: No. 1 hard Soc, No. 2 75c, No. 1 northern 75c, No. 2 65c, No. 3 60c, No. 1 regular 70c, No. 2 65c. No No. 3 was received. Frozen lots ranged from 30 to 60c and as high as 65c for those only slightly touched.

STAD.

Receipts have been moderate and huyers not too keen. As yet there is no chance of shipping to eastern markets, owing to prices. The local demand is therefore the only one yet, and that has not been over active during the week. Car lots range from 25 to 28c, the latter figure being paid only for choice.

BARLEY.

As yet we have heard of none being shipped east, and it would not pay to do so at present prices. In the city some small lots of discolored went at 30 to 35c, while 45c was offered for hight samples.

FLOUR

The shipments to eastern points have falle, off very materially during the week, and malers are adding as rapidly as possible to therstocks in the city, as the largest mill will show down for several weeks for repairs commencing with the holidays, and it is probable that other will follow a similar course although not for so long a period. A stock to last through the time of silence is therefor being piled up. The tocal demand still holds out good, and eastern markets are still safe to ship to were the stock available. There has been slight drop in prices of the two highest grades, and quotations are now as follows: patents, \$2.45; strong bakers \$2.15; XXXX \$1.70, and superfine \$1.30. to \$1.40.

BRAN AND SHORTS,

The demand has been quite active all week, and although millers' have been anxious to increase stocks in view of shutting down they have not been able to make any material mercase. Sales of ear lots have been principally for local points and have been made at \$9 per ton for bran and \$11 for shorts.

POTATOES

Cold weather has caused receipts to fall off considerably, but the stock in the city is large and prices nave not been affected by the felling off. The demand locally holds good, but no car lots can be shapped during the present weather. Small lots have sold at 10c, but car lots can be had at 35c.

FUGS.

The local supply of fresh is now so light that wholesalers get none of it, and only imported lots are offered. Good fresh lots are quoted at 28 to 29c, but ordinary packed can be had at 26c. It is altogether likely that good fresh will bring over 30c before the current week reaches a close.

CHEESE.

The demand has continued rather light during the week, and as a rule only prime lots were asked for. The local supply has been quite liberal, but quite a large share of it still goes direct to the retailers, especially that brought to town by small makers. Medium lots still sell at 9½ to 10c and prime at 10½ to 11c. Some extra fine Ontario lots have been held at 12 to 124c.

BUTTER.

In this product there has been very little change since our last report, only the easier feeling noted then has given away to one of firmness, and an advance in price of higher grades might take place, were not the supply available so liberal. Some importations from the east have tilled the market, and although there is nothing approaching a glut, the supply on hard is heavy. Luckily the stock of medium and low gr. des is not so hervy, as the demand for them is anything but active. The following are the quotations of dealers: Gilt edge 22c, prime dairy 20 to 21c, mediums 13 to 16, low grades 8 to 10c.

BACON

There has been a rairly active demand during the week, especially for the finer qualities, but stocks are heavy and that of local cured is on the increase, and car load lots can be filled on call. Prices have been steady and have ranged from 7½ to 9 for dry salt, according to size of lots; smoked 9 to 10c; rolls 11½ to 12½c, breakfast bacon 11½ to 12½c.

2KAH

The demand has been fairly active all week, only smoked being called for. Local cured have been selling steadily at 13c, while castern have been quoted at 13fc. The gap between the two is gradually closing up.

MESS POPK.

Sales have been few and light during the week, and no improvement is locked for during the balance of this month. The stock in the

city is moderately heavy. The few ba changing hands have sold ot \$15 to \$15.50. The few barrels

MESS DEEF.

There has been very little done during the cek, and the quotation of \$15 may be considerpurely nominal.

LARD.

The demand has been fairly active during the cex, and was confined to pails which have sold at \$2.25 for local product, and \$2.40 for eastern.

DRESSED HOGS.

Receipts have been steady and moderately heavy, while prices have scarcely changed, \$7 being the unvarying quotation.

MINNEAPOLIS.

Trading has been very active on 'change the past week, despite the idleness of the mills and the rather ciratic course of prices in other markats. Ine demand from outside mills keeps up well and it is certain that northwestern spring wheat flour will reach a wider range of consumption this year than ever before. A mixture of it is being used in mills all over the land. This will result in advertising its good qualities more effectively than any other method which could be devised and will create a demand for it in many quarters even in years when the winter wheat crop is good- This is the tenor of letters to our grain dealers and elevator men from their milling patrons. Receipts of w cat here have been very light, so that the tracks have been pretty we'll cleaned up, shipments having been quite large. Cold weather, good roads and the recent advance in prices will undoubtedly cause free marketing for the coming fortnight, at least, but the lack of storage here may hold receipts down until there is a general resumption of work by the

The highest and lowest wheat prices by grade on 'change during the week ending today, closing prices, and the prices one year ago were:

Wheat. Highest. Lowest. Closing, 1884 No. 1 hard . 911 .. 869 .. 903 " I north'a 86 S23 82 661 " 2. .. 81 77 61

Futurer were strong and higher, January 1 hard selling up from SS3 to 921e and closing at 917c: February went from 89 to 93c, and closed at 92½c; May went from 92 to 99c, and closed at 98le; January 1 northern sold up from \$4 to \$61c, and closed at \$53 May went from 92 to 92c, and closed at 92c.

