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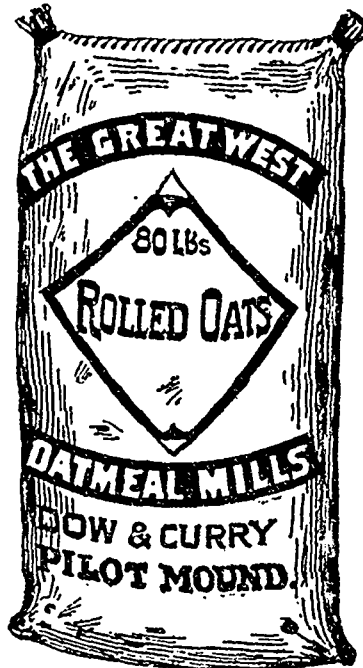
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# The Commercial

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The Commercial certainly enjoys a very much larger circulation among the business community of the country between Lake Superior and the Pacific Coast, than any other paper in Canada, daily or weekly. By a thorough system of personal solicitation, carried out annually, this journal has been placed upon the desks of a great majority of business men in the vast district described above, and including Northwest Ontario, the provinces of Manitoba, and British Columbia, and the territories of Assiniboia, Alberta and Saskatchewan. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 30, 1895.

## Manitoba.

F. H. Francis, lately general merchant at Headingly, is dead.

J. R. Marsh, general dealer, Niverville, is dead.

Two Carberry implement dealers, Alex. May and Arthur Mack, have formed a partnership.

T. V. Wheeler, general store, Fort Ellice, is succeeded by Lewarton & Son.

The business of R. F. Staples, general store, Carman, will be continued hereafter by Staples & Carthew.

The firm of J. C. Sproule & Co., dealers in dairy products, Winnipeg, has been dissolved. The firm consisted of J. C. Sproule and J. E. Dawes. The latter will continue in the produce business alone.

The Central Dry Goods company, Winnipeg, have purchased the gents' furnishings and clothing stock of F. A. Young, next to their own premises, and intend to utilize the building in adding a clothing department. The Young stock was purchased under chattel mortgage sale at 57½ cents on the dollar.

A correspondent at Rosenfeldt writes: Business in our little town is still improving, the stores doing a rushing business. There is room for other branches starting up, such as a harness shop, tinware in connection with hardware business. The Massey-Harris machinery company have established a branch for the sale of their goods here, with H. M. Klassen as manager. The Stewart Bros. have completed a feed and livery stable, and the Massey-Harris implement building is already under way, besides other smaller buildings. The farmers are spending their surplus funds in buildings and improvements. The flax business taxed the accommodation of J. & J. Livingston's warehouse this season, they having taken in 48,000 bushels, and it is still coming, with a great many stacks to thresh yet. The wheat deliveries are falling off on account of the low price, but still there is a large quantity in the hands of the farmers. About 100,000 bushels have been marketed here, of which Ogilvie's took in nearly one-half.

## Northwest Ontario.

The Dominion and Ontario governments, through the fisheries and crown lands departments recently completed the stocking of

several lakes, in the Lake of the Woods district, with black bass, and other valuable fish. Many of these lakes abound in fine trout and maskinonge, but it is thought it would popularize the district as a sporting resort if they were stocked with black bass and speckled trout. Among the lakes which have been treated this way are Rossland, Ostersow, Flint, Otter, Cameron, Sturgeon, and White Fish lakes. Parent fish were put in in each case.

## Alberta.

S. Dickson, general merchant, Innisfail, has assigned.

Two new butcher shops have started at Calgary. Thos. McClelland and A. Baptie have opened one shop and R. Kelly the other.

Morris & Co., general merchants, Lacombe, have dissolved partnership. McLeod continues.

The Calgary Tribune has issued a very fine Christmas number. Unlike many holiday issues, it is not a "made up" number from some cheap printing house. The whole of the number has been printed in the Tribune office, and all the stories and sketches in it are directly connected with Alberta.

## As Viewed in New York.

Henry Clews' last financial circular, dated Dec. 21., gives an idea how President Cleveland's warlike message is viewed in New York financial circles. He says:

Like a thunder-clap, came the president's arraignment of England on the Venezuelan affair, coupled with the threat of war unless the case were satisfactorily settled. Nobody had dreamed of such a result from Lord Salisbury's reply to our secretary of state, and the president's attitude was so surprising that few were able to take it seriously, and it was therefore suspected to be a bid for the vote of the million for Grover Cleveland as a candidate for a third term. Whether this construction was right or wrong, the opposition seem to have felt they had no safe alternative but to take the message in that sense. Instantly, therefore, the Republicans proceeded to comply with the president's request for a commission of inquiry on the spot, and appropriated a liberal sum for its expenses. Immediately following, from the same party, came a bill authorizing a loan of \$100,000,000 for the purchase of arms and other military purposes. Having thus successfully outbid the president,—if he was really bidding as supposed,—the purposes of party action were satisfied, and no further action has been taken.

The conservative and business sentiment of the city is very strongly opposed to the president's recommendations, and probably an early occasion will be taken for giving expression to that sentiment in an open and impressive manner. It is felt that already very serious injury has been done, which will come to be felt when we need foreign gold for the support of the treasury and for purposes of currency reconstruction; but it is hoped that while the full retraction of the measure undertaken by the administration may not be expected, yet something will be done to enlist England in measures looking to a settlement and yet save our government any unacceptable yielding. In any case, men of judgment hesitate to believe that war with England is a possibility, but yet fear that an indiscretion has been committed which may cost us much more than we can afford under existing circumstances.

This was Wall street's way of looking at the situation. Friday morning showed that estimates of the gravity of the situation had become more serious. Large London orders to sell came on the market, holders of stocks lost confidence, margins became exhausted,

and panic ensued, with an average fall of ten points in prices before noon. The subsequent distrust made it somewhat difficult to get money and high rates had to be paid in some instances. This naturally affected the possibility of exporting gold, and some large contemplated shipments on Saturday have been temporarily deferred, though of course under the present feeling in London they must be ultimately made, as no consideration of interest would induce European bankers to defer settlements as affairs now stand. So large were the London selling orders that no accurate estimates of the valuation of the transactions could be made. It is, however, safe to say that the London realizations of the last three days must range somewhere between \$15,000,000,000 and \$20,000,000 in market value. This represents so much addition to the gold exports and to the drain upon the treasury. The situation in financial circles has thus become unquestionably quite serious. The uncertainty about further selling by London and the possible effects of the situation upon the treasury finances are the chief points in the situation, and upon these contingencies no one can form any trustworthy estimate. This we know that the president's message has already cost the investing public some hundred of millions of dollars.

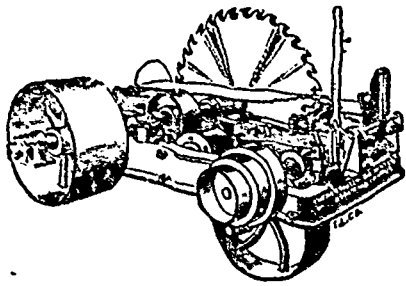
## Green Oranges.

The Fruit Exchange of Riverside, California, has issued the following circular:—

"On account of the scarcity of early oranges in the east, there has been an unprecedented demand for holiday oranges from California, and we regret to say that packers and shippers in Riverside have been so eager to supply the demand, also to have it appear that they control immense quantities of oranges this season, that they have picked and packed oranges entirely regardless of their fitness for the market, and a great many carloads of oranges have been shipped from here that will not average 15 per cent. to the entire carload that were fit for shipment. The majority of the oranges have left here very green, and most of them would not have been suitable for shipment even by the middle of February. It will be utterly impossible for these oranges to arrive east and give satisfaction, but must result in rejection and a general prejudice against early California Navels.

"We issue this circular for the purpose of having it distinctly understood, and we wish to go on record, that the growers connected with this exchange are positively opposed to such green oranges being forwarded from Riverside. We also wish it understood that we do not think any variety of fruit grown in Riverside is mature enough to give much general satisfaction before the 15th of January at the very earliest, and as a rule they would give better satisfaction after February 1st.

"We have received orders for at least 150 carloads of oranges, but were obliged to decline most of them, still we accepted a few orders to oblige our customers for the holidays, but we have been and will be very particular in selecting our fruit, and are willing to have every box examined on arrival, and earnestly request that the color of our oranges and the quality of our packing be compared with others, but if we had had any intimation whatever of the general stoppage of the outside shippers to pack and ship green fruit we would positively have refused to pick or ship a single carload before the first or middle of January. It must be remembered that most of the outside shippers have no interest whatever in this district, and therefore do not have any particular interest in the reputation of our oranges, otherwise they would not allow such absurdly green fruit to be packed."

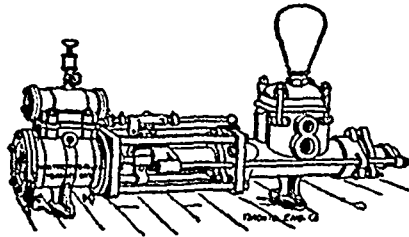


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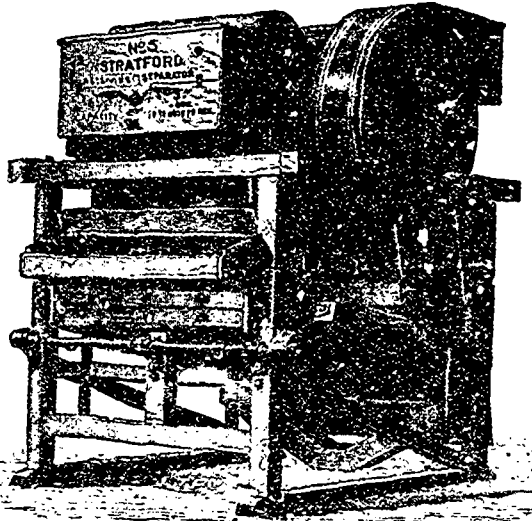
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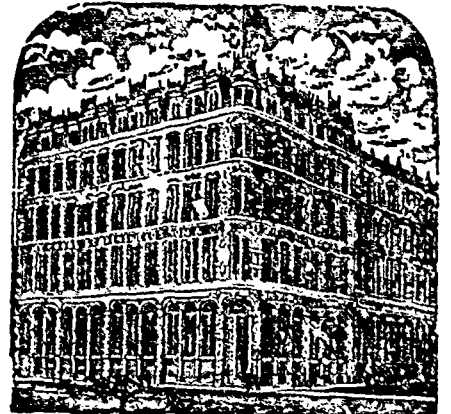
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# The Commercial

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 30, 1895.

## ELECTIONS IN MANITOBA.

This is a time of surprises. Scarcely have the people of Manitoba time to recover from the first surprise of Grover Cleveland's bold, bad message, when another surprise is cast upon them, though this time of a local nature. We refer to the sudden decision of the local government to dissolve the house and hold provincial elections. On Monday it was announced that the house had been dissolved, and that nominations would take place on January 8 and polling on January 15. Coupled with this is the announcement that the new house is called to meet on January 24. This is doing things up in a hurry, but it is better to have it that way than to have a long, wearisome and business-disturbing campaign.

The school question is of course the incentive to hold the elections now. While it is not a surprise that the school question should have resulted in the dissolution of the house and an appeal to the people, many having expected that course for some time, it was not expected that it would come so suddenly and be done up in such a rapid fashion.

Premier Greenway, in an address to the electors of his constituency, gives the reasons for holding the elections now. He says in effect, that the federal parliament will shortly be in session, and will be asked to legislate upon the Manitoba school question, with a view to forcing separate schools upon Manitoba. This being the case, he points out that it is important that the federal house should know what the feeling is in Manitoba upon this question. He expresses the hope that if Manitoba overwhelmingly endorses the action of the provincial government in upholding the present school law, it will materially affect the action of the federal parliament, perhaps to the extent of defeating the proposed measures of coercive legislation against Manitoba.

Only one other important matter is referred to in the address of the provincial premier. On the question of prohibition of the liquor traffic he says: "Our position has always been that we were prepared to enact and enforce prohibitory legislation if the legislature possessed the constitutional power to do so. The question of the power of the Legislature has been referred to the courts and the case referred is now standing for judgment. In so far as we shall be held to possess prohibitory powers, we shall, if returned to power, proceed to exercise the same without delay."

As to the result of the elections, there can hardly be any doubt. Though there has been far less excitement in Manitoba over this school question than has generally been supposed abroad, yet the people, or a large majority of them, are determinedly in favor of maintaining the present school system. Under the circumstances we can hardly expect any strong opposition to the government in the contest, unless from candidates who, while favoring the provincial school system, are opposed to the government in other matters.

## EXPORT DRESSED MEATS.

The restrictions which have lately been imposed upon the importation of sheep into Great Britain, from Canada, again call attention to the advisability of exporting dressed meats from this country, instead of sending abroad live animals. The Commercial has for years been an advocate of the dressed meat trade. We believe a successful trade can be worked up in dressed meats, from this country, and so far as sheep are concerned, we believe a more profitable trade can be done than by shipping live animals. There are a great many arguments in favor of shipping dressed meats, some of which we may enumerate as the saving in freight, saving in cost of feeding, saving in cost of attendance, saving in loss of weight, and shrinkage in condition of the animals.

We do not take such a doleful view of the future of sheep ranching in our territories as some western people appear to think is necessary, in consequence of the recent order of the British government, announcing that sheep must be slaughtered at the port of arrival. On the other hand, if the proper steps are taken to establish an export trade in dressed mutton, we believe the restrictions on live animals will rather prove an advantage in the end, by turning attention to the exportation of dressed meats.

It is now understood that an effort will be made by the government during the coming year, to establish a trade in the export of Canadian dressed meat, and the introduction of this meat into British markets, under the direction of Prof. Robertson, of the experimental farm staff at Ottawa. Prof. Robertson's plan is, that the Government should undertake control of the matter at the outset, in order to give British consumers confidence in the quality of the meat sent and the mode in which it is handled, an idea prevailing in Great Britain, it is said, that much of the dressed meat sent there is not of good quality and not carefully handled. A number of animals would be selected at Montreal each week, slaughtered and chilled under the direction of the government, and shipped in cold storage to Great Britain, where it would be distributed to the consumers through retail shops, also under control of the Canadian government. Shops for this purpose would be established at a number of leading centres. It is thought that a trade could be established in this way in one year, after which the government would withdraw from the field and allow private parties to continue the trade.

While it is only proposed to do the slaughtering at Montreal, the system could be extended to the west, by the establishment of cold storage and slaughtering facilities at Winnipeg or some other point, thus saving the long and injurious railway haul to Montreal, for the live animals.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

PRINTING costs a trifle, but it will often save persons from making amusing blunders in their orthography. This week The Commercial received a card written with pen and ink, from a city party who described himself as a handler of "wood, ice and flower and

feed." A dollar or two spent in printing would have saved many a laugh at the expense of the dealer in "flower."

THERE has been a good deal of talk about the coming supremacy of China and Japan in manufactures. The small sum which suffices to give a living to the laboring classes in those countries is pointed to, and the question is asked: How could European or American labor compete with workmen who can maintain a subsistence on a few cents per day? We believe the fear of competition from that quarter, however, is overdone. Manufacturing in those countries will advance with civilization, and increased civilization will increase the needs of the workmen. Wages will increase with civilization and the development of industries. Already it is stated the prices of some lines of Japanese manufacture have been largely advanced, owing to the increase of wages in that country. An exchange states that some time ago Japanese workmen in a textile branch received 25 to 30 cents per day, while now they receive about \$1.25 per day. This is the effect of the growth of civilization and industry in Japan, and it shows what we have stated, that as the industries of those countries develop so will the cost of labor increase.

It is reported from the United States that there will be a sharp advance in the price of farm implements and vehicles next season. Trade papers report that advances in these lines have been decided upon, in consequence of the increased cost of raw materials. Sharp reductions in prices were made in 1893 and 1894, but now that wages are being restored again and most raw materials are higher it is claimed that prices of implements must also be advanced if dealers are to be left any profit at all out of the business. Stocks, which accumulated during 1893 and 1894, have now been cleaned up and it is claimed the time is favorable for an advance. One agricultural implement paper publishes a statement showing that the material for a medium priced buggy will cost \$3.10 more than a year ago. If this is the case, and we have no reason to dispute it, an advance in some lines is no doubt necessary to preserve the profits of the manufacturers.

