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The Commercial

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE FINANCIAL, MERCANTILE AND MANUFACTURING INTERESTS OF THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

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

VOL. 6.

WINNIPEG, SEPTEMBER 26TH, 1887.

No. 1.

The Commercial

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

ISSUED EVERY MONDAY

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JAMES E. STEEN,
Publisher

WINNIPEG, SEPTEMBER 26, 1887.

W. M. HULSE, blacksmith, Winnipeg, has sold out to Manly & Gibson.

J. P. MITCHELL has commenced business as butcher, at Medicine Hat, Assa.

F. FREDERICKSON, general merchant, is adding a lumber yard to his business.

H. JOHNSTON has sold out his blacksmithing business at Winnipeg to A. F. Lee.

UNLAC & GRAY, butchers, Qu'Appelle, have dissolved partnership, and are succeeded by Gray & Bell.

A LAURENS, dry goods and tailoring, Portage la Prairie, has moved to Rapid City, where he will open a general store.

W. E. COWAN, druggist, Boissevain, Man., has sold out to J. A. Wright, in the same line of business at the same place.

HASKING & DOME, grocers and liquors, Port Arthur, have dissolved partnership. J. C. Hasking continues the business.

ROSEN & WEIDMAN, second-hand dealers, Winnipeg, have dissolved partnership.

WHITING BROS have purchased the stock and business of C. H. Gibson, baker, etc., Qu'Appelle Station, Assa.

A. T. McNABB, dealer in carriages, Winnipeg, is adding blacksmithing and carriage manufacturing to his business.

WM. CHAMBERS has opened in the furniture line at Oak Lake, Man. He will also buy grain for the Ogilvie Milling Company.

THE proceeds of the estate of the Manitoba Co-operative Society will be distributed after Oct. 14th, by which date claims must be presented.

S. HARTFORD & Co, Bridge Creek, Man., have dissolved partnership. S. Hartford will continue the business, and assume past responsibilities.

R. C. HICKSON, representing W. H. Bleasdel & Co., wholesale fancy goods, etc., Toronto, has opened his sample rooms at 14 Logan St., Winnipeg.

T. McINTOSH, of the Queen's Hotel news depot, Winnipeg, has made an assignment. Tommy has learned that it does not pay to let out his books and papers on credit.

It really does appear that at last something is to be done with the Northwest Central. In connection with the settlement of the old debt which the company inherited as a legacy from the Rocky Mountain company, it was rumored that construction of the road would be commenced this fall. Later it has been learned that J. H. E. Secretan has been appointed engineer, and this gentleman is now on the ground, said to be arranging for the commencement of the work of construction. It has also transpired that a contract has been awarded to J. C. Sproule, of Winnipeg, said to be for the construction of 50 miles of the road, and the contract is supposed to include grading, track-laying and erecting stations. Men, teams and necessary plant have already been forwarded west, for the purpose of commencing work, which, it is said, will be begun early this week. The road will probably be located from Brandon to Rapid City, and thence westerly.

CRUTHERS & Co, bankers, Fort Qu'Appelle, have sold out to Brine, McDonald & Co.

BIGGER BROS, fruit dealers, Winnipeg, have given up business.

THE Winnipeg Barb Wire Works will furnish the wire for fencing the Red River Valley Railway.

MCDONAGH & SHEA, late of the Waverly Hotel Winnipeg, have completed negotiations for the purchase of the estate of Cosgrave & Co., brewers of this city. The new proprietors are fitting up the brewery in first-class shape, and will commence manufacturing at once. One of the firm has just returned from Milwaukee, where he had been with a view to gaining information and procuring skilled brewers to carry on the business here.

THE estate of the Manitoba Co-operative Society, groceries, etc., Winnipeg, is expected to pay from 25 to 30c. on the dollar. The stock and fixtures sold for 35c. on the dollar. The claims against the estate are divided up into a number of small amounts. John Mason, who formerly carried on business successfully in the grocery line here, and who sold out his business to the Co-operative Society, will lose a small balance on his original claims, amounting to less than \$200. Indirectly, however, he loses a considerably larger amount through his connection with the institution, and he now takes little stock in co-operative organizations.

The first shipment of cattle from the Canadian Northwest ranches will be made shortly. There are now being loaded at Calgary forty-five cars of cattle, aggregating about 900 head; and they will shortly pass through the city en route for Montreal, from which port they will be shipped to Liverpool. The cattle are from the Cochrane ranches. This is an important event in the cattle trade, as these cattle will be the vanguard of what is hoped will be the chief export from the western portions of the territories. Hitherto all the surplus cattle on the ranges have been killed for the local market; but the time has now arrived when an outside market will have to be looked for. It is not probable that there will be any heavy shipments this year, but in a year or so the business will reach large proportions.



It is not generally known that corn is the greatest cereal crop grown in the United States, both in regard to quantity and value. Indeed, as regards the latter, it exceeds all other natural products. A would-be wise acre interrupted the writer a few days ago in making a statement similar to the above, with the remark that it was nonsense to talk about corn being the leading crop of the United States. "Why," went on this know-it-all, "Isn't wheat called the leading cereal? And doesn't everybody know that wheat is the great crop of the continent?" Now, what are the facts? According to the United States Bureau of Agriculture, the value of the corn crop of that country is \$927,000,000 annually. This is nearly one-third more than the annual value of the wheat crop, which is placed at \$440,000,000. Moreover, it must be considered that corn has a sort of double value, as it appears again in the shape of pork, which latter stands sixth on the list in value. Dairy products come third, or about three-fifths of the value of corn. Hay stands fourth, beef fifth, cotton seventh and poultry products eighth. Now as to quantity, the corn crop of the United States for 1887 is estimated at 1,590,000,000 bushels which is 282,000,000 bushels below the average. An average corn crop for the United States would therefore be 1,872,000,000 bushels, against an estimated wheat crop this year of about 430,000,000 bushels. The number of bushels of corn grown in the United States is thus seen to be about four times greater than wheat.

THE Manitoba railway situation is now doing service as a subject for illustration by the comic papers of New York. A late issue of *Puck* contains a cartoon showing a Red River cart loaded with bags of grain labled Minneapolis, St. Paul & Chicago. The cart itself is supposed to represent Manitoba, drawn by the sturdy horse of public sentiment, and it moves steadily forward and over the blocks of monopoly, injunctions, spur track and Government interference placed in its way. The reins are held by a farmer, who evidently views with disdain the petty obstructions to his progress. The locatian is marked by a way post pointing to Canadian markets 700 miles of wilderness, and United States, 60 miles. Of course *Puck* is a "little off" in some of its features. The idea of a Red River cart drawn by a heavy horse, and driven by a white farmer, will be somewhat amusing to people here, who now consider the cart an obsolete institution, or at best only a relic of the old days, when the half-breed, now a comparatively insignificant factor in the population, ruled the roost. *Puck* is also a little astray on the trade aspect of the case. The idea that Manitobans are fighting to gain an opening to United States markets has no doubt been engendered from reading Eastern Canadian papers, such journals having put forward this feature as an argument in favor of monopoly. What Manitoba wants is free railroads and reasonable freight rates on her exports to the seaboard, east and west or wherever else they may go, as well as less exorbitant freight charges on her general merchandise trade. The cartoon, however, expresses the situation in some respects more

forcibly than it could be given in words, and will be appreciated by those familiar with the subject.

MANY Manitoba settlers have in times past seriously handicapped themselves by purchasing extensively expensive agricultural implements, which their circumstances did not necessitate. A few years ago it was the rule to commence farming by investing heavily in implements, whilst as a matter of fact, in some instances many of these implements should not have been purchased for a few years. This heavy investment in implements will account for a good many failures on the part of settlers. In fact, the majority of our settlers of a few years standing have placed themselves in straightened circumstances by purchasing machinery in advance of requirements. The foregoing remarks apply more forcibly to settlers who located here during the times of inflation, when settlers expected to get wealthy in a year or so. Still, even yet there is a tendency to assume liability for machinery which could be dispensed with for a year or two longer. If the farmer have cash to invest, he may safely discount the future by going in a little steeply for implements which he could get along without for a year or so. But when these articles are purchased on time, as is the case in a majority of instances, it is undoubtedly an unwise plan for the farmer to burden himself with machinery which he could have managed to have got along without for some time in the future. It would be better for him to put up with inconveniences rather than tax himself in this way. Unless the ready cash is at hand, the purchase of implements should only be made as the development of the farm actually requires, and allowance should be made for an occasional failure of the crops. Many farmers are now struggling along under a heavy load of debt, contracted by purchasing implements a few years ago, which are hardly yet an absolute necessity to them. The farmer with less than fifty acres in crop had better hire his cutting done than go into debt for an expensive binder. The prosperous farmers are those who have worked along gradually but steadily, and who have not gone into debt too heavily on future prospects. The implement dealers thoroughly understand the situation, and of late they have as a rule refrained from pressing their implements upon farmers whom they considered not actually in need of the articles.

WHILST considering the great richness of the virgin prairie soil of Western Canada, it has frequently been a matter for conjecture as to the length of time which this soil will retain its strength under successive cropping and without fertilizing. The custom in vogue among many farmers of burning the straw, has frequently been condemned as wasteful, and one which in course of time would tell severely upon the fertility of their lands. There is no system of manuring the land on an extensive scale practicable here, other than returning to the soil a portion of the strength taken from it, represented in the vegetable fibre. It is well known that lands in the Red River valley in the vicinity of Winnipeg, have been cropped for a long series of years without any apparent reduction

in the fertility of the soil, though nothing in the shape of artificial fertilizers had been used. The result of successive cropping on the Dalrymple Farm, in Red River valley in Dakota, as published in the *Northwestern Miller*, of Minneapolis, will be interesting in this connection: "In answer to the question whether successive cropping caused a decreasing yield, the yield per acre for ten successive years was taken and an average struck, which is herewith appended:

Year.....	1877	'78	'79	'80	'81	'82	'83	'84	'85	'86
Bushels.....	20½	16½	19½	23	17½	17½	17½	19.2	16.2	22.2

It will be seen from this that an average crop of 18 bushels and 55 lbs., or nearly 19 bushels per acre has been gathered for ten years. In the matter of oats the yield varies much more, but with a good average, as follows:

Year.....	'77	'78	'79	'80	'81	'82	'83	'84	'85	'86
Bushels.....	68	42	25	62	51	42	42	43	41	51

Average of oats for ten years, 47 bushels to the acre." The above does not show any apparent deterioration in the fertility of the soil, though it has been the custom to burn the straw, and nothing in the direction of fertilizing has been done. Still it does not prove that in a few more years the land may not show signs of failing. It has been the custom on the Dalrymple farm to summer fallow at regular intervals. There are objections to straw fertilizers, on the ground that it assists in propagating weeds, whilst the summer fallow is the best means available of destroying the weeds. If the latter will therefore answer to keep up the fertility of the soil, it will undoubtedly be the means adopted to secure this end.

