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

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No. 28.

The Commercial

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WINNIPEG, APRIL 12, 1887.

H. B. ROSE, tailor, Winnipeg, has assigned in trust.

SCOONS & Co., auctioneers, Winnipeg, have sold out to Hutton & Co.

JAS. WHITE, tinsmith, Rapid City, is adding hardware to his business.

THOS. ORMISTON has opened a blacksmith shop at Fort Qu'Appelle.

W. D. COATE, druggist, Rat Portage, will open a branch at Keewatin.

KERR & SIBBALD will open a grocery and butcher shop at Rapid City.

JOHN WEYMSS, barrister, of Winnipeg, will open a law office on Neepawa, Man.

THERE is some prospect of a drug store and a lumber yard being opened at Stonewall.

F. DIXON, of Elkhorn, has rented the Ottawa house, Virden, from J. Cobb, the late conductor, who will go into farming.

H. G. JOHNSON, general storekeeper, Shellmouth, Man., has assigned in trust.

PEDDIE & Co., agents and importers, Winnipeg, have moved to No. 31 Princess Street.

HEADLY & STRIPP, hotelkeepers, Boissevain, Man., have dissolved partnership. Headly continues.

HUNT & DICKSON, grocers, Winnipeg, have dissolved partnership. The business will be closed out.

BLAND & VEASEY, of Fargo, Dakota, have bought out the photo business of Parkin & Co., of Winnipeg.

HALPENNY & Co., wood, brick, etc., Winnipeg, have dissolved; Halpenny continues under same firm style.

E. PENNER & Co., general storekeepers, have opened a tin shop in connection with their Morden business.

DURING March the C.P.R. land agent at Calgary, disposed of 1962 acres of land, at an average price of \$4 per acre.

THERE is a movement in northwestern Manitoba to separate from the western judicial district, and establish a new judicial division.

J. CRERAR, barrister, of Minnedosa, was presented with a meerschau pipe and an address, previous to his leaving that place for Birtle.

THE butchering business carried on in the Winnipeg, city market by S. Knight, will hereafter be conducted by Knight & McKittrick.

A BUCKET-SHOP has been opened at Brandon, and the speculative fraternity of that place are being initiated into the mysteries of Chicago options.

THE Rat Portage council have decided to purchase a Ronald steam fire engine and 2,000 feet of hose. Debentures will be issued to raise the necessary funds.

SECRETARY J. O'Loughlin, of the Northwest Commercial Travellers Association, has received notification that the certificates of the association will hereafter be honored and entitled the members to reduce fares at any stations on the eastern division of the C.P.R. Up to the present the members were only entitled to consideration on the western division of the road.

FARMERS in Southern Manitoba are said to be taking considerable lumber this spring, which indicates that building is going on to some extent in that part of the province.

H. C. McQUARRIE has secured the blacksmithing business formerly carried on at Stonewall, by John Montgomery. The latter will continue his hardware business at the same place.

THE C.P.R. are calling for a supply of beef by tender, for the Pacific division. The beef will have to be procured in the territories principally, owing to the short supply in British Columbia.

A SECOND company has been formed to prospect for oil in the Lake Dauphin district, Man. Experts who have examined the territory claim that the indications are most favorable for a very rich find.

THE fifth annual report of the Canada Northwest Land Company says the sales of farm lands and town sites were satisfactory last year, that settlement is increasing, free homesteads are being rapidly taken up, and that a material increase of sales is expected in the near future.

THE annual meeting of the Manitoba Mortgage Investment Company was held in London, England, recently. The report was satisfactory, and a dividend of eight per cent. was declared. To increase the sphere of operations of the company, it was proposed to increase the capital by 25,000 preference shares of £10 each.

THE following persons, who are to be the first directors of the proposed company, have applied for incorporation, under the name of "The Manitoba Packing and Provision Company (Limited)": T. J. Montgomery, agent; George W. Girdlestone, insurance agent; John S. Aikins, agent; J. A. M. Aikins, barrister; William H. Culver, barrister; William Ferguson, pork packer, and George H. Balfour, bank manager, all of the city of Winnipeg. The object of the Company is to carry on business in slaughtering and curing beef, pork, and deal in stock, produce etc. The amount of capital stock is placed at \$50,000, in shares of \$100 each. This is the company which a short time ago secured from the City Council the privilege of carrying on a slaughtering business on Point Douglass avenue east.

THE activity displayed in buying up property offered at tax sales of late may be taken as a good indication of improving confidence in the future of the country. A number of tax sales have been held lately in some of the rural municipalities, and all have proved remarkable successful. The bidding has been spirited, and good prices were usually realized.

THE *Canadian Manufacturer* will shortly publish a special edition for distribution in Australia. No doubt the issue will be largely patronized by manufacturers in Canada, who may look toward Australia for an extension of their trade. The move is a wise one in the interest of commercial intercourse between this country and the Australasia, and should receive liberal support and encouragement.

• THOUGH coming late in the day, the grant made by the Provincial Government in aid of the sufferers from the prairie fires of last fall will be generally commended. The grant is of necessity small, and when portioned out among the different municipalities will not give much to each individual in proportion to the loss sustained. Still the spirit in which it is given will be appreciated, and where the fires have created the keenest distress, the small measure of relief will be the most welcome. If nothing more than sufficient to purchase seed grain, the grant will prove a great measure of assistance to many.

NOTWITHSTANDING that the past winter has been the most severe in the west for very many years, the stock on the western ranges appears to have come through much better than was at one time supposed. Undoubtedly in some instances individual losses have been heavy, and these heavy losses will fall mainly on new beginners in the ranching industry, who had started with imported cattle. In other instances losses have not been at all excessive, and some old ranchers report that they have not suffered more severely than usual. In cases where the cattle were thoroughly acclimatized the loss was minimized. It is not probable that the result of the winter will have any bad effect upon the ranching industry. Already this spring a considerable number of animals have been brought into the country, and the industry promises great extension during the coming summer.

WHILST Mr. Van Horne is so solicitous about the future of Winnipeg should disallowance cease, the members of the Winnipeg city council seem to have no fear as to the result in the event of such a consummation. The following resolution, passed at a late meeting of the council, speaks for itself. "Therefore the corporation of the city of Winnipeg most urgently request that His Excellency, the Governor-General-in-Council, may be pleased to leave to their operation such acts as have been or may be passed by the Provincial Legislature of Manitoba, for the incorporation of a company or companies for the construction of a railway or railways to the international boundary line; between the 96th and 99th meridian of west longitude." The idea that the trade of Winni-

peg would be cut off through the construction of railways from the boundary to points west of this city, is evidently confined to Mr. Van Horne and a very few of his interested admirers.

THE people of Manitoba seem to be awakening to the fact that immigrants require a great deal of attention and assistance after their arrival here, and that it is just as necessary that they should receive this attention to keep them here as it is to endeavor to get them to come here in the first place. In a number of places throughout the province committees have been appointed, with the object of rendering any assistance possible to incoming settlers. This will undoubtedly have a splendid effect in creating a favorable impression among new arrivals, and it must be remembered that first impressions are very often lasting. Immigrants who are well received and made at home in the country, will be far more likely to settle down contentedly and induce their friends to follow them, than would be the case were they entirely neglected by the old residents of the districts in which they have located. In times past many settlers have looked more to making money out of immigrants than to assisting them. They have been charged exorbitant prices for conveyance to look at lands, and for any things which they required which the settler had to sell. Happily the tendency is now in the other direction, and incoming settlers may in the future expect better treatment from the people of Manitoba.

THE *Montreal Herald* forcibly points out that the Government should at once make known their policy for the future in regard to disallowance. The *Herald* says: "The question is, do they, or do they not, intend to adhere to that policy? and, as many commercial interests depend on the answer, the public has the right to know. The eastern parts of Canada hold that they have an interest in this matter, and under any circumstances desire to know how the matter is to be decided. Manitoba and the Northwest hold that their interests are paramount and they also wish doubt removed. The business men of both sections require to know, to shape their affairs accordingly. What is wanted—and it is wanted at once—is an explicit declaration of what the Government intend to do about it." The *Herald* states the situation clearly and to the point. The suspense as to what course the Government intends following in regard to disallowance, is working great harm here. It is simply paralyzing the country, and until the people are fully assured that disallowance has ceased, there will be little progress made in any undertakings. The people are becoming impatient and irritable, and as the time wears along the distrust deepens. If the Northwest is to make any progress this season, no time should be lost in declaring that disallowance has ceased.

THE recent increase in the freight rates on the C.P.R. on lumber shipped from British Columbia to Northwestern points, will have a serious effect upon the western portions of the Territories. The *Calgary Tribune* says that

"the rates on rough lumber and cedar posts shipped from points west of Donald to Calgary, have been more than doubled. From Beaver Mills the rate has been increased on rough lumber from 19c per 100 pounds to 42c; from Palliser it was formerly 16c, now it is 33c; from Twin Butte it was 21c, now it is 42c. An average carload of green lumber will contain 11,000 feet, more or less, weighing about 34,000 lbs. At 19c per 100 lbs, the freight charges would be about \$6 per thousand, in the neighborhood of \$65 per carload. The increase in rates brings the freight charges up to \$143 per carload, or \$14 per thousand feet. Under the old freight rate a carload of cedar fence-posts cost \$81; under the new tariff it will cost \$160, which means an addition of eight cents to the cost of every post brought into the market." This will show how the C.P.R. operates to grind those who are wholly in its power. The distance from the farthest point mentioned by the *Tribune* is less than 200 miles, yet for hauling lumber for this distance the C.P.R. exacts a freight charge about equal to the value of the lumber in Ontario, as the *Tribune* puts it. Fourteen dollars per thousand is certainly an outrageous charge for hauling lumber in car lots less than 200 miles, and will make building an expensive undertaking in the Territories, at points distant from local saw mills. The *Tribune* says that the C.P.R. has advanced the lumber rates in order to prevent the shipment of lumber from the mountains during the spring and summer, and thus force the mill men to sell the product of their mills to the Company, at figures dictated by the latter, as the Company will require a large amount of lumber during the summer. This is a peculiar explanation as to the cause of the extortion, and one which can hardly be credited at first glance. It is evident, however, that legislation which will prevent this kind of robbery, is sadly needed in Canada. An inter-provincial commerce law is, as badly needed here as is the Interstate law in the United States.

