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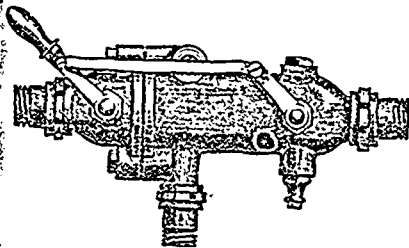
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A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE FINANCIAL, MERCANTILE AND MANUFACTURING INTERESTS OF THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

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

VOL. 4

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 8, 1885.

NO. 14

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 TUESDAY.

THE COMMERCIAL will be mailed to any address in Canada, United States or Great Britain at \$2.00 a year in advance.

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THE COMMERCIAL will be circulated extensively amongst wholesale and retail Merchants, Jobbers, Bankers, Brokers, Manufacturers, Hotel Keepers, Insurance and Loan Agencies throughout the entire Canadian Northwest.

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Office, 4 and 6 James St. East

JAS. E. STEEN,
Publisher.

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 8, 1885.

SCOTT & HAMILTON have opened a law office at Regina.

REDDEKOPF & RIEMER have opened a butcher shop at Morden.

A. WHITTEN has opened a shoe maker's shop at Pilot Mound.

GEO. OFFORD, boot and shoe dealer at Fort Arthur has assigned in trust.

JOHN IZARD, dealer in tinware, Winnipeg, is reported to have left the city.

THOS. HOWARD, general storekeeper at Birtle has opened a branch at Solsgirth.

It is rumored that a tannery will be established at St. Boniface in a short time.

THE stock of Samuel Astin, music dealer, Winnipeg, is to be sold by tender to-day.

SMITH CURTIS, attorney at Portage la Prairie, has formed a partnership with Joseph Martin.

LUNDY & RITCHIE, flour millers at Morden have dissolved partnership. The business in future will be carried on by Ritchie.

THE estate of Wm. Higgins, wholesale boot and shoe dealer, Winnipeg, has been sold out to the Ames Holden Co., in the same line in this city.

R. CLYTON has purchased the wholesale liquor business of Phillip & Co. at Emerson, and will in future carry it on under the firm name of Clyton & Co.

THE latest addition to the press of the Northwest territories is the Lethbridge, N. W. T., which should we think meet with success in such a thriving town as Lethbridge, though a young one.

THE firm of Sibbald, Lindsay & Lynn, carrying on business as general commission merchants at Regina, have dissolved partnership. Lynn retires and the business will in future be carried on by and under the style of Sibbald & Lindsay.

THE Winnipeg Spectator, a weekly journal has suspended publication, for want of a sufficient patronage it is thought. There is some talk of the plant being moved to Rapid City to start a journal there, that field being vacant by the removal of the Standard.

THE grain dealers, millers and other business men of Portage la Prairie have petitioned for the appointment of Deputy Grain Inspector at that place. Mr. Ed. McDonald is the man selected, and steps are being taken by the Winnipeg Board of Trade to secure his early appointment.

A RUMOR reached this city on Saturday that Lieut.-Col. Scott, M.P., was about to resign his seat and accept the position of Collector of Customs at this port. Sir Alexander T. Galt is mentioned as a candidate for the vacant seat, and also for the portfolio of finance at Ottawa. If the rumor be true Mr. Norquay's hopes of a seat in the Dominion Cabinet will be crushed, for the Northwest cannot expect to have two representatives in the Government. Few people here outside of Mr. Norquay and a few of his personal friends will regret much his disappointment. How the importers of the city will like Col. Scott's appointment may affect even Sir Alexander's chances of election here.

WM. WELLBAND, boot and shoe dealer, Winnipeg, is compromising with his creditors at 50c on the \$.

THE stock belonging to the estate of John Cuddy, grocer, Winnipeg, is to be sold by tender to-day.

GEO. MORTON, general storekeeper and saw miller at Turtle Mountain, is about to remove to Wassewa.

APPLICATION have been made for an Act to incorporate the Rock Lake, Souris Brandon Railway to run from Brandon, southerly to the International boundary.

THE following deposits and withdrawals at the Dominion Savings' Bank for the month of November, 1885:

Deposits for month ending 30th Nov. \$56,360.98
Withdrawals 29,058.70

Excess of deposits over withdrawals \$27,302.28

YESTERDAY the nominations for Mayor and Council for the city of Winnipeg took place, when the following gentlemen were nominated: For Mayor, G. R. Crowe and H. S. Westbrook; for alderman for Ward 1, Stewart Mulvey, Wm. Summers and G. W. Baker; for Ward 2, L. M. Jones and A. Pearson, unopposed; for Ward 3, C. Stewart McDonald, J. Calloway, J. Penrose and W. Lynn; for Ward 4, A. McNeen and Thos. Ryan, unopposed; for Ward 5, J. C. Sprole, G. B. Campbell, W. Grundy and Alex. Woods; for Ward 6, Duncan McDonald and E. D. Moore, unopposed.

THE passenger tariff between Winnipeg and points east over the C.P.R. has been issued from the head office here. It shows the fare to the undermentioned places to be as follows:

	1st Class. (unlimited)	1st Class. (limited)	2nd Class. (limited)
Toronto	\$52.10	\$44.00	\$35.00
Ottawa	47.40	45.00	36.00
Montreal	50.40	46.00	38.00
Quebec	54.65	49.00	40.50

THE holder of a limited ticket is compelled to make the trip within four days from the date upon which the ticket is issued, the day of issue being included. The holder of an unlimited ticket is not limited as to the time he shall make the trip.

Business East.

ONTARIO.

Lewis Day, physician, Herwood, is dead.
 Thomas Michael, printer, Aylmer, is dead
 Thos. J. Heron, grocer, Toronto, has sold out.
 Thos. R. Barry, saloon keeper, Toronto, is dead.
 James Donley, hotelkeeper, Park Hill, is dead.
 P. Reiner & Son, tailors, Watford, were burnt out.
 E. B. Reid, baker, Alliston, has sold out to John Bryce.
 L. C. Leonard, dealer in crockery, London, has sold out.
 Alex. S. Murray, jeweler, London, has assigned in trust.
 Wm. Watson, grocer, Toronto; called meeting of creditors.
 Walker Bros., fruit dealers, Deseronto, has sold out to C. Burton.
 Ott & Pool, hardware merchants, Brantford, are giving up business.
 James Scanlon, shoe maker, Stratford; stock sold to Thomas Eawson.
 B. H. Bothwell, book seller, Brantford, has sold out to H. R. Blackwood.
 A. J. Arnold, hotelkeeper, Port Elgin, has sold out to Sparling & Wilke.
 E. W. Hendershott, dealer in dry goods, Dunville, has removed to Wingham.
 W. C. Crawford, hardware merchant, Palmerston, has removed to Tilbury Centre.
 Robt. Allingham, dealer in coal and wood, Toronto, has sold out to James Alderman.
 J. Miller, hotel and general storekeeper, Benmiller, has sold out general store business to Thos. E. Elliott.