THE Regina Leader has made a most wonderful discovery. The Leader believes that the Minneapolis millers are at the bottom of the "Winnipeg agitation." Hear it: "The Yankee millers are shrewd enough to see that if the Northern Pacific gains admission into Manitoba, they can get hold of our superior wheat. It is true they have a surplus of wheat of their own, but only of ordinary quality, and they are willing to pay a big price for our hard wheat. Let the Manitoban Government accomplish its object, and American Railways, American millers and American dealers will reap the benefits of its abundant harvest. In opposing the agitation, the Dominion Government is simply doing its best to keep the wheat trade in the hands of our own millers and our own carriers." What a precious piece of logic is contained in the above paragraph. The Minneapolis millers "are willing to pay a big price for our wheat," but we must not sell it to them. We would deprive our monopoly railroad of its exorbitant profits upon our wheat, to the detriment of a few Eastern millionaires, and that would certainly be a crying disgrace to Manitoba. It would certainly never do to allow our farmers to avail themselves of these "high prices" which the Minneapolis millers are so anxious to pay for our wheat. They would be becoming bloated capitalists and our merchants would get wealthy selling them goods, and we would be driven to the necessity of forming anti-capitalist societies, and perhaps be obliged to import Henry George and Dr. McGlinn to agitate against the accumulation of wealth. The welfare of the country demands that the farmers

must not be allowed to get high prices for their wheat. If these Minneapolis millers are allowed to come into Manitoba and pay these high prices for our wheat, "thereby taking away from our own dealers and our own carriers", according to the *Leader* the ruin of the country would be accomplished. Did ever such utter bosh find its way into a newspaper paragraph? The *Leader's* "argument," if there were anything "to" it, would be a strong one in favor of the immediate construction of the road to the boundary. As a matter of fact, however, the Minneapolis millers have more wheat than they know what to do with. The receipts of wheat at Minneapolis for the last crop year were in round figures 40,000,000 bushels, only three-quarters of which amount was ground at the mills there. If Minneapolis wanted more wheat, she could draw 40,000,000 bushels more without any trouble whatever from the supplies passing through and by the city to Chicago, Duluth and other points. As to the quality, last year's receipts at Duluth amounted to 20,000,000 bushels, of which 16,000,000 bushels were No. 1 hard, Duluth standard. Try again, *Leader*.

Business East.

ONTARIO.

H. Dobson, books, Simcoe, has sold out.
H. Levitt, grocer, etc., Parkhill, has sold out.
Samuel Wilkinson, tea dealer, Hamilton, is away.
John Clayton, shoe dealer, Barrie, has assigned.
Stark & Jewell, bakers, Mitchell, have assigned.
E. McGarvey, carriages, Strathroy, has failed.
Chas. Lillie & Son, grocers, London, have sold out.
Harrison & Dunlop, millers, Thorndale, have sold out.
Tate & Barrigan, millinery, Port Perry, have assigned.
Edward McCrone, dry goods, St. Thomas, is selling out.
J. C. Parkhurst, publisher, Aylmer, is giving up business.
W. Fairweather & Co., dry goods, Peterboro, have sold out.
W. M. Shoebottom, grocer, Ailsa Craig, has moved to Parkhill.
Chas. Brothers, general storekeeper, Brotherton, has sold out.
Glennie & Co., general storekeepers, Lawrence Station, have sold out.
L. W. Ancombe, general storekeeper, Port Rowan, has moved to Staffordville.
Elliott & Endacott, general storekeepers, Orangeville; M. M. Elliott, of this firm, dead.
J. T. George, furniture, Port Hope, has admitted his son; style now J. T. George & Son.
Gordon, Morley & Co., general storekeepers, Belleville; stock advertised for sale on 20th inst.
Legault, Servis & Co., manufacturers of boots and shoes, Hamilton, have removed to Caledonia.

QUEBEC.

Hogle & Co., carriages, Sherbrooke, have assigned.

Louis O. Villeneuve, dry goods, Quebec, has assigned.

Harvey & Wilson, publishers, Montreal, have dissolved.

Irving & Sutherland, oils, etc., Montreal, have assigned.

W. S. Thomson & Co., wholesale fancy dry goods, Montreal, have assigned.

John Ross & Co., wholesale grocers, Quebec, —John Ross, of this firm, dead.

Bessette, Lefort & Co., wholesale fancy goods, etc., Montreal, have assigned.

Dery & Larue, general storekeepers, St. Charles, Bellechasse Co., have assigned.

M. Rochet, manufacturer of boots and shoes, St. Sauveur, Quebec Co., is offering to compromise.

H. Porter & Co., manufacturers of boots and shoes and H. Porter, tanner, Montreal, were burned out.

Pennee & Peer, wholesale flour, etc., Quebec have admitted D. Plewes, under style Pennee, Peer & Plewes.

C. Egan & Co., custom house brokers, Montreal, —Christopher A. Egan admitted partner under style C. Egan & Son.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Jesse Cunninger, ———, melrose, has assigned.

Ruggles & Chisholm, tailors, Halifax, have dissolved.

W. H. Davies & Sons, founders, Pictou, have dissolved.

F. J. Stoneman, men's furnishings, Halifax, has assigned.

A. B. Thompson, general storekeeper, Spring Hill, L. S. sold out.

Samuel Braidon, general storekeeper, Chezzetcook, has sold out.

Bishop & Gidney, general storekeepers, Digby, have assigned.

Geo. W. Underwood, general storekeeper, New Glasgow, is dead.

D. and A. Campbell, lumber, etc., Tatamagouche, —David A. Campbell dead.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Allan Harris, foundry, St. John, is offering to compromise.

P. Edwards, general storekeeper and carriages, has assigned.

Pendleton & Wilson, patent medicines, Portland, have dissolved.

Lumber Cuttings.

The logs of Eau Clair Company for the new mill at Calgary are down the river at last, after long and tedious work.

The recent wind storm blew a quantity of logs from Cameron & Kennedy's mill at Rat Portage, out into the lake.

Geo. P. Wells, of Montreal, has gone to Palliser, B.C., to take charge of his father's lumbering industry at that place.

The British Columbia timber forests cover a least 100,000 square miles, in which the famous Douglas pine or yellow fir abounds, as also do red cedar and yellow cedar. In the Westminster district there are forests that will yield 600,000 feet of lumber to the acre: the forest so far, speaking generally, are almost untouched. Already, however the annual shipments from

the two principal mills which exist amount to 30,000,000 feet.

The Minnesota & Ontario Company have closed their mill at Norman, (Rat Portage) for the season, after cutting only 5,000,000 feet of lumber. The reason for shutting down now is to accumulate sufficient logs to start early next spring.

Rat Portage *News*: Beaudieau Thompson and Matheson will shortly go up to Clear Water Bay on the lake to erect a shingle mill. They propose putting up a building 30x60 feet and to have it ready to commence sawing shingles within six weeks and will run all winter.

Five water power saw mills, with an aggregate capacity of 640,000 feet daily, were burned lately in Minneapolis, Minn. The mills were all old timers, and somewhat antiquated, but were all in working order at the time. From 1,000 to 1,500 men will be thrown out of employment. The loss is placed at \$202,000; insurance \$125,000. About 70,000,000 feet of logs were on hand. The following are the owners, Merriman, Barrow & Co., W. W. Eastman, C. A. Smith & Co., Eastman, Bovey & Co., McMullen & Co. The mills will be mostly replaced by steam mills, and will be located further up the river.

Dairy Matters.

Shoal Lake cheese factory will close about Sept. 1st.

The Crystal City, Man., cheese factory has had a successful season.

R. Scott, of Shoal Lake, Man., is making up a car lot of cheese and butter, for export to British Columbia.

Rapid City *Spectator*: There is a pretty lively demand for Rapid City cheese at present. A Brandon man the other day offered 11c per pound for a ton of it, but the cheese maker held out for a bigger figure.

The Manitoba exhibits continue to attract usual attention at the Ontario provincial fair. Manitoba is again victorious, taking first and second prizes on butter, second and third prize on cheese, and a number of prizes on wheat, vegetables, etc.

Prof. Barre, of the Ontario agricultural college, was at Reaburn, Man., lately, and drove to Woodlands to inspect the Woodland Cheese Co's. factory. He reports everything is in satisfactory condition, the product of good quality and finding a ready sale at fair prices.

In a recent interview on a return from Southern Manitoba, Attorney General Hamilton said: "While on the train I met a commission merchant who said he had bought all the cheese he could get at a certain factory—some 5,500 pounds—at 11½ cents per pound, and offered 12½ cents per pound for all the cheese another factory could produce. The consignment he had already secured was for shipment to British Columbia. He had also purchased about two thousand pounds of butter for shipment out of the country, and in parting stated that he had never seen a country giving such good returns from dairy production.

With some people life is a lottery—with others a lot of rye.

The Commercial

WINNIPEG, SEPTEMBER 26, 1887.

THE WHEAT SUPPLY.