Coarse grains were steady, corn closing at 41 to 421c, for old and 32 to 35c for new; No. 2 oats at 28 to 29c barley, by sample st 45 to 75c, and -ye at to49 to 57c.

MILLSTOFFS-Continue dull, owing to light supplies, bran selling well at \$7.50 to 7.75, and shorts slow at \$\$.50 to 9.50 per ton in bulk.

FLOUR.-The market shows little change and no improvement, though the prevalence of genuine winter weather nearly all over the country has begun to have effect in stimulating demand. It is certain that production is far below consumption at home, to say nothing of the sitnation aboad, and rapid exhaustion of the abown in the appended table

stocks must ensue if millers will remain idle or ran lightly the rest of the month. This course, it is believed, will, after the holidays, put flour up to a parity with wheat and make a good ma. ket. If, however, the mills are pushed for a fortnight, the "holiday dullness" which will follow will sicken the most sanguine of them.

Quotations for car or round lots at the mills 210 na follows : Patents, \$4.75 to \$5.00 straights \$4.40 to 4.65; first br kers', \$3.75 to 4.00; recond bakers', \$3.15 to 3.30; best low grades, \$2.10 to \$2.25, in bags; red dog, \$1.50 to \$1.60 in bags.

These quotations are on flour in barrels, except as stated. The rule is to discount 8(c per bbl for 280 and 1to th jute bags, 20c for 98th cotton sacks, 15c for 49th cotton sacks, 10c for 24th cotton sacks, and 20c fer 49th paper sacks.

Last week closed without notable event, except that the flour production was the lightest for a number of years. The oniput of the five mills that ran amounted to 12,607 bblsaveraging 5,101 bbls daily-against 73,870 bbls the preceding week, and 152,800 bb's for the corresponding week in 1884. This week there are a number of mills that are endeavoring to run, but since Monday they have not succeeded very well. Sunday's "cold snap" had the effect of greatly lowering the water in the river, and since then the power has been very poor. On Monday the water was ten feet or more lower in the canal than on Saturday and only one or two of the smallest mills could run. It imploved somewhat yesterday, however, but with a number of the larger mills drawing on it, the head varied considerably and was poor at the hest. The lack of water is supposed to be largely due to ice gorging in the river above, a thing not unusual, and holding the water back, and it is believed that the difficulty will be remedied partially at least by a few day's time. The opinion obtains, nevertheless, among mill mea that there will be a shortage of water power from this on. At noon to-day there were nine mills in operation, but the power was not good, there being only about eight feet of water in the canal against fifteen a week ago, and the mills were not getting along very well. The capacity of these mills is 13,000 bbls, 3,600 bbls of which is operated by steam. Two more, representing 1,800 bbls, will be started to-morrow. One other, of 1,400 blils, will be put in metion Monday, and probably others. Millers report the demand for flour rather more active, but prices are no better.

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

RECEIPTS.

	Dec. S.	Dec. 1.	Nov. 24.	
Wheat, bus	323,680	607,040	935,760	
Flour, bbls	715	575	875	
Millstuff, tons	116	203	150	
	SHIPMENT	·s.		

Dec. S. Dec. 1, Nov. 24 127,680 222,390 185,920 Wheat, bus Flour, bbla 25,235 155,237 14,825 Millstuff, tons ... 915 1,464 3,574

The wheat in store in Minneapolis clevators, as well as the stock at St. Paul and Duluth, is

		MINNEAP	OLIS,	
			Dec. 7.	Nov. 30.
No. 1 hard		••	2,727,818	2,230,016
No. 2 hard			7,078	7,778
No. 1			51,935	51,935
No. I Norther	n	• •	1,818,025	1,716,366
No. 2		••	7,436	7,436
No. 2 Norther	n	• •	755,208	777,549
No. 3	• •	• •	5,385	5,871
Rejected		• •	75,124	78,878
Special bins	• •	•	1,205,628	1,150,121
Total		••	6,242,637	6,025,250
		ST, PA	UL.	
in elevators,		Dec. 9.	Dec. 2	Nov. 25.
bush	ì,	232,000	1,081,700	1,025,000
		DULUT	m.	
		Dec. 7.	Nov. 30.	Nov. 23.
In store, bush		3,838,70	5 1,947,945	2,146,680

CHICAGO.

—Northwestern Miller.