REPRESENTATIVE Beach, of Ohio, will introduce a bill, authorizing the president of the United States to call an international conference as follows: "Be it enacted, That the president of the United States, be and is hereby authorized to invite the governments of the other American republics to appoint plenipotentiaries with full powers to meet in conference, in the city of Washington, within one year from the approval of this act, for the formal acceptance and declaration of the Monroe doctrine as a principle of international law," etc. It is by no means certain that the Central and South American republics, will respond unanimously to this invitation, but even if they do, it will have little force in adding to the effectiveness of the Monroe doctrine. Perhaps it would have been a wiser thing for the United States to have called a convention of its own people first, to define what the Monroe doctrine

really is. Again, it may be necessary for other nations of the world to call a conference to consider how far the United States may be permitted to go in its arbitrary policy as dictator of the Western hemisphere. If the people of the southern republics are as independent and brave a class as they are sometimes represented to be, they will, no more than France be inclined to acknowledge the United States as the dictator of the new world.

AUSTRALIA usually exports a limited quantity of wheat, though that country has never been an important factor in the world's wheat markets. This year, owing to drought, it is believed Australia will have to import some wheat or flour, and it is reported that some orders have already been placed in San Francisco for California wheat. A despatch from Ottawa says "Advices received at the department of trade and commerce by the last Australian mail, indicate the possibility of a demand for Canadian wheat in Australia." This is rather far fetched. It is out of the question to think of exporting wheat from Canada to Australia. If the Australians need any wheat or flour, they will buy it in California and Oregon, where wheat can be bought as cheap and cheaper than in Manitoba. The long railway haul from here to the coast would shut out Manitoba wheat effectually.

SOME further changes have been made in the new tariff bill which has been introduced at Washington. The most important was to drop the clause putting certain breadstuffs, live stock and dairy products at an advance of 25 per cent over the Wilson-Gorman rates, so that those features will simply have the 15 per cent. advance under the horizontal clause. It was also decided to advance carpet wools to the McKinley bill rates, but other wools and manufactured products of wools will remain at 60 per cent. of the McKinley tariff. The other change was to exempt sugar from the provisions of the clause for a horizontal advance of 15 per cent. Lumber will remain as was decided yesterday at 60 per cent of the McKinley duty. It is very doubtful if the president will sign the bill after it passes Congress.

THE new Dominion Minister of Agriculture promises to extend and improve the usefulness of the experimental farm system. One of these, a telegram says, will be to supply information of experiments carried on at the farms, to the press and public. The Commercial, while fully recognizing the value of the experimental farms, has for years contended that greater publicity should be given to the result of the experiments carried out at the different farms. The annual blue book devoted to this work in not sufficient. It is too late in appearing, and has not a sufficiently wide distribution. A condensed pamphlet, dealing with the work of each farm, should be issued as early as possible after the close of each season for wide distribution within the territory covered by the particular farm. For instance, one such pamphlet could be devoted to the Manitoba farm, and should be distributed broadcast throughout the coun-

try during the winter, dealing with the work of the previous season. In this way the farmers throughout the country would have an opportunity of studying the results of the experiments carried on, in time to apply the knowledge thus gained in their farming operation the following spring.

### The Financial Situation

The New York Financier says: The extraordinary condition which sent money up to 80 per cent. and caused a collapse of values on the New York stock exchange on Friday was not shown fully in the bank statement for the week ending Saturday, December 21. There was a sharp contraction of \$3,844,800 in loans, a decrease of \$2,548,700 in cash holdings and of 5,761,000 in deposits, the results of the week's operations, reducing the gross reserve by \$1,802,525. The New York banks, however, have now nearly eighteen millions in cash over the legal requirements, and their action in throwing immense amounts of money at low rates on the market on Friday, when it seemed that the panic of 1893 was to be duplicated in a more serious way, entitles them to the lasting respect of the nation.

New York, Dec. 21.—There was another violent collapse in prices at the start to-day, the break being the heaviest as a rule in stocks not owned abroad. This was none of that malicious foreign liquidation to which simpletons among the financial critics are ascribing everything. Despite a temporary rally on coverings of shorts, here and in London, the prevalent feeling at the close was extremely gloomy. The most violent liquidation and most serious declines during the day came in securities not dealt in upon the European market. The loss during the week on stocks exclusively listed by the Philadelphia exchanges is estimated at nearly fifty millions of dollars.

Chauncey M. Depew said on Saturday, Dec. 21. "The war has already cost the country one billion dollars in depreciated values, and it has been going on for only three days. I met the man yesterday who owns most of the swamp in Venezuela which is in dispute, and he said he would sell it to me for \$25,000."

London, Dec. 23.—American securities were less panicky here to-day, but with no material change. The fluctuations were violent; at the close they were about the lowest. The rush to sell bonds is still very great. All the other markets were flat to-day, especially Brazilians, on sales from Paris. All the continental markets were demoralized.

New York, Dec. 23.—The stock market panic was over when to-day's business opened. But the market's general tone even at the day's decided advances was confused and it remains to be seen, after speculative contracts have been settled how much real mischief last Tuesday's experiment has done. The money market again developed signs of acute disorder. Rates on call were bid up by noon to 5 per cent. and the stringency was only checked by heavy loans by two or three powerful concerns. One immediate result of this disturbance was a partial dead-lock in the market for international exchange. In an ordinary crisis sterling bills would have been drawn in quantity to supply the high money market, and exchange rates would have broken. But the character of the situation shut us off from this relief. The clearing house recognized the gravity of to-day's situation by naming its committee to issue clearing house certificates in case of emergency.

Washington, Dec. 23.—The house representatives will introduce on the day after Christmas, and pass within the week, two bills in response to President Cleveland's

message of appeal for help to the treasury. One of these two will be a tariff bill to increase the revenue the other a financial plan to maintain the gold reserve, and prevent alleged existing trouble with the greenbacks. The tariff bill will go into effect when signed by the President. If he signs it, and will remain in effect until August 1st, 1893, when by its provision its operations will cease. Its items follow: A duty on wool of 60 per cent. of the McKinley law rates. A compensatory duty on woollen goods of sixty per cent. of the McKinley act rates. A duty of sixty per cent. of the rate of 1890 on lumber, which will be from 10 to 15 per cent. ad valorem. An increase of 25 per cent. from the Wilson-Gorman act rates on cereal breadstuffs, dairy products and live stock, including poultry. A horizontal increase of 15 per cent. from the Wilson-Gorman rates on all other schedules, with the provision that in no case shall the duty exceed the McKinley rates, except where the Wilson-Gorman rates exceed those of the McKinley law. The second bill will provide for two issues of bonds. The first will be an unlimited amount of three per cent., five year coin bonds to protect the gold reserve, with the provision that the currency redeemed by the proceeds shall not be paid out for current deficits in the revenues, unless the expenses of the government are in excess of the revenues. In addition the second bill will provide for one year, two per cent. treasury certificates of indebtedness, not to exceed fifty millions in amount and to be disposed of at the discretion of the secretary of the treasury to meet current deficits in the revenue. These are to be offered for sale at the sub-treasurys, and depositories of the government.

### Dairy Trade News.

The annual report of the Stonewall, Man., dairy association shows that about 10,000 pounds of butter had been manufactured, costing a little less than five cents per pound for hauling, manufacture, packing and selling. Of this about 1 cent per pound has been spent for tubs. Patrons had been paid 9½ cents per lb. in July and a little more than 10½ cents for the balance. The patronage anticipated when organizing had not been realized owing to some farmers withdrawing when the delay in securing plant occurred. Much information had been gained by this the first season's experience, one important point being that one factory could manufacture all the cream in the district, as cream could be safely hauled twenty-five miles.

A telegram from Ottawa says: "Prof. Robertson's sphere of labor is to be extended and he will be officially known as 'Canadian dairy and agricultural commissioner.'" Measures will be taken to protect the reputation of Canadian cheese abroad. On this subject the Professor said to-day: "It will be necessary to have a register of factories in Canada. In some parts of the country where the cheese industry is a leading one, there is a movement in favor of having a district brand, each factory having to secure the consent of the cheese board in that district to use the brand. I do not see why this too should not be acceded to."

### Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.

Chicago Trade Bulletin of Dec. 23 says: East bound rail rates were cut 3 to 5c on grain and provisions despite the efforts to restore them. The tariff to New York is 20c per 100 lbs on flour and grain and 30c on provisions. Through rates to Liverpool were easier at 29 to 30.69c 100 lbs on flour, 42 5-8 to 45½c on provisions, 17c per bu for wheat and 16c for corn. Rates to Antwerp about 8 to 4c over Liverpool. Lake navigation has closed.

# Wholesale Millinery. ←

We keep the largest and best assorted stock of Silks, Satins, Velvets, Laces, Ribbons, Flowers, Feathers, Ornaments, etc. etc., in the trade.

**OUR TRIMMED GOODS**  
Are the Finest Shown.

## D. McCall & Co'y.

Wholesale Millinery,  
TORONTO - and - MONTREAL.

# To the TRADE!

Our Travellers are now out with a complete line of new samples of our specialties in . . . . .

**GLOVES,  
MITTS, MOCCASINS,  
Etc., for 1896,**

Expect an early call and kindly reserve orders till seeing our samples.

## James Hall & Co.

Ontario Glove Works,  
WINNIPEG BRANCH,  
160 PRINCESS ST. BROCKVILLE, ONT.

## R. C. MACFIE & CO.,

Wholesale Manufacturers and Importers of

**Hats, Caps, Furs, Gloves,  
ROBES AND HORSE CLOTHING.**

—SPECIALTY—

**BLACK COW ROBES.  
LONDON, ONTARIO.**

## RUBLEE, RIDDELL & CO.

Commission Merchants

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**Green and Dried Fruits.  
15 OWEN STREET,  
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## DICK, BANNING & CO

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**Lumber, Shingles and Lath,  
DOORS AND SASH.**

MILLS AT KENWORTH. OFFICE: OPPOSITE C.F.B.  
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# CLOTHING,

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Our Stock is well Assorted.

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IRON, STEEL, PAPER, LAMPBLACK, WHITING  
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GREY (CRESCENT STEEL),  
WHITE STEEL . . . . .  
GALVANIZED WARE . . . . .  
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**WHEAT**  
2 Bushels

**B A G S .**

**FLAX**  
2 and 4 Bushels

**FLOUR—Jute**  
49, 98 & 140 lbs.

**B A G S .**

**POTATO**  
90 lbs.

**BRAN**  
80 and 100 lbs

**B A G S .**

**COAL**  
100 lbs.

**SHORTS**  
100 lbs.

**B A G S .**

**FLOUR—Cottons**  
24, 49 and 98 lbs.

**OAT**  
4 and 5 bushels

**B A G S .**

**ALL KINDS**

**Sewing Twines, Jute, Cotton and Flax.  
Branding Ink, Blue and Red—5 Gallon Kegs.**

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GRANULAR **OGILVIE'S HUNGARIAN** CREAMY  
**FLOUR.** HAS NO EQUAL. HAS NO EQUAL.

**STANDS** unparalleled in its Distinctive Qualities and Peculiar Advantages. We are aware others are attempting to imitate our Brands, which is the Strongest Guarantee of the Superiority of **"OGILVIE'S FLOUR."**

WINNIPEG, Oct. 5th, 1893.

Messrs. Ogilvie Milling Co.,

GENTLEMEN:—I have great pleasure in giving you my opinion of the two grades of flour, Patent and Bakers, you are now manufacturing. It excels all other flours that I have ever used, and makes more bread per barrel, and gives me splendid satisfaction in my business, and I am very glad to express my opinion after a number of years experience in flour. Yours is certainly the best I have ever used. H. LISTER, Baker.

—IN HANDLING—

**OGILVIE'S FLOUR**

YOU HAVE

**THE BEST**

Each bag guaranteed. Sown with our Special Twine, Red White and Blue.

**OGILVIE'S HUNGARIAN,**

Unequaled for Sna Cakes and Pastry. Stands unrivalled for Bread Making. Make the sponge thin. Keep the dough soft. Do not make it stiff. For pastry use little less flour than usual.

**J. & T. BELL**  
FINE  
**BOOTS & SHOES**  
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Representative for Manitoba, N. W. T. and British Columbia,  
L. GODBOLT, WINNIPEG, McIntyre Block.

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WHOLESALE DOMESTIC AND IMPORTED

**DRY GOODS AND GENTS' FURNISHINGS.**

Now is the time for action!  
Goods are advancing.

We have made ample preparations for this, and can give our customers the benefit.

Our Spring Samples are now complete, and it will mean \$5 to you to see them before placing your orders. Our Mr. F. G. Crawford will call on you shortly, when the favor of your orders will oblige. G. H. R. & Co.

Way to get a practical education is by attending Winnipeg Business College and Shorthand Institute for a term. Circulars free. Address C. A. FLEMING & CO., Winnipeg, Man.

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Established 1880.

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**OATS**

**WHEAT** of the Various Grades.  
**FEED BARLEY.**

**WHEAT,**

**OATS AND BARLEY WANTED!**

Send Large Samples and Name Prices Wanted.

**THOMAS McLAUGHLIN,**  
Board of Trade, Toronto, Ont

**Montreal Grain and Produce Market.**

Flour.—Within the past two or three days the lowest price that ordinary brands can be laid down here on track is \$3.80 and choice brands \$3.85. Sales of broken lots ex warehouse have been made at \$3.40 to \$3.45. In strong bakers there is a wide range of prices, best brands selling at \$3.55 to \$3.65, and some very good Manitoba grades are being placed at \$3.40 to \$3.50, all the way down to \$3.25 for less desirable brands. We hear of several good-sized transactions in straight rollers at points west of Toronto for Quebec and the Lower Provinces account, said to be on the basis of \$2.95 to \$3 f.o.b.

Oatmeal.—A few lots of rolled oats are going forward from Ontario to Newfoundland via Boston and New York and also some shipments via Portland and Boston to Glasgow and Liverpool. In bags, granulated and rolled are quoted at \$1.50 to \$1.55, and standard at \$1.45 to \$1.50. Pot barley \$1.25 in bbls. and \$2 in bags, and split peas \$3.50.

Wheat.—The local market is quiet and prices are purely nominal in the absence of business. Wheat has declined another cent at points west of Toronto 61 to 65c f.o.b.

Bran etc.—Ontario bran is quoted at \$15 in car lots and Manitoba at \$14.50. Shorts are quiet at \$15.50 to \$16.50, and moullie \$19 to \$20.50 as to grade.

Oats.—Receipts are liberal and stocks are accumulating. Prices are easier and lower with sales of No. 2 white in car lots at 30c per 34 lbs. Sales of No. 1 Manitoba have also been made at 30c and we hear that quite a lot has been sold to arrive.

Barley.—A few more parcels of malting barley have been placed since our last at 53 to 55½c. Feed barley 40c to 41c.

Dressed Hogs.—The market, which steadied up from \$1.60 to 1.65 at the close of last week, to \$1.70 at the beginning of the present week, has again eased off on account of the mild weather of the past few days to \$1.65 for packers, and we quote \$1.65 to \$1.70.

Butter.—One factoryman, who was in the city with his November make, offered it to all the wholesale buyers here, and all he could get bid from wholesale men was 18c. Dealers are jobbing out choice fresh made creamery at 20 to 21c. The sale is reported of a lot of Kamouraska in Quebec at equal to 14c here. Roll butter is in fair supply, with sales of Western in wood at 15 to 15½c, a good sized lot selling at 14½c. Choice Morrisburg roll in baskets have brought 16c to 16½c.

Cheese.—Buyers are on the lookout for under-priced goods, sales of which have transpired at 8 to 8½c for cold storage goods.

Eggs.—Sales of limed have been made at 14 to 15c, a lot of 75 cases being placed at the latter figure.

Honey.—White honey scarce, and quoted at 9 to 9½c for 1895 extracted. Dark is plentiful at 7 to 8c as to quality. White comb honey is quoted at 13c to 14c, and dark at 10 to 12c.

Beans.—Choice hand picked pea beans \$1.00 to \$1.05 for round lots and \$1.10 to \$1.20 for smaller quantities. Common kinds are quoted at 85 to 90c in a jobbing way.

