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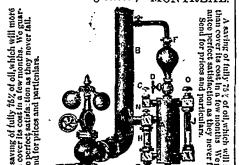
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VOL. II.

WINNIPEG, JULY 29, 1884.

NO. 44

The Commercial

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

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AT Office, 16 James St. East.

JAS. E. STERN.

Publisher.

WINNIPEG, JULY 29, 1884.

- H. S. Maw, furniture, Winnipeg, has sold
- F. H. Jones, fish, Winnipeg, has assigned in

LAING & Son, general store, Silver City, have assigned.

JAMES LESTER, hotel, Archibald, has removed to Manitou.

C. CHRISTIE, flour and feed, Minnedosa, is succeeded by J. Bigham.

NEWMAN, FINNERTY & Co, general store, Portage la Prairie, are about removing to Qu'-Appelle.

WARREN & SNYDER, general store, Menote, have dissolved partnership. Fred B. Warren continues alone.

Hood & Smith, hotel, Winnipeg, have dissolved partnership. The business will be con tinued by Abiel Smith.

FRASER, McIntosu & McLean, sawmills, Pilot Mound, have dissolved partnership.

McRae Bros., hotel, Gladstone, have dissolved partnership. The business will be contiaued by James McRae.

HUMBER & THOMPSON, tins, Minnedosa, have dissolved partnership. The business will be continued by O. W. Humber.

THE Grand Union Hotel has been thoroughly renovated. Bath rooms, etc., have been added and it is now re-opened under new management.

THE steamer, Marquette left St. Vincent on the 27th, and is expected to arrive to-day. Herself and barge, are heavily laded with freight for the merchants of this city. This is the outcome of the C. P. R. discrimination against Winnipeg.

THE Market Superintendent weighed 1.025 head of sheep on the city scales yesterday. They were brought from Montana by Mr. Bell, who sold them to Messrs. Penrose & Rocan, Mr. Kobold, and Gallagher & Son. They averaged 117 pounds each.

THE President of the Board of Trade has received a reply from Mr. Van Horne, in regard to the discrimination that at present exists against this city by the C.P.R. of which Mr. Van Horne is manager. He flatly refuses to make any concessions.

Mr. George E. Lundy is building a sawmill at Lily Bay, Manitoba, and expects to have it in operation by the 15th of August. The mill is located in a fine timber country. Mr. Lundy has 100,000 feet of timber ready to convert into lumber. This will be a great boon to settlers.

THE Canadian and American Mortgage and Trust Company have opened an office in Winnipeg which will be under the management of C. S. Drummond. The Company intend for the present to confine its operations to Manitoba and the Northwest.

COPP BROS., stovo manufacturers, of Hamilton, Ontario, have opened a branch warehouse on Albert street. Mr. Thomas Waddell will manage the Winnipeg branch. The firm is for tunate in securing the services of Mr. Waddell, as he is held in high esteem by traders in this city, and favorably known throughout this province and the Northwest.

AT a meeting of the Assiniboine Farming and Dairy Company, held on the 22nd, Mr. Duncan McArthur was elected president, Mr. J. D. Warren secretary, and Mr. Brown, manager. The main object of the Company will be the raising of good stock. Dairy products will also be a prominent feature of the enterprise.

THE total number of failures in the United Kingdom and Ireland reported to Kemp's Mercantile Gazette (London) during the first week in July was 107, as compared with 256 in the like period in 1883 and 252 in the cornes ponding week in 1882. England and Wales had 79, as against 230 and 226, respectively, in the preceding periods noted; Scotland had 21, as compared with 22 and 18, and Ireland had 7 as against 4 and 6.

THE Baltimore Manufacturers' Record, in discussing the industrial progress of the south during the past six months, finds that over \$69,. 000,000 of capital was invested in these states between January 1 and July 1, 1884. This appears all the more striking when the general business depression throughout the country during the first half of the current year is considered. The list of new industrial enterprises is said to embrace cotton mills, woollen, flour, saw, cottonseed oil and planing mills, iron furnaces, agricultural implement factories, machine shops, founders, fertilizer factories, tobacco factories, ship-building yards and many others, besides coal, iron ore, copper, gold, mica and other mining enterprises.

THE Chicago Northwestern Lumberman finds no improvement in the domestic lumber markets, unless it he prospective, dependent on harvesting as full crops as now appears probable. Present trade as to volume and profits is at a minium in both a wholesale and retail way. The summer season is usually characterized by a moderate business, but the present is unwontedly dull. Complaint is more pronounced east than west, though in the latter it is sufficiently emphatic. It is acknowledged, however, that building is generally going briskly forward in the cities, and that large quantities of lumber. are being consumed in industry. This being true, it may be inferred that the complaints as to dullness in the lumber trade are somewhat exaggerated.

Business East.

P. Thompson, harness, Douglas, is away.

J. Doyle, liquors, St. Thomas, has assigned.

James P. McCallum, tivs, Dutton, has sold out.

J. H. Rosenbaum, stationery, Toronto, has sold out.

Edith D. Beckett, millinery, Toronto, has assigned.

C. D. Graham, jeweller, Ottawa, has assigned in trust.

James Belch, wagons, Napance, has assigned in trust.

Thomas Patterson, hotel, Grafton, is out of business.

R. B. Cooper, mills, Belleville, has been barned out.

James Tyron, cooper, Priceville, has been burned out.

W. H. Hender, publisher, Alliston, has been burned out.

Knight & Wilson, roundry, Alliston, are burned out.

J. Ainslie & Co., grist and sawmill, Cottam, are burned out.

A. W. Cooper, dry goods, Toronto, has sold out to Ed. Tisdale.

R. W. Hynds grocer, Hamilton, advertises stock for sale by auction.

Lawrence & Keefer, general store, St. George, will dissolve on August 1st.

Galt Carriage Manufacturing Co., Galt, advertises factory and plant for sale.

W. & R. Balkville, Wallocetown, nave bought out James P. McCallum, tins.

Graves & Kyle, general store, Guysboro, have dissolved. M. Kyle continues alone.

Matrie & Strachan, general store, Rockwood, have dissolved. Style now Strachan Bros.

R. M. Fitzsimmons & Bro., grocers, Brockville, have dissolved; the business is continued under style of Fitzsimmons & Bro.

The following parties were burned out in West Westminster M. F. Beach & Co., mills; James Alexander, general store, and J. A. Chambers, carriages.

McKinnon, Proctor & Co., wholesale millinery, Toronto, have dissolved. C. Proctor retires, and S. F. McKinnon continues under style of McKinnon & Co.

QUEBEC.

J. Trepanier, ti.s. Montreal, is away.

Brown Bros. & Co., stevedores, Montreal, have dissolved.

P. A. Marien, hats and furs, Montreal, have assigned in trust.

Philip S. Ross, accountant, and financial agents, Montreal, have changed style to P. S. Ross & Son.

Dixon, Sons & Co., general merchants, Montreal, have admitted W. Muttle as partner. Style the same.

Clark, Fitts & Co., baker and biscuit manufacturers have dissolved. H. J. Benallack retires, and a new firm formed composed of W. F. Costigan as special partner, contributing \$4,000 to June 30th, 1889.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

F. E. McClure, drugs, St. John, is away. Charles W. Smith, furniture, St. John, has been burned out. Insured for \$6,000.

Waterbury & Rising, boots and shoes, St. John, have had their stock damaged by fire. Insured.

Cochrane Hamilton, boots and shoes, St. John, has had his stock damaged by fire. Reported insured.

NOVA SCOTIA.

James Day, drugs, Parrsboro, has sold out. Mrs. McDowall, general store, Pugwash, is dead

James F. Crosby, boots and shoes, Yar-mouth, have dissolved. Parker, Eakins & Co. retire.

Wheat Culture in New Zealand.

Mr. J. C. Frith, the proprietor of a great wheat, sheep and cattle raising farm, containing 36,000 acres, in New Zealand, has an nounced to his workmen that he would be compelled to stop cuitivation and discharge all his hands, owing to the low price received for wool and wheat; "It does not pay," he says, "even with the best of labor-saving machinery to farm in New Zealand. Yet he uses steam ploughs and traction engines imported from England, in addition to the best harvesting machines and other agricultural implements from the United States. This is a very important statement, and the New Zealand press admits that it is an unpleasant truth. It seems that the chief cause of it is the high price of farm labour now prevailing in that country, from \$1 to \$1.50 per day and board being the customary farm laborer's pay."

French Walnut.