There has been a steadiness about this macket during the past week, which furnishes a marked contrast to the wild and nervous fluctuations which occurred during the previous week. But there was also an absence of the buoyancy in prices, and the bullish element seemed to have spent their power and were unable to force matters any further. There was, however, no indication that they were likely to concede much of what they had gained, and although Monday opened with a weaker feeling in wheat and a corresponding inclination in other products, the decline which took place was very little and the fluctuations were of a scalper' kind. For some reason inexplicable to anyone Tuesday developed a firmer feeling and Monday's decline was recovered, although there was no outside influences of a bullish character and the firmness was entirely due to local causes. Later in the week it was expected that the news of Vanderbilt's death would cause a little consternation amongst operators and produce a marked effect upon the market, but this event seemed only to produce expectations without results, and prices were scarcely affected by it. Even the armistic in Eastern Europe and the almost certainty that the Baikan war is at an end produced no remarkable turn in affairs, and altogether the market was a lazy and motionless one, although the aggregete of basiness done in some lines was moderately heavy. Opinion is general that most products are now at about a fair intrinsic value, and that only a purely speculative move. ment can make any marked change in prices. In wheat especially there is but little hope of such a movement, as the visible supply is still too heavy for any cornering to be attempted and few banks throughout the country care about advancing heavily for speculative purposes. Altogether the market has been for the past week wonderfally free from strong speculative influences.

On Monday the business in cash wheat was moderatively active, but there was a quictness in speculative deals and not much done that way, although offerings at slightly lower figures

than those of Saturday were free. In corn there was a fair shipping demand, but no speculation to speak of, while there were scarcely sales of oats outside of cash, and for immediate wants the demand was fairly active. Pork and lard were both quiet and the sales few. Closing quotations were:

					Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	t		• •		\$9.871	\$0.871
Cora					411	351
Oats					287	287
Pork		••		. •	8.95	9 90
Lard	••				6.00	6.10

Tuesday opened with an undecided feeling among wheat operators, although with an impression of coming lower prices, but contrary to general expectation the feeling grew firm and higher prices were reached. The trading was purely local and outside influences brought to bear were of very tittle weight. Corn opened weaker, but recovered later, although receipts were much beavior than was expected. Outs were lifeless all day. Pork and lard were dult and inclined to be weaker. Closing quotations were.

				Dec.	Jan.
Whea	t			 \$0.873	\$0.58±
Corn				 42}	39
Oats				 29	283
Pork	• •	••	••	 8.95	9.95
Lard	• •			 6.05	$6.12\frac{1}{2}$

Ou Wednesday the news of the death of W. H. Vanderbilt made some predict a general drop in prices, but after all there was nothing more than predictions. Wheat ruled a little lower than on Tuesday, but the decline was a trivial one and firmness returned considerably near the close. A marked falling off in receipts seemed sufficient to counterbalance all the effect the death of the great millionaire had. Corn was in fair demand, but was a shade lower. Oats were very little in demand and prices steady. Pork and lard were moderately active, but prices were changed very little. Closing quotations were:

				Dec.	Jan.
	••	••		\$0.873	\$0.873
	••			417	352
••				29	284
	• •	• •		8.871	9.873
••	••	••	••	6.05	6.10
			•• •• ••	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	\$0.878 41½ 29 8.87½

On Thursday the market opened with a decidedly weak feeling and some operators looked for a heavy drop in wheat, but were disappointed in this, for while prices ruled a shade lower, any attempt a real break was definally met by the bulls. Advices from both New York and Liverpool were unfavorable, and to these may be attributed the slight decline. Corn was in fairly active demand for immediate delivery and prices held firm, while oats were lifeless and almost without a fluctuation. Pork and lard were steady and with prices firm. Closing quotations were:

	• •				Dec.	Jan.
Whea	t.	••	••		\$0.861	\$0.867
Corn					411	391
Oats	••	••			285	287
Pork	٠.		••		8.90	9.85
Lard	• •	••	••	••	$6.02\frac{1}{2}$	6.10

On Friday wheat opened weaker, but there

was an attempt to bolster with European war probabilities, and although no advance was secured thereby, the figures of Thursday were maintained, notwithstanding reports of an easier feeling in New York and Liverpool. Reported heavy exports from New York and Baltimore assisted the firm feeling, which was maintained to the c'osing. Corn was rather week and free from speculation, although receipts were unusually light. There was nothing doing in oats beyond cash sales. Pork and lard were both stronger, and more active, and advanced slightly. Closing quotations were:

				Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	ե	••		£0.861	\$0.868
Corn	• •			411	381
Oats	• •	. •		283	283
Pork			٠.	9.00	9.975
Lard		• •	 ٠.	6.05	6.123

On Saturday the market again opened with a week feeling in wheat, which the bulls were unable to stem properly, although they made a determined stand. Cable advices were weak and the European war rumors of the previous day were all exploded. The movement in prices was downward, but the decline after all was but slight. Corn was dull and with few fluctuations, while oats were neglected. Pork and lard were both very firm and active, with prices tending decidedly upwards. Closing quotations were:

				Dec.	Jan.
Wheat				86	86g
Corn	••			40 1	381
Oats		 		282	283
Pork				9.10	10.074
Lard	••		••	6.05	6.125

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

The stock market during the past week has shown a decided firmness, and an upward tendency in most leading bank stocks. In no case was the advance very marked, but with two or three exceptions a gain has been made more or less, and with the exceptions the decline has been slight. Two marked features have been the firm upward tendency of Northwest Land Co.'s stock, and the fact the Federal has at last reached par, and has been hovering around it all week. Closing bids of Wednesday's, 2nd and 9th of December, give an index to the market's tendency, and we subjoin them:

				Dec. 2.	D	ec. 9.
Montreal	••	٠.	••	1993		200
Ontario			••	1033		105
Toronto	••	••	••	183		184
Merchants	٠			114;	• •	1133
Commerce		••	••	123		120}
Imperial	••		••	125		125
Federal	•			981	٠.	100
Dominion		••	••	1991		200
Standard				120		1202
Hamilton			••	125		125
Northwest	Land			573		571
	GRAIN	AND	PROVIS	sions.		