In a previous issue of this journal the wheat supply of the world as figured up by the London correspondent of the *Northwestern Miller* was given, in connection with other wheat statistics. At that time the London correspondent, who by the way, is heavy on statistics, made out a surplus for the world of 12,000,000 bushels. The correspondent has since revised his figures, with the result that the surplus of wheat is reduced by nearly one-half. He now figures out a total available surplus in exporting countries of 257,000,000 bushels, against a total deficiency in importing countries of 250,000,000 bushels. The surplus supplies of exporting countries are stated as follows:

	Bushels.
United States.....	112,000,000
India.....	30,000,000
Russia.....	62,000,000
Roumania.....	10,000,000
Hungary.....	20,000,000
Chili.....	4,000,000
Argentine Republic.....	6,000,000
Canada, Australia, Egypt, etc....	13,000,000
Total.....	257,000,000

Importing countries are expected to require the following amounts:

	Bushels.
United Kingdom.....	136,000,000
France.....	20,000,000
Holland and Belgium.....	24,000,000
Germany.....	4,000,000
Switzerland and Italy.....	24,000,000
Spain and Portugal.....	16,000,000
West Indies, China, etc.....	26,000,000
Total.....	250,000,000

The above figures do not indicate a very large surplus of wheat, but simply a sufficient supply, and if they are near the mark there should be no valid reason for very low prices. However, other statisticians make the surplus appear considerably larger, such for instance as in the case of Mr. Harris, the well known London economist, whose estimates of the wheat crop were published in a previous issue of this journal. Mr. Harris puts the import requirements of France at 8,000,000 less than the *Miller's* correspondent, and in doing so he seems to have the best of the argument. The French wheat crop is generally acknowledged to be excellent, both in quantity and quality. The correspondent, however, concludes that France will import more largely than would be indicated from her crop

returns, on account of the low reserves of wheat held. In the case of Germany, the home wheat supply is acknowledged to be equal to the average requirements, but on account of a reported shortage in the potato crop, the *Miller's* correspondent sets down 4,000,000 bushels to that country, whereas Mr. Harris considers that no wheat importations will be made. It is not certain that a shortage in the potato crop will greatly increase the consumption of wheat, and in the meantime Mr. Harris would appear to be on the safe side in the case of Germany also. The correspondent increases the average requirements of Spain and Portugal by 4,000,000 bushels, on the ground of an alleged shortage in the wheat crops of those countries. Thus in the countries of France, Germany, Spain and Portugal the correspondent makes the import requirements amount to a total of 16,000,000 bushels greater than Mr. Harris. In the other importing countries the two British writers do not materially differ in their estimates, but the correspondent adds 10,000,000 bushels to the requirements by way of sundries. It must therefore be concluded that Mr. Harris' estimate, which is 26,000,000 bushels below that of the correspondent, is at least on the safe side, the larger figures of the latter being shown to be based in several instances upon supposition and side issues, and not upon a strict adherence to the supply and demand, as indicated by previous years. Mr. Harris also places the surplus of exporting countries at 19,000,000 bushels greater than the correspondent, thus making out a total surplus for the world of 52,000,000 bushels or 45,000,000 bushels greater than the 7,000,000 bushels' surplus of the correspondent.

In connection with the above statistics the estimates of the Hungarian Minister of Commerce will be interesting. This Hungarian Minister has been summing up the wheat situation and comes to the following conclusion: The United Kingdom will require 100,000,000 bushels, France 42,000,000 bushels, Germany 17,000,000 to 20,000,000 bushels, Switzerland 9,633,000 bushels, Italy 20,000,000 bushels, Austria 20,000,000 to 22,600,000 bushels. The surplus of exporting countries is placed as follows: United States 100,000,000 bushels, Canada about 10,000,000 bushels, India 25,500,000 to 28,000,000 bushels, Russia 73,666,600 to 79,333,300 bushels, Roumania 11,000,000

to 14,150,000 bushels, Hungary, 34,666,600 bushels.

The discrepancies in the figures of the statisticians will be somewhat puzzling to those not posted in matters relating to wheat, and they will be inclined to give over any desire which they may have to understand the situation as a bad job. The unreliability of a great deal of the statistics present may be shown from the reference to Canada by the Hungarian Minister. Canada can have but little wheat to export this year. The wheat crop of Ontario is estimated by the agricultural bureau of that province at less than 19,000,000 bushels, or between 10,000,000 and 11,000,000 bushels under the average, which will not leave the province a very large surplus. The surplus of Manitoba will therefore be nearly all required in the Dominion as the other provinces are not self-sustaining in the production of wheat.

ANOTHER ESTIMATE.

The last issue of THE COMMERCIAL contained an article on the cost of raising wheat, based on the experience gained in connection with the Dalrymple farm in Dakota. The *Montreal Journal of Commerce* has lately been considering the cost of raising wheat in Ontario, but without coming to a satisfactory decision. That journal publishes the estimates of a number of farmers, and if the figures are at all near the mark, it would appear that Ontario agriculturists might as well give up growing wheat at once, for all the profit they derive from the industry. In fact the figures would indicate that an actual loss is often suffered in wheat-growing in that province. The figures given by the farmers as to the cost of raising fall wheat, vary from 76 cents to \$1 per bushel, in an ordinary crop year. The *Journal of Commerce*, however, is of the opinion that all these estimates are above the average cost for the whole province. This year the fall wheat crop of the province will only average sixteen bushels per acre, against a general average for the past five years of 21 bushels per acre, the crop having suffered severely from heat and drought. At 80 cents per bushel, which is about the maximum price which the farmer can expect for his wheat, the average return for the province would be \$12.80 per acre. Now, the lowest estimate of the cost per bushel in raising the wheat, as stated above, is 76 cents, and this is estimated on an

average crop of twenty-one bushels to the acre. This would make the cost per acre about \$16. Taking the lowest estimate it would therefore appear that the fall wheat crop of Ontario has netted an average loss to the farmers of the province of \$3.20 per acre, or a total loss of \$3,247,988 on the 902,219 acres of wheat sown. At the lowest estimate of 76 cents per bushel as the cost of growing wheat in an average season, the farmer would require to receive \$1.00 per bushel for his product to cover the cost of production this year. If this estimate is anywhere near the actual average cost, the farmers of Ontario must have sunk a good many million dollars in their agricultural operations for the past season, for other crops were not any better in proportion than fall wheat. Spring wheat, which is not largely grown, was only about a two-thirds crop; oats only yielded 30 bushels per acre, or seven bushels short of an average crop; whilst potatoes and roots, it is well known, are a very poor crop. Even at a full average crop present prices would only give the farmer a few cents profit per acre on his fall wheat, allowing the lowest estimate to be correct, which would practically put Ontario out of the competition for the world's wheat importing markets.

BINDING TWINE.

The item of binding twine is one of no small importance in Manitoba, and any means of reducing the cost on this account will be of great value to the farmers. This season, with the very heavy crops, a large quantity of twine has been required. In some cases over six pounds per acre have been used. But placing the average at four pounds to the acre, we find that it has taken 1,728,536 pounds of twine to bind the 432,134 acres of wheat grown in Manitoba this year. At an average cost to the farmer of fifteen cents per pound, the outlay for twine would amount to \$259,280.40. This is for the wheat crop alone, and not taking into consideration other crops, such as barley and oats for which twine is also used. Though the average cost is placed at 15 cents per pound, as a matter of fact this was the minimum cost to the farmer, whilst owing to the scarcity twine sold in some instances at over 20 cents per pound. The sum mentioned represents about \$2.60 for every man, woman and child in the province; or, allowing one adult in every five of the population, and half the adult

population as farmers, the average cost for twine per farmer would be about \$26. The cost of twine to the farmers of Manitoba for wheat alone would pay the interest on over half the cost of constructing the Hudson's Bay Railway. In three years it would about pay for the railway to the boundary, without allowing for any increase in the consumption of twine each year. Counting in the twine used for oats and barley, based on the acreage as reported by the Agricultural Department, and we would have a total cost for twine this year of about \$377,552, and this in the yet comparatively undeveloped province of Manitoba. In a very few years, at the present rate of progress, this amount will be doubled. At present this expenditure goes entirely without the province, though the country offers excellent advantages for the manufacture of the twine at home. Flax grows to perfection here, and although it is not generally known, it is nevertheless true, that there are several varieties of wild flax, indigenous to the Northwest. With these facts in view, it would surely seem that the manufacture of binding twine should prove a profitable industry in Manitoba.

A better scheme for the farmers, however, would be the invention of a machine which would utilize the straw for binding the sheaves. In this great age of invention, such a binding machine should not prove a practical impossibility. Far more wonderful things have been accomplished and are being accomplished continually. Now, where is the mechanical genius who will invent a self-straw binder? May a Manitoban have the honor of providing such a machine, and he will be entitled to the everlasting respect of the farmers of the civilized world.

THE SITUATION.

Another week has passed away, and so far as is known at the time of writing, the situation regarding the construction of the Red River Valley Railway remains practically the same. Mr. Norquay has left New York, and was in Montreal on Wednesday, and a day later in Toronto. It is said that he will arrive in Winnipeg to-day (Monday). This move would either indicate that he has succeeded in his negotiations at New York, or that he has abandoned for the present any further efforts in that direction to raise the funds for the completion

of the road. Mr. Norquay has been very reticent all along as to the nature of his negotiations, but in an interview at Montreal he admitted that he had not been successful in New York in raising the funds. He would not, however, admit a complete failure, and intimated that he "did not in the least despair of raising the money." There were parties who were endeavoring to raise the funds, but as usual, the particulars could not be given. He further stated that "the people may rest assured that even if we do not succeed in raising money, we believe we have enough resources with the province at our back, to complete the road in spite of all opposition." It appears that there has been no attempt to float the bonds provided for under the disallowed Red River Valley Railway Act, but simply the bonds of the province under an Act assented to, relating to the provincial treasury. The *Toronto Mail* is authority for the statement that a sale of the bonds had been as good as effected in New York, but at the last moment negotiations fell through, owing to the activity of C.P.R. agents who had been despatched to New York with the object of defeating Mr. Norquay in his efforts to raise the money. If this is the case, it would show to what straits the C.P.R. people are going to maintain their monopoly in Manitoba. On Mr. Norquay's arrival here a more complete statement of the case may be expected. In the Browning injunction, the first to come up, the argument has been concluded, but the Chief Justice has reserved decision. The other injunctions will go on this week, including those asked for on behalf of the Dominion Government. The rails will be on hand to commence work to-day (Monday), and with Mr. Norquay back at his post, it may be considered that there is something wrong if the work of ironing the road does not go on at once.