QUEBEC.

Savage & Lyman, jewelers, Montreal, have assigned.
 F. E. Viger & Co., tuners, Longueuil, have dissolved.
 Dubois & Desmarais, butchers, Montreal, have dissolved.
 Painchaud & Decarie, carpenters, Montreal, have dissolved.
 Patry & Co., carpenters and joiners, Quebec, have dissolved.
 Charles Bazinet, grocer, Montreal, advertises his business for sale.
 White & Fickus, manufacturing agents, Montreal, have dissolved.
 Sabourin & Frere, general storekeepers, St. Urbain, have dissolved.
 W. M. Cameron & Co., hardware merchants, Montreal, have assigned.

NOVA SCOTIA.

W. H. Payzaant, general storekeeper, Canning, is dead.
 H. J. Porter, general storekeeper, Lower Eel Brook, has assigned.

Recent Legal Decisions.

ASSIGNMENT FOR CREDITOR—MORTGAGE—PREFERENCE.—The Kentucky court of appeals held, in the case of Hoffman et al. vs. Brunn-

ing et al., that a debtor who has not sufficient estate in value to pay his debts, and who, in that condition, mortgages to secure one creditor, gives a preference which is prohibited by law and operates as an assignment for the benefit of all his creditors.

FIRE INSURANCE POLICY—ADDITIONAL INSURANCE—NOTICE.—Under a policy of fire insurance which by its terms is to become void upon the procurement of additional insurance on the same property without the knowledge or consent of the company, notice of an additional insurance to an agent of the company authorized to survey risks, take and forward applications, deliver the policy when sent to him and to collect the premium, is not notice to the company and does not affect it, such an agent having no authority to do any act for the company after the delivery of the policy and the payment of the premium. So held by the Superior Court of Kentucky in the case of the Phoenix Insurance Company vs. Spierz et al., decided Nov. 4.

TAXATION—SHARES IN COMMERCIAL EXCHANGES.—According to the decision of the Supreme Court of Louisiana, in the case of Shrieber vs. The Board of Assessors, the shares of stock of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange have a money value independent of and in addition to the privilege of membership which the ownership of them may secure to the holder. They may be owned and held by a person not a member of the Exchange, and when so held are received as collateral or pledges by banks and other money-lending institutions. They are bought and sold as other stocks are and are therefore included in the taxable property of the holder and owner of them as being a thing possessing money value. Another decision by the same court is to the effect that the shares of the New Orleans Stock Exchange are taxable against the individual holders thereof in the same manner and for the same reason as those of the Cotton Exchange.

CONFLICT OF LAWS—NOTE—PAYMENT.—The question whether a time note given in New Hampshire by a New Hampshire debtor to a Massachusetts creditor has the effect of payment *pro tanto* is to be determined by the law of New Hampshire, according to the decision of the New Hampshire Supreme Court in the case of Gilman vs. Stevens. In this case it appeared that on Sept. 6, 1883, the defendant was indebted to the plaintiff in the sum of \$822.37, upon account for goods sold to him in Boston. On that day one Burr, the plaintiff's traveller, called upon the defendant for money on account; the defendant was unable to pay, but offered his notes amounting to \$500, payable to the plaintiff, \$200 in fourteen, \$150 in thirty and \$150 in forty-five days. Burr had no authority to accept the notes, but received and forwarded them to the plaintiff in Boston, who on September 12 had them discounted. After September 17 the plaintiff paid to the bank the amount of the notes, took them up, and at the trial produced and offered them to the defendant. There was no agreement or mutual understanding that the notes were or were not given and received in payment of the

account *pro tanto*. There was evidence tending to show that it is found that by the law of Massachusetts a promissory note constitutes payment of a pre-existing debt for which it is given, in the absence of any stipulation on the subject. The plaintiff did not intend to extend the time for the payment of the account, and did not do so unless such extension resulted as the legal effect of receiving the notes and disposing of them in the manner stated. The court held that the notes were made and payable in New Hampshire, and that in determining their validity and effect they should be regarded as New Hampshire contracts.

TRADE MARK—INFRINGEMENT.—In the case of the Southern White Lead Company vs. Cavy et al., decided by Judge Gresham, of the United States Circuit Court, it appeared that the plaintiff was a large manufacturer of white lead at St. Louis, which was accustomed to stamp upon the upper end or head of its kegs the words "Southern Company, St. Louis." These words encircled the head of the keg, "St. Louis" forming the lower half of the circle and "Southern Company" the upper half, and they enclosed the words "warranted strictly pure white lead in pure linseed oil." The complainant used another brand or mark in addition to the one already described, by simply stenciling a red crescent upon the upper half of the head of the keg. The defendants were manufacturers of white lead at Chicago. They branded upon the heads of their kegs "Southwestern, St. Louis," surrounding the words "strictly pure white lead," and the words "Southwestern, St. Louis," appeared in the same form as the words "Southern Company, St. Louis." appeared upon the complainant's keg, and the letters were the same in size and appearance. The crescent, however, did not appear on any of the defendants' kegs. The defendants also pasted on the sides of their kegs a label containing the words, "The white lead in this package is guaranteed strictly pure, ground in bleached oil, and for purity, whiteness and durability is not excelled by any lead manufactured." The plaintiff filed a bill to enjoin the defendants from infringing its trade mark. Judge Gresham granted an injunction, holding that the plaintiff's trade mark had been infringed. He said: "The defendants so brand the heads of their kegs as to naturally mislead or induce persons purchasing for consumption to suppose that they are purchasing the complainant's lead when they are getting an inferior article. The brand used by the defendants is so like the complainant's as to induce the public to mistake the one for the other. The defendants sell their goods to retail dealers, and it may be that such dealers are not deceived, but they sell to consumers, who are or may be deceived. The complainant is entitled to relief if the brand used by the defendants sufficiently resembles the complainant's brands to be mistaken for them, and the defendants adopted their brand for the purpose of selling their kegs as the kegs of the complainant, or for the purpose of enabling retail dealers to do so, and the complainant has been injured by this fraud, or is likely to be injured by it."—Bradstreet's.