During the week there has existed a feeling of indecisior in grain circles, what has had its effect in lessening the transactions in wheat, but has had no apparent effect upon prices, which have given straight evidences of this pre-

vailing feeling. Millers have been insisting that wheat must go down or flour up, as they can not manufacture at present prices, while their efforts to bring the figures of each to a satisfac tory level have been unavailing. There has been nothing in European markets upon which any rise in either could be based, and at the same time there has not been sufficient foreign weakness to warrant a decline in wheat here. Local influences are powerless to make any marked change, and antil there is some strong evidence of a decrease, or at least no further possible in the visible supply, is would be use less to predict any marked turn in prices. As might be expected such a state of affairs has kept up the uncertainty, and has produced a kind of steadiness in prices from this very uncertainty, neither sides being willing to make a move without something definite to guide them. Barley furnishes a market contrast to wheat in the higher grades at least, which have been scarce and quickly taken when offered. In provisions the movement has been moderately heavy. In dairy products there has been a slow feeling which is gradually disappearing under Christmas demands, and even lower qualities have been going with comparative freedom. In meats there has been a moderately active feeling all round, and prices have held fairly firm, although no appreciable advances have been made. In both grain and provisions there has been holiday signs appearing, and it is very probable that for two or three weeks a careless inactivity will prevail.

WHEAT

Business has been at a standstill during the entire week. Very little wheat has been offered in this market and the demand has not been in excess of the supply. Prices have consequently remained nearly nominal, with a slightly noticeable tendency toward a firmer feeling. No. 2 fall sold at about 84 to 85c, and later in the week one cale of several cars was reported at 861.c. No. 2 spring is quoted at from 86 to 77c.

OATS.

A good local demand has existed for oats all the week and receipts have been well taken. Prices have held firmly at quotations given for the previous week. Car lots on track still self at from 33 to 34c, the latter for white milling samples. Street sales from farmers' wagons range from 35 to 36c.

DARLEY.

With the closing of navigation the demand for barley for shipping purposes has been greatly reduced. The local demand for high grades continues good, but of these receipts are limited, really bright samples being scarce. The supply of interior qualities is more than sumple for the existing demand in these grades and consequently values for such are easier. For No. 1 90c has been offered without bringing out any samples of this quality. No. 2 sold at Slc, No. 3 extra at 71c, No. 3 choice at 66c, and No. 3 at 58 to 59c.

RYE.

is still quoted at 66c, but there is so little call for this grain, that the price may be considered as merely nominal.

PEAS.

The demand for this cereal is light and quite in proportion to the stpply, which is coming forward slowly. Offerings during the week have been limited to a few cars, which sold at the invariable and unchanged quotation of 61c. Loads offered on the street brought 62c.

POTATORS.

have come to hand more freely in car lots, but with a corresponding decrease in street re-Prices for car lots on track ranged from 47 to 50c, with as ligh as 52c paid for one car of very choice. Prices per bag on the street have been from 60 to 65c.

EGGS.

Really fresh are very scarce. Round lots of these have readily commanded 20c. The supply of pickled is excessive and rates have been slow at 16c; small lots of fresh sold on the street at

The situation in butter is uncharged. A good demand exists for choice dairy at 15 to 16c, but very little is obtainable. Farmers' rolls are ofsered more freely, but are generally of inferior quality and sell slowly at 13 to 15c. scarcely any demand for poor to fair grades, and with these the market is glutted. Dealers now refuse to receive further shipments of low qualities. Bakers continue to buy in small lots at from 7 to 10c. Street receipts are light with 22 to 23c offered for choice pound rolls, and 14 to 16c for crocks.

Steady and fair demand choice sells at 9 to 91c, and inferior at from 61 to 7c.

PORK.

Unchanged at \$13. A steady demand has existed all the week at quotation.

The supply continues very light and prices are held firmly. Long clear brings 7c; rolls \$\frac{3}{2}\$ to 9c, and bellies 11 to 11\frac{1}{2}\$. Cumberland ut is not obtainable in this market at present.

LARD.

Is in good demand for pails. Tinnets are scarce. Pails sell at 9 to 93c, with 83 offered for tinnets.

POULTRY.

The demand for dressed poultry is good and receipts which are coming forward freely are steadily takeu. Quotations for box lots are, 9 to 10c per lb. for turkoys, and 6 to 7 for greese. Ducks are worth 50 to 60c per pair and chickens 20 to 40c per pair. chickens 30 to 40c per pair.

Receript have been limited to offerings on the street, no car lots having come to hand during the week. Prices are therefore given for street sales only, where sales were made at figures varying from \$1.25 to \$1.75. A few extra choice lots sold at \$2.

Commercial Summary.

