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Prices in Single Boxes, - \$4 50  
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# The Commercial

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

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WINNIPEG, MARCH 21, 1892.

## THE STRIKE.

The announcement made on Wednesday afternoon last, that the strike of Canadian Pacific railway employees was over, was received with general satisfaction in the city and throughout the country generally. The duration of the strike on the western division of the railway, with headquarters at Winnipeg, where it was first declared, has been a little less than a week, but in this time it has spread to the Pacific and Eastern divisions, thus bringing over 2,600 miles of the main line of the railway under the strike, besides including the numerous branch lines connecting with the portion of the main line under strike. The trouble was solely between the management and the men of the Western or Winnipeg division, and was confined on this division to the conductors and trainmen (brakemen). The men on the other two divisions were called out by the Order of Railway Conductors and the Order of Trainmen, as a means of assisting the strikers on the Western division. Had the strike continued a little longer, it would, undoubtedly, have extended from ocean to ocean, over the main line and branches of the Canadian Pacific, and would have perhaps also included a number of connecting or affiliated lines of railway. It was a life and death struggle for organized labor, and defeat meant a severe blow to organized labor, not only on the Canadian Pacific, but throughout the continent. Under these circumstances, the rapid spread of the strike is not to be wondered at. The en-

gineers and firemen, who were not directly concerned in the trouble between the company and the conductors and trainmen, were not called out, but it is almost certain they would also have been drawn into the strike, had it continued much longer. The circumstances in connection with the strike, made it almost a straight fight to maintain the principles of organized labor, and the defeat of the striking conductors and brakemen meant the defeat of the same principle which the engineers and firemen, and indeed all organized labor bodies are pledged to uphold. Under these circumstances, it is probable that the members of all the different labor orders, composed of men in the various departments of railway service, would have been called out, rather than that the principle of organized labor should suffer defeat. While the trouble between the company and the conductors and brakemen of the Western division originated over several points of difference regarding wages, the immediate cause of the strike was undoubtedly due to the discharge of a number of employees for their refusal privately to stand by the company, rather than by the labor orders, in case a strike should be declared. This was looked upon by the men as an attack upon the principles of their organization, and precipitated immediately a strike which probably would have come anyway. While the strikers kept in view the differences regarding wages, the principles for which they contended were of vastly greater importance to them than the mere monetary question. The latter affected the local men only, but the principle involved in the strike affected organized labor as a whole.

The early termination of what seemed likely to prove a long and disastrous struggle, is a matter for sincere thankfulness. The management of the company has shown wisdom and moderation, in acceding to the strikers the principle for which they contended, by agreeing to reinstate without prejudice the discharged men. To this important extent the victory rests with the men. On the other hand the men have met the company as it were half way, by agreeing to submit their wage differences to arbitration. The manner in which the strike has terminated is especially gratifying. This was brought about by a committee of locomotive engineers of this division, who acted as mediators between the company and the strikers. The great confidence placed by the management of the company in its employees, is shown by the fact that this committee of engineers will act as arbitrators upon the disputed points, their decision to be final and accepted by all parties to the dispute. Here we have a few employees bringing about a reconciliation and being empowered to act as arbitrators between a great corporation and a large body of its employees in other branches of its service. This is very creditable to all concerned. The employees of the Canadian Pacific company among whom the trouble started, are an intelligent and capable body of men, and their reinstatement in their old positions gives general satisfaction. Considering its magnitude, the strike has been conducted in an orderly manner, and every effort was evidently made by the officers of the orders interested, as well as by the local leaders, to prevent unlawful acts on the part of the strikers.

## ALIEN LABOR LAWS.

Parliament has very wisely we think refused to imitate the action of the United States in the matter of alien and contract labor. The discussion upon a bill introduced at Ottawa, by a private member, shows distinctly that the House is opposed to any measure imitating the barbarous alien labor law of the United States. The few in favor of the bill contended that laws in the United States which were an injury or annoyance to this country, should be met by similar measures from Canada. The alien labor law of the republic has been something of a hardship to Canadians along the boundary, who lived in Canada, but worked at least a portion of the time in the United States. We are pleased to see that Parliament has risen superior to the retaliatory spirit, and has refused to pass any small, mean measure, because our big neighbor to the south delights in that kind of thing.

## Sheep in Australia.

Sheep farming in Australia has had its ups and downs; but, on the whole, as Sidney Dickinson shows in his article in *Scribner*, the sheep breeders have enjoyed good luck. About the year 1850 over-production reduced prices until fat sheep were sold at a shilling a head; then came the discovery of gold, which drew hundreds of thousands to Victoria and New South Wales to devour the surplus and restore confidence. When the ensuing increase again brought supply and demand into equilibrium, the American war broke out and advanced the price of wool. Later still, when the competition of the Argentine Republic began to be felt, the frozen-mutton industry arose, and again brought sheep quotations to the comparatively remunerative figure of seven and eight shillings per head, where they still remain. There are at this time many sheep farmers whose annual income is from £10,000 to £100,000, and one pastoral king, who owns some thirty "stations" in Victoria, Queensland, and New South Wales, recently informed Mr. Dickinson that his net profit in 1890 was £192,000.

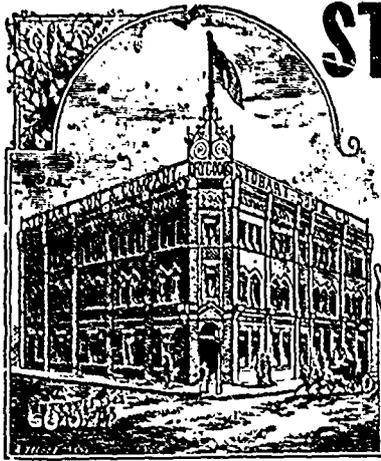
## Winnipeg Wheat Inspection.

The number of cars of wheat inspected at Winnipeg for the two weeks ended March, 12 and March 19, 1892, is given below with the grading of the same.

Grade.	Mar. 12.	Mar. 19.
Extra Manitoba hard ....	1	0
No. 1 hard .....	4	4
No. 2 hard .....	78	51
No. 3 hard .....	58	28
No. 1 Northern .....	5	2
No. 2 Northern .....	20	7
No. 3 Northern .....	1	0
No. 1 White tyfo .....	0	2
No. 1 Regular .....	54	35
No. 2 Regular .....	50	31
No. 3 Regular .....	10	7
No. 1 Rejected.....	20	7
No Grade .....	30	24
Rejected .....	33	20
Feed Wheat .....	4	3
Total .....	340	224

Total inspected for two weeks, as above, 564 cars. Total inspected for the corresponding two weeks of last year, 605 cars.

A committee representing the Toronto Retail Grocers' association called upon all the wholesale grocers of that city and received positive assurance from them that in future they would not sell to ordinary consumers. The association informed them that if they found that any firm had transgressed, its name would be published. It was understood that no objection would be urged to wholesalers selling to large hotels and public institutions, for if the trade here did not supply them the jobbers in other cities would do so.



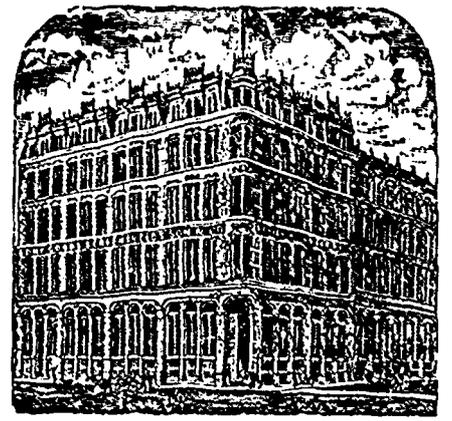
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—WHOLESALE—

## DRY GOODS

WINNIPEG, Man. ESTABLISHED 1874.

Travellers are now on the road with a full line of  
**Spring and Summer Samples.**



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Stock now Complete in all departments  
Letter orders receive careful and  
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### EVERFAST ❖ STAINLESS ❖ HOSIERY.

Complete set of **O. J. Redmond,** Donaldson's Pl...  
Samples with **WINNIPEG.**

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**Boot and Shoe Manufacturers,**  
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SAMPLE ROOMS, 496 MAIN ST. WINNIPEG  
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**Commission Merchants,**  
FLOUR, GRAIN, BUTTER, &c.  
Consignments and Orders Solicited

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Manitoba and N.W.T. Agency: J. M. MACDONALD  
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British Columbia Branch: WM. SKENE, 141 Horne  
Block, Vancouver.

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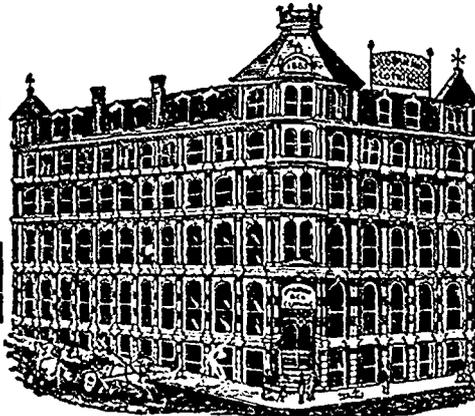
Representative for Manitoba, N.W.T and  
British Columbia,  
L. GODBOLT, WINNIPEG, McIntyre Block.

## Jas. O'Brien & Co.

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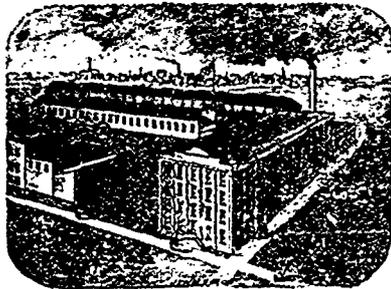
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CHEWING:

**"BEAVER"**  
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**'TECUMSEH,' fancy**  
(In 10 lb. Buts)



SMOKING:

**'SILVER ASH,' cut**  
(In 5 lb. boxes)

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If your wholesale man cannot supply these goods send for quotations **Direct to the Factory**  
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MILLS:

	DAILY CAPACITY	DAILY CAPACITY
ROYAL—Montreal	1800 Barrels	POINT DOUGLAS—Winnipeg 1000 Barrels
GLENORA " "	1200 " "	SEAFORTH—Seaforth, Ont. - 300 " "
GODERICH—Goderich, Ont.	1000 " "	

# The Commercial

WINNIPEG, MARCH 23, 1892.

## LABOR TROUBLES.

One of the questions placed upon the programme for discussion at the coming Congress of Chambers of Commerce in London, England, in June next is, "Boards of Conciliation for Labor Disputes." The object of the question is to consider the advisability of having some sort of an official board appointed to consider and arbitrate upon all disputes arising between employers and employees, with the object of preventing strikes. The council of the Winnipeg board of trade, in recommending instructions for the guidance of the Winnipeg delegates to the congress, referred to this question as follows:—

Subject No. 2 referring to boards of conciliation for labor disputes is one which as yet is of no material interest in our new and only partially organized province, and any opinions advanced would require to be of a prophetic character to suit any disputes which may arise in the future, and the sphere of prophesy your committee have decided not to enter.

There is something amusingly interesting in the above paragraph in the present situation in Manitoba. The question of appointing boards of conciliation for labor disputes is considered by the council of the Winnipeg board as one of no interest to Manitoba, and as one not likely to be of any interest for a long time to come. The ground is taken, evidently, that as industrial development has not been carried to any great extent in Manitoba, and as our industrial population is limited, we have nothing to fear from these great strikes, which are so demoralizing to the business interests of cities and districts, or even countries. It is peculiar, that a few days after the council of the Winnipeg board of trade adopted the report containing the above paragraph concerning labor troubles, Winnipeg has become the centre of a strike of first class magnitude. The strike of employees of the Canadian Pacific railway, which commenced on the division of which Winnipeg is the headquarters, is one of the most important occurrences of this nature which has happened in Canada for many years. The trouble has already spread to other divisions of the road, and unless a settlement is speedily arrived at, the effects will be far-reaching and serious. The commercial interests of a vast territory are affected, and should a prolonged railway blockade result, great harm would certainly be done. At the time of writing it is quite impossible to foresee the result.

Even should this trouble be overcome before any very great injury is done to the country, it has shown that Manitoba is not free from the possibility of labor disputes of a most serious character. Coming at a time when the amount of traffic moving is at a minimum, the effect of a short stoppage of railway traffic will not be severely felt, and should the trouble be speedily settled, the evil consequences resulting therefrom will not be great. Had the strike occurred at a busy season, or say shortly before the close of navigation last fall, even a very brief interruption to traffic would be a most undesirable occurrence, and a very costly thing for this province.

With the experience now being gained, the Winnipeg delegates to the London congress will take a more lively interest in the subject of labor troubles than they would have done had this strike not occurred. They will now know that any practical plan for the conciliation of labor disputes which could be applied to Manitoba will be of great importance from a purely local point of view.

The subject of labor troubles, though certainly not of as great interest to Winnipeg and Manitoba as it is in great industrial centres, is one of general interest throughout the civilized world. It is a subject worthy the earnest attention of the statesman, the man of business and the philanthropist. Looking at the matter in a broad sense, it is a subject worthy of thought by men in all walks of life. If the London congress can evolve a plan which will be useful in conciliating labor disputes, it will furnish something worthy of immediate adoption, in the interest of commerce, labor, and humanity.

## CREDIT BUSINESS.

A farmer, writing in a recent issue of the *Farmer's Advocate*, expresses surprise at the fact that farmers who are heavily in debt, can still obtain credit at the "general stores." They may be loaded with mortgages and chattel mortgages, their implements, furniture, etc., covered by liens, and anything not so covered protected by exemption laws, and still they get credit at the general stores. With our exemption laws and lien laws, the country merchant is practically without means of obtaining payment, and yet there are none who give credit more freely. No wonder this writer should express surprise. THE COMMERCIAL has often written upon this question, and has expressed surprise at the liberality with which goods are promiscuously handed out on credit, especially when we consider the disadvantage at which the merchant is placed in the matter of collecting accounts. Is it any wonder that so many merchants are chronically behind in their payments? This farmer writer goes on to urge that merchants should make a distinction between cash and credit customers, so as to encourage the former. THE COMMERCIAL has frequently urged the same course. To give credit at all is to make bad accounts, and even a very moderate credit business means losses, so that the credit customers should pay something for the accommodation which they receive, sufficient to leave a considerable margin to cover losses from bad accounts. It is altogether unfair to compel cash customers to assist in making up losses from credit transactions. The cash and credit departments should be carried on on an entirely separate basis. Cash business should be done on a basis of a reasonable profit for cash. But when it comes to selling goods on credit, the price should be increased to cover interest and cost of book-keeping and provide for bad debts. If business were done in this way there would be such a sharp distinction between cash and credit business, that there would be every encouragement to farmers to buy for cash, and gradually business would be worked into a cash system. It is the only reasonable way of doing business, to do cash business on a cash basis, and

credit business on a credit basis. It is also the only fair way for the cash customer.

The question naturally will occur as to what is the extra cost of credit business. We should say that ten per cent. would be little enough to add to the cash price, to cover interest and cost of book-keeping, and a further addition should be made to cover losses from bad accounts. Merchants who have had experience with credit business, would be able to estimate the percentage of losses, which would indicate what they should add to credit sales to cover losses. With most of those who have done an extensive credit business, experience has taught them that it would require a very considerable percentage added to their sales, to make up for losses in bad accounts.

The writer in the *Farmer's Advocate* referred to, speaks of the organization known as Patrons of Industry as a means of placing business upon a cash basis. The writer, judging from his remarks, is evidently not a Patron himself, but he commends the efforts of this order in the direction of encouraging cash business. So far as the Patrons are concerned, all we have to say is, that if they are going in for cash business, and if it is their aim to educate the farmers to do business on a cash basis, then we welcome them. They may cause some temporary inconvenience to merchants at certain points, but if they succeed in reducing business to a comparatively cash basis, they will accomplish a great good for Manitoba. THE COMMERCIAL is with them heartily in this respect at least. We have always held that the free credit system is an injury to the farmers as well as to the merchants, and we are glad to see that some of them are getting their eyes opened to this fact. Farmers who buy for cash, should not be obliged to pay credit prices, neither should credit customers be allowed to buy at cash prices. If merchants would reduce their business to this system, doing cash business on a cash basis, and credit business on a credit basis, we do not think they would have much to fear from the order of Patrons of Industry. If the Patrons succeed in forcing merchants to adopt such a system, they will have accomplished a good work. We cannot do better than close by quoting a paragraph from the writer in the *Farmer's Advocate*, as follows:

Nothing will sooner get rid of the load of debt under which so many country merchants and mechanics are going down as a general system of cash trading in this new country. It will give the honest man a better chance, while the lazy "dead beat" who falls back on his "exemption" will be relegated to that obscurity which is his native habitat. To still further clear up the mercantile situation, it is only necessary to have the "exemption" clauses repealed altogether, and I venture to predict that the farmers—those who are farmers in deed as well as in name—will not be the first to cry out.