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SASH, DOORS, BLINDS,
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&c., Montreal and Windsor Mills, Quebec.

Alex. Pirie & Sons,
Manufacturers Fine Stationery, Aberdeen, Scotland.

M. Staunton & Co.,
Manufacturers Wall Papers, Toronto.

GERRIE BLOCK, PRINCESS STREET,
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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 8, 1985.

WINNIPEG FIRE INSURANCE.

Under the above heading a Montreal monthly publication calling itself *Insurance Society*, takes THE COMMERCIAL to task for an article we published some time ago on the extortionate fire insurance premiums of this city. The writer of the article in this monthly circular has taken great pains to show up what he calls the savagery, ignorance and other equally unpardonable defects of our late article, after reading which we began to doubt that we might have caused some offence to society, especially that very limited circle of same in which the Montreal monthly circulates. But as THE COMMERCIAL is not a society, but merely a trade journal which views every question upon the principle of value for value, the offence we have given may after all be purely imaginary, except to the supporters of the insurance circular, and for that we are not prepared to apologise.

Society informs us that the cost of fire insurance cannot be calculated like articles in trade, or other articles in trade as it puts it, conflagration risk being the barrier to reaching absolute figures. Perhaps this is the case, but we do not consider it necessary for us to decide that question, to substantiate any statement THE COMMERCIAL has yet made. But we must say that this conflagration hazard has produced some eccentric and contradictory results in Winnipeg, which perhaps the *Society* writer can explain. Ordinary business mortals cannot comprehend how in a city with mud gutters of roads and only a volunteer fire brigade a building could be insured at two per cent premium, and while the work of paving streets, increasing fire protection and extinction facilities was progressing the premium kept steadily rising until it reached six per cent. Nor can they comprehend how the business portion of a city composed mainly of wooden buildings, can be insured at lower rates of premium than were charged after more than one half of the buildings have been replaced by solid brick and stone ones, and every other precaution against fire spreading has been increased. These are little eccentricities beyond the reasoning powers of those who have to pay insurance premiums, and there

is every reason for pardoning their ignorance. *Society* and its supporters do not take much pains to enlighten them, or place their business statements in the same manner before the public as other business men do. A schedule of prices of goods can be had in any department of mercantile life, and business men are eager to circulate such, but there is not a city in Canada of which a schedule of fire insurance premiums will be furnished by a board of underwriters, unless to those within their own circle. Secrecy like this is accepted in business circles, except fire insurance as *prima facie* evidence of probable if not intended crookedness. But then the conflagration argument may cover this peculiarity, and of course place it beyond the comprehension of ordinary business mortals.

There are some other points in this *Society* article which need explanation very badly to people here, particularly the unmitigated humbug about strong prairie winds and extremes of temperature all of which we suppose are within the scope of that conflagration argument, and like other items of the same based upon the writers egregious ignorance of the city he has the effrontery to write about. His statement that the rates of this city are lower than those of similarly situated cities in the States is evidently based upon an equally extensive knowledge, and calls from us simply a flat contradiction, based upon years of experience and premium paying in such cities, and we defy the *Society* writer to prove his statement.

But *Society* seems to be terribly offended because we have rated the fire insurance agent here as a business parasite, and our statement we regret having made, and take this opportunity of changing it a little. We were forgetful when we made it that the whole system of fire insurance in this city and province is a parasitical organization. It is composed of the agents and servants of foreign companies, who do business here, pocket thousand of dollars out of the city and province every week, and do not contribute one cent towards our local taxation, or the support of our local institutions. Such companies do not in their regular business hold one dollar's worth of taxable property in this province, and while they continue to drag every month thousands of dollars out of it, we are right when we designate them parasites of the most exacting type.

CIVIL SERVICE DETECTIVES.

The detective may be a useful individual at times, but under any circumstances he is by no means a highly respected member of society. In furthering the ends of justice his services may at times be required, but like those of the hangman they are not attractive employment to men possessing a high sense of honor. In short the detective is one of those necessary evils employed to do work which ordinary men shrink from.

That men should choose the detective profession is not to be wondered at, for to minds of a low order there is the fascination of cheap heroism about it and a chance of substituting for smartness an unscrupulousness and perfidy which in ordinary walks of life would bring only contempt and social ostracism. Yet as we have already stated there are minds which will make such a choice.

But seemingly our paternal Government at Ottawa are anxious to develop the detective traits in the members of certain branches of the civil service, and particularly of the Customs. One would naturally think that the first duty of public servants to the public was to display the actions of gentlemen, and that a Government would furnish every incentive for such a display. On the contrary the Government furnish every incentive to officers to become the lowest kind of detective sneaks. Their system of rewarding officers who seize smuggled goods out of their seizures has certainly this effect, and makes out of one and the same man the officer, who should treat with honest business men with the manner of a gentleman, and with the smuggler after the fashion of the policeman. Men who can play both parts properly are not very numerous, and the experience of people in Winnipeg is that the dual role requires more tact and brains than have been displayed by the heads of the department in this city. There are few men who will at all times treat those they are dealing with in fairness when it is in their power, on a very frivolous pretence, to plunder them of what they possess or ought to possess, and earn a share of the plunder thus secured. While scheming for the detection of smuggling or fraud upon the Customs is necessary, our Government would only be acting with justice to officers to relieve them from detective work, and place that in the hands of other servants whom the public could hold at

their proper value, and relegated to their proper sphere in society.

But after all the professional detective, be he in the employ of a city or a private agency, has many points about himself and his work which raise him far above a Customs' detective. In the prosecution of his business he is amenable to the same laws as other people, and may be called upon to answer for any wrong deed he has committed in a civil or criminal court. He has in his work nothing to give him an advantage over other men except it is his astuteness or disregard for any sense of honor. But the Customs' detective starts out on no such grounds of equal footing. He knows before he makes any seizure that the party he has seized from will not be allowed the advantages of a hearing in a court of law or justice. He knows that he has immunity from all consequences if he makes a mistake, unless he makes that unpardonable mistake, of seizing goods of some one who has a little political influence at Ottawa. From first to last he has all the advantages that a sneak thief could desire, and the experience of the importers of this city and province has been that he is not slow to take full advantage of his perfect cover. In the large majority of seizures which have been made during the last three or four years by the Customs' authorities at this port, a release and decision in favor of the owner and against the officer's action has been secured on appeal to Ottawa. But when an importer has spent hundreds of dollars as some have done in fighting such an appeal, he finds he is just out his expenses, trouble and annoyance, for our paternal Government do not pretend to reimburse a man, what he has lost through the stupidity, blundering or avarice of its servants, and cannot be compelled by law to do so unless permission to sue has been granted, and that never has been in connection with a Customs' seizure. The importer is then handled and tried by a kind of civil service inquisition, and so far as redress or satisfaction is concerned he might as well be gagged and dragged before a bench of masked judges to have his case tried.