WE have referred at different times and in very strong language to the difficulties which are likely to arise through the indebtedness of certain municipalities in the province. We had hoped perhaps that attention being called to the heavy damage which was being done to the financial credit of Manitoba by the inability of certain corporations to pay their debts, that they might be urged to do at least the smallest thing that a debtor can do, face their creditors and actively bestir themselves in order to try and get some equitable arrangement made so that those with whom they had incurred liabilities might be recouped as far as lay in the power of these corporations to recoup them. As far as we have been able to gather no municipality has moved in the direction of obtaining any action likely to secure a settlement of its debts for at least several months. They appear without exception to consider that the law of the land was created as a means of their avoiding payment of what they owed, and that its very intricacies were devised as paths to assist them in their escape. They must, however, remember that they do not constitute the whole of the province of Manitoba, and that it

is absolutely necessary for the welfare of those places which wish to retain a financial standing, and also to be able to obtain funds to develop from time to time either by public or private enterprise the resources of their several districts, that these debtors should receive such treatment as will prove that the majority of Manitobans are anxious to prevent the fair name of their country being sullied by anything bearing a trace of repudiation. The creditors of the various towns have prepared petitions to the Legislature praying for protection against the different corporations which seem to be determined to ignore them, and it is believed that a bill framed by these gentlemen will be brought before the House. If we are rightly informed this bill will be of such a nature that it will summarily wind up the affairs of those towns which are making no attempt to meet their debts. On a writ of execution being placed in the hands of the sheriff he will take means to ascertain the whole of the indebtedness of the corporation against which it is issued. He will then strike a rate on the whole property of the town sufficient to cover the whole of the indebtedness, whether debenture or otherwise, and then offer for sale the different properties, unless their owners redeem them by the payment of the rate within a short space of time. If the property is sold for an amount more than the rate upon it, the amount will accrue to the owner or other party or parties lawfully entitled to receive it, and the property once so sold will be cleared by the sheriff's title from any debt of the town previous to the date of its sale, and the sheriff's title will be made a good and absolute one. It is to be hoped that the promoters of this bill will avoid selling out personal property in the same manner, as that would mean the ruin of a large number of respectable persons, and also would entail a great loss upon the wholesale trade who have given credit to different customers. It is necessary, however, that this matter should be met in some way during the coming session of the Legislature, and though we should be sorry to see so harsh a law as the one above foreshadowed put into force, yet we feel that unless the districts interested will bestir themselves, it will be necessary in order to save the credit of Manitoba and her citizens collectively and individually, to apply a remedy which will prevent her citizens from suffering the terrible calamity which would accrue from her losing her credit, not simply through Canada, but we may almost say through the world. Legislators cannot be too careful in protecting this the main spring of all prosperity, and we trust that the members of the new Legislature will not pursue that reckless policy of ignoring creditors for the sake of debtors, which we have often remarked was shown too much by the last, but that on the contrary they will devote their time to adopting measures which while protecting honest corporations and individuals from unjust oppression, will at the same time secure the creditors against the loss of the advances they have made on the faith of Manitoba being governed by the same principles of equity and justice which have always distinguished the British empire and made its public securities considered the best and safest in the world.

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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, APRIL 12th, 1887.

THE EXPERIMENTAL FARM.

Since the decision of the Government to establish experimental farms in the various provinces of Canada, including one in Manitoba, very determined efforts have been put forth by the residents of different sections of the country to have the farm located in their particular locality. The Government has been besieged with memorials setting forth the peculiar advantages of the respective district, and almost every section of importance in the province has laid a claim to the proposed farm. Undoubtedly all of the places possess many advantages for the location of the farm, so far as variety of soil and other natural features may be taken into consideration. But there are other matters which must also be taken into consideration in the location of the farm, and the chief one next to the nature of the soil is, that the farm should be so situated that it can be reached with the greatest convenience by the residents of all parts of the province. In the matter of soil and natural conditions, Emerson, Winnipeg, Selkirk, Portage la Prairie, Brandon, and in fact all the districts which have been striving to secure the farm, have about equal advantage. But when it comes to the matter of convenience of location it cannot but be acknowledged that Winnipeg's claims are far more forcible. The location of the farm near Winnipeg, or in fact at any other point in the province, would be a disappointment to the residents of other sections. Nevertheless only one district can secure the prize, and taking the province as a whole, it is clear that the location of the farm at Winnipeg would be in the interest of by far the greater number of the inhabitants of the whole province. To show that this is the case it is only necessary to state the fact, that seven distinct lines of railways centre at Winnipeg, whilst the only other railway in the province has its direct connection with this city, and will undoubtedly be extended into the city in the near future. Portage la Prairie comes next with but two lines of railway, and all other places but one railway. To reach the experimental farm at any point west of Winnipeg by rail, it would be necessary for farmers coming from any

of the branch lines to come around by this city, and they would further be obliged to remain here over one day to make connection with trains for the west. It will therefore be seen that the location of the farm at Winnipeg is not so much in the interest of the city as it would be in the interest of a majority of the farmers and residents of the province. However, it is more than likely that the Government will adopt the views of Professor Saunders in regard to the location of the farm, regardless of the efforts put forth by the different sections to secure it. At any rate no time should be lost in making the selection, for if anything is to be accomplished this season, operations should ere this have been going on actively.

ANOTHER EASTERN VIEW.

This time it is the *Canadian Journal of Commerce*, and a journal which is usually very careful, accurate and moderate in its statements, which is at fault. It is the old stumbling-block of disallowance again—that bugaboo of eastern journalism—which calls forth a lengthy article from our Montreal contemporary. The *Journal of Commerce* shows a better knowledge of the question than many other eastern papers, including the would-be dictator of the commercial world at Toronto, in that it makes a distinction between disallowance in Manitoba and monopoly in the Territories, but in other directions it is sadly astray. It relishes the old eastern arguments that the people of the Northwest want to trade with the United States to the south instead of with old Canada, and talks about the heavy debt incurred by eastern people to develop the Northwest. Lest it weary its readers by repetition, THE COMMERCIAL will not at this time attempt to show that the people of Manitoba are not laboring to secure competitive connection with the trade centres of the United States, but to establish a competing route to old Canada. The arguments as to the benefits which both the East and West would receive from the establishment of such a competing route, have been often presented and never yet contradicted. The *Journal of Commerce* is far astray in accusing the people of Manitoba of confining their efforts to the securing of railways which are intended to pass to the boundary through the territory coming under the C.P.R. monopoly clause. The fact is, the disallowed charters have been mostly

for railways projected to run entirely within the old boundaries of the province, where the monopoly clause has no force. In this connection it says:

“If the settlers of Manitoba are really bound sooner or later to put an end to the present anomalous condition of affairs and push their way to what may be termed their natural markets, it seems a little singular that their efforts should be confined to the obtaining of charters for railroads in the territories which they know well enough are bound to be disallowed. There are many points in the old province of Manitoba, where the question of disallowance has no force, whence communication could be had with the railway systems of the north-western States and Territories. There are several lake ports and grain centres, like Duluth for instance whence a railroad to communicate with Winnipeg could profitably be constructed. Why are these considerations neglected in favor of other routes which by the necessity of construction of a portion of the road through prohibited territory incur the certainty of disallowance.”

In answer to the above it is only necessary to state that several of the disallowed charters have been for roads proposed to connect Winnipeg and Duluth. The very railway which the people of Manitoba are now fighting so hard to obtain, is intended to connect Winnipeg with the Northern Pacific railway, which will give Manitoba an alternate summer route to the east *via* Duluth and the Lakes, and which it is hoped will also in time provide a through all-rail route to the East, by the extension of the Grand Trunk to Sault Ste. Marie and Duluth. Though the people of the Northwest would like to see the entire abolition of railway monopoly, yet they do not ask the Government to break its agreement with the C.P.R. Co. by granting a charter for a railway in the territory coming under the monopoly clause of the company's charter. The discontinuance of disallowance as applied to railway charters within the old province of Manitoba is what is demanded, though if the Government could see its way clear to come to some arrangement with the C.P.R. for the abandonment of monopoly in the Territories, so much the better.

THE INTERSTATE COMMERCE LAW.