It is certainly refreshing to read words like the above, coming from farmers, especially as regards the exemption law.

## COST OF GROWING WHEAT.

The cost of growing wheat is a question which has been debated very considerably in Manitoba, not only among farmers, but by business men, politicians and others. Men who would hardly know a gang plow from a wheelbarrow, have undertaken to show on

papour what it costs to grow wheat. The cost of growing any crop, must vary widely according to the system, and perhaps we may also say, lack of system, of individual farmers. Local conditions, such as different varieties of soil, etc., will also make some difference in totalling up the cost of producing a given quantity of crop. The question of the cost of growing wheat in Manitoba is dealt with in the last number of the *Farmers' Advocate*, by a practical farmer, who figures it up as follows per acre:

Plowing, \$2; harrowing and drilling, 50c; seed, two bushels, \$1 50; harvesting and twine, \$1; stacking, 50c; threshing, feeding man, changing work with neighbors, about 9c a bushel for 20 bushels, \$1.80, marketing 3c per bushel, 60c; rent of land, \$: 50, and interest on machinery, 50c. Total of \$9 90 per acre, for say 20 bushels, or 49½ cents per bushel.

The above estimate is based on a yield of twenty bushels per acre. In some districts of the west, where the soil is lighter, the writer in the *Farmers' Advocate* figures that plowing will cost 50 cents per acre less, making the total \$9.40 per acre in those districts. He also estimates that where gangs of men go around with the threshing outfits, instead of following the system of changing work with neighbors, that the cost of threshing will be reduced to six cents per bushel, instead of nine cents as in the estimate above, thus making the total cost of producing twenty bushels of wheat from one acre amount to \$9.30, when plowing is estimated at \$2 per acre, or \$8.80 per acre when \$1.50 is allowed for plowing. A yield of over twenty bushels per acre would decrease the cost per bushel, while of course a smaller yield would proportionately increase the cost per bushel.

### RECIPROCITY NEGOTIATIONS.

Some information has at last come out regarding the recent negotiations at Washington as regards the reciprocity question. Finance Minister Foster, in his budget speech at Ottawa, referred to the matter and his remarks bear out the well grounded suspicion previously entertained, that the United States would not consider the question upon a fair and reasonable basis. The telegraphic report published last week, says, that "Mr. Foster went on to speak of the negotiations at Washington, and said the question of reciprocity had come up, but Canada only wanted to give reciprocity in natural products. Secretary Blaine could not accede to this and would only consider reciprocity in natural products and in manufactures especially against Great Britain. This the Canadian ministers could not agree to and the house must understand that if reciprocity was to be brought about it would be by Canada's accepting the proposals of the United States and discriminating against Great Britain." That this was the result of the Washington negotiations on the question of extended commercial intercourse with the United States was evident from the remarks of General Foster of the United States (not our Mr. Foster referred to above) made at a commercial dinner at New York, shortly after the return of the Canadian Ministers from Washington. Referring to Canada, General Foster said:

The chief barrier to reciprocity with the Dominion, lay in the fact that Canada does not

possess the right of negotiating her own treaties, but must have them negotiated by a distant power, controlled by economic principles entirely different from those of both the United States and Canada. So long as other interests than those of Canada are to control, negotiations for commercial reciprocity must prove a failure.

THE COMMERCIAL a few weeks ago pointed out, that General Foster evidently meant, in these remarks, that the United States was not prepared to treat for reciprocity with Canada, unless the latter country would submit to discriminate against Great Britain. That this journal interpreted General Foster's words correctly, is now shown by the statement of Hon. Finance Minister Foster. The case is simply this, that unless Canada is prepared to sacrifice her own and imperial trade interests, so far as they are intermingled together, she need not look for extension of trade southward. What the Washington administration want is not a fair reciprocity treaty in natural products, but they want Canada to shut out British goods and admit theirs free. This is what they had hoped for as a result of the last general elections in this country, but in which they were disappointed. They still, however, seem to have hopes of forcing Canada to their own terms and unless we are prepared to enter into a high tariff compact with the United States and discriminate against Great Britain and other countries, we can only expect such treatment from the republic as was accorded us by the McKinley law.

### THE CATTLE QUARANTINE.

A telegram from Ottawa says that "after many months of agitation the cattle dealers of the Dominion have succeeded in persuading the government to make the quarantine regulations against United States cattle uniform throughout the Dominion. The proclamation will include British Columbia, though this step has been strongly opposed by Pacific coast members who again waited on the premier, who informed them that the subject was most important, but the order for enforcing the regulations must go forward." A considerable number of cattle are annually brought into British Columbia, from the Pacific coast states, to supply the local demand, which exceeds the home supply of British Columbia. Recently a large trade in live stock and dressed meats has grown up between Manitoba and the territories and British Columbia. With a large surplus of cattle in our prairie region, it is not now necessary for British Columbia to look south of the boundary to make up her deficiency of beef cattle. Heretofore cattle imported into British Columbia from the States, have been exempt from the quarantine regulations imposed upon cattle brought into other portions of Canada from the States. The British Columbia people wish the exemption to continue, as it no doubt assists them in obtaining their meat supply more cheaply. Cattle men, however, have opposed the exemption, on the ground that it might lead to restriction upon Canadian cattle in British markets, from which they are now exempt, as compared with cattle from the United States. British Columbia, however, exports no cattle to Great Britain, therefore the free importation of cattle into that province from the United States, should not affect the position of our cattle in British

markets, as any disease brought into British Columbia from the States could not very readily be communicated to Canadian cattle intended for export to Great Britain. The enforcement of the quarantine regulations in British Columbia, however, will be in the interest of stock raisers of Manitoba and the territories, who will have less competition in Pacific coast markets to meet from United States cattle.

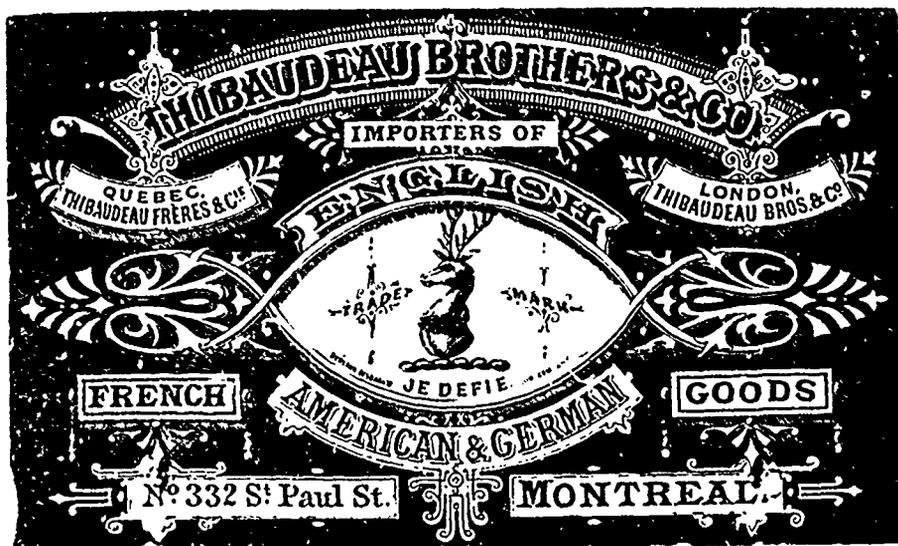
### PUTTING UP POSTAGE RATES.

In these days when there is so much talk about closer trade and political relationships with Great Britain, it seems strangely out of spirit with the times that postage rates from Canada to the United Kingdom should be advanced. A low rate and uniform system of postage is one of the first requisites to the encouragement of commercial and social intercourse. An extensive interchange of newspapers between Canada and Great Britain should prove an encouragement to trade and should greatly assist in making the people of the respective countries better acquainted with each other. There is another very important subject which may also be mentioned in this connection. Canada wants British emigrants to come here. Our newspapers are by far the best mediums we have for making known the resources of our country, and the circulation of our journals abroad furnish by far the best class of immigration literature. It is therefore not a wise policy to place such a heavy tax upon the circulation of our papers abroad as has been done by the recent increase in the postage rates upon papers mailed to the United Kingdom.

### LEGISLATING AGAINST SMUT.

It has been mentioned in some quarters that legislation should be provided for the prevention of smut in wheat. Some individuals are ready to propose legislation upon every conceivable subject, and it is no wonder that the proposal has already been made to legislate with the object of preventing smut. Unlike some subjects regarding which legislative enactment could have no possible influence for good, this is a matter which can be remedied by proper measures. It is well known that it is an easy and inexpensive matter to prevent smut. This is the first point. The second point is, that the prevalence of smut is an injury to the country at large. It is not only the individual who has smutty wheat who suffers. The sending abroad of this smutty wheat is an injury to the reputation of Manitoba. It is also well-known that smut will perpetuate itself, and it therefore should be treated something the same as noxious weeds. Far more impracticable subjects have been legislated upon than this one of smut. Really, the passage of an act to compel those who grow wheat to take proper measures to prevent smut, could not be considered more arbitrary than are our laws for the prevention of the spread of diseases of animals, or providing for the destruction of weeds.

John Fraser, Selkirk, Man., has made up his mind to give up the watch and jewelry business and will devote his whole attention to agricultural implements.



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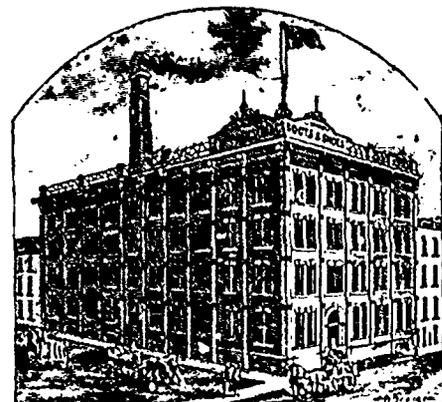
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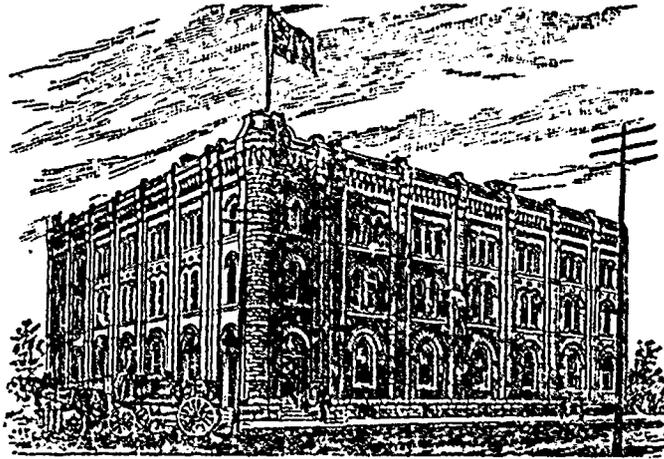
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WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS OF AND DEALERS IN

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Represented in Manitoba, Northwest Territories and British Columbia by **ALBERT FRENCH**

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☞ Highest cash price paid for good  
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**BRUSHES, BROOMS,**  
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**WOODENWARE.**

Our Goods are handled by all the leading  
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## Manitoba.

S. Russell has opened in the butcher business at Strathclair.

Alex. Tait, of Pilot Mound, has taken out a license as auctioneer.

A. Strang, jobber in groceries and liquors, Winnipeg, has assigned.

Struther Bros. will open out a stock of new goods in the Marshal block, Pilot Mound.

The branch of the Banque de Hochelaga will be opened in Winnipeg on Monday, March 28.

Baird Bros. intend building a large store this spring on their present site at Pilot Mound.

James Crosbie is erecting a store at Nesbit, in which, in the future, he will carry on his business.

Sixty five car loads of stock and settlers' effects have been unloaded at Brandon, up to the 20th inst.

D. Ricker is putting up an implement warehouse at Nesbit which he will conduct in connection with his general store.

Nearly 600 new settlers arrived in Winnipeg on the Ontario specials, on March 18, and nearly the entire party were booked for points in the province.

A cheese factory is likely to be established near Carberry, this spring, and several other new factories and creameries in other districts are mentioned.

Jas. Anderson, Portage la Prairie, is having the brick store, recently occupied by A. L. Ashdown, fitted up for spring when he will open out therein.

C. Nettikoven, Strathclair, has sold his farm stock and intends entering into partnership with Gossett Jackson, of Rapid City, in the brick-making business.

Mr. Corelli, of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, has severed his connection with that company to accept the managership of the Equitable in Manitoba.

Gladstone's burnt out merchants have got temporary places of business and will be able to carry on fairly well until more commodious premises can be erected.

Commercial travellers will learn with regret at the bereavement which has fallen upon J. D. Roberts, of the Pure Gold goods, through the sudden death of Mrs. Roberts.

This week, says the Pilot Mound *Sentinel*, the elevators have been so filled that for lack of room, large quantities of grain in bags, have been piled up outside.

The Roseberry cheese factory near Pilot Mound, will be operated this season. A new plant is being procured. P. W. Simpson, from Ontario, has been engaged to manufacture cheese.

The early closing movement with the dry goods merchants of Brandon, takes effect after the 1st of April, and it is expected other business places will follow suit. The hour for closing is to be 6 p.m.

During the past week or two says the Pilot Mound *Sentinel*, a considerable number of new threshing machines have been brought in. Some have been taken off for farmers here, others have been taken further west.

Mr. Bedford, of the Brandon Experimental farm, at a meeting of the Farmers' Institute, said he thought a starch factory would be a success in Manitoba, as potatoes can be raised so cheaply and in such unlimited quantities.

Dealers in cattle, says the Pilot Mound *Sentinel*, are again visiting farmers in search of fat animals. Mr. Gordon has already about four hundred cattle including what he has been wintering. Baird Bros. and Chalmers are also purchasing. Choice animals are worth about 4½ live weight.

A Winnipeg city paper says that Arnett & Co., are about opening an exclusive gents' furnishings and hat store at 454 Main street.

The establishment is being elaborately fitted up in white and gold, the effects of which is very pretty. The wiped out creditors of the late Arnett estate would like to see some of the gold.

The Queen's hotel, Gretna, owned by Henry Braun, was totally destroyed by fire last week. The fire did not spread to the adjoining buildings, as not a breath of wind was stirring. Hiebert's store was not damaged, but the contents were somewhat injured by removal. The loss on the hotel is about \$5,000; insurance, \$3,000.

At a recent meeting of the Portage la Prairie Board of Trade it was moved that Marlatt, Curtis and Graban be a committee to wait upon the town council and urge upon them to make an effort to have the change in assessment act being agitated for by the board of trade and city council of Winnipeg extended to the whole province.

Mr. Porter, of Porter & Ronald, who will be one of the representatives of the Winnipeg board of trade at the congress of boards of trade and chambers of commerce, in London, England, in June next, is an ardent advocate of closer trade relationship with the mother country. Mr. Porter's business leads him to make frequent trips to Great Britain, and he understands well many of the advantages to be gained all around, from a closer commercial union of the Empire. He thought seriously upon and advocated this course, before it became a public question.

A bill has been introduced in the provincial legislature providing for the representation of Manitoba at the World's fair next year, for which purpose \$20,000 is set apart in the estimates. It empowers the appointment of a fit person to be the commissioner of the minister of agriculture and immigration, and the appointment of such assistants as are necessary to carry out the work. The bill also provides for the erection of a suitable building and suitable accommodation for the reception of such articles and products from the province of Manitoba as it may be deemed desirable to exhibit at Chicago.