How long the business men of this and other cities are to be thus handled by a set of Government servants who have every incentive placed before them to make them unscrupulous rascals? can only be answered by the other question of, how long is the civil service of Canada to

be made a rest and reward for the tricksters who have done the dirty work of politicians?

KIND INQUIRING FRIENDS.

The novelist, the dramatist, the literary humorist and numerous characters have endeavored to depict the man, suddenly becoming wealthy, and deluged, if not bored by the fussy attentions of friends he never before knew about. The picture is a good one to work upon, and has sufficient variety in it to admit of frequent reproduction. We have a kindred picture in connection with the Northwest at present, for our country has certainly at present a number of inquiring friends, and friends whose inquiries are of a very kindly character, much larger than any of us dreamed of during our past three years of depression and commercial trial. We have had during the past three or four months more prominent parties from the east making inquiries about our country and its prospects, than we had during the preceding three years, and it is truly astonishing what interest they do seem to take in the most minute details of our affairs. First we have had a string of political celebrities visiting us of late, there having been no less than three cabinet ministers from Ottawa, not to mention the very welcome visit of the Governor-General, and now we have the rumor that the city of Winnipeg is soon to be represented by a member of Sir John A. MacDonald's Government. Our political stock is certainly rising in the market, and we think pretty clearly indicates, that our voting power at Ottawa will soon be made heavier than at present.

But it is wonderful the fresh and new interest displayed of late in our agricultural, commercial and social affairs. Bank cashiers, examiners and other financial men of note have been arriving here and leaving for home after discovering attractions here which they never saw before, and some of these were men who two years ago abused the Northwest, as a financial sinkhole, full of speculative abominations. Then we have had the capitalist looking for industrial investments, the schemer looking for a cheap railway charter to peddle, and other patronizing "big bugs" as the Yankee would term them, all giving us words of kindness and consolation about our wonderful country. The eastern drummer

has long ago smelt that commercial danger is over here, and for six months at least he has been pushing the sale of his wares, and rubbing us down with taffy, and preaching prospects for the Northwest, which even its most firm and sanguine friends could not hope for, much less foresee, two years ago. When spring comes around, we may expect to have a deluge of the quack medicine vendor, the lightning rod pedlar, the patent right man and numerous other specimens of business animalcule, each singing his song of praise regarding the advantages of the Northwest. This thing has been rather pleasant to us of late, for like all other people of a new country, we can stand an inordinate dose of flattery, and up to the close of the late rebellion flattery was certainly a novelty to us.

But man is an animal capable of reflection, and the Northwestern species, when he indulges in the retrospective train of thought, cannot help allowing a little of the vinegar of the cynic to creep into his nature, and he is to be pardoned for his weakness, especially if he will only turn the feeling to practical account, while he has the power to do so. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the business community of this country will take full advantage of all the friendship now pressed upon them in their day of prosperity. That they will accept all favors so long as there is profit in doing so, but at the same time keep steadily in view, that a change may come again, and that when it does come, they should be in a position of independence of those, who are obtrusive friends in prosperity, but crushing oppressors in adversity. They should also remember those who stood by them in trial, with a feeling similar to that of the prosperous emigrant, who still remembers "the old boat that carried him over." Josh Billings said that men while they learned profited from experience, and that if they lived their lives over again they would only make a fresh string of blunders. Let us hope that the industrious people who stood firm to this country when it had no outside friends will be among the exception in the philosophy of the great humorist, and that their hard experience has brought to them profit as well as knowledge, even if that profit is only the ability to measure with some degree of accuracy the value of professed friends.

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Next door to Lyon, Mackenzie & Powis,
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Special Attention given to INSOLVENT MATTERS
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LEATHER FOR SALE.

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WHOLESALE GROCERS.

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ED. L. DREWERY, Proprietor,

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WHOLESALE DEALERS IN

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CANNED GOODS

DRIED FRUITS,

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AND

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Manufacturers of White Press Shirts, Colored
Shirts, Woolen Shirts and Drawers, Overalls,
Etc., Etc.

Corner of William and Princess Streets

WINNIPEG.

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

Monetary affairs in the city have been rather active during the past week, especially in connection with commercial business. The opening of the month brought quite an increase in the regular volume of trade discounts, and a good share of the long credit transactions of the past fall went into paper at three and four months. Banks, however, found no pressure in meeting this extra demand, and were no doubt pleased to have it to meet. The handling of the crop still makes heavy demands upon the banks, so that large quantities of funds have been kept in circulation, and have indirectly lessened the demand for small loans and promiscuous discounts. Banks are still very chary about touching real estate or any other speculative paper, so that the class of business they are now doing may be almost entirely included in what is termed regular business. If storage elevators were in existence here, banks might do a heavy business on grain warehouse receipts at present, owing to the famine for cars on the C.P.R. While the demand for money has been increasing, rates of discount have been easing down a little, and first-class commercial paper may now be quoted at 7 per cent; ordinary from 8 to 10; and promiscuous about 10. Only old renewal business is quoted above the latter figure. Real estate mortgage loans are still in fair and steady demand, but loans are invariably small and on farm lands principally. The city has furnished very little new business during the week, and other towns of the province have not done any better. Still there is a more confident feeling among loan men this winter, and many loans which a year ago looked doubtful are now considered safe, and back payments on them paid up. Altogether the field for this business is probably safer than it has been for five years back. Interest rates are still quoted at 8 to 10 per cent, but heavy loans on first-class rent producing property could be made at 7 or 7½.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

In quite a number of the branches of the city wholesale trade there are signs appearing that the season's business is drawing near to a close, and quite a large number of wholesale houses have been engaged in stock taking during the past week. In season goods lines the falling off has been most apparent, and what little demands for immediate wants will be caused by the keen cold weather, which has at last come, is about the only sales of winter lines which are now looked for. Lines dependant upon building and out door contracting have kept moving up to the last days of the week, but now that a thorough freeze up has set in the season's business may be considered over. In lines of every day consumpt there has been no decrease in activity, but the same steady and satisfactory volume of sales has kept up. In fact the arrival of keen cold weather is expected to stimulate business in these lines, by compelling dealers in outlying districts to fill up stocks as a safety, in case snow storms might interfere with railway traffic. Holiday goods have also been in good demand all week, and although the aggregate of such sales do not reach a high figure

they cause quite a little stir in several houses. The report on collections is still extremely satisfactory, not a complaint having been received from any branch. Thursday was the fourth of the month, and although the quantity of trade paper falling due was quite heavy, there was nothing of an irregular nature to cause annoyance, and with the exception of the extra bustle at the banks, the day was about as uneventful as any in the month. Taking everything into consideration therefore the wholesale trade of the city gives every reason for congratulation, and indeed this might be said of every branch of the city's trade.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