The *Chicago Journal of Commerce* says that they “won't want any California fruit nor wine when the Interstate commerce law goes into force, unless it comes by Manitoba or the Isthmus or Cape Horn.” There is no doubt that the enforcement of the new law would prove a great “boom” to the C.P.R., but it is not likely that our neighbors will be so regardless of their own interests as to force Pacific coast traffic over the C.P.Ry., to the disadvantage of their own roads. The bill

provides that in special cases, the commissioners who will look after the operation of the measure, may take cognizance of any peculiar circumstances under which individual roads may labor, and ameliorate or adapt the provisions of the bill to suit the circumstances of the case. For instance where a railway would be subjected to undue competition or disadvantage by the enforcement of any particular clause of the Interstate law, the commissioners will have the power at their discretion to forego the enforcement of or remit the severity of any particular clauses of the bill. In the case of certain railroads which will have to compete with the Mississippi river system of navigation, a movement has already been set on foot to relieve the railways from certain restrictions of the bill. Likewise in regard to the Pacific coast trade, the Portland, Oregon, board of trade will ask that the Northern Pacific and the Union Pacific railways be relieved from the operation of section four of the Interstate Commerce law, so far as the same relates to through freight from eastern terminal points, to points on the Northern Pacific coast. Exemption is asked from the long haul regulations for these roads owing to the competition which they would be obliged to meet from the C.P.R. Undoubtedly such exceptions will be made in favor of these roads as will enable them to compete freely with the C.P.Ry. and thus prevent the latter road from enjoying a complete picnic in the matter of through traffic between the Pacific coast and the east. These are some of the difficulties in the way of enforcing the Interstate Commerce law in its entirety, as originally adopted, and many more are already looming up, such as the competition to which the railways will be subjected from the navigation system of the Great Lakes, the gulf and canals. Altogether it would appear that the commissioners will have their hands full in determining and settling the multitude of questions and difficulties which will arise with the enforcement of the measure.

A BOLD SCHEME.

Sir John Lister Kaye is without doubt a man of great ideas. In talking with a New York reporter regarding his farming projects in the Northwest, he is said to have discoursed as follows:

"My idea is one I have found feasible from actual experience at Balgonie, on the Canadian Pacific Railway, where I have a property of 5,000 acres. I find it costs about \$300 to start

a homestead. Now, a man working for the company at \$25 per month for a year, if he is found, will have \$300. My idea is that the Government send to us 300 trustworthy farmers, paying their transportation, wages for one year, and 40 cents per day for keep. I find them homes in our buildings, and while they are working for us they can acquire a knowledge of the surrounding lands. At the end of the year, if their conduct has been satisfactory, they can continue in the company's employment, and they can take up land in the neighborhood of the properties on which they are employed."

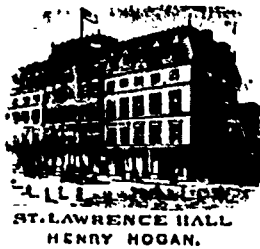
What great and magnanimous ideas this titled Britisher is given to! And how kind of Sir J. L. to suggest that the "trustworthy farmers" might find accommodation in his buildings, while working for him at the expense of the Government. But really this "idea" of Sir Kaye's contains about as much gall as could possibly be injected into a newspaper paragraph. What a noble thing it would be for the Government to pay the wages of a large number of men to work for this capitalist, and thus assist him in establishing landed monopolies in the country! Many parties have already invested their capital in ranching and other enterprises in the west without asking for any assistance, and now Sir Lister Kaye proposes that the Government should furnish him with free labor to enable him to compete with these farmers and stock-raisers. If this man is in any way entitled to such assistance, then every farmer and stock-raiser in the Northwest has equal right to be supplied with labor at the Government's expense. This little scheme for the benefit of Sir Kaye would cost the Government say \$150,000 for the year, and would result in the establishment of a landed monopoly in the country, which in the end would probably prove a failure. This western world is not adapted to landlordism and landed monopolies in any form, and already we have had one example of this nature in the Bell farm, which has resulted disastrously, to the serious injury of the whole country. What is wanted in this country is individual settlers, who will take up the land in their own right. Attempts at the establishment of landed monopolies, such as the scheme projected by Sir Lister Kaye, should be discouraged rather than assisted, as foreign to the life of the free West.

TREE PLANTING.

The season for tree-planting is once more at hand, and it is to be hoped that throughout the Northwest much will be done in this direction during the present

spring. It is said that on the great plains of Siberia, the Russian Government has planted large areas of trees, and that the influence of these tracts of forest has been most beneficial to the country. Sections formerly too arid for agriculture are said to now receive an abundant rain-fall, and it is claimed that this has been brought about through the extensive planting of trees. It is generally conceded that forest growth exercises a great influence over climate, especially in inducing rain-fall, and it is therefore of the utmost importance that attention should be given to the planting of trees in the Northwest. Over a considerable extent of the central and southern portions of the territories, it is to be feared the rain-fall is not always sufficient to ensure the carrying on of successful agricultural operations. If there is reason to believe that an extensive system of tree-planting would ensure a plentiful rain-fall, no time should be lost in bringing about such a desirable end. This could be accomplished to some extent by individual settlers giving greater attention to the planting of trees. But something more than individual effort would be required to secure tree-planting on a sufficiently large scale to have any appreciable influence upon climate. To secure the most desirable results the Government would be obliged to undertake some extensive and systematic work of tree culture. Some provision has already been made by the Government for the reservation of certain sections for the purpose of tree planting, but it is understood that this is more in the nature of experimental tree-culture than with any view to influencing the climate. More encouragement might also be given to individual efforts in this direction by the granting of some consideration to homesteaders for the planting of a certain number of acres in trees. A general move in this direction on the part of the settlers, would do a great deal toward improving and beautifying the country and relieving the monotony of the bare prairie landscape. A few trees also serve as an excellent break for storms, and if planted on a large scale, would in time prove invaluable in furnishing a supply of fuel. Last spring a new departure was inaugurated in the direction of tree-planting by the appointment of an Arbor day, both in Manitoba and the territories. The custom should be continued this spring, and every effort made to cause its general observance.

First-class in every Respect.
Appointments Perfect.
Graduated Prices.



ST. LAWRENCE HALL
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Every Attention paid to
Guests.
NON-PROFITABLE.

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Manufacturers of Clothing.

45 to 49 King St., 24 McDermott St.,

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CHARLESWORTH & CO.,

Manufacturers of  Maltose Cross Brand

BOOTS & SHOES,

Noted for their Excellence of Fit and
Durability of Stock.

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Hogs, in large or small lots, for which the
Highest Market Prices will be paid.

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Manufacturer of Granulated and Standard Brands
Oatmeal. Orders by mail promptly attended to.

Henderson & Bull, Wholesale Agts. Winnipeg

Sparkling Lager Beer ! !

Is now ready for the Market at the

REDWOOD BREWERY

Delivered anywhere in the City at \$3.50 per keg
EQUAL TO ANY IMPORTED BEER.

Fine Stock Ales a Specialty.

EXTRA PORTER AND STOUT
In Wood and Bottle always on hand.

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The Largest Institution of its class in Western Canada.

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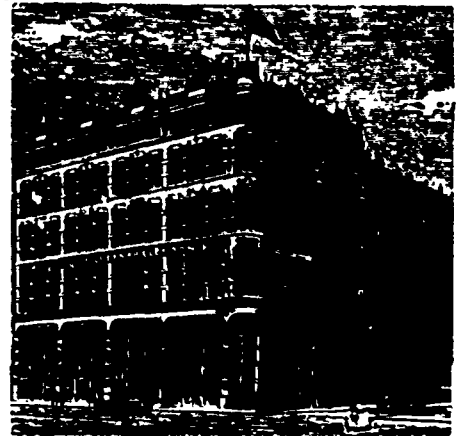
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Are now receiving and opening large shipments of
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EMBROIDERIES, DRESS GOODS,
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A visit from our Manitoba Friends when in this
Market is solicited.

CARSLEY & CO.,

93 St. Peter St., MONTREAL,
and 18 Bartholomew Close, London, Eng.

KIRKPATRICK & COOKSON

Established 1860,

MONTREAL,

Commission Merchants,

FLOUR, GRAIN, PROVISIONS, PRODUCE, &c
Consignments and Orders Solicited.

Crathern and Caverhill,
WHOLESALE HEAVY HARDWARE
Metals, Window Glass, Paints & Oils, etc.

Caverhill, Learmont & Co.,
WHOLESALE SHELF HARDWARE,

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Caverhill's Buildings, 89 St. Peter Street,
MONTREAL.

Complete Set of Samples with

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CROCKERY, &c.

DOUGLASS & McNIECE,

Importers and Dealers in

China, Glass & Earthenware

181, 183 & 185 McGill St., MONTREAL.

ASSORTED PACKAGES ON HAND FOR COUNTRY TRADE
ORDERS SOLICITED.

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET

This month has brought with it an improvement in money matters, so far as country remittances are concerned. One or two dealers found matters much about the same in the way of collections, a great many others had experienced a marked improvement, and still others were quite satisfied with the returns to date for April. This improvement will be a greater satisfaction to many than a more active trade without the cash returns would have been. Taken all around the week was fairly satisfactory, and as one dealer expressed it, he did not see where the money was coming from.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE

Good Friday coming last week would somewhat lessen the volume of business, but there were not wanting indications of a steady improvement in most branches of wholesale trade. In nearly all lines the general report was to the effect that matters were slowly but surely improving, though in a quiet sort of a way, and without any appearance of a rush. Advices from the country reported that farmers were purchasing freely and laying in supplies to tide them over during spring seeding time. In the city there was also a noticeable improvement in retail trade circles, no doubt due to some extent to the movement in immigration.

BOOTS AND SHOES

This branch continues very quiet, and though last year at this time a very good sorting trade was going on, yet to date this year there has been scarcely a move in sorting business. Dealers are expecting a brightening up soon.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE

Business has been steadily improving in this line for some time and last week was fairly active. Dealers are preparing to ship out orders on a larger scale.