The idea of endeavoring to float the bonds here, in case of failure elsewhere, has been mooted. It is urged by some that the bonds would be bought up by citizens, if placed on the market here, in sufficient quantities to successfully finance the road. The proposal that the city should lend financial aid to the Government is also again being seriously discussed. In the meantime, the wordy warfare in the press goes on, and a great deal is being said on both sides with the object of making political capital out of the imbroglio, which can only injure the cause of the province.

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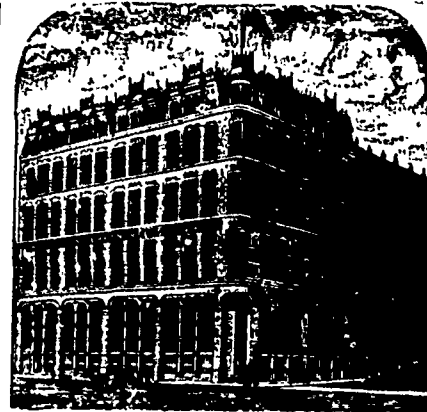
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WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

The financial situation has scarcely yet given any indication of change. Wholesalers still report collections hard to make, and they are obliged to exercise a good deal of forbearance with their customers. The month will undoubtedly close about as close financially as it commenced. Before another month has passed away, however, a decided change will no doubt have taken place in the situation, and dealers will be receiving some return from goods which have been going out.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

The feeling in wholesale circles is one of growing confidence in the immediate future, and dealers are generally satisfied that a good season's trade is before them. Just yet there is no activity noticeable, but it is too early to expect a brisk movement in a sorting way in those lines enjoying a business of that nature. In seasonable goods, however, there is a steady and fairly satisfactory movement.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

Dealers are just now doing a fairly large business in plows, which are about the only article moving now. A few wagons are selling, but the season for these is nearly over. Sleighs and cutters will soon be going out. Some early shipments of the latter will be made in the course of a week or so.

DRY GOODS.

There is very little to add to our report of last week. There is some slight improvement in the amount of business doing with the city trade, but as yet orders of this nature are mostly for trifling amounts. It will require a spell of colder weather than we have yet had to start much purchasing on the part of the general public. There is also some improvement in letter orders from the country, and in a short time a brisk business is expected. In clothing quite a number of orders are coming in from travellers on the road. Manchester advices generally report some improvement in cloths. In yarns sellers are also asking an advance.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

Business continues steady, with prices unchanged as follows: Howard's quinine, 75 to 90c; German quinine, 65 to 75c; opium, \$6 to \$6.50; morphia, \$2.50 to \$3; iodine, \$4.25 to \$4.50; bromide potassium, 65 to 75c; American camphor, 40 to 45c; English camphor, 45 to 50c; glycerine, 30 to 40c; tartaric acid, 70 to 75c; cream of tartar, 35 to 40c; bleaching powder, per keg, \$8 to \$10; bicarb soda, \$4.50 to \$5; sal soda, \$2.25 to \$2.50; soda ash, \$3 to \$3.25; chlorate potash, 25 to 30c; alum, \$3 to \$3.75; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur, flour, \$4 to \$4.50; sulphur, roll, \$4 to \$5.25; American blue vitrol, 6 to 8c.

FRUITS—GREEN, VEGETABLES, ETC.

Quotations here are now as follows: Redi oranges \$9 per box, 200 count; Messina lemons, \$7.00 to \$8.00 per box; bananas, \$3 to \$5 per bunch; cucumbers, 20c per doz.; new apples, \$3.25 to \$4 per barrel; Ontario peaches, \$2.25 per basket, 18 lbs.; California peaches, \$2.75 to \$3 per box; California plums, \$3.00 to \$3.25 per box; Canada plums, Lombards, daucons and greengages, according to quantity, \$1.50 to

\$2.00 per basket; California pears, \$4.25 to \$5.00 per box; Southern Concord grapes, 85c. per basket of 8 lbs.; Ontario grapes, Concord and champion, 8 to 10c per pound; Delaware and Niagara grapes, 12 to 14c; California muscat grapes, \$2.75 to \$3.00 per crate of 20 lbs.; California Tokay grapes, \$3.50 per crate of 20 lbs.; crab apples, \$5.00 to \$6.00 per barrel; Ontario pears, \$8 to \$10 per barrel or \$1.00 to \$1.50 per basket; southern onions, \$3.00 per 100 pounds; Egyptian onions, \$7 per case of 100 lbs.; apple cider, \$7 per keg of 15 gallons; cabbages, 30c to 60c per dozen; cauliflower, 60c to \$1.50 per dozen; celery, 35c per dozen bunches; peas, 75c to \$1 per bushel; beans, 50c to 75c per bushel; radishes, onions, carrots and beets, 20c per dozen bunches; corn, 5 to 8c per dozen ears; turnips, 25c bush; vegetable marrow squash, 50 to 75c per dozen; native onions, \$1.50 to \$1.75 per bush; beets, 40c per bush; green tomatoes, 75c. to \$1 bush; citrons, 3c pound.

FRUITS—DRIED, AND NUTS.

New rasins and currants are expected shortly. Cable reports tell of and advancing markets. Quotations here are now as follows: Figs, Turkey, in boxes, 10 to 11c, new Elme, figs, in layers, 15c per lb., or \$2 per dozen in 1 lb. boxes; golden dates 10c; Valencia raisins, \$2.25; London layers, \$3.50; evaporated apples, 16 to 17c; dried apples, 8 to 8½c; new Turkey prunes, 6½ to 7c. Nuts are quoted: Peanuts, roasted, 17 to 18c; peanuts, raw, 15c; walnuts 18c; almonds, 20c; filberts, 12½c; Texas pecans, 17c; cocoanut, \$12.50 per 100; maple syrup, \$15 per dozen cans of 1 gallon; maple sugar, 13c per pound, in cakes, new.

FISH

Oysters are already declining in price. Selects are quoted at 60 to 65c per can. Fresh white fish and trout are scarce, and will be hard to get in the course of a week or so. Fresh fish are quoted: B.C. salmon, 12c; Lake Superior trout, 7½c; Lake Winnipeg white, 6½c.

GROCERIES.

Sugars hold strong. The advance at New York has been sufficient to allow of the importation of beet root sugars from Hamburg. Shipments were also billed to Montreal and Boston. Willet & Hamlen's weekly circular says:—An advance of ½c for muscovades and 1/16c for centrifugals, is the record for the week, the close being more quiet, with a rather easier tone to the raws, owing to a natural reaction of ½c in refined, from its rapid rise to 6½c for granulated. Stocks in all hands decreased 20,400 tons. Stock in the principal countries is 671,404 tons, against 861,530 tons last year, and against last week's figures of 888,517 tons. Domestic molasses sugar is almost exhausted for this season; 1,000 tons sold at 3½c, an advance of ½c from the lowest point. A singular feature of the market is the neglect by refiners of the low grade sugars. For instance—April 1, 1880, when fair refining was 4½c, Hiloio superfine sold readily at 4½c, while now, with fair refining at 4½c, Hiloios of the same quality are difficult of sale at 4½c. A rapid appreciation in low grade sugars should take place ere long, to bring them to their usual parity of value. All the conditions favor continued improvement in prices, with occa-

sional reactions, as at present, in refined." Molasses and syrups are firm. Importations of teas into Canada are lighter than previous years. Brazil advices report further damage to coffee, with a promise of a light crop. Quotations here are: Dark yellow sugar, 6½c; medium to bright, 6½ to 7½c; granulated, 8c to 8½c; lump sugar, 8½ to 9c. Coffees—Rios, 25 to 29c; Government Java, 33 to 35c; other Javas, 25 to 30c; Mochas, 31 to 35c. New season's teas are now quoted as follows: Japan season 1880-7, 20 to 45c; Congous, 1880-7, 20 to 60c; Indian teas, 35 to 60c. Old range Moyune gunpowder, 25 to 70c; panired Japan, 23 to 45c; basket-fired, 25 to 40c; Fingsney young hyson, 25 to 35c; Moyuna young hyson, 25 to 50c; Season's congous, 1885-6, 20 to 55c. Syrups, corn, \$2.25 to \$2.60; sugar cane, \$2.10 to \$2.35; T. and B. tobacco, 50c per pound; P. of W., butts 47c; P. of W. caddies, 48c; Honeysuckle, 7s, 55c; Brier, 7s, 55c; Laurel Bright Navy, 3s, 57c; Index d. thick Solace, 6s, 48c; Brunotte Solace, 12s, 48c.

CANNED GOODS.

A Montreal report says: "In the Province of Quebec alone, it is believed the pack of tomatoes will be fully 15,000 cases in excess of that of last year. Sales have transpired in this market at \$1.20 to \$1.25 per dozen cans." Quotations here still remain as follows: Salmon, \$7.00; mackerel, \$6.00; lobsters, \$6.50 to \$7; sardines (French), ¼ tins, 14c; ½ tins, 24c; cove oysters, \$5.25; corn, \$3.25, peas \$4, tomatoes \$3.75, baked beans \$2.75 per dozen, corned beef \$3, lunch tongues, 2 lbs. \$6.50 to \$7.00; 1 lb, \$3.25. Fruit in 2 lb. tins, per doz: pears, \$2.50 to \$2.75, strawberries, \$2.50 to \$2.75; plums, \$2.25 to \$2.50, peaches, \$3.75, raspberries, \$2.50 to \$2.75.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

Business is steady, with a fair movement. Quotations are as follows: Cut nails, 10d and larger, \$3.75 to \$4.00; I. C. tin plates, \$5.50 to \$5.75; I. C. tin plates, double, \$11 to \$11.50; Canada plates, \$3.75 to \$3.90; sheet iron, \$3.50 to \$5.00, according to grade; iron pipe, 35 to 40 per cent off list prices; ingot tin, 28 to 30c per lb., according to quality; bar iron, \$3.00 to \$3.50 per 100 lbs.; shot, 6 to 6½c per lb.; tarred felt, \$2.75 to \$2.95 per 100 lbs.; barbed wire, 6½ to 7c.