H. S. Westbrook, who is proud to be able to style himself the pioneer dealer in agricultural implements of Winnipeg, has just issued a handsome illustrated catalogue, showing a very wide range of implements. Mr. Westbrook says by way of introduction in his catalogue, "I cannot but feel proud of the fact that my effort to place a first class line of implements on the market has met with your approval, as has been evinced by my unparalleled sales the past season. The new lines which I have added this year I feel will be thoroughly appreciated, and as I have always endeavored by fair dealing and supplying the best of goods, to merit your confidence, I therefore bespeak your continued liberal favors."

## Assiniboia.

The meeting of the directors of the Wolseley agricultural society, recently passed a resolution asking the municipal council to purchase a carload of thoroughbred bulls to sell to the rate-payers at wholesale rates.

Count de Roffignic has decided to leave Whitewood and take up his residence in Long Island, New York, where he has large real estate interests. He has sold his coffee mill and chickory plantation at Whitewood to a syndicate of his countrymen.

W. W. Bled druggist, Moose Jaw, intends erecting a solid brick store this season. Several others are talking of building on the lots cleared off by the fire. The council intend to enforce the fire limits by-law which will make the business part of the town much safer than it has been in the past. Wright Bros., butchers, burned out, are opening out on the east side of Main street, and M. Ripstein & Co., on River street.

T. H. Cross, secretary of the Moosomin board of trade, has gone to Ottawa to arrange some matters of importance with the Minister of the Interior. He will also see the Minister of

Agriculture on immigration business and afterwards spend several months in the eastern provinces delivering lectures and distributing literature setting forth the advantages of the Moosomin district for settlement.

## Alberta.

T. R. Vaughn, barber, Calgary, has assigned.

E. P. Davis, a Calgary lawyer, has moved to Vancouver, B.C.

Calgary citizens have subscribed and purchased a site to be presented to the Government, for a new post office.

Notice of application for letters of incorporation of the Calgary Brewing and Malting Company is given. The applicants are Alfred Ernest Cross, Mosquito Creek, Alberta, brewer; Herbert Samson, High River, Alberta, ranchman; John Lineham, of Calgary, lumber dealer; Wm. Roper Hull, Calgary, rancher; John Roper Hull, Kamloops, British Columbia, rancher; R. H. McPherson, High River, rancher; William Edwards Cochrane, Mosquito Creek, rancher. The capital stock is \$100,000.

## Saskatchewan.

R. Gwynne is building a store at Prince Albert in which he will carry on business in wholesale liquors.

Moore & McDowall, Prince Albert saw mills, will be in a position to ship lumber this coming summer at the rate of sixteen car lots per week.

The Prince Albert board of trade is asking that the place be made a customs port of entry. The nearest custom house is now at Regina, 250 miles distant.

## Northwest Ontario.

D. Cooper, baker, Fort William, has sold out to Manning & Hearn.

Johnston Whaley will open in the boot and shoe business at Fort William.

J. R. Stinson has opened a new stock of merchandise in J. G. Clark's old stand at Keewatin.

The Hudson's Bay Co. will this spring add a tailoring department to their business at Fort William. The company also proposes erecting some ten or twelve cottages in Fort William and an addition to the store is contemplated.

The bill for the incorporation of Fort William including West Fort has passed the private bills committee at Toronto. Arrangements were made by which in all probability the Port Arthur electric railway will be continued to Fort William West.

## Grain and Milling.

Qu'Appelle farmers are moving for an elevator.

There is now some talk of getting up a joint stock company to build a grist mill at Miami, Man.

Over 350,000 bushels of wheat have been marketed at Hartney, Manitoba, which is not bad for the first year of the new town. It is claimed that 200,000 bushels are yet to be marketed.

The Burnside, Man., Elevator Co., with a capital stock of \$10,000, has been formed. Directors—T. Leader, J. Fisher, K. McKenzie, jr., Wm. Kitson, J. Troop, H. Grant and A. Fox.

On March 15, the steamship Missouri, of the American Transport line, sailed from New York with about 6,000,000 pounds of flour and meal for the starving Russian peasants. The enterprise is that of the *Northwestern Miller*, of Minneapolis, and is most creditable.

Notice is given that application will be made for the incorporation of Frank Burnett, finan-

cial agent, Charles Drummond Hay, farmer, Frederick Axford, merchant, Charles R L Canon, agent, and W.B. Axford, general merchant all of Belmont, Manitoba, as "The Belmont Elevator Company, Limited." The stock is placed at \$50,000.

From 65 to 70c has been paid at Broadview, Assa., for choice wheat for seed purposes. The Broadview agricultural society may make an exhibit of wheat at the Winnipeg Industrial this summer, in competition for the big prize, there being some very fine samples of wheat in the district. The Indians of Crooked Lakes' reserve have sold about 5,000 bushels of wheat at Broadview, one Indian, "Nepapones," selling a car load on sample to Mr. Thornburn.

At a meeting at Gainsboro, Assa., the chairman moved that a joint stock company be formed with a capital of \$20,000 to build a flour mill. After investigation it was resolved to build a 100 barrel mill, and that the capital account be increased to \$30,000. It is the determination of the mill committee to erect the best mill it is possible to build, fitted up with modern machinery, also to erect an elevator in connection with the same, of 50,000 bushels capacity.

The *Miller*, of London, England, says: "On Friday last we received a fine sample of "Ladoga" variety of spring wheat from Richard H. Skrine, of the Ceylon Farm, Grenfell, Assiniboia. We have submitted the sample to several of the leading corn merchants on Mark Lane, who value it from 42s to 43s per quarter, one of these gentlemen remarking, however, that it was absurd to think that the wheat would arrive in bulk in such good condition." The natural weight of the sample is 64 lbs to the imperial bushel." Quotations elsewhere in THE COMMERCIAL will show how the price stated compares with other varieties of wheat, in the London market.

At a Farmer's institute meeting at Portage la Prairie, Man., last week the principal subject for discussion was a paper on "Co-operative Milling," given by Smith Curtis. The paper dealt with the necessity of a mill, showing the advantage it would be to the locality by reducing the price of flour and gristing, and proposed that it should be controlled by the farmers themselves, and thought that a mill of 100 barrel capacity with a 65 horse-power would suit the present requirements. The money to be raised by selling shares at \$25 each, the controlling interest to be in the hands of farmers. The meeting was united in the opinion that a milling company should be formed and steps will be taken to organize at once.

**Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.**

The *Chicago Trade Bulletin* of March 21 says: There was a fair business for the railroads the past week, and the rumors that the east bound lines were cutting rates were rather more numerous than of late. The tariff rates, however, remain unchanged and are quoted at 25c for flour and grain and 30c for provisions to New York. In through freights a fair business was done, and a stronger feeling prevailed, ocean freights being firm and advancing. Through rates to Liverpool ranged at 37 to 41c for flour 37c for grain and 46c to 55c for provisions. The demand for vessels was lighter, but the lake rates remain at 3c on wheat and 3c asked for corn to Buffalo.

The *Montreal Trade Bulletin* of March 18th, says: "The business contracted for spring ocean shipment up to the present time has been light. Some grain contracts have been made at 3s 6d to 3s 9d for steamers to the Bristol Channel ports, to Antwerp and for orders. The regular lines ask 3s to Liverpool, 3s 3d to Glasgow, and 3s 6d to London, and it is understood that some business has been done about these prices. The rates for sack flour to each of these ports are 15s to 26s 3d and 17s 6d respectively, but we have heard of no contracts. Room for deals have been engaged at 47s 6d to 50s, and a considerable number of

cattle have been looked for May shipment without a rate being named.

A committee of the Dominion Live Stock association has had a conference with the general traffic managers of the Canadian Pacific and Grand Trunk railways with reference to freight rates on cattle from points in Ontario to Montreal. They pointed out that whereas the rate from the furthest western points in Ontario to Montreal was thirty cents, it was only thirty cents from Chicago to Boston, a distance of 1,100 miles, which gave cattle shippers of the United States a decided advantage. The railway officials agreed to a reduction of \$5 per car from all points west of Bowmanville to Montreal and a reduction of ten per cent. from all points east of the same points.

The *Minneapolis Northwestern Miller* of March 18 says: "Ocean rates on the whole are rather higher than they were a week ago. But comparatively little flour is being booked and business is dull with most line agents. Some shippers claim to be able to contract room for use after the opening of navigation, at practically the same ocean rates as are prevailing for prompt shipment. In most quarters pretty stiff rates are looked for, for about a month after the opening of the lakes, or until the accumulations of traffic have been reduced to a normal quantity. It is now confidently asserted that boats on the lakes will begin to move about April 15. No action has yet been taken relative to fixing east bound lake rates, but the prevailing sentiment is that the season's business will be opened on the same basis as at the close last fall—25c per 100 lbs to New York. Shippers say that more vessels than usual are going to be in the field for business this year and they are already counting on low flour rates to the seaboard. The representative of one large concern said on Tuesday that he looked for a 25c rate, Minneapolis to London, early in the summer. The lowest through rates per 100 lbs from Minneapolis obtainable Wednesday were: To London, 43c; Liverpool, 44c; Glasgow, 46 5/8; Leith, 47 1/2; Bristol, 46 1/2; A nsterdam, 47c.

**British Grain Trade.**

The *Mark Lane Express*, of March 21, in its weekly review of the British grain trade, says: English wheats are stronger. The average advance of prices in London is 9d and in the provinces 6d. Foreign wheats are exceedingly depressed by the continued arrival. With the slackened demand some cargoes have dropped 1s; sales of California have been pressed at 38s 6d. Flour is 6d lower and corn is down 3d. The imports of corn since Jan. 1 have amounted to 1,671,000 qrs., against 1,016,300 qrs. during the corresponding time last year. Oats are firm and barley weak. At to-day's market there was a further advance of 6d in English wheats and foreign wheats are rather firmer. Flour was very weak and declined 6d; barley was neglected, with oats slow at a decline of 3d; flat corn was 3d lower; round corn was steady, and beans and peas were quiet.

**Review of the English Market.**

The *London Miller* gives the following review of British wheat markets for the month of February:—

The month's trade began on Feb. 1 with a discouraged London market. Wheat prices were 1s lower on the week, and 6d decline was allowed on flour. On the second Hull was 1s per quarter lower for wheat, while Liverpool declined 1d per cental. On the 3rd at Glasgow wheat was 1s and flour 6d lower. On the 4th Birmingham, Bristol, Plymouth, Manchester, all admitted the same decline. On the 5th London was depressed in tone, but a 35s average was quoted against a country average of 33s 1d only on the 6th. London was firmer on the 8th, and so was Liverpool on the 9th, but Glasgow on the 10th was again 6d lower for both wheat and flour. On the 11th at Bristol fine white wheat was held for 6d improvement,

while other sorts were neglected. On the 12th the London wheat average fell to 33s 1d, but Liverpool did not give way. On the 13th a slight advance on English wheat was realised at Colchester, Doncaster, Gloucester, Leicester, Newcastle, Northampton, Peterborough and Wisbech, and the weather having become cold and wintery, London was 1s dearer on the 15th. On the 16th Hull was 6d to 1s higher, and Liverpool, with a snowstorm driving vessels down St. George's Channel instead of up, it was 3d. per cental dearer. Cautious Scotland on Wednesday, saw Glasgow and Edinburgh merchants refusing to sell at old prices, and millers equally reticent over buying at an advance. All the markets of the 18th were 6d. to 1s. dearer, winter having apparently returned with full December rigor. London on the 19th quoted an average of 33s. 10d., an improvement of 9d on the week. Liverpool was 2d dearer, making 5d per cental improvement on the week. The country markets of the 20th although not brisk, were in sellers favour, and on the 22nd London made the previous 9d advance into 1s. On the 23rd, the thaw and sunshine here and a reaction in prices at New York, the Liverpool market lost 2d of its recent 5d per cental advance. The Scotch markets of the 24th were firm, but Bristol and Birmingham on the 25th found the advance of the 18th by no means easy to maintain. On the 26th London quoted wheat at 33s 2d, or 8d decline, and on the 27th rather lower prices were accepted at Gloucester, Canterbury, Colchester, Shrewsbury and Wisbech. On the 29th London was steady for English wheat and flour, but a full 6d cheaper for all imported descriptions.

**English Wheat and Flour Prices.**

Following prices are in shillings and pence:—

	Prices Mar. 9, 1891.	Prices Mar. 7, 1892.
English Wheats, per 504 lbs—		
Kent or Essex, White, New	35 40	34 42
" " Red	33 36	32 33
Old White	36 40	38 43
" Red	34 38	36 40
Norfolk, White	34 37	34 40
" Red	32 35	32 36
"Rivetts"	28 33	30 34
Foreign Wheat, per 426 lbs—		
Duluth	42 43	42 43
No. 2 Spring	37 6	38 41 43
Red Winter Wheat	37 39	41 43
Californian and Oregon	40 42	42 44
Canadian	33 40	42 44
Chilian	none	41 42
Australia	39 43	43 45
New Zealand	38 40	42 46
Bombay, White	36 38	39 41
" Red	33 31	36 40
Calcutta, White	36 36	38 40
" Red	32 34	36 37
Karachi	33 35	36 37
Persian	30 37	32 40
Danubian	38 41	42 45
Danubian and Roumanian	33 36	33 40
Konigsberg, Rostock, etc	37 39	42 44
Hungarian	35 38	42 44
Azima	33 37	39 43
Petersburg	35 38	42 44
Saxonska	37 39	42 44
Sebastopol	35 38	41 44
Odessa, Ghirka	33 36	38 41
Taganrog	34 35	33 41
English Flour, per sk. of 280 lbs—		
London, top-price brands	36	39
" Town whites	29 6 31	33 34
" household	27 6 29	31 32 6
" No 2	25 6 26 6	28 6 30 8
Country Households, Norfolk	25 26	26 6 28
Essex and Suffolk	26 6 28 6	27 6 30
Surrey, Kent, Sussex, and Hert	24 6 29	27 6 30
North Country	27 6 28	27 30
Cones, from "Rivetts"	22 24 25 26	
Cones, from Rice	20 6 22 6 28	
Rice Flour	23 6	26 6 27
Rice Me 1, per ton	9s	120
Foreign Flour, per 250 lbs—		
American Patent Spring	31 6 34	30 6 32
1st Bakers	27 6 29	27 6 28 6
2nd Bakers	25 26	26 6 28 6
Low Grade	18 23	18 6 20 6
Winter Wheat slight	29 31 6	28 6 29 9
Milwaukee		27 6 31
Illinois		30 31
Californian	29 33	31 9

—London Miller.

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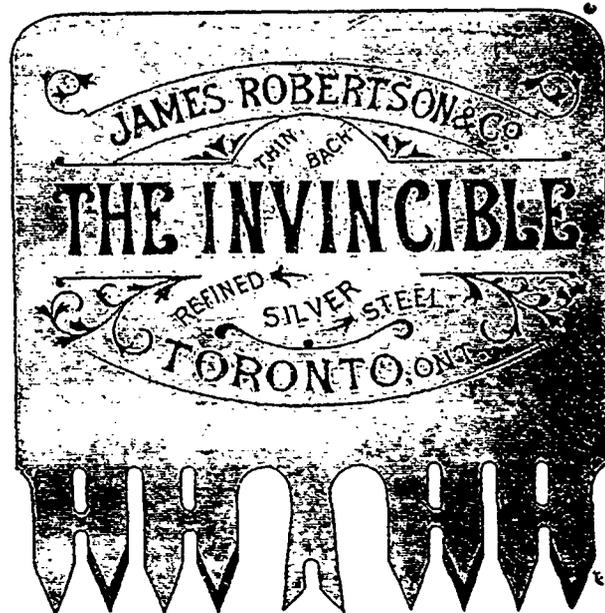
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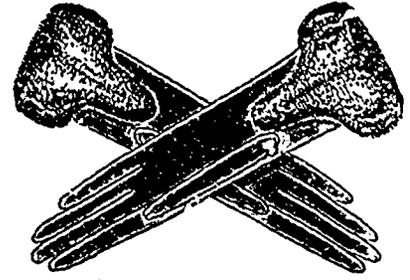
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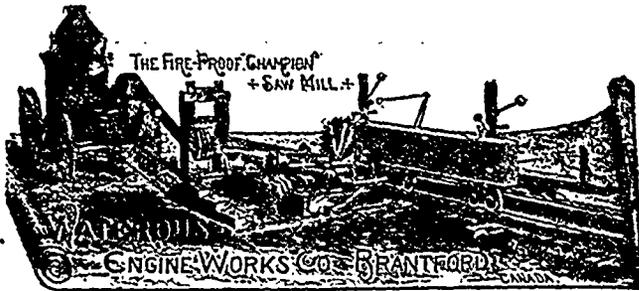
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WINNIPEG MARKETS.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, March 26.