Baled Hay.—Market strong, with sales for local account at \$18.00 to 18.25 for No. 1, and at \$12.00 for No. 2. In the country, sales are reported at \$12 to 12.50 for No. 1 and \$11 to 11.50 for No. 2.

Dressed Meats.—Farmers' dressed beef 4 to 4½c for hind quarters, and at 2½ to 3c for forequarters. Mutton carcasses 4½ to 5c as to quality.

Dressed Poultry.—Owing to the sudden change from zero weather into the forties, combined with rain and slush, the poultry market is dull, and sales drag. Sales of tur-

keys have been made at 7 to 7½c, and the very top figure for fine birds fresh killed, dry picked and unfrozen is 7½. Nice young chickens have sold at 6 to 7c, but old fowls have sold at 5½. Ducks 7½ to 8c. Geese 6 to 5½c.

Hides.—Some dealers' stocks are accumulating on their hands, as receipts are pretty liberal. In the United States, however, a decidedly firmer feeling exists, and some heavy purchases have transpired in New York at 40 advance. We quote prices as follows:—Light hides, 5½c for No. 1, 4½c for No. 2, and 3½c for No. 3. Heavy steers 5½c to 6c; calfskins 6c; lambskins 65c.—Trade Bulletin, Dec. 20.

**Montreal Grocery Market.**

There has been no important change in the situation of the sugar market during the past week. The tone is firm, in sympathy with advices from primary markets, and values are maintained. Demand has been fair for this season, and a moderately active business is doing. Granulated sold in 250 barrel lots and upwards at 4½c; in 100 and 200 barrels, at 4 8-16c, and in smaller quantities at 4½c; yellows, at 3½ to 3¾c, and creams, at 3¾ to 3½c at the factory.

Demand for syrups slow, and the market quiet and steady, at 1¾ to 2¾c per lb., as to quality, at the factory.

In molasses, trade was dull, and values show no change. We quote Barbadoes at 36 to 37c, and Porto Rico at 35c. Round lots of the latter offering at 81c.

A fair trade continues to be done in rice for the season, and prices are steady. The following quotations are what millers sell at: Japan standard, \$1.25 to 1.40; crystal Japan, \$1.75 to 5.00; standard B., \$3.45; English style, \$3.80; Patna, \$1.25 to 5.00, and Carolina at \$6.50 to 7.00.

There was no change in prices to note. The demand is fair, and an average business doing. The following quotations are what jobbers can buy at only:—Ponang black pepper, 6 to 7½c; white pepper, 1 to 12½c; cloves, 7½ to 9c; cassia, 8½ to 9½c; nutmegs, 60 to 90c; and Jamaica ginger, 15½ to 18½c.

The demand for coffees has been slow, and business dull, at unchanged prices. We quote Maracaibo, 19 to 20c; Rio, 18 to 18½c; Java, 24 to 27c; Jamaica, 17½ to 18½c; and Mocha, 27½ to 30c.

Since our last, the tea market has been lifeless, there being little or no demand for any grades, and business on the whole is dull. Dealers state that buyers are pretty well supplied, and little improvement is anticipated until the holiday season is over. The offerings are not heavy, and in consequence, the general tone is steady.—Gazette, December 21.

**A Glimpse at the Past**

It is only by looking back and by comparing the present with the past that men can properly discover the degree of advancement that they are making or have made, and the many settlers who in 1879 crossed the Pembina to settle in the fine unoccupied townships of this district and in the vicinity of the beautiful lakes will at the close of 1895 look back through the lights and shadows, the winter storms and summer bloom of seventeen years with much interest and a degree of pleasure for nearly all have made as much progress as was expected, and will find that in the years which they have spent in Manitoba there has been even more enjoyment and prosperity than was experienced during the period that was passed elsewhere. The white tents and hastily erected shanties that were placed on the verdant prairie a long time ago, have been replaced by comfortable houses; the slow going ox teams have been superannated and fine and powerful horses now haul the plows, the binders and seeders in summer, and in the winter place their strong shoulders

to the collars to pull the heavy loads of grain to the towering elevators, while from the immense and overflowing store houses, train after train loaded to the utmost capacity, and pulled by strong breathing and sorely tried engines clouded in smoke, shake the trembling earth as they move eastward, carrying the rich fruits of the fertile fields of the district or the well fed cattle from the slick herds that all summer long have revelled in the abundant grass of the prairies.

Seventeen years ago there was little or nothing between the Rocky Mountains and the Pembina River but an unsettled country of unbroken prairie. Now as continuous lines of loaded trains pass at all hours of the day and night carrying produce from the many western towns and from the scores of elevators that gather grain from the fertile districts around, there is pleasing remembrance regarding the past, and the people of the Pilot Mound country have no cause to be otherwise than satisfied with the portion of the province where they have settled, the value of which they were the first to recognize.—Pilot Mound Sentinel.

**Outlook in the United States.**

Our exports this year were about \$250,000,000 less than our imports, and our European tourists left another \$150,000,000, chiefly in Europe. These facts, coupled with our loose laws, which permit the continued foreign raids upon our stock of gold, are sufficient to account for the heavy shipments of yellow metal across the Atlantic. The uncomfortable feature of the situation at Washington is the improbability of improvement for a good while to come. Practical men of business say they cannot remember a time when there were so few broad-minded, brainy and nationally trustworthy men in public offices as at present. Why is it? The men are in the country, but where are they? They are at the heads of banks, of great railroads, vast mercantile and manufacturing enterprises, where in late years there has seemed to be a greater demand, though no greater need than in places of public trust.—From the Drovers' Journal.

**British Grain Trade.**

The Mark Lane Express of Dec. 28, in its weekly review of the British grain trade, says:—English wheats have been 1s 6d dearer, the rise being chiefly due to the improved quality of the offerings. Foreign wheat has been steady, not being affected by the American crisis, and there has been no quotable advance in prices. Cargoes are quoted at 27s for California, 27s 3d for No 1 Manitoba. To-day, the prices of English wheat are in sellers' favor. Foreign wheat was dull and American a shade cheaper. American flour dropped 8d.

**Manitoba School Question.**

The reply of the Manitoba Government to the last communication received from the federal government on the school question was published on Thursday last. It stated plainly the final decision of the Manitoba government to reject the demand of the Dominion. It now remains with the people of Manitoba to accept or reject the decision of the provincial government. This question is now before the people and will be decided at the polls on January 19.

The shipments of frozen meat from Argentine during the past ten years have increased over 1,200 per cent in that length of time. The figures are as follows:—1885, 2,862 tons; 1886, 7,350 tons; 1887, 12,038 tons; 1888, 18,236 tons; 1889, 16,592 tons; 1890, 20,414 tons; 1891, 23,278 tons; 1892, 25,436 tons; 1893, 25,011 tons; 1894, 26,631 tons. The above equals for 1891 about 700,000 cattle of 800 pounds each,

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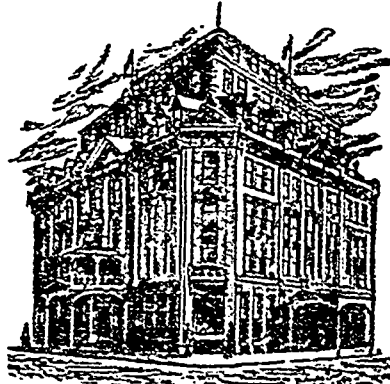
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THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

WINNIPEG, Saturday, Dec. 28, 1895.

Business has been of a thoroughly holiday character this week and all wholesale branches have been very dull and quite featureless, as is usually the case during the holiday season. There are very few features of interest to notice in any branch of wholesale trade. In the city retail trade business was of course rushing up to Christmas day, and the leading dry goods dealers and other retail houses report that they have experienced the largest holiday trade done here for many years. A larger trade was expected this year than during the two past years at least, owing to the generally improved commercial situation, and full expectations have been realized. Bank clearings at Winnipeg show a considerable falling off from recent previous weeks, as was expected for holiday week, but the increase as compared with the corresponding week last year is 2 1/2 per cent. The R. G. Dunn agency report 40 failures in Canada this week, compared with 41 in the corresponding week last year. Bradstreet's reports that failures in the United States this year number 13,103, being an increase of more than two per cent.

Bradstreet's says in regard to prices in the United States: "The price movement is more favorable than for a number of weeks, the quotation for coke having been advanced, as well as those for mohair, wheat, corn, oats, and sugar; while for leather, hides, lumber, coal, wood, coffee and print cloths quotations are unchanged. Fractional reactions are reported in cases of refined petroleum, cotton, pork, flour, iron and steel."

The financial excitement, caused by the war scare, has cooled down considerably and there has been some reaction in stocks. Enormous losses, however, were experienced in the few days since Cleveland's warlike message was made public, and an unsettled condition may be expected to prevail for some time. Telegrams from New York yesterday said "The impression had been general here that London prices after the holidays would respond to the improvement in this market. On the contrary the quotations from that centre showed declines for Americans extending to 17-8 per cent in Louisville and Nashville. The weakness was partly attributed to the unfavorable effect abroad of the passage of the new revenue bill."

The Canadian stocks, of course, suffered heavily with those of the United States on account of the war scare. In the London market, Dominion government issues dropped 2 and 4 1/2 points during the crisis, and the provincial issues dropped 1 1/2 and 1; Winnipeg bonds, 2 1/2; Canadian Pacifics, 9 1/2, the market realizing the exposure to attack in the Northwest; Grand Trunks dropped 2 1/2 and 6 1/2, and Canadian bank stocks and land shares have also fallen.

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

WINNIPEG, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, Dec. 28.

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

CEREALS.—National Food preparations in cartons: Densicated rolled oats, 2 doz., 2 lb pkgs, per case, \$2.90; densicated rolled wheat, 2 doz. 3 lb. pkgs per case, \$3.25; Densicated

wheat, 1 doz., 2 lb pkts., per case, \$2.75; Snowflake barley 2 doz., 2 lb pkgs., per case, \$2.90; Buckwheat flour, 1 doz., 5 lb pkgs per case \$2.75; Buckwheat flour 2 doz., 2 1/2 lb pkts., per case \$2.90; breakfast hominy, 1 doz., 8 lb pkts., per case, \$3.25; prepared pea flour 1 doz., per case, \$2.50; gluten flour, 1 doz. per case, \$3.50; rolled wheat, in bbls., 180 lbs, \$1.50.

CORDWOOD FUEL.—Prices hold firm. A large quantity of wood has been offering in the street by the load, by farmers, this week, at lower prices. We quote the following prices for car lots on track here: Tamarac \$1 per cord; pine \$3.50 per cord; spruce \$3.25; poplar \$2.25 to \$2.50 per cord, oak, \$3.75 to \$4; birch, \$1 to \$1.25. There is a little variation from these prices as to quality, poor quality being sometimes obtainable a little lower. Some are holding good tamarac at \$1.25.

COAL.—Winnipeg prices are the same, and we quote: Pennsylvania anthracite \$8.50 per ton, delivered to consumers; Souris lignite \$1.25 per ton, delivered to consumers, and \$3.85 at the yard here; Lethbridge bituminous \$6.50 to consumers; western anthracite, \$9.50 per ton to consumers.

DRY GOODS.—Christmas week, as usual, has been a quiet one in the wholesale branch. After the New Year sets in travellers will make a more vigorous push for the spring trade, but they have not been doing anything this week, retailers being absorbed with the holiday trade. City retail dry goods houses have done a big business this week and the dealers generally express satisfaction with the holiday trade.

DRUGS.—Following prices are for small parcels, and will be shaded considerably for full package orders: Alumina per pound, 3 1/2 to 4 1/2c; alcohol, \$1.75; bleaching powder, per pound; 6 to 8c; bluestone, 4 1/2 to 5c; blue vitrol, 5 to 8c; borax, 11 to 13c; bromide potash, 55 to 75c; camphor, 75 to 85c; camphor, ounces 80 to 90c; carbolic acid, 40 to 65c; castor oil, 11 to 15c; chloride potash, 28 to 35c; citric acid, 55 to 65c; coppers 3 1/2 to 4c, cocaine, per oz., \$7.50 to \$8.00; cream tartar, per pound, 28 to 35c; cloves, 20 to 25c; epsom salts, 3 1/2 to 4c; extract logwood, bulk, 14 to 18c; do., boxes, 18 to 20c; German quinine, 30 to 40c; glycerine, per pound, 20 to 25c; ginger, Jamaica, 25 to 40c; do., African, 20 to 25c; Howard's quinine, per ounce, 35 to 45c, iodine, \$5.50 to \$6.00; insect powder, 35 to 40c; morphia sul., \$1.90 to \$2.25, Opium, \$1.50 to \$5.00; oil, olive, \$1.25 to \$1.40; oil, U. S. salad, \$1.25 to 1.40; oil, lemon, super \$2.25 to 2.75; oil, peppermint, \$1.00 to \$1.50; oil, cod liver, \$2.25 to 2.75 per gallon; oxalic acid, 13 to 16c; potash iodide, \$1.25 to 4.50; paris green, 17 to 18c lb; saltpetre; 10 to 12c; sal rocnelle, 30 to 35c; sheliac, 45 to 50c; sulphur flowers, 3 1/2 to 5c; sulphur roll, per keg, 3 1/2 to 5c; soda bicarb, per keg of 112 pounds, \$3.75 to \$4.25; sal soda, \$2 to \$3; tartaric acid, per lb., 45 to 55c.

DRIED FRUITS AND NUTS.—Now nuts and fruits are now in the market. Prices are: Grenoble Walnuts, 16c; Tarragona almonds, 16c; princess paper shell almonds, 22c; Sicilly filberts, large, 12c, Brazil nuts, 15c; peanuts, roasted, 15c; peanuts greens, 13c. Ontario black walnuts, 8c; butternuts, 9c; hieory nuts, 10c per pound; figs, old, 14 oz. boxes, \$1 per dozen; figs, new, 9 lb. boxes, 14c; figs, superior, 35 lb. boxes, 19c; figs, fancy imperial, 55 lb. boxes, 22c per lb; dates, now Persian, 9c.

FLUID BEEF, ETC.—Following are prices of the goods put up by the Johnston Fluid Beef Company of Montreal:—Johnstons Fluid Beef—No. 1, 2-oz. tins, per dozen, \$2.70; No. 2 4oz., \$1.50; No. 3, 8oz., \$7.85; No. 4, 1 lb., \$12.83; No. 5, 2 lb., \$24.30. Staminial—2oz. bottles, per dozen, \$2.55; do, 4oz., \$5.10; do, 8 oz., \$7.65; do, 16oz., \$12.75. Fluid Beef

Cordial—20oz. bottles, \$10. Milk Granules—In cases of 4 dozen, \$5.10. Milk Granules with Cereals—In cases of 4 dozen, \$4.25

FISH.—The market has been bare of finnan haddies, owing to difficulties in getting supplies. Prices will likely be temporarily higher when small lots now on the way arrive. Oysters are lower, the price varying for different brands. Fresh fish are quoted: Cod 10c a lb.; haddock 10c lb; British Columbiasalmon 12 to 14c; British Columbia halibut, 12 1/2c; Lake Superior trout, 9c; whitefish, 6c; pickerel, 4c; sturgeon, 7c; finnan haddies, 10c; kippered goldeyes, 30c doz.; oysters. \$1.75 to \$1.90 for standards and \$2 to \$2.15 selects, per gallon, extra selects \$2.25 to \$2.85; oysters, in cans, selects, 55 and standards 50c per can; shell oysters, \$7.50 per barrel. Cured fish are quoted: Boneless codfish, 40lb boxes 7c, do crates 7 1/2c; boneless fish, 40lb boxes, 5c; smoked herrings, 19c box.

GREEN FRUITS.—California oranges are offering. Prices are: Lemons, New Messinas, 6.50 to \$7 box; Jamaica oranges \$7.50 per box; California oranges, \$5 to \$5.50 per box. bananas \$3 to \$4 per bunch as to size; apples, per barrel, \$3.75 to \$4, as to variety; Catawba grapes 75c per basket, large lots 65c per basket; Malaga grapes \$7.00 per keg; canberries \$12.50 per barrel; sweet potatoes \$5.50 per barrel; Spanish onions \$1.25 per crate; apple cider, 35c per gallon, in 30 gallon barrels; fresh comb honey, 22c per lb.