Special telegrems to Bradstreet's this week report a fairly satisfactory condition of general trade. The movement of merchandise is of moderate volume, notwithstanding the fact that retailers generally are not buying freely just previous to the perior at which it is customary to take account of stocks. At various leading trade centres business is uneven, yet dealers appear to be confident of the future. This is conspicuous at Boston, At Chicago jobbing has been unusually active within a week, notwithstanding the fact that the aggregate of November transactions was disappointing. At St. Louis there has been a moderate improvement in various lines. This is teve at other points, notwithstanding the fact that mild and pleasant weather has proved a drag. At eastorn sentres dry goods have been in better de mand and the outlook is that the aggregate of sales for the current year will exceed that for 1884. Were it not for the very material check

during November the excess would be conspicu-Stocks of print cloths have been reduced, and prices, although unchanged, have an upward tendency again. Wool is practically unchanged. Coarse wools, owing to the continuation of the demand for rough woolen goods, are firm. Supplies at the seaboard have been diminished, and there has been a good deal of speculative activity. Fine fleeces are weaker and steels are full. The movement of grocery staples is disappointing again in all lines. Butter has slightly improved, but cheese is still depressed, with a limited export demand. There has been a good deal of comment on a reported advance of \$1 @ \$1.50 in the price of pig iron at Pittsburgh. The news, as heretofore reported, is erroneous and misleading. Bessemer pig iron, within ten days past, as heretofore noved in Bradstreet's, has advanced \$1 @ \$1.50 at New York as well as at Pittsburgh. At the latter place the makers of forge iron have made a nominal advance of 50c. per ten for ordinary pig. No si ccial sales are reported at that figure. Pittsburgh pig irons do not figure in the eastern market, and no advance is noted or expected here prior to New Year's. The grain market has been lower and and higher again. The decline in the quantity of wheat affoat is responsible for the late advance in that grain. Petroleum is dull and low under manipulation. The total number of failures reported to Bradstreet's since Januery 1, 1885, is 10,333, against 10,467 in a like portion of 1884, a decrease 134. The total number in a corresponding portion of 1883 was 9,062; ia 1882, 7,296, and in 1881, 5,605. For the past week the total was 247, against 225 in the preceding week, as compared with 296 in the first week of December, 1884, 246 in 1883, and 247 in 1882.

Appreciation of Gold.

The appreciation of gold is a subject which is attracting the attention of commercial menindeed, a certain school of political economists do not hesitate to attribute the existing depression to this cause. If the appreciation of gold is due to its scarcity, then we admit that commercial enterprise would suffer. It is an escertained fact that hitherto values have moved in alternating cycles of inflation and depression, but it has not been proved or, we believe, even suggested, that scarcity of gold has always accompanied depression in trade. On the contrary, low values and diminished powers of consumption have generally beer accompanied by a super-abundant supply of the precious metal. The late Professor Jevons worked out his theory as to the effect of "spots upon the sun," to suen perfection, that his views received the support of many whose opinions on commercial matters were received with attention. Professor Jevons carried his researches back to the commencement of the 18th century, and he succeeded in showing that the appearance of spots on the face of the sun had always precedthe advent of cycle of depression. We cannot deny, indeed we frankly admit, that the condition of the sun's surface seems to effect the state of trade on our planet. The ripening of the world's harvest is dependent on solar heat

and when we receive a well regulated supply, the reapers of the world gather in an abundant harvest, which increases the purchasing power of agricultural nations. Those who assert that the scarcity of gold is depreciating the value of commodities, state that to meet the requirements of the world the gold currency ought to be supplemented by the coinage of thirty millions of gold annually but that the present rate of gold production is estimated at only ten millions sterling per annum. Every alteration in the value of commodities might be termed an appreciation or depreciation of gold. If the existing depression in values is owing to the diminished supply of gold, and if, as some writers ascert, this scarcity is not temporary, but is likely to increase rather than to diminish, then there is every prospect of a continuous appreciation of gold. We ..re thus compelled to face a very serious problem, which Mr. Moreton Frewen las demonstrated in the October number of the Nineteenth Century. Mr. Frewen argues that the appreciation of gold, or the increase of its purchasing power, induces capitalists to place their money out at interest rather than to invest it in industrial entermise. gold continues to appreciate during the remainder of this century, the capitalist, who hoards his money and passes his time in idleness, will in the year nineteen hundred be richer than the man who now possessing an equal amount of capital invests it in industrial enterprise. The appreciation of gold offers a premium to idleness and discourages the investment of capital in manufacturing industries. We will illustrate our meaning and prove our assection by a supposition. In this year of grace 1885, two men, A and B, are each possessed of a capital of one hundred thousand pounds. A invests his money in the erection of a manafactory, while B places his out at interest. In 15 years B decides to become a manufacturer, and he finds that owing to the appreciation of gold he can erect works in every way equal to the manufactory built by A 15 years previously at a much lower cost. If the appreciation of gold is to continue, anyone embarking in business, say 15 years after B, would possess the same advantages aver B which B possessed over A. The permanent appreciation of gold might be a blessing to the monied classes, but it would be a great obstacle in the path of those whose labors is their capital. The demonitization of silver has been one of the great factors in the appreciation of gold; and the construction of the supply from Australia and California has crowned the efforts of those who have sought to increase the purchasing power of gold. The disorganization of the bi-metallic strndard, places England and other countries whose coinage is based ou gold at a disadvantage when dealing with silver currency countries. Indian wheat grower pays in "depreciated silver" the cost of producing his wheat, but the English consumer pays for the produce in "appiciated gold," and the margin between the value of gold and silver constitutes, the abnormal profit of the Indian producer. We hope that the Reyal Commission enquiring into the depression of trade will thoroughly sift the evi dence as to the appreciation of gold, its effect of which we may receive too much er too little, | in the past, and the probable consequence of

further depreciation in the future.—London Iron Trade Exchange.

