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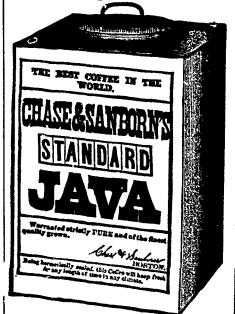
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 $\mathbf{WINNIPEG}$ ,

VOL. 3

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 3, 1885.

NO. 19

### The Commercial

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

### ISSUED EVERY TUESDAY.

THE COMMERCIAL Will be mailed to any address in Canada, United States or Great Britain at \$2,00 a year in advance.

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Casual rates for all advertisements inserted for a less period than one month, or for all transient advertising 10 cents per line each Insertion.

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The Course crata will be circulated extensively amongst wholesale and retail Merchants, Jobbers, Bankers, Brokers, Manufacturers, Hotel Reepers, Insurance and Loan Agencies throughout the entire Canadian Northesset.

Loan agencies throughout the second s

JAS. E. STEEN, Publisher.

### WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 3, 1885

R. BUKER, grocer, Main Street, Winnipeg, has sold out.

GEO. LINDSAY, grocer, Rapid City, has assigned in trust.

WM. FURNIVAL, who has been carrying on a small grocery buriness in Winnipeg, has been closed out.

WINNIPEG Dominion Savings Bank withdrawals were \$2,153.34 in excess of deposits during the month of January.

McLeon & Whalen, hotelkcepers, Maniton, have dissolved partnership. The business will be continued by George Whalen.

CHEESE factories are rapidly apreading over the Province, the latest addition being located at Nelson. Mr. Geo. K. Cummings will probably manage the concern.

The Winnipeg Siftings has changed hands. There is a haziness about who is the new proprietor, it being reported that he is a promirent Winnipegger, who wishes to keep himself in the background. Mr. Geo. Brooks will still act as editor, and keep the journal as highly spiced as

THE annual general meeting of the Winnipeg Board of Trade takes place to-day in the Board Room, when the secretary and treasurer's report for the past year will be submitted; also a report of the city's trade during the post year. Election of office bearers or 1885-6 will also take place.

THE Brunswick House, Winnipeg, has reached another change. J. A. Cowan & Co., the lesces, owing to business having fallen away very much, have closed out. The house was long one of the most popular second-class hotels in the city, but owing to frequent changes in management during the past year its patronage has dwindled down to a very low

THE North-West Farmer has changed hands and is now the property of an embryo joint stock company composed of Messrs. W. Clark, L. K. Cameron, C B. Keenleyside, A. J. Darch, J. A. Carman, W. F. Luxton and Acton Burrows. The capital stock of the company is \$10,000. The new office is in the Caldwell Block. Mr. Clark will retain the editorial control, assisted by Mr. Carman, while Mr. Keenlyside will act as besiness manager.

THE amount of revenue collected by the Inland Revenue Department for January was as follows:

Spirits Tobaccos Cigars Malt	••	 	••	••	\$ 7,724 2,313 14 653	72 40
Vinto	••	•			\$10.7v5	

### CUSTOMS.

The following table shows the value of goods imported and entered for consumption, with duty collected, for the month of January, 1885,

	1004,	10001
Description.	Value.	Value.
Goods imported—		
Dutiable	\$74,463	<b>\$ 94,908</b>
Free	12,839	15,059
Total imported Goods entered for con-	\$87,502	\$109,967
sumption—Dutiable,	\$81,863	\$101,210
Free	12,839	15,059
Total for consumption	\$94,702	\$110,269
Goods exported		17,578
Duty collected January, I	884	\$18,931, 21
	1006	AT 000 00

1885

G. F. LUNDY, hotelkeeper, Pilot Mound and Nelson, has sold out his Pilot Mound house to James Fraser, and will continue to run his Nelson establishment only.

THE city assessment was completed and notices posted Saturday evening last to an estimated population of between 19 and 20,009. Last year the assessment was over \$27,000,000; this year a cut was made to \$20,000,000. Financiers have now a chance to rejoice.

MR. L. KELLY, the drincipal director of the Winnipeg and Northwest Petroleum Co., is at present in the city. We understand that work is to be immediately commenced on the property of the company near Calgary, and that the machinery together with a number of experienced foil workers would soon be engaged in active operations. Oil is expected to be obtained at a depth of 300 feet.

MR. A. C. KILLAM, M.PP., barrister, Winripeg, has been appointed to the judgeship made vacant by the death of Mr. Justice Smith. The appointment will give general satisfaction in commercial circles. Mayor Hamiston ic talked of as his successor for South Winnipeg in the Legislature, and it is also rumoured that the attorney-general's portfolio awaits His Worship in case of his election. Mr. Hamilton is well fitted for both positions, but it is to be hoped that the ratepayers of Winnipeg will not loose his valuable services during the present year.

On Friday afternoon a meeting of Winnipeg wholesale merchants was held in the Board of Trade rooms to consider the discriminating freight rates against Winnipeg by the C.P.R. Exactly what transpired has not yet been made public, but we understand that very strong and determined grounds have been taken by the merchants, and arrangements were made to send a deputation to Montreal to lay before the General Manager and Directors of the road an ultimatum on the subject. Should no concession be made by the latter a determined fight on this question may be looked for during the coming spring and summer, as the merchants have their arrangements completed to bring in the imports of the season by couthern railroads and river, independent of the C.P.R., and they will have powerful corporations be-27,330 26 | hind them in the fight,

### Business East.

### ONTARIO.

S. Evans, butcher, Toronto, is dead.

E. L. Siple, hotel, Toronto, has sold out.

M. Stein, jeweler, Hamilton, has assigned.

A. Stark, tobacco, Toronto, has closed up.

Hugh McKay, grocer, Georgetown, is dead.

T. G. Sanders, drugs, Rodney, has sold out.

A. C. McConnel, shoes, has assigned in trust.

J. S. Smith, grocer, Toronto, has assigned in

J. F. Falls, general store, Trudell, has assigned.

J. C. Diggins, jeweler, Strathroy, has assigned.

E. McGillivray, grocer, Ottawa, has assigned in trust.

John Cavers, fanning mills, Galt, has assigned in trust.

Robert Guid, general store, Hyde Park, has sold out.

C. H. Errington, hotelkeeper, Petrolia, has sold out.

H. R. Raynor, cigars, London, is giving up business.

Haselgrove & Jones, cigars, London, have dissolved.

John Doty, oysters, London, has been closed up for rent.

Joseph Taur, grist mill, Bond Head, has been burned out.

George Lagrand, Jiquor and baker, has been burned out.

T. G. Whiskard, fancy dry goods, London, has sold out.

William Lightfoot, printer, Toronto, has assigned in trust.

J. W. Howe, clothing, etc., Trenton, has as-

signed in trust.
W. J. McKee, planing mills, Windsor, has been burned out.

W. J. Smith & Co., spice mill, Toronto, has

assigned in trust.

John McGrattan, tins, etc., Wingham, has assigned in trust.

John McTaggart, grocer, Goderich, has as assigned in trust.

George Wilson, general store, Almonte, has assigned in trust.

R. F. Howson, grocer, Lucknow, has sold out to A. F. Turnbull.

R. J. Armstrong, grocer, Toronto, has sold out to C. Kimpton.

Mrs. Bevan, hotelkeeper, Cobourg, has sold out to Henry Wicks.

Isaac Coolidge, hats and caps, Brockville, has assigned in trust.

Ronald McDonald, blacksmith, Lawrence Station, has sold out.

Robert Gardiner, general store, Farquhar, has sold out to D. Hay.

David Smith, general store, Gravenhurst,

has moved to Huntsville.

T. Webb, general storekeeper, Brighton, has sold out to Watson & Co.

John McDonald, hotelkeeper, London, has sold out to Mrs. J. White.

William Kynoen, Galt Carriage Manufacturing Co., has assigned in trust.

Quigley & Sim, plumbers, Toronto, have dissolved, each continuing alone.

The Huron Soap Company, Goderich, called a meeting of creditors on 27th.

J. A. Burns, books, etc., London, has had his stock sold at auction by sheriff.

Cameron & Co., furniture, Aylmer, have sold out to Cameron McDermand & Co.

W. B. Poulton, painter and fancy goods, Toronto, has given up fancy goods.

A. C. Osborne, books, etc., Penetanguishene, has sold out to J. F. Osborne & Co.

McKenna & Rankin, cigars and bowling alley, London, has given up business.

Deherty & Bouchier, general store, Almonte, are offering to compromise at 50c in dollar.

DeMorest & Robertson, grocers, Toronto, have dissolved. Thomas DeMorest continues.

W. H. Millman, grocers, etc., Woodstock and Norwich, have sold out their Norwich branch.

A. Suhler, clothing, Sarnia and Point Edward, has effected a compromise with his creditors.

J. & J. F. Scott, dry goods, Chatham, have dissolved, and business is now carried on by J. Scott & Co.

Steinhoff, Schnoor & Co., staves, etc., Wallaceburg, have dissolved by retirement of Schnoor & Mesner.

Graham Manufacturing Co., drills, etc., London, have admitted J. B. Cook as partner. Style remains same.