The finest and most costly of the veneer woods is French walnut-a wood that does not come from France, but from Persia and Asia Minor. The tree is crooked and dwarfed, and is solely valuable for the burls that can be obtained from it. These are large, tougth excrescences growing upon the trunk. In these the grain is twisted into the most singular and complicated figures. The intricacy of these figures combined with their symmetry, is one of the elements that determine the value of the burl. Colour and soundness are other elements of value, which varies very widely. Burls worth from \$500 to \$1,000 each are not rare, and at the Paris Exposition for 1878 one burl weighing 2,200 pounds was sold for \$5,000, or upwards of \$2.00 a pound. In buying burls much care is necessary to guard against fraud. Often decay or mal formation results in leaving hollows in the very centre, which, of course, greatly lessens the value. These hollow places are sometimes filled by fraudulent dealers with substances resembling the wood, and the whole is sold at a very much higher price than it is worth. Compressed man ure is one of the materials used for this purpose. An even worse fraud than this is that of placing stones in the hollow to increase the weight, and thereby enhance the value of the burl. This not only cheats the buyer, but is liable to ruin the valuable knives used in cutting the vencer,

There are resewood and mahogany burls, but unlike those of the French walnut, they are of little or no value. In those woods it is the trunk of the tree that is prized; the knots are discarded.—Canadian Manufacturer.

General Notes.

ENGLAND'S imports from Canada were in June, 1883, £717,653; June, 1884, £582,706. For the six months—1883, £1,374,636; 1884, £1,097,907—showing a falling-off of £276,729, or in round numbers about \$1,300,000.

THE exports from England to Canada in June amounted to £382,750 stg., against £579,815 stg. in June, 1883, a very serious falling-off. The figures for the six months ending June 30 stand:—1883, £3.145,217; 1884, £2,520,765—a reduction of £624,421, or over, \$3,000,000.

WE are apt to laugh at the Dutch for their slowress in trade and commerce, but there is much in their steady habits and cool imperturbility which we might imitate ith profit. Besides, they are not so slow in commerce as we are apt to think, although their undemonstrativeness gives color to our beliefs. Our consul at Amsterdam reports that a trading museum has been established in Amsterdam, the aim and object of which are described to be the following, viz.: 1. To establish and hold a permanent exhibition of homeand fordign products and manufactures. 2. To collect and furnish all possible information relating to commerce and industry. 5. To bring into connection and further intercourse producers and merchants. 4. To receive and deliver orders for exhibited articles, and to give information concerning the solidity and responsibility of producers and consumers; and, furthermore, to accomplish whatever might tend to foster and develop commerce and industry .- American Mail.

THE imports of foreign wine, "ordinary in casks," at Bordeaux during last year amounted to no less than 23,500,000 gallons: from Spain, 13,371,000 gallons; Portugal, 6,690,000 gallons; Italy, 2,147,000 gallons; Austro-Hungary, 1,192,000 gallons; from all other countries, 100,000 gallons. The export of wiaes from Boadcaux during the same year were 22,000,-000 gallons in casks and 2,218,000 gallons in bottlez. It thus appears that the exports of "French wines" from Bordesux, allowing a little increase in the manipulation, amounted to just the imports of foreign wines. Are Bordeaux wines simply the rough wines of Spain, Portugal and Italy, manipulated by the subtle bands of the Bordeaux merchants, labeled with "time-honored" brands and sent forth to all of the gullible points of the earth? Either, this, or the French keep the poor foreign wines for their own use, while they export their own product-s fact not very impossible, when we take into consideration how much more the French think of foreigners than they do of themselves! However, the producers and manipulators can settle this question between themselves, and as far as the average American wine drinker is concerned, this will be an easy job, for with him the "foreign label" covers a multitude of bad wines, and clothes it with a certain amount of infatuating sanctity. - American Mail.

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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, JULY 29, 1884.

OMNIFEROUS FARMERS.

It would be hard to find a combination which embraced so much unpardonable assumption and obvious incapacity as the so-called council of farmers' delegates, which has been in session in Winnipeg during the past week. Nor could any collection of sawdust performers contribute more for the amusement of sensible people than has this gathering during their deliberations. The wisdom displayed, as a rule, by farmers when they attempt the management of railways, controlling of a leading branch of a country's commerce, or, in fact, any undertaking outside of farming, is probably about equal to that displayed by any other class of men who attempt any work outside of that which is their regular calling. When, however, the executive of a so-called farmers' organization is composed to a large extent of unsuccessful merchants, eccentric and unpatronized physicians, played-out political wire-pullers, unreliable and unemployed newspaper compositors, and other elements utterly at variance with the best interests of the agricultural classes, we can only expect that the cause of the farmer must of necessity earn only ridicule instead of sympathy from those who should join interests with him, and be a support to him in his efforts to secure redress of any grievance he suffers from. The Manitoba farmer must feel that he posseses all the wisdom of a calf, when he has to depend npon the opinions of such a crowd, as to what make of twine he should use with his self-binding harvester; and he must be content with a cheap security when he trusts to the arrangements made by an unsuccessful newspaper compositor for the marketing of his grain. In all other matters his interests seem to have bestowed upon them an equally valuable supervision; and to crown matters, a disciple of Æsculapius, who prefers politics to physic, suggests that their every interest should be made subservient to political aims. Under such a concentration of unsound wisdom the farmer should soon be as free as the negro, who claimed the right to go barefooted if he had no shoes.

As might be expected the C.P.R. comes in for the chief share of abuse from

this collection of wiseacres, and the management of the Company's lines, according to their opinion is radically wrong in almost every detail. The system of clevators constructed by private enterprise along the lines are only so many movements of monopoly, and so must every modern appliance for handling grain be held, until the railway company banish every vestige of mechanical improvement from the country, and reduce grain handling to the antiquated system of wooden box warehouse and scoop shovel elevating power. The argument used to compel these retrograde changes is a powerful one indeed, and has, at least, antiquity to recommend it. "Our grandfathers in Ontario and Quebec never had any elevators," say these farmers' representatives (1), and we do not want and will not have them in Monitoba. The fact that one small elevator, constructed at a cost of less than \$7,000, will handle, clean and load more grain in a day than twelve flat warehouses, costing not less than \$20,000, and do it at less than one half of the cost, has no weight with these advocates of antediluvian appliances. They have associated every item of progress in that respect with monopoly, and what the farmer cannot accomplish with his lumber wagon and scoop shovel is in their minds a snare and a delusion, and a blow against that right which agriculturists have possessed since the days of Adam, namely, the privilege of accomplishing every undertaking in the slowest, most awkward and most expensive manner possible. The directors of the "Manitoba and Northwest Farmers' Co-operativa and Protective Union," as these all wise counsellors call themselves, have evidently made calculations upon finding more of that species of fish, termed "sucker," among our agriculturulists, than they are likely to discover.

It would be well for our farmers to calmly enquire into the advice they are at present receiving from a collection of men who assume to be their leaders. During last winter, when agriculturists were laboring under unmistakable blunders, their cry was seconded and supported by the entire population of our towns, and the voice of a people, united, forced some concessions in their favor. The course now being adopted by the directors of the Union must tend to array the agricultural and trading classes against each other, for their every move into a

mercantile field is a proclamation that they have no faith in the trading classes of this country. With the people of Manitoba thus divided, as these so-called directors evidently wish to see them, it is not hard to see how powerless the province will be to secure any concessions of rights, no matter how plain the grievances. may be made. There is this certainly, however, that those of our farmers who do be missed by these self-constituted leaders, will not follow their advice more than one year, and they will find to their cost that they have paid for their folly. But even one year of a policy which must be productive of discordance, will in a great measure weaken the power of the people of Manitoba in securing the rightswhich belong to them all in common.

THE FLOW TIDE OF PROSPERITY.

The return of prosperity has many points which serve as good similes of the return of a tide, and in Manitoba, at present these are more than usually prominent. We have had our time of ebb, and the signs left behind the receding waves were too marked to be obliterated until a full flow tide once more swept over them. Already that wave has travelled further inward than most people are aware of. The outer marks left by the receding tide were commercial disasters, and now the returning flow has almost obliterated these. Further inward were the marks of unoperated industries, and these are now being washed away gradually, if not as quickly as we could wish. The onlooker may stand far out on the tide washed sand and wonder how slowly the waters are advancing, and yet, when he turns around he may find that through many unseen shallow channels the water has crept onward past the slightly elevated spot on which he stands, and his way to the high land is intercepted. So it is with the returning tide of prosperity, while we are viewing the waste left by the ebb, and measuring its extent before and all around, we frequently discover that, in a host of unforseen, ways the flow of prosperity has crept around us through channels which we cannot even afterwards define, and marks which we expected to find behind us have been silently and unaccountably washed out by its movement. Even when the tide has stolen around us we may doubt its power to reach a former level to which it is stealthily and surely sweeping onward. From the high shores

behind rills, rapids and even cataracts may rush through gorges on to the tidal beach, and their murmur or roar as the case may be echo like a clamor to be swallowed up in the great mass of water beyond. We can find similes for these in the many investments and enterprises which a too rapid growth brought to life, and which now clamor for prosperity to support. Their clamor will in time be stilled. The wave is slowly and silently sweeping onward, and will in time rise on the shore and through the gorges, and still the cry of these clamorers.