There has been some movement during the week in sleighs, cutters and other winter vehicles, and now that snow has come sales of these are expected to continue for a week or two. There has been no call for other kind of goods, and none is looked for until 1880 business has been entered upon. The work of making collections still goes on, and as the season goes on the results become more satisfactory. Even the most incredulous in the trade now express the opinion that the season altogether will be best for cash returns since 1881.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

So far as sales of winter goods are concerned this branch has been decidedly quiet during the week. The advent of snow, however, will doubtless cause a little activity, but not much more of that is looked for this year. The sale of spring goods for future delivery has been progressing well, and travellers on the road report country retailers purchasing freely. Collections are reported about as satisfactory as could be wished.

CLOTHING.

Houses in this branch have been stock-taking during the week, and some are about finished with that work. Sales of winter goods have been light, although some are looked for now that real winter has come. Orders from spring samples have been coming in with moderate freedom, and indicate that all over the country merchants are hopeful for the future. Collections are reported satisfactory.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

Business in this line the past week was fairly good, the principal trade being in fancies owing to an increased demand for the holiday season. There was also an ordinary demand for staples, and collections are reported to have been fair.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

In this trade business during the week appears to have been moving along in a steady way. The principal demand is still from the country; the aggregate of sales being up to the average. Collections were quite fair.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

In this branch there has been quite a little activity during the week, the calls for holiday lines having kept wholesalers rather lively. There has also been a fair business done in regular goods, so that a very respectable aggregate of sales has been reached altogether. The collection report is equally good and leaves no room for complaints in any way.

DRY GOODS.

There has been rather a quiet feeling in this staple branch during the week, and a feeling that the business of the season is about over. Stock-taking has commenced and will be about the only work to do for a few weeks, unless the filling of the few sorting orders cold weather may drive in. Now that the season is about over wholesalers state that not only has the aggregate of sales exceeded that of last year, but the business done has been altogether more satisfactory.

FISH.

The trade in fresh fish during the week was fairly active though the supply is not over heavy at present, as no winter catch has come in yet, the roads not being in a condition for sleighing. The supply, however, appears to be equal to the demand. Sales are being made at 5c for round lots and 5½c for smaller quantities. There was a fair local demand for smoked white fish, sales of which were made at 8c. There are only a few haddies in the market, but a large consignment is on the way. Salt white fish has been selling at 4½c a lb in half barrels. Salt sea fish has been going off as follows: Labrador herrings at \$8 per barrel; Salmon \$17 per barrel, \$9 per half barrel and \$5 per quarter barrel.

FRUIT.

In this trade business is reported to have been satisfactory last week, and the approaching holiday season should cause some stir in this line. Fancy colored varieties of apples have been selling as high as \$5; Southern cranberries from \$9 to \$11 per barrel. Lemons at \$6.50 to \$7.00 a box; California pears at \$4.75 to \$5; Oregon pears at \$4.50 to \$4.75; Valencia raisins \$3.25; London layer raisins \$4 to \$4.25; Black Crown \$5.25 to \$5.50 and black baskets in qr. boxes \$1.35 to \$1.45; Malaga grapes \$8 to \$8.50 a barrel; Walnuts 20c a lb; almonds, 20c a lb.; filberts 12½c a lb; pecans, 16c a lb; peanuts 16c a lb; figs 18 to 20c a lb, and dates 10c a lb.

FUEL.

In this line business has continued quite active during the week, with a fair average of sales. Round lots of poplar have been offered at \$2.25 to \$3 on track, and of tamarac at \$3.50 to \$3.75. Coal is unchanged in price and sales are made at \$9 on track for Anthracite, and \$7 for Pennsylvania bituminous delivered; \$8 for Galt.

FURNITURE.

In this line a very good business is reported for the past week, the principal demand being in the city from where cash returns were also very fair. From the country orders seem to be but few, and these of a light nature, with rather slow collections. A good snow-fall or hard frost would held to stir things up in this branch.

GROCERIES.

In this staple line business has been steady and moderately active all the week, sales not being rushed at any time, but reaching a good aggregate towards the close. A few heavy orders from the country were received from parties stocking up for winter, but the business done generally has been of a regular character, while collections have also come in with

a marked regularity. There are as yet no changes to report in prices of staple goods, but all are inclined to be firm, and advances may be looked for. Quotations are as follows: sugars, yellow 6½ to 7½; granulated 8½; lump 10½ to 10¾. Coffees, Rio 13 to 15c, Government Java 32 to 33c, other Javas 22 to 27c Mochas 31 to 34c; Teas range, Moyune gunpowder 15 to 70c pan-fired Japan 23 to 45c, basket-fired 25 to 40c, Ping Suey young hyson 20 to 30c, Moyune young hyson 25 to 50c, Season's congous, 1885-86, 20 to 55c

HARDWARE AND METALS.

In light hardware there was not such a rush of business this week as last owing to a falling off in the demand which was not altogether expected, still sales were very fair. In heavy lines and metals a pretty fair business was done, fully as good as could be hoped for at this season. Collections were also very fair. The C.P.R. have advanced their freights, in some cases fully 25% on the old tariff, and all classes of goods are therefore at advanced prices, but as yet the only changed figures we have obtained is the rise in cut nails which are now at \$3.50 to \$3.75, other quotations being as follows: cut nails, 10d and larger \$3.50 to \$3.75; I.C. tin plates, \$5.50 to \$5.75; I.C. tin plates, double, \$11 to \$11.50; Canada-plates, \$3.50 to \$3.75; sheet iron, \$3.00 to \$4.50, according to grade, iron-pipe, 40 to 50 per cent. off list prices; ingot-tin, 25 to 30c per lb.; galvanized iron, 26 gauge, 7 to 7½ per lb., according to quality, bar-iron, \$2.50 to \$3. per 100 lb.; shot, 6 to 6½ a lb.; tarred felt, \$2.50 to \$2.75 per 100 lbs.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

In this branch of trade business during the last week was rather quiet, there not being much demand from any quarter. Collections, however, are reported to have been good, and prices unchanged, quotations being as follows: Spanish sole, 31 to 33c; slaughter sole, 33 to 35c; French calf, first choice, \$1.40 to 1.50; domestic 85c; B Z calf, \$1 to 1.10; French kip, \$1 to 1.10; B Z kip, 85 to 90c; slaughter kip, 65 to 75c; No. 1 wax upper, 50c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, 33 to 35c for plumb stock; American oak sole, 60c.