Recent Legal Decisions.

BANKRUPTCY—WAIVER OF PENFFIT OF DISCHARGE.—The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania held, in May vs. Merchants' and Mechanics' Bank, that it was contrary to public policy to permit a debtor at the time of entering into a contract to agree to waive the benefit of a discharge in bankraptcy which might be thereafter granted. The bankrupt act, the court said, was inteaded for the good of the community rather than that of the individual directly concerned, and that therefore it was not proper that he should be allowed to neutralize its provisions by making such a waiver.

Contracts of Sale-Depective Merchan-Dise Descision.—A shoe manufacturer, purchased a lot of leather in which there was a latent defect not disclosed to him till a part of it was manufactured into shoes and put to the test of actual wear. The Supreme Court of Maire held (Downing vs. Dearborn, reported in Albany Law Journal), that the manufacturer could then return so much of the leather as was unmanufactured and have credit for the same, especially as it had been customary between the parties for him, to receive credit for leather returned at various times that was not suitable for use.

MUNICIPAL BONDS-HELD VOID-CORPORATE PURPOSE -Where bonds a city were issued under an ordinance submitted to a vote of the people and adopted thereby, which authorized the mayor to borrow in the name of the city the sum of \$60,000 "for the use of the said city, to be expended in developing the natural advantages of the city for manufacturing purposes," and provided for the issue of bonds therefor, and the bonds, when issued, were given to an agent of a private corporation to be by him expended in the improvement of the wa'er power upon certain rivers within the city, and he negotiated the same to a person then residing in the city, the Supreme Court of Illinois held (Mather vs. The City of Ottowa), that the bonds so issued were void for want of power in the corporte authorities to issue the same.

ASSIGNMENT-NOTE-RELEASE. - The assignce of a note, after he had brought suit against the maker, and had attached ample property to pay the debt, entered into a contract with the maker, without the knowledge or consent of the assignor, whereby, in consideration of part payment, he not only agreed to dismiss the action, but bound himself that no suit should be brought on the assigned claim for two months from that date, and that he would make no further claim against the maker uptil all of the maker's other creditors had been paid a certain per cent. of their claims. The Kentucky Court of Appeals held (Motch vs. Hill) that this was a new and distinct contract, which relieved the assignor, and that the cote having been assigned in payment of a tract of land purchased by the assignor from the assignee, the lien retained by the assignee, the vendor, was

DELIVERY BY CARRIER-DELAY-MEASURE or Damages,-The measure of damages against a carrier when he fails to deliver goods in a reasonable time, in the absence of special contract, is the difference between the market value of these goods when actually delivered and their value if delivered in a reasonable time. So held by the Supreme Court of Georgia in the case of The Columbus & Eastern Railway vs. Floureov et al., decided Nov 17. The court held in this case that the question whether goods shipped are delivered by the carries within a reasonable time is a question of fact for the jury, and depends on the facts of each case, including the time ordinarily requir d for carriage between the two points, the preparations made by the carrier, whether ample or not, the effort at dispatch, the information given to the shipper of peculiar reasons for speedy transit and delivery, tre character of the freight, and kindred circumstances.

LUSSOR AND LESSEE-FIRE-LIABILITY FOR RENT Under a lease when provided for a suspension of rent until any damage by fire which might occur should be repaired, the lessor and lessee agreed, as to a fire which took place near the end of the term, that the former should contribute the insurance money toward rebailding, provided the latter made beneficial alterations in the new election. The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania held that this agreement was sufficient to enable the lessor to exact rent from the time that the place was again put inco working order, although part of the premises were not restored, and further, that the tenant, by holding over, as he did, for a period of several years, after the end of the term, became ipso facto bound to pay the rent provided by the lease in such case, without regard to the unrepaired condition of the premises or the effect of the agreement as to rebuilding. Betz vs. Delbert, reported in the Philadelphia Legal Intelligence

INFRINGEMENT OF PATENT - CELLULOID COMBS,-The case of the Celluloid Manufacttring Company et al. vs. Noyes et al. was a suit for an infringement of letters patent granted in 1880 to one Booth for an improvement in the manufacture of combs from celluloid and analogous material. The device consisted in the application of a stream or jet of water to or near the saw while the teeth of the comb were being cut. The United States Circuit Court for the District of Massachusetts dismissed the bill for want of novelty. Colt, J... said: The use of water upon a saw or cuttingtool to inbricate it, diminishing friction and consequent heat, is old. It has been used in making combs, rings, piano-keys and numerous other articles out of ivory, mother-of pearl, rubber and other materials, and it also appears that it has been previously applied to sawing knife-handles of celluloid. In view of the well-known and common use of water upon a cutting-tool, we must hold this patent void for want of invention. In dealing with a material of the character of celluloid the use of water upon the saw would seem to suggest itself to the most ordinary mechanic.