But away upward on the rocks above there are marks that indicate where a tide once washed. In a time of volcanic discord these have been thrown upward, away beyond the reach of any tidal wave, there to bleach to the end of time. So in the volcano-like period of mad, recling speculation marks are now thrown away upward where no tide of prosperity can ever sweep around them. They are for the future only movuments of wild folly. Let us mark them well, and profit by the lesson they teach.

GRAIN PRICES.

It is now almost a settled fact that in the Northwest this fall we will have a crop of grain far above the average, and no trouble in saving the same from the bad influences of frost. People generally are satisfied that the quantity of grain will give no cause for complaint this season, but there are considerable fears about a reasonable price being received for it. The prices that have been paid for wheat at grain centres during the past month are certainly much lower than those paid a year ago, and on their surface do not hold out much encouragement to expect an advance With No. 2 : ... cat in Chicago fluctuating between 80 and 85c. for over a month, the ordinary observer would naturally conclude that the grain farmer's prospects for the coming winter were anything but promising.

A year ago, wheat after being carried in the arms of speculation for over two years was dropped from its grasp, and was on the downward tendency, to which it stuck during the entire winter and spring. Of the crop of 1882 nearly one third of a surplus had to be carried over to compete with the crop of 1883, and to make matters still blacker, England was receiving a new supply of grain from India, and the demand for American wheat in Eng-

lish markets was steadily falling off. With such a prospect and nearly forty million bushels of wheat in sight on this continent, the crop of 1883 came to market, and the steady downward movement in prices was only a natural consequence. The depth of low prices was only reached this spring, when with the tightening influences of depression, banks called in their funds from speculation fields, and this removed every speculative pror from under grain prices. Since then unprecedentedly low prices have prevailed, and wild and unfounded theories of overproduction have been put forth to account for them. While American markets were in this hopeless and helpless state of depression and speculators here were doubting their recovery during the next year, European buyers were quietly replenishing their stocks at the favorable figures, and wheat kept dis. appearing at the rate of nearly 2,000,000 bushels a week. Now at the close of July, the whole wheat on sight in the continent of North America is less than 9,000,000 bushels and the quantity is every day on the decrease, and will continue to do so as long as present low prices continue. The part that European crops play in filling the English deficit is rather unimportant. Upon the British crop itself the millers of that country depend, and when it fails they look to American sources of supply. This year the home crop in England is a comparative failure, and the deficit promises to be much greater this season than it was a year ago. It is only natural to expect that the demand upon America will be heavier than it was in 1883, and although crop prospects all over this continent are good, our surplus will not be so heavy as it was from last crop, and starting into our new crop as we do with less than one-fourth of the wheat in sight that we had a year ago, there is certainly very little prospect of a glutted market. A year ago we commenced to receive the first of our crop receipts amid the collapse of speculation on all sides, and the setting in of trade depression generally. This year we start in with, so to speak, the bottom out of everything and every calculation based upon the lowest grade of hard pan. It is only reasonable to expect under such circumstances that grain prices will steadily, if not rapidly improve during the coming winter, and that before the crop of 1885 reaches market, prices not now thought of will be paid. The small quantity of wheat in

sight now, compared with a year ago, shows the folly of the overproduction theory, and should a freer feeling in financial circles set in, so that the power of speculation would once more be felt in the grain market, the utter nonsence of this theory would be clearly demonstrated.

THE VALUE OF CONFIDENCE.

It would be difficult to find a more powerful illustration of the value of commercial confidence than is furnished by the state of trade affairs in Manitoba at present. A year ago the prospects of the Province were scarcely less bright than than they are at present. Crops were no doubt much less advanced, but the thought of damage from frost had scarcely crossed the mind of any one here. Fields of fine nodding grain were waving all over the country and the prospect of an abundant crop never was more alluring Yet, strange to say, at this time last year trade had reached the very depths of depression. Our record of insolvencies was blacker during July and August than during any two months in the history of the country; and still more strange to say September, the month during which the frost struck our crops, showed quite an improvement in trade in every respect. Courage seemed during last summer to have completly forsaken many of our business men, and banks and other monetary institutions which should have acted as supports during such a time of trial were seemingly most paralized with fear. At present we look around and complacently calculate that trade affairs, if not active are perfeetly safe, and all seem anxious to assist each other until a time of greater prosperity has set in. Business men now are not in any way better supplied with cash than they were a year ago. True, as a rule, their liabilities are now much lighter, but many are now making terrible struggles to tide over into what they expect to be a prosperous fall trade, and are in such a position that with a return of the nervous feeling of a year ago, they would undoubtedly go under. Yet there is no danger at present of such men not being able to pull through, and this absence of danger is due entirely to the presence of confidence. Those who have passed through the depression of the past year and now see a clear horizon ahead, know above all others the value of that confidence, although it must be ver; evident to others who are net so directly profited by it.

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GIRDLESTONE H. 30 and 32 Owen Street, WINNIPEG.

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

There is a monotony in the monetary affairs of the city at present, especially in connection with commercial business, and last week, made scarcely a variation in the same. Commercial discounts are now about down to the lowest point, and the volume of paper is about the lightest it has been during the present year. Banks have consequently no difficulty is meeting all calls in this line, and have surplus funds for any increase likely to come. Rates are unchanged, being: first-class paper 8 per cent.; ordinary, 9 to 10; and promiscuous and onename paper, 10 to 12. Renewals are heavier in proportion to the business done than they were a month ago, but these are mostly in part, and at very short dates. Loans on real estate mortgage are a little more in demand. There has been considerable enquiry for farm lands in the province, and at the same time for loans. There can be no doubt but a good safe and profitable trade will be done by companies as coon as harvest is over. There is no scarcity of money, and it only requires a brisk demand for loans on improved farms to bring plenty of fresh capital into the country. In loans on city property the business done has been small, and the demand is light. Rates of interest have still the same range, from 8 to 10 per cent., and companies seem more concerned about securing good and safe investments, than about squeezing out the highest ate of interest.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRAPS.

During the past week the wholesale trade of the city has shown a slight inclination to be more active, and in some lines quite an improvement has taken place. Still the feeling generally has been more or less slow, and some branches complain of actual dullness in the line . of sales. The lines connected with articles of food and daily consumption still continue to furnish the best reports, and it may be stated that not an actual complaint has been heard during the week from there. In a few articles of provisions the demand from the wholesale houses has fallen-off, and seems to continue to do so as the season advances, and the extent to which local production has reached becomes more evident. Evidently efforts for the organization of these local supplies are too slow in being put forth, and will have to be suspended so as to bring them within the ordinary calculations of supply and demand. In lines connected with building operations there is still steady activity, and the results of the season promise to be very satisfactory, and certainly much beyond the calculations of last spring. In season's goods the movement is particularly slow, and goods changing hands are mostly in smr!l sorting parcels, and purely for immediate wants. In some instances opening fall orders have been taken, but there are for delivery in the latter part of next month, and have not been given so generally as in former years, although when given they have been liberal in quartity, and indicative of good hopes on the part of retailers all over the country. In most lines of this class travellers have not started out for the fall trade, but during the current week there will doubtless be a general evodus of these

trade ambassadors, and August will, in all probability be the busiest month of 1884 with them. The determination on the part of courtry buyers to wait until the harvest prospect can be calculated with some certainty, cannot stand much longer in the way of business, as a very few days more will settle the question for this year, and as matters now look, will settle it in a very satisfactory manner. The report of collections for the week differs very little from that of the preceding one. In a few lines of trade paper must, as a rule, be carried over until after harvest, but with these exceptions the report is altogether satisfac' ry, and several wholesaters express surprise at how well country returns still continue to come in. Altogether the week's report is encouraging, and closes with an almost certain prospect of our being near the end of slowness for one season.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

There is still quite a lively trade being done in this business, and during the past week there has been a steady demand for harvesting and thrashing machines. A falling-off in sales of the former is now looked for, and with the close of August the rush of the whole season's trade will be over. Collections are now down to the lowest cbb, and are not expected to show any improvement until after harvest, the leading houses having made their arrangements for carrying overdue paper until then.

ECOTS AND SHOKS.

Sales for present delivery have been very fow, far between and light in this line during the past week, and have been confined to the most trifling kind of so ting orders. Opening fall orders for delivery in a month or so have been increasing, and houses report quite heavy sales of this description. The report of collections is fully as good as can be expected at this time of year, although not all that could be desired.