DRY GOODS

Some improvement has been observed in this branch, but trade was still rather quiet. Some orders were coming in from travellers on the road, and there was a somewhat better call for sorting lots from the city. Clothing was distinguished by much the same features as dry goods.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS

Quotations show but slight change, as follows: Howard's quinine, 90c to \$1; German quinine, 70c to 80c; opium, \$4 to \$4.50; morphia, \$2 to \$2.50; iodine, \$4.25 to \$4.50; bromide potassium, 65 to 75c; American camphor, 40 to 45c; English camphor, 45 to 50c; glycerine, 30 to 40c; tartaric acid, 70 to 75c; cream of tartar, 35 to 40c; bleaching powder, per keg, \$8 to \$10; bicarb soda, \$4.50 to \$5; sal soda, \$2.25 to \$2.50; soda ash, \$3 to \$3.25; chlorate potash, 25 to 30c; alum, \$3 to \$3.75; coppers, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur, flour, \$4 to \$4.50; sulphur, roll, \$4 to \$5.25; American blue vitrol, 6 to 8c.

FISH.

Fresh lake fish are somewhat irregular in quotations and supply. In fresh sea fish the tendency is easier as the weather gets warmer. Some sorts are out of the market. Quotations were as follows: Lake Superior trout, 8½c; Gold eyes, 1c; Whitefish, 6 to 7c; pickerel, 2c; jackfish, 1c. Bulk oysters, \$1.85 to \$2.20 per gallon, according to quality. Fresh sea fish are

in the market and quoted as follows: Tommy-cods, 6c; cod, 8c; haddock, 8c; herrings, 25c a dozen. Smoked Finnan haddies, 10c; boneless fish, 6½c; boneless cod, 8½c; prepared herrings, 7½c; mackerel, 25-lb. kits, No. 1, \$2.50; other qualities, \$1.75 upward.

FRUITS—GREEN, VEGETABLES, ETC.

Choice apples were scarce, and stocks even of second quality were not large. Importations last fall have proved insufficient for the demand, and new importations do not long survive the handling at this time of year. Quotations are: Choice apples were worth from \$6 to \$7 per barrel; Messina oranges, 200 count \$5.50 to \$6.50 per box; Sorrento oranges fine, \$5 to \$5.50 box; California Washington oranges, \$6.50 box; Tangerens, \$6.50 box; Messina lemons, \$6.50 box; bananas, \$4 to \$7 per bunch; pineapples, \$6 dozen; tomatoes, \$3. per box, rhubarb, 10c pound; Southern red and yellow onions, \$5.00 per 100 lbs; apple cider, \$10 per barrel.

FRUITS—DRIED, AND NUTS.

Revised quotations are: Figs, Turkey, in boxes, 10 to 11c, new Elme figs, in layers, 15 to 18c per lb, in one lb. to ten lb. boxes; Golden dates, 10c; Valencia raisins, \$2.40 to \$2.50; London layers, \$3.50; evaporated apples, 13 to 14c; dried apples, 7½ to 8c; new Turkey prunes, 7½c to 9c. Nuts are quoted: Peanuts, roasted, 18c; peanuts, raw, 15c; walnuts, 20c; almonds, 20c; filberts, 15c; Texas pecans, 18c; cocoanuts, \$12.50 per 100; maple syrup, \$1.30 per gallon, in 5 gallon tins, or \$1.25 in 15 gallon kegs; maple sugar 10 to 14c per pound, according to quality.

FURS

Following is a summary of the changes in prices at the late London fur sales:—Beaver 15, per cent. lower than in January; mink, 15 per cent. do. do.; muskrat, 10 per cent. do. do.; black, same as in January; skunk, same as in January; opossum, do. do.; racoon, 10 per cent. higher than in January; fox, gray, same as in June; red, United States, 25 per cent. higher than last March; do. red, Alaska and Halifax, 10 per cent. do. do.; do. cross, same as do. do.; do. silver, 10 per cent. do. do.; do. white, 60 per cent. higher do. do.; otter, 10 per cent. lower than in June; bear, grizzly, 50 per cent. higher than last March; do. brown, 100 per cent. higher than June; do. black, large number, 50 per cent. do. do.; do. do. cubs, 70 per cent. do. do.; do. do. southwest, 15 per cent. lower than last June; fisher 5 per cent. higher than last June; marten, United States and Canada, 20 per cent. lower than in June; do. Alaska and British Columbia, 15 per cent. do. do.; lynx, 40 per cent. do. March; wolf, brought advanced prices; fox, blue, 15 per cent. higher than last March; Russian sable, 10 per cent. do.; sea otter, 15 per cent. do. do.; dry fur seal, same as last.

GROCERIES

Quotations are steady as follows: yellow sugar 6½c to 7c; granulated 7½c; lump sugar, 8½c to 9c; Coffees, Rios, 19 to 20c; Government Java, 30 to 35c, other Javas, 25 to 28c; Mochas, 31 to 34c. New season's teas are now quoted as follows: Japan season 1886-7, 20 to 45c; Congous, 1886-7, 20 to 60c; Indian teas, 35 to 50c. Old range, Moyune gunpowder 25 to 70c; panfired Japan 23 to 45c, basket-fired,

25 to 40c; Ping Suey young hyson, 25 to 35c; Moyune young hyson, 25 to 50c; Season's congous, 385-6, 20 to 55c. Syrups, corn \$2.25 to \$2.60; sugar, cane, \$2.10 to \$2.35; T. and B. tobacco, 56c per pound.

CANNED GOODS

Prices are generally firm as follows, per dozen: Salmon, \$1.70, mackerel, \$1.50, lobsters \$1.87, sardines (french) ½ tins, \$1.70, ¼ tins \$2.00, cove oysters corn \$1.65, peas \$2.00, tomatoes \$2.00, baked beans \$2.75, corned beef \$3 to \$3.25, lunch t-ragues, 2 lbs. \$7.00; 1 lb, \$3.50. Fruit in 2 lb. tins, are quoted: pears, \$2.50 to \$2.75, strawberries, \$2.60 to \$2.75; plums, \$2.25 to \$2.50, peaches, \$3.75.

HIDES

Green hides have commenced to come in freely. City hides are worth ½c above quotations. Prices unchanged as follows: Winnipeg inspection, No. 1, 5½c; No. 2, 4½c; bulls, 3½c; calf, fine-haired real veal, 7 to 13 pound skins, No. 1, 8c; No. 2, 6c; sheep pelts, 30 to 65c; tallow, 3½ to 4c.

WINES AND SPIRITS

Business, which has been very quiet in this branch for some time, has commenced to move more freely. Quotations are: Gooderham & Wort's five year old, \$2.40; 7 year old, \$3; old rye, \$1.75; Jules Robin brandy, \$4.50; Bisquet Debouche & Co., \$4.75; Martell, \$6.50; Henney, \$6.50; DeKuyper gin, \$3.50; Port wine, \$2.50 and upwards; Sherry \$2.50 and upwards; Jamaica rum, \$4.00 to \$4.50; DeKuyper red gin, \$11 per case; DeKuyper green gin, \$6.50 per case; Tom Gin, \$9.00 to \$10.00; Martel and Henney's brandy, \$13.50 per case of 12 bottles.

THE MARKETS

WINNIPEG

Grain markets all over the province were at almost a complete standstill all last week. Nothing was being delivered by farmers, who were all busy seeding and conducting other spring operations. This work was going on extensively and generally all over the province, and up to date a large area has been sown. Conditions have been favorable for seeding, though in some parts the ground is very dry, and rain is needed to start growth. The area of fall plowing is considerably larger than ever before in the history of the province.

WHEAT

Nothing doing, and prices merely nominal at last week's quotations. No movement from first hands expected before June, and shipments will be light until the opening of navigation.

FLOUR.

The mills have all continued running on full time, mainly owing to the active demand for millstuffs. Low grades are somewhat stiffer, on account of the disposition to run them into shorts. Indeed, some low grade flour has been taken for feed. Other prices are unchanged for local use. Millers are somewhat discouraged at the continued depression in eastern markets, and have been curtailing shipments as much as possible, consequently stocks are heavy here. Quotations for broken lots to the local trade are as follows: patents \$2.25; strong baker's \$1.80; XXXX \$1.20 to \$1.30; superfine \$1.

MILLSTUFFS

In keen demand and unchanged in price, at \$14 for bran and \$16 for shorts.

OATS

Nothing offering, and prices nominally unchanged, at 44 to 45c for car lots.

OATMEAL

Prices hold steady at \$2.60 for standard and \$2.75 for granulated, in trade lots.

EGGS

This market was marked by a somewhat erratic course last week. Prices closed on Saturday of the previous week at 14c, but on Monday some dealers were offering at 10c. Others refused to sell at this figure, and as there was a good demand for Easter supplies, and offerings did not keep up as large as was expected, prices advanced again. On Thursday one dealer sold his entire stock at 12c, at which prices held for the balance of the week. The feeling closed unsettled, and it is hard to say what course prices will take, though an effort will be made to keep them at about 12c for some time. The commission men complain of country dealers sending their produce to the wholesale grocers, and claim that if it had not been for this custom, eggs would have been kept up to 15c until after Easter, thus making a great saving to country shippers.

BUTTER

A few cases of prints and rolls have arrived, but there is very little new butter coming into the market. This new butter when of good quality is held at 20 to 22c. New in pails would bring 20c, but there have been very few yet offered. Stocks of old are large and slow sale, and unchanged at 18c for best qualities.

DRESSED MEATS

Few hogs are now arriving, and prices steady at about 6c. The season for frozen beef is now about over, though one large lot which arrived sold at 5c. Veal is now in good supply, and held at 8 to 10c per carcass. Dressed mutton, choice native, 14c, by the carcass.

CURED MEATS

Prices steady at last quotations as follows: Long-clear, in lots of under 500 pounds, 10c; over 500 pounds 9½c; breakfast bacon, clear, 12c; breakfast bacon, unclear, 11c; spiced rolls, 11c; hams, 13½c; mess pork, \$18 per barrel; best pork sausage, 8c.