MERCANTILE AGENCIES — LIBEL — PARTICU-LARS OF PUBLICATION,—In the case of Smith va. Dun etal, a suit brought ngainst the proprietors of a mercantile agency for libel, Judge Morris, of the United States District Court at Bultimore, required the plaintiff to furnish a bill of particulars as to when, how and to whom the alleged libelous publication was made. This rule, us will be seen, makes it necessary for the person sung to disclose the name of the subscriber furnishing the information.

THE LAW AS TO "FUTURES" - The following statement of the law regarding sales of property for future delivery was made by the Lousiana Supreme Court in the case of Commor et al. vs. Robertson: 1. Sales of property for future delivery, with the bona fide intention and obligation to make actual delivery, are lawful contracts; but, if under the form of such a contract the real intent be merely to speculate on the rise and fall in prices and the goods are not to be delivered, but the contract to be settled on the basis of difference in price, the contract is a wager and is non-actionable. 2. In order to effect the contract the alleged illegal intent must have been mutual, and such intent by one party, not concurred in by the other, will not a ail. 3. The law presumes lawful purpose until the contrary is proved, and when one party charges illegal intent, the burden of proof is imposed upon him. 4. The validity of the contract depends upon the state of things existing at its date, and is not affected by subsequent agreements under which the parties voluntarily assent to a settlement on the basis of differences. 5. The mere fact that at the date of his contract the vendor had not the goods and had made no arrangements for obtaining them, and had no expectation of receiving them unless by subsequent purchase, does not suffice to impair the contract. The contrary doctrine once announced is now thoroughly overruled. 6. It follows that the failure to identify the particular goods sold does not affect the matter, because the sale is not of ascertained articles, but of articles of a designated kind, quantity to be selected thereafter, which is a lawful contract when the obligations are reciprocal.

LIABILITY OF BANK-DEPOSIT-CONVERSION. The owner of money entrusted the same to his employer to deposit for him in a bank at interest, and the employer made the deposit in his own name, the bank knowing whose money it was at the time. The employer afterwards endorsed the certificate to the owner, who deposited the same in a safe to which his em ployer had access, but gave no notice to the bank until rfter his employer had taken the same and had drawn the money thereon and nad it placed to his personal account. He did then inform the bank of his rights, but afterwards he treated the transaction as a loan to his employer for over three years, expecting him to secure the same, during which time he made no claim on the bank. The Supreme Court of Plinois held (Dewar vs. The Bank of Montreal), that under the facts the owner of the money so deposited could not maintain an action of trover against the bank for a conversion of the money, for the reason that he had by his acts clothed his employer with an apparent ownership or control of the money, and had acquiecsed in the payment of the money to him for so long a time and treated the transaction as a loan to his principal.—Bradstreets.

General Notes.

In November, 25,006 bushels of wheat were shipped from Neepawa.

Two hundred and eighty lots have been sold on the Government reserve at Calgary, at an average price of \$70 per lot.

SAVINGS banks were instituted in England sixty-eight years ago. They are now in operation in fifteen European States, and have sixteen millions of depositors.

Ś

An estimate of the value of new buildings in Toronto for four recent years gives the following figures:-1882, \$1,757,630; 1883, \$1,506,-740; 1884, \$2,033,245; 1885, \$2,344,300.

THE signs x and ., it is said, were first used by Christopher Rudolph about 1524. The sign = was tirst employed by Robert Recorde in 1557, because, said he, "noe 2 thynges can be moare equalle.'

IT is reported from St. Petersburg, that ar rangements have been made for the exportation to Germany of Russian petroleum. Of the 400 wells in the vicinity of Baku, only half are being worked. An American company has been formed to build pipe lines to tide water. The production of the section has steadily increased antit it has amounted to 1,300,000 tons.

Almost a year ago, counterfeit fives on the Bank of British North America, of the issue of 1877, were being passed, and the Bank took pains to remove that issue from circulation. The "blue" note of ISS4 replaced the others, which were destroyed as they come in. But within ten days a new edition of the counterfeit V has appeared printed on better paper.

A report from Minneapolis says that there is a general feeling among lumbermen that the prospects are of the best. Careful estimates put the total log cut of the coming winter upon the upper Mississippi and its tributaries at 550,000,000 feet. The distribution of these logs will be about 300,000,000 feet to Minneapolis and the balance to mills above that point. About 5,500 men and 2,000 horses and oxen will be employed in the woods during the

THE Submarine Telegraph Cables of the world are owned by twenty-six different companies and represent an aggregate capital of one hundred and seventy five million dollars plan has been recently proposed that the nations of the world form an international syndicate, purchase these lines, fix a uniform toll rate bar ely sufficient to pay a low interest on the cest, and give to the paralle the benefits of cheap rates. Although backed by some prominent names in England, the idea has not received much attention, and would seem to be some. what utopian.