CLOTHING.

Dullness still reigns in this line, and the sales of the past week foot up to a very slim aggregate. Travellers are not yet out for the fall orders, but will be on the road next week, and a decided improvement in business is expected thereafter. Collections are reported moderately good, and promising well for the coming fourth of August. There is a disposition with both wholesalers and retailers not to rush matters too early this season.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

Business has been at a very low ebb in this line during the past week, sales having been very light in the aggregate. There has been no attempt to push matters, and wholesalers seem reconciled to the present quietness. Collectious are reported fair, but not as good as could be wished.

DRY GOODS.

This staple trade is still in a very quiet condition. The leading wholesale houses have decided not to push sales of fall goods until August opens, and present sales are consequently confined to the few sorts which must be had for immediate demands. A rushing business is confidently expected during August and September, as the country is known to be bare of these goods, and the prospects of a big

fall trade among country retailers never were better. In collections the report is fair. A few have been applying for part renewals of notes falling due next week, but the number is not great.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALL WARES.

Dulinoss has been general in this line for some time back, and the past week has shown no improvement. In fact one house reports the duliest week of the summer season. No very marked improvement is looked for for a few weeks or until fall trade is in full swing in season lines. Collections are reported moderately good.

FISH AND POULTRY.

There is very little doing in fish at present. The warm weather makes it difficult to keep a large stock on hand, and considerable risk is incurred in shipment to and from distant points. White fish and trout are each quoted at 7c. Poultry is in large supply. Spring chickens vary in price, according to size, ranging from 25 to 50c a pair. Fowl are worth 40 to 50c each.

PRUIT.

Evon in this trade there has been a slight falling off in business during the past week. Sales have been much lighter then they have been for several weeks, and altogether there has been rather a quiet feeling. The variety of groon fruit has been liberal, and included several novelties. Bananas have sold at \$4 to \$6 a bunch, according to size. California pears have been quoted at \$6 to \$7 a box, and California plums at \$4. New apples have dropped to \$3 a barrel. A few boxes of oranges are still held at \$9. Tomatoes are plentiful and have sold at \$1 a box Peanuts, pecans and Brazil nuts are unchanged in prices, and Valencia ard losse Muscatels still held at \$2.25 to \$2.50 a box.

FUEL.

Vory little business has been done in this commodity during the week, and quotations of both wood and coal are to a great extent nominal. Poplar, in round lots is quoted at \$4 to \$4.50 on track, and tamarac at \$4.50 to \$5. Anthracito coal is worth \$10.75 on track, and bituminous \$9.50. Western lignite, in retail lots, is at \$7.50 delivered.

FURNITURE.

There has been very little activity in this line during the week, and wholesale orders have been for small lots and few in number. Even the city retail trade complain greatly of a quiet feeling. Collections reported only fair.

GROCERIES.

In this staple branch there have been no new features during the week, and the aggregate of business done has been about a good average. Collections are reported steadily good, and by some surprisingly so. There have been no changes in the prices of staple goods, although in sugar there has been a disposition to shade hast week's figures in cases of large orders. Quotations still are: yellows 7½ to Sc; granulated 8½ to 8½c, and Paris lumps 9¾ to 10c. Coffees, Rios, 1½ to 17c; Javas 21 to 24c; Jamaicas, 17 to 20c, and Mocha 30 to 34c. Toa, Moyune gunpowder, 25 to 70c; Japans,

20 to 45c, and Congous 24 to 75c. Syrups, single crawn, \$2.50, and triple crown, \$2.75 per keg.

HARDWARE AND MATALS.

There is still considerable activity in this line, although in shelf and fancy hardware the business of the past week has been very light. In heavy goods and building material there is still no reason for complaints. Collections are much the same as reported last week, there being still some irregularity with city Prices of staple goods are unaccounts. changed, and quotations are as follows: Tin plate 14x20, \$6.75 to 7.25 a box; 20x28, \$13 to 13.50; Canada plates \$4.50 to 4.60; sheet iron, 28G \$4.75 to 5.25 per 100 lbs; iron pipe, 40 to 50 per cent. off list price; ingot tin, 28 to 31c per 1b.; pig lead, 6 to 61c; galvanized iron, No. 28, 71 to Sic, according to quality; bar iron, \$2.95 to 3.15 per 100 lbs; cut nails, \$3.60 to

LUMBER.

As each week draws to a close the state of this trade is found to have made a little progress in the right direction, and the past week has been no exception. Sales have been quite liberal, and prices, although not down to a fixed table of quotations have held wonderfully regular. One manufacturing firm reports their entire cut for the season sold. There is still a hope that the whole trade will, before the fall reach a state of prosperity, which it has not been in since the fall of 1882.

SADDLERY AND HARNESS.

There has been a quieter feeling in this trade during the past week, and until harvest commences this is expected to continue. Collections are reported fair to good. Prices of staples have not changed, and quotations are: Harness leather, 33 to 36c per lb; collar splits, 27 to 33c; sheep skins, \$7.50 to 11.50 per doz., according to quality.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

A slight improvement is reported in this line for the past week, but business is still slow and collections are reported fair to good. Quotations are unchanged and are as follows: Spanish sole 33c to 35c; slaughter sole 35c French calf, first choice, \$1.40 to 1.50; domestic 55c; BZ calf \$1.00 to 1.10; French kip \$1.00 to 1.25; B Z kip 85c to 90c; slaughter kip 65c to 75c; No. 1 wax upper 55c; grain upper 55c; harvess leather 34c to 36c for plump stock; English oak sole 65c.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS.

There is a decidedly quiet feeling in this trade, and the business of the past week has been limited. Collections are reported moderately good. Stocks of all classes of staples, with the exception of window glass, are ample. Values are unchanged and prices are as follows: Linsced oil raw, 71c per gal; boiled, 74c; seal oil, steam refined, \$1.10; no pale or straw seal in the market; castor, 15c per lb; lard, No. 1, \$1.30 per gal; olive, \$1.50 to \$2, according to quality: machino oils, black 30c; oleine 50c; fine qualiiles 65c to \$1. Coal oils, Headlight 32c; water white 37c. Calcined plaster, \$4.50 per bbl;

\$8.00; No. 1, \$7.50; No. 2, \$7. Window glans, broken, first break, are quoted at \$2.75.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

Quietness is still general in this line, and wholesalers complain considerably of the same, The past week has developed no improvement, and none of a very marked character is looked for until well on in August. Collections are reported good on the whole.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

For the past week a decided increase in sales in this line is reported, and hopes of a permanent improvement in business are expressed. Collections are a little irregular. Paper is, as a rule, promptly met, but scattering small bills are very difficult to collect. Prices of staple goods are unchanged, and quotations are as follows: Hennesy's one star, \$13 to \$14; in wood, \$4.50 to 5.00 per gallon; Martel, in case, one star, \$13 to \$14; Renault, 1-star, \$12, \$16 and \$20; Louis Freres, in cases, qts, \$9; flasks, two dozen in a case, \$11; M. Dubois, in wood, \$3.50 pergal. lon; cases, quarts, \$S; flasks, \$9. Gin, Holland, in wood, \$3 per gallon; red cases, \$10.50 to 11.50; green cases, \$5 50 to \$6.50; Old Tom gic, Bernard's, in wood, \$3.25 per gallon; Booth's, in wood, \$3.25; Booths, in cases, quarts, \$5.50; Scotch whisky, Ram' ray's in wood, \$3.50 to \$4.00; Caul-Ila Islay, in wood, \$3.50; Stewart's, in cases, quarts, \$5.50; flasks, \$10.50. Irisa whisky, John Jamesor & Sons, in wood, \$3.50 to \$4 Bernard's, in cases, quarts, \$8: flasks, \$9.50. Jamaica rum, \$3.75 to \$4.00 per gallon. Cham. pague-Pomeroy, quarts. \$34; pints \$35 per case; Bollinger, quarts, \$33; pints \$34; Moet & Chandon, quarts, \$27; pints \$29; G. H. Momm, quarts, \$28; pints \$30; 1 per Heidseick, quarts, \$27; pints \$29; Carte Blanche. quarts, \$20; pints \$22. Sherry from \$2.50 to 8.00 per gallon, according to quality and brand; ports \$2.50 to 7.00, according to quality and brand; claret in cases \$5.00 to 7.00; Bass's ale in quarts \$3.50 per doz; pints \$2.25; Guiness' porter in quarts \$4.00; Lints \$2.50. Domestic whiskies, Gooderham & Wort's, in wood, \$1.65 to 2.25 per gallon; 65 o. p. rectified, in wood, \$3.50; W. F. L. fiveyear old, \$2.50 per gallon cases, quarts, \$7.50 : flasks \$8.50.