HIDES.

Prices unchanged. Quotations are: Winnipeg inspection, No. 1, 6c; No. 2, 5c; bulls, 4c; calf, fine-haired ree veal, 7 to 13 pound skins, No. 1, 8c; No. 2, 6c; sheep pelts, 30 to 65c; tallow, 3½ to 4c.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

Several changes will be noted in the following quotation: Spanish sole, 28 to 31c; slaughter sole, 33 to 35c; French calf, first choice \$1.25 to \$1.50; Canadian calf, 90c to \$1.00; French kip, \$1 to \$1.10; B Z kip, 85 to 90c; Bourdon kip, 75c; slaughter kip, 55 to 65c; No 1, wax upper, 45 to 50c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, 31 to 34c for plump stock. American oak sole, 45 to 60c; buffe, 17 to 22c a foot; cordovan, 23 to 25c; pebble, 21 to 23c; colored linings, 12c.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS.

Prices are as follows: Turpentine, 80c in five-gallon cans, or 75c in barrels; Linseed oil

\$1.25; neatst oil, \$1.50; linseed oil, raw, 75c per gallon; boiled, 78c in barrels or 5c advanced in five-gallon lots; seal oil, steam refined, \$1; castor, 12½c per lb.; lard, No. 1, \$1.25 per gal.; olive, oil, pure, \$1.50; union salad, \$1.25; machine oils, black 25 to 40c; oleine, 40c; fine qualities, 50 to 75c. Coal oils, silver star, 20c; headlight, 28c; water white, 30c. American oils, Eocene, 34c; water white, 31c; sunlight, 27c. Calcined plaster, \$3.75 per barrel; Portland cement, \$5 to \$5.50; white lead, genuine, \$7.00; No. 1 \$6.50; No. 2 \$6.00; window glass, first break, \$2.25

WINE AND SPIRITS.

Prices do not give any sign of change. Quotations are: Gooderham & Wort's five year old, \$2.40; seven year old, \$3; old rye, \$1.75; Jules Robin brandy, \$4.50; Bisquet Debouche & Co., \$4.50; Martell, vintage 1885, \$6.50, vintage 1880, \$7.50; Hennessy, \$6.50 to \$7.50 for vintage 1885 to 1880; DeKuyper gin, \$3.50; Port wine, \$2.50 and upwards; Sherry \$2.50 and upwards; Jamaica rum, \$1.00 to \$1.50; DeKuyper red gin, \$11.50 per case; DeKuyper green gin, \$6.50 per case; Tom Gin, \$9.00 to \$10.00; Martel and Hennessy's brandy, one star, \$14 per case of 12 bottles: v. o. \$19; v. s. o. p., \$22.

WOOL.

Prices are: Cotswold and Leicester, washed and in merchantable condition, 12 to 15c; do. un- washed, 10 to 12c. Montana and Oregon fine wools, unwashed, 13 to 15c, when in good condition.

THE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

GENERAL WHEAT REVIEW.

Wheat centres were on the whole considerably stronger last week, and though speculative activity was not greatly improved yet there seemed to be an undercurrent of firmness. The bullish element has been so repeatedly downed, however of late, that it is presumed they have very little spirit or cash left, with which to put their shoulders to the wheel, and make a vigorous effort to stand under the market. The general opinion seems to be that at the first sign of weakness they are more likely to stand firm under, and let prices tumble. The firmer feeling of last week may be the beginning of a steady appreciation in values, and it may prove only a temporary reaction from a very depressed state. Time will tell. The markets opened weak on Monday with an expected large increase in the visible supply, but later in the day when the figures were posted, showing an actual decrease of 159,000 bushels, the feeling at Chicago and other points became quite firm. The statistical position of wheat on this continent was never much more favorable for a well sustained advance, if not carried too far. The visible supply now stands at 31,071,487 bushels, against 47,540,666 bushels one year ago, or in round numbers 16,500,000 bushels less than one year ago. Receipts of wheat at the four principal spring wheat markets of Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Duluth and Chicago, since the beginning of the crop year on July 1st last to date amount to 9,010,667 bushels against

13,353,511 bushels up to this date last year. At the four principal winter wheat markets of Toledo, St. Louis, Detroit and Kansas City the total receipts since the commencement of the crop year, on August 1st last, to date, amount to 18,241,371 bushels against 21,184,391 bushels up to the same date last year. It will therefore be observed that receipts of new wheat for this crop year aggregate over 7,000,000 bushels less than last year to the same date. Last week a year ago the visible increased 2,670,000 bushels. Exports from Atlantic ports announced on Monday were 330,500 barrels of flour and 1,218,400 bushels of wheat, against 153,482 barrels of flour and 1,679,564 bushels of wheat for the corresponding week last year. Exports from Atlantic ports to date for this crop year, wheat and flour, are about 7,000,000 bushels greater than for the same time last year, and Pacific ports show the same increase in exports. British markets were reported easy last week, with native wheats 6d to 1s lower, and markets for foreign wheat in buyers' favor.

LOCAL WHEAT.

Deliveries of wheat by farmers at provincial points have been gradually increasing, and at some points had reached considerable proportion. At Gretna and Morden receipts were the largest, where on some days they reached 5,000 to 6,000 bushels. There was also some movement at Portage la Prairie. At Brandon there was scarcely anything doing, and taking the province as a whole there is nothing like a general movement yet. The first shipment of new wheat from Port Arthur was made on Tuesday last, and the first complete wheat train left Gretna for Port Arthur also last week. Buyers are now pretty well located, though some dealers have not yet sent out buyers. Fears are expressed that there will be trouble to get transport by railway as soon as a general movement commences, as a great crush is looked for. Threshers continue to report heavy yields, but a good deal of grain will be reduced somewhat in quality, in some sections, from the rains toward the close of harvest. There is no particular change to note in prices, No. 1 hard being quoted at 60c at Winnipeg, and at 52 to 55 cents at provincial points, according to freight rates. No. 2 hard and No. 1 Northern quoted 3 cents under No. 1 hard. No. 2 northern quoted 2 cents under No. 1 northern.

FLOUR.

Flour is in good demand for export eastward, and better prices have been obtained. Shipments of new flour, as well as some old, have been moving freely. The reduction in freight rates has not been favorable to millers, so far as the local trade is concerned. The reduction in freight rates has made wheat worth just that much more for export, and city millers are obliged to pay the advanced price for the wheat though they have not advanced the price of flour to the local trade. To equalize matters, a proportionate reduction in the local freight rates on wheat shipped from provincial points to the city, should be made. Flour for shipment eastward is not so affected, as it is given the benefit of the reduced rate. Quotations to the local trade are as follows: Patents, \$2.15; strong bakers', \$1.89 to \$1.90; XXXX, \$1.35 to \$1.40; superfine, scarce at \$1.15 to \$1.25.

MILLSTUFFS

Steady, at \$10 for bran and \$12 for shorts, per ton; Ground feed, \$25 to \$30 per ton.

OATS.

Only a few loads have been offered on the market, and sold for from 28 to 30c. Cars on track here are worth about 30 cents. A few were moving.

OATMEAL.

Manitoba millers will likely export both to Eastern Canada and British Columbia this

season. Quotations have been asked for from the East. Prices to local dealers are: \$2.55 for granulated and \$2.40 for standard.

POTATOES.

Exports to Ontario markets continue to be made freely. Dealers usually pay 25c per bushel, though at some of the more distant provincial points only 20c is offered.

EGGS.

Not many arriving, and prices steady at 15c in case lots, to the city trade.

BUTTER.

The scarcity of choice butter continues, and very little is coming to market. The price has now gone above an export basis, especially as it is noted that Eastern markets are commencing to weaken. The butter season is now coming on, and with increasing receipts at Montreal and other eastern markets, it is likely that prices will not be maintained at the high figure which they have reached during the summer. Last week prices were shaded ½ to 1c at Montreal, which denotes a marked reduction in quotations. Here country holders seem to entertain large ideas of the value of butter. One trader is said to have refused 17c for his stock and asked 19c. There should be plenty of butter in the country, as the few cars shipped would not cause a shortage, and it would therefore seem to be a mistake to refuse a good offer. Prices are strong here owing to the temporary scarcity, and dealers have been obtaining as high as 18c in some instances, in small lots to the city trade, for choice. Quotations may be given as ranging from 14 to 18c, according to quality.

CHEESE.

Factorymen appear to be holding at higher figures, and a sale requires considerable negotiation. Nothing could be obtained for 11c, if indeed as low, many holding at about 12c.

LARD.

Unchanged at \$2.25 to \$2.30 per 20-pound pail.

PROVISIONS.

Quotations are almost nominal for home-cured, as packers are about cleaned out of stocks. The lowest quotations for the home-cured product are as follows: Long clear 11c; smoked breakfast bacon, 14c; rolls, 12½c; hams, 15c. Prices for the plain product, and canvassed subject to an advance of ½c. Eastern Canada provisions are quoted in this market at 15 to 15½c for hams; plain roils, 12½c; long clear, 11c. Chicago hams, 15½ to 16½c etc.

DRESSED MEAT.

Beef steady at 4 to 5½c for sides. Pork very scarce and strong at 9½c. Mutton quoted at 10c and veal at 7c.

LIVE STOCK.

There is no change in the situation as regards cattle, and plenty are to be had at 2½c for choice, and 2 to 2½c for medium to good. Hogs are very scarce. Packers have been obliged to suspend operations, and butchers can hardly keep up their stock of fresh pork. Only a few hogs arrived during the week and were picked up by butchers. A good hog is now worth as much as a cow. A farmer carried a dressed hog into the market the other day on his shoulders, for which he obtained \$25. About 6c per pound, live weight, could now be obtained. A buyer who was out through the country last week failed to obtain any quantity, and reports that hogs are not fit for the market, as they require feeding. He thinks that they will be plentiful in about a month.