THE Ottawa Citizen says :- Messis. II. Shorey & Co., wholesale clothing manufacturers, of Montreal, have issued circulars anouncing their intention of removing their establish nent to Ottawa owing to the prejudice which exists against Montreal goods on account of the smallpox epidemic in that city. This firm is one of the largest manufacturers of elothing in Canada, and will give employment to a large number of bauds.

It is a curious fact, which is not widely known, that the heavy copper consumption of India is due largely to a religious rite of the At certain seasons of the year small caps of sheet copper about an inch in diameter and an inch and a half deep are filled with rice, and are thrown into the rivers as an offering, with religious ceremonies. The quantity of copper thus angually consumed is very heavy, India sheets being an important article of commerce.

Impervious Corks.

Corks may Le made impervious by soaking them (best quality) for several hours in a solution of one half ounce of glue or gelatine in a mixture of three-quarters of an ounce of glycerine and one pint of water, heated to about 50° Cent. Such prepared corks may be rendered nearly proof against acids and other chemicals if they are dipped, after thorough drying, for tea or fifeen minutes into a melted mixture of four parts of paraffin and one part of petrolatum.

EOCENE.

WATER WHITE.

SUNLIGHT.

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Wheat buyers at all Shipping C.P.R. Stations.

Canadian Pacific Railway (WESTERN DIVISION)

WINTER TIME TABLE.

In effect Dec. 13th 1885.

READ	OMAMANO !	READ
DOWN.	STATIONS.	UP.
שליוויטע.	, ~	
GOING HAST.		GOING WEST
7.00 p.m.	Ly 2 Winnipeg 3 Ar	3:00 a. m
12.40 a. m	Rat Portage	2.10 a. m
8 40 9 111	La trace	7.45 p. in
1 00 5	I.v 2Winnipeg3 Ar Rat Portage Ignace	12.30 6. 11
T'OO b' m'	o Acc tt. Arthur 2 LN	12.00 m. 111
	<u> </u>	
GOING WEST		GOING BAST
8.30 a. m.	I v 2 Winnipeg2Arr	t 6.84 p. m
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1 12.00 00 11.	Carberry	
1,20 p. m.	Carocity	1.45 p. m
3.00 p. m.	Brandon	17 11.00 a. m
5.30 p. m.	Brandon	7,45 c. m
6.45 p. m.		1 0.15 a, m
1 9.00 p. m.	I Broadview	3.45 a. m
1,00 a. m.	Qu'Appelle	1.00 a, m
t 3.15 a. m.	Regina	11,15 p. to
5 45 a. m	Ar3) 141a	1 8,55 p. m
6 15 m m	ILYR > JIOOSO Jaw } AA	8.50 11
1 2.00 p. m.	Ar 3 Moose Jaw 34 Lv Lv 6 Moose Jaw 7Ar Swift Current	8.25 p. m 1 12.45 p. m
1 2.00 p. m.	Manla Canal	4 m 40 lv III
1 8.00 b. m.	Maple Creek Maple Creek Modleine Hat Gleichen Calgary 9 Lv 1 Canmore 12 Ar Lagran Palliser Ar 11 Donald 12 L	7.10 a. m
12.45 a. m.	Modicine Hat	2.30 a. m
f 9,45 a, m-	Gleichen	f 545 p.m
† 1.50 p. m. j	Calgary	1.50 p. m
† 7.25 p. m. l	Arr 61 Commons 1 9Lv	8 45 a. m
3 00 a. m.	Lv 11 Canmore (12Ar	+ 5.35 pm
16.10 a. m	Lagran	2.10 p. m
419 01 n m	Palliant	9.55 a. m
1 A 00 p. 111.	Am 12 Donald 103	5.00 a. m
4.00 p. m l	Ar II Donaid. 1215	7.00 a. m
BOING MOUTH	n .	ODINO NORVE I
19.45 a. m.	Lv 1Winning Ar	t 5.25 a. m
12.15 p. m.	Dominion City	2.25 a. m
12 40 p. m.l	Lv 1WinnipegArDom:nion City ArrEnuerson1 Lv	2.52 a. m
10.00	Uv 2Winnipeg2 - r	14.33
18.15 s. m.	UV z Winnipeg 2 x P	10.20 p. m
11.00 a. m.		3.30 p. 111
†11.45 p. m.)		2.15 p. m
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12 15 p. m.	L. 1 Rosenfeldt 2 A c Morden	11.45 a. m
2.10 p. m.	Morden	9.25 a. m
4 00 n m	A=9 Meulton 9Tv	8.00 a. m
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10.05 a. m.	Arr Stonewall 9 Lv	1.30 p m
COLVO & W I		00150 N R.
001X0 8. W.	Lv 10WinnipegArr	GOING B.
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10 10 a. m	Headingly	5 00 թ. ու
† 1.15 p m	Arr { End of Track } 10 L.	
-	" { .M'n. S. W. B } L.	f 2.30 p. m

Trains west of Cammore subject to cancellation at any t me without notice.

/ Dining stations

1 Daily. 2 Daily except Sunday. 3 Delly except Monday. 4 Daily except Saturday. 5 Sundays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. 6. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. 7. Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays. 8 Mondays and residays. 9 Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. 10 Mondays and Wednesdays. 11. Thursdays. 12. Fridays.

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