GROCERY SUNDRIES.—Carveth's condensed mince meat, \$3 per case of 3 doz. pkgs; Carveth's horseradish, 16 oz. bottles, \$2.50 per case of 2 dozen; Comb honey, 20 to 22c lb; extracted honey, in tins, 11c; Imperial cheese, 1 doz. large, \$10.80, do, 1 doz. medium, \$5.40, do, 2 doz. small, \$3.00; Sneider's Tomato catsup, pints, \$3.95 per dozen; do, half pints, \$2.25 per doz; Tomato soup, half pints, \$2.25 per dozen.

HARDWARE, PAINTS, ETC.—Trade is very quiet in these lines, and prices more or less nominal as follows:

TIN, lamb and 56 and 28 lb. ingots, per lb, 20 to 21c.

TIN PLATES.—Charcoal plates, I. C., 10 by 14, 12 by 12 and 14 by 20, per box, \$1.50 to \$1.75; I. X., same sizes, per box, \$5.75 to \$6; I. C., charcoal, 20 by 28, 112 sheets to box, \$3.50 to 9.00; I. X., per box, 20 by 28, 112 sheets to box, \$10.50 to 11.00.

TERNE PLATES.—I. C., 20 by 28, \$3.50 to 9.00.

IRON AND STEEL.—Bar iron, per 100 lbs. base price, \$2.50 to \$2.65; band iron, per 100 lbs., \$3.00 to 3.15; Swedish iron, per 100 lbs., \$3.25 to 6; sleigh shoe steel, \$3.25 to 3.50; best cast tool steel, per lb, 12 to 13c; Russian sheet, per lb, 12 to 13c.

SHEET IRON.—10 to 20 gauge, \$3.00; 22 to 24 and 26 gauge, \$3.25; 28 gauge, \$3.50.

CANADA PLATES.—Garth and Blaina, \$3.00 to 3.10.

GALVANIZED IRON.—Queon's Head, 22 to 24 gauge, per lb., 5c; 26 gauge, per lb., 5 1/2c; 28 gauge, per lb., 5 1/2c.

IRON PIPE.—50 to per 60 cent. off list.

CHAIN.—Best proof coil, 8-16 inch, per lb. 6 1/2 to 6 3/4c; 1/2 inch, per lb, 6 to 6 1/2c; 5-16 inch, per lb., 5 1/2 to 6c; 3/8 inch, per lb., 5 1/2 to 5 3/4c; 7-16 inch, per lb., 4 1/2 to 5c; 1/2 inch, per lb., 4 1/2 to 5c.

SHEET ZINC—In casks, 5 1/2 lb., broken lots, 6c.

LEAD.—Fig, per lb., 4 1/2c.

SOLDER.—Half and half (guar, per lb, 14 to 16c.

AMMUNITION.—Cartridges—Rim fire pistol, American, discount, 35 per cent.; rim fire cartridges, Dominion, 50 per cent.; rim fire military, American, 5 per cent. advance;

central fire pistol and rifle, American, 12 per cent.; central fire cartridge, Dominion, 30 per cent.; shot shells, 12 gauge, \$6 to 7.50; shot, Canadian, soft, 5½c, shot, Canadian, chilled, 6c.

AXES.—Per box, \$6.50 to 15.50.

WIRE.—Galvanized barb wire, plain twisted wire and staples, \$3.50 per 100 lbs.

ROPE.—Sisal, per lb., 8 to 8½c base, manilla, per lb., 11 to 11½c base; cotton, ¼ to ½ inch at 1 larger, 16c lb.

NAILS.—Cut, per keg, base price, \$2.85 to \$3; common steel wire nails, 5 to 6 inch, \$3.50 per keg, 8 to 4 inch \$3.80 keg; 2½ inch, \$4.09 keg; 2 inch, \$1.88 keg.

HORSE NAILS.—Pointed and finished, oval heads. List prices as follows: No. 5, \$7.50 box; No. 6, \$6.75 box; No. 7, \$6 box; No. 8, \$5.75 box; No. 9, 10 and 11, \$5.50 box. Discount off above list prices, 50 to 50 and 10 per cent.

HORSE SHOES.—Per keg, \$1.50 to \$1.75; snow pattern horse shoes, \$1.75 to \$5.

WHITE LEADS.—Pure ground in oil, association guarantee, 5.75 per 100-lb; white lead, assorted 1 to 5-lb. tins, per lb., 9c.

PREPARED PAINTS.—Pure liquid colors, per gallon, \$1.15 to \$1.25.

DRY COLORS.—White lead, per lb., 8c; red lead, 5½c; yellow ocre, 2½c; golden ocre, 4c; Venetian, red, French, 8½c; Venetian, red, English, 8½c; English purple oxides, 4½c; American oxides, per lb., 3 to 4c. These prices for dry colors are for broken lots. ½ per lb. less when full kegs or barrels are taken. American vermilion, kegs, 15c, English vermilion, in 30-lb. bags, 90c per lb., less than bags, per lb., \$1; Paris green, 18 to 20c.

VARNISHES.—No. 1 furniture, per gal., \$1; extra furniture, \$1.35, pale oak, \$1.50, elastic oak, \$1.75, No. 1 carriage, \$2; hard oil finish, \$2, brown Japan, \$1; goldsize Japan, \$1.50, No. 1, orange shellac, \$2; pure orange shellac, \$2.50. These prices are for less than barrels, and include cost of cans.

SUNDRIES.—Glue, S.S., in sheets, per lb., 12½ to 15c; glue, white, for kalsomining, 17 to 18c. Stove gasoline, per case, \$1.00; benzine, per case, \$1.00; benzine and gasoline, per gallon, 50c. Axle grease, Imperial per case, \$2.50; Fraser's axle grease, per case, \$3.75; diamond, do, \$2.25 per case. Coal tar, per barrel, \$8; Portland cement, per barrel, \$1.00; plaster, per barrel, \$3.00; plasterer's hair, 90c. per bale; putty, per lb., 2½c. for less than barrels, barrels, per lb., 2½c.

WINDOW GLASS.—1st break is quoted at \$1.65 per box of 50 feet.

LINSEED OIL.—Raw, per gal., 63c; boiled, per gal., 66c in barrels.

TURPENTINE.—Pure spirits, in barrels, per gallon, 60c; less than barrels, per gallon, 65c.

OILS.—Range about as follows: Black oils, 25 to 30c per gallon, clear machine oils, 38 to 40c; cylinder oil, 50 to 75c, as to quality; castor oil, 10c per lb.; lard oil, 70c per gal., tanner's or harness oil, 65c; neatfoot oil, \$1.00; steam refined seal oil, 55c; pure winter bleached sperm oil, \$2 per gallon.

REFINED PETROLEUM.—There is no change in burning oils. Advances from the east report Canadian oils firm at the recent ½c advance, but on the other hand United States oils have declined ½ to 1c. Prices here are as follows: Silver star, 24½c; crescent, 27½c; oleophene, 29½c in barrels. In car lots 2c per gallon discount is allowed off prices in barrels. United States oils in barrels are quoted at 3½c for cocene and 30c for sunlight.

RAW FURS.—The war scare has caused some alarm in the trade as it is feared prices would decline heavily should hostilities re-

sult. The following quotations give the range of prices here. The prices cover the range from small to large skins, size color and condition being considered though skins are sometimes offered which are not worth the minimum quotations, on account of being killed out of season.

Badger	.....	\$0 15 to \$0 50
Bear, black or brown	.....	5 00 to 26 00
Bear, yearlings	.....	2 00 to 8 00
Bear, grizzly	.....	5 00 to 25 00
Beaver, large	.....	5 50 to 7 50
" medium	.....	3 00 to 4 50
" small	.....	1 50 to 2 50
" cubs	.....	25 to 60
" castors, per lb	.....	2 50 to 5 50
Fisher	.....	3 00 to 8 00
Fox, cross	.....	2 00 to 15 00
" kitt	.....	10 to 40
" red	.....	25 to 1 50
" silver	.....	20 00 to 75 00
Lynx, large	.....	1 50 to 2 50
" medium	.....	1 00 to 2 00
" small	.....	75 to 1 25
Marten dark	.....	1 00 to 4 50
" Pale or Brown	.....	1 00 to 3 50
" Light pale,	.....	75 to 1 75
Mink	.....	50 to 1 50
Musquash, winter	.....	03 to 07
Otter	.....	2 00 to 9 00
Skunk	.....	25 to 80
Wolf, timber	.....	1 00 to 2 75
" prairie	.....	25 to 75
Wolverine	.....	1 00 to 4 00

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

WHEAT.—Holiday week is usually a dead one in the grain trade, and nothing eventful has occurred this week. United States markets took a holiday on Tuesday as well as on Christmas day. Exports of wheat, flour included as wheat, from both coasts of the United States this week amount to 3,457,000 bushels, as compared with 2,056,000 bushels last week; 1,814,000 bushels in the corresponding week one year ago; 2,036,000 bushels two years ago; 2,917,000 bushels three years ago; and 3,106,000 bushels four years ago. This week's foreign shipments of wheat, flour included, are the largest since the third week of January last.

Locally the situation is about the same. Prices in Manitoba country markets have held at about the decline reported a week ago. Prices to farmers in Manitoba country markets have ranged on the basis of about \$7 to 40c for No. 1 hard, according to freight rates or local conditions at the different markets. There has been very little business in round lot transactions in this market. Some business has been done in May wheat at between 59 and 60c per bushel for No. 1 hard, Fort William delivery, and we quote 59 to 59½c for May delivery, December 54 to 54½c for No. 1 hard, Fort William. A few cars are going through all rail to North Bay, for the eastern Canada trade. The movement from Manitoba country points to Fort William to go into store keeps up large, as compared with previous years, and now that no export shipments are being made, stocks at Fort William and interior points are increasing considerably each week.

FLOUR.—There is no change here this week. Sales by millers here are now made at \$1.70 to \$1.75 for patents and \$1.50 to \$1.55 for strong bakers per sack of 98lbs. delivered to city retail dealers; second bakers, \$1.30 to \$1.35; xxx, \$1.10 to \$1.15 delivered.

MILLSTUFFS.—City mills are selling at \$9 per ton for bran and \$11 for shorts, delivered in the city. Small lots \$1 per ton more. Offerings are larger and there would be more chance of obtaining cuts on large orders.

OATS.—Prices are easier in the country here, on account of the continued downward tendency in Eastern Canada markets. Dealers in the city were paying 15 to 16c for

farmers' loads. There were some car lots moving east. In Manitoba country markets car lots are worth from 12 to 18c for No. 2 mixed according to freights, for shipment east, and a few cars are going to Sudbury, North Bay and Montreal, but these prices are too low to cause much movement, though it is all that can be paid on the basis of present values east.

BARLEY.—Farmers' loads here are taken at 17 to 18c per bushel of 48 pounds, but there is very little demand. A few cars are being bought in the country at 14 to 16c according to freight rates, for feed grades, for shipment east, and malting samples at 18 to 20c. Really choice malting would bring up to 26c for car lots, for shipment east.

WHEAT.—Local farmers' market.—Farmers' loads are being taken at the mills here at 40 to 43c per bushel of 60 pounds for milling, as to quality. Smutty wheat for feed 30 to 35c per bushel.

GROUND FEED.—Prices range from \$11 to \$18 per ton, as to quality, the top price for rolled oat feed, and the lowest price for mixed mill feed.

OATMEAL.—Rolled oatmeal is selling at about \$1.25 per sack of 80 pounds in broken lots to retail dealers.

OIL CAKE.—Ground oil cake meal is quoted at \$20 per ton in sacks.

FLAXSEED.—Flaxseed at Chicago yesterday was quoted at 9½c for cash seed. Prices to farmers in Manitoba country markets are about 60c per bushel.

BUTTER.—There is no change in butter, which is quiet. We quote fair to choice round lots of dairy butter at 12 to 15c and held goods at 8 to 10c, as to quality. Dealers are selling at 15 to 17c for dairy tubs and 15 to 16c for rolls in small lots.

CHEESE.—Cheese is jobbing here in small lots at 8½ to 9c.

EGGS.—Dealers are paying 21c per doz. for receipts of fresh eggs. Lined are being offered at 18c, but scarce.

LARD.—Lard is again easier. Prices are:—Pure, \$1.80 for 20 pound pails, and \$1.50 for 50 lb pails; pure leaf lard in 3, 5 and 10 pound tins, quoted at \$6.50 per case of 60 pounds, tierces 8½c pound.

CURED MEATS.—Smoked meats are quoted: Hams, assorted sizes, 11c; breakfast bacon, bollics, 11½; do., backs, 10½c; picnic hams, 8c; short spiced rolls, 7½c long rolls, 7½c; shoulders, 6½c; smoked long clear, 9c; smoked jowls, 5½c. Dry salt meats are quoted: Long clear bacon, 7½c per lb; shoulders, 5½c; backs, 8½c; barrel pork, heavy mess \$13.00; clear mess \$13.00; short cut, \$16.00; rolled shoulders, \$14 per barrel, pork sundries; fresh sausage, 7c; bologna sausage, 7c; German sausage, 7c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 10c per package; pickled hocks, 2½c; pickled tongues, 5c; sausage casings, 30c lb.

POULTRY.—Prices have been easier, on account of cutting in prices by retail dealers who obtained considerable supplies of Eastern turkeys. We quote Ontario turkeys jobbing at about 11c, and geese at 9 to 9½c. Small lots are held higher. For native poultry, dealers are paying 9 to 10c for turkeys, 8 to 9c for geese and ducks, and 6 to 7c for chickens, according to quality.

DRESSER MEATS.—Business is quiet since Christmas, and there is very little selling of any kind. Hogs are holding up well and offerings have been light all this season. The ruling price this week is still 5c per lb. Offerings of country beef have also been light all this season. We quote country frozen beef at 3 to 4c as to quality, and good frozen beef has brought 4½c. The bulk sells at about 4c per lb by the side or carcass. Mutton is firmer, stocks having been well reduced, and we quote 6 to 6½c for choice mutton, and about 5½c for country mutton. City butchers

are taking more fresh killed and less frozen beef than in former years. Fresh unfrozen beef, city dressed, brings 5c for good, up to 7c for very choice.

GAME.—Rabbits, 8c each; jack rabbits, 50c each.

VEGETABLES.—Following are prices on the street market: Potatoes, 20c per bushel, cabbage 25 to 40c per dozen, as to size; celery 25 to 40c per dozen bunches; onions 40 to 50c per bushel, turnips 10 to 15c per bushel; parsnips, 40 to 50c bushel; carrots 25c; beets 25c bushel.

HIDES.—Prices are about the same. The usual price for country frozen hides is 4c. We quote prices here as follows: Green frozen hides, 4 to 4c, 5 lbs tare off. We quote: Calf, 8 to 15lb skins, 5 to 6c per lb; deacons, 15 to 20c each; kips, 4 to 5c; sheep and lambskins recent kill, 40 to 50c. Tallow, 4 to 5c rendered and 2 to 3c rough.

WOOL.—Manitoba fleece, nominal 10 to 12c per lb.

SENECA ROOT.—Nominal at 18 to 20c per lb.

HAY.—Baled prairie is quoted at about \$5.50 to \$6 on cars here. Loose hay on the street market, \$1.50 to \$5 per ton.

LIVE STOCK.—There has been next to nothing doing in live stock this week, butchers being heavily stocked up last week for the Christmas market. We quote prices nominal for cattle at 2 1/2 to 3 1/2c as to quality, for fair to good butchers. Sheep and lambs about 8c of cars here. Hogs are steady at 3 1/2c off cars herefor car lots of average packers, and a few cars have been received.

Manitoba Wheat Movement.

Receipts of wheat at Fort William from September 1, the beginning of the crop year, to December 14, amount to 10,508,672 bushels, as compared with 8,613,430 bushels for the same period last year. Shipments east of Fort William for export or to Eastern Canada from September 1 to December 14, amount to 8,625,042 bushels, as compared with 9,002,720 bushels for the corresponding period of last year. Stocks at Fort William on December 14 were 2,073,932 bushels compared with 591,497 bushels a year ago, and 1,353,614 bushels two years ago. Receipts for the week ended December 14 at Fort William were 411,652 bushels and shipments from that point were 5,091. For the corresponding week last year receipts were 73,030 bushels and shipments 1,323.