Fraser & Johnson, saddlery and hardware, Hamilton, have admitted a special partner under style of Fraser, Johnson & Co.

#### QUEBEC.

J. T. Lortie, shoes, Montreal, has assigned in trust.

l'aul Lagarde, grocer, Montreal, has assigned in trust.

Joseph Picau, grocer, Batiscan, has assigned in trust.

D. Dionne, dry goods, Quebec, is offering to compromise.

S. Trepannier, dry goods, Three Rivers, has compromised.

Mrs. C. Hill, books, Montreal, is retiring from business.

J. I. Thibaudeau, tailor, Montreal, has assigned in trust.

Domville & Bastien, tins, etc., Montreal, have dissolved.

Daniel Wilson & Sor, builders, Montical, have dissolved.

Chagnon & Frere, grocery, etc., Sorel, have assigned in trust.

Pierre Gagnon, general store, Riviere Ouelle, has assigned in trust.

N. S. Valiquetie, grocer, crockery, etc., has assigned in trust.

S. M. Giroux, barber, Montreal, bas been partially burned out.

Drummond & Jackson, stock brokers, Montreal, have dissolved.

B. Michaels, cigars, Montreal, has had his stock damaged by fire.

C. C. Snowdon & Co., wholesale hurdware, Montreal, have dissolved.

Mrs. M. Foley, ladies' underclothing, has been partially burned out.

F. W. Howard, commission merchant, Montreal, has assigned in trust.

J. & C. Colles, general store and fish, Graspe Basin and Point St. Poter, have dissolved.

R. J. McNally & Co., livery stables, Montreal, have dissolved, and is succeeded by Miller & Higgins.

Derome, Lefrancois & Co., hats and furs, Montreal. Moses Vineberg, has equed to do business under this style.

#### NOVA SCOTIA.

W. H. Dickson, general store, Spring Hill, has assigned.

John Denton, trader, Little River (Digby), has assigned.

C. J. Cragg & Co., bookbinders, Yarmouth, have dissolved.

James Harrison & Co., painters, etc., have been burned out.

Benson Gladwin, stationers, etc., Halifax, has been burned out.

George E. Morton, periodicals, etc., Halifax, has been burned out.

F. Gastonguay, botel, Halifax, has been burned out. Insured.

Edward Allen & Co., grocers, Yarmouth, have dissolved. Edward Allen continues.

Cempbell & Brownell, general store, Northport, have dissolved. J. W. Brownell continues.

#### NEW BRUNSWICK.

John Murray, general store, Kingston, is selling out.

Moncton Universal Knitting Machine Co., Moncton, has failed.

W. E. Lynds, general store, Hopewell Cape, has sold out to J. E. Dickson.

Beaton & Youngeleus, clothing, St. John, have dissolved. W. J. Youngelaus continues.

F. W. McKay & Co., drugs, etc., Campbelltown, have dissolved. Fred. W. McKay coatinues.

### NEWFOUNDLAND.

E. Smith & Co., dry goods, etc., St. Johns, has failed.

The failures in the United Kingdom for the week ending January 3, reported to Kemp's Mercantile Gazette, numbered 64, as compared with 284 and 200 in the corresponding weeks respectively of 1884 and 1883. England and Wales had 50 failures, as compared with 285 and 185 in the weeks specified; Scotland had 13, as against 17 and 12, and Ireland had 1, a against 2 in 1883 and 3 in 1882.

THE trade of New Orleans is, they say, a barometer of Southern industry and commerce. The value of domestic produce in the cityis 1881-82 was about \$149,000,000. In 1882-3 it was over \$200,000,000. Judge Terrill, (owner of one of the largest cotton compress establishments in New Orleans,) is authority for the statement that in 1883.4 the value was not less than \$235,000,000. In these times of depressed trade, with manufactories and mines at the north suspending operations, such news comes with peculiar gratification. The value of erports of domestic produce to foreign countries -from New Orleans-has increased about sixteen per cent. during the past thirty-six months -Manufacturer' Record.

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## The Commercial

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 3, 1885.

### BETTER TERMS (?)

Although the Hon. Mr. Norquay has not yet had an opportunity of laying before the Local Legislature the result of his late mission to Ottawa, it may be concluded from information that has leaked out since the Hon, gentleman's return that the terms obtained amount to neither more nor less than the addition of a few thousand dollars to our Government pocket money. We anticipated this, and in a recent issue shewed that the concessions granted, simply meant an extra dose of pap to keep the Government officials quiet, and that nothing has been granted likely to give the slightest degree of satisfaction to any one outside of Government circles.

We now hear that while an increased subsidy has been offered, not one principle asked for in the bill of rights has been conceded. It is simply "The Old, Old Story," with regard to Manitoba child, having equal rights with the others forming this family of Confederation, must on no account be allowed to feel it is " Of Age," and entitled to the privilges arising therefrom; no, it must be treated as a school boy, with a little more pocket money, and made to feel dependent. The manly feeling must be curbed, the reasonable desire to stand on an equal footing with his brethren Ontario, Quebec, or the other members of the family must be persistently kept down. Give him more pocket money, but give him nothing else, and tell him that he must be a good boy and never aspire to be a man.

This agrament among the elder brethren may arise from fear of what the young man might attain to. They may reasonably be afraid that the youngster would ere long, with equal privileges, assume the position of dictator in the family, and for selfish reasons they shut up every avenue leading to independent importance.

That is the standpoint of the other provinces regarding Manitoba, through the Cabinet representing them this pocket money offer has been made. The question now is, "Will Manitoba accept it?" Is the province prepared to continue in the position of a child and a minor, or will Manitoba assert its right to

be considered capable of managing its own affairs. The answer lies with the Provin Legislature soon to meet. We do not say that Mr. Norqua; will advise his parliament to accept what he has been offered, probably he cannot make up his mind. but those most interested in the future of this province will watch with interest the vote in this matter.

From our view point the offer should be firmly declined. An increased subsidy will only supply the means of increasing the diet of those who feed at the Government trough and supply the means of fattening an extra number of political hangers-on; but what will this accomplish in the way of working out the manly desire of Manitoba to stand in the independent position of Ontario or Quebec. What impetus will a few thousand dollars extra for the Provincial treasury give to trade, manufactures, or the development of agriculture? None. We are just where we were. We cannot own our public lands, railway monopoly must continue, we must be satisfied with discrimating duties, we must stifle our aspirations Hudson's Bay ward. But we are to get our swamp lands, and when these are well flooded in spring time we can play Hudson's Bay route round them and build toy railways and miniature Fort Churchill's and Port Nelson's, and load our tiny ships and develop a great agricultural country with a great commercial outlet, all our own, till the droughts of summer dispel the fond delusion, and leave us high and dry, with the reality as distant as ever.

Will Manitoba assert her dignity at this juncture, or will she miserably, like Esau, sell her birthright "for a mess of pottage?"

### RAILWAY COMPETITION.

It does seem at present as if Winnipeg was one of the worstrailway monopoly ridden points on the American continent. In fact the whole of the Northwest seems to have been a field in which to fatten monopolies since its incorporation as a portion of the Dominion of Canada. Notwithstanding this undesirable state of matters at present, signs are not wanting, that the time is close at hand when it will be one of the points where the keenest railroad rivalry will centre.

Until the Canadian Pacific Railway was completed as far as Port Arthur we were compelled to submit to the extortions road, which until recently was only playing second fiddle in the C.P.R. monopoly dance. Mutual profit is absolutely news. sary however, to bind monopolists to. gether; but this necessity has been weakned as the construction of the C.P.R. eastward proceeded, and with its completion they must become antagonistic. There is, therefore, a chance for these "rouges falling out" if the quarrel between them has not already commenced. And, following analogy of the old proverb, there is good prospects of "honest men getting their own."

But our hopes of opposition to the C.P.R. do not depend on the Manitoba road alone. Other powerful American roads are looking in the direction of the fertile prairies of the Canadian Northwest, and already the most powerful of them, the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul has its connections complete to Fargo, a point only 150 miles south of the boundary line. We have good grounds for believing that ere another year passes, this corporation will be knocking for admission at the gates of the Nothwest, and that they will secure admission there is little reason to doubt. Even should they be able only to connect with the C.P.R. at the boundary we will be at least freed from the St. P.M. & M. extortion which has been more keenly felt by Winnipeg importers than any ever imposed by our home monopoly. Any difficulties that may be in the way of their reaching Winnipeg will be placed there by the Dominion Government, the question will be, when this road reaches the boundary, will the people of Manitobs submit as in the past or will they manfully assert their right to admit every line likely to act as competitors in reducing freights, and to secure that competition which is said to be "the life of trade."

There are mutterings of another competition storm in another direction and we may soon hear of other corporations scarcely less powerful making rapid strides for the capital of Manitoba. The competition from the south in the matter of freights will ere long be sufficiently keen and will exercise a wholesome influence on the C.P.R whether as regards imports or exports and it is only a question of time when the route that will dictate freights to them all will be opened, that to the European continent via Hudsons Bay.