The man who wanted the earth has concluded to take water.

Some men are so penurious that they keep everything they get hold of, except the ten commandments.

A man who advertised for a permanent position, where salary was no object, was advised to try the cemetery.

EASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO

September wheat opened at 67½c on Monday and ranged from that price to 68c during the day. The unexpected decrease in the visible held up prices. Corn advanced ½c from the opening price of 40½c for September. Short ribs advanced 27½c, but closed 7c lower than the top. Other prices about unchanged. Closing prices were :

	Sept.	Oct.
Wheat	67½	68½
Corn	41½	41½
Oats	25½	25½
Pork	—	—
Lard	6.35	6.35
Short Ribs	8.42½	8.42½

Pork Year, \$12.00; January, \$12.30.

On Tuesday September wheat ranged from 67½ to 68½c, and October from 68½ to 69½c. There were no features of importance, though it was developed that there was a large short interest. Closing prices were :

	Sept.	Oct.
Wheat	68½	69
Corn	41½	41½
Oats	25½	25½
Pork	—	—
Lard	6.35	6.35
Short Ribs	8.50	8.50

Wheat was rather firm, but quiet on Wednesday. An attempt to cover shorts sent up prices ½c toward the close. Closing prices were :

	Sept.	Oct.
Wheat	69½	69½
Corn	41	41½
Oats	25½	25½
Pork	—	—
Lard	6.35	6.35
Short Ribs	8.25	8.25

Wheat was stronger on Thursday, owing to low grading of new wheat. There was more nervous activity than usual, and prices moved upward and downward on a wider range of fluctuations. Closing prices were :

	Sept.	Oct.
Wheat	69½	70
Corn	40½	41
Oats	25½	25½
Pork	—	—
Lard	6.32½	6.32½
Short Ribs	8.27½	8.27½

On Friday October wheat opened at 70c and declined ½c, notwithstanding that Liverpool was quoted stronger, with spot 1d. higher. By noon a gain of ½c from the lowest point had been made, October reaching 70½c. Provisions advanced all along the line. In the afternoon there was a decline in all commodities. Closing prices were :

	Sept.	Oct.
Wheat	67½	70
Corn	40½	40½
Oats	25½	25½
Pork	—	—
Lard	6.37½	6.37½
Short Ribs	8.27½	8.27½

Pork—Year, \$11.85; January, \$12.17½.

On Saturday October opened at 69½c. May was quoted at 78 to 78½c, but sold down by noon to 77½c. November had sold down from 71½ to 71½c. Corn was a shade easier. Closing prices to hear from.

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET.

The last half hour on Saturday, Sept. 17th,

prices fell away ½ to ¾c. Monday steadied up, and prices only fluctuated ½c. Stocks in store on Monday showed a small decrease for the week when they were 4,671,000 bushels less than a year ago. On Wednesday a large cash business was done. Receipts are increasing; 160 cars were received on Tuesday, of which 100 were No. 1 hard. Closing prices for No. 1 hard on each day of the week were :

	Cash	Oct	Dec.
Monday	70	70	72½
Tuesday	70½	70½	72½
Wednesday	71½	71½	73
Thursday	—	71½	73½
Friday	72½	72½	73½

On Saturday quotations were: Cash, 72c; October, 72½c; December, 73½c; May, 79½. Closing prices to hear from.

MINNEAPOLIS.

Old wheat is now scarce and no longer quoted. Quotations are therefore for new. Quotations are about 2c lower than a week ago. Closing prices on Thursday were :

	Cash.	Oct.	On track
No. 1 hard	60½	60½	70½
No. 1 northern	66	66	79
No. 2 ..	60	61	62-64

Flour quotations were: Patent sacks to local dealers, \$4.10 to \$4.25 patent, to ship sacks, car lots, \$4.05 to \$4.15 in barrels, \$4.20 to \$4.30; bakers', \$3.35 to \$3.60; superfine, \$1.85 to \$2.40; red dog, sacks, \$1.45 to \$1.55; red dog, barrels, \$1.70 to \$1.80.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

GRAIN.

Quotations were given for grain as follows: Manitoba No. 1 hard, 87c; Manitoba 2 hard, 85c; Manitoba 1 northern, 85c; Canada red winter wheat, 85c to 87c; white winter, 85c to 87c; Canada spring, 85c to 87c; peas, 74c per 66 lbs.; oats, 31 to 32c per 32 lbs.; rye, 50c to 55c; barley, 48 to 55c.

FLOUR.

Sales of St Louis and Minneapolis flour have been made for Newfoundland. Manitoba flour was in good demand, and strong bakers sold freely at \$4.40 to \$4.50.

BUTTER.

Exports are the largest since 1881. Prices were easier, but holders were inclined to be firm, consequently not much business was done. Prices are as follows: Creamery, 21 to 23½c; townships, 17 to 21c; western, 15 to 17½c; low grades, 8 to 12c.

CHEESE.

Quotations were unchanged, and little business doing. English buyers are going to New York, on account of lower prices there. Prices: Finest July, 11½c to 12c; fine, 11½ to 11½c; medium, 10½ to 10½c; finest August, 12½ to 12½.

LIVE STOCK.

Cattle stronger at 1 to 4½c for export. Butchers' cattle 2½ to 4½c. Hogs ½ to ¾c higher at 5 to 5½c.

General Notes.

N. J. HALPIN, of Brandon, will open a branch drug store at Virten, Man.

Geo. Muller, Emerson; Man., has shipped a carload of potatoes to Ontario.

J. Rothnie will buy grain for the Ogilvie Co. at Fikhorn, Man., during the coming season.

Miss M. Mashinter, milliner, Portage la Prairie, who contemplated removing her business to Winnipeg, has given up the idea.

A VALUABLE consignment of furs was shipped east last week by the Hudson Bay Co. The value of the consignment is nearly \$250,000.

Keenleyside, of Brandon, grain buyer, will be at Broadview, Assa., on the 26th, to make arrangements for shipping grain from that place.

The machinery of the Joyner & Elkington's mill at Fort Qu'Appelle has been overhauled and put in trim for turning out first class work.

A. C. LOGAN has been fined \$100 and costs by Provincial Magistrate Todd, of Brandon, for selling liquor without a license at Griswold station.

All the machinery for the farmers' elevator at Portage la Prairie has arrived and is being put in position. Everything will be ready for handling grain in a few days.

The contract for the stone foundation for the mill elevator at Rapid City, Man., has been let to T. Houlding who has commenced work. The contract for the wood-work has not yet been let.

Steps are being taken for the formation of a joint stock company at Prince Albert, Saskatchewan Territory, for fitting up and carrying on a flour mill in the building lately erected by Thos. McKay.

THE tax sales for the municipality of Portage la Prairie took place Thursday. The bidding was more spirited than usually characterizes such sales, some of the bids being as high as \$1,000 and over.

A GENTLEMAN in Winnipeg has received enquiries from a large brewing firm in England as to the probability of obtaining from 500,000 to a 1,000,000 bushels of barley in this country. He thinks that he could safely guarantee fifty cents a bushel here if the barley was forth coming.

F. Fraser Tims and Brothers, of Swift Current, have taken up a horse and cattle ranch near Beaver Lake, some 400 or 500 miles north-west from Swift Current. Wm. Tims is leaving next week for the new location. He will take some 20,000 pounds of freight and will open up a store immediately on his arrival at the lake, the necessary buildings having already been erected.

Vancouver News. This fine vessel sailed from Yokohama on the 14th inst. for this port with 2,500,000 lbs. of tea for shipment over the C. P. R. to various points, and 700,000 lbs. for San Francisco, and 700 bales of silk besides a large miscellaneous cargo. She brings 21 cabin passengers and 7 Chinese steerage passengers. The agent of the line here, expects that she will arrive about Sept. 26th.

THE Toronto World says: "Mr. H. M. Napier, of the famous Glasgow ship building firm of Napier, Shanks, Bell & Co., is on his way to Vancouver, where the firm contemplate establishing a branch of their business, should the prospect of success be as favorable as the enterprising firm are led to believe. It is to be hoped that other capitalists will follow the example of Mr. Napier, and while developing the vast resources of Canada, secure for themselves the best fruits of successful speculation."

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365 MAIN STREET,

WINNIPEG.

Northwest Trade and General News.

Deloraine, Man., wants a newspaper.

A harnessmaker is wanted at Oak Lake, Man.

Minnedosa merchants talk of organizing a board of trade.

H. Wood and H. Travis will open a music store and agency at Birtle, Man.

Wm. Cairns, general merchant, McGregor, Man., is building a new store at that place.

W. J. Munbey has moved from his farm to Rapid City and has opened a law office in that town.

The by-law to provide funds for fire protection was carried at Rat Portage by a large majority, the vote standing 28 to 1.

It is said the Imperial Bank of Canada are considering the advisability of opening a branch of their bank at Rat Portage.

A correspondent says there is a good opening at Millwood, Man., on the M. & N. W. Ry., for a saddler and a shoemaker.

The 300 Icelandic immigrants who arrived lately, make up a total of about 2,000 of these people who have arrived here this summer.

McCormick Bros., grocers, Oak Lake, Man., have purchased the residence of D. Moore, which they will fit up and occupy as a store.

According to the local paper, some \$3,000 worth of western horses have been sold to the farmers around Neepawa during the past summer.

A real estate agent representing a Duluth syndicate, is said to have made offers for the purchase of water lots and other desirable property at Port Arthur.

T. McNutt, of Minnedosa, Man., has been appointed manager of the new English colony near Langenburg, on the M. & N. W. Ry. He will shortly take up his residence there.

Manitoba country merchants and traders have shipped potatoes to Ontario in considerable quantities. J. M. Lawrie, of Birtle, recently wanted a number of cars for this purpose.