LUMBER.

In this branch of trade not much activity exists at present, nor does there appear to be any very great prospects of an improvement for the balance of this season. This week, however, a hectic rush has been noticed owing to western retailers filling up their stocks for the winter, but this is not expected to last longer than the week, while the aggregate of business turned over during the month of November shows a heavy increase over the transactions of the same month last year.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS.

In this trade business during last week is reported to have been very good, the demand being principally from the country, with a little sprinkling of orders in the city. Collections also were very fair. Quotations are unchanged but prices may be considered as firm, with a tendency to make an advance soon, these are as follows: Linseed oil, raw 75c per gal, boiled 78c; sea oil, steam refined, \$1.10; castor, 15c per lb

lard, No. 1 \$1.25 per gal.; olive, \$1.50 to \$2, according to quality; machine oils, black 25c; oleine 40c; fine qualities, 50 to 75c. Coal oils, headlight, 25c; water white, 30c. Calcined plaster, \$4.25 per bbl.; Portland cement, \$5; white lead, genuine, \$7.75; No. 1 \$6.75; No. 2, \$6.25 and window glass, first break, \$2.50.

SADDLERY AND HARNESS.

In this branch of trade business during the past week has continued in a rather quiet condition, there being little demand from any quarter with collections also very slow.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

A very active demand has during the week been noticed in this trade, the bulk of orders being for the country. Another week or two nearer the holiday season should cause some stir in this branch in the city. Collections are considered very satisfactory.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

In this trade business during the past week does not seem to have been better than from fair to middling, with rather slow cash returns. Prices, however, have not changed any, quotations being as follows: Gooderham & Wort's, 5 year old, \$2.75; 7 year old, \$3.25; old rye, \$1.80; Jules Robin brandy, \$4.50 Bisquet, Debonche & Co., \$4.75; Martell, \$6; Hennessy, \$6.50; DeKuyper gin, \$2.75; Port Wine \$2.25 and upwards; Sherry, \$2.25 and upwards; Jamaica rum, \$3.50; DeKuyper red gin \$11 per case; DeKuyper green gin \$6 per case; Martell and Hennessy's brandy \$13.50 per case of 12 bottles.

THE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

The increased movement of wheat seems to be keeping up and fully up to the last few weeks, though shipments to the east during the last week were not so heavy from this city and the surrounding towns in the province owing to a continued scarcity of freight cars with the C.P.R., but this is expected to be put right in a few days as with sufficient car room, the railway company should pretty well be able to clear out the bulk of wheat which has been accumulating owing to the cause mentioned. All the grain markets seem to have been very lively this week, and one day (Wednesday) is stated to have been the biggest market day on the street for the last two or three years. Farmers poured in from all directions will all kinds of produce, such as pork, hides, wood, etc., grain of course predominating, and the late heavy fall of snow should also tend to cause another rush. Wheat receipts in the city have been fully as heavy as the week before, and prices have stuck to their old figures. The supply of both oats and barley were heavy, and these appear to be increasing each day, while the tendency of prices is downwards owing to the increase and there not being evidently enough demand to keep up with the receipts. In flour with all the local mills working to their full capacity day and night, business was very slack during the week. To eastern markets very lit-

tle is being shipped at present so that stocks must be accumulating here, while in the city and western trades there has only been an ordinary local demand. Prices made a slight decline bringing them back to their old figures. In provisions and dairy products the business of the past week taking it altogether was a very good and active one, and gives promise of an increase and steadiness for some time to come, more especially as there is a firmness in local packing, packers state they are now prepared to fill any large orders entrusted them, and they have now a good supply in the market. In butter the supply of the better qualities seem to have increased some, having been brought out by the high prices offering of late, though these are now a little weaker if anything. Medium and inferior grades do not seem to be much wanted, but the receipts of these are light.

WHEAT.

The movement in wheat this week has been fully as heavy as during the previous few weeks although there was not so much wheat shipped eastward owing to a scarcity of cars. Receipts in the city are heavy and increasing each day, and business was very active with sales up to the average. Prices are unchanged, but there is some feeling of a downward tendency owing to the increasing receipts, and more especially after the late heavy fall of snow which is expected to materially assist the increase. The quotations are now as follows: No. 1 hard 75c; No. 2 hard 70c; No. 1 Northern 70c; No. 2 65c; No. 3 60c; No. 1 regular 65c; No. 2 57c; No. 3 55c; and rejected 40 to 50c according to quality.

OATS.

The supply of oats this week was very heavy and owing to a good demand all offered was taken at 25c. The tendency of this market is downwards as the street receipts in the city are increasing daily, and there is not enough demand to keep up with the supply.

BARLEY.

The past week in this market has been an active one, and apparently the best of the season. Street receipts especially were heavy and all offerings were taken up at prices ranging from 30 to 40c, the barley which brought the latter price had to be of a fine bright quality. The usual quotations are for No. 1 40c; No. 2 35c, and No. 3 30c.

FLOUR.

The mills in the city are daily working to their full capacity and stocks here must be accumulating as shipments to eastern markets continue very light, while the city and local demand does not show any particular activity. Orders not being either heavy or frequent, and seemingly only to supply the usual demand. Prices of two grades of flour have fallen back to their old figures, millers' and dealers quotations being now as follows: patents, \$2.55; strong bakers \$2.25; XXXX \$1.70, and superfine \$1.30.

BRAN AND SHORTS.

We do not notice much change, if any, in the condition of this market, the only active demand to be heard of being principally a local provincial one. Prices for bran are \$9 per ton, and for shorts \$11 per ton.

POTATOES.

The business of the past week was very good, with sales up to a fair average. Prices though not actually changed were a little easier owing to supplies being hurried in before the cold weather got any worse. Quotations are at 35 to 40c.

EGGS.

The receipts in this market now are all imported from eastern Canada or the States. Hasi

ness during the week was very good with sales at 25c for limed and 27c for really fresh.

CHEESE.

Business in this market continued rather quiet during the past week, there being an absence of any demand. Farmers coming in to market their grain are seeming supplying retail dealers direct with the above produce. Quotations, however, are unchanged. Medium qualities being quoted 9½ to 10c, and prime at 10½ to 11c. There is but little if any imported in the market at present.