LARD

Firm at the late advance, as follows: \$2.25 per pail of 20 pounds. Three-pound pails, 43c; five-pound pails, 65c each.

POTATOES

One car lot sold at 67½c, and another toward the close of the week at 70c. Dealers were holding small lots to the trade at about 80 to 90c, with retail prices at \$1 to \$1.10.

HAY

Unchanged at \$7 to \$8 per ton for pressed, f.o.c., according to quality.

LIVE STOCK

Several cars of cattle arrived since our last report, nearly all bought up by the butchers in the country. Two car lots went through to Port Arthur, and some were also going to western points. Quotations for cattle delivered here, range from 4 to 4½c, according to quality. A flock of fine sheep from southern Manitoba were among arrivals of stock.

The Cigars we Smoke.

A representative of THE COMMERCIAL while in Montreal recently made up his mind to visit some of our leading Canadian cigar factories, and make personal investigation into how in those places they manipulated the fragrant weed he had been a patron of for a quarter of a century or so. He accordingly visited the large factory of Messrs. Tuse, Wood & Co., on McGill Street, and passed away the bulk of an afternoon prying into its mysteries.

The factory is within a building about

33x100 feet in area, with four floors and a basement, and is a perfect model of convenience, bright light and good ventilation, two points not too well attended to as a rule in Montreal, being marked features.

Under the guiding care of Mr. Radlich, the practical manager of the concern, our representative commenced inspection on the top floor or packing department, where the array of cedar boxes and variety of fine colored lithographic labels and brand illustrations gave the place the appearance of a mixture of a fancy wood work factory and a lithographer's show room, which was only dispelled by the piles of cigars on tables, and a number of nimble fingered employes who were labeling, bundling, ribboning and packing them into the prescribed 25, 50 or 100 parcels.

A storey nearer to the mundane level brought them to the leaf room, not unlike a section of a menagerie, with its rails in bonded storage, and other kind of fence work strong enough to cage wild animals.

A floor further down and the work room is reached, and a very hive it is. Somewhat over 160 men, girls and boys were at work handling the weed from its crude imported state until made into cigars ready for the packer's hands. In one place the "strippers" were busy removing the stems from the leaf, while each at his or her bench were those who made moulded and hand-rolled cigars. Close together they sat, but at the same time as independent and disconnected as milestones. The whole floor undoubtedly presented an interesting sight.

A floor lower and the drying room is reached, and here the process of steaming the tobacco to concentrate its strength and flavor is carried on. The work is done simply with vapor generated from pure water, in huge oven-like boxes, from which it is taken when steamed and spread to dry on canvass stretched on frames, which are fitted into racks tiered up seven feet high, thus allowing within this room acres upon acres of surface on which to spread the leaf for the process of slow drying.

Another flight of stairs reaches the street floor, where the offices, stock and sample rooms are located, about which there is nothing remarkable beyond the tasteful manner in which all are fitted and furnished.

During his tour of inspection our representative discovered that Mr. Radlich, his guide, had collected his experience from working in German, French, English, Spanish and American factories, and was therefore well able to furnish information on "the weed" generally. From him he learned (with the aid of a few sampling smokes), that the popular fancy about the delicious, soothing and gentle aroma of the pure Havana was a hallucination. The leaf from the "pearl of the Antilles" has nothing insipidly sweet about it, and has no charms for the light or casual smoker, while the youth who smokes cigars as a necessary accomplishment, would find in a pure Havana leaf a taste about as pleasant to him as a horse radish dipped in coal tar. Only the old nicotine-soaked smoker can revel in the enjoyment of a strong old Havana, and a very large proportion of old seasoned smokers do not care to use them steadily.

Another piece of conventional nonsense commented on by Mr. Radlich was the craze for

imported cigars. He had nothing to say against that class of well known brands of unmistakable goods, the prices of which were far beyond the reach of the average smoker. But three-fourths of the imported goods smoked in Canada were inferior to the average five cent domestic in quality, and had really nothing to recommend them but the custom's stamp which proclaimed them imported and nothing more. "See here," he said laying his hand on a huge packing case which had half a dozen companions; "This is our factory sweepings and pickings, which cannot be made use of in Canada. This truck, a conglomeration of all sorts we ship to Germany or Holland, and there, where labor is much cheaper than here, it is carefully picked, and made into fillers for cigars, many of which come back again to Canada, where under the custom's stamp they wear an air of respectability, and fill the bill for first-class bar or pool room Havanas, and are smoked by men who would take jaundice could they only be persuaded as to what they actually smoked."

Our representative is a man of thought and average reasoning powers, and since his initiation into the mysteries of the weed, he has made up his mind never to pretend to be a connoisseur in cigars, and to avoid touching a box with a custom's stamp on it, as he would a subpoena to act on a jury, until his income reaches \$10,000 a year, and he can afford to purchase the pure quill in imported goods, and that is likely to be in the "sweet by and by."

Personal.

Mr. D. W. Cummings, banker and lumber dealer, Birtle, was in the city last week.

Mr. W. J. Mitchell, wholesale druggist, was called to Toronto again last week, owing to the death of his father. He had only returned from attending the funeral of a sister, in Ontario.

Mr. W. C. Woods, son of Alex. Woods, Agent General for Canada in Australia, returned from the latter country last week. He will again start for Australia in the course of about two months, first visiting eastern cities in the interest of trade extension between Canada and Australia.

W. R. THOMAS, M.D., has commenced the practice of his profession at Shoal Lake, Man.

THE Secretary of the Canadian Northwest Stock Association has sent notices to the secretaries of the district associations, calling the annual meeting of the association for Wednesday, May 4th. It is in order now for the districts to select delegates to the meeting, and to think up business to be transacted.—*Macleod Gazette*.

THE following rates have been published as charged by the C.P.R. on lumber shipped from Rogers' Pass, B.C., eastward to the points named:

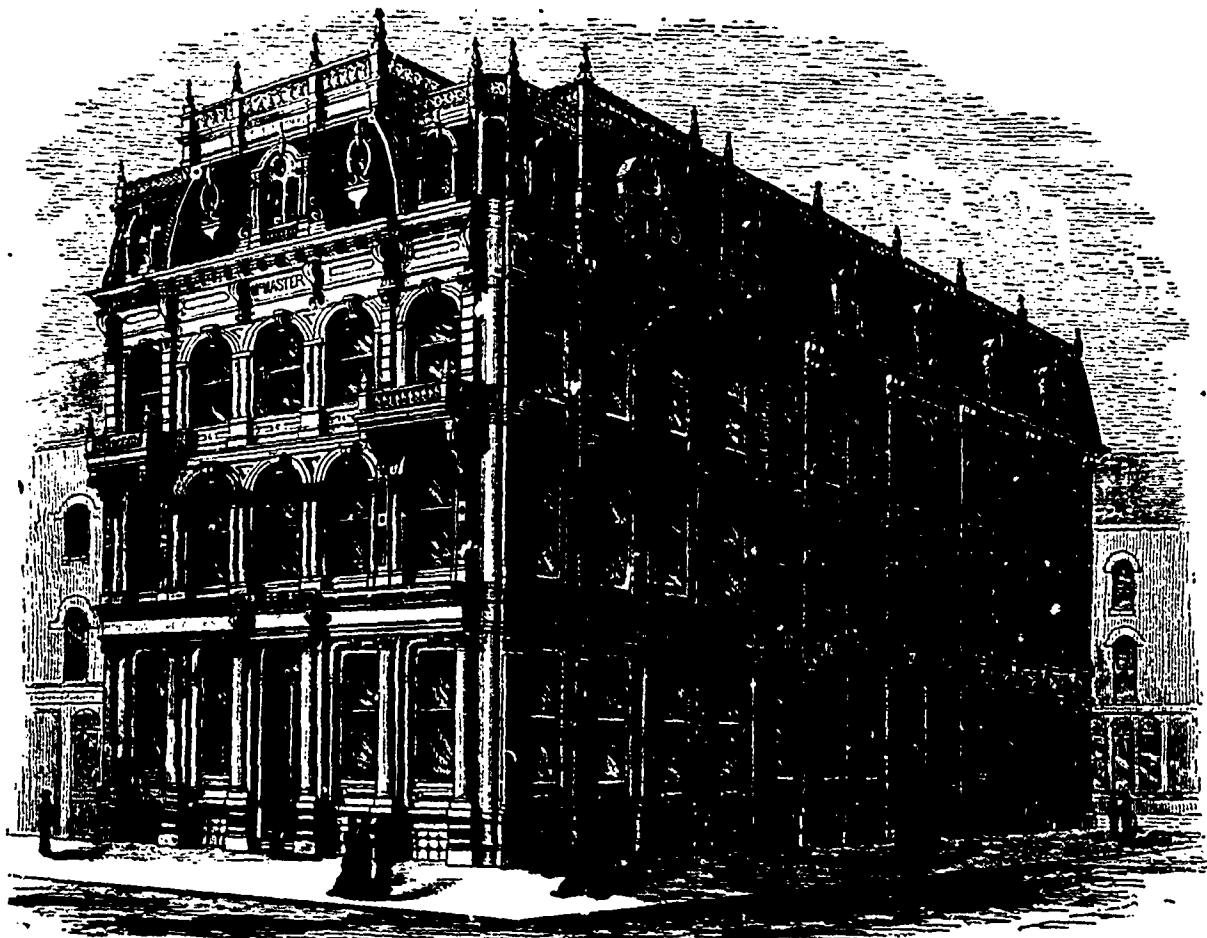
MILES	RATE.	
	per 100 lbs.	per car.
136 Banff.....	32c.	\$.96
216 Calgary.....	39c.	1.17
270 Gleichen.....	40c.	1.20
657 Moose Jaw.....	40c.	1.20
699 Regina.....	42c.	1.26
923 Brandon.....	44c.	1.32
1055 Winnipeg.....	45c.	1.35

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SPRING, 1887

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Samples and Prices of Goods adapted to the Northwest Trade furnished on application.