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

The strike of railway employees of the Canadian Pacific railway, continued to absorb all attention in business circles the greater portion of the week. Express trains were kept moving fairly well, but there was practically no movement in freight, and the situation was fast becoming serious for business. As intimated last week, the strike of conductors and brakemen was not long confined to this division. On Sunday night, March 20, the conductors and trainmen were called out on the Pacific division, extending from Donald to the coast, making the entire line from Lake Superior to the Pacific coast under strike, together with the numerous branch lines connecting therewith. On Monday night the men on the Eastern division, extending from Fort William to Chalk river, nearly to Ottawa, were called out, thus spreading the strike over 780 miles more of main line, making in all over 2,600 miles of main line under strike. The men on these divisions were called out as an assistance to the strikers on this division. The probability is that the strike would soon have extended to other divisions, and also to other branches of the railway service, had not a settlement been arrived at as explained elsewhere in this issue, whereby the men returned to work on Wednesday evening and Thursday morning. This caused general satisfaction in business circles, and the clogged wheels of commerce began at once to revolve again. During the continuance of the strike a great deal of business had accumulated, and during the balance of the week there was great activity in rushing forward the accumulated traffic, and in endeavoring to catch up with the work. Orders which had accumulated at wholesale houses for a week, for Canadian Pacific points, were rushed as fast as possible. The early termination of the strike is a matter for general thankfulness. Though there has been some inconvenience and loss, it is nothing to what it would have been, had it continued a week or two longer. The interests most immediately affected were the incoming settlers. Many train loads of incoming settlers and their effects were on the way, and trains of live stock and effects were delayed at North Shore points, where it was difficult to obtain feed for the animals. Points east of Winnipeg, such as Rat Portage, Lake Superior and North Shore points, which depend for their supplies solely upon the railway, were in a precarious position. The implement houses, who have their spring rush on hand, and who had car lots of goods on the way which were needed here for the spring work, were also considerably alarmed over the situation. Lake of the Woods lumbermen, who are commencing their spring shipments, were also feeling nervous. Goods, such as implements, which had not left eastern factories, could, of course, be forwarded to Winnipeg via United States railways, but there were considerable quantities of goods on the way via the C. P. R. when the strike started, which were

side-tracked along the latter road at inaccessible points. Then in the case of implements required immediately at country points here, there was the trouble of distributing them even after arrival at Winnipeg. Wood was scarce in the city, as there were but very light stocks ahead to draw upon, when the strike started. Prices were advanced about 50c or so per cord, but the demand was not very large, and no great inconvenience was felt on this score. Grain business was at a complete standstill, but grain would have been dull without the strike. At one or two country points elevators were full of grain, and as no shipments could be made, farmers were obliged to pile their wheat up in bags outside, or haul it home again. At nearly all points, however, there was elevator space for all the wheat marketed. Some of the flour mills were talking of closing down on account of shortage of storage for their output.

The rush of incoming immigration has been large, and greatly in excess of recent years. About 1,000 persons arrived at Winnipeg on Friday, mostly from eastern Canada. British and foreigners are also arriving in considerable numbers, and the season promises to be one of the most active in the history of the country. The number of immigrants coming in has assisted in supplying the demand for farm help to a considerable extent. Most of those coming from eastern Canada are securing land for themselves at once, but a few are accepting employment. A larger number of the British and foreign immigrants go out to work. Wages for men for farms range at about \$18 to \$25 per month, including board. There is still a good demand for farm help, and some applicants want to engage men by the year. Domestic servants are wanted, the wages for good help usually ranging between \$10 and \$15 per month, and in special cases even higher.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS — Implement firms were in quite a ferment on account of the railway strike, and when the strike was declared off on Wednesday afternoon there were none more pleased than the dealers in this branch. All the houses had car lots of implements on the way, which are wanted immediately for the spring trade, and they could neither get them in or ship out to supply the numerous branch warehouses at country points. The situation was beginning to look very serious for them and for the country at large. If they had not been able to get these goods in in time for the spring trade, they would have to be held over, and would not sell this season at all, while the lack of supplies would have been serious for our agricultural interests. A few cars which were side-tracked en route, on account of the strike, have not been located yet, but the danger is now considered past. The implement firms have every prospect of a brisk season before them, the large immigration of agricultural settlers being a welcome feature, and a sure indication of a good season's trade. Early spring implements are now coming into demand, and in a very short time the call for spring lines will be at its best. Some threshing outfits are still going out.

DRIED FRUITS — Dried apples, 6 to 6½c; evaporated, 8½ to 9c; figs, layers, 11 to 15c; figs, cooking, 5 to 7c; dates, 6 to 8c. Valencia raisins, \$1.75 to \$2 per box. Currants, 6½ to 7; prunes, 6 to 10c. Evaporated fruits are quoted; apricots, 11 to 13c; peeled peaches, 17½ to 18c; unpeeled peaches, 12 to 13c; pitted plums; 11 to 11½c; cherries, 13 to 13½c; pears, 12½ to 13c; nectarines, 11½ to 12c; raspberries, 19 to 20c.

FISH — The market is well supplied with a considerable variety of fresh fish, in both salt and fresh water varieties. Local varieties of fresh water fish are quoted: Whitefish, 5½c; pickerel, 4 to 5c; sturgeon, 6; pike, 2 to 2½c; Lake Superior trout, 9c; Lake Superior herring, 35c per dozen; Eastern brook trout, 20c per lb. Fresh salt water fish: Salmon, 11; smelts, 12c; halibut, 14c; cod, 8c; haddock, 10c. Cured fish: Smoked haddies, 8½c; boneless cod, 7 to 7½c. Salt mackerel, 15c lb; herrings, 35c doz-u; dry cod, 8c lb. Oysters are quoted at \$2.15 for standards, and \$2.35 for selects per gallon, for Providence river stock, with Baltimores at \$2 to \$2.20.

GREEN FRUITS — Business was slow, for which the strike was blamed. Apples hold firm and choice to fancy red stock are quoted at \$1.25 to 5.00 per barrel. Greenings may be had at \$3 to 3.75 per barrel as to quality. Florida oranges are becoming scarce and advancing, quoted at \$4.75 to 5.75 per box; California oranges are now of better quality than earlier arrivals. Navels are held at \$1.75 to 5., and seedlings at \$3 to 3.25 per box. Lemons, lower, at \$5.75 to 6.50 for Messinas per box. Cranberries, \$9 to 9.50 per barrel; Malaga grapes, large size kegs, \$10 to 10.50. California winter pears, \$3.25 to 4 per box of 40 pounds. Bananas are arriving in small lots by express, and are worth \$3.75 to 4 per bunch.

GROCERIES — It has been confirmed that Spreckles will go into the sugar refinery combine in the United States, which will end the sugar war there. Eastern Canada refineries were reported to be very busy, and feeling firmer, but eastern jobbers, owing to cutting, are not making a profit. Toronto jobbers have been selling at 4½ to 4¾c for granulated, and yellows at 3¾ to 4½, which are unprofitable figures, based on prices at refineries. The fighting starch manufacturers have probably decided that it is foolish to sell at losing price, and they have commenced to advance their figures. Winnipeg sugar prices are granulated 5c and ½c higher in 50 lb bags, while 100 lb bags it is quoted at 5 to 10c per 100 lb under barrels. Yellows, 4 to 4½c. lumps, 6 to 6½c; powdered, 7½ to 8c; syrups quoted 2¾ to 3¼c.

RAW FURS — The week has been a very important one in furs, on account of the annual March sales being held in London this week, opening on March 21. Following is the Hudson's Bay Co.'s collection which was offered this week: Black bear, 11,560; brown bear, 1,720; gray bear, 225; white bear, 122; badger, 3,458; cross fox, 2,656; red fox, 11,119; mink, 41,030; lynx, 8,266; white fox, 9,486; silver fox, 632; pit fox, 549; marteau, 73,000; fisher, 5,070; otter, 9,689; raccoon, 130; skunk, 10,115; wolf, 1,690; rabbit, 21,688; musk ox, 1,946; wolverine, 1,094; fur seals, salted, 410; hair seals, do., 548. and dry hair seals, 1,500. Beaver and musquash were sold in January. THE COMMERCIAL has received the following telegraphic advice via New York regarding the result of the Hudson's Bay Co.'s sales this week:

Fisher declined	10	per cent.
Cross fox	10	"
Silver fox	15	"
White fox	25	"
Otter	15	"
Bear	7½	"
Skunk	10	"
Marten advanced	15	"
Red fox	12½	"
Lynx	40	"
Mink	17½	"
Wolverine	25	"

The advance in lynx was expected, and was stimulated by the small collection. Red fox was also expected to advance. The advances in red fox and lynx especially will be very acceptable to traders here. The Winnipeg market is receiving a few lots, but mostly small assortments. A fine lot of furs from the Lake Superior district was offered this week.

**NOTS**—Fancy stock is quoted: Taragona almonds per pound, 18 to 19c; Grenoble walnuts, per pound, 17 to 18c; polished pecans, 20c; Sicily filberts, large, 14 to 15c; Brazils, 15c; chestnuts, 15c; peanuts, green, 14 to 15c; peanuts, roasted, 16 to 17c; coconuts, per hundred, \$10. Some stock may be had at 3 to 5c per lb under these quotations.

**LUMBER**—The lumber trade was one of the branches which was likely to be most seriously affected by the strike. Orders for the usual spring stocking up of yards are commencing to come in, and the material will soon be wanted for use. The early settlement of the strike is therefore a decided relief to this branch. The higher prices ruling for lumber in the States this season, has a firming influence upon the trade here, as Minnesota lumber comes into competition with the home article at some points in Manitoba reached by the Northern Pacific railway, such as Winnipeg, Portage, Brandon, Emerson, etc. In the new list of quotations of lumber prices at Lake of the Woods mills, 2x4 dimension from 18 feet up is advanced \$1 over last fall's, prices; 8x10 to 12x12 is also advanced \$1; 8 and 10 in. shiplap is advanced \$1 to \$1.7; cull ceiling, siding and flooring is \$1 lower at \$9; and rough cull boards are also reduced from \$10 to \$9. These reductions in culls have been made to meet competition of spruce mills. Last week we gave the new list prices of lumber at the yards in Winnipeg, omitting timber and dimensions. The latter we will now give, these being prices to contractors, etc., at the yards here:

Sizes	6 ft	8 ft	10 ft	12 ft	14 ft	16 ft	18 ft	20 ft	22 ft	24 ft
2x4	18.00	18.00	22.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	22.00	23.00	23.00	24.00
2x6	18.00	18.00	20.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	22.00	22.00	23.00
2x8	18.00	18.00	20.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	22.00	22.00	23.00
2x10	18.00	18.00	20.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	22.00	22.00	23.00
2x12	18.00	18.00	20.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	22.00	22.00	23.00
3x8	.....	.....	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	23.00	24.00
3x10	.....	.....	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	23.00	24.00
3x12	.....	.....	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	23.00	24.00
4x4	.....	.....	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	23.00	24.00
4x6	.....	.....	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	23.00	24.00
4x8	.....	.....	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	23.00	24.00
4x10	.....	.....	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	23.00	24.00
4x12	.....	.....	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	23.00	24.00
6x6	.....	.....	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	23.00	24.00
6x8	.....	.....	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	23.00	24.00
6x10	.....	.....	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	23.00	24.00
6x12	.....	.....	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	23.00	24.00
8x8	.....	.....	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	23.00	24.00
8x10	.....	.....	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	23.00	24.00
8x12	.....	.....	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	23.00	24.00
10x10	.....	.....	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	23.00	24.00
10x12	.....	.....	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	23.00	24.00
12x12	.....	.....	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	23.00	23.00	24.00

\$1 per M advance on each foot over 24ft in length.

\$1 per M advance on each inch over 12in. in depth and width.

Tamarac dimension same price as pine.

Spruce dimension at \$2 per M less than pine.

Cull plank—all widths at \$14 per M.

**GRAIN AND PRODUCE.**

**GENERAL WHEAT SITUATION**—In our last report we said that the week was one of the most unsatisfactory on the crop, and that prices had reached the lowest range so far this crop year. If last week was a dismal one for the bulls, this one has proved even worse. Prices have continued to decline, and have touched several cents under quotations of the previous week. Those who bought May wheat at \$1 and upward, Chicago quotations, would feel very sick to see the market go down to about 80 cents for May, as it did last week, that is if they still hold on to their purchases, but the probability is that these unfortunate bulls have been about all shaken out long ago.

May wheat at 80c Chicago is certainly a humiliating wind-up to all the bull talk and boom literature which was scattered around concerning wheat a few months ago, but facts are stubborn things, and it is the case that May wheat has touched in the vicinity of 80c at Chicago this week, this being a decline of 25 to 30 cents per bushel since last fall.

On Monday United States markets were weak and closed 1 to 2c lower than Saturday's close. Crop damage rumors had no influence to stay the markets. Financial troubles in European doubt depressed markets there, bank failures being reported at Paris, and in Spain. Cables were irregular, with Liverpool 1/2 to 3/4 higher, London 6 1/2 lower, Berlin higher, Paris lower. The visible supply for the United States and Canada, east of the mountains, showed an increase of 322,000, making the total 41,139,000 bushels, as compared with 23,059,000 bushels a year ago. Duluth wheat receipts were 429 cars and Minneapolis 675 cars. On Tuesday United States markets sold lower, but recovered and closed only a trifle under Monday. The weakness was owing to lower cables, speculative selling and favorable crop weather. Wheat and flour on ocean passage decreased 800,000 bushels. Imports and home deliveries of wheat in England were 465,000 bushels in excess of consumption, for the week. Duluth receipts were 366 cars and Minneapolis 382 cars, which was nearly three times as much as these two points received the same day a year ago. United States markets took another sharp drop on Wednesday, closing about 2c lower. Liverpool cabled 1/4 lower, and London 3d lower on some lines. *Bradstreet's* weekly statement reported a decrease of 1,330,000 bushels in stocks east and west of the Rocky mountains. Duluth receipts were 269 cars—and Minneapolis 371 cars—nearly three times greater than a year ago. On Thursday prices still tended lower in United States markets. New York closed about 1c lower. Duluth dropped to 80c per bushel for No. 1 northern, May delivery, as compared with \$1.04 1/2 the same day a year ago. Chicago closed at 80 1/2c, being the lowest price yet reached on this crop. Cables were lower, Weather was fine for crops, and the Cincinnati *Price Current* crop summary predicted a favorable outlook for winter wheat. Duluth receipts were 262 cars and Minneapolis 402 cars. On Friday wheat displayed considerable energy towards the close of the day, in U. S. markets. Early in the day Chicago prices were weak, but there was good buying by shorts, and the Behring Sea trouble influenced the market considerably. Closing prices were 1 to 1 1/2c higher. Total receipts at the four principal spring wheat points since Aug. 1, the beginning of the crop year foot up, Minneapolis, 50,336,602 bushels; Duluth, 37,871,443 bushels; Chicago, 36,662,542 bushels; Milwaukee, 9,392,864 bushels, making a total of 134,263,451 bushels; against 68,615,687 bushels during the same time last year, and 72,829,934 bushels in 1890. The total receipts of wheat at the four principal winter wheat points, Toledo, St. Louis, Detroit and Kansas City from July 1 to date are 58,409,213 bushels, against 23,742,067 bushels in 1891, and 27,537,550 bushels in 1890.