BUTTER.

In this market business doing last week was very good, with sales of the higher grades showing an increase, though prices now would seem to be, if anything, a little easier, owing to the supply being heavy, the high prices lately offering having brought out a better supply. For medium and inferior qualities there does not appear to be much call, but receipts are rather light, so that stocks in store here cannot be accumulating to any great extent. The following are the quotations given by dealers: A good quality of gilt edge should bring from 20 to 22c; medium seems to be worth about 15c, and inferior about 8c.

BACON.

The supply of local packing in this market has been good during the week, but there was but a light demand. There is also some eastern product in the market. Local packers are now prepared to fill any large orders, or demand for local packing entrusted to them. The ruling quotations are, for dry salt 7½ to 8½ and 9c, smoked 9 to 9½c, rolls 11½ to 12c, breakfast bacon 11½ to 12c.

HAMS.

The local packers of this city have now a good supply of local cured hams on the market these are being offered and selling freely at 13c. The supply of the eastern product is quoted at 13½ to 14c.

MESS PORK.

In this market business during the week was fairly active. The local packing sold off pretty well of which there is a good supply on hand, but towards the end of the week the demand seemed quieter. Quotations are given at \$15 to \$15.50 per barrel.

MESS BEEF.

This market was rather quiet during the week, there being very little demand. A good supply of both eastern and local packing is now in stock, and these are held at \$15 to \$15.50 per barrel.

LARD.

A fair business was transacted in this market during the week, the principal demand which was quite a steady one, being for the local product which has been selling off at \$2.25, and is said by dealers to be much better in quality, than that imported from the east. Imported is quoted at \$2.40.

DRESSED HOGS.

The receipts being received in this market stated to be quite heavy and increasing. Dealers are offering \$5.

MINNEAPOLIS.

It has been a rather dull week on 'change, though trading was fairly active yesterday and to-day, local millers being credited with heavy purchases. They did not pay much attention to the local market for several days previously, and if they have been buying it was because they needed a little wheat for a short run, which may be made next week to fill pressing orders. Receipts have been very light and shipments very heavy, but owing to dissatisfaction with grading given at Chicago, there is likely to be a

falling off in business with that city. Outside millers have been stocking up quite heavily, but those who have attempted to take advantage of the idleness and push trade have found it up-hill work, so that although they may believe wheat is very cheap, they cannot load up much heavier. The weather has been favorable for hauling in the country, but the decline in prices has checked the free deliveries by farmers noted last week, though wheat is still being sold in considerable quantity. The market closed strong and higher.

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

	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.	1884
Wheat: No. 1 hard ..	88	85	80½	70½
" 1 north'a S3½ ..	80½	80½	82½	66½
" 2 ..	78	77	78	61

January 1 hard sold down from 88 to 86c and closed at 87½c; May from 97½ to 93½c and closed at 95. January 1 northern sold down from 83½ to 82c and closed at 83½c. Coarse grains were dull, corn closing at 41 to 42½c, for old and 32 to 35c; No. 2 oats at 28 to 29c; barley, by sample at 45 to 75c, and rye at 49 to 51c.

MILLSTUFF.—The stoppage of the mills has cut off supplies and there is really no trade, with quotations only nominal.

FLOUR.—The decline in wheat has weakened flour quotations, but there is no trade doing, buyers being afraid to take hold, even at the low prices, while millers know that further concessions would create a merely temporary demand, and are satisfied to wait for a change, which they feel cannot be for the worse. A touch of winter would stiffen the market materially, but the weather continues warm all over the country, and the trade is lethargic. The decrease in stocks abroad may stimulate foreign buyers a little before the holidays, but nobody expects a lively demand from them this month.

Quotations for car or round lots at the mills are as follows: Patents, \$4.75 to \$5.00 straights \$4.40 to 4.65; first bakers', \$3.75 to 4.00; second bakers', \$3.15 to 3.50; best low grades, \$2.10 to \$2.25, in bags; red dog, \$1.50 to \$1.60 in bags.

These quotations are on flour in barrels, except as stated. The rule is to discount 30c per bbl for 280 and 140 lb jute bags, 20c for 93lb cotton sacks, 15c for 49lb cotton sacks, 10c for 24lb cotton sacks, and 20c for 49lb paper sacks.

The platform presents a lonely and deserted appearance this week, eighteen of the larger mills being completely idle. The five mills in operation are all small except one, and together they only represent a daily production of about 2,300 bbls. Two of the number, representing 1,300 bbls of the amount, will stop work before the week is out. There is, however, talk of some of the larger mills which are now idle resuming operations next week, and it is possible that this will occur. Any large milling firm cannot fail to receive scattering orders right along, and it will be to fill these that the mills will start. The resumption, however, will undoubtedly be confined to a few mills, they running only for short periods, and taking turns about with their neighbors. The output

last week was 73,870 bbls—averaging 12,311 bbls—against 142,651 bbls the preceding week, and 94,710 bbls for the corresponding time in 1884. The flour market offers no encouragement, prices being lower, with nothing doing.

The exports of flour from Minneapolis for November were unusually light, being 133,800 bbls, against 222,758 bbls for October. To this should be added about 5,000 bbls that went to Canada.

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

	RECEIPTS.		
	Dec. 1.	Nov. 24.	Nov. 17.
Wheat, bus ..	607,040	935,760	1,000,720
Flour, bbls ..	275	875	350
Millstuff, tons	205	150	174

	SHIPMENTS.		
	Dec. 1.	Nov. 24.	Nov. 17.
Wheat, bus ..	222,320	185,920	94,080
Flour, bbls ..	28,258	158,237	122,470
Millstuff, tons ..	1,464	3,574	4,395

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

	MINNEAPOLIS.	
	Nov. 30.	Nov. 23.
No. 1 hard ..	2,230,016	2,162,634
No. 2 hard ..	7,778	7,078
No. 1 ..	51,935	51,934
No. 1 Northern ..	1,716,366	1,636,138
No. 2 ..	7,436	7,436
No. 2 Northern ..	777,549	789,759
No. 3 ..	5,871	10,603
Rejected ..	78,878	87,438
Special bins ..	1,150,121	1,083,330
Total ..	6,025,250	5,845,340

	ST. PAUL.		
	Dec. 2.	Nov. 25.	Nov. 18.
in elevators, bush ..	1,081,700	1,025,000	892,000

	DULUTH.		
	Nov. 30.	Nov. 23.	Nov. 16.
In store, bush ..	1,947,945	2,146,680	2,003,908

—Northwestern Miller.

CHICAGO.