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 preparation of its class made.

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REPRESENT

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McLACHLAN BROS. & CO., Wholesale Dry Goods, Montreal.

JOSEPH HORSFALL, Wholesale Clothing, Montreal.

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Manufacturers of
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Hay, Coal and Stock Scales,
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 Correspondence solicited and Mail Orders Carefully Attended to. Satisfaction guaranteed.

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STRICTLY FIRST-CLASS.
 Large sample room for Commercial Travellers. Livery in connection.

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—AND—
 Importers of **HATS' FURNISHINGS,**
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A Full Stock of Patent Hungarian, Strong Bakers' and Spring Extra Flour; Oatmeal, Pot and Pearl Barley, Graham Flour, Cracked Wheat, Bran, Shortst, Ground Feed, Oats, Barley.
 Wheat buyers at all C.P.R. Shipping Stations.

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 Importers and Wholesale Dealers in
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 365 MAIN STREET,
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EASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO

The visible supply of the Chicago board, as posted on Monday, showed a decline of 825,000 bushels of wheat for the week, and exports for the same time were, 2,500,000. May wheat opened at 82½c, and remained almost stationary during the day, once going down to 82c, and only reaching ¼c above the opening price. Other speculative commodities were dull. Closing prices were:

	April.	May.
Wheat	77	82½
Corn	34½	39½
Oats	23½	29½
Pork	20.75	21.00
Lard	7.25	7.32½
Short Ribs	8.02½	8.12½

There was no session of the board on Tuesday. On Wednesday wheat was firmer, under less favorable crop news and cables, which though not strong, were less bearish in tone. Prices started lower, but were given a turn upward by active buying from shorts. May going to 83½c and June to 81½c. Prices then fell away ½ to ¾c, but again advanced ¼c above the first bulge. In the afternoon the range was from 83 to 83½c for May, June closed at 81½c. Provisions were dull. Closing prices were:

	April.	May.
Wheat	78½	83½
Corn	34½	39½
Oats	24½	29½
Pork	20.75	21.00
Lard	7.22½	7.30
Short Ribs	8.05	8.15

On Thursday wheat was rather quiet. During the early part of the day prices were higher, but fell away toward the close. Cables were somewhat firmer in tone. May opened at 83½c, and ranged from 83½ to 83½c. June closed at 81½, July at 81c, and August at 80c. Provisions were dull, both for consumption and speculation. Corn was dull, but fairly firm. Oats were the most active on the list, at a slight advance. Closing prices were:

	April	May.
Wheat	78½	83½
Corn	34½	39½
Oats	23½	29½
Pork	20.75	21.00
Lard	7.27½	7.32½
Short Ribs	8.05	8.15

There was no session of the board of Good Friday. Wheat opened higher, on Saturday, but did not hold firm long. May started at 84c and sold down to 83½c. There was considerable selling off month, and the clique were supposed to be buying the long options, in preference to short futures. June closed at 82, July at 81½c.

	April	May.
Wheat	78½	83½
Corn	34½	39½
Oats	—	23½
Pork	20.75	21.00
Lard	—	7.37½
Short Ribs	—	8.17½

TORONTO.

WHEAT

No. 2 fall sold at the commencement of the week at 82c, and No. 2 spring at 83c, which prices were practically unchanged at the close. No. 1 spring for May sold at 87c for one offering, and No. 2 spring for May was offered at 85c, with 84½c bid.

FLOUR.

Sales slow as follows: Patents \$3.80; superior extra \$3.55; extra \$3.45.

OATMEAL.

Unchanged at \$3.60 to \$3.65 in car lots, or \$3.75 to \$4.25 in broken lots.

OATS

Light sold at 31½, and choice 32½c.

APPLES.

Street prices from \$2.50 to \$3.25. No cars reported.

BUTTER

Choicest eastern has brought 20 to 21c, for local trade. Rolls, good to fine 12 to 17c, choice new, 18 to 19c. Shipping lots of good medium, with white out, sold at 12 to 13c.

CHEESE

Steady at 13½ to 14c for fine in small lots.

CURED MEATS.

Pork firm at \$17.50. One lot of 400 sides Cumberland bacon sold at 8c; long clear in cases, 8½c and firm; smoked backs 8 to 9½c, rolls, 8½ to 9c; bellies 10 to 11c; hams 12 to 12½ for smoked, in small lots.

LARD

Selling in small lots of pails at 9½ to 10c.

HOGS

Street offerings taken at \$6.50 to \$7.

HIDES AND SKIN

Following are quotations: Hides, No. 1 inspected steers, \$7.00; No. 1 inspected cows, \$7.00; No. 2 inspected, \$6.00; No. 3 inspected, \$5.00; calfskins, green, 7 to 9c; calfskins, cured, 11 to 12c; sheepskins, green, 75c to \$1.40; wool, super, 22c to 25c; extra super, 28c; wool pickings, 9 to 10c; tallow, rough, 2c; rendered, 4 to 4½c.

CATTLE

The quality of butchers' cattle, while not so good as that offered last week, is better than the average; demand is easier, and most of the sales were made on a basis of 3½c per pound, but choice lots went at 3¾ to 4c, while common cattle sold down to 2½c per pound.

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET

The market was very quiet during the greater portion of last week, and on several days was decidedly dull, prices scarcely showing a change. The feeling, however, seemed to be fairly firm. Receipts for the week were very light, only amounting to 50,000 bushels. Closing prices on each day of the week for No. 1 hard were:

	Cash	May.	June
Monday	76½	78½	80
Tuesday	—	78½	80½
Wednesday	76½	78½	80½
Thursday	77½	79½	80½
Friday	—	78½	—
Saturday	—	78½	80½

MINNEAPOLIS.

The markets closed on Saturday as follows: On the local board the sample tables were fairly well covered with milling wheat and city millers were picking up a good share of it. Several of the mills have shut down and others are making arrangements to do so next week. There was a better inquiry for 1 hard and nearly all the samples of that grade sold at a shade advance over Thursday.

WHEAT.—No 1 hard in store was steady, being quoted at the close at 76½c for cash or April, 77½c May and 78½c June.

No. 1 northern in store was quoted at 75c for cash or April, 76c May and 77c June.

No. 2 northern in store ruled nominal at 73½c for cash or April, 74c May and 75c June.

Track stuff closed at 70½@77c for hard, 75½@76c for 1 northern and 73½ to 74c for 2 northern.

FLOUR.—The flour market continues slow, but prices are possibly hardening in sympathy with the late firmness in wheat. There is no lack of water now, but the advance in freight rates and the higher cost of wheat, make up a case against millers that they find a difficulty in successfully meeting. The result of it is that several mills are shut down for repairs and more of them will do so.

Patent, sacks to local dealers, \$4.20 to \$4.30; patent, to ship sacks, car lots, \$4.10 to \$4.30; in barrels, \$4.20 to \$4.40; bakers', \$3.40 to \$3.50; superfine, \$1.50 to \$2.25; red dog, sacks, \$1.15 to \$1.25; red dog, barrels, \$1.40 to \$1.50.

BRAN AND SHORTS.—Prices continue easy, with sales of both ranging from \$9.50 to \$10.—*Market Record.*

Pork Packing.

The Cincinnati *Price Current* publishes its 38th annual statement of pork packing in the west with full details. The total winter packing in the west is 6,349,000 hogs, against 6,298,495 last year. The average weight of hogs is 7.67 lbs lighter than a year ago. The aggregate production is estimated at 55,290 less than last year at same average weight. The yield of lard is 1.69 lbs per hog lighter. The production of mess pork shows a reduction of 156,939 barrels. The lard product equals 17,887 tierces less than last year. Stocks of meats on hand March 1, were 37,127,000 pounds less than a year ago, and a reduction of 145,069 barrels of pork and 51,344 tierces of lard in the comparison, packing for the summer season ending Nov. 1 was 5,644,003 hogs, or 679,431 more than in 1895.

Grain and Milling News.

Arnold Williams is fitting up the grist mill at Birtle and will shortly put it in operation.

At a conference of Scotch millers held at Glasgow last week, a resolution was adopted demanding that a duty be imposed upon foreign flour.

The scheme to erect a farmers' elevator at Portage la Prairie seems to be working satisfactorily. A large proportion of the shares have already been taken by the farmers of the surrounding country, who intend keeping the enterprise in their own hands.

From the report of Dunlop Bros., large grain handlers, of England, it appears that the United States contributed 81 per cent. of the total import of grain, and 84 per cent. of flour. The circular adds: "It should be noted that the finest wheat of the year was received from the rising territory of Manitoba.

Bradstreet's reports that the visible supply of wheat has declined 16,000,000 bushels since January 1, but is 17,000,000 bushels larger than the New York Produce Exchange reports, not including 5,600,000 bushels on the Pacific coast. Wheat flour stocks between millers and retailers at leading points of production and shipment are over 508,000 barrels less than one year ago, and 777,000 barrels less than on January 1, 1887.

Business East.**ONTARIO.**

A. J. Davis, livery, Bratford, has sold out.
Elijah Stevens, baker, Alvinston, has sold out.

Alex. Baird, tinsmith, Cayuga, was burned out.

Emerson Hannon, grocer, Hamilton, has sold out.

Jas. Guilds, general storekeeper, Guilds', has sold out.

Frank Sanagan, tailor, London, has assigned in trust.

Hugh McDonald, hotelkeeper, Ridgetown, has sold out.