The exports of wheat from India during the week ended March 19 were 560,000 bu, of which 340,000 bu were to the United Kingdom and 220,000 to the continent. The shipments for the corresponding week of 1891 were 280,000 bu. Total shipments since April 1 were 52,714,000 bu, of which 26,230,000 bu were to the United Kingdom, and 26,484,000 bu to the Continent. The total shipments for corresponding time last year were 26,160,000 bu, of which 18,380,000 bu were to the United Kingdom and 7,780,000 bu to the Continent. The special cable to the Chicago *Trade Bulletin*, dated Liverpool, March 21, says:—"Shipments of flour and wheat to Europe during the past week were as follows: To United Kingdom, equal 3,230,000 bu; to Continent, 2,800,000 bu; total, 6,030,000 bu,

Argentine shipments heavy. Shipments during the previous week, 7,230,000 bu. Requirements, 7,000,000 bu." The clearances of flour and wheat to Europe since August 1—thirty-three weeks—as cabled to the *Trade Bulletin*, have been as follows: To United Kingdom, 130,434,000 bu; to Continent, 130,662,000 bu; total, 261,096,000 bu. Requirements, 231,000,000 bu.

**LOCAL WHEAT**—The strike put a quietus on what little disposition there was to do business, and during the week practically nothing was done on the Winnipeg change. Farmers' deliveries were larger at several points, the weather being favorable, and farmers no doubt desirous of marketing some grain before they commence their spring work. At one or two points elevators were full, and wheat had to be piled up in bags outside, as it could not be shipped while the strike continued. The weather was clear and mild all the week, and favorable to the drying out of stacks, so that threshing will likely be resumed actively again, if it continues fine. Wagons were in use in some districts, but in others there was sleighing, but the snow was going. Prices to farmers in Manitoba markets have been kept up pretty well, the price for good samples of hard wheat ranging between 60 and 70c per bushel, to farmers in country markets. Stocks in store at Fort William at last weekly report, were 2,030,884 bushels, an increase of 62,873 for the week. A year ago Fort William stocks were 631,290 bushels, an increase for that week of 31,170 bushels. Business is usually transacted on track at country points, or delivered at North Bay, or for delivering afloat at Fort William, May. Prices on track, Winnipeg, are approximately as follows: No. 2 hard 67 1/2 to 69c; No. 3 hard, 59 to 60c; No. 2 northern, 60 1/2 to 61c; No. 1 regular, 47 to 50c; No. 2 regular, 38 to 40c; No. 3 regular, 26 to 28c.

**FLOUR**—The strike stopped shipping business and some mills were on the eve of shutting down on account of lack of storage space. The mills held plenty of wheat on hand to keep at work on, but the difficulty was about storing the output. Notwithstanding the continued decline in wheat in the United States, Manitoba millers are still paying comparatively high prices for good samples of wheat, at their country buying stations, consequently flour prices locally are maintained. Jobbing prices to the local trade in broken lots are as follows per 100 pounds: Patents, \$2.40; strong bakers', \$2.20; second, do \$1.80 to \$2.00; XXXX, \$1.20 to \$1.40; superfine, \$1.10 to \$1.15. Less than 100 pound sacks 5c extra per hundred.

**MILLSTUFFS**—Stocks were lighter, as no country shipments could be received, but there was no scarcity. Quoted at \$10 to \$11 per ton for bran and \$12 to \$13 for shorts, in small lots, delivered in the city.

**OATS**—About 16 1/2 to 17c per bushel of 34 lbs, represented the views of buyers, for car lots of feed quality on track at country points, but there was little or no business transacted. Holders asked generally 1/4 to 1c more. Winnipeg street prices about the same at 19 to 21c. There is considerable demand in a retail way for choice oats for seed, at 25c and upward per bushel.

**BARLEY**—Buyers offered 19 to 20c per bushel for feed barley, on track country points, and holders at 20 to 21c per bushel of 48 pounds. Clean barley for seed, 22 to 25c.

**MEAL, OIL CAKE, BEANS, ETC**—Jobbers are selling at \$2.35 for rolled oats and granulated meal, per 100 lbs, and \$2.30 for standard oatmeal. Some brands of granulated are quoted at \$2.30, and \$2.25 for standard. Oil cake, in bags, \$20 per ton; oil cake meal, \$23 per ton, these prices for five ton lots; cornmeal is held at \$1.85 to \$1.90 per 100 lbs. Split peas, \$2.60 to \$2.65 per 100 lbs. Beans, \$1.70 to \$1.75 per bushel. Pot barley, \$2.65 to \$2.70 per 100 lbs.

**BUTTER**—Stocks are not large, and there is not much coming in, but an increase of roll is looked for. Dealers get 18 to 20c for fair to

good dairy, selling in a small way to the city trade, and more is asked for selections. A little roll stuff is coming in, and brings about prices quoted for dairy tubs.

**CHEESE**—Quiet and unchanged at 11 to 11½ per lb, the latter price usually asked for small sizes.

**EGGS**—Prices have continued to go lower, and case lots were offering at 15c per dozen on Friday and quotable on Saturday at 13 to 15c. A large influx of eggs is looked for, with this mild weather. Prices here declined faster here than in country markets.

**CURED MEATS**—Quotations are: Dry salt long clear bacon, 9c; smoked long clear, 10 to 10½; spiced rolls, 10 to 10½; breakfast bacon, 11½ to 12c; smoked hams, 11½ to 12c; mess pork, \$10 to \$17 per bbl. Sausages quoted: Fresh pork sausage, 10c per pound; Bologna sausage, 3c per pound; German sausage, 9c per pound. Ham, chikolton and tongue sausage, 9c per ½ lb.

**LARD**—Compound held at \$1.75 to \$1.80 per cwt. Pure at \$2.15 to \$2.20 per 20-lb. pail.

**DRESSED POULTRY**—Scarce at 12 to 13c for good chickens, and 14 to 15c for turkeys. Some are now offering live, and large choice chickens will bring up to \$1 per pair, and turkeys 12½ live weight.

**DRESSED MEATS**—Good beef is firm and a higher range of prices was asked, wholesale butchers holding at 6 to 7c per pound. Mutton is nominal at 9 to 10c, there being little sale, and most butchers holding some frozen stock. Veal more plentiful at 8 to 9c. Pork, 6½ to 7½c.

**LIVE STOCK**—Up to 4½ is reported as being offered in the country for choice cattle, but this is a pretty stiff figure, and is probably exceptional, 3½ to 4c being probably nearer the price of fair to good cattle. There is a good deal of speculation on the outlook for exporting cattle. It is well known that exporters lost money generally last year. Losses were the general rule and profitable sales a rare exception. This should make shippers cautious this year. At present the outlook is not considered satisfactory, as it is supposed that the prevalence of disease in the Old Country may injure the business. This would probably affect the stocker trade, if anything, more particularly, but the trouble may disappear before Canadian cattle go forward. Unfit States cattle are said to be going forward freely, of a poor class and selling low. Fear has been expressed that the British authorities may enforce the regulations against Canadian cattle, from which they have been exempt, but we think this is only the usual scare about this matter, and not likely to go into effect. The restrictive regulations, however, are being enforced more generally in Britain this spring than before, and now apply to about all countries but Canada. Sheep here are quoted at 6c live weight.

**VEGETABLES**—Potatoes were plentiful and lower. Following are the prices dealers pay at farmers' wagons on the street market: Potatoes, 30c to 35c per bushel; carrots, 40 to 50c; beets, 40c per bushel; parsnips, 1½ to 2c per pound; turnips, 20 to 25c per bushel; cabbage, 60c to \$1 per dozen; onions, 2½ to 3½c per pound; horseradish 8c per pound. Dealers are selling Spanish onions at \$1.35 per crate, and now California cabbage at 4½ to 5c lb.

**HIDES**—No change in prices and offerings light. Frozen hides as they run quoted at 3 to 3½. No. 1 cows, 3½c; No. 2, 2½c; No. 3, 2c; No. 1 steers, 4½c. Real veal 8 to 13 lb skins, 4 to 5c lb. Sheep skins range in value from 50 to \$1 each, for fresh take-off, but few come up to the top price. Tallow, 4½c rendered and 2½c for rough.

**HAY**—There was abundance of hay in the city, and the strike did not affect prices locally. At some points along the Canadian Pacific east, which are supplied from here, there was a shortage of hay and feed and a few lots of baled hay were sent out by express, as freight could not be got through, which made it rather a luxury. Loose hay on the street market here

selling at \$4 to \$9 per ton. Pressed, \$5 to \$7 per ton.

**Chicago Board of Trade Prices.**

[Quotations below are per bushel for regular No. 2 wheat, which grade serves as a basis for speculative business. Corn and oats are per bushel for No. 2 grade; mess pork quoted per barrel, lard and short rib sides per 100 pounds.]

Wheat again sold lower on Monday. The opening was about ½c lower, and declined to near, closing 1½c lower than Saturday. Receipts were 205 cars. Corn, oats and provisions were all lower. Closing prices were:

	Mar.	May.
Wheat .....	82½	83½
Corn .....	37	37½
Oats .....	27	27½
Pork .....	9.85	10.00
Lard .....	6.10	6.15
Short Ribs .....	5.42½	5.47½

Prices continued lower on Tuesday for wheat, the lowest point touched being about 1½c under Monday's close. Then there was a recovery of about 1c, prices closing ½c under Monday. Receipts 230 cars. Corn and oats recovered slightly. Closing prices were:

	Mar.	May.
Wheat .....	82½	83½
Corn .....	37½	38½
Oats .....	27½	28
Pork .....	9.07½	10.12½
Lard .....	6.17½	6.22½
Short Ribs .....	6.65	6.60

Lower wheat markets again on Wednesday is the report. The opening was ½ to ¾c lower, and after a considerable advance, prices again became weak and declined nearly 2c closing 1½c lower than Tuesday. Other products were fairly steady. Wheat receipts were 135 cars. Closing prices were:

	Mar.	May.
Wheat .....	80½	81½
Corn .....	37½	38½
Oats .....	27½	28½
Pork .....	9.07½	10.10
Lard .....	6.15	6.20
Short Ribs .....	6.60	6.65

On Thursday wheat was weak on lower cables and good crop weather. Closing prices were ½c lower:

	Mar.	May.
Wheat .....	79½	80½
Corn .....	38	39½
Oats .....	27½	28½
Pork .....	9.07½	10.10
Lard .....	6.15	6.20
Short Ribs .....	6.60	6.65

On Friday wheat was weak for a while, but advanced on firm closing cables and a good demand for the cash stuff. Closing prices were:

	Mar.	May.
Wheat .....	81	82½
Corn .....	38½	39½
Oats .....	27½	28½
Pork .....	10.02½	10.16
Lard .....	6.17½	6.22½
Short Ribs .....	6.62½	6.67½

On Saturday, March 26, May wheat opened at 81½c, and sold down to 80½c, then advanced and closed at 80½c. A week ago the close was at 85½c for May delivery.

**Minneapolis Market.**

Following were closing wheat quotations on Thursday, March 24:—

	Mar.	May.	July.	On track.
No. 1 hard .....	—	—	—	78
No. 1 northern .....	70½	70½	78½	77
No. 2 northern .....	—	—	—	72-75

Closing quotations on cash wheat are made on track wheat, while the sales are made delivered. It costs ¼ of a cent per bushel to deliver, so in closing wheat "on track" the close is usually ¼ of a cent under the delivered price.

**Flour**—Quoted at \$4.10 to \$4.50 for first patents; \$4.00 to \$4.10 for second patents; \$3.60 to \$3.75 for fancy and export bakers, \$1.30 to \$2.00 for low grades, in bags, including red dog. The position of the wheat market does not justify marked activity in the flour trade. Naturally enough the result in selling flour is in harmony with natural causes. Some old orders are filled, and there are flour buyers who buy along as their sales recommend, whether prices are rising or falling, together making requirement enough with a moderate accumulation to keep about a three quarters run. Prices were weak.

**Bran and Shorts**—Quoted at \$11.00 to \$11.60 for bran, \$10.60 to \$11.60 for shorts and \$12.00 to \$12.60 for middlings.

**Oats**—Quoted at 26½ to 27c for No. 2 white, 26½c No. 3 white, and 24½ to 26c for No. 2 and 3.

**Barley**—Quiet at 35 to 43c for No. 3.

**Feed**—Millers hold at \$14.25 to \$15.60; less than car lot, \$14.50 to \$15.00, with corn meal at \$14.00 to \$14.75, bolted meal, \$16.60; granulated, \$17.

**Dressed Poultry**—Turkey, 12 to 14c. chickens, 8 to 12c; duck and geese, 11 to 13c.

**Meats**—Veal, 2 to 6c per pound; country dressed mutton, 6 to 6½c; lamb, 12½ to 15c; hogs, \$5 to \$5.75.

**Butter**—Creamery, 20 to 27c; dairy, 14 to 24c; roll, 15 to 19c; packing stock, 12 to 15c.

**Eggs**—Fresh, held at 11 to 11½c.

**Vegetables**—Potatoes, car lots, held at 25 to 30c as to quality; mixed being quoted at 25 to 27c per bushel; cabbage, 2½ to 3c per pound; onions, \$1 to \$1.10 per bushel; pea-plant, 9 to 10c per pound.

**Apples**—\$2.25 to \$3 per barrel in car lots.—Market Record, March 24.

**Duluth Wheat Market**

No. 1 Northern wheat at Duluth closed as follows on each day of the week:

Monday—March, 70½c; May, 82½c.
Tuesday—Cash, —; March, 70c; May, 82½c.
Wednesday—Cash, —; March, 77½c; May, 80½c.
Thursday—Cash, —; March, 70½c; May, 80c.
Friday—Cash, —; March, 78½c; May, 81½c.
Saturday—Cash, —; March, 77c; May, 80c.

A week ago March closed at 80½c and May, at 83½c.

**Minneapolis Closing Price Wheat**

At Minneapolis, on Saturday, March 26, wheat prices closed as follows: No. 1 northern, March, 70½c; No. 1 northern, May, 76½c; No. 1 northern, July, 78½c; cash, 77½c. A week ago March closed at 80c, and May 80½c for No. 1 northern.

**New York Wheat Market.**

On Saturday, March 26, wheat at New York closed at 95½c, for March and 92½c for May. A week ago the close was at 97c for March and 96c for May wheat.

**Montreal Stock Market.**

Reported by Osler, Hammond & Nanton, March 20, 1892:—

Banks.	Sellers.	Buyer.
Bank of Montreal .....	224	220
Ontario .....	116	105
Molson's .....	105	100
Toronto .....	—	230
Merchants' .....	163	110
Union .....	—	91
Commeroc .....	137½	135
Miscellaneous.		
Montreal Tel .....	137½	137½
Rich. & Ont. Nav .....	68½	67
City Pass by .....	105	100
Montreal Gas .....	200½	200
Can. N. W. Land .....	—	—
C. P. R. (Montreal) .....	88½	83½
C. P. R. (London) .....	—	90½
Money—Time .....	4	—
—On Call .....	—	5½
Sterling 60 days, N. Y. Posted rate .....	487	—
—Demand .....	489	—
—60 days Montreal rate between banks .....	0 7 16	0 7 16
—Demand Montreal rate between banks .....	0 13 10	0 11 16
—New York Exchange Montreal between banks .....	par	1 32 dis

The property of the Canadian Cotton Manufacturing Company has been acquired by the Canadian Colored Mills Company. It is understood that the shareholders of the Canadian Cotton Company receive \$400,000 in bonds and \$165,000 in cash and notes, the Canadian Colored Mills Company to assume the bonds.

### The Cattle Markets.

A cable dated Liverpool, March 21, to the Montreal *Gazette*, says: "The cattle market has collapsed completely since last cable. The markets are glutted with United States cattle and prices are much lower, 51 being now the idea for average mixed shipments. There is no prospect of any improvement while the supplies from the States continue so heavy.