Where Spools Come From

Practically all the wood used in making spools for thread in this country and Great Britain is cut in Maine forests, but so great is the amount of lumber required each year for the making of these seemingly insignificant articles that Maine will not be able to supply the raw material much longer. The spools are made of birch wood, and the birch of the Maine forests is the best for the purpose. More than 2,000,000 feet of lumber is shipped to Scotland every year for the use of the great thread manufacturers there, and almost as much is shipped to domestic manufacturers. The business began in Maine 25 years ago, and land that was cut over at that time is now well covered with young trees, but not for 25 years more will this timber be fit to cut. Birch timber is becoming scarce, and it will not be many years before makers will have to look elsewhere than in Maine for their spool wood. While it takes 50 years for birch forests to renew themselves, the crop is considered a profitable one.—New York Sun.

Chicago Board of Trade Prices.

The prices below are board of trade quotations for Chicago No. 2 wheat, No. 2 oats and No. 2 corn, per bushel. Pork is quoted per barrel and lard and short ribs per 100 pounds.

Wheat was firmer on Monday, influenced by foreign buying and improved selling in financial circles. Closing prices were 1/2 to 3/4 higher than Saturday. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.	May.
Wheat.....	51 1/2	55	58 1/2
Corn.....	25 1/2	25 3/4	28
Oats.....	16 1/2	—	19
Mess Pork..	7 65	8 52 1/2	8 87 1/2
Lard.....	5 20	5 27 1/2	5 45 1/2
Short Ribs..	4 22 1/2	4 42 1/2	4 47 1/2

There was no meeting of the Chicago board on Tuesday, the board having adjourned from Monday until Thursday, after Christmas.

On Thursday wheat opened easier and about 1/2c lower, recovered on large exports, but again declined. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.	May.
Wheat.....	51 1/2	51 1/2	57 1/2
Corn.....	25 1/2	25 3/4	27 3/4
Oats.....	16 1/2	—	18 3/4
Mess Pork..	7 60	8 50	8 85
Lard.....	5 25	5 30	5 50
Short Ribs..	4 25	4 25	4 47 1/2

On Friday wheat held fairly firm, without much change in prices. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.	May.
Wheat.....	51 1/2	51 1/2	57 1/2
Corn.....	25 1/2	25 3/4	27 3/4
Oats.....	17	—	18 3/4
Mess Pork..	7 60	8 45	8 82 1/2
Lard.....	5 17 1/2	5 25	5 47 1/2
Short Ribs..	4 22 1/2	4 22 1/2	4 47 1/2

Prices were stronger on Saturday, Dec. 28. May opening at 57 1/2c and advanced to 58 3/4c. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.	May.
Wheat.....	55 1/2	—	58 3/4
Corn.....	25 1/2	—	28
Oats.....	16 3/4	—	18 3/4
Mess Pork..	—	8 52 1/2	8 87 1/2
Lard.....	—	—	—
Short Ribs..	—	—	—
Flax Seed..	—	—	—

A week ago December wheat closed at 54 1/2c. A year ago December wheat closed 53 3/4c.

Duluth Wheat Market.

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

Monday—Nov.—Dec.	51c.	May, 5 1/2c.
Tuesday—Nov.—Dec.	—	—
Wednesday—Nov.—Dec.	—	—
Thursday—Nov.—Dec.	51c.	May, 55 1/2c.
Friday—Nov.—Dec.	51c.	May, 55 1/2c.
Saturday—Nov.—Dec.	52 1/2c.	May, 56 1/2c.

A week ago to-day, (Saturday) prices closed at 51 1/2c for December. A year ago December delivery closed at 59 1/2c. Two years ago December closed at 59 1/2c. No. 1 hard was quoted at about 1c over No. 1 northern, No. 2 northern, 2 to 3c lower than No. 1 northern for cash wheat.

New York Wheat.

On Saturday, Dec. 28, May delivery closed at 65 1/2c. A week ago wheat closed at 64 1/2c for May.

Minneapolis Wheat.

No. 1 Northern wheat closed on Saturday at 54 1/2c for May delivery. A week ago May wheat closed at 53 3/4c.

The Bank of England.

The London Social Economist says: "The Bank of England is not only the banker of the government, but is also the banker's bank. All other banks keep their bullion reserves at

the Bank of England, and this is one fact that gives this establishment its special importance as the center of England's monetary system. This reserve is seldom allowed to fall below £10,000,000. The number of persons receiving dividends is nearly 281,000. Nearly £25,000,000 (\$121,000,000) are annually paid out by the bank as dividends on stock annuities reaching the enormous sum of £765,000,000, or, say, \$3,873,000,000. During 1892 the stock of the bank sold as high as \$914 per share, and as low as \$325. The highest dividends ever paid was in 1697. 27 1/2 per cent, and the lowest during the years 1753-63, 4 1/2 per cent. For twenty years the dividends have averaged about 10 per cent. The bank started with a capital, as stated, of £1,200,000. In two years this was increased to £2,201,000. In 1710 it was again increased to £5,560,000. On June 29, 1816, it was increased to its present sum of £14,558,000, equal to about \$72,700,000. No reports of the bank are made beyond the regular weekly statement."

Labrador is not Barren.

Many suppose the interior of Labrador to be a barren country, little less desolate than the Arctic regions, and entirely unfit for habitation. But Mr. Low, of the Canadian Geological Survey, who recently returned from a prolonged exploration through that region, proved this prevalent idea to be erroneous. Flora, almost identical with that of northern Quebec, is abundant. Trees of great size cover the country for miles in almost unbroken and nearly impenetrable forests. The rivers and lakes are filled with lake trout, whitefish, land-locked salmon and other valuable food fishes. But what will excite greater interest than anything else is Mr. Low's discovery of rare deposits of fine ore associated with jasper.

Silver.

Both the markets for bar silver and that for silver securities have been strong this week, in contrast to the tendencies in other directions. In London the quotations rose from 90 3-16d per ounce to 90 3/4d., and New York followed with an advance from 66 1/2c to 66 3/4c. Silver prices on December 20, were: London, 90 9-16d., New York, 66 3/4c.

The News Printing and Publishing company, of Carberry, Man., have sold out to John Riddington, of Brandon, who assumes control on January 1st.

A terrific wind storm passed over Lethbridge, Alberta, on Thursday night. Macdonald's store was unroofed; also several smaller buildings, fences prostrated and telephone and electric light wires generally demoralized.

The Toronto Mail says: "The Samson, Kennedy & Co. stock is to be sold en bloc. It is stated that a new wholesale house will be opened. One Eastern firm is talking of opening a house here, and two Western firms are making inquiries with a view to moving headquarters to this city."

The annual social event of the Northwest Commercial Travellers' Association came off very pleasantly at the Manitoba Hotel, Winnipeg, on Thursday evening last, and was largely attended. The affair took the form of a concert, supper and ball.

The Canadian Pacific has issued a circular stating that cars containing grain from Manitoba, which remain at North Bay beyond twenty-four hours waiting furtherance orders will be charged demurrage at the rate of \$2 per car per day, and also that the company reserves the right to refuse shipment consigned to North Bay for orders from any shipper who persistently delays cars at that point.

## British Columbia Business Review.

Vancouver, Dec. 28 1895.

Another indication of the improved condition of trade in British Columbia is the large amount of holiday shopping which is being done in the cities. From personal enquiry among the merchants, it is ascertained that the Christmas trade is fully 100 per cent greater than last year. Wholesalers report business brisk, and prophesy that the severe "post holiday" re-action experienced in other years will scarcely be noticed this year, as the holiday trade is practically the commencement of better times on the Canadian Pacific Coast. The C.P.R. report that local freight traffic has very largely increased on last year. There is also a healthy increase in local passenger business. The receipts in the telegraph service also shows good increase in legitimate C.P.R. business, though outside business has fallen off, owing to new line between Chicago and San Francisco. There are indications on every hand that American syndicates are buying up all promising mining properties only prospected, with a view of holding them until the anticipated boom strikes the coast.

## British Columbia Markets.

(BY WIRE TO THE COMMERCIAL.)

Vancouver, Dec. 28, 1895.

Butter has taken a weak turn. Creamery is off 2c from the top price and lower prices are expected next week. Dressed beef has advanced ½c to 7c per pound.

Butter.—Dairy butter, 20 to 22c; creamery 27c; Manitoba cheese 10 to 11c per lb.

Cured Meats.—Hams 12½c; breakfast bacon 13c; backs 12c; long, clear 9c; short rolls 9½c; smoked sides 10½c. Lard is held at the following figures: Tins 10½c per pound; in; ails and tubs 10c. Mess pork \$16; short cut \$18.

Fish.—Prices are. Flounders 3c; smelt 5c; sea bass 4c; black cod 6c; rock cod 4c; red cod 4c; tommy cod 4c; herring 4c; salmon 9c; halibut 7c; whiting 6c; soles 6c; crabs 60c dozen; smoked halibut 10c; bloaters 10c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c.

Game.—Mallards, 50c; pintails 40c; widgins, 35c; venison, 5c.

Vegetables.—Potatoes new, \$8 to \$10 per ton; onions silver skins, 1½c; cabbage, 1½c; carrots, turnips and beets, ½ to 1c a lb.; sweet potatoes, \$2.50 per 100 lbs.

Eggs.—Fresh, local, 35c; Eastern 22c per dozen.

Fruits.—California seedling oranges \$8.50, navels, \$1.50; native apples \$1.00; California lemons, \$1.00 to \$1.50; California apples, \$1.20 to \$1.30; Jap oranges 50c.

Evaporated Fruits.—Apricots 11c per lb; peaches 7½c; plums 7c; prunes, French, 4c; loose Muscatel raisins 4c; London layer raisins \$1.65 box.

Nuts.—Almonds, 13c; filberts, 12½c; peanuts, 10c; Brazil, 12½c; walnuts, 10 to 16c lb.

Flour.—Manitoba patent, per bbl., \$4.40; strong bakers, \$4.10, Oregon, \$3.80; Oak Lake patent \$4.20, do strong bakers \$4.00.

Meal.—National mills rolled oats, 90 lb sacks, \$3.00; 45 pound sacks, \$3.10; 22½ pound sacks, \$3.30; 10.7 sacks, \$2.60. Oatmeal, 10-10's, \$3.00, 2-50's, \$2.75. Off grades, 90 lbs, \$2.70; 2-45's, \$2.80.

Grain.—Washington State wheat \$24.50 per ton f. o. b. Vancouver, duty paid. Oats 16.00 per ton.

Ground Feed.—National mills chcp, \$20 to \$22 per ton; ground barley, \$22 ton; shorts, \$18.50 ton; bran \$16.50; oil cake meal, \$26 ton. F. O. B. Vancouver, including duty paid on import stuff.

Hay.—Nominal at \$9 per ton.

Dressed Meats.—Beef, 7c; mutton, 7½c to 8c; pork, 6 to 7c; veal, 7 to 9c per lb. Live Stock.—Calves, 5 to 7c; steers, 8 to 3½ lb; cows 2½ to 3c; sheep, \$3.25 to \$3.50; hogs, 4½ to 5½c; lamb, per head \$3.00 to \$3.50.

Poultry.—Chickens, \$4 to \$6 per dozen.

Sugars.—Powdered and icing, 6c; Paris lump, 5½c; granulated, 4½c; extra C, 4c; fancy yellows 3½c, yellow 3½c per lb.

Syrups.—30 gallon barrels, 1½c per pound; 10 gallon kegs, 2c; 5 gallon kegs, \$1.25 each; 1 gallon tins, \$3.75 per case of 10; ½ gallon tins, \$1.50 per case of 20.

Teas.—Congo: Fair, 11½c; good, 18c; choice, 26c. Ceylons: Fair, 25c; good, 30c; choice, 35c per lb.

## British Columbia Business Notes

Wm. McNeill, hotel, Colwood, is burned out; insurance \$1,000.

Negotiation for the smelter at Vancouver is about completed.

Information has been received that the steamer Islander, running between Vancouver and Victoria is ashore in Plumpers Pass.

The smelter at Trail is approaching completion. There was some delay on account of lack of capital but the matter has now been arranged.

The halibut fishing is not as brisk as usual owing to heavy weather. The steamer Coquitlam brought in from the north 38,000 pounds for shipments east.

A number of Kamloops citizens are organizing themselves into a board of trade. Their ulterior motive being to redress alleged wrongs inflicted in the business community. They claim that Kamloops is discriminated against in the matter of freight in favor of Vancouver, and that it is an injustice to business that the C. P. R. should sell goods in Kamloops out of their store car.

Vancouver was visited by a bad fire on December 24. The kilns, machinery and blower, etc., of Spicers shingle factory, kiln and machinery of Cassidy & Co's mills were destroyed. The total loss is estimated at \$35,000. A high wind was blowing at the time, and but for the heroic efforts of the firemen the entire Cassidy and Spicer properties would have been destroyed, besides the B. C. Jute works and numerous private dwellings. They saved \$75,000 worth of property. Spicer's loss will be \$15,000; insurance, \$7,200, divided as follows: London and Canadian, \$2,000, Phoenix, London, \$1,850; Phoenix of Brooklyn, \$3,500. Cassidy & Co's loss will be about \$20,000; insurance, \$13,500, as follows: Queens, \$3,500; North American, \$1,125; London and Canadian, \$2,500; Manchester, \$2,500; Union, \$1,500; Phoenix of London, \$2,875. The fire originated by the explosion of a lamp in the engine room of the Cassidy mill, the blaze igniting the oil and saturated floor. A gale blowing at the time did the rest.

## Coal in British Columbia.

Our British Columbia representative writes: "There are immense coal deposits in the Crow's Nest Pass, 60 miles from Fort Steele B. C. The Canadian Pacific Railway will go through Crow's Nest Pass when it makes direct connection with the great Kootenay mining country. Other companies have attempted to build a railway through the Pass but failed. On account of these mines not having been worked Canada is unnecessarily sending a large amount of money to the States. Prof. Hollman, the Canadian government surveyor says that the coal found in the Crow's Nest Pass is equal to the best coal of the same kind in Pennsylvania. The area of the coal field exceeds 250,000 acres. The lowest known seam is 80 feet in thickness and anthracite in character; the next

seam is 100 feet above this 80 feet wide and bituminous in character; then at different distances one above the other are seams measuring 3, 7, 15, 80, 3, 5, 7, 9 feet in thickness, some bituminous, some anthracite and some a very fine quality of cannel coal. We have yet only a faint idea of the fabulous wealth of British Columbia, and the surface which hides this great wealth has scarcely been scratched.

## Toronto Grain and Produce Market.

Wheat.—Cars of white sold on the Northern at 65c to 66c. Red wheat is quoted West at 63c to 64c. Cars of No. 1 hard are quoted Toronto and west at 71c and No. 1 northern at 70½c. No. 1 hard is quoted at 72c and No. 1 northern at 71c grinding in transit. No. 1 hard is nominal at 67½c and No. 1 northern at 65c on track Midland elevator.

Flour.—Cars of Ontario patents sold north and west freights at \$3.10. Cars of straight roller are quoted Toronto freights at \$3. Manitoba flour is in good demand and steady. Local millers quote car lots of old wheat flour at \$4 for patents and \$3.60 for strong bakers' and new at 20c less, bags included.

Millfeed.—The city mills are selling ton lots at \$13 for shorts and \$12 for bran.

Barley.—No. 1 is quoted at 44c to 45c, No. 1 extra at 48c and No. 2 at 40c east.

Oats.—The offerings are liberal, the demand is slow and the market is easy at 21½c for mixed and 22½c for white at points west.

Butter.—Prices are steady at 14c to 15½c for large rolls, 15c to 16c for dairy tubs of good quality and 8c to 11c for medium tubs. Creamery is easy but unchanged, at 21c to 22c for rolls and 21c for tubs.

Eggs.—Lined sell at 14 to 14½c, held fresh at 15 to 17c, cold storage at 17c and late gathered at 17 to 17½c. Strictly new laid are nominal at 21 to 22c.

Poultry.—Prices are: 6½ to 8c for turkeys; 5½ to 6½c for geese; 40 to 70c for ducks; and 25 to 40c for chickens.