This grand scheme which means to every true Manitoban the fulfilling of our of the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba destiny, cannot be long delayed; the

government and the C.P.R. can only for a time hedge the scheme round with difficulties. The will of the people and the necessities of the Northwest will demand its construction—that scheme in operation. Winnipeg will then assert her position as a commercial centre with a circle of railways administering to her wants and catering for her patronage.

### THE SOUDAN.

After the period of suspense which followed the news of Stewart's victory at Abu Klea Wells, comes the welcome news that another battle has been bravely fought and bravely won, and that the British troops are now safely established on the River Nile within 100 miles of their destination, the city of Khartoum. Communication has been opened up with that city, and there is little reason to doubt that the primary object of the expedition will speedily be accomplished, viz, the relief of General Gordon and his beleagured garrison. The strain will now be removed from the British mind, and the work of bringing that country under the influence of law and order will from henceforth be steadily carried out.

The question will now be asked, for what purpose has Great Britain expended all this wealth of blood and treasure? The complete answer can only be given by those who hold the destinies of the empire, but we can safely assume that a great purpose underlies all. Naturally, there must be a recompense for such an outlay, and we are disposed to think that the outcome will be a British Protectorate over that part of the African continent. Britain's stake in Egypt and in the Suez Canal is too important to be placed in jeopardy by the lawless hordes which infest the Soudan and the valley of the Nile. The difficulties that lie in the way are great, after the sword has done its share of the work, but we favor the belief that the strong arm of the British Empire will be stretched over that land, and that as a result, agricultural and commercial development will follow, al lowing the granuries of Egypt again to garner corn to avert the possibility of famine as in days of yore. Under British protection vast agricultural areas can be brought under cultivation, which now lie waste on account of the lawlessness that prevails, and what can be produced under favorable conditions may ere long become of first-rate importance in the markets of | the world. Sir Samuel Baker, the man most familiar with the capabilities of that portion of the "Dark Continent" gave it as his opinion that the Soudan with its advantages of soil and climate could easily produce enough of corn and cotton to make Great Britain wholly independent of the American Southern States.

From our commercial view point, after the smoke of battle has chased away, we see the possibility of developments which will make themselves felt in no small degree in the States to the south. A new field will be opened up for British enterprise and British capital, which can rapidly obtain wonderful results. That old land requires no immigration scheme for its development. The resident population gives to capitalists the great advantage of unlimited native labor at a price far below that obtainable among civilized races. This, we believe, British capitalists will not be slow to learn, and under British protection we may soon see the products of the Soudan taking high rank among the imports to the European market. Such a prospect has its lessons for our southern neighbors.

The quality of wheat grown south of the 45th parallel, and on the Pacific slope, finds its rival in the product of the vast wheat field of the Indian Empire. The efforts being put forth by the Indian authorities in the building of railways, to increase the Indian supply, will speedily render the growth of soft wheats unprofitable on the American continent. The opening up of the African continent, so admirably suited, over large areas, to the growth of corn and cotton, the two staples of the southern States, will bring a rival of no mean importance into the field-a rival that can command the same black labor that enabled these States to attain to, and to uphold the supremacy they have so long enjoyed.

The "Dark Continent" cannot much longer retain this appellation. Light is being let into it from south, east and west, and European nations are to-day striving hard to gain a foothold on its soil. Developments in that direction do not necessarily affect the prospects of our "anadian Northwest. The staples produced in such a climate leave us free scope to cultivate our own particular products, and the fact that native labor is abundant there, will not in the slightest degree detract from our cliances of securing emigration from European countries.

We can, therefore, look upon the opening up of the African continent as an additional security to Great Britain as regards the supply of her necessities, and every movement at the present time points to a date not far distant when everything required for the millions of Great Britain will be supplied from countries directly enjoying her protection.

### CASH SALES.

As each case of insolvency in retail mercantile circles turns up, the fact becomes more painfully apparent that crediting the consumer has been the leading cause of retail trade troubles in the North west. This is the case both in the city and country, and as the assets of each mosolvent is footed up, outstanding debts invariably make up a large proportion of these. Experience has taught us that these assets are of comparatively little value, and it is questionable if such have realized on the average 15 cents on the dollar, when collection was undertaken by trustees.

It is not difficult to see from the above facts that the retail trader who does a credit business besides taking the ordinary risks of loss by depreciation, unsaleable goods, and other unavoidable drawbacks, also places himself in the position of a silent partner with his customers whom he credits, and he does so without hope of profit beyond that which he expects from his sales. It is safe to state that not one in twenty of our Northwestern merchants are possessed of sufficient funds to engage in business upon this principle, they must consequently bring the credit given to themselves into the undertaking. If retail merchants will be so foolish as to persist in this suicidal course, some pressure should be put on by the wholesale men to prevent it.

There is no disguising the fact that over credit and inflation is yet far from being purged from our mercantile system. It has permeated every class of our transactions, from the wild risks of the reckless speculator to the slow business of the huckster grocery. Every means should be used to curtail this evil.

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### WINKIPEG MONEY MARKET.

Onietness has been the leading feature in monetary matters during the past week. Since hat report the usual financing has been going on in preparations for the obligations falling due on the 4th. Commercial business can scarcely be said to be heavier, although the volume has been considerably increased by part renewals in view of the requirements of Wednesday. It is now pretty certain that the errangements necessary will be a good deal less than was expected a month ago, the perceptible improvement during January in money circulation, having been instrumental in this direction. No serious hitches are anticipated in to-morrow's settlements, though the quantity of paper falling due is the heaviest since 4th November. There is considerable struggling apparent among small traders to make ends meet this week, these have to fight their own battle practically, as they can find little assistance at the banks. Regular customers' discounts are the same as last week : first-class commercial paper, 8 per cent.; ordinary, 9 to 10 per cent., and one-name paper, 10 to 12 per cent. In real estate mortgage loans business done bas been much the same as that of last week, but the number of refused applications have been less. Business in this department will no doubt be livelier during February and March, as farmers are getting over the bulk of their thrashing and hauling to market, and will have more time on hand to attend to mortgage arrangements. Rates of interest are as last quoted, 8 to 10 per cent. Payments of interest falling due come in with fair regularity.

### WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

Business in wholesale circles during the past week has been unusually quiet. This applies equally to every branch of trade. In season goods there is literally nothing doing; while in goods for the spring trade there seems to be the greatest reluctance to make a move. This feeling may be attributed in a measure to the somewhat unsettled feeling about the 4th, when the heaviest obligations in these lines since November last fall due. There is not much cause for uneasiness and such is not generally felt, but a certain feeling of caution is evident both among wholesale men and retaile.s. There is a sort of a wait-till-after-thefourth disposition all over, but by another week a more active feeling may certainly be expected. In lines dependent upon building and contracting the same dullness provails. In this department no improvement can reasonably be looked for until more springlike weather appears. There will be little disposition to move in the matter of building for another month at least. In the staple lines of everyday consumption there is no appreciable improvement. Sales continue light, demand seems slow, and there is little desire manifested to push trade. While the trade chronicles, as far as sales and new business is concerned, may be said to be nil, there is one exceedingly encouraging in connection with collections. The report all round regarding payments is most satisfactory, taking all subjects into consideration. There are, of course, complaints to be heard here and there,

but these are few and do not in the main affect the result. When we have mentioned this fact, however, we have stated all that there is for encouragement in last week's business, a week which in wholesale circles has been the slowest experienced for many months. In this state of matters there is no cause for alarm, and it may be looked upon only as a full before the brisk run of business will steadily set in during the current month; a full which can always be turned to good account by every prudent merchant in considering carefully the line of operation to be pursued in the coming season.

#### AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

No attempt has an yet been made in this line to push spring rales. Agents will start out on the road this week and a general feeling prevails that the sales for the present year will be far in excess of those of last. Collections have kept the improved tone noticed in our last issue. But still there are many slow payments.

#### BOOTS AND SHOES.

There has been a perfect dearth of sales, and the prospect of mild weather has killed the small fragment of winter business that was left. New goods continue to arrive, and travellers expect to be able to start out in a week or so. Collections are reported very satisfactory.

#### CLOTHING.

The work of selling from spring samples has been very slow and unsatisfactory. Some travellers have returned home to recuperate and are very dispirited through their want of success. In regard to collections a fair report cannot be given till after to-morrow, as a large amount of paper will then be due.

#### DRY GOODS.

There is still no stir to report, and employees are busily engaged in stocking winter goods away, and receiving spring goods. Beyond this there is absolutely nothing doing. Travellers in general will all be out by the end of the present week, and the first attempt at pushing spring trade will be made. Collections have been fairly satisfactory, but the results of tomorrow will furnish material for a more definite report.

#### FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

In this line everything is as quiet as a funeral. Nothing of any kind or description seems to be in demand in either staple or fancy goods, and wholesalers do not look for any improvement for a few weeks yet to come. Collections during the past week have only been moderately good.

#### FUEL.

Business has kept up to the mark and, if anything, an improvement over last week, the continued cold weather making this a very necessary article. In wood no change has taken place in regard to price, round lots of tamarac still selling at \$3 to \$4, and poplar at \$2.75 to \$3.25 on track. Coal is also unchanged in price, the following being delivery prices: anthracite, \$12; bituminous, \$10.50, and Saskatchewan lignite, \$7.50 per ton.

### CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

Business in this line has been exceedingly price; ingot tin, 25 to 30 per lb; pig lead, 6 dull, and no attempt has been made to push it, 61c; galvanized iron, 7 to 72c per lb; bar iro being considered perfectly useless to do so \$2.75 to 3.25 per 100 lbs; cut nails, \$3.75.

for some time yet to come, and it is not expected that anything like activity will take place before the first of March. Collections are reported fair to good.

#### FISH.

Business has been satisfactory in this line to dealers during the week, the shipping demand being quite active to southern points, and in the local trade quite a perceptible change for the better has taken place. Receipts have been very liberal, white fish, however, still being the most plentiful. Quotations are as follows: Jack fish in ear ots 2½ to 2½c, and in small lots 3c. White, in car lots 5½c and small lots 6c. The quotations given last week for oysters are unchanged, being 30 to 35c for Stardards, and 40 to 45c for Selects.

#### FRUIT.

A great improvement has taken place in this line, although the cause for it cannot be readily swigned. It is expected that a drop in lemons will take place next week, in sympathy with the fall that has taken place in this article east. Collections have been very fair. Prices are without change, and are as follows: prime winter apples, \$4 to 4.50 a bbl. Palermo oranges, \$5 to 5.50 a box, and Palermo lemons at \$6 to 6.50; grapes, \$8.50 to 9 a bbl; Eleme figs in boxes, 16 to 20c, and in kegs 13c; Malagas 11 to 13c; prunes, in 100 lb kegs, \$7.50, and in 50 lb boxes \$8 to 8.50. Relsins and currants remain unchanged in price.

#### GROCERIES.

Sales in this line for the past week are slightly below the average, and dealers are unwilling to push it. There is quite a little anxiety about what the results of to-morrow will show in cash matters, and a general feeling prevails throughout the trade that business is not as satisfactory as it might be for this time of the year, while at the same time they do not look forward to any material improvement before spring. There has been no change in prices from those quoted in our last, they being as follows: Rios, 14 to 16c; Javas, 22 to 25c: Jamaicas, 17 to 20c: Mochas, 30 to 34c. Sugars are quoted: yellows, 61 to 7c; granulated, 73 to 8c; Paris lumps 93 to 93c. Tea, st ' ranges as follows: Moyune gunpowder, 30 to 75c; new seasons, 65 to 85c; Japans, 25 to 50c, new seasons 40 to 55c; Congous 30 to 75c; new seasons 55 to 90c. Syrups, single crown \$2.50, and triple crown \$2.75 per keg.

#### HARDWARE AND METALS.

This week, like the previous one has been extremely dull, and a'l sales have been of a very light character. Collections have been very light, as is usual at this time of the month. A typographical error in our last issue placed the minimum price of nails at \$3.25 it should have read \$3.55. The following quotations may be said to be nominal in a great measure: Tin plate I.C., 14x20, \$6.25 to \$6.50 a box; I.C., 20x28, \$12.50 to \$13.00; Canada plates \$4.00 to \$4.25; sheet iron, 28 G, \$4.75 to \$5.25 per 100 lbs; iron pipe, from 40 to 50 per cent. off list price; ingot tin, 25 to 30 per lb; pig lead, 6 to 6½c; galvanized iron, 7 to 7½c per lb; bar iror, \$2.75 to 3.25 per 100 lbs; cut nails, \$3.75.

#### LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

The signs of improvement in this line noted last week are beginning to make themselves felt, though business is still, comparatively speaking, quiet. Quotations are as follows: Spanish sole, 33c to 35c; slaughter sole, 35c; French calf, first choice, \$1.40 to 1.50; demestic, 85c; B Z calf, \$1 to 1.25; French kip, \$1.00 to 1.10; B Z kip, 85c to 90c; slaughter kip, 65c to 75c; No. 1 wax upper, 50c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, 33c to 36c for plumb stock; Fuglish oak sole, 65c.

#### LUMBER.

Business in this line can be said to be at a perfect standstill. The figures for the year 1884 show that had prices been well maintained the business done would have been profitable, and strong hopes are entertained that with the opening of Spring trade prices will take a firmer tone.

#### PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS.

No improvement has taken place in this line nor do wholesalers look for any for some little time to come. The quelations given are nominal: Linseed oil raw, 72c per gal; hoiled, 75c; 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; machine oils, black 30c; oleine 50c; fine qualities 65c to \$1. Coal oils, headlight 72c; water white 33c. Calcined plaster, \$4.00 per bbl.; Portland cement, \$6; white lead, genuine, \$5.00; No. 1, \$7.50; No. 2, \$7. Window glass, first break, are quoted at \$2.50.

#### SADDLERY AND HARNESS.

A slight improvement is again noticeable in this line over that of last week. Trade, although not anything like brisk cannot, nevertheless, be said to be anything like dull. Collections continue good.

### STATIONERY AND PAPER.

In this line trade is improving slightly, but business is still a little slow. Collections continue very slow.

### WINES AND SPIRITS.

Business in this line is about as quiet as it is possible for it to be while collections still continue very slow. Quotations are as follows: Hennesy's one star, \$13 to 14; in wood, \$4.50 to 5.00 per gallon; Martel, in case, ore 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 per gallon; cases, quarts, flasks, \$8; Gin, \$9; Holland, in wood, \$3 per gallon; red cases, \$10.5 to 11.50; green \$5.50 to \$6.50; cases, Old Tom gin, Bernhard's, in wood, \$3.25 per gellon; Booth's, in wood, \$3.25; Booth's, in cases, quarts, \$8.50; Scotch whisky, Ramsay's, in wood, \$3.50 to \$4.00; Coal-Ila Islay, in wood, \$3.50; Stewart's, in cases, quarts, \$9.50; flasks, 10.50. Irish whisky, Joha Jameson & Sons, in wood, \$3.50 to \$4. Bernard's, in cases, quarts, \$8; flasks, \$9.50. Jamaica rum, \$3.75 to \$4.00 per gailon. Champagne-Pomeroy, quarts, \$34; pints \$35 rer case; Bollinger, quarts, \$33; pints \$34; Moet and Chandon, quarts, \$27; pints \$29; G. H. Mumm, quarts, \$28; pints, \$30; Carte Blanche, quarts, \$20; pints \$22. Sheary from \$2.50 to 8.00 per gallon, according to quality and braud; ports \$2.50 to 7.00, according to quality and brand; claret in cases \$5.00 to 7.00; Eass's ale in quarts \$3.50 per doz; pints \$2.25; Guiness' porter in quarts \$4.00, pints 2.50. Domestic whiskies, Gooderham & Wort's, in wood, \$1.55 to 2.25 per gallon; 65 o. p. rectified, in wood, \$2.50; W.F.L. five year old, \$2.50 per gallon cases, quarts, \$7.50; flasks \$4.50.

### THE MARKETS.

### WINNIPEG.

### GRAIN AND PROVISIONS. .

Owing to the mild weather, the receipts of grain all over the province have been very liberal, and show a marked increase over those of last week. The city street receipts, owing to the same cause have also been very liberal, but are still no more than is wanted to supply the demand as all the mills still continue to run full time. The grain markets all over the continent still keep the improved tone that has prevailed since the opening of the year. The provision market has shown no signs of any improvement or activity during the past week, and is about as quiet as any one could possibly wish it to be. Meats still continue to be offered at lower prices, and find a very slow sale at that. Prices in dairy produce like those below still continue weak, and very little, if any activity has shown nearlf.

#### WHEAT.

The quantity of wheat received, as above noted, has been on the increase, and as to grade have, so far, been up to expectations. There has been a great deal of competition between buyers to secure it, in consequence of which prices have been very firm. The following are the quotations for the week: No. 1 Hard 73c; No. 2 Herd, 69 to 70c; No. 1 Regult; 68c; No. 2 Regular, 63c; No. 3, 58c; Rejected, 40 to 47c.

#### OATS.

Owing to the continued light demand and an increase in the receipts for the past week prices have taken a downward tendency, car lots being now quoted at from 37 to 40c, a drop of 5c from those of last week.

#### BARLEY,

The receipts in this line still continue small, and for the most part all of a very poor quality being only fit for seed, and as such have been selling at from 30 to 35c. Had there been any plump bright lots to be had they would have fetched as high as 46c.

#### FLOUR.

A slight change has taken place, patents being now quoted at \$2.30, a drop of 5c from last week. Other quotations are unchanged, and as follows: strong bekene', \$2.00; XXXX, \$1.60 superfine \$1.25.

### BRAN AND SHORTS.

Owing to continued light receipts prices still continue firm, bran still being quoted at \$11 per ton, f.o.c., and shorts \$13.

#### POTATOES.

While the demand still continues light, the receipts are also proportionately so, and can, therefore, only be quoted in small lots which are selling at from 40 to 45c.

#### EGGS.

There is no change to report in these, prices still ranging from 26 to 28c.

#### BUTTER.

Although street receipts still continue light it cannot be said that there has been any decrease in stocks on hand, which are still heavy. Prices unchanged, and are as follows, prime erstern dairy still ranges from 24 to 25v; prime Manitoba 20 to 22c, and medium grades at from 15 to 18c, poorer qualities being simply unsalcable.