Speaking of the Montreal market, the *Gazette*, of Tuesday last, says: The concession of the railway companies is considered a great victory by the shippers. A reduction of \$5 per car on live stock from points west of Bowmanville and 10 per cent. from all stations east is a great saving to the trade, and the hope is expressed that further reductions will yet be made. The result of the visit of the delegation to Ottawa in reference to the reduction of inspection fees here has not been made known, but the chances are that the Government will see the injustice. British agricultural societies are passing resolutions by the score asking the government to prohibit the importation of live stock altogether and have even gone so far as to demand that all foreign fodder be scheduled; the last outbreak of disease, it is alleged, being caused by foreign straw used for litter in the stables where cows were kept—that is to say, the germs were in the straw. So long as Canada has a clean bill of health there is nothing to fear, but the least suspicion of any contagious disease among Canadian cattle would be just the excuse the agitators desire. The United States government realizing the gravity of the situation have prohibited the exportation of southern cattle owing to the prevalence of splenic fever in the southern states. A few Montrealers have decided to do a little trading in United States cattle, and will load the steamship Numidian on March 31 with 570 head. They calculate to be able to place the cattle on board the steamer at a trifle under 5c per pound. There is a

certain amount of mystery and uncertainty about the position of the freight market. It is understood that several boats have been engaged besides those mentioned last week. The regular liners say they will open the season with a 70-shilling rate, but it is said that none of the outside boats engaged are getting over 45 shilling, there being now several boats under offer at about this figure. We hear of no more buying in the country for export, and unless there is a great improvement shippers will probably hold off until they are actually in need of cattle before operating further. The Montreal Stockyards Company report the market as follows: The supply of cattle for work was unusually light. All offerings were quickly taken up and realized good returns, though values are not quotably higher. The outlook for next week is good, the supply for last two or three markets being short of the demand. Sheep and lambs quiet and values unchanged. Heavier receipts of live hogs for week; market firm at 5½. We quote the following as being fair values: Cattle, butchers' good, 4 to 4½; do, do, medium, 3½ to 3¾; do, do, culls, 2¾ to 3¼; sheep, 3¾; lambs, 4 to 4½; hogs, 5 to 5½; calves \$3 to \$3. At the East End abattoir there were 450 cattle, 100 calves and 60 sheep and lambs offered. There was a good trade doing and prices were higher all round. A few of the choicest steers brought nearly 5; but 4½ to 4¾ was about the idea for the good cattle. Medium brought 3¾ to 4¼; and culls 3 to 3½. Calves sold at \$8 to \$12 each; sheep at \$4 to \$8, and lambs at \$2.50 to \$5.

An order amounting to \$300 or \$900 from the Patrons of Industry has, it is said, been accepted by a Toronto wholesale house. It was being figured on by a retail house, but they could not meet the lower prices given by the wholesale firm. If the name of the seller comes out, says the *Empire*, it is not improbable that the retail trade will endeavor to make it uncomfortable for him.

Henry Shaw, representing Roblin & Suller, leather booting manufacturers, of Montreal and Toronto, arrived at the Lolo, Winnipeg, last week, and will proceed westward on a business trip for his firm.

With the advent of the Soo road into Regina this fall, says the *Standard*, the new station, the court house, Indian warehouses, English church, hotels, brick business blocks and a hundred other proposed buildings Regina will experience a regular boom this season.

C. E. Perry, M. Inst. C. E., P. L. S.; M. S. Davys, M. E., and J. H. Gray, C. E., P. L. S., have entered in business with offices in Spencer's Arcade, Victoria, and Nelson, B. C. The firm will engage in civil and mining engineering, land surveying, etc., and will, in addition, deal in real estate and mining properties.

The March number of *The Colonist* is a good one. This publication is now making special efforts to place the advantages of Western Canada as a field for immigration before the world. An article by a well-known writer describing a trip "From Winnipeg to the Coast" is one of the leading features of this number.

W. C. Muirhead, who has represented Carscaden, Peck & Co., wholesale clothing, Winnipeg, in the western portion of the territories and the adjacent districts of British Columbia, will hereafter make his headquarters permanently at Calgary, where he will have a sample room, and from this point he will work the surrounding districts, including Alberta and a portion of British Columbia. The firm of Carscaden, Peck & Co. has recently added a new department in connection with its manufacturing establishment in Montreal. In addition to clothing, shirts, etc., the firm has decided to manufacture fur goods, and will be ready to supply the fall and winter trade with its own makes of fur goods specially adapted to the western trade.

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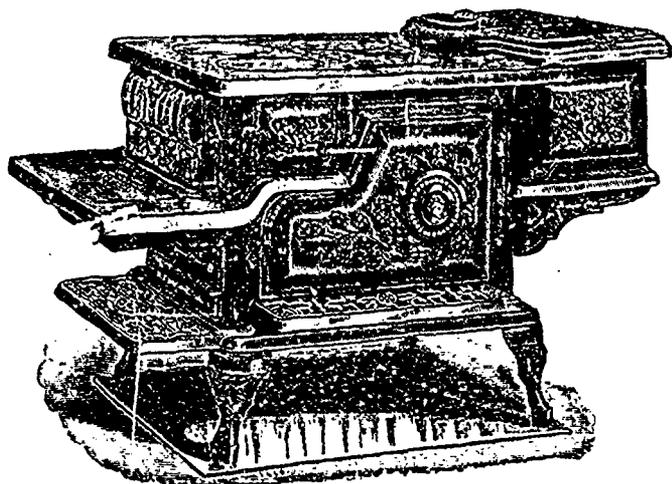
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BRITISH COLUMBIA.

[This department is in charge of R. E. Gosnell, who is permanently engaged as a regular member of THE COMMERCIAL staff, to represent this journal in British Columbia. Parties in British Columbia who wish to communicate in any way with this paper, may apply directly to Mr. Gosnell, at Vancouver.]

British Columbia Business Review.

March 22, 1892.

There is little unusual to report in business in any line. A day or two of cloud and rain has interrupted a long spell of beautiful summer like weather, which has made gardening and farming general along the coast. This has awakened the activities at an earlier date than usual and building, logging, fishing, farming and mining, etc., are well advanced, thus helping to remove the dullness as a rule incident to the season and this year in particular. There is a greater demand all round for labor, although it will be several months before the business community will feel the full benefits of wages distribution. Up in the interior the ranchers are beginning to turn out their cattle on the ranges, where the grass is growing again. On the whole the winter must have been an unprofitable one to the up country cattle men. As pointed out some time ago in these columns, the policy of the ranchers at the outset was to hold for high prices on the grounds that stock was scarce and a beef famine probable. As a result the butchers contracted for their supply from the Northwest and Manitoba, some of them as far ahead as May, the consequence being that ranchers in the interior found their stock on their hands to winter with the coast market already provided for. The stock wintered well on account of the mildness of the weather, but the season was long.

By the way, talking of stock, the new quarantine regulations which the Dominion Government seems bound to enforce are going to play "nood" in this province, especially in Victoria. It will not effect the mainland very much, because it depends almost entirely upon the interior and the prairies for its supply, but the island at certain seasons has to look to the other side for good meat, and especially at times when a freight blockade might occur or some other circumstances affect the quality or quantity of the beef supply. Butchers here regard the move as in the interests of the Northwest cattle ranchers who, they say, wish to control this market under pretence of protecting the Canadian cattle trade. If British Columbia was a cattle exporting province it could be well understood how such quarantine regulations would be necessary but for the next ten years, if ever, there is little prospect of a beef from the coast getting over the Rockies let alone to England. But if it were live stock imported from the other side are slaughtered upon arrival, or as soon after as possible and without danger of contact with home cattle. It is right to protect home interests to any reasonable degree, but, while usually there is no necessity of importing from the United States, there are times when it is very convenient and highly in the public interest to do so and, certainly British Columbia should not be placed at the mercy of such circumstances.

Interest in the fisheries never was so great and so practical as at the present time. Leaving out of consideration for the present time, the crofter scheme, which will shortly come to the front as a public issue, there are several other ventures on a more or less extensive scale. The British Columbia Fishing and Trading Co., which which has been doing a rather good business in fishing as well as market, is endeavoring to enlarge the capital stock in order to go into the trade on a larger scale. The well-known businesses of E. H. Port and Wm. Vinen, New Westminster, are reported as having passed into the hands of an English syndicate Pretty & Co., who wanted a bonus to start in Vancouver, have undertaken the busi-

ness in Lulu Island of fish curing, drying, etc. It is also reported that some parties are endeavoring to get the free charter of the old Government St. Douglas under the pretence of exploring the fisheries of the coast. This, of course, would be unjust to those already in the business, and should not be allowed. It is reported that the Dominion Government has agreed to hand over the steamer to the Province free for such purposes, but any exploratory work should be done by the Government and not by private parties. Pending the general issuance of licenses, interim permits have been issued to a number of fishermen and fishing is already under way. The catch of salmon, however, is reported light. While on the subject of fish, it might be seasonable to remark that the whole matter of licensing demands reform. A very good export business could be done in salmon bellies smoked halibut and the like, but a supply cannot be obtained. Indians cannot sell their product without being licensed. Only fishermen with licenses will be permitted to fish at all and having a monopoly of the business their prices for fish will not prevent the fish curing industry being made profitable for export. The fisheries being one of the most promising resources of British Columbia, the great necessity of having a man in the Department at Ottawa who knows the local conditions of the industry is daily becoming more apparent. It may be added, that the last carload of halibut caught in northern waters was shipped to New York. The consignee wired upon its receipt for a car of salmon. Irving G. Hall, of the firm of J. G. Hall & Co., fish and commission merchants, Boston, is paying the province a visit. Interviewed on the fish business, his remarks confirmed exactly what has been said in THE COMMERCIAL. He says the eastern fish business is in the hands of a combine, which can only be broken by counter capital and the assurance of a regular supply of fish to the trade from independent sources.

The C. P. R. has now completed arrangements for a very complete and direct train service to Seattle, via Mission branch, Bellingham Bry and British Columbia and Great Northern Passengers leaving Victoria at two in the morning by the Islander, can take the train at Vancouver and reach Seattle at 20 o'clock that afternoon. Further arrangements are being negotiated for extending this service to Portland, which will undoubtedly be completed in a few days. The steamer Premier has been withdrawn from the Whatcom-Seattle route as a consequence. A bonus of \$300,000 is being asked to bring the Northern Pacific into Vancouver. It is announced that the C. P. R. Co., is going to build through Crow's Nest pass this year. This has, of course, been contemplated for some time. It will connect with the old line at some point known only to the management as yet and will shorten the through route one day. This move will probably be fatal to several other charters for lines through Crow's Nest. The Twin Sister and short line charters for lines between Vancouver and New Westminster have not been allowed, the former being killed in committee and the latter withdrawn.

Shipping just now is lighter than usual, although the next two weeks it is expected to be heavy. The first of the thirteen sealers from Nova Scotia sealers for the north was arrived and is being fitted. Notice has been received that applications for compensation by sealing vessels must be filed at Victoria within a month. It is thought in some quarters that the *modus vivendi* will be renewed this year. If so it will be a serious blow to the sealing industry, if not accompanied by compensation. Shipping now in port is:

Port.	No.	Tonnage.
Victoria	1	1,253
Vancouver	6	8,687
Nanaimo	6	9,252
Chemungus	1	1,036
Total	13	19,631

A new hop raising company has been organized for the cultivation of hops in the Squamish Valley, and a gang of men have gone up to prepare the grounds and plant. One important feature of the industry will be utilization of a large amount of Indian labor which annually goes to Washington and Oregon hop fields, where a large share of the season's earnings are spent by the Indians.

Owing to the mild winter and early spring, the Kootenay country has opened up sooner than was anticipated and the rush in there has already begun. Fortunately, however, the rush will not be as large as at first supposed. The excitement in Spokane Falls due to the prospect of another railway and the recent mining strikes in Colorado will attract a number who otherwise would have gone into Kootenay and who may eventually go, but in the present undeveloped state of the country it is just as well that too many people do not go in just now. Mining machinery is being taken into Cariboo and several placer deposits will be worked on a large scale this summer. A big deal, some time ago referred to as closed regarding some Littleton mining properties, is still under way, but is expected to be closed in a week or so. A syndicate of capitalists is working a large claim on Siwash creek, with good prospects of success. A company has been formed in New Westminster to sink for coal in Stray. Government returns have just been issued in regard the mining industry. From this it is learned that the coal output for last year was 1,029,097 tons, nearly fifty per cent. increase over the previous year. The gold mined was disappointingly small, being placed at \$351,206.

B.C. MARKET QUOTATIONS.

**FLOUR AND FEED**—Flour has taken another rise and owing to the strike on the C. P. R. may rise much higher locally, as shipments are likely to be delayed. The tendency in any event is strong.

**FLOUR AND FEED**—Hungarian, Manitoba, is quoted at \$6 00; strong bakers, \$5.60; ladies' choice, \$6.00; prairie Lilly, \$5.75; Oregon, \$6 25; Spokane, \$5 65; Eaderby mills: Premier, \$5.85; three star, \$5.70; two star \$5.35. Oatmeal, eastern, \$3.49; California, \$4. National mills, Victoria \$3.65; rolled oats, eastern, \$3 40; California, \$3 90; National mills, \$3.25; cornmeal, \$3.10; split peas, \$3.50; pearl barley, \$4 50. Rice—The Victoria rice mills quote wholesale: Japan rice per ton, \$77 50; China rice, do, \$70; rice flour, do, \$70; chit rice, do, \$25; rice meal, do, \$17.50; chopped feed, \$33 to 35 per ton; bran, \$21; shorts, \$25; oats, \$30 to 32; wheat \$35 to 40; oil cake, \$40. Wheat is quoted in car lots \$30; oats \$25 to \$27; chop barley, \$27.

**Eggs**—Eggs are now down to 18c, fresh local eggs ruling a little higher. Limed are as low as 15c.

**DAIRY**—Cheese is steady at 13½; butter is on the downward tendency California butter is on the market at 29c and creamery is about a cent lower. Dairy is anything obtainable.

**MEATS**—Dried meats show no improvement and some Ontario pickers are offering away below the market. Just now prices are somewhat demoralized, regular firms are quoting: Hams, 13c; Bacon, 13c; rolls, 11½; backs, 12½; dry salt, long, clear, 11; dry salt, ome lots, 10½; lard, kegs, 13; lard, pails, 13½; kettle rendered, 12½; steam rendered, 11½; compound, 11c; bologna, 11.

Fresh meats show no change. The only thing likely to affect prices for a time is the enforcement of the quarantine regulations.

**FRUITS, NUTS, ETC.**—Apples are almost out of the market. A car of eastern apples is on the way, but prices cannot be quoted. The following are to-day's quotations:—

Riverside oranges, \$2 to 2.50; Cocoanuts \$1 per doz; Wash. navels, \$1.75; bananas, \$3.75 to 4; lemons, \$4.75; Turkish figs, 15c; almonds 18c; evaporated apples, 12c; walnuts, 15c; Cal. onions, 1½c; Str'd honey 13c; filberts, 15c; evaporated peaches, 10c,

raisins, \$2 to 2.75; Brazils, 15c; Cal. evaporated apricots, 11c; pine, 20c; Cal. evaporated prunes, 10c; peanuts, 10c; Cal. p'd plums, 10c.

**VEGETABLES**—Cal cabbage 2c; cauliflower, \$1.50 per doz; celery, \$1.00 per doz; B. C. carrots and turnips, \$12 a ton; beets and parsnips, \$20. Onions are getting bad and are quoting 2 to 1 1/2c per lb. The potato market is completely demoralized, though a fair demand exists. Prices range from \$14 to \$18 for Fraser River, and \$25 Ashcroft.

**SUGARS** Unchanged and locally market more settled. Maple syrup quoted \$1.10, Molasses, Barbadoes, 70c; New Orleans, 60c.

**HARDWARE**—A few days since the various hardware dealers in Vancouver formed a schedule of prices of all staple articles. This arrangement has so far worked satisfactorily, and will doubtless prove beneficial to the trade.

**DRY GOODS**—Merchants are opening up spring stocks. Three new firms are opening up in Vancouver.

**FISH**—Supply just now uncertain and prices difficult to quote, though last week's are approximate. A New Westminster report says: The staple export of the city dealers during the past week has been salmon, of which shipments have been made daily to Ontario and New York State, realising sufficiently high prices to stimulate the fishing industry to a healthy condition. Foreign markets for frozen Fraser spring salmon have been made by the local freezers for all they can secure at fair contract prices and the industry will be worked to its utmost capacity this season.

There are no changes in other quotations.

#### BRIEF BUSINESS NOTES.

A harness and saddlery establishment has been opened at Clinton.

O'Dwyer and Palmer have completed a map of the Squamish country.

The Upton Line steamer Zambesi arrived at Victoria last week. It is rumored these ships will be withdrawn.

The schooner Mermaid, formerly a British revenue cutter, has arrived here 119 days out from London, and will go into the sealing business.

At Revelstoke there is some fear that unless the Government take steps to prevent the cutting away of the bank by the river, the smelter will go down the river this year, and a large quantity of Government property will also be swept away.