Geo. A. Matheson, tinsmith, London, selling off at auction.

Callahan Bros., dealers in clothing, Brantford, have dissolved.

Mrs. Morrison, millinery, Orono, has sold out to Mrs. Doncaster.

Geo. Smith, dealer in shoes, Dunville, is offering to compromise.

John Dunkin, grocer, Meaford, has sold out to R. & R. H. Baily.

W. C. Smith, general storekeeper, Arnprior, has assigned in trust.

Wm. Green, hotelkeeper, Toronto, has sold out to J. J. Jamieson.

Jas. Cumberland, dealer in harness, Rosemont, has assigned in trust.

W. H. Hepburn & Co., dealers in shoes, Guelph, have assigned in trust.

Harris & George, dealers in furs, Toronto, have dissolved; Jas. Harris continues.

Smith & Bradenburger, tinsmiths, Stratford, have dissolved; A. W. Bradenburger continues.

Scrimgeour Bros., sash manufacturers, Stratford, have admitted Jas. Bennock—style now Scrimgeour & Bennock.

Semmens Bros & Co., hardware dealers and undertakers, Hamilton, have admitted Alfred Ward—business continues under style Semmens, Ward & Evel.

QUEBEC.

A. Delisle, grocer, is offering to compromise.

John McKinnon, tailor, Montreal, has assigned in trust.

Morin & Co., grocers, St. Hyacinthe, called a meeting of creditors.

Joe. Asselin, grocer, Montreal, advertises stock for sale by auction.

R. Lavin, wholesale dealer in hats and furs, Montreal, stock damaged by fire and water.

Alp. Laurier & Co., dealers in dry goods, Montreal, advertises stock for sale by auction.

Mrs. A. M. Gale, dealer in fancy goods, Montreal, advertises stock for sale by auction.

Herbert & Chartier, grocers, Montreal, have dissolved; Delphis & Christine Chartier continue under style of D. Chartier & Co.

A. W. Hood & Son, soap manufacturers, Montreal, have dissolved; Henry Massey & Wm. T. Hood continue under same style.

VOLUME 6, No. 3 of Massey's Illustrated has been issued. It contains an engraving and sketch of Daniel Massey, who forty years ago founded the business now carried by the Massey Manufacturing Co., of Toronto, and which has grown to one of the largest of its kind in the world.

Winnipeg Board of Trade.

The board of trade met on Tuesday, of last week. The colonization committee reported progress. Alexander Logan, J. A. Wright and M. W. Breedon were elected members of the board. The committee on the mail service reported that they had not yet received an answer to their memorial to the Post Office Department, asking for a mail service on Wednesday and Thursday on the C.P.R., west and east, as far as the trains run on the days named. The committee having charge of the experimental farm question, reported that they had, together with a committee of the city council, forwarded a memorial to the Minister of Agriculture, setting forth the reasons why the farm should be located in the vicinity of Winnipeg. A deputation had also waited on Hon. Thomas White in the matter, during his recent visit here. The president announced that F. B. Ross had been elected to fill the vacancy in the council, caused by the death of Colonel MacKeand. The president was appointed to represent the board in the scheme originated by the trades and labor organizations for paying off the hospital debt.

The question of reciprocity between Canada and the United States was brought up by the reading of a communication from the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce, asking an expression of opinion from the board on this subject. The matter was referred to the council of the board, who were instructed to prepare a report, as to how reciprocity would effect the Northwest, with as little delay as possible. S. Nairn, J. Carman, S. A. D. Bertrand and the secretary were appointed a committee on industries, whose duties it will be to furnish desired information regarding the advantages offered for the establishment of manufactories here. The question of disallowance was again discussed, and the action of an eastern trade journal, in stating that the board was in favor of buying off the C.P.R. rights to monopoly in Manitoba, was vigorously denounced. It was unanimously declared that the board had always held that the C.P.R. had no rights to monopoly within the old province of Manitoba, and that the disallowance of Manitoba railway charters was a mere act of policy on the part of the Government. After reciting the various arguments against disallowance, the following resolution was unanimously passed:

"Therefore be it resolved that this board, as representing the entire business community, would strongly urge on the attention of the Dominion Government the vital necessity in the interests of the prosperity and progress of the province, and the contentment and welfare of its people, that any charters granted by the Local Legislature for roads running in a southerly or southeasterly direction from the city of Winnipeg be left to their operation."

Dairying Matters.

Arrangements are being made by McDowell, Tapp and others for the establishing of a cheese factory in Virden, Man.

A large number of applications have already been received for the work on dairying, which is being distributed free by the Manitoba Department of Agriculture. Applicants from the territories have also been supplied with the work.

More than 10,000,000 pounds of artificial butter were manufactured and sold in the United States in the months of November, December and January, but only 114,697 pounds were exported. It appears, that our neighbors are consuming artificial butter at the rate of about 40,000,000 pounds a year.

"The Manitoba Cheese Factory Co." has applied for incorporation. The chief place of business will be at Manitou. The capital stock is placed at \$2,500, in 250 shares of \$10 each. The applicants are: Ellis, Barrister, James Huston and John Wootton, of Manitou, merchants, and Robson and John McGregor, Manitou, farmers.

At a meeting of the Rockwood Dairy Co., held at Stonewall, S. J. Jackson, was elected president, and A. Magwood, vice-president. It was decided to put the factory in operation on June 1st. On motion it was agreed that patrons should be allowed to take cheese from the factory as soon as cured, on payment of 3 cents per pound for manufacture.

The directors of the Dairymen's Association of Manitoba, met in Winnipeg lately. The meeting had been called for the purpose of asking the Government to take some steps towards the advancement of the dairying interests of the province. They decided to ask the Government to secure the services of Prof. Barre, who was here last summer, to give instruction, to factories and private individuals. Dr. Harrison acceded to this and Prof. Barre will be immediately written to, and it is probable that he will accept the offer of the Government.

Northwestern Review.

The mercantile agency of Dun, Wiman & Co. say of the Northwestern trade in their review for the first quarter of 1887: Since January 1st there have been added to our list of business men, embracing all lines, 200, while 121 have given up business, showing a net increase in three months of 79. The list of failures for the quarter just closed has been very small when compared with the same months in previous years. In the first quarter of 1886 there were 14 failures, with liabilities aggregating \$116,299.92; in the corresponding quarter in 1885 there were 22 failures with aggregate liabilities of \$320,685. During the quarter just closed there were 9 failures with aggregate liabilities of \$74,000 and apparent assets of \$82,325.67. This embraces the district from Port Arthur to Donald. The failures for the quarter ending 31st March in the Dominion were: Ontario, 210, liabilities \$1,859,240; Quebec, 111, liabilities \$609,136; New Brunswick, 18, liabilities \$268,212; Nova Scotia, 33, liabilities \$222,700; Prince Edward Island, 4, liabilities \$54,000; Manitoba, 9, liabilities \$74,000. Total number for Dominion 385 with aggregate liabilities of \$3,387,291.

ACCORDING to a report furnished by the council of the Regina board of trade, the business of that place for 1885 amounted to a total of \$898,000, of which \$94,300 representing building improvements, leaving \$803,700 for mercantile trade proper. A detailed report will be submitted at the next meeting of the board on April 19th.

EVERY GROCER KNOWS

That in point of Quality there is absolute safety in buying and recommending to his customers our Brands of Coffees, feeling sure that the earned reputation which we enjoy of **Importing, Roasting and Packing the Finest Coffees** grown will be rigidly maintained regardless of market fluctuations.

OUR GUARANTEES FOR 1887.

- To import the Choicest Coffees obtainable.
- To maintain the present High Grade of all our Special Brands of Coffee.
- To name Prices which shall be only a fair margin above actual cost of importation.
- To study our own interests by first studying the interests of our customers.
- To faithfully execute each guarantee as positively and honestly as our largely increasing trade will testify we have done in the past.

Agent for Manitoba and Northwest Territories :

JOHN B. MATHER, 42 McDermott Street, Winnipeg.

Respectfully yours, **CHASE & SANBORN.**

—BOSTON.—

—MONTREAL.—

—CHICAGO.—

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W. F.
WHOLESALE JEWELER.

Watches, Diamonds, Clocks, Spectacles, Gold-headed Canes, Silver-plate, Watch Material, Tools, etc., etc.

525 Main St., WINNIPEG.

THOS. DAVIDSON & CO.,

DOMINION STAMPING WORKS,
Stamped and Japanned Tinware,
WIRE GOODS, Etc., Etc.

Office and Warerooms: 474 ST. PAUL and 291 COMMIS-
SIONERS STREETS, - MONTREAL

NORTHWESTERN AGENTS:

G. F. Stephens & Co., - Winnipeg

BOECKH'S STANDARD BRUSHES.

Quality and Size Guaranteed.

For Sale by all Leading Houses.

EUCENE. WATER WHITE. SUNLIGHT
STANDARD OIL COMPANY,
(CLEVELAND, OHIO)

Manitoba & Northwest Department, Winnipeg.

ILLUMINATING OILS LUBRICATING

GASOLINE, AXLE GREASE, CANDLES and all PRODUCTS OF AMERICAN PETROLEUM.
Our stock here embraces all the Manufactures of the Standard Oil Company. Correspondence solicited.

W. P. JOHNSON Mgr., Office 343 Main St
CAPITOL ELDORADO CHALLENGE
CYLINDER. ENGINE. MACHINERY

GRIFFIN & ALLEN, PORK PACKERS —AND— COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

Dealers in Heavy Provisions; all kinds Produce handled on commission. Long Clear Bacon, Hams, etc., at close prices to the trade. Consignments and orders solicited.