Baled Hay.—Car lots of No. 1 sell at \$14 to \$14.50, and No. 2 at \$13 to \$13.50.

Dressed Hogs.—Packers here are nearly all overstocked and are doing little buying. Prices \$1.40 to \$1.50 per 100 pounds.

Hides.—Green here are quoted at 5c and cars of cured at 5½ to 6c; sheepskins 5c higher at 9c; calfskins, No. 1, 6c.—Globe, Dec. 24.

## The Live Stock Trade.

At Liverpool on Dec. 23, cattle were ½c lower, the best States cattle being quoted at 11½c.

At Montreal on Dec. 23, owing to the continued mild weather, and the supply of cattle being far in excess of requirements, prices were ½c lower. A large number of the cattle were left over. A few sales of really good stock were made at 8½c to 9½c, some choice fat heaves were held at higher figures, but not realized. Some common stock changed hands at 2 to 2½c, and inferior at 1½c to 2c per lb. There was some demand for sheep for export, and a few of the best were picked up at 2½ to 3c, and lambs sold at 3c to 3½c per pound.

At Toronto on Tuesday cattle were very dull, and the market is not expected to improve for a couple of weeks. Good butchers' cattle were offered as low as 2c and not taken. Hogs are steady with sales of best at \$3.60 per cwt.; \$3.50 for thick fat, and \$3.40 for light.

At Chicago on Friday, there was a good demand for hogs and the offerings were disposed of at an advance of about 5c, prime butcher's touching \$3.65, common to choice droves at \$3.40 to \$3.65. Receipts for the week light.

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Wheat Stocks.

The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, for the week ended Dec. 21, 1895, shows an increase of 2,561,000 bushels, against an increase of 809,000 for the corresponding week last year and a decrease of 104,000 bushels the corresponding week two years ago, and an increase of 1,514,000 bushels three years ago.

The following table shows the total visible supply of wheat on the dates named for four years, as compiled by the Chicago board of trade and includes stocks at most important points of accumulation in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains. There are some important points not covered by this statement:

	1895.	1894.	1893.	1892.
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.
Jan. 2...	89,681,000	80,223,000	81,238,000	45,907,000
Feb. 5...	83,378,000	79,863,000	81,391,000	43,161,000
Mar. 4...	78,765,000	75,569,000	79,088,000	41,658,000
April 1...	74,308,000	71,468,000	77,051,000	41,038,000
" 15	72,703,000	70,702,000	77,291,000	41,177,000
" 22	70,187,000	69,217,000	70,096,000	42,055,000
" 29	68,626,000	68,425,000	74,869,000	39,149,000
May 6...	65,778,000	66,583,000	75,027,000	37,930,000
" 13	62,186,000	65,188,000	73,689,000	36,100,000
" 20	60,023,000	63,610,000	72,682,000	35,100,000
" 27	58,481,000	62,044,000	71,392,000	30,937,000
June 3...	54,244,000	61,329,000	70,159,000	29,622,000
" 10	52,229,000	59,394,000	71,080,000	27,910,000
" 17	49,739,000	58,211,000	63,662,000	20,950,000
" 24	47,717,000	57,005,000	60,376,000	21,006,000
July 1...	46,225,000	55,872,000	63,031,000	24,561,000
" 8	41,61,000	54,637,000	62,318,000	24,202,000
" 15	43,230,000	51,114,000	61,819,000	23,130,000
" 22	41,237,000	53,154,000	59,828,000	21,439,000
" 29	40,487,000	53,771,000	58,901,000	23,069,000
Aug. 5...	39,233,000	57,144,000	59,310,000	23,901,000
" 12	38,517,000	57,01,000	59,124,000	26,079,000
" 19	37,839,000	52,321,000	58,866,000	23,213,000
" 26	36,892,000	53,900,000	57,812,000	31,776,000
Sept. 2...	31,038,000	51,771,000	57,210,000	31,950,000
" 9	35,138,000	56,949,000	56,881,000	31,369,000
" 16	36,754,000	56,168,000	56,140,000	33,769,000
" 23	33,097,000	56,214,000	57,331,000	44,411,000
" 30	39,335,000	70,159,000	58,633,000	41,957,000
Oct. 7...	40,738,000	71,413,000	60,528,000	49,901,000
" 14	41,832,000	73,614,000	63,273,000	51,258,000
" 21	44,431,000	75,074,000	63,139,000	55,040,000
" 28	46,190,000	78,030,000	66,978,000	59,402,000
Nov. 4...	46,480,000	78,193,000	69,327,000	61,631,000
" 11	51,940,000	80,017,000	71,390,000	64,717,000
" 18	56,938,000	81,240,000	74,032,000	67,303,000
" 25	60,316,000	82,302,000	76,763,000	69,538,000
Dec. 2...	62,221,000	83,961,000	77,283,000	70,765,000
" 9	63,003,000	81,179,000	78,091,000	72,680,000
" 16	61,736,000	81,993,000	78,783,000	75,570,000
" 23	66,834,000	83,192,000	80,128,000	78,310,000
" 30	69,398,000	89,001,000	80,024,000	79,331,000

Bradstreet's report of stocks of wheat in Canada on December 15 is as follows:

Montreal.....	bushels.	216,000
Toronto.....	55,000	
Kingston.....	60,000	
Winnipeg.....	180,000	
Manitoba elevators.....	1,978,000	
Fort William, Port Arthur & Keewatin.....	2,423,000	

Total stocks in the United States and Canada as reported by Bradstreet's were as follows, on December 16, 1895:

East of the Mountains.....	bushels.	92,395,000
Pacific Coast.....	8,276,000	
Total stocks a year ago were:	bushels.	
East of the Mountains.....	111,897,000	
Pacific Coast.....		

Bradstreet's report for the week ended Dec. 16, shows an increase of 4,471,000 bushels in stocks of wheat east of the mountains, making the total 92,395,000 bushels on the latter date.

World's stock on December 1, (United States, Canada, in Europe and afloat for Europe) were 161,343,000 bushels, compared with 181,610,000 bushels a year ago, 190,386,000 bushels two years ago, 175,814,000 bushels three years ago, 157,718,000 bushels four years ago, 107,639,000 bushels five years ago, and 117,255,000 bushels six years ago.

McNeill & Mills, butchers, Victoria, have dissolved, J. D. McNeill continues,

Winnipeg Wheat Inspection.

The following shows the number of cars of wheat inspected at \*Winnipeg for the weeks ended on the dates named, compared with the number of cars inspected for the corresponding weeks a year ago, as reported by Inspector Horn to the Board of Trade:—

Grade.	Nov. 16	Nov. 23.	Nov. 30	Dec. 7	Dec 14
Extra Manitoba hard.....	0	0	45	0	0
No. 1 hard.....	74	51	38	61	68
No. 2 hard.....	21	25	38	37	70
No. 3 hard.....	39	28	42	32	51
No. 1 North'n.....	29	9	10	8	10
No. 2 North'n.....	0	1	4	2	4
No. 3 North'n.....	0	3	0	0	0
No. 1 white type.....	0	0	0	0	1
No. 2 white type.....	2	0	0	0	0
No. 1 Spring.....	3	3	1	3	4
No. 2 Spring.....	0	0	0	0	0
No. 1 Frost'd.....	84	21	21	31	41
No. 2 Frost'd.....	11	11	8	2	20
No. 3 Frost'd.....	1	0	0	0	0
No. 1 Rejected.....	14	12	17	9	14
No. 2 Rejected.....	84	01	47	48	73
No Grade.....	1	0	0	0	0
Feed.....	2	1	0	1	3
Total.....	376	227	293	251	357
Same week last year.....	235	176	148	99	120

Oats—No. 1 white, 11; No. 2 white, 21; No. 2 mixed, 9; No. 2 black, 2; feed, 10; total, 56. Barley—No. 3, 2; feed 40; total, 6.

\*Wheat inspected at Emerson going out via the Northern Pacific to Duluth, is included in Winnipeg returns. A considerable portion of the wheat moving is inspected at Fort William, and does not show in these figures.

Winnipeg Markets A Year ago.

Wheat.—No. 1 hard, c.i.f. Fort William December. 68 and 45 to 60c to farmers, Manitoba country points.

Flour.—Local price, per sack, Patents, \$1.65; Bakers, \$1.85.

Bran.—Per ton, \$11.

Shorts.—Per ton, \$13.

Oats.—Per bushel, car lots, 25 to 27c.

Barley.—Per bushel, feed 28c to 31c.

Flax Seed.—95c to \$1.

Butter.—Round lots country dairy 12 to 16c.

Cheese.—Small lots 11 to 11½c.

Eggs.—Fresh, 14, to 16c round lots.

Beef.—Frozen country, per lb., 3 to 4½c, best butchers, 5 to 5½c.

Mutton.—Fresh, and lamb, 5 to 6c.

Hogs.—Dressed, 4½ to 5c.

Cattle.—Butchers, 2½ to 3c.

Hogs.—Live, off cars, 3½ to 3¾c.

Sheep.—\$2.25 to \$2.40 per 100 pounds.

Seneca Root.—19 to 20c.

Poultry.—Chickens, 6 to 7c, turkeys, 9 to 11c, geese, 7 to 8c, ducks 7 to 8c.

Hides.—Frozen Hides, 2½ to 2¾c.

Potatoes.—40 to 45c per bushel.

Hay.—\$4.50 to \$5.50 per ton, car lots.

Winnipeg Clearing House.

Clearings for the week ending December 26, were \$1,191,060; balances, \$215,003. For the previous week clearings were \$1,453,703. For the corresponding week of last year clearings were \$961,591, and for the week, two years ago, \$992,936. For the month of November clearings were \$8,503,272, as compared with \$6,607,498 for November last year.

Following are the returns of other Canadian clearing houses for the weeks ended on the dates given:

	Dec. 19.	Dec. 12.
Montreal.....	\$11,968,976	\$12,231,920
Toronto.....	7,605,779	7,922,817
Halifax.....	1,470,377	1,184,486
Winnipeg.....	1,458,708	1,756,624
Hamilton.....	775,570	792,431

Total..... \$23,204,410 \$24,688,278

An Honest Man.

A Winnipeg gentleman who was at one time a lumber dealer here, received a pleasant Christmas present on Tuesday. About eight years ago he filled an order for \$750 worth of lumber for a then well-to-do Winnipegger. The purchaser met with reverses shortly after building his house in which the lumber had been used, and left the country. Before doing so, however, he told the merchant that he would pay for the lumber some time, he did not know when, but it would come. The merchant retired from the business, and directed his energies in another direction. Years ago he gave up any hope of ever having his \$750 debt paid up, and put it among his bad accounts, finally forgetting all about it. He was pleasantly reminded of it on Tuesday last, when he received a draft from San Francisco for \$1,800, the principal of the debt, with interest at 8 per cent up to date. The honest debtor had gauged the sending so that it would come as a Christmas box—and a most welcome one it was.

The Proposed Dairy Exchange.

As recommended by The Commercial, a move has been made to organize the proposed dairy produce exchange in connection with the Winnipeg grain exchange. A meeting of the council of the grain exchange was held on Friday to discuss the matter. Opinion seemed to favor the belief that a dairy branch could be formed to deal in dairy products, just as grain is now handled, and to have an inspector of dairy goods appointed under the general inspection act, whose powers regarding inspection should be exactly similar to those conferred on the inspector of grain.

On motion of Mr. Bawlf, seconded by Mr. Scott, it was decided to call a meeting to be held on Thursday evening, January 9th, at 8 o'clock and to invite the attendance of all those who handle butter and cheese, also the manufacturers of these products throughout the country and all others interested, for an exchange of views on the points under consideration at this preliminary meeting.

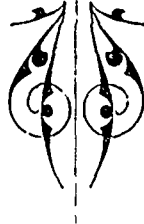
A New York paper says: "Currants are in a strong position and the tendency of the market is upward, owing partly to the uncertainty of the outcome of the California case and partly to the non-arrival of the Thetis with 2,000 tons. Prunes are quiet and rather easy on the spot."

The January number of the Delineator is called the winter holiday number. The fashion articles for the month are timely and complete, covering the entire field of styles for ladies, misses, and children. The rich holiday display in the shops is interestingly described. Mrs. Roger A. Pryor's article on the social code relates to society balls and parties for children. The space devoted to woman's work and advancement includes a thoughtful conversation between Edith M. Thomas and Dr. S. R. Elliott on women in business, an interesting paper by Miss Margaret McNaughton discussing architecture as a profession for women, a graphic description by Lucia M. Robbins, of women's work at the Atlantic Exposition, Harriet Keith Forbes directions for burnt decorations upon car-board, and the continuation of Sara Millor Kirby's Kindergarten articles, the first of a brief series of papers on the care of the teeth, will be found valuable. A. B. Longstreet describes the carving of moths. In Mrs. Witherspoon's tea-table gossip are noted some new home-made holiday gifts. The novelties in knitting, tatting, crocheting and lace-making are illustrated described. Subscription price of the Delineator \$1.00 per year. The Delineator Publishing Co., 33 Richmond St., West, Toronto.

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## Annual Meeting of the Commercial Travellers' Association.

The annual meeting of the Northwest Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada was held Saturday evening, Dec., 21, in the board of trade rooms, Winnipeg. President, J. Y. Griffin, occupied the chair. There were also present Vice-president A. S. Binns, Treasurer J. Mundie, Secretary J. M. O'Loughlin, Directors M. W. Rublee, H. Bruce Gordon, A. L. Johnstone, L. C. MacIntyre, J. C. Gillespie, and over forty active travellers. The minutes of last meeting were read and adopted. The president appointed H. Bruce Gordon, E. W. Law, and A. Harper as scrutineers and while the ballots were being counted the following report from the officers and directors was read.

Gentlemen.—In presenting the thirteenth annual report, your directors have much pleasure in referring to the continued growth of the membership of the association and also that our reserve fund is still increasing. Our relations with the railway companies continue to be the most pleasant and satisfactory. A committee from this board interviewed Mr. Wm. Whyte, general superintendent of the western division of the Canadian Pacific Railway company, in the month of January in reference to permission for our members to utilize the freight trains in travelling; and we are pleased to be able to say that our efforts have at last been successful and our members now enjoy this privilege. When interviewing Mr. Whyte at this time he informed the committee that he proposed going to Montreal in a few days. We took this opportunity of consulting with him regarding a 1,000 mile ticket or a 2½ cent rate. This matter was thoroughly discussed and all matters of detail gone into very carefully, and your directors can safely say our arguments in favor of this were well advanced by members of the committee, and we feel safe in saying that Mr. Whyte's sympathies were with us. On his return from Montreal he said that at present they could not accede to our request in the matter of reducing the rate of fare to 2½ cents; but we still have hopes that in the near future the railway companies will meet our views in this matter. We are now carrying, through the Mortuary Benefit, insurance to the amount of \$12,416.93. During the past year, we are pleased to say, there has been no call upon this fund. Your directors have to report on the matter of the claim against the London Guarantee and Accident Insurance company for the amount of the accident insurance upon the life of the late C. F. Church. This suit has caused your directors a great deal of trouble and anxiety during the past year. However, we feel we have been well repaid, in that we have come out successful. Judgment was delivered in our favor by Justice Bain, carrying costs. An appeal was then made to the full court, and Justice Bain's judgment fully concurred in. The Accident company then appealed to the Supreme Court, and no doubt, the fact of your directors showing every willingness to fight the matter out in matter what it cost, was largely instrumental in prompting the company in offering to settle the matter out of court. Propositions for settlement were made to us, which did not meet your directors' views, and after considerable delay, the Accident company withdrew their appeal to the Supreme Court and paid the judgment in full with interest and taxable costs. This suit has cost the association \$281.69, but it must be gratifying to every member to know that it was brought to a successful issue. Mrs. Church very kindly offered that the amount of expense, \$281.69, be deducted from the \$1,000, but on the unanimous vote by your directors, it was decided that she be paid the \$1,000 in full. We have much pleasure in

informing you that our contract with the Manufacturers' Accident Insurance company has been carried out to the very letter, and that several small claims which were made upon them by a few of our members, have been promptly and satisfactorily settled. We also beg to report, that we have just closed a contract with this company for another year, and we are pleased to say, without any doubt, on the most favorable terms that this association has ever yet had the privilege to enjoy. Your directors are pleased to report on the very flourishing condition of our British Columbia branch. It has certainly advanced wonderfully fast. The interests of the association there have been looked after this year by A. R. Tufts, local secretary, John W. Gatter, local director of Vancouver; and A. Robertson, local director of Victoria. And with a membership there in 1893 of only six members, and in 1895 fifty-eight members, you will readily observe that our interests have been well looked after by those gentlemen. The annual celebration of the coming year is to be much the same as last year. At the annual meeting for nomination of officers it was decided to hold a conversazione and ball, and the directors with the celebration committee, have secured the best available talent for the entertainment. The conversazione will be held at the Manitoba Hotel, on the evening of Thursday, Dec. 26, and as there are a number of entertainments of a similar kind being held between now and the end of the year, it is specially asked, that every member make a special effort to not only attend themselves, but to see that all their friends are provided with tickets; and let every member start out now with a firm determination that he will make Thursday evening, Dec. 25, one of the most enjoyable in the history of the association. Your directors have arranged for the coming year that a leather cover shall accompany each certificate issued to the members. In retiring from office your officers and directors have to express their satisfaction at the manner in which the members have carried out the spirit of the by-laws in their entirety, there being no complaints of any violation on their part from any source. Prosperity has attended us during the year, and as the outlook for all kinds of business is much more encouraging than it has been for the past two years. It is our sincere wish that every member may get his share, and that our association may continue to prosper.