#### CHEESE.

Sales in this article still continue 'ight, and no change has yet taken p'ace as to price, quotations still being from 14 to 15c for from good to choice.

#### HAMS.

Eastern smoked still continue plentiful at 15jc, while a few green are to be had at 12jc, and local smoked, 12j to 13jc.

#### D + COV

A slight drop in this article has taken place during the past week, dry salt being now quoted at from 10 to 10½; solls from 12 to 13c, and breakfast bacon, local cared, 13½c.

#### MESS PORK.

Fluctuations in this market have heen very frequent during the past week at packing cattres, but have not resulted in any material advance, Chicago being still quoted at \$19 to \$19.50, and local packed at \$18.

#### T.A ST).

Local quotations are still unchanged while a noticeable decrease in imported stock hastaken place, nor is there much . emand for it. Local still quoted at \$2.50 in 2015 pails.

#### DRESSED HOGS.

Receipts for the weel, like those of last have been light, but for immediate demands have been quite sufficient, and prices unchanged at from \$6 to \$6.50.

#### MINNEAPOLIS.

The past week has been a rather dull one on 'change. Prices have fluctuated in a limited range, but the close was at the lowest point, although the trading was very light whenever the bears gained a point, holders having plenty of confidence in the value of their stuff. Thereport of the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce on stocks, shipments and supplies, Jan 1, was considered a strong bull card when it was completed, but when published it proveds flat failure so far as booming prices was corned.

The figures of the secretary are compiled from data furnished by the elevator companies and railways doing business in Minnesota and Pakota, and other sources. The crop estimates that of the government bureau. The figures are

| Bushela | Rushela | 41,307,000 | Crop of Dakota | 22,330,000 |

other than Minneapolis
Duluth or St. Paul
Seed for 4,233,136 acres.
Bread requir'ments M&D

5,161,925 6,349,699 7,000,000 ———55,009,81

Remaining in farmers' hands for sale \$,67.18

There is, however, uncertainty as to the quantity of wheat delivered by farmers at our try mills. This must be considerable, and the stock in farmers' hands is reduced by something.

a these deliveries and quantity not reported in country elevators will amount to.

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TIS.

Reports from different localities as to the estimate of the percentage of the crop unsold by farmers leads me to the conclusion that in except a few localities, the crop in the north half of Minneosta and Dakota has nearly all been delivered, not over 6 or 7 per cent remaining. The universally expressed opinion in that territory is that fully one-half the crop is still in the farmers' hands, many placing it still higher.

On examining the acreage of wheat in the southern counties, I find that of the 2,753,816 in wheat in Minnesota in 1884, 1,466,035 ... ;es was in the southern counties, or more than onehalf the entire acreage of the state. My report of yield, as developed by threshing, shows it larger in the southern than in the northern portion of the state. Taking the government estimate of yield per acre for the entire state, it would give an aggregate of 23,500,000 bus in southern counties. Take from this the seed for the same number of acres planted in 1884. 2,400,000 and 3,500,000 bus for bread (5,900,000) would leave 17,600,000 bus for sale. If half of this has been sold, it would leave 8,800,000 bus still in first hands.

The above figures show that in the first four months of the crop year, with a surplus crop of 57,737,000 bus, 41,660,142 bus has been moved from first hands, leaving but \$,500,000 bus to come forward. From this is to be deducted amount delivered by farmers at country mills and any that may be in country elevators not returned to this office. We think this would reduce the quantity in farmers' hands for sale to less than 7,000,000 bus.

It is evident that the estimate of the agg.cgate crop furnished by the agricultural department is too low.

We give the report for what it is worth.

As to the market, conservative traders are of opinion that the conditions justify a rather higher range of prices. There is nothing bullish in the local situation. The water mills are doing very light work, the wheat supply is ample, and the prospect of a month of idleness on the tail end of the crop year does not please the bulls. Elsewhere the situation is different and on the whole more bullish. Receipts for the week were light and shipments small.

Following were the highest and lowest wheat prices by grade on 'change during the week ending to-day, 'ogether with to-day's closing prices and the prices one year ago:

Wheat.	Highe	it. I	owest	. Cle		884 : n. 30.
No. 1 hard	841	••	821			
"2"	\$21		803		•	94
" 1	75		731		73	90
" 2	701		70		70	85

Futures have been very firm, No. 1 hard, May, fluctuating between SSc and S92c and closing at S9c. No. 2 hard, May, opened at S14c, sold up to S64 and closed at S14c. Course grains have been firm and active at unchanged prices.

MILLSTUFF—Has been scarce, in active lemand, and has steadily advanced, bulk bran being at \$3.50 to 8.75 and shortast \$9.50 to 10 action.

FLOUR.—The flour market maintains a firm tone, and orders below present quotations are steadily refused, the productions being only large enough to fill the demand at the higher figures. Export trade is not brisk, and the domestic inquiry is rather slow, though satisfactory under present conditions. Those who ascribe the weakness of the breadstuffs market to the recent dynamite outrages express the belief that unless frequently repeated, this cause will not have any great or lasting effect in depressing prices.

Quotations at the mills for car or round lots are as follows: Patents, \$5. to 5.25; straights, \$4.60 to 4.90; first bakers', \$3.80 to 4.10; second bakers', \$3.40 to 3.50; best low grades, \$2 to 2.25 in bags; red dog, \$1.50 to 1.75, in bags.

Very cold weather continues, and those mills depending upon water power seems to daily experience greater difficulty to run. The water in the river has gradually fallen away until it is doubtful if one-third of the milling capacity of the city could be operated fully by the water power available. As it is, about two thirds of the mills try to run, and with what water there is divided among that number, none can do very satisfactory work, stops and starts being made expensively frequent. Operations last week were rampered more than usual by the low stage of water, floating ice also causing more or less trouble. The flour production for the week was 97,000 bbls-averaging 13,857 bb's daily for seven days-against 102,000 bbls the preceding week, and 66,350 bbls for the corresponding week in ISS4. The current week opened with more dubious prospects than ever and up to Wednesday the milis depending upon water power were in a sad plight. Added to low water, floating ice has made its appearance and done much to complicate the sitration. During the first three days of the week much ice was running, and it so completely cut off the water from some of the mills, especially those at the lower end of the canal, that the West side mills had to close down several hours on one or two occasions, for sluicing. Very few of the mills can run to over half capacity with water, and two or three are unable to do anything. But, notwithstanding these difficulties, the flour output of the city is held up to a very respectable figure, and this is due to the important part that steam power is playing. The steady decline in the volume of water is attributed to the unusually long and severe spell of cold weather which we are now passing through, and no relief is expected until there is considerable moderation.

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

### RECEIPTS.

Wheat, bush Flour, bbls Millstuff, tons.		762,600	Jan. 13. 1,049,000 270
Millstuff, tons.			24
	SHIPMENT	rs.	

Jan. 27.	Jan. 20.	Jan. 13.
84,631	101,341	102,000 107,727 2,779
	62,500 84,631	Jan. 27. Jan. 20. 62,500 116,000 84,631 101,341 2,600 - 2,567

The wheat in store in Minneapolis elevators, as well as the stock at St. Paul and Duluth, is shown in the appended table:

	MINNEAL	oris.	
		Jan. 26.	Jan. 19.
No. 1 hard	<u>.</u>	1,213,392	1,190,411
No. 2 hard		110,599	93,684
No. 1	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	1,763,604	1,160,679
No. 2		175,080	164,789
Rejected		17,257	19,409
Special bins	••	621,037	609,373
Total		3,891,969	3,738,345
]	ST. PA	1 E.	
Tu alaum 40mg	Jan. 28.	Jan. 21.	Jan. 13.
In elevators, bus	1,252,000	1,252,000	1,286,000
l	กถาก	TH.	
<b>.</b>	Jan. 27	Jan. 20.	Jan. 13.
In elevators,			
bus	5,236,598	4,866,000	4,629,700

### CHICAGO.

-Northwestern Miller.

On Monday only a moderate business was done in wheat, but on the whole prices were rather steady, though the average of prices were lower than Saturday's closing. Receipts of cora to-day were 377 cars; the feeling in the market was rather easy and closed about ic lower. Oats were again quiet and slow, and very few seemed disposed to operate. Pork opened strong and advanced slowly but steadily, until an advance of from 15 to 17ic was realized. In spanpathy with pork the feeling in the lard market was also strong and closed at an advance of from 5 to 7ic over Saturday.

3871		•			Jan.	Feb.
Wheat	• •	• •	• •	• •	\$0.79 <sub>1</sub>	<b>\$</b> 0.79§
Corn					37	373
Oats		• •	• •	••	28	28
Pork				• •	12.223	12.25
Lard	• •	• •	. •		$6.22\frac{7}{2}$	6.25

On Tuesday the wheat market was quite active, though the feeling was weak, and prices ruled lower, caused by an unexpected increase in the visible supply, and large receipts here and at New York. Receipts of corn, 537 c. rs; owing to the large receipts a weak feeling prevailed and closed with a decline of ac from yes-The offerings in the oat market erceeded the demand and, in consequence the feeling was dull and weak. The pork market was again active and an advance of from 10 to 15c was again witnessed, but at the close settled back to inside figures; shipping demand fair. Lard offerings were moderate and the demand fairly active; prices advanced 21 to 5c closing steady.