THE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

Receipts of wheat during the past week have been almost nil, and there is none expected until the new crop is ready to market. Oats are in better supply with values still tending upwards. Provisions are in good demand at unchanged values.

WHEAT.

There is no old wheat to market, consequently receipts are nil and will continue so until new wheat is ready to harvest. Quotations are unchanged at 95 to 98c for No. 1 hard.

tending upwards. Car lots are in good demand at 40 to 45c. C.P.R. contractors are the heaviest consumers. The local demand is reported as exceedingly active.

There is no business in this cereal-nene offered and none wanted only for feed purposes, for which it is worth 25 to 30c.

FLOUR.

The local demand still continues active. Shipments west during the past week have been very heavy. The ca fallen-off somewhat. Que changed: patents, \$3.10; \$2.70; and superfine, \$2.20. The castern demand has at. Quotations are unstrong bakers',

BRAN AND SHORTS

are still in active demand. Millers have no dif-Values are unchanged at \$8 for braa and \$10 for shorts per ton on track.

The market is well supplied with new stock from the south. Prices are ruling lower and will continue to do so as the season advances. Choice stock is worth \$4.25 to \$4.75 per barrel.

EGGS.

The country receipts have increased considerably during the past week, but the demand is equal to the supply, prices are con equently firm at 22c in round lots.

EUTTER.

The market is still glutted with an abundance of stocks of all descriptions. Quotations for Manitoba dairy range from 124 to 18c, according to quality.

Trade in this article is still light. Values. apparently, have reached their lowest point for this season. Round lots have changed hands

DACON.

Trade in this product during the past week has been very active. Values are unchanged: dry salt has changed hands in round lots at 12½; smoked is quoted at 12½ to 12¾c; spiced rolls '4 to 15c, and English breakfast, 15 to

MESS PORK.

The demand still continues active and prices are firm at \$22.50 in round lots.

are still scarce, and the demand continues act ive. Values are firm although not quotably higher. Round lots have changed hands at 16}c.

MESS DEEF.

No change to note in this product. Business is reported fair and quotations are unchanged at \$18 per barrel.

MINNEAPOLIS.

There has been a slow but steady advance in wheat values on 'change the past week, and those millers who have been depending on purchases from day to day to keep running, have been the heaviest buyers. They did not show much anxiety for supplies when prices reached the lowest point, but as the rise began they changed tactics and are still working hard for cheap wheat. The receipts were about onehalf those of two weeks ago, but this was due more to the pressure of farm work than anything else, although the invisible supply is a rapidly lessening quantity. The event of the week was the revelation of a blunder in compil-Portland cement, \$6; white lead, genuine, are still in good demand and values are still ing Minneapolis statistics, whereby an impossible

increase in the visible supply was shown. The blunder convulsed the Chicago market and caused a tumble in prices there.

All crop reports from the Minneapolis wheat belt continue favorable and the largest crop ever known, of extra high grade as a whole, seems certain to be the proper manner of describing the wheat of 1884.

The following were the highest and lowest prices by grade on 'change during last week, with Wednesday's closing prices :-

	Wheat.	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.
No.	1 hard			
"	2 ''	. 89	\$3	89
	1 northern .			85
"	1 "	. Sl .	80	81
44	2 " .	. 75	74	75

Coarse grains were dall, No. 2 corn closing at 50c, No. 2 oats at 30 to 31c, and No. 3 bar ley at 58 to 60c.

MILLSTOFF. - Bran is lower, and in light demand, closing at \$7.25 per ton in bulk; shorts \$10 to \$12 per ton.

FLOUR.—The flour market shows little change in prices, with an increased and rapidly growing demand, so that the mills are pushed to their full capacity. "There's no money in shutting down or running half time," said a miller yesterday, "but by going ahead at full capacity we can avoid loss and keep our men busy, thus preventing grumbling." Quotations at the mills for car or round lots are about as follows:

Patents, \$5.40 to 5.90; straights, \$4.75 to 5.25; first bakers', \$4.50 to 4.75; second bakers', \$4.00 to 4.40; best low grades, \$2.10 to 2.50, in bags; red dog, \$1.75 to 2.00, in bags.

The feature of last week on the platform was an increased flour production. The total output was 103,272 bbls.-averaging 17,212 bbls. for the six working days -against \$9,000 bbls. the preceding week. A great improvement has occurred in the flour trade, and millers are feeling very much better in consequence. The mills are being pushed more, and, though hot weather and toughness of wheat keeps them from running to their full capacity, they are getting out a large amount of flour. Out of the 22 merchant mills in the city, four were shut down Tuesday, but they were mostly of the smaller class. All the mills were shut down Wednesday, it being the big day of the Grand Army reunion, but the most of them had got in enough extra time to make up for this, and the break, therefore, will not make much of a figure.

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

RECEIPTS.

	July 22.	July 15.	July 8.
Wheat, bush	273,000	333,000	321,000
Flour, bris	500	625	375

	Jaly 22.	July 15.	July 8.
Wheat, bush	46,500	46,500	23,000
Flour, brls	123,682	78,976	80,165
Millstuff, tons	2,819	1,858	2,155

stock at St. Paul and Duiuth, is shown in the appended table:

MINNEAPOLIS.

		July 21.	July 14
No. 1 hard		386,594	195,622
No. 2 hard		214,662	184,309
No. 1 regular	:	733,859	630,131
No. 2 regular		151,944	'84,029
No. 3 regular		15,287	14,837
Rejected		69,084	7,267
Special		18,824	72,694
Total		1,590,258	1,308,889
	ST. PA	UI.	
	July 23.	July 16.	July 9.
brs	146,000	158,000	194,000
	DULUT	`H.	
	July 23.	July 16.	July 9.
In elevators,			
bus	677,700	767,160	1,039,200
-Northwester	n Miller.		

CHICAGO.

A large business has been transacted in grain during the past week. Outside orders are more numerous than for some time past. Values have ruled irregular and somewhat lower. The decline is attributed to the failure of several large mercantile houses in the eas t, and a bank failure in Indianapolis. Hog products are dull and trading light; prices, as a rule, are lower, with the exception of mess pork, which is still cornered by Mr. P. Armour. On Tuesday the markets closed as follows:

Wheat,	July,	\$0.813	Aug.,	\$0.824
Coin,	""	53½	47	533
Cats,	**	293	i "	269
Pork,	44	24.00	"	24.00
Lard	٤.	6.95	"	7.05

Wednesday the grain markets opened a shade easier, but became firmer under a fair demand on reported light receipts at St. Louis. It was also thought that the visible supply would have decreased considerably during the week, which had a tendency to strengthen values, but when it was announced that, instead of a decrease there was an increase, a general rush to sell was the result, and the advance was lost. Closing quotations were:

Wheat	July.	S0.811	Aug.,	\$0.82
Corn,		53	'47'	53
Oats,	46	291	i "	26
Pork,	**	24.00	1 "	24.00
Lard	"	6.90	"	7.00

Thursday, trading was only of a moderate character, though at times business was fairly active. The feeling was unsettled and nervous, although fluctuations were confined within a narrow range. The market opened steady but soon declined under heavy offerings. Winter wheat markets were also reported lower, giving encouragement to short sellers. Quotations at the close were :

Wheat,	July	,\$0.SI}	Aug.	\$0.82
Corn,	44	53	(**	53
Oats,	4.1	29	į ·'	26
Pork,	< 6	24.00	1 44	24.00
Lard,	**	6.90	"	7.00

Friday there was a more active business. The wheat in stere in Minneapo'is clevator, | Values were irregular. Fluctuations were on a (including the transfer) and mills, as well as the | wider range, but the feeling was generally one | encouraging. Street receipts nil.

of firmness. Corn was strong and higher, due principally to light receipts. Closing quotations

Wheat,	July.	S0.812	Aug.,	\$0.83
Corn,	"	549	- 44	55
Oats,	"	291	"	273
Pork,		24.00	"	23.00
Lard,	"	7.023	"	7.05

Saturday, trading was fairly active, and prices were firmer. The cause was attributed to stronger markets in Europe, and our winter wheat markets were also in favor of buyers. The present crop is reported as being of excellent quality. If such is the case there will be no lack of capital to take all that is offered at present prices. Quotations closed as follows:

Wheat,	July	\$0.823	Aug.,	\$0.831
Corn,		551	**	. 55 <u>∓</u>
Oats,	4 6	293	"	271
Pork,	"	24.00	"	23.00
Lard,	"	7.05	٠.	7.071

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

Trading in stocks during the past week has been of a moderate character. Values have been well maintained except in a very few cases. Wednesdays closing bids, as compared with the week previous were:

	July 15.	July	22
Montreal	1863	`1	87
Ontario			03
Molsons			
Toronto	166	1	67
Merchants	1061]	061
Commerce	1121	1	151
Jmperial			22
Federal			427
Dominion		1	87
Standard		1	087
Hamilton		1	115}
North-west Land		•	371

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

Inactivity is still the rule in the local market, insufficient supply being the cause. The demand has improved considerably during the past week. Buyers are numerous but sellers are scarce, consequently holders are firm in their views. Stocks are run very low, and in all probability before new grain arrives the market will be almost entirely cleaned of grain, On Monday the amount of grain in store was as follows: Flour, 2,500 bbls.; fall wheat, 52,-784 and spring wheat, 75,533 bush.; oats, 9,051 bush.; tarley, 2,547 bush.; peas, 1,213 bush.; rye, 642 bush; against on the corresponding date last year; flour 2,275 bbls.; fall wheat, 84,011 and spring wheat, 80,417 bush.; oats, 1,000 bush.; barley, 29,916 bush.; peas, 674 bush.; 1yc 341 bash.