After discussion of the report, it was adopted without change.

The members were much pleased with the following report of the treasurer, which on being read was adopted.

Gentlemen.—The success which has attended our association during the past year is again a matter of congratulation. Our membership now consists of the following: Active 295; honorary, 20; and honorary life, 5; making a total of 320. There were a number of applications for loans during the past year, which have been declined by the board because security offered was not acceptable to the directors. The current bank account of the association is now transferred to the Molsons' bank. The interest collected during the past year amounted to \$673.30, and there are arrears on mortgage of interest unpaid \$232.00. During the year our association received the second, third, fourth and fifth dividends from the Commercial Bank of Manitoba (\$415.42), thus reducing the claim of the association against the Commercial bank by that amount. The balance of the funds is on deposit in the Molsons' bank, and that portion upon deposit receipt drawing three and one-half per cent interest. It is very gratifying to know that our funds continue to show a steady increase, the balance on hand at the end of this year amounting to \$14,818.86 in assets, which shows an increase over the balance of last

year of \$2912.59. There are no unpaid accounts. The books and vouchers have been duly audited, and the auditors report is submitted with statement. I have to thank the secretary for the great assistance he has rendered me, thereby lightening my work to a large extent. Upon retiring from the honorable position of treasurer, I cannot do so without thanking the directors for the courtesy they extended to me while a member of that board. Trusting the association may continue to increase in membership and funds.

Moved by A. L. Johnston, seconded by S. S. Cummings: "Whereas we believe that the time has arrived when the commercial travellers of Canada should enjoy lower passenger rates from the railway company west of Sudbury, and the various branch lines in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, and to that end a committee be appointed, consisting of the president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary, as elected for 1895, with the mover and seconder, to collect and formulate evidence bearing on this question, and forward a copy of the same to the different commercial travellers' associations in Canada, requesting their respective boards of directors to appoint a delegate from each association to act with a delegate appointed by our board of directors for the purpose of waiting on the Canadian Pacific Railway company in Montreal at as early a date as can be arranged, to obtain a reduction in passenger rates as aforesaid, for the benefit of the commercial travellers of Canada. That this meeting request the board of directors for 1896 to appoint such delegate, and that the necessary travelling expense be paid out of the general funds of the association."

Mr. Johnston in moving the above resolution showed that a traveller from Montreal or Toronto in buying a through ticket to Vancouver or Pacific coast points paid about 2½ cents a mile, while a ticket from Winnipeg to the same point would cost over three cents a mile and from the views of the different travellers they felt that the association should have a rate of least 2½ cents a mile, or a 1,000 mile ticket for \$25.

Mr. Johnston's motion was carried unanimously.

A resolution was passed that the new board of directors appoint a committee of three members of the association, whose duties shall be to report upon needed improvements in hotels and liverys. The idea is to divide the territory into three districts, and have one traveller in each district, one who is travelling the ground regularly, to report to the secretary any needed improvements. Also that a committee be appointed to wait on the provincial government, to suggest the advisability that the license inspector be instructed to investigate very thoroughly the sanitary conditions of every licensed hotel.

The scrutineers having completed the counting of the ballots, the president announced the following as the board for the ensuing year:

President.—A. S. Binns, acclamation.

Vice-President.—A. L. Johnston.

Treasurer.—L. C. MacIntyre, acclamation.

Secretary.—J. M. O'Loughlin, acclamation.

Board of directors.—J. A. Lindsay, K. McKenzie, M. W. Rublee, E. W. Drowry, T. H. Locke, G. F. Stephens, J. B. Persa.

After votes of thanks were passed to the retiring officers and board, the auditors, the scrutineers, the Consolidated Stationery company, for the use of the office for the meeting of the board during the year, the secretary of the British Columbia branch, the meeting adjourned.

A box of cigars was distributed among the Commercial staff on Christmas eve from Bryan and Lee, cigar manufacturers, of Winnipeg, for which the boys are grateful.

**Another Big Plow.**

At the factory of the Keller Manufacturing company, Sauk Center, Minn., Wm. Marshall and son are hard at work on an experimental patent revolving shovel plow or ground pulverizer, which bids fair to surpass anything yet brought out in the way of farm machinery. It is built to cut six feet at each furrow, and has 60 blades operating on a shaft, supported by a bracket at either side of a traction engine. They propose building plows that will cut three, six, nine and twelve foot widths, and will use gasoline engines for power. The same power can be used for seeding, harvesting and threshing and the seeding can be done simultaneously with the plowing, and by the same power. The plow on which they are now working is a six-foot, but they cannot get ready to give it a fair trial until spring.

**The Drummers.**

The annual meeting of Dominion Commercial Travellers' Association was held in Temple Hall, Montreal on the 11th inst. A large number of members were present, and the spirit of the meeting was lively. The president, Lieut.-Col. Massey, called the meeting to order at eight o'clock. Upon the platform were a number of prominent members, including the past presidents and the directors of the Association. Mr. Wadsworth, the secretary, read the annual report. It showed that during the past year \$7,064.81 had been added to the capital account. There had been an increase in membership of 116, making a total of 2,030. The deaths during the year numbered 24, against 26 in 1894. The funds of the Association which have been invested make a total of \$187,650. Of this amount \$116,500 is invested in real estate mortgages and \$21,500 in bonds. The directors recommended that the sum of \$500 be placed at the disposal of the Benevolent Fund annually for the relief of distress, it being found that the voluntary subscriptions were insufficient for its support. The treasurer's statement showed the total receipts on revenue account to be \$33,706.95, and the expenditure on revenue account \$26,522.81. George Sumner, R. Henderson, George Bolton, D. Watson and Charles Gurd were elected trustees of the educational fund for the ensuing year. Several amendments to the by-laws, proposed by Mr. Tucker, Mr. Watson, Mr. Murdock, and Mr. Piche, were read and adopted. That by Mr. Piche provides that five out of the ten directors shall be elected at each annual meeting, and that the retiring president shall be a director on the board during his successor's term of office. A by-law introduced by Mr. Paton was also carried, providing for a benevolent fund to assist members sick or in misfortune. The election of officers resulted in Mr. Max Murdock being elected to the vice-presidency by 875 votes against Mr. R. G. Stokes' 466. Lieut.-Col. Massey had already been re-elected president, and Fred Birks, treasurer. The directors elected were: E. B. Garneau, Quebec, 683; Paton, 617; Wm. Brewster, 593; David Watson, jr., 565. The next on the list, J. T. Le Sueur, who had 493 votes, will be appointed later by the board of directors, in accordance with the amended by-law. The annual dinner of the association was given at the Windsor Hotel on Monday evening, December 23. The railways issued to commercial travellers, from December 20 to 25 inclusive, return tickets at single fare, good to return up to the 7th of January.

Buyers from the United States have paid \$12.00 to \$12.50 at Montreal for No. 1 hay. As high as \$20.00 has been paid in New York for prime Canadian and even higher in special instances.

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These are not merely "dew proof" or "shower proof" goods they are **THOROUGHLY WATER PROOF** and will absolutely withstand all changes of climate.

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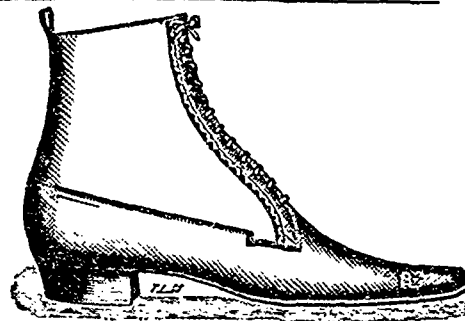
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41 Princess Street,

WINNIPEG, MAN.

### Agriculture in Russia.

Anton Radzig, of St. Petersburg, Russia, writes the Cincinnati Price Current as follows:—For the last two years Russia had splendid crops, which gave her ability to export large quantities of grain and other breadstuffs, to Western Europe. Our total crop of all cereals in the 60 governments of European Russia and in the Northern Caucasus for four years, will be seen by the following, according to annual statistics of the Ministry of the Interior, representing Winchester bushels:

	European Russia.	Northern Caucasus.
1892 .....	1,742,800,000	
1893 .....	2,401,400,000	121,500,000
1891 .....	2,405,700,000	105,700,000
1895 .....	1,880,800,000	105,700,000

The reports of all cereals for the last three years, ending August 31, are shown in the following, representing English pounds, according to yearly reports of the custom house department, Minister of Finance:

	Pounds.
1892-93 .....	11,423,000,000
1893-94 .....	22,074,000,000
1891-95 .....	12,677,000,000

All figures for 1895 are approximate taken from the Journal of the Department of Agriculture and Statistics of Russia.

In the last two agricultural years Russia had larger exports of breadstuffs than in any previous year, but unfortunately for us prices for nearly all cereals since 1893 have declined very much.

This year's cereal crops in Russia are much smaller than they were for 1893 and 1894, although a little higher than the average for 1883-92.

For Poland statistical returns begun to be published only in 1883, for the Northern Caucasus in 1893, and comparisons with the average crops for 1883-92 can therefore be only made for the 50 Russian governments.

This year's wheat crops in the 50 governments of European Russia compare with former years as follows, in Winchester bushels:

	av'ge Winter	Spring.	Totals.
1883-92..	73,200,000	163,000,000	236,200,000
1893 .....	79,600,000	293,800,000	370,400,000
1891 .....	106,500,000	258,500,000	365,000,000
1895 .....	85,200,000	151,000,000	289,200,000

The total wheat crop of 1895 is a little higher than the average of 1883-92, but it is by no more than 125 million Winchester bushels short of the crops we had in each of the previous two years. It is difficult to make up as to how great our wheat consumption may be, but according to a monthly trade report of the custom house department (for December, 1891) the total crops of Russia, for the 60 governments and the Northern Caucasus, for the 8 years, 1885-92, on the average amounted to 8,095,250 tons (2,210 lbs.)

per year. If we deduct the yearly requirement for seed of about 1,874,170 tons per year, and the actual yearly average exports (for 1885-6 to 1892-3) 2,427,000 tons, there would remain about 3,791,000 tons for consumption, assuming of course that the supplies of wheat (stocks in farmers' hands and dealers' hands) in Russia were quite equal at the end of August, 1885 and 1892.

The wheat crops of 1893 and 1894 for the 60 governments of Russia and Northern Caucasus, with the deduction for seed, amounted in weight to about 9,100,000 tons yearly; the exports for 1893-4 to 1894-5 were on the average 3,556,000 tons per year, leaving a surplus of about 5,500,000 tons yearly, or about 11,000,000 tons in the last two years, but as the consumption for the same time could not have exceeded 7,600,000 tons, there seems all probability that the supplies in the hands of farmers and dealers amounted at the end of August, 1895 to 3,400,000 tons, or about 7,616,000 pounds.

It is of course difficult to calculate as to how large our wheat exports will be for the next twelve months, from 1 September 1895, to 31 August, 1896, but, as this year's crop failed, I can not but think that our reports will not reach last year's figure. In 1893-94 the wheat exports amounted to 3,100,000 tons, in 1894-95 4,000,000 tons, of course much depends on prices: at present low quotations it is hardly possible that our exports for the next year ending 31 August, should reach 3,000,000 tons.

I don't take into consideration the wheat-flour exports of Russia, as the same are very small and amount to about 50,000 tons on the average per years.

The rye crop in the 50 governments of Russia this year was also much smaller than for the last two years, as will be seen from the following statistical returns:

	Bushels.
1893-92—average..	650,600,000
1893 .....	724,200,000
1894 .....	862,000,000
1895 .....	680,300,000

According to all available information, the rye supplies all over the country are very large and prices rule low. In the Samara government, about 80 miles from any railway station, rye has been sold this autumn at 14.6 cents per 100 English pounds. In St. Petersburg and other Baltic ports the price was 17.4 cents per 100 pounds. As the rye crops in Austro-Hungary and Prussia this year were deficient, it is hoped that our this year's exports will reach last year's which for the 12 months ending 31 Aug., 1895, amounted to over 5,503 millions of pounds.

The oat crop in Russia this year exceeded the average for 1883-93, but was less abundant than in the two previous years. The Russian oat crops, for the 50 governments of European Russia, were as follows:

	Bushels.
1883-92—average .....	527,700,000
1893 .....	677,000,000
1894 .....	649,800,000
1895 .....	593,800,000

Our exports of oats amounted to 1,033 million pounds in 1892-93, to 3,763 million pounds in 1893-94, and to 2,598 million pounds in 1894-95.

This year's oats exports of Russia, taking in consideration the average exports of former years, can, I think, with certainty, be taken at about 2,600 million pounds. It is necessary to mention here that the quality of all the cereals harvested in 1895 in Russia is very good, the grain being dry and heavy. Almost everywhere in Russia the weather during the harvest time was very favorable.

The crops of barley, buckwheat, millet, maize and peas will be seen in the following table, showing millions of bushels:

	barley.	buckwheat.	millet.	maize.	peas.
1893-92.....	152.5	56.2	49.5	22.4	15.2
1893 .....	293.3	51.8	83.8	38.7	23.2
1894 .....	237.7	43.8	47.1	19.0	27.8
1895 .....	162.9	40.4	37.8	21.5	14.6

In respect to nearly all cereals, the crop of 1893-94, in comparison to the average crops of 1883-92 and this year's, were the best that Russia ever had. In consequence of the abundance of grain, our exports expanded to a very great degree, but there is no reason to expect in 1895-96 exports from Russia like those that took place in 1893-94 to 1894-95.

Barley and maize, that are generally exported from Russia, but in comparatively small quantities, found a ready market in England in the last two years for large quantities. In the last three years the exports of barley and maize, for years ending 31 August, were as follows, in pounds:

	Barley.	Maize.
1892-93 .....	2,754,000,000	650,000,000
1893-94 .....	5,667,000,000	1,568,000,000
1894-95 .....	4,514,000,000	1,400,000,000

This year's exports of barley cannot be expected to reach a higher figure than in 1892-93, as there are no stocks of barley in the country, and the crop of 1895 was a poor one. As regards maize, it is too early yet to give a decisive opinion on the possible exports, as a great deal depends on the crops in the Caucasus, from where we have not as yet positive accounts of this year's crops.

Taking in consideration our crops, visible supplies, and the prices in Russia for the different cereals, I think of being in the right in affirming that Russia's exports of all breadstuffs in 1895-96 will not reach a higher figure than about 16,800 millions of pounds, as against 22,677 million pounds in 1894-95.

The Royal hotel at Calgary has been closed.

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## BOOTS, SHOES,

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Harvey & VanNorman, Toronto. | The Gardigan Overshoe, Stratford.  
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Our **SPRING SAMPLES** are now on the Road, and comprise the best line of Staples ever shown. Prices and terms very liberal. Our Travellers are now out.