Wheat				Jan. <b>≨</b> 0.78 <del>1</del>	\$0.78
Corn	••	••	••	379	37
Oats Pork	••	••	••	27¥ 12.25	27) 12.27
Lord	•••	••	••	6.90	6.87

On Wednesday the wheat market was only tairly active, and a weaker feeling was again developed owing to a rumored stock failure in New York, and a reduction of 2c per bushel by the Minneapolis Millers' Association. Receipts of corn, 127 cars; this market was steady and rather firm, considering the weakness in wheat and closed steady. In cats the speculative

market was quite neglected though prices did not change materially. Pork prices ruled somewhat irregular, while speculative trading was only moderately active. In lard prices advanced slightly early but receded 5 to 7½c per 100 bbls., closing steady.

Witeut					Jan. 8) 773	Feb. \$0.77½
Corn	••	••	•	••	378	378
Oats	• •	• •	• •	• •	28	28
Pork			• •		12.30	$12.27\frac{1}{2}$
Lard	• •	• •	• •		6.85	6.85

On Thursday only a moderate degree of activity prevailed in the wheat market, and prices were somewhat irregular, but improved towards the close, closing rather firm. Receipts of corn, 218 cars; the speculative business was only moderate, and towards the close a gradual decline took place, and at the close February was about he lower than last night. Oats slow and lower for all grades for futures. Pork active and in fair demand, and towards the close prices improved somewhat. In lard the days' business was only moderate.

					Jan.	reb.
Wheat	• •		• •	• •	\$0.773	\$0.77
Corn	••			• •	363	367
Oats		••			273	279
Pork				٠.	$11.22\frac{1}{2}$	12.22
Lard				٠.	$6.85^{\circ}$	6.85

On Friday only a moderate business prevailed in the wheat market with light fluctuations, but towards the close improved somewhat and closed firm. Corn in fair demand with speculative trading moderate and shipping demand fair. In oats the demand was only moderate and prices were a little firmer. Pork prices ruled somewhat irregular and closed steady. Lard prices advanced early but declined towards the close.

				Jan.	Feb.
Wheat	••		• •	\$0.793	\$0.801
Corn				369	367
Oats	 ٠.	• •		278	27 å
Pork	 • •	• •	••	12.23	12.221
Lard	 			6.87	6.87

On Saturday trading was moderately active in the wheat market but at times ruled rather quiet. In corn the market was rather firm and receipts much smaller. Out prices did not change materially. In the pork market prices ruled somewhat irregular. Lard moderately active.

Wheat					Jan. \$0.787	Feb. \$0.79
Corn					361	367
Oats	• •	• •			27§	27 <del> j</del>
Pork		• •		• •	12,223	$12.22\bar{j}$
Lard		• •	••	• •	6.86	7.86

### TORONTO.

The stock market during the past week has held wonderfully steady. There have been quite frequent fluctuations in most of the stocks, but these have been trifling in their nature and have been due mainly to the fact that the week's business has been the heaviest since the opening of the present year. Almost every leading stock has maintained the advance noted in our last report, and in a few instances a further advance has taken place. None of these, however, have been very marked, but have been in keeping with the general tone of the week's business. One of the most notable features has been the improved feeling in Northwest Land, which

has recovered some of the loss it sustained during the past few weeks. A comparison of the closing bids of Jan. 21st and 28th will serve as an index to the state of the market.

				Jan. 21.	Jai	n. 28.
Montreal				1884		1881
Ontario				106	٠.	107
Molsons		٠.			٠.	112
Toronto	• •		• •	177		1773
Merchants		• •		110	٠.	1101
Commerce			••	1181		1182
Imperial		• •	• •	124		1241
Federal				47		47
Dominion				186	• •	188
Standard	• •	••	• •	1103		111
Hamilton		• •	• •	116		117
Northwest L	and		••	41		421

#### GRAIN AND PROQUER.

The movement of grain during the past week has been rather light and although the feeling has been weaker there has been no increased desire on the part of holders to let go stocks in hand. The hores of the country dealers and farmers seem to have been raised and with them their expectations, by the sharp advance in price which took place early in January, and they are in no way disposed to sell at present prices. Receipts consequently remain light, and this prevents a possibility of any downward tendency. Still there is no demand sufficiently active to cause any advance and these opposing influences have combined to keep prices moderately steady during the week'. In provisions the week has been a quiet one and the movement in meats and dairy produce has been light and in other products equally so. Altogether there has been a slightly dead feeling in the provision trade during the week.

#### WHEAT.

There is considerable speculation as to the stocks held back in the country, although they are generally admitted to be heavy, but as they are firmly held back their effect upon present prices is very light. Sales have been very light and mostry of small lots, these changing hands at the following quotations: No. 1 Spring 83c; No. 2, 81c; No. 2 Fall, 83c; No. 3 81c; goose, 67 to 68c.

#### OATS.

Offerings have been light during the week, and are freely taken at steady prices. Car lots of prime white have sold at 32c, and mixed at 31 to 31½c.

#### BARLEY.

This grain has been scarce during the week, and the higher grades have been specially so, and have advanced in price, No. 1 is eagerly sought for at 74c while No. 2 has ranged from 67 to 69c; extra No. 3 has sold from 61 to 65c while No. 3 has ranged from 27 to 59c.

#### RYE.

This market like that of last week remains inactive and unchanged at 56c.

#### PEAS.

There has been scarcely any offered. Car lots would have found a ready sale at from 59 to 60c. Street receipts have been small and ranged from 57 to 59 c.

### POTATOES.

The supply has continued very light both on street and in car lots, and all wanted. Prices are at from 40 to 45c.

#### EGGS

New, or fresh laid, have been in good dethough the supply has been quite sufficient to supply the present demand. Limed have found a very slow sale at 17c while new laid have brought as high as from 24 to 28c.

#### CHEESE.

The market during the past week has been very firm for all sorts. Small lots have been selling at 12 to 12 to while some dealers are asking as high as 13c.

#### BUTTER.

This market is thoroughly demoralized, and there is no demand unless for innicediate local wants. Shipping not so much as heard irom, Choice dairy has sold at from 17 to 18c, while any other lower grades have been unsaleable.

#### PORK.

Very little business doing; prices moder ately from with small lots going at \$16.

#### BACON.

The movement of the week has been light and prices moderately steady. Small lots of long clear sold at 8½ to 8½c; Cumberland, &; rolls, 9 to 9½c.

#### HAMS.

Have been very little in demand. Round lots of smoked have been offered at 11c, while small lots sold slowly at 11½ to 12c.

#### LARD.

No change to report in prices. Tinnets and pails have sold at from 10 to 101c.

#### POULTRY.

The supply is light and prices have been moderately firm. Turkeys, in boxes, have sold at from 10 to 11c per lb; geese, 6½ to 7c; fowl, 45 to 60c per pail; ducks, 60 to 75c per pair.

#### APPLES.

There is no demand for shipping lots, but prices have held steady at \$1 to \$1.25 for inferior to fair, and \$1.50 to \$2 for from good to choice.

### Commercial Summary.

The severity of the weather during the get week has exercised an unfavorable influence a general trade, as shown by special telegram from various centres west and northwest Bradstreet's advices from Cincinnati, Omla and Indianapolis emphasize this point. At Ner Orleans the course of general trade is discor aging: at Chicago there has been a decrease the volume of transactions, except in afer lines; at St. Louis there is not much commer cial activity; at Savannah business is fairly satisfactory, while at Charlestown, S.C., Da Moines, Iowa, and at Topeka and Lawrence, Kan., the reverse is true. Kansas City reports the customary amount of business at this seem of the year; Pittsburgh admits a somewhile better demand for groceries and dry gook Detroit's commerce at this time compares for ably with last year at the corresponding pend, while trade at Philadelphia is said to beinproving with the influx of small orders. A Boston no branch of business is reported to k specially active except that of cotton goods The widely published reports of an import ment in the iron trade appear to be confied \$ the west, and even there to some gains ub inquiry. Season delivery contracts are at specified in the announcements. At Pollade phi some merchant steel and sheet order in mentioned. At Pittsburgh the iron tradeith reverse of encouraging, and cast of Ohiose north of Maryland two-thirds of the entired put of crude iron is being made at present The only change in the iron market reported is a advance at Pittsburgh in the price of miles 10c per keg. The condition of the author

coal trade is about what has been foreshadowed in these columns. The proposed pool is a practical failure. The Pennsylvania Railcoad Company would not join. Coal has been selling at 3 alongside at New York (steam sizes) against as average of \$3.60 in 1884, and there is already talk of the disposal of 50,000 tons of coal at auction, as in 1876 and in 1879. The New York dry goods market is fairly firm. Commission houses report the demand from wholesale buyers to be steady and to have extended over a wide range. Cotton continued to decline during the early portion of the week, but the decreasing receipts finally stiffened prices. Kentucky tobacco is strong and active. Petroleum is dragging along at figures which are generally admitted to be very low when all the features of the situation are ensidered. The interior demand for grocery staples has sustained a slight improvement, but is still behind the expectation of dealers. Sugar is higher, and closes firm for raws. Coffee closes lower, and is weak. The consumptive demand for wool has been a little more active, and the market generally is firm at unchanged prices. Cash wheat closes where it did a week ago at 951c, after having lost 11c per bushel. The principal cause of the decline was a falling away in the export and speculative demands. Cash corn loses 34c, closing at 53c against 564c a week ago Indian corn has been in much better demand within a day or two, and visible supplies are small. The forward movement of sheat and corn from the northwest and west is beavier and promises to continue so. Provisions and hog products are weaker. The laster have declined in sympathy with grain and a light tome and foreign demand. Hog receipts west have been smaller and prices therefore higher. There were 386 failures in the United States during the past week reported to Bradstreet's. as compared with 445 in the preceding week, and with 310, 289 and 205 respectively in the corresponding weeks of 1884, 1883 and 1882. About 85 per cent, were those of small traders whose capital was less than \$5,000. Canada had 30, a decrease of 7.