Very tittle of any kind is to be had in the market, consequently what little there is is firmly held for better prices. No. 2 changed hands at \$1.10 f.o.c.; spring wheat is in good demand at from \$1.00 to \$1.10 for No. 1 and \$1.07 to \$1.00 for No. 2; and No. 2 goose is quoted at 80c. Street receipts are small and values range from 80c to \$1.08, according to sample.

remain about the same. Receipts have been light, but to all appearance sufficient to supply the demand. Car lots of good quality were in fair demand at 40 to 42c. Street receipts are getting very light and prices range from 43 to 441c.

DARLEY.

Nominally unchanged. None offered nor wanted. Prospects for the new crop are fairly

RYE.

Nothing doing whatever. Prices are nominal at 60 to 62c.

PEAS.

Buyers are numerous, but sellers are few owing to the scarcity of stock. No. 2 in round lots could find purchasers at 73 to 74c. Street receipts none. Crop reports are, as a rule, highly favorable.

FLOUR.

Offerings are small. Holders of what stock there is in the market are not disposed to part with their property, except at an advance in prices. Choice superior has changed hands to a limited extent at \$5.10; superior extra is firm at \$4.80, and extra at \$4.75; spring extras are quiet at \$4.40. Market closed firm.

No old in the market. New are in fair supply at \$2.50 to \$2.75 per barrel.

BUTCER

is still without any life. Stocks are accumulating rapidly not only in Toronto, but the States are full of butter, consequently shippers can do nothing at present, and there is no likelihood of an opening for our surplus for some time to come. Choice creamery is fair sale at 141 to 15c; low grades are unquotable. Street re-ceipts are fair, and prices range from 16 to 18c for pound rolls, and 14 to 16c for tubs and

EGOS.

Receipts continue large, and the demand having fallen-off somewhat, prices are not so firm. Round lots of strictly fresh have changed hands at 15c. Street receipts are moderate and prices are steady at 16 to 17c.

has snown but little change. No sales of round lots have been reported. Fine qualities in small lots are selling at 10 to 101c.

Quiet, with values unchanged at \$20.50 to \$21 in small lots. Round lots could be purchased at something less than the above quota-

BACON.

Long clear has sold mederately well in cases at 101c in small lots. No sales of round lots reported. Curberland is becoming scarce, and is firmly held at 10c in small lots; rolls are in fair demand at 12c, and bellies 13 to 14c.

are in active demand, and as stocks are unning low, holders of this product are anticipat ing higher prices in the near future. Lots of 100 and 200, smoked and canvassed, have sold freely at 15c. Pickled is quiet at 15½c.

States make have been offered freely at 11c in tinnets and pails, and Canadian has changed hands at 111 for tinnets and 121c for pails.

APPLES.

None offered. Prices no ainal.

POULTRY.

Offerings have been on the increase, but so far have found a ready sale at 45 to 55c for fowl per pair, and 60 to 80c for ducks.

Dried apples continue dull and weak at about 8 to Sic. Ostmen, per 136 lbs., \$4.25 to \$4.40. Cornneal, none in the market.

THE C.P.R. receipts for the week ending on the 21st, were \$125,000, an increase of \$1,000 as compared with the corresponding week last year. The Grand Trunk receipts show a decrease of \$32,000.

The Decline in Sugar.

Sugar is at present the most downtrolden leading article of large consumption, as much sc as coffee was eighteen months ago. Like the latter then, uobody wants to touch sugar now, unless he cannot help doing so. At least, it is so on this side of the water, and the possibility of a smart recovery in value seems to be farther off than ever. The same feeling here with respect to Coffee in October, 1882, but did not prevent the latter from advancing 50 per cent. within six months, because at that t me the entire machinery upon the modern plan for setting a depressed article on its feet again was silently set in motion, syndicates were formed, the New York Coffee Exchange was gained, and a Brazilian deficit was dexterously magnified to give color to the great speculation for a

We point to this coffee movement because the interests at stake in sugar are much greater than in coffee, and the capital at the disposal of those who want sugar to advance is by far more considerable, so that all that is now wanted is to find a good pretext for putting the ball in motion and causing a notable rise in the value of sugar, which since 1847 has never been so chean.

On January 3, 1883, fair to good refining Cuban muscovadoes commanded in the New York market 63c; on May 9, 74c; on July 2, 6 11-16c; on January 2, 1884, 6 1-16c; on March 4, 5 11-16c; on May 1, 5 5-16c, and on May 26, 5 1-16c. This shows that in less than thirteen months sugar declined between 29 and 30 per cent., or about two per cent. per month, which is enormous in an article of such large consumption, with good cereal and fruit crops during the year. Sugar has, indeed, been depressed to a point which invites speculation, because ruling rates ruin the cane-sugar planter and leaves the beet-root cultivator and sugar make: barely whole, however economically he may manage. When the best refined hard sugar goes begging in New York at 73c. a pound just at the opening of the active sugarconsuming campaign, this great article, in which all Christendom is interested, naturally deserves attention, the more so as it is generally believed that it has touched bottom, especially in view of the terrible state of affairs in Cuba, where all the scourges of creation seem to have conspired to dishearten the unfortunate tax-ground planter.

A financial and economical crisis of the worst kind, because both acute and latent, the precarious negro element rendered mutinous by the landing of filibusters not easily caught, a deep political discontent, taxes which wring the last profit from all classes, and a blundering administration corrupt at the core, and the whole rendered worse by a prolonged drought, is the state of Cub2, with sugar prices as low almost as they were in 1847, when slavery flourished. We do not believe that this picture is overdrawn, if all that those now arriving from the island say is true. Even when the late rebellion collapsed, Cuba was not so miscrable, for, at least, there was hope in better times coming; now there is none that we know of.

excellence; no single country turns out so much in normal times, and we take 75 per cent. of it, whether the crop is 450,000 tons or 800,000. If beet-root sugar determines the value in Europe, Cuban sugar determines the value in America, and if the one or the other shows a deficiency, sugar is capable of a 30 per cent. rebound a great deal quicker than the thirteen months it took to bring it down from a price which was not high.

By the last continental mail, we perceive that the young beet-roots were doing well. The area seeded in Germany was 10 per cent. greater; in Austria, Belgium and Holland it was but little above 1883; in Russia and Poland the seeding had just commenced.

As for cane sugar: in Louisiana, work in the cane fields was retarded by the late springs and is so by the inundations now.

In Brazil, the young caues were thriving, there having been moisture more than sufficient, yet it is not believed the now growing crop will be as large as that preceding, which exceeded the one before by 50,000 tons.

In Mauritius there is likely to be a slight excess over last year's yield.

Reunion, Egypt and Java all furnished a surplus over the previous crop, with fair prospects as regards the one now in the fields. The Philippine Islands will have a falling-off of little importance.

Although the returns for the crops now in process of grinding are not complete at this writing, cane sugar will probably show an excess over 1883 of not more than 100,000 tons all told, which comprises the slight increase in Cuba. In the latter island the dry weather has, of course, been favorable to grinding operations. and the yield has been both rapid and ample, as the canes were well matured, but the young canes will from now forward require rain, and plenty of it. As from latest dates the Gulf States had heavy rains, Cuba may yet get her

According to the Indische Mercuur of Amsterdam, beet-root sugar production increased from 1,393,939 in 1879 to 2,225,000 last year, and that of cane sugar from 3,487,045 tons to 3,759, 000 tons, the total having been 4,880,984 in 1879 and 5,984,000 last year, an increase of 22 per cent.