Kindly Wait and Look our Samples over. Letter Sorting Orders shipped same day as received

**JAMES STREET, WINNIPEG.**

## New Year's Greeting,

GENTLEMEN,—Permit me through the medium of THE COMMERCIAL to wish you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

I think that to all who have exercised ordinary prudence and care, the year just closing has been one with which we have very little cause to complain, and to all such, the year just about to be ushered in, is full of bright promise. I have erected for you and others an establishment which will, I think, fill a long felt want in our midst, viz., a **Cold Storage Warehouse** and while I regret that I was not prepared in time to suit the trade for Eggs and dairy products, I am pleased to be able to state that not a few have availed themselves of the advantages thus offered, and so far as I know, with perfect satisfaction and profit. I shall be pleased if in the coming year, when making your arrangements, you will remember right from the start, that I offer all the facilities for the proper storing and handling of produce, and it is optional with you to store or consign for sale as you choose, and that I shall do everything in my power to make our transactions mutually agreeable and profitable. I can handle any produce that grows on a farm, but Eggs, Butter and Cheese will be specialties. Don't forget that **Cold Storage** is the latest and best method for **keeping Eggs**. Correspondence invited, and all information cheerfully given. In the meantime, I am doing a large Oyster Business, and offer fine selects at \$2.00 per gallon, standards at \$1.80. Fruit at market rates; celery, 35c. A good demand for Hogs, Poultry and Beef. Address:

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RUSSIAN PURE LEAD.  
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The trade should write for our prices before buying elsewhere.

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Wholesale and Manufacturing  
**STATIONERS,**  
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SPECIALTIES.

Account Books Paper—all kinds  
Office Supplies Stationery  
Wallets, Pocket Books  
Ladies Hand Satchels  
Pocket and Office Dairies  
Leather Goods Binders' Materials  
Printers' Supplies

**Visible Supply Reports.**

As we have frequently stated before, the visible supply reports are not extensive enough to answer the purpose for which they are compiled, and as given to the public by the daily press are very deceptive. Instead of giving out the totals as the visible supply of grain in the United States the compilers should announce that it is a report of some of the grain stored at 18 American and 2 Canadian points.

The Canadian points included are insignificant as points of accumulation when compared with Ft. William, Port Arthur, Winnipeg and Prescott, yet no effort has been made to have their stocks included. There are also a number of points on the American side which are of far more importance as accumulative grain centers than some of those which are included. Why markets like Erie, Pittsburg, Cleveland, Louisville, Newport News, Richmond, Nashville, St. Louis, Galveston, Omaha, Denver and Ogdensburg have been denied admission to the sacred pale, has never been satisfactorily explained.

The old claim that the admission of these markets and the private elevators would destroy the comparative value of the reports is all bosh, for everyone who knows anything regarding the grain business knows that the capacities of the houses included in the report are continually being increased as well as the number of elevators.—American Elevator and Grain Trade.

**Industrial Progress of Japan.**

A correspondent of the London Times sends an account of the Kioto Industrial Exhibition, which he visited along with a crowd of whom nearly every third man was armed with a note-book. The Japanese, he says, "are rapid writers, and seem to take as copious notes of what they observe in their own country as they have been doing in Europe and America these thirty years past. The exhibition is national and periodical, being held every fourth year, for the express purpose of stimulating progress in arts and manufactures, and their success in this direction has not been small. The charge for admission is 5 sen, equal at present exchange to 1½d. On Saturdays the fee is reduced to 3d, and on Sundays it is raised to 2½d. For the custody of an umbrella the charge is ½d, and so on, farthings, or less, for pennies throughout. What the exhibition has to show of progress in the various branches of manufacture could not be adequately described, even by an expert hand. As a whole, the useful preponderates over the ornamental. The variety of new fabrics, the wealth of new designs, and the audacity of new adaptations of material to the wants of life are all so impressive that one cannot resist peering into the not distant future when yet greater developments of the creative energy of Japan will be revealed, possibly to the consternation of the West of the Christian world. It would be superfluous to dwell at this time of day on the supersession of Lancashire which has already taken place. Osaka, with its forest of chimneys—as many as there are churches in Moscow, 868—speaks eloquently to the world on this theme. But what Lancashire may possibly be still a little slow to realize is that Japan will not content herself with ceasing to import English cottons, but will not rest till she has carried the war into her rival's territories and has supplanted Lancashire in China as well as in Japan. Everything favors this evolution. One does not need to be a bimetalist to perceive how laborers' wages at six silver yen per month, or say, 8s 8d per week, with other expenses in proportion, must tell in competition with European charges. And Japan is extending her conquests in many directions of textile manufacture. Woolen fabrics—to which the war has imparted a wonderful stimulus—

canvases and the heavier cotton goods, cordage of all descriptions, carpets of cotton and hemp, in which already a large export to the United States has been established, are all well represented in this great sample bazaar. The multiplicity of small articles now made by the Japanese is bewildering, and one turns from them with the irrefragable reflection that there is nothing within the range of human ingenuity which in course of time they will not fabricate, and whatever they make at all they will make well, and to undersell the whole world. Perhaps the most striking, though not the most important, productions of Japanese ingenuity are their professional and scientific instruments. When one comes upon complete sets of the most beautifully finished surgical instruments, fitting into exquisite cases, one sees it is no child's play the Japanese are engaged in.

The Japanese are keen learners and anxious to accommodate—two most important qualities in a manufacturer, and qualities in which the universal experience of alien mankind pronounces the English manufacturer to be conspicuously deficient. The hats made by the Japanese and universally worn by them may not be equal to Lincoln & Bennett's, but they look well, and I am informed, wear well, and so serve every practical purpose one wants of a head covering. These hats, in felt, hard or soft, cost 8s 6d in Japan and could not be bought in the cheapest shop in London under 8s 6d, generally 10s 6d, and I suspect the superior finish of Sackville street would run the price up to 15s.

Boots and shoes I can vouch for from personal experience, whether made by the Japanese or the Chinese, I have worn them in London, and had them valued by London bootmakers at just double what they actually cost. Eye-glasses and spectacles, again, may not be equal as to either lens or frame to Carpenter & Westley's make, but it would take an expert to tell the difference by inspection. In donning the western dress the Japanese do not, as might have been a priori expected, seek the cheap and nasty; it would have been repugnant to their nature to do so. They never go shabby, and they show a decided penchant for black cloth and white linen. I generally find my Japanese friends better dressed than myself. Neatness in dress and cleanliness in person, house, street, boat or carriage are instinctive with these people—it is an instinct of perfection and order, and rightly considered, it is undoubtedly the key to the Japanese secret."

**The Dry Goods Trade.**

High collars are still very fashionable, 2½ and 2¾ inches being the most popular. Collars to meeting front seem to have the preference, although the turned points are in good demand. The new style next year will be the high turn down with a wide band. The same style is being brought out in cuffs to match for links.

Imported serges, in navy and black, and worsteds, in blacks, blues and colors, are having their usual demand for the spring trade. Fine lines in Scotch and English suitings and fine trouserings are in active request. Fancy vestings, for which there was more than the ordinary call during the past fall, are again a strong feature of the trade. A class of goods of not very desirable character in Canadian tweeds turned out by some of the mills consisting chiefly of shoddy, have been superseded by a fabric equally cheap, made of cotton and wool, which is far more durable and will be an advantage to the Canadian trade.

A new departure in negligé shirts this season, which is bound to give great satisfaction has a soft body, no collars and attached cuffs. White collars can be worn with these goods, which make this line a much more desirable

one than the old neg-ge, as a clean white collar can be put on each day. This is a sensible idea and is likely to come more into favor every day. It will also be of great benefit to the retail trade, as it will curtail the sales of white collars. These collarless negligé shirts are shown in the usual hair-line patterns and in small designs on blue grounds. This line has had a large run in the States.

It is not at all necessary that a dress material be made in England, France or Germany in order to ensure popularity. There is a demand in London and New York just now for genuine Canadian hand-made Halifax tweed. A commission has been sent by a London firm to a local house here instructing them to procure all they can get of this fabric. The production is limited and very little can be obtained. This demand has been caused through the London public taking freely to Harris, skye and other Scotch homespuns or tweeds. This class of goods was formerly manufactured exclusively near the river Tweed, Scotland. The London people are buying the Halifax tweed so as to enable them to show a novelty that will compete with the Scotch tweeds. The Canadian habitants who make these goods have orders at a considerable advance, which will keep them busy for some months. These homespuns are brought out to great advantage in Norfolk jackets. The skirts to go with these are rather short. They are especially adapted to golf playing and other outdoor exercises. This suit has a rough Scotch tweed appearance. In domestic mill goods there are shown a very large range of homespuns, equally suitable for gentlemen's suits or ladies costumes. The colorings are principally on the light shades. In point of quality they are not to be excelled, only the best grades of wool being used. These lines are expected to be a leading feature for the summer trade.—Toronto Globe.


Employees of the Canadian Pacific Railway company who had their salaries reduced 5 to 10 per cent. last April have received notice that salaries will be restored.

Owing to the continued mild weather and the liberal receipts of dressed hogs, the Montreal market was weak on Saturday, December 21, and sales of fifteen and twenty-five bunch lots old at \$1.50.

"Your factory belongs to the union, doesn't it?" asked this inquisitive person.

"Yes, it does," answered Mr. Manufacturer grimly. "I used to have a fool notion that it belonged to me, but I got over that."

The demand for dressed beef has been very slow during the week, says the Montreal Trade Bulletin of Dec. 20, front quarters selling from 2½ to 3c, while hind quarters brought 1 to 5c per lb. Manitoba dressed beef in car lots sold at 5c.

**GILLETT'S**  
 PURE  
 POWDERED 100%  
  
**LYE**  
 PUREST, STRONGEST, BEST.  
 Ready for use in any quantity. For making Soap, Softening Water, Disinfecting, and a hundred other uses. A can equals 20 pounds Sal Soda.  
 Sold by All Grocers and Druggists.  
**E. W. GILLETT, Toronto.**



## Acetylene.

It is only comparatively recently that the general public have begun to awaken to the importance of the commercial production of acetylene gas. The combustion of this gas has been described as producing something akin to real sunlight. Even the brilliancy of the arc electric light, not to mention, of course, the milder incandescent electric light, pales its fires before the burning rays of light given by this new illuminant. Such, at least, is declared by those who are in a position to know. It has also been announced that illuminating gas companies throughout the country have, in many instances, acquired the right to use acetylene gas, the idea being that its primary importance consists in its use as an enricher.

Now, however, if one may judge from public opinions and statements by those who are regarded as experts, says Bradstreet's, the value of acetylene gas, as an illuminant, is to prove trivial compared with its real commercial significance. It may be recalled, the gas was discovered somewhat accidentally; that it is evolved by heating a mixture of coal and lime, or charcoal and chalk, in an electric furnace, and throwing the resulting compound into water. Here was a cheap and easily procurable substance, which, as described, was primarily to raise the illuminating power of ordinary illuminating gas, and which in time, as has been projected, would be carted about and delivered from door to door, to business places and shops, in tanks ready for use, much the same as tanks are delivered to proprietors of soda water fountains. It has even been outlined how specially manufactured lamps containing acetylene within them in sufficient quantities to run for a day, or for days, would practically supersede many of the older forms of illumination, and, in fact, one had almost begun to wonder what would become of the enormous, expensive illuminating distributing plants with which the streets of cities and towns are lined.

Now, however, it appears that the illuminating qualities of acetylene gas, as stated, are among the least important of its commercial qualities. Acetylene is turning out, it is declared, to be even a more extraordinary substance than the wildest flights of the imagination of its discoverers suspected. If all that is claimed for it be true, it means the cheaper manufacture of a great many substances used in the arts, which heretofore have had to be produced laboriously and expensively in commercial and chemical laboratories.

"Thus," says an exchange, "acetylene, on being passed through an iron tube heated to dull redness, turns rapidly and completely into benzene. This is a product of prime importance, and is the base of thousands of organic substances. In illustration of the transmutations which can be effected, it may be pointed out that if the resultant benzene vapor be passed into strong nitric acid it is transformed into nitro benzene, and this, on treatment with hydrochloric acid and iron filings goes into aniline. With the formation of aniline the road is open for the production of the immense series of dye substances of which aniline is the starting point. Instead of transforming acetylene into aniline, however, it may be changed into carbolic acid; thence it is but a step to picric acid, the foundation of the modern high explosives. Or it may be made into aniline, and then boiled with acetic acid, when it is transformed into anti-febrin, the well-known fever specific. Again, by passing it through a tube heated to bright redness, naphthalene is produced, which is also the starting point of a legion of valuable chemicals. It would seem as though almost all the needs of man were able to be satisfied by this protean substance. The further investigation is pushed into its

possibilities, the more astounding and bewildering they become. By the action of nascent hydrogen acetylene becomes ethylene, and thus, on treatment with sulphuric acid and water, becomes alcohol, which, apart from its other uses, is absolutely necessary to the production of an enormous number of economic substances. In similar ways we can get such deadly poisons as oxalic acid and prussic acid, while acetylene is a cheap source of the aldehyde so much used in the production of artificial essences and the manufacture of mirrors. When, therefore, it is considered that from acetylene can be derived whole systems of dyes, medicines, essences, perfumes, poisons, explosives—not to mention cheap whisky—it will be seen that the latest product of the electric furnace has a utility out of all proportion greater than that which can be derived from its peculiar light-giving powers."

## Oranges and Lemons.

The statistical position of lemons and orange is particularly interesting at the present time, for the reason that it would appear that the shippers of the Mediterranean fruit, contrary to their usual practice, are exerting all of their energies to getting oranges to the American markets at the earliest possible date. The statistics furnished of late, by receivers and shippers, point almost conclusively to the fact that the shippers in Sicily are devoting their attention chiefly to the forwarding of oranges at the earliest possible date, being impelled by the belief that in consequence of the failure of the Florida crop this year, the American market will offer greater opportunities to importers than ever before. This is true to an extent, but not to the full extent of the ideas of sellers on the other side. While the crop of Florida is undoubtedly so small as to become a most insignificant factor in the situation, the output of California fruit appears to be large. It is fully three weeks earlier in maturing than usual, and is being hurried forward. Besides, this market has focussed the attention of orange growers and handlers in every part of the globe, since it has become certain that there would be no Florida fruit to speak of, and, as the best consuming market in the world, it has naturally attracted supplies from every direction. Growing districts in remote parts of the world that have seldom, if ever before, sent any of their fruit to this country, are now represented in the visible supply at New York. For instance, at yesterday's auction sale, there were sold a lot of Egyptian Jaffa oranges, which realized \$3.50 per box—a high price considering the quality. Some of the people in the trade fear that importing will be overdone if it continues as at the present rate.

There are now en route to this market from Mediterranean ports, about 85,000 boxes of oranges, against 20,000 boxes at the same time last year, and 8,000 boxes for the corresponding period in 1893.

In their anxiety to get whatever advantage there may be in putting oranges into this market at the earliest possible moment, it looks as though shippers on the other side were neglecting lemons. Thus far this season there have been shipped to the United States 160,000 boxes, against 170,000 boxes last year. The shipments to this date in 1893 were 151,000 boxes. There is no accumulation of lemons here at the present time, but the indifferent condition of demand prevents any improvement in the market and cases, in fact, a rather easy feeling among holders. —New York Commercial Bulletin.

Andrew Jeffrey & Sons, wholesale carriage and hardware dealers, Toronto, have called a meeting of their creditors. The liabilities are about \$10,000, chiefly to Montreal firms. The assets will likely be about the same.

One of the prettiest lithographic hangers received at The Commercial office this season, comes from J. H. Ashdown, wholesale hardware, Winnipeg.

The market is easier for dressed hogs, says the Toronto Globe of December 20, several car lots of good hogs selling at \$1.40. Packers are bidding \$1.45 for choice lots, but sellers are asking \$1.50. The easier feeling is due to the fact that country dealers who have been holding for some time are now endeavoring to dispose of their hogs, as the weather is not favorable for holding.

## GOING TO CHICAGO OR ANYWHERE EAST?

If you are, see that your ticket from Minneapolis, St. Paul or Duluth reads via

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	4.05 pm	Lv. Duluth	Ar.	11.10 am	
	7.15 pm	Lv. Ashland	Ar.	8.15 am	
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