### In the Porests of Northern Wisconsin.

Some two years since, in the month of November, the writer found himself at Ashland, Wisconsin, a small town near the head of Lake Saperior, whose chief industry consists of the manufacture of pine logs into boards. These are carried by rail or water to 'heir destination east or west. The population of this place at that time was about 2000. A walk of four or five hundred yards from the front street carried one into a small growth of red and white him, which would repay its proper protection.

Looking up the lake from Ashland in a northerly or westerly direction, one sees a lorest of white pine, the trees in which apparently stand as thick as they can grow. This forest is said to extend to a distance of seventy falls. Fires do not rage among these woods as they do in so many parts of Canada. The fed clay lying upon the Potsdam sandstone, hawhich these trees grow, retains the moisfare, and it is not favorable to the growth of

mosses, which serve so readily as fire carriers, so much so that it will smoulder among them for days, showers often falling to extinguish the sparks, which a few weeks of dry weather may develop into a vast conflagration. The comparative freedom from risk of forest fires is very important, and adds much to the value of the country.

The land in the vicinity of Ashland and on the opposite side of the bay is by no means rough. It is of the moderate elevation of a few hundred feet. There are no mountains to be seen, the American side of Lake Superior differing from the Canadian in mineralogical and geological character. The future of Ashland cannot be otherwise than assured, from the fact that one can stand in its streets and see pine growing in one direction as far as the eye can reach. And we know that there are millions of these trees standing on the shores of adjacent streams, and which can be brought hither. Ashland county contains upwards of a million acres of land. One half of this is said to be covered with a growth of bardwood, the other with conifere. One hundred and fifty million feet of pine, board measurement, are said to pass annually over the Wisconsin Central Railway alone. From Ashland one can see the church originally built by Father Marquette on Magdalene Island : at least I could see its white walls glistening beneath the tays of the evening sun. A Jesuit priest is said to reside there and to attend to the duties of the mission. A few miles from Ashland the Chippeways have a reservation and village, the latter being called in the Algonquin language, "Odona."

On the 6th of November, at 2 o'clock in the morning, our party of four embarked on the Ozankee, an old tug which was lying at the wharf. The night was dark, and the wind swept mounfally over the gloomy waters of the "great see," as the Chippeways call Lake Superior. As we slowly steamed out of the bay, the wind freshened, and our frail craft began to toss about in an uncomfortable manner. There appeared to be no beiths, or, if there were, no one asked us to occupy them. In the miserable cabin there was one sofa, of which our worthy captain took possession, leaving us the floor. By daylight we reached Ironton, which consisted of a single hut, built for the purpose of storing provisions for the use of mining explorers, who are constantly prospecting for and finding large deposits of iron-ore in the great forests of Wisconsin and Michigan. The shores of Lake Saperior for a distance of thirty miles-from Ashland Bay to Ironton, close to the mouth of the Montreal River, which forms one of the boundaries between Wisconsin and Michigan and the high banks consist of stiff red clay. Nea. the mouth of this river the ved sandstone of the Potsdam formation is seen underlying the clay. The banks of the lake are about one hundred feet high: we pitched our tent on a little flat under them. The farthest point visible to the cast of our camping-ground is called G-rl Point. The growth of wood at this part of the lake shore consisted of white birch and poplar, mixed with scattered pines of no great size. During the afternoon we walked along the beach to the mouth of the Montreal, which was about a mile from where our little tent stood. When we had travelled north at an angle, the beach in one place showed ripplemarks as plainly as they were ever seen on a sea-beaten shore. The breadth of the Montreal where it enters the lake is not more than fifty feet, but the water is very deep.

Clambering up the steep lake shore by means of a gully lived with stunted trees, we reached the summit breathless with our labors.

Travelling thence to Montreal over a piece of land intersected by deep hollows, in and about which grew many large hemlock-spruces in the distance about one hundred feet beneath us, the path swept over ledges of red rock, making a descent of eighty-two feet in half a mile. The bank is very steep. Holding on to the trees, we took a look into the gorge down the side of which one might possibly have clambered, but it would have been at the risk of his neck. The channel of the river was straight, and we could look up it for at least half a mile. The banks for this distance were lined with the dark-green foringe of the hemlock to the very edge of the water, or rather to that of the white foam; for so rapid was its descent that it might have been cal'ed a river of foam.

The white waters, the gloomy foliage, and the vast expanse of the great lake visible from where we stood, formed a picture of dreary grandeur not soon to be forgotten. As we wended our way back to our tent, we again examined the mouth of the Montreal, and found it so confined and narrow, that we came to the conclusion that there was no fit place or opportunity for erecting mills, or for building piers and booms to hold a sufficient quantity of logs or timber. The next morming early we took a track which led us to the head-waters of the Montreal and Black rivers. On our route we crossed two ranges of hills, one of these being called the Iron, the other the Copper range, from the occurrence in them of the ores of these metals. We did not find any quantity of pine until we had crossed these, the growth consisting very largely of sugarmaple and basswood, Thuja accroides, and

When we did find pine, however, the trees were large and sound. Indeed, on the head of the Montreal, we crossed a body of pines growing among hardwood, which were large enough to make timber that would square twenty inches. The chief growth on the Montreal and Black Rivers consisted, not of pine, but of the woods which I have mentioned.

The hemlock-spince in many places was very abundant, growing, as this wood usually does, in clusters of benches. In many cases the back was coarse and rough, and the wood consequently inferior in quality. Thuja occidentalis was also abundant, forming in many cases thickets in the swamps which were very hard to penetrate. The soil in this part of Wisconsin is in general poor and stony. Deer were abundant, as were wolves, whose voices were frequently heard at night.

After remaining in the woods until our provision, were nearly exhausted, we followed a track which led along and over the Pennokee

Iron Range for a distance of about thirty miles, when we reached a station on the Wisconsin Central Railway. The last-named distance was almost altogether through a growth of maple and basswood, occasionally interspersed with hemlock-spruce.

Now and then we came in contact with white pines which, if they were scarce in numbers, were excellent in quality. As far as we could learn, there was a good deal of low, swampy, and inferior land in the state of Wisconsin, on the section between the rivers running into the Mississippi and those entering into Lake Superior.—Forestry Journal.

### Preparing Corn Ground in the west.

On a large part of the western prairie regions corn is by far the most important crop. Except for the first two or three years after the sod is broken, it is the most certain, and the most remunerative. There is no way to ensure a crop the same year that the ground is opened; but when breaking is done quite early, as soon as vegetation starts, and the seed is put in the sod with a spade-or, better, with a horseplanter having a "sod" attachment, a moderate crop may frequently be obtained. On certain soils, and in wet years, sod corn sometimes yields thirty bushels per acre; but this cannot be counted on with certainty. A much surer way is to break the sod as usual, and follow the breaking plough with a smaller stirring plough, which throws up a strip from the bottom of the first furrow. This subsoil can be torn to pieces with the barrow to form a good mellow surface-bed. Corn planted in this way, with a planter, will yield an average crop without any cultivation. In hot, moist seasons the yield will be large.

In preparing land for corn, farmers differ in opinion as to whether it is better to gather and burn vegetable rubbish, cornstalks, and the like, than to cut it up with a stalk-cutter and plow it under. The latter urge that the stalks and stubble covered by the plow enable the and to stand drouth better and that rotting in the ground they help to increase its fertility. The former argue that this rubbish furnishes harbor for insects during winter, and that burning the trash kills large numbers of these, and destroys many seeds of weeds. It is claimed, too, that some of the stalks which are plowed under remain near the surface and interfere with the regular operation of the planter, the runners vising nearly or quite out of the ground when passing over them, and then dropping too deep for a time. Where the listing machine is used it is absolutely necessary to rake and burn all trash on the surface. Some readers of the American Agriculturist may not be acquainted with this peculiar machine for planting corn. It looks like a right and left-hand plow with the land sides placed together, forming in fact a stout shovel plow. It is usually drawn by three horses and throws up a furrow on each side Just under the inside is a sort of miniature subsoil plow, or stirrer, which tears up and mellows the soil in the bottom of the forrow. In the machinez most used about here the planting apparatus is separate from the furrowing part, and follows after it, drawn by

a different team; but sometimes they are united in one.—Farmers differ as to the merits of the two methods. The truth seems to be that in warm, dry springs, on land tree from trash the combined implement works admirably, especially for late planting after the ground becomes warm, since it allows the plowing and planting to go on togetler. It is by all odds the cheapest, as two men with four horses will, with the combined impliment, plow the ground and plant five to seven acres of corn per day.