A committee consisting of Cavers, Cowan, McKinnon, Stuart, Freeman and Taylor, was appointed at a public meeting held at Deloraine, Man., to look after the interests of the town.

H. A. Perley, of Carberry, now has charge of the C.P.R. dining halls at Broadview, Moosejaw and Swift Current. An improvement in the management of these institutions may therefore be expected.

Port Arthur *Sentinel*. It is stated that steps are being taken to form a company for the purpose of constructing a mammoth steamer to be employed in the grain and coal trade between this place and eastern ports.

Last week at Medicine Hat, prices were: Butter, fresh, 30c lb.; tub, 20 to 25c; eggs, fresh, 30c doz; packed, 15 to 20c; potatoes, \$7.50 per bushel or 2½c per pound; oats, 65c bushel; ground feed, \$35 ton.

Pense is a station on the C.P.R. 17 miles from Regina. H. W. Hansell has established himself in the general store business at the place, and A. Blair also has a general store, which is the pioneer business at that point.

Alfred Clee is building a new hotel at Russell, Man.

Galt coal sells at \$8 50 per ton delivered, at Moose Jaw, Assu.

A tax sale of Winnipeg city property will be held on October 24th.

Sinclair Bros will have their new hotel at Holland, Man., opened in a few weeks.

Geo. Muller, of Emerson, Man., is buying potatoes in large quantities, for shipment to Ontario markets.

Mr. Chute, formerly of Fort Qu'Appelle, has taken charge of the Hudson Bay Co's store at Shoal Lake, Man.

Mr. Walsh, of the Bell Telephone Company is at Regina, completing the arrangements for the construction of a telephone system in the town.

A demand has sprung up lately for cultivated farm lands in the Birtle district, several sales were made throughout the district, the result of the recent farmer's excursion from Ontario.

The West Algoma Agricultural Society will hold its first exhibition at Port Arthur on Oct. 6. About \$500 will be offered in prizes, including some \$50 given as special premiums by the merchants of the town.

A correspondent at Rosecurvis, Assu., writes: "We are in great hopes of the C.P.R. being extended from Deloraine west some 70 or 80 miles this fall, as it will be impossible to team out the grain this season, some farmers having as much as fifty acres in and many 100 acres.

Quotations to farmers at Brandon last week were: Wheat, only a few loads brought in, and sold at 48 to 52c; oats, few offered, at 20 to 25c; butter, scarce, at 14 to 18c; eggs 13 to 15c; potatoes 20 to 25c; cattle 2 to 2½c live weight. No hogs offered. Sheep offered freely, at 4½c live weight; lambs 5c.

The Winnipeg tax rate has been fixed at 17½ mills on the dollar, against 19½ mills last year. This includes the school rate of 3½ mills. The total amount required to be raised for interest on debentures and current expenditure, other than school tax, is \$334,378; for Protestant schools \$60,000; for Catholic schools \$2,865. The total of ratable property is placed at \$19,394,410.

At the last meeting of the council of the Municipality of Birtle, the following resolution was passed. "That the council desire to place on record their feeling of sympathy with the prospects of building the Red River Valley, and trust that it may soon be completed and in operation." This must be taken as a slap at the Birtle *Observer*, which is one of the three Manitoba papers which has thrown cold water on the scheme.

The creditors of the Old Souris and Rocky Mountain Railway Company (succeeded by the Northwest Central) have been offered 50 cents on the dollar for their claims, and the offer has been accepted. The Northwest Central became liable to a certain extent for the debts of the Rocky Mountain Railway, when it was given the charter for the road. It is reported that the Clemow syndicate now controlling the charter, will commence work at once, but the rumor cannot be accepted with any degree of faith.

At Portage la Prairie town property is commencing to move, sales of houses and lots at good figures having been reported. Some of the sales have been made to farmers who with the proceeds of their big crops are buying winter residences in town. General business, which has been very dull indeed the past few months, is looking up and a big fall trade is expected.

Brandon *Times*. The whole assessment of the city amounts to \$1,930,890. On this sum it has been decided to levy a rate of 15 mills on the dollar. This will give a sum of \$28,963.34, of which the school board require \$7,501. The 15 mills are made up of 3 and 89-100 mills on the dollar for schools; debentures and sinking fund, seven mills; ordinary expenses, 3 and 38-100 mills, and to meet the levy made by the Municipal Commissioner, 73-100 of a mill.

A Port Arthur despatch reads: Work is to be commenced at once on the Port Arthur, Duluth and Western Railway, which has been talked about during the last four or five years. The contract to build the first forty miles of road to the mines has been let to Messrs. Grant & Ross, and was signed to-day. The forty miles are to be finished by August 1st, 1888. The chief promoters of the enterprise are Sir Alexander Galt, Thomas Marks, of Port Arthur, and Alex. McEwen, of London, Eng. Bonds will soon be issued. This road will open up one of the richest mineral fields in the world.

The power of local self-government is to be extended in the Territories to include ordinances in relation to the following subjects: (1) Direct taxation within the territory, in order to the raising of a revenue for territorial (including municipal) purposes. (2) The incorporation of companies with territorial objects, with the following exceptions: (a) such companies as cannot be incorporated by a provincial legislature; (b) railway, tramway, steamboat, canal, transportation, telegraph and telephone companies; (c) insurance companies. Now that the people have been given the privilege of taxing themselves, they should be happy.

At a public meeting held at Calgary, Alberta, to consider the liquor regulations in force in the Territories. A resolution was submitted to the meeting approving of the establishment in the Territories of a high license system and disapproving of the granting of permits. It was claimed that a license system would check, and wholly prevent the smuggling and illegal selling now so rife in the Territories, put the sale of spirits into respectable hands, and at the same time swell the revenue of the town and prevent large sums being sent out of the country. The following resolutions were submitted and carried by a large majority: "Resolved that the present system with reference to the liquor traffic, which obtains in the Northwest Territories, is one that has been shown by a number of years' experience to be impossible to carry out, and which in its present condition is injurious, both morally and financially to the progress and welfare of the Territories. "Resolved that Calgary has especially felt the evils of the present system, the illicit liquor traffic having reached in this district enormous proportions and that in the opinion of this meeting the evil would be to a great extent remedied by the extension to the

town of the license system, in the modified form of granting the Lieutenant Governor's permits to responsible parties in Calgary, for the importation and sale of beers and other liquors. "Resolved that the issue of the Governor-General's permit to a responsible firm to manufacture beer in the district is greatly to be desired, both as leading to the establishment of a large industry and a consequent market for barley and other produce, and as also leading to the diminution of the huge proportions of the present illicit trade in liquor.

Montreal *Gazette*, Sept. 13:—The pioneer shipment of cattle from the Northwest this season has arrived here. They were bought by William Bell of Winnipeg, at points about one hundred miles west of that city. The animals were grass fed and showed first-class quality, which will stand comparison with any lot leaving this port, especially when the length of the journey is considered, the cattle having been six days on the road, of which four and a half days was the actual running. The lot was sold on this market to Jones & Restrick, exporters, who placed the cattle on board the SS. Ontario for Bristol, consigned to William Cruit, of Liverpool.

The proposed agriculture convention for the Territories will be held in Regina on Oct. 11th and 12th. "The committee invite papers on the following topics: 1, mixed farming; 2, plowing; 3, harrowing; 4, agricultural machinery; 5, progress of agricultural exhibitions in the Northwest; 6, dairy farming; 7, cheese making; 8, varieties of grain most suitable to soils and climates of the Northwest Territories; 9, cultivation of grasses; 10, stock raising; 11, best breeds of stock for the Northwest Territories; 12, how can poultry be made profitable in the Northwest Territories; 13, tree culture on the prairie; 14, prairie vs. timber lands, and any other appropriate subject which delegates select.

As a result of several meetings held at Winnipeg, the Manitoba Anti-Disallowance Association has been formed. The society will be non-political. The resolution forming the association declares it to be for the purpose of "opposing the impolitic, unjust and tyrannical action of the Dominion Government in disallowing the railway charters enacted by our Local Legislature and supporting the present monopoly of the Canadian Pacific railway within the old Province of Manitoba; and we hereby pledge ourselves to stand by our Local Government and Legislature in every effort of theirs to break through that monopoly; and we resolve to use all justifiable means to resist the present invasion of the rights intended to be secured to every province of the Dominion by the British North America Act; and we thereby affirm that the policy of disallowance of local charters for the construction of railways within the limits of the old Province of Manitoba retards the national progress not only of Manitoba and the Northwest but of the Dominion at large. It discourages immigration; it prevents the national development of trade between the Northwest and the other provinces of the Dominion and in the Northwest itself, to which national development of trade competition in railway carriage between all the provinces is

essentially necessary. It is therefore not a policy of progress but a policy of retardation injurious alike to Manitoba, the Northwest Territories and the rest of the Dominion, and as such is inconsistent with the spirit of our constitution and being in no way required by the terms of the contract with the C.P.R. Co., we demand that this policy of disallowance be abandoned." The association is intended to be provincial in its nature, with branches throughout the province. All persons subscribing to the declaration may become members on payment of \$1.

Grain and Milling News.

A. W. Badger will buy grain for the Ogilvie company at Glenora, Man.

A grain special of 27 cars left Gretna on Tuesday, for Port Arthur.

Body & Noaks have completed a flax-seed warehouse at Gretna, Man.

M. Thompson shipped the first car of new wheat from Rapid City on Sept. 14th.

Thos. Greenway, M.P.P., is fitting up and improving his flour mill at Crystal City, Man.

The Rapid City mill will be run day and night and will grind from 500 to 600 bushels every 24 hours.

Chalmers Bros. & Bethune are putting up a grain warehouse at Pilot Mound, Man., and intend buying grain.

McBean Bros., of Winnipeg, have leased the joint stock grain warehouse at Crystal City, Man., and will place a grain buyer on that market.

Birtle *Observer*: A. Atkinson, of Roblin & Atkinson, grain dealers, Winnipeg, has completed arrangements for the purchase of grain at this place.

P Grbach has arrived in Manitoba, to buy flax-seed for the linsed mill at Baden, Ontario. He expects to get 100,000 bushels principally from the Mennonite settlements.