### Meeting of the Bank of British North America.

At the fifty-sixth yearly meeting of the proprietors of this Bank the chairman said: Gentlemen, I have been deputed by my colleagues to move the adoption of the report and accounts. You are aware that we have now adopted the system of furnishing a balance-sheet half-yearly, so that now presented to you reflects the business of the past six months, instead of twelve months as formerly. I should just like to say that I have compared them with the figures for the corresponding period of the previous year. Taking the figures and the balance-sheet in this way and examining them in comparison with those for the corresponding period of the previous year, I am glad to say that in the main items there is again evidenced such an increase in the volume of the business done as to warrant the belief that the bank is continuing to make substantial progress. There has been, in fact, a steady and material increase in the amount of business which has been transacted during the past half-year. The capital and reserve fund you will note are unchanged. The deposits show a material increase. Coming next to the notes in circulation, £245,000, I should like to say one word in regard to the apprehension which appears to have been created in the minds of some of the

shareholders in regard to the liability of shares in general under this head. By the Act of Parliament of 1879, the shareholders of banks having limited liability are liable in respect of whatever notes may be issued by the bank of which they may be shareholders. But this bank, as you know, is not a limited liability bank, but a chartered bank. The liability of its shareholders, as a consequence, does not extend to the notes it issues, but is limited and defined explicitly by the charter, and on this question of note circulation, about which inquiries have been made, is one upon which not the slightest apprehension or anxiety need be entertained. This is a fact which is quite beyond dispute or controversy, but we thought it as well, under the circumstances, to fortify ourselves with the opinion of our solicitors on the subject, and they have gone into the question and have given us the most unqualified assurances on the subject to the same effect as that which I have just said. The profit and loss account shows, you will see, that we are able to maintain the dividend which we have paid for some six years past of 7 1/2 per cent. per annum, and to carry forward over £8,800 to the next account. Passing to the other side of the account, I would call your attention to the proportion shown by the "cash and specie at bankers and in hand," and the "cash at call and short notice"—that is, by the readily available and immediate liabilities. This proportion is something over 40 per cent., and I think it will be agreed that this represents a position strong enough for any bank to feel satisfied with. It includes the cost of purchase of a site at Vancouver, and is, we are assured, a wise expenditure, and one which in the future will prove a good investment. No doubt, in Canada, as elsewhere all over the world, the commercial crisis in London some time ago has made itself felt, and probably for some time will continue to do so. Probably, also, the business in Canada—as regards certain branches of it, at any rate—has been affected by the operation of the McKinley tariff of the United States. I believe, however, that, whatever effects may have been produced for the time by this cause, they will prove to be only temporary in character, and that the industries influenced in this way will prove themselves to be possessed of sufficient vitality and strength to outlive these adverse circumstances and find new outlets and new markets in other parts of the world. On the other hand, in compensation for these drawbacks, the Dominion has enjoyed during the past year one of the most bountiful harvests which has ever been experienced, the full effect of which I imagine has hardly yet been experienced, but which undoubtedly must make itself evident ultimately in a general stimulus to the trade of the country. We are about to open a new branch at Woodstock. This is a place of growing importance, and we have made arrangements which will secure us good business there. The question of opening new branches is one which we have constantly before us, and the opinion of the Board is that it is the wisest policy of the bank to extend its operations prudently and carefully in those directions where there appears to be a likelihood of our developing a profitable business. In doing this there is no doubt that there is a very great advantage in being among the first in the field; and there is little doubt on the other hand that in one or two cases we have not done quite so well with our branches as we might have done had we moved in a little more promptly. At the same time it is equally undeniable that in some cases we should have saved ourselves from loss and disappointment if we had not extended our field of operations quite so precipitately. In a country like Canada, where development is going on so rapidly, where new places of business are springing into existence every year, it is not always easy to pick out those which ultimately will be singled out from the others as places of magnitude and permanent importance. In conclusion, I may say that the Bank continues in a sound and liquid condition, and that we have

every reason to express our grateful acknowledgments to the general manager and the other members of the staff for the zeal and judgment which they have displayed in the discharge of their respective duties.

The Southwestern Coal Company, New Westminster, B.C., has been organized, and the following committee appointed: Chairman, W. J. Trapp; permanent chairman, J. Fisher; secretary, F. C. Turner; committee, J. W. McColl, W. Manson, J. Douglas and J. W. Stein. The committee will arrange with the property owners on the south side of the river to drill for coal.

President Harrison of the United States has issued a proclamation suspending the products of Columbia, Hayti and Venezuela from the reciprocity provisions of the tariff act, from and after date, these countries having failed to enter into a reciprocity treaty with the United States, as dictated by the McKinley bill.

The total exports from the Dominion for February were \$1,117,891, an increase of three-quarters of a million over February last year. The exports for eight months of the fiscal year show an increase of eleven millions over 1891. The imports for February were nearly eight millions, or \$317,177 over those of February, 1891.

There is a good deal of anxiety expressed on the part of live stock exporters in regard to the fact that cattle disease in England and Scotland is going to have on the Canadian live stock trade. A cable received from Edinburgh states that disease has stopped the market there, and for shippers to exercise great care. The cable says also that the disease has spread to Perth. If the disease is not cured when Canadian cattle commence to arrive on the other side, the effect will be most prejudicial to Canadian exporters.

An Ottawa telegram says that Bender's dead meat scheme will shortly be revived by the C. P. F., which will co-operate with the London Cold Storage company. It is proposed to build an abattoir in Montreal this spring where American cattle imported in bond will be slaughtered and the dead meat shipped in refrigerators to England.

An article which is having a large and increasing sale in the west, is the preparation of coffee, put up by the Condensed Milk and Coffee Co., of Truro, Nova Scotia. This article has been handled for some time by W. F. Henderson & Co., of Winnipeg, and it has been found well adapted to the requirements of the trade here. It is a combination of coffee, milk and sugar, put up in small tins, and is all ready for use, either a cold or hot cup of coffee being made by adding cold or hot water, as desired. In this form it is suitable for camping parties, survey parties, travellers, immigrants in search of land, etc. In this country, where so much travelling is done in unsettled districts, it is just the thing required.

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INSECT POWDER,  
INSECT GUNS

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Wholesale Dealers  
Wines, Liquors and Cigars  
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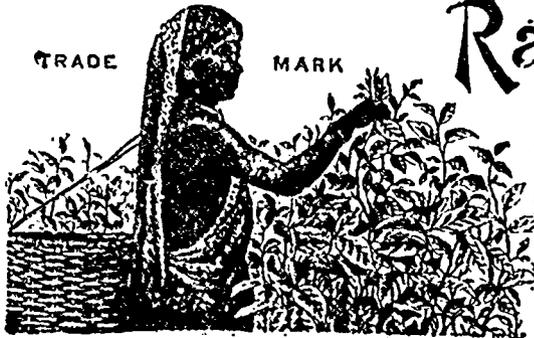
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# LAKE OF THE WOODS MILLING CO.

LIMITED.

The most perfect Flouring Mill in Canada. CAPACITY 2,000 BARRELS A DAY.

Barrel Factory at the Mill and Grain Storage Capacity of 550,000 bushels in addition to which we have a system of handling Elevators throughout the Northwest.

All Grades of HARD WHEAT FLOUR in Barrels and Bags.

Offices at: MONTREAL. KEEWATIN. WINNIPEG.

## E. A. Small & Co.,

—MANUFACTURERS AND WHOLESALEERS OF—

### Men's, Boys' and Children's Clothing.

Our representatives are now on the road with Fall and Winter Goods.  
Reserve your orders until you see their Samples.

Albert Buildings, Victoria Square,  
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## Matthews, Towers & Co.,

—WHOLESALE—

### MENS' FURNISHING GOODS

When visiting Montreal kindly, give us a call. Letter orders  
receive prompt and Personal Attention.

7 VICTORIA SQUARE,  
COR. ST. JAMES STREET.

MONTREAL.

Our new lines of Brooches, Barpins,  
Eardrops, and Scarf Pins in Rolled  
Plate and Gold Front are now complete. See  
our new Styles of Black Goods.

WE SELL WHOLESALE ONLY.

**Grigor Bros.**  
WHOLESALE JEWELLERS  
527 MAIN STREET,  
WINNIPEG, - MANITOBA

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Architectural Iron Work.

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WHOLESALE DEALER IN  
Gloves, Mitts & Moccasins Ontario.

NOTE.—I will have the pleasure of personally  
calling on the Merchants of Manitoba, North-  
West Territories and British Columbia at an  
early date.

THOS. CLEARIHUE

## Artists' Materials

A. RAMSAY & SON

(Established 1842.)

AGENTS FOR—

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IMPORTERS OF

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## Winnipeg Brass Works

86 ALBERT STREET.

Manufacturer of all Classes of Brass  
Goods, Brass and Iron Railings,  
Etc., Etc.

ELECTRIC BELLS KEPT IN STOCK.

ANDREW SCHMIDT, Winnipeg

## The Country Store as a School for Merchants.

Many of the young men who flock to the large cities hoping to find employment with mercantile firms in an extensive way of business, believe that it is only here that an experience can be gained and the opportunities found which are essential for the successful exercise of commercial abilities. These aspirants for mercantile honors seem to regard the country as a field altogether too restricted and too narrow for men of push and enterprise, and consider merchants who carry on business in the interior as behind the times and lacking the capacity for conducting trade on an extended scale. There are, doubtless, some clerks employed in the country stores who are also inclined to hold similar opinions, and who look rather enviously upon the city clerks and salesmen, whose lot and prospects appear so much more promising than their own. It is safe to say that this estimate of the superior advantages of a metropolis, in a commercial point of view, is quite unwarranted; on the contrary, we contend that no better school for the education of a capable, well-trained merchant can be found than the country store. There are few of this class who are now the leaders in the various departments of trade and manufacture, who have not at some period gained this experience, and we venture to assert that if these men were asked to name the chief factor leading to their success in life, their response would be, that it was the knowledge of business and human nature gained, either as clerk or principal of a mercantile establishment in some interior town or village. We have in mind several of this class who are prominently known in all parts of the Union. The late Horace B. Claffin, of New York, during a long and successful career, was a shining example of the benefits of such a training, and at the close of an almost unexampled business experience he retained the same honest and simple ways, which in his early years had gained for him friends throughout one of the rural counties of Massachusetts. The ability to buy prudently and sell well is a quality which must be possessed by the successful trader, and we have yet to learn of any better place to foster this talent than behind the counter of a country store. Here the close customer is to be found in his natural element. The money he has to lay out is gained by toil; he parts with it reluctantly, and then only for solid value. We hear of the fastidious city purchaser, and the difficulties the retail merchant has in pleasing his whims or fancy; but when the honest hard-fisted granger stocks up with supplies, it is no ordinary salesman that can satisfy him as to quality and price. Those who can do this must have tact, patience and business experience, qualities the possession of which go far towards making the successful merchant. This is the training afforded by the well conducted country store, which, as a practical school for merchants, far outranks its more pretentious metropolitan rivals.—*S. F. Grocer.*

## Revolutions in Trade.

There are almost constant changes in progress in commercial circles; new methods of business are coming into vogue, one article is substituted for another, and prices advance or decline. At the present time there are prominently brought to public notice the fact that cotton and pig iron are selling at lower prices than ever known during the later years of these trades, and with these low prices there are complications more or less dependent upon them which are likely to revolutionize some branches of these trades. The economy of production of pig iron has been pushed so far that it is possible to make that article at a less cost than ever before, but it is not certain that the cost of production is even yet at the lowest point, although it seems probable that it can not be much further reduced.

With this decrease in the cost of pig iron has come a reduction in the cost of soft steel. The

opening up of the Mesaba range of iron hills may still further reduce the cost of iron ore; and the cost of coke has already declined materially, and under pressure may be still further reduced.

The low price of soft steel billets in Pittsburgh has already caused them to displace the dearer puddled iron, resulting in the discharge of puddlers and their helpers by wholesale. That this was not anticipated is shown by the remark of Mr. Swank recently that "the production of puddled iron in this country is not by any means a decaying industry, as we have already stated that our production of rolled iron in 1890 was greater than ever before in our history;" but on the heels of this comes the announcement that steel is displacing iron, and it seems destined to almost entirely supersede it in many branches of business. There may be remote regions of country where soft steel billets can not be cheaply obtained, which will prevent the entire displacement of iron by steel, but it looks as if the puddling of iron as an important industry had gone, never to return, if the statements are not exaggerated, as they may be for the purpose of getting a reduction in the price of puddling iron.

Then there is a sharp contest between the northern and southern furnaces to secure the patronage of consumers of pig iron, and unless something occurs to increase the demand the output of the furnaces both north and south must be reduced, for there is little probability that there can be a material reduction in wages, which would seem to be the only other alternative.

That there are some changes imminent in the cotton trade stands to reason, but they have not yet been fully developed, although the cost of many cotton fabrics has been reduced.—*Cincinnati Price Current.*

## The Grain Blockade at Buffalo.

Few grain shippers of the West and Northwest did not suffer directly or indirectly from the grain blockade at Buffalo, N. Y., last November. Shipments of grain were delayed at Buffalo, and shippers' contracts remained unfilled. The cause of the whole trouble, which finally extended to all parts of the North, was the greedy fight of the railroad companies doing business between Buffalo and Atlantic ports to get the grain away from the Erie Canal boatmen.

The elevator pool at Buffalo, which is in league with the railroad companies, kept most of the storage elevators and all of the floating transfer elevators at that port in idleness, and even went so far as to refuse to deliver grain to canal boats when cars could be obtained. The carriers tried hard to keep a supply of empty cars at Buffalo, but in vain. They retained every car sent on to their line, and refused to give them up, although the owners madly protested. This greatly reduced the grain carrying capacity of other lines, especially the other trunk lines, and they in turn kept all the cars of the Western lines they could get, so all lines except the Buffalo lines were short of cars, and they were long on grain.

By delivering grain to the canal boats or putting the idle houses in operation, the pool could have easily and promptly relieved the blockade, but that would have been directly against the interest of the Buffalo railroads, so it was not done. Each year of heavy grain exports will bring a repetition of the blockade, unless the shipping business seeks other channels or ample facilities are provided for transferring grain to canal boats and kept out of the elevator pool.—*Chicago Grain and Elevator Trade.*

## To Europe via Canadian Canals.

The unsatisfactory service rendered the grain trade by the elevator pool at Buffalo and New York and its effective crippling of the Erie Canal together with the action of the committee of foreign affairs of the House of Representatives in regard to the deepening of the Wel-

land and St. Lawrence Canals has prompted Canadian statesmen to introduce bills providing that all canals on the St. Lawrence shall be deepened to twenty feet.

When lake vessels go to the Atlantic Ocean, which they will surely do in the near future, the grain shippers of America will be free from the grasp of the Buffalo pool, will have no transfer charges to pay at an inland point and will escape the heavy harbor charges at New York. Grain will then be transported from Lake ports to the coast at much less cost, and as the mouth of the St. Lawrence is several hundred miles nearer the United Kingdom the ocean rate would be less. Some of the lake vessels could cross the ocean, but at present few of them have room to carry enough coal for such a trip. That could be easily arranged and another handling of the grain at the seaport avoided.—*Chicago Elevator and Grain Trade.*

## Insurance Companies in Canada.

There are in all eighty-one insurance companies licensed to do business in Canada. These have deposited with the Government and with Canadian trustees, as required by the act, the sum of \$19,858,900. There are twenty-four licensed fire insurance companies having a deposit of \$2,725,765, twenty-three life insurance companies deposit \$12,517,785, two steam boiler insurance companies deposit \$69,252, two fire insurance companies deposit 166,200, four fire and life companies deposit 1,924,726, six fire and inland marine companies deposit \$175,700, four accident companies deposit \$120,662, three plate glass companies deposit \$20,000, one accident and plate glass company deposit \$38,000, three life companies on the assessment plan deposit \$204,347, three fire, life and accident companies deposit \$839,871, three guarantee companies deposit \$158,800, one inland marine company deposits \$100,800, and two fire, inland, marine and life companies deposit \$526,000.