In Nabraska and Kansas there is some difference of opinion as to the comparative advantages of fall and spring plowing for corn, with a large preponderance in favor of the former. When land is moist enough in autumn to plow well, it is usually if not always best to plow it then; but if so dry that it cannot be well plowed, leave it until spring.

Whether the plowing should be deep or shallow depends upon the kind of soil. On deep, black soft loams, corn roots will penetrate as readily into the subsoil as into the plowed portion, and little is gained by stirring it, though an occasional deeper plowing, even in soft loamy soil exposes fresh portions to the atmosphere, and develops more plant food. For stiffer subsoil, packing eaisly, it pays to plow deeper to pulverize and ærate them.

Where deep plowing is the rule, its advantages will be most striking in dry seasons. In 1874, a very dry year in Nebraska, there were in Sarpy County two corn fields, side by side, each containing about sixty acres. The soil was the same, plowed and planted at the same time, and cultivated substantially alike except that one was plowed seven to eight inches deep, the other three to four. The former yielded about forty bushels per acre, the latter showed only an occasional car, and yielded not over six or eight bushels per aere. Taking one year with another, on all prairie uplands, it is safe to plow pretty deeply. Yet it must be admitted that in some cases good fair crops of corn have been raised by planting between the old corn rows, and not plowing the ground at all .-For fall plowed ground it is frequently necessary, and always desirable, to cultivate it beforce planting. This is usually done with the common four-shovel corn plow. The pairs of shovels are spread as far as possible apart, and or returning, two shovels are made to run between the marks made going the other way, and the other two run outside, thus stirring all the ground. This cultivation keeps down weeds until the corn gets a start, and loosens up the surface soil so that it warms better and starts the corn sooner. After thus cultivating, it pays to barrow once across the cultivator marks, and many good farmers roll before planting .- American Agriculturist.

### Woman's Rights as Taxpayers.

The people of this country have just indulged in the pleasure of voting. One large class, however, remained away, either cooking, gossiping or engaged in other ways. The day of female suffrage is not yet, and for aught that we can see, is as far off as ever. In truth, the agitation on that subject, which was begun many years

ago, has in a large degree died away, not is it likely to be soon revived.

There is one aspect of the question, however. which does not fade out of sight. There are a great many women in this country holding pro. perty and paying taxes thereon who have no voice nor influence with respect to the use of the money thus paid. In our large cities, this is paticularly noticeable. Heavy taxes are levied on them as on others, and yet they are silent concerning municipal expenditure. Now. it is unquestionably true that a very large class in the cities who pay no taxes and have no pro. perty are interested in making expenditures as large as possible in order to obtain the largest supply of work. Thus two classes are diamet. rically opposed to each other. The taxpayer who is in favor of public economy, and the ar receiver who is in favor of the largest public expenditure.

In the last number of the Westminster Reviethere is a short and readable article entitled, "Women Rabepayers' Right to Vote." The writer, among other things, says: "There is a great injustice in the regulation by which she is excused none of the rates or taxes for which women are liable, and yet is shut out from the privilege of self-government, the right of being consulted concerning the expenditure of the public money which she has provided, and of voting for or against laws which affect her life or property."

General as the opposition is to permitting women to exercise the right of suffrage, the wrong done to them by thus depriving themd any right or power to determine what disposition shall be made of the money drawn for them by way of taxation weighs heavily on thoughtful minds. Is it not possible to gre them the right to act through another little unwise for them to act directly themselve! Surely if their resources are to be drawn any from them for public uses, they ought in some way to act with respect to its disposition—

\*\*Danler's Magazine\*\*.

### Recent Legal Decisions.

RAILROAD COMPANIES-RIGHT OF WAL-USER .- An interesting decision, to the effet that the titles of railroad companies to the rights of-way depend upon the use of the ways for railroad purposes, has just been not ered by the New York Supreme Court. In 182 the Troy & Boston Company bought, dis mantled and abandoned zeveral miles of nilroad, parallel with its own line in Renselse county, N. Y., formerly owned by the Albuj Northern Company and its successors. This real estate was taken possession of again with. out hindrance by the farmers from whom it had been originally appropriated. Fifteen ran later the Boston, Hoosac Tunnel & Wester Company entered on the old right-of-way, ad, made it part of its own line, which compais directly with the Troy & Boston. The Tmy! Boston then sought to eject its rival, claiming at the same time \$1,000,000 demages on account of the occupation of the property by the Botton, Hoosac Tunnel & Western Company. After litigation, the complaint of the Troy and Bo ton Company was dismissed on its mental

this judgment is now affirmed with costs. The Riston, Hoosac Tunnel & Western contended that on the abandonment of the premises for milroad purposes the title reverted to the original owners. This doctrine is sustained by the Supreme Court, which thus suggests, in line with other courts, that there are some important differences between railroad companies and mere private corporations.

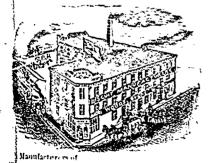
COMMON CARRIER-LIABILITY-NEGLIGENCE.1 In the case of Wilson vs. New York Centra Railroad Company, decided recently by the New York Court of Appeals, it appeared that the plaintiff shipped two horses by defendant's road under a contract by which he released the company from liability for damages resulting from the negligence of its servants or which should be occasioned by the insecurity of its cars. The horses were transported in a grain cor which was out of repair, and which, while sufficient for its special use, was unsafe for the transportation of live stock. In consequence of this lefect oue of the horses was injured. Upon the trial of the action it did not appear but that other safe and secure cars were provided by defendant and were on hand ready for use, so that the injury might have been caused by carelescress on the part of its servants in selecting an insecure car. The Court of Appeals held that the only negligence shown was that of defendant's servants, from the consequence of which it was released by the contract, and that plaintiff was not entitled to recover. The language of the release, the some being included in the same clause and connected with releases from the consequences of other causes of rejury which could only occur during the process of shipmert and transportation, was, according to the court, satisfied by limiting it to the negligence of defendant's servants in and about the transportation, and did not extend to a negligent omission to furnish proper cais.

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## WINTER TIME TABLE

Commencing Sunday, December 7, and until further notice, Trains will run as follows:

Going west.		Going East
8.30 a.m.	leave Winnipeg arr.	ive 0.30 r.m.
11.05 "	Portage la Prairie	4.00
3.00 p.m.	Brandon	12.30
11.00	Broadview	2.00 a.r.,
5.25 a.m.	Regina	8.00 p.m.
8.00 "	Moose Jaw	5.30 "
3.40 p.m.	Swift Current	S.35 a.m.
0.40 "	Maple Creek	1.25 "
2.15 a.m.	Medicine Hat	9.00 p.m.
4.30 p.ni.	Calgary	6.40 a.m.
1.10 a.m. s	rrivo Laggan lea	o 8.45 p.m.

Trains between Winnipeg and Brandon daily, except Sundays. Three trains a week between Winnipeg and Moosejaw, leaving Winnipeg Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, returning 'eave Moosejaw Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Once a week between Winnipeg and Laggan, leaving Winnipeg Tuesday; returning leave Laggan Friday. Train between Calgary and Laggan subject to cancellation at any time without notice.

Coing East		Going West
7.30 a.m.	'cave Winnipeg arri	ve 7 20 a.m.
3.05 p m	Rut Portage	10 45 a.m.
2.00 a.m.	Barclay	12 30 a.m
1.00 n.m. s	arrize Port Athor 1	case 1 30 m m

Train for Port Arthur leaves Winnipeg Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, returning leaves Port Arthur Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Going South.		Going North.
*2.05 p.m. le	ave Winniper	arrive 7.03 a.m.
10.50 p.m.	Emerson	†4.15 a.m.
8.40, 9.15 r.m.	lcave Winnipry a	rrive 4.00, 7.00 p.mj
10.30, 11.55 a.m.,	Morris	1.20, 5.05 p.m
11.40 a.m.,	Gretna	4.00 p ir.
5.00 p.m.	Manitou	£.30 a.m.

\*Dally, except Saturday †Dally, except Mondays. Trains run daily between Winnipeg and Gretna. For Manttou, leave Winnipeg Mondays, Wednesdays and Fri-days; returning leave Manitou Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Train leaves Winnipeg for Stonewall, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 9 30 a.m., arriving at Stony Mountain 10.30 a.m. and Stonewall at 10.55 a.m. Return same days, leaving stonewall at 1 30 p in and Stony Mountain at 2 p.m., arriving at Winnipeg 3 p.m.

Train leaves Winnipeg for West Selkirk Tuesdays Thursdays and Saturdays at 4 p.m., arriving at Wes Selkirk 0 p.m. and Returning leaves West Selkirk Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 7 a.m., arriving at Winniper 3 a.m.

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