66 McDERMOTT ST., WINNIPEG.

J. S. CARVETH & CO., PORK PACKERS

COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
and General Produce Dealers. Correspondence solicited.

Princess St., Opera House Block, Winnipeg

A vote was taken on a by-law granting \$6,000 as a bonus from the municipality of North Norfolk for the erection of a grist mill, roller process, at McGregor, Man., and was carried by a good majority, less than half a dozen voters objecting.

Grain and Milling News.

Of late years Austro-Hungary has become so important an exporter of flour to England, says *Mueller-Zeitung*, that now imports from us are so quoted in official statistics instead of, as formerly, going under the general head "other countries." At the head in British flour imports stands the United States, next Hungary and fourth Germany. The aggregate value of import from America is \$29,760,000, from Austro-Hungary \$4,320,000 to \$4,800,000, and from Germany \$1,920,000 to \$2,400,000.

An Akron, Ohio, mill is using paper barrels made in a strawboard factory at that place. The cost of the barrel, unpainted, is fifty cents, and this does not include cooperage. Of course this price is too high, but it may be reduced. Meantime nothing is heard from the Connecticut paper barrel factory, for which so much was promised, last year. We have but little faith that the paper barrel will make its way into popular favor, but nevertheless the future may demonstrate that it can be made cheaply enough to compete with wood.—*Northwestern Miller.*

The appointment of the Hon. W. E. Sanford to the Senate has necessitated the forming of his large clothing establishment into a joint stock company in which his family will retain a controlling interest. The other members will be W. S. Alley and R. T. Riley, of the Winnipeg branch, and Jos. Greene and Thos. Oliver, of the Hamilton house. The company will have a capital of \$300,000. Senator Sanford was presented with a magnificent letter cabinet which was to have been a Christmas gift from his employees but could not be got ready in time.

BROWN BROS.

Wholesale and Manufacturing

STATIONERS

64, 66 and 68 King-street East

TORONTO.

Departments—Paper & Stationery,
Account Books, Leather and Plush
Goods, Bookbinding, Binders' and
Printers' Material.

New Premises, Large Well-Assorted Stock
Close Prices.

ESTABLISHED 31 YEARS.

JAMES GOODALL,
GRAIN & SEEDS
COMMISSION MERCHANT,

Respectfully solicits consignments of WHEAT and
BARLEY. Correspondence invited.

80 Front-street, TORONTO, Ont

—McINTOSH has opened a general store at
Rapid City, Man.

THE Regina council has ordered 800 trees
from Minnesota, for spring planting.

THE Birtle council has arranged with J. Dut-
ton for the establishment of a cheese factory at
that place.

THE Clemlow syndicate announce that the
Northwest Central railway will be proceeded
with this season.

A SIXTH assembly of Knights of Labor has
been formed in Winnipeg, to be known as
Progress Assembly of Carpenters.

H. BENTLEY & Co., general storekeepers,
Lethbridge, Alberta, advertise reducing their
stock, preparatory to a change of partnership.

THE Birtle *Observer* says THE COMMERCIAL is
wrong in stating that that town is situated a
mile from the railway depot. The *Observer*
claims the distance is but half a mile.

THE Winnipeg journeymen tailors, who were
out on strike, talk of establishing a co-operative
movement. At the last meeting of the Traders
and Labor Council, the tailors were advised to
attempt something of this nature.

THE *Northwest Review* the Catholic journal
published at Winnipeg, has passed under new
management. J. J. Chaddock retires from the
business, and the paper will be published under
the firm name of Chaddock & Co, with N. D.
Beck as chief proprietor.

A Colossal Concern.

The extent of the business transacted by the
great provision house of Armour & Co., of
Chicago, is simply marvellous, and staggers the
mind's effort to adequately grasp it. Apart
from the firm's deals on the Board of Trade,
their aggregate jobbing and distributive sales
for the year 1886 amounted to the astounding
total of \$50,000,000. During that period they
canned 40,000,000 pounds of meats, besides
manufacturing on an extensive scale lard, oil
and butterine, as well as mess and fresh pork

and beef. Last year Armour & Co. killed 380,-
656 cattle, 1,112,969 hogs, and 85,777 sheep,
and in order to handle the product thereof, they
employ 5,000 men daily, whose wages amount
to about \$60,000 per week, or over \$3,000,000
per year. The building of this mammoth con-
cern cover thirty acres of land, with a
floor area of over eighty acres, and a storage
capacity of 90,000 tons. There is probably no
other firm in the United States that has built
up such a vast home and foreign trade within a
comparatively short time.—*Ex.*

Insurance Briefs.

The adjourned annual meeting of the share-
holders of the Northwest Fire Insurance Co.
will be held to-morrow (Wednesday) evening.

Portage la Prairie does not seem to get along
very well under the management of the citizens
committee. The movement to raise money to
purchase a new fire engine has not resulted
successfully. The old engine, which was dam-
aged by fire, is undergoing repairs, and it is
thought will be made to work successfully.

The year 1886 is said to have been the most
disastrous for fire insurance companies in Cali-
fornia, of any year since the establishment of
the Insurance Commission in 1868. From the
report of the Commissioner it appears that the
average percentage of losses to premium on fire
risks last year, is 51.2, against 44.8 in 1885.

J. J. Kenny, managing director of the West-
ern Assurance Company, of Toronto, was unani-
mously elected president of the Canadian Fire
Underwriters Association, for the current year,
and S. C. Duncan Clark, of the Lancashire, and
W. Tatley of the Royal were re-elected vice-
presidents. Robert McLean was re-elected
secretary-treasurer, and A. W. Hadrill chosen
assistant secretary-treasurer of the Montreal
branch of the association. At the close
of the meeting a hearty vote of thanks
was tendered to G. F. C. Smith, for his very
efficient services as president during the past
four years.

British Columbia.

P. Cannon, butcher, Vancouver, has assigned
in trust.

H. C. Wilson, plumber and tinsmith, Victo-
ria, is dead.

L. J. Cross, hotelkeeper, Vancouver; busi-
ness sold by tender.

A. C. Perry, stationer, Vancouver, contem-
plates leaving here.

Clements & Reinger, brewers, Victoria; ef-
fects sold by sheriff.

A. Burns, dealer in wood, New Westmin-
ster, is reported away.

L. J. Hall, fruit dealer, etc., Vancouver, has
given up this business.

G. Montgomery, grocer and provision merch-
ant, Nanaimo, is dead.

W. I. Grassie, watchmaker, Vancouver, of-
fers to dispose of his business.

Kelly & Sherring, contractors and builders,
Victoria, have assigned in trust.

J. E. Insley, hotelkeeper, New Westminster,
has leased premises to L. Pitner.

W. F. Wood, wholesale boots and shoes,
Victoria, contemplates moving to Vancouver.

Kelly Bros., bakers, New Westminster, have
assigned in trust and stock to be sold by
auction.

The B. C. Soap Works, Victoria, have for-
warded a lot of soap to eastern Canada by the
Northern Pacific.

J. R. Tait, hotelkeeper, Victoria, has ad-
mitted Wm. G. Stevenson into partnership, and
style now Tait & Co.

James Vair, hardware merchant, of Kam-
loops and Vancouver, has sold out Vancouver
branch to R. E. Dools.

Cowan, Shaw & Co., commission merchants
and tinware dealers, Victoria, have sold out
their stove and tinware stock.

A. R. Johnston & Co., general storekeepers,
of Nanaimo and Chemainus, have sold out their
Chemainus branch to Croft & Angus.

Collections at the port of Victoria for the
month ending 31st March, 1887: Duties, \$60,-
929.48; Miscellaneous, \$367.03; Chinese Im-
migration Act, \$880.50; Total, \$62,177.01.

W. Heathorne, proprietor of the Victoria
boot and shoe factory, received a medal and
diploma from the Colonial and Indian Exhibi-
tion for a display of boots, shoes and leather.

The Vancouver *News* and the *Advertiser*, of
the same place, have been purchased by Cotton
& Gordon. The papers will be amalgamated,
and published as the *News and Daily Advertiser*.

The bill now before the Local House requests
aid in the construction of the Kootenay and
Athabaska railway from some point at or near
Revelstoke to a point at or near the north end
of Kooteney lake. 300,000 acres of land in all
are asked for.

Montreal Trade Notes.

Manufacturers report the boot and shoe trade
looking up. Large lines of brogans have been
placed at 85c for the Northwest.

Bids have been received by cable for wheat of
98c c.i.f. Liverpool for No. 2 red winter. Here
Canada red and white winter is quoted at 90c.
May. Manitoba hard wheat on spot 94 to 95c.

Fair quantities of syrup has been received
during the past few days, some of it quite new,
but the bulk being of a doubtful character, a
little warmer weather being requisite to make
sap run freely. Prices range all the way from
75c to \$1.00 according to size of can and quality
of syrup.

In flour sales of about 3,500 bags of low
grade, (red dog off) are reported for shipment
to Lower ports at equal to \$2.30 per barrel net
here. Offers from Liverpool for the same grade
however, at 13s. 9d. freight, would only net
\$1.98 per barrel here. English buyers are
nevertheless showing some interest and are
gradually coming up on their bids for May.
There has been a fair amount of business on
local account, with sales of superior at \$3.95 to
\$4, extra at \$3.72½ to \$3.75, and spring extra at
\$3.45. Ontario patents have been placed at
\$4.50 to \$4.60 for high grades, and at \$4.15 to
\$4.35 for less desirable qualities. A fair trade
has also passed in Manitoba strong bakers' flour
with sales at \$4.30 to 4.35, and at \$4.10 to \$4.15
for medium qualities. In American flour, sales
were made of 300 barrels of Minnesota strong
at about \$4.60.