## Wheat in the Northwest.

A. C. Clausen, state grain inspector, of Minnesota, states that early estimates of the wheat crop in the three states, North and South Dakota and Minnesota, were too large; that the total will not exceed 125,000,000 bushels or 10,000,000 bushels less than the early estimates. Up to date over 70,000,000 bushels have been received and inspected at the terminals. Of this quantity much is unfit for milling purposes. He estimates the total inspection at Minneapolis and Duluth for the crop year ending August 31, 1892, at 100,000,000 bushels, including at least 10,000,000 bushels that will be unfit for anything except feed. The inspection for the crop year closing August 31, 1891, was 78,277,670 bushels, but the crop had a much less percentage of damaged grain. These figures indicate an excess this year over last of about 22,000,000 bushels, including the 10,000,000 bushels of non-millable stuff.

The Minneapolis *Farm Implements* says:—"The agitation for free binding twine seems to be progressing favorably at Washington. Congressman Hall says that his bill placing binding twine on the free list will pass the house. He has some hope that it will pass the senate also. The subject matter of this bill was under consideration during the last congress. The tariff bill of that congress as it passed the house, fixed a rate of 1½¢ per pound on binding twine. The senate finance committee, to which the bill was referred, reported the same back with the recommendation that a duty be fixed at 1½ cents per pound. When the bill was under consideration in the senate the recommendation of the senate committee was disagreed to, and the item was placed on the free list by a vote of 34 in the affirmative and 24 in the negative. The bill then went to a conference committee, and finally passed. The duty was finally fixed at seven-tenths of 1 cent per pound. Mr. Hall says he believes Senator Davis would like to see twine on the free list, and that the senator would consistently support the bill."

# O'LOUGHLIN BROS. & CO.,

— HAVE NOW EN ROUTE BY C. P. R. —

## FINE WALL PAPERS

Good Assortment - - Splendid Values.

These goods have been delayed in transit, caused by the strike now going on, but we are given to understand delivery may be expected at an early date.

SAMPLE BOOKS AND PRICE LIST NOW READY.

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**Wholesale Paper, Stationery and General Jobbers**  
**AND STEAM PRINTERS.**  
 134 and 136 Second Avenue North, **WINNIPEG, MAN.**

### Montreal Markets.

**Flour**—Nothing has been done for export since the sales by western mills for English account. Flour in Liverpool has declined 1s to 1s 6d during the past week, good Canadian having sold down to 25s. In this market \$5 being asked for leading brands of Manitoba strong bakers, other grades being quoted at \$4.50 to \$4.85 as to quality. A letter from a miller west of Toronto received here a few days ago reads as follows:—"Our wheat market has not followed the Chicago market down to anything like the extent you would imagine, as I had to pay 91c for No. 2 fall wheat yesterday at the mills, and at this price straight rollers do not pay me at \$4.50 on track Montreal. I understand the winter wheat is injured in some sections owing to the mild being followed by severe cold weather."

**Oatmeal**—Western millers are offering at pretty low prices laid down here, and we quote rolled oats \$3.95 to \$4 per bbl, and standard \$3.85 to \$3.9. In bags granulated is quoted at \$1.92½ to \$1.95, and standard at \$1.85 to \$1.90. Jobbing lots are higher.

**Mill feed**—A few sales of bran are reported in car lots of Ontario at \$15, and Manitoba at \$14.50. Shorts at \$15.50 to \$16.50, and Moulie \$21 to \$24 as to grade.

**Wheat**—No. 2 hard Manitoba is quoted at 98c to \$1.00, and No. 3 at 88c to 89c. Upper Canada red and white winter \$1.02 to \$1.04 and spring \$1.01 to \$1.02.

**Oats**—Sales have been made of car lots at 34c and 32½ to 33c has been obtained for ungraded. Some dealers ask 35c for choice No. 2 white. It is expected that an export demand will set in at open water.

**Barley**—The market rules dull and prices are more or less nominal, malting grades at 58c to 65c as to quality, and feed barley 42 to 43c.

**Butter**—The scarcity of fine grades of dairy butter is still quite marked and for fine goods buyers are compelled to fall back on creamery, which has met with a fairly good demand during the week. Poor qualities, however, are difficult to move as the demand is almost exclusively local which wants only the best grades. Sales of creamery have taken place in a jobbing way at 21 to 23c, but to move any quantity 22½ is about all that could be had for best offerings, and we quote 20 to 22c. Eastern townships dairy is quoted at 19 to 20c, and western at 17 to 18c. New eastern townships is still being received, and choice brings 22 to 23c, but all has the stable flavor more or less. A fair amount of rolls has been placed during the week at 17 to 18c for good to choice western in tubs and bbls, but Morrisburg rolls have brought from 19 to 20c.

**Cheese**—Advices from the west state that a few boxes of new cheese have already been turned out by some of the factories, but they were only for local consumption. A number of new factories will start this spring in various parts of the country, and it is predicted that

the coming season will see the largest production ever experienced in Canada.

**Eggs**—The market has gradually declined during the week, until fresh stock has sold down to 14c, in order to realize upon any quantity, 13c would have to be accepted. It is stated that in the vicinity of St. Mary's buyers have got down prices to 10c, but east of Toronto it is said that buyers are paying 12c.

**Hides**—Hides, No. 1, 5c; No. 2, 4c; No. 3, 3c; tanners are paying ½c more; lambskins, 80c to \$1.00; calf-skins, 5c.

**Evaporated fruit**—The market remaining quiet and unchanged at 8 to 8½c per lb. Dried apples 4½ to 5½c and peaches 12 to 12½c per lb.—*Trade Bulletin*, March 18.

### What is a "Size."

**Hats and Caps**—One size is one eighth of an inch, and implies that difference in the mean horizontal diameter of the head. The size of the head can be obtained by measuring its circumference and dividing it by 3.14. The size of hat can be ascertained by measuring its length and width, adding them together and dividing by two. In either case you get the mean, or average diameter. In silk or other stiff hats the half-size or one-sixteenth is often used, since many heads size up just between two regular sizes. If such a head is to be fitted with a soft hat it can usually be done best by stretching the smaller size. In stiff felt hats the one that is least too large is padded under the leather with strips of felt, and a satisfactory fit is thus ordinarily obtained.

**Shirts**—One size is one half an inch in the length of the neckband. With this should be associated the length of the sleeve, since men of the same size necks vary widely in the length of their arms. The best stock shirt manufacturers make six lengths of sleeves, and the figures indicative thereof are usually stamped under the size mark of the neckband. In custom shirts many other measures are taken, but the neckband is the one used in naming the size.

**Collars and Cuffs**—One size is one-half inch in their length.

**Undershirts**—One size is two inches in the measurement around the chest, men's ordinary sizes ranging from 34 to 44. A size in drawers consist of two inches in the waist circumference, the range being from 28 to 44.

**Vest, Coat and Overcoat**—One size is one inch in the chest measure, but the dimensions for a coat should be taken over the vest, and for an overcoat over the coat.

**Pantaloons**—A size is one inch in the length around the waist, but the inseam measure also is usually employed, and its variations are likewise noted as one inch to a size.

**Gloves**—In kid and other snug fitting leather goods is one-quarter inch. The measurement is taken for stock gloves around the full width of the palm, but conjoined with this must be some judgment as to other proportions. In heavier street gloves the sizes sometimes go by

half inches, while in most fabric gloves the differences are not carefully adjusted, since the elastic character of the materials renders this alike difficult and less necessary. These latter are designated as 7, 8 and 9, or by other figures indicating naturally an inch to a size, but the differences are not so great, but probably about a half inch to a size.

**Hosiery**—One size is one-half inch in the length of the foot. Between this fact and the shoe sizes some confusion arises in people's minds, since in shoes a full size means a difference of one-third of an inch in length. This is not expressed as one-third, but in even numbers, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10. These figures do not represent the actual length of the foot, as do the sock sizes, but start from an arbitrary base, thus avoiding the use of fractions in the expression of ordinary sizes. Half-sizes, meaning differences of one-sixth of an inch each, are made in some shoes, and variations in width are described by letters.—*Outfitters' Chronicle*.

### The Wheat Crop of 1891.

The March report of the United States Department of Agriculture, as shown in some advance sheets, gives in detail estimates of the production of wheat in 1891 in the various countries of the world. From this exhibit the following is compiled:—

	Bushels
France	232,360,000
Russia	169,103,000
Italy	126,802,000
Spain	71,349,000
Hungary	126,268,000
Austria	41,144,000
Germany	126,265,000
United Kingdom	77,016,000
Turkey in Eur pe	33,008,000
Roumania	53,074,000
Bulgaria	40,023,000
Belgium	14,187,000
Portugal	8,252,000
Holland	3,713,000
Greece	5,675,000
Denmark	3,713,000
Servia	7,945,000
Sweden and Norway	4,964,000
Switzerland	4,042,000
Europe	1,143,899,000
India	254,434,000
Algeria	21,281,000
Egypt	11,140,000
Australasia	33,875,000
Chili and Argentina	47,256,000
Sundry	368,986,000
United States	611,780,000
Ontario, Canada	33,611,000
Manitoba, Canada	23,922,000
North America	669,313,000
Aggregate	2,187,198,000

The list gives in addition to the production enumerated in the foregoing the crops of other countries, as follows:—

Poland	12,661,000
Asia Minor	37,029,000
Caucasia	74,270,000
Persia	20,630,000
Syria	12,345,000
Cape Colony	4,126,000
Tunis	4,256,000
Total	165,336,000

**Rigby Waterproof Clothing**

Has been in the market barely a month and already its merits are appreciated beyond our most sanguine expectations.

**ORDERS.**

Are coming in freely from all parts of the country.

**ANOTHER MONTHS SALES**

Such as the last and it will tax our proofing staff to the utmost to fill the orders. We are now proofing Tweeds suitable for Men's Suits and Ladies' Ulsters and Jackets which we are offering in the piece, samples of which are now being shown on the road by our travellers, on special trips with RIGBY Goods.

Remember that we claim RIGBY proofed materials to be waterproof, which can be satisfactorily tested by any one before purchasing.

Ladies and Gentlemen will appreciate the comfort of having a nice Tweed Overcoat or Ulster used in ordinary wear, thoroughly Porous and yet a sure protection during a rain-storm.

(SAMPLE ORDERS SOLICITED) **H. SHOREY & CO.,**  
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**J. S. CARVETH & CO.,**  
Pork Packers and Commission Merchants.  
Egg preserving fluid. Smoked meats. Horse-Radish in bottles. Ham Tongue and Chicken Sausage. German Sausage. Fresh Sausage.  
— ASK YOUR WHOLESALE GROCERS FOR —  
Carveth & Co.'s Minco Meat, (Finest Quality.)  
Sole Agents for S. Oppenheimer & Co., Chicago, and Koehler & Hurlrich, St. Paul, Minn., Butchers, Packers and Sausage Makers' MACHINERY, TOOLS, FIXTURES, CABINGS, SPICES, ETC.  
Write for quotations.

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THIS SEASON'S GOODS.

Fresh New Cured Hams, Breakfast Bacon, Spiced Rolls, Long Clear Bacon, Boneless Ham, Pure Lard, Pickled Eggs, Sausage Casings, etc., etc.

Write for Prices as our Quotations are Low.  
**70 McDERMOTT STREET,**  
FRESH PORK SAUSAGE. BOLOGNA SAUSAGE.

**BUTTER**  
**EGGS.**

Consignments of Butter Solicited and carefully handled. We are buying Eggs, ship direct to us and save commission.

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It contains no grain spirit, or other Whiskies one knows nothing of, and the most eminent Physicians of the day prescribe it where a stimulant is required.

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**MACKIE'S**  
**PURE OLD BLEND**  
10 YEARS OLD.

GOLD LABEL  
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Pianos and Organs Repaired Equal to New.

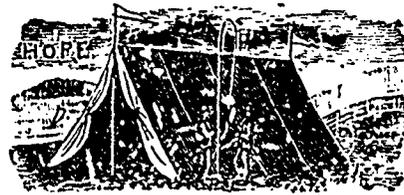
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NO.	DESCRIPTION.	PER GROSS
202	Railway Pen, fine point.....	40c
212	Peruvian Pen, medium point.....	70c
222	Queen Pen, fine point.....	70c
232	Ledger Pen, fine point.....	70c
242	Beaver Pen, turned up point.....	60c
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262	Electric Pen, fine point.....	60c
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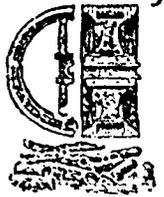
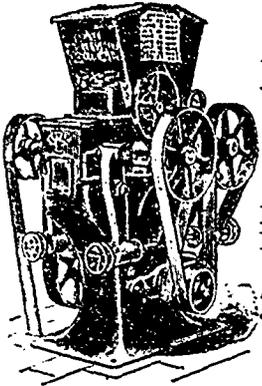
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North Bound			STATIONS.	South Bound		
Brandon Ex. Tues. Th. & Sat.	St. Paul Express Daily.	Miles from Winnipeg.		St. Paul Express Daily.	Brandon Ex. Mon. Wed. & Fri.	
4.05p	1.20p	0	Winnipeg	2.00p	10.00a	
3.57p	1.11p	3.0	Portage Junction	2.09p	10.08a	
3.43p	12.55p	9.3	St. Norbert	2.24p	10.21a	
3.30p	12.42p	15.3	Cartier	2.36p	10.35a	
3.12p	12.22p	23.5	St. Agathe	2.55p	10.52a	
3.03p	12.13p	27.4	Union Point	3.03p	11.01a	
2.48p	12.00a	32.5	Silver Plains	3.16p	11.14a	
2.25p	11.40a	40.4	Morris	3.35p	11.35a	
	11.28a	46.2	St. Jean	3.51p		
	11.03a	56.0	Letellier	4.16p		
	10.40a	65.0	Emerson	4.40p		
	10.25a	68.1	Pembina	4.50p		
	6.40a	168	Grand Forks	9.00p		
	1.50a	228	Winnipeg Junction	1.15a		
	4.55a	470	Minneapolis	12.15p		
	4.15a	481	St. Paul	12.45p		
	10.45a	833	Chicago	7.15a		

MORRIS-BRANDON BRANCH.

East Bound.			STATIONS.	West Bound.		
Freight Mon. Wed. & Fri.	Passenger Tues. & Sat. Thru. & Sun.	Miles from Morris.		Passenger Mon. Wed. & Fri.	Freight Tues. & Sat. Thru. & Sun.	
11.40a	4.05p	0	Winnipeg	10.00a	3.00a	
7.00p	2.25p	0	Morris	11.50a	3.45a	
6.10p	1.54p	10.0	Lowe Farm	12.14p	3.35a	
5.14p	1.24p	21.2	Myrtle	12.43p	3.34a	
4.50p	1.10p	25.9	Roland	12.55p	3.57a	
4.11p	12.50p	33.5	Rosebank	1.15p	11.37a	
3.40p	12.35p	39.6	Miami	1.45p	12.10p	
2.53p	11.49a	49.0	Deerwood	2.11p	1.02p	
2.20p	11.37a	54.1	Altamont	2.25p	1.25p	
1.40p	11.16a	62.1	Somerses	2.45p	2.05p	
1.13p	11.00a	68.4	Swan Lake	3.00p	2.35p	
12.43p	10.44a	74.6	Indian Springs	3.14p	3.04p	
12.19p	10.32a	79.4	Mariesopolis	3.26p	3.26p	
11.46a	10.18a	86.1	Greenway	3.42p	3.58p	
11.15a	10.00a	92.3	Balder	3.57p	4.28p	
10.29a	9.36a	102.0	Belmont	4.20p	5.15p	
9.52a	9.18a	109.7	Hilton	4.38p	5.53p	
9.02a	8.50a	120.0	Wawanesa	5.03p	6.43p	
8.15a	8.25a	129.5	Rounthwaite	5.27p	7.30p	
7.38a	8.05a	137.2	Martinville	5.45p	8.03p	
7.00a	7.45a	145.1	Brandon	6.05p	8.45p	

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12.29p	3.0	Portage Junction	1.58p	
12.03p	11.5	St. Charles	2.27p	
11.52p	14.7	Headingley	2.35p	
11.34p	21.0	White Plains	3.01p	
10.52p	35.2	Eustace	3.50p	
10.31p	42.1	Oakville	4.15p	
9.50p	55.2	Portage la Prairie	5.00p	

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