Consumption in the United States increased from 3,738,070 tons during the ten years 1854. 63, taken together, to 4,779,551 tons during the decade 1864-73, and to 7,888,945 during the last decade, 1874-83. On comparing the last decade with the first it will be noticed that the increase has been 110 per cent. In England, where sugar enters duty free, the increase during the past ten years has been proportionately almost as great as in our country, it having been found that in a community normally prosperous, sugar consumption increases in the inverse ratio of its cheapness. Hence, it is fair to presume that the trifling increase of production of 7 per cent, between beet-root and cane, all told, which may be assumed for the 1883-84 yield, now being consumed, will disappear without difficulty, causing the visible supply on August I next to sink considerably below that of May And Cuba is the sugar-producing country par 1 10, when it was 1,082,027 tons, against 875,074

on May 10, 1883, the excess then being 206,953 tons.

These views are at present shared in London and on the Continent, where at latest dates there was a decided improvement, with a strong speculative undercurrent, not as yet perceptible in New York, in spite of the enormous American fruit crop in prospect. How long New York will remain apathetic under the circumstances is becoming a matter of considerable curiosity.

Deceitful Business.

There is seemingly no business carried on in the world where there is more fraud and dishonesty than in the building trades. All builders and contractors are not dishonest, but the number who are is legion. The chief aim of many seems to be to ascertain some plan for bringing in a bill of extras, or for evading the true intent of the contract by furnishing a different and poorer material than that specified in the specifications. It is a very difficult thing for a "green hand" at building to make a contract with a builder which will hold water. There is such a chance for ambiguity, and for concealments and omissions. Then, half of the parties do not know what is necessary to be done to insure a good building, and the honest carpenter is the last man to inform them. Go into court, and there will be seen case after case arising out of the attempt of some smart builder to palm off sham in the place of good work. There seems to be no way of avoiding this r trouble unless one goes to a skilled and honest architect and places the matter wholly in his charge. Even then disputes and litigations frequently arise.

There is room for a radical change in the building trades. The cause of much of the dishonesty in these trades arises from the unscrupulous competition which there prevails. Bidders offer to take jobs at a loss, hoping to make up by scrimping and by obtaining payment for a liberal amount of "extras." It is difficult to point out a remedy for this evil. If one can find a builder who is known to be honest, it would be better to patronize him, even if his bid is a trifle higher than that of his competi tors. Underbidding is the bane of the building trades. Cheap contracts usually mean cheap and deceitful work, and unsatisfactory results all around. It is pretty safe to say that no builder calculates to lose money on a job, and many of the gentlemen of the craft will get out from under a too low bid by means which will not bear the light of day.

All contractors for erecting buildings as we have said, are not thus dishonest. Some, even, will go on to the end and faithfully perform their engagements when they know they will lose by so doing. Such men should be rewarded by good patronage, but unfortunately they do not always grow rich. The doctrine of the "survival of the fittest, we are sorry to say, does not always prove true in their case.—Industrial World.

Pavements of Compressed Wood.

The increased favor with which wood pavements have of late come to be regarded in

European cities has led to the devising of numerous processes that have for their object the preparation of wood in use for payements. In a process of this kind, on the one hand, of course strength and durability of the product must be aimed at; on the o her, it is necessary that the wo.king expenses be as low as possible. In this connection we note an article in the Semaine des Constructeurs on the process of Cyprien Mallet, which is said to fulfil these requirements. The salts of the metals and various other substances having the property of preserving wood from decay, Mallet injects, hot, into the core of pine trees, an antispentic fluid. and then compresses the logs about one-tenth their volume. The antispeptic fluid is composed of: copper sulphate, 6 kilos; juice sulphate, 6 kilos; sodium chloride, 3 kilos, which are dissolved by boiling in 35 litres of water containing no lime salts. Without interrupting the boiling, there is added then: resin oil, 40 kilos; heavy oil, 40 kilos; suct. 10 kilos. This solution is concentrated to a certain degree over a moderate fire. Ten litres of this liquid mixed with ninety litres of boiling water is the fluid used. The wood charged with this preparation becomes very hard, yet it retains sufficient elasticity; it is not affected by the weather. In Paris the cost of a pavement of this aind comes to about four dollars per square metre. - Sanitary Engineer.

The Crushing Capacity of Brick.

A rather soft brick will crush under a weight of about thirty or forty tons per square font, while a first-rate machine pressed brick will require from 300 to 400 tons per square foot; this last is about the crushing limit of the best sandstone, or two-thirds as much as the best granites or roofing slates. But masses of brickwork will crush under much smaller loads than single bricks thus, small cubical masses only nine inches each side, laid in cement, crushed under twenty-seven to forty tons per square foot. others, with piers nine inches square and two feet four inches high, in cement, only two days after being built required forty-four to sixty two tons per square foot to crush them. Cracking and splitting usually under about onehalf the crushing loads .- Industrial World.

Gunboat Trials.

A new gunboat, built by the firm of Sir W. G. Armstrong, Mitchell & Company, to the order of the South Australian government, has been put through the necessary trials as to speed and behavior under fire during the past week off the Tyne. The vessel, which is of the small cruiser type, is a twin serew, schooner rigged, and heavily armed, and is the third vessel of the kind supplied by the same firm to the colony of South Australia. The hull is of steel, made specially strong above the water line, and its dimensions are: Length, 180 feet; breadth of beam, 30 feet; depth, 16 feet, She has a mean draught of 12 feet 6 inches, with a displacement of about 1,000 tons. Her armament consists of one S-inch gun forward, with one 6inch guu on each broadside, and another of the same size astern; hesides which she carries five Gatling guns, each capable of discharging 1,200

shots per minute. The engines which were supplied by Messrs. R. & W. Hawthorn, developed an indicated horse-power of about 1,600, while an average speed of 14 knots per hour was attained. The vessel is named the "Protector." Besides these three gunboats supplied to the government of South Australi, the same firm a short time ago delivered two to the Queensland government, all being intended to act in the defence of the coasting interests of the Australian colonics.

How the Bananas Grow.

The banana is an annual, the fruit coming to maturity about a year after the shoot is planted, the trunk of the tree subsequently attaining a height or from eight to ten feet, and a girth of thirty-six inches. From this trunk, which is of a fibrius nature, are thrown out long palm-like branches, at the junction of which appears the fruit, each group of hunches numbering from four to twelve, being called a "hand," and each hand having eight or ten bananas upon it. A bunch of eight hands is the ordinary size of shipping fruit. From the root of the tree several shrots or suckers sprout, each of which, in turn, becomes a fresh tree. The life of the banana tree, however, is not usually long, for it is felled after the fruit is gathered, and sometimes, indeed, during the operation. Jamaica contains a good many banana plantations, varying in size from twenty-five thousand to two hundred thousand trees, for the most part cultivated by the small settlers in the different parishes. These holdings generally consist of three or four acres of land, on which the owners live in a temporary mud hut, being afraid to leave their property to the tender mercies of their neighbors, who rob each others grounds with the strictest impartiality whenever they get a chance. The cultivation is very primitive. I'ne land being cleared by a big hoe, a hole is dug and the sucker is planted in it, in most cases nature doing all that is necessary; but in larger plantations the trees are all planted with some degree of system in the form of squares, and trenches are dug for irrigation, the banana thriving best in damp stiff soil. -Journal of Trade.

Business as it is at Present.

It is noteworthy that whatever may be the condition of trade in the different localities from which we have advices, there is no unsound feeling, and that assurance of good business to come seems to be the prevalent idea. Nor do the trade generally admit that they have done worse during the last six months than in preceding intervals. If buying has been closer, and if profits have been correspondingly reduced, it is patent, if we we are to believe what we are told, that the volume of trade has been full-greater, insleed, than before in the quantity of goods disposed of. If, therefore, purchases have been light in detail, we must assume that they have made a large aggregate, and possib'y, on the whole, returns have been as good as ever, even if it has taken " mony a mickle to mak a muckle." It is just as well that merchants should begin to divest themselves of the idea of large profits or exceptional gains We are getting back to low prices, and consequently small profit, and the "nimble sixpence," should it be nimble, must be assiduously looked after and cared for. Our best hope in business stability is not in spasmodic rushes of trade, with high prices, but in that constant, steady and persistent demand, which, even with low prices, buys safely, pays promptly, and insures solidity, strength and consequent success.—American Stationer.

The Newspaper and the Advertiser.