The voting on a by law in the municipality of Turtle Mountain, granting bonuses to aid in the construction of mills at Boissevain and Killarney, took place on Sept. 17th. The by-law is reported to have been carried.

Little's elevator at Cypress River, Man., was burned to the ground on Wednesday morning. Loss about \$4,000. The elevator was insured in the North American for \$1,000, and was empty at the time. Two empty box cars were also burned.

Brudstreet's: The Canadian Pacific has made a reduction of 5c, per 100 pounds in the rate on grain between Winnipeg and Port Arthur, which it is thought is with the object of allaying the popular complaint in Manitoba regarding the high rates it has charged.

When the C.P.R. first announced its reduction in the wheat rates from Manitoba points to Port Arthur, the city dailies reported that the reduction would amount to four to five cents per bushel. The mistake has been repeated by the country papers, the latter claiming that wheat should be advanced four to five cents per bushel to correspond with the reduced freights. Now railroads never quote rates by the bushel but by the hundredweight, and the reduction

is upon 100 pounds, which makes it only 2½ to 3 cents per bushel.

Through the stupidity of the Winnipeg dailies, in announcing that the C.P.R. Co. had made another reduction of 4 to 5 cents per 100 pounds in the wheat freight rates, the report has gone abroad that the company has reduced its rates to Lake Superior ports 10 cents per hundred weight United States and Eastern Canadian papers have extensively published that such a reduction has been made. The mistake arose from the fact that the company first reduced the rates from Manitoba points to Lake Superior only, but afterwards extended a similar reduction to shipments made direct by the all rail route to Montreal and Eastern Canadian points.

According to Department of Agriculture estimates the Dakota wheat crop of 1886 was 30,704,000 bushels on 2,675,000 acres. The territorial statistician computed the area as 3,249,490 acres, or 2½ per cent. greater than the department estimate. For 1887 the department makes an increase of 24 per cent. implying 3,317,000 acres, while the territorial office makes 20 per cent. increase, or 3,899,389 acres, or nearly 18 per cent. more than the department calculation. The 1st of August report of the territorial office stated that the "yield for the territory will be at least an average one and that the wheat crop of 1887 will run considerably over 40,000,000 bushels.

Personal.

W. F. Doll, wholesale jeweller, has returned from the Pacific coast.

Mr. A. G. McBean, of McBean Bros., grain dealers, has returned from an extended trip east.

Mr. T. H. Schneider, late of the firm of Schneider & Taylor, has moved to Montreal where he will act as agent of the Federal Life Insurance Company.

Mr. R. J. Whitla, of R. J. Whitla & Co. wholesale dry goods, will shortly leave for a trip across the Atlantic, and will be absent until about Christmas time.

Mr. J. W. Peddie has returned from a trip through Southern Manitoba, for the wholesale houses which he represents, and reports finding business generally improved.

Mr. Geo. Spence, of W. J. Gage & Co., wholesale booksellers and stationers, etc., Toronto, returned home last week, after making a successful trip in the interests of his house. Mr. Spence went as far west as Victoria, B.C.,

Mr. A. Weir, representing Christie, Brown & Co., wholesale biscuits, etc., Toronto, arrived in the city on Friday, on his second trip to this season. He will go through to the Pacific coast.

Owing to the partial failure of the potato crop in Ontario, especially in the western district, buyers are looking to Manitoba for their supply. Already the Canadian Pacific railway authorities have received applications asking for the prices of potatoes in Manitoba and the cost of shipping them to points in Ontario. This is an entirely new trade, as never before have Manitoba potatoes been shipped to Ontario for home consumption.

WHAT ARE WE DRINKING ?

IT IS A FACT that there is an enormous quantity of something being sold at the present time under the name of Coffee which is an insult to the name and an imposition upon the public. In view of this fact it is the duty of every dealer to purchase his Coffee of a reliable house and to protect his own interests by giving his customers pure Goods. We have established a reputation for Pure Coffee which is equalled by no firm in the Dominion, and we intend to hold fast to a reputation so justly earned.

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The Housekeeper for October will contain a full account of the wedding of the manageress of that paper, in the Minneapolis, Minn., Exposition, on the evening of Sept. 28th, together with accurate descriptions and illustrations of the participants' wedding dresses and presents. A copy of this issue will be mailed free to any of our lady readers sending their address to the Buckeye Publishing Company, Minneapolis, Minn.

James Armstrong, manager of the York Colony, writes from Toronto, to the effect that the Yorkton Agricultural Society won the Dominion diploma at the Toronto, Dominion and Industrial Fair, for a collection of grain sent down by the society for exhibition. The York Colony is situated in the Territory of Assiniboia, west of the boundary of Manitoba, and not far from the present terminus of the Northwestern railway.

British Columbia.

The San Francisco *Journal of Commerce* will write up the industries of Victoria.

A preliminary meeting has been held at New Westminster, with the object of establishing a provincial fruit grocers' association.

S. Greenshields, Son & Co., wholesale dry goods, Montreal, have opened an agency at Vancouver, in charge of Wm. Skene.

The licensed vintners of Victoria, New Westminster, Vancouver and Nanaimo talk of uniting and forming a provincial organization in self interest.

E. G. Prior & Co., iron, hardware and implements, Victoria, have opened a stock of hardware at Kamloops, where they also carry a stock of implements, wagons, etc.

Twelve carloads of salmon were shipped via the C.P.R. from New Westminster on Sept. 13th, consigned as follows: 5 to Montreal, 2 to Toronto, 2 to London, Ont., 1 to Ottawa, 1 to Kingston, 1 to Drumbo.

The Commercial Mills of Vancouver, shipped lately another consignment of six carloads of building material to the Northwest. The sash, door and blind factory in course of erection for the company is rapidly going ahead.

The SS. Mexico, arrived on Sept. 16th, from San Francisco, with a large quantity of California canned fruits, cured salmon, syrup and wine, consigned via the C.P.R. to New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Troy and Minneapolis.

THE COMMERCIAL is pleased to welcome quite a number of the leading merchants of British Columbia to its subscription list. J. C. Devlin, provision and commission merchant, Victoria, and J. & A. Clearihue, also in the same line of business at Victoria, sent in their subscriptions to this journal with the last mail.

News. It cannot be said that the Royal City (New Westminster), is much behind in enterprise and improvements. The population has nearly doubled within the last three years, so it is stated by those who are in a position to know. The Electric Light also is expected to be in operation soon: a local joint stock company is now being organized for the purpose of introducing it.

Henry Arkell, commission and produce merchant, Vancouver, writes denying the report current in commercial circles that he intended retiring from business. He explains that some time ago he offered for sale his building and the lease of the ground on which it stands, and incidentally remarked that he would sell his business too if he got his price, a remark that any business man might make.

The Westminster Woollen Manufacturing Company (Limited), was incorporated in 1886, for the purpose of manufacturing wool into blankets, flannels, tweeds, yarn and woollen goods generally, and selling the same by wholesale and retail and buying and selling wool. The amount of the capital stock of the company is \$16,000, divided into 640 shares of \$25 each. The provincial government gives a bonus of \$3,000 toward the establishment of the mill, and the city council \$1,000. The principal shareholders at present are: James Punch, John Jennings and John Paris. The building

is three-stories high and has an area of 40x60 feet. This mill has just been completed and commenced running.

Victoria Standard: The prospectus of the Perry Gold Mining Co. has been issued. The company holds extensive leased mineral lands on either side of Perry Creek, Kootenay district, which are now being worked with satisfactory results. The capital stock of the company is stated at \$75,000 and 14,000 shares are now open for public or private subscription on payment of ten cents per share. There can be no doubt that Perry Creek is a very auriferous country and it is hoped that the company may be successful in its efforts to further develop it. The mines are situated 24 miles from Cranbrook. The temporary trustees of the company are: Dr. I. W. Powell, D. R. Harris and Henry Jacoby of this city.

Minneapolis and St. Louis Railway.

The committee on transportation has selected the Minneapolis & St. Louis Railway, commonly known as the "Albert Lea Route," for the transportation of the comrades of the G. A. R. of this department to the National Encampment at St. Louis. The train will leave St. Paul on Sept. 25th, at 3 o'clock p. m., and Minneapolis at 3:30 p. m. It will be a "special" for the use of the comrades and their friends: will be suitably decorated and have ample sleeping and dining room cars for the accommodation of all. It is expected that a good band will accompany this train. The fare will be \$15.85 from St. Paul or Minneapolis to St. Louis and return. Comrades can join the train at any point on the route, and obtain tickets elsewhere in the state to St. Paul or Minneapolis on payment of one full fare one way. The same rates apply to all other routes leading to St. Louis. The headquarters of this department will go over the Albert Lea Route, and be established at rooms 50 and 52 in the Southern Hotel on Sept. 26th. All comrades are requested to report there immediately on their arrival. Tents will be pitched in all parks for such as may desire to occupy them—comrades furnishing their own blankets. The grand parade will occur on the 27th, and will, without doubt, be a most imposing and magnificent pageant. Comrades will, as far as possible, appear in Grand Army uniform. It is especially desirable that all those who intend going by this train should notify the Assistant Adjt. Gen. at St. Paul, or Comrade Robert Stratton at Minneapolis, in order that suitable accommodations may be provided for them.

2. Comrade John B. Sauborn is hereby appointed chief marshal, and will have charge of all arrangements connected with the grand parade by the Department of Minnesota.

3. Comrades F. Seibold, of St. Paul, Edwin Dunn, of Eyota, and ———, of Minneapolis, are detailed as color guard, and will have charge of the department colors. By command L. L. Wheelock, Department Commander, W. W. Braden, Assistant Adjutant General.

SNAPPISH UNCLE—No, George, I'll not help you with a solitary red. You must paddle your own canoe.

Despairing Nephew—But what with, uncle? "A skull—like I did."

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Des Moines Passenger	a 9.30 p.m.	a 7.15 p.m.
Excelsior and Watertown.	a 8.10 a.m.	a 8.45 a.m.
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