Mr. T. Gibson Bowles writes as follows in the July number of the Fortnightly Review. A newspaper is a commercial venture, and regarded in this light our moden newspapers present some very strange anomalies. The expense of producing a daily newspaper may be divided into two heads-first, there is the cost of writing the newspaper (in which I include the payments to editor and writers, and the cost of telegrams and other matters), added to which there is the cost of composition or setting up the writing in type. The charge under this head is a constant sum whether there, be one copy printed or a million. Then comes the second head of charges, which vary with the number of the paper printed. It is composed of the cost of the paper itself on which the journal is printed, and the cost of the actual printing or "machinery" of the type circady set-up. Now it is a fact that with the utmost economy the charge under this second head amounts, for the penny newspaper of the common size, to about as much as the paper itself is sold for to the trade. It follows, therefore, that while the varying charges under the second head is more or less provided for by the sale of the papers, the constant and u.ach larger charge under the first head is not so provided for. how, then, is it met? Solely and exclusively by the revenue derived from advertisement. The result is this, that a newspaper lives not upon its circulation, but upon its advertisements. In fact, it buys publicity for its news by selling publicity for its advertisements; it gives away for nothing the news which it professes to sell, on conditions of being paid for the advertisements which accompany. Its real customers are not its readers, but its advertisero; the commodity it deals in is not news, but attention. It have the attention of its readers by its news, and sells that attention to its advertisers for their money. If now the cost of the paper and the machining, instead of merely equaling, should, as is sometimes the case, exceed the sum for which the paper is sold, then the best financial position for that newspaper to be in is one in which not a single copy of the newspaper should be sold at all. Of course, however, the result in this case would be that it would get no advertisements, inasmuch as the advertiser wishes to have his advertisement circulated as largely as possible; and, as a matter of fact, the object of a newspaper proprietor in the position I have described must be to obtain the largest number of advertisements with the smallest amount of circulation. Mr. Mowbray Morris, for instance, giving evidence before a committee of the House of Commons in 1851 as to the Times, was asked this question, "The greater the circulation the greater the loss ?" and answered, "The greater

the loss beyond a certain limit." He was then asked: "Do you not mean this, that when you have a supplement, so far as your supplement is concerned, if you only printed one copy of it yourgain would be the greatest." To which he answered: "Yes." After this he was asked: "For every copy you sell you diminish your gain, and when you pass a certain line it becomes an absolute loss?" to which he replied, "Just so; that is to say, when the expenditures exceed the value of the advertisements."

Thus it will be seen that newspapers are in reality somewhat in a false position. They profess to sell news and to give advertisements to boot. What they really do is to sell publicity for advetisements and to give news to boot.—

Bradstreet's.

Scientific Philanthropy.

Mr. Lee J. Vance writes in the Popular Science Monthly:

The conscious aim of scientific philanthropy is in the first place to deal with the struggle of man with nature - is to help men to help themselves; secondly, its aim is to regulate the struggle of man with man-is to help men to understand and adapt themselves to the conditions of existence. It is commonly noticed that the individual who succeeds in his struggle with nature is apt to be successful in the goodnatured struggle with his fellow-men. As Darwin proves, the intemperate suffer from a high rate of mortality and the extremely profligate leave few offspring. There is economy in this process of elimination whereby the transmission of the industrial vices is restricted, and in the competition of life the degraded members of society, unable to adapt themselves to the conditions imposed by physical and social environment, succumb before the rest of the population. The scientific idea of benevolence involves, first, the preparation of man to receive ntelligently nature's stern discipline-that is, to help him avoid all the evils coming from disobedience of physical agencies, and also to aid him in grasping those great rewards, which, as Huxley says, nature ecatters with as lavish a hand as her penalties. The philanthropist will show us that the hereditary vices which the parent establishes for his children and his children's children meet in the long run with certatin punishment. If we could believe in the certainty of punishment, says Sir J. Lubbock, temptation, which is at the root of crime, would be cut away and mankind would become more innocent. The penalties attached to the consumptive, scrofulous or syphylitic in contracting marriage are sharp and surc-oftlimes swift and merciless. Men sin from a mistaken idea of what constitute's to-day's pleasure and tomorrow's pain, and it is not pleasant to be reminded that a great deal of our suffering is due more to ancestral errors than to our own. -Bradstreet's.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE.

W. P. Smith resumed work in his brick yard last week. He has the contract for the brick for the Neepawa court house.

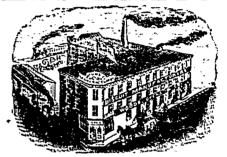
Seven car loads of flour were shipped in one consignment by the Portage Milling Company last week to towns along the C.P.R. line west.

The machinery for the new flour mill, which is being built at Fort Qu'Appelle by the proprietors of the Portage entireal mill, is en route to its destination from Owen Sound.

The paper mill is doing a large business, having been constantly running since it started this spring. Three tons of paper are turned out dairy, most of which is shipped to Winnipeg.

The Yown Clerk will deliver to the Secretary-treasurer of the Central Judicial Board to-day, a list of town lots liable to be sold for taxes. After thirty days' notice the properties will be sold by auction.

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Canadian Pacific Railway.

(WESTERN DIVISION)

CHANGE OF TIME

On and after July 20th, 1834, frains will move as follows:

6 cing west.	Going East	
\$8.30 a.m.	leave Winnipeg arrive	e 5.15 p.m.
10.33 ''	Portage la Prairie	2.50 "
2.30 p.m.	Brandon	10,00 a.m.
9.00	Broadview	2.45 "
3.05 a.m.	Regina	10.20 p.m.
5.45 "	Moose Jaw	7.45
1.00 p.m.	Swift Current	1.00 p.m.
7.20 p.m.		7.40 a.m.
11.45 p.m.	Medicino Hat	8.45 a m.
1.30 p.m.	arrive Calgary leav	

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

Going East		Going West
76.20 p.m.	leave Winnipeg arrive	17.00 a.m
11.50 p.m.	Rat Portage	1.05 a.m.
4.59 a.m.	Barclay	8.05 p.m.
2.30 p.m.	arrive Pt. Arthur leave	9.15 a.m.

Going South. Going North.

*8.05 p.m. leave Winnipeg arrive 6.40 a m
10.50 p.m. Emerson 4.00 a.m. leavo Winnipeg arrivo Morris 18.40, 9.15 a.m., 10.30, 11.55 a.m., 4.00, 7.00 p m.t 1.20, 5.05 p.m. 4.00 p.m. 11.40 a.m., 5.00 p.m. Manitou 9.30 a.m.

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

Train leaves Winnipeg for Stonewall, Thesdays Thursdays and S turdays at 9 30 a.m., arriving at Ston. Mountain 10.30 a.m. and Stonewall at 10.55 a.i. Return same days, i.a. ing Stonewall at 1 30 pm and Stony Mountain at 2 p.m., arriving at Winnipeg 3 p.m.

Train leaves Winnipog for West Scikirk Tucedays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 4 pm., arriving at West Scikirk 540 pm., returning leaves West Scikirk Mondays, Wedneedays and Fridays at 7.10 a.m., arriving at Winnipog 8,50 a.m.

1 Daily.
† Daily except Mondays.
† Daily except Saturdays.
† Daily except Sundays.

Trains more on Standard time.

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Chicago and Grand Trunk Railway.

GOING EAST.

Leave Chicago 9 10 a.m., 3.30 p. m., 8 30 p.m.; arrive at Port Huron 10.80 p.m., 5.30 a.m., 10.35 a.m., 10.10 a.

at Port Huron 10.80 p.m., 5.30 a.m., 10.35 a.m., 10.10 a.m., 5.15 p.m.
Leave Port Huron 6.10 a.m., 7.55 p.m., 8.00 p.m., 4.15 p.m., 11.00 a.m., arriveat Chica; 0.6.50 p.m., 7.45 p.m., 8.00 a.m., 4.00 a.m., 9.00 a.m.
1 ulman palace sleeping oaches are run through with out change, between Chicago, and Bay City, Detroit, Toronto, Moutreal, Bostou, Magara Fails, Bunalo, and New York via Port Huron, as follows:

GOING WEST.

Trains leaving New York 6.45 p.m., Buffalo 12.10 p.m. Suspension Eridge 1.00 p.m. and Port Huron 8.00 p.m. has through 12.11man palace sleeping coach from New York, Buralo, Suspension Bridge and Bay City to Obligate.

York, Buralo, Suspension Bridge and Bay City to Chicago.
Train leaving Boston 7.00 p.m., Montreal 9.30 a.m.,
Toronto 11.45 p.m., and Port Huron 7.45 a.m., has through
Puliman palace sleeping coach from Boston to Chicago.
Train leaving Montreal 10.00 p.m., Toronto 12.15 p.m.,
Port Huron 8.00 p.m., has through Puliman palace
sleepleg coach from Montreal to Chicago.

GOING RAST.

Train No. 3 leaving Chicago 3.30 p.m., has through Pullman palace sleeping coaches from Chicago to Niagara 1 alls, Buffalo, New York, and to Bosten via Montreal.

Train No. 5 leaving Chicago 8.30 p.m., has through Pullman palace sleeping coach from Chicago to Montreal and Parlor car to Boston.

Train No. 1 leaving Chicago 9.10 a.m., has through Pullman palace coach from Port Huron to Toronto and Montreal.

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