The speculative wheat market was strong on the first day of this week, though at the opening of the first session prices were a little lower than the closing of the previous week, and at the beginning of business there was a rush of selling orders, owing to some commission houses wishing to realize, but the offerings turned out rather limited, and "shorts" becoming nervous, the market became steadier and under a good demand gradually improved, and prices were bid up, finally obtaining a tone of considerable firmness by the close of the day. On Tuesday the feeling was nervous and prices were held fairly steady, but business was rather limited, owing to the adjournment of the Board of Trade in honor of the funeral obsequies of the Hon. Thomas A. Hendricks, late Vice-President of the United States. Bear influences were at work to depress values, but as there was good buying, the substantial decline that many looked for did not take place, though the

increase in the visible supply of over a million and a quarter bushels was more than the trade expected. On Wednesday a steadier feeling set in, and with an improvement in the speculative demand and more buying orders coming in a stronger feeling was developed, partly due to war news and the reported falling off in receipts at western points, particularly Minneapolis and Duluth. Towards the end and close of the week a nervous and unsettled feeling was prevalent, principally due to warlike rumors, which at times intimated that Austria and Turkey might become involved in the Balkan difficulty, and reports of storms in the west and northwest which it was thought might reduce the receipts very materially. Corn was rather quiet most of the week, though the feeling was at times quite strong and firm. Oats opened strong but got quieter towards the close. In pork trading was fairly active all through, with steady prices, though fluctuations were numerous. Lard was rather easy in tone.

On Monday trading was quite active and the wheat market showed decided strength, though the feeling was considerably unsettled. The opening was easier and prices lower, but as soon as the first rush of selling orders was executed the market became steadier and under a good demand gradually improved. The offerings became smaller and the demand continued good. "Shorts" covered freely, and as there was no reaction, prices went up 2c and at the close the market was about 1 1/2c higher than Saturday. In corn a good speculative business was transacted and prices ruled firm and higher. Oats were forced up early, in anticipation of some demand from "shorts." In pork trading was fairly active and prices made a strong advance, closing steady. Lard also made a slight gain. Closing quotations were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	\$0.85 1/2	\$0.85 1/2
Corn	41 1/2	40 1/2
Oats	29 1/2	28 1/2
Pork	9.02 1/2	9.02 1/2
Lard	6.07 1/2	6.07 1/2

On Tuesday the wheat market was rather quiet and prices changed about considerably, though the whole fluctuation of the day was only about 1/2c. Foreign advices were easy and there was no outside news to exert much influence on the market, and the increase in the visible supply was large, but this had generally been expected, and with a good many buying orders the feeling was quite strong, but toward the close a weakness set in. Corn was quiet with steady prices. Oats were more quiet. In pork the feeling was quite steady and trading quite fair. Lard was a little slow. Closing quotations were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	84 1/2	85 1/2
Corn	40 1/2	38 1/2
Oats	29	28 1/2
Pork	8.90	10.02 1/2
Lard	6.05	6.15

On Wednesday the wheat market was very quiet during the early part of the session and a quiet and steady feeling prevailed, but about noon the speculative demand began to improve a good many buying orders coming on the

market and a stronger feeling was developed. Consols fell off a little and there were some war news in circulation, but the principal cause of the rise was the falling off in receipts at western points. The corn market ruled rather firm, but was quiet. Oats were very strong. In pork quite an active business was transacted, but the feeling was somewhat unsettled and prices irregular. Lard was easier and prices lower. Closing quotations were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	\$0.85 1/2	\$0.86 1/2
Corn	40 1/2	38 1/2
Oats	29 1/2	29
Pork	8.90	9.90
Lard	6.02 1/2	6.15

On Thursday a fair business was transacted in the wheat market, the feeling being somewhat nervous and unsettled, influenced by warlike news, which at the opening made an advance of 1/2c. Foreign advices quoted a quietness, and later on, owing to a desire to realize, there was a weaker feeling and a decline of 1/2c followed, while towards the close the feeling again ruled rather strong. The corn market did not attract much attention and trading was again rather quiet. Oats quite dull and Pork trading was comparatively active and prices ruled easier. Lard light and a trifle lower. Closing quotations were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	\$0.86 1/2	\$0.87 1/2
Corn	41	38 1/2
Oats	26	28 1/2
Pork	8.80	9.82 1/2
Lard	6.00	6.12 1/2

On Friday there was a fairly active business in the wheat market. The feeling was again rather nervous and unsettled. At the opening prices ruled strong, influenced by more war news and reported storms in the west and northwest, which it was thought would reduce the receipts very materially. "Shorts" were alarmed and speculative buying was encouraged with a fair advance. Corn was more active, and the feeling generally stronger, with prices higher. Oats were lower. In pork there was not much doing, yet the feeling was strong, the tendency of prices being to go higher. Lard was held firmly. Closing quotations were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	\$0.88	\$0.88 1/2
Corn	41 1/2	39
Oats	28 1/2	28 1/2
Pork	8.92 1/2	9.92 1/2
Lard	6.00	6.12 1/2

On Saturday the wheat market was again a weak one, although rumors were about that the Minneapolis mills were going to start up again, and that the millers had worked up wheat 2 to 3c a bushel, but these rumors were viewed with suspicion and the bears had the best of the day. Corn weakened early in sympathy with wheat. Oats also were weaker. Pork and lard were dull. Closing quotations were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	\$0.87 1/2	\$0.87 1/2
Corn	41 1/2	38 1/2
Oats	28 1/2	28 1/2
Pork	8.90	9.87 1/2
Lard	6.00	6.10

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

During the past week there has been a decline in most of the leading bank stocks, and early in the week this was very marked. Some of the strongest banks suffered most, while other smaller corporations' stocks held moderately firm, while a few made a slight advance. Taken altogether the market has been weak and inclined downward, and the steady and rapid advance of Northwest Land Co. stock is in marked contrast to all around, and is another strong proof of the increasing confidence in Northwestern investments. An index to the state of the market can be had from the closing bids of Wednesday's November 25th and December 2nd, which were as follows:

	Nov. 25.	Dec. 2.
Montreal	201 1/2	199 1/2
Ontario	104 1/2	103 1/2
Toronto	184 1/2	183
Merchants'	116	114 1/2
Commerce	123	123
do X D	120	116
Imperial	123 1/2	125
Federal	99 1/2	98 1/2
Dominion	200 1/2	199 1/2
Standard	118 1/2	120
Hamilton	124	125
Northwest Land	47 1/2	57 1/2

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

The local grain markets at this place have been increasingly quiet all through this week, for since our last report the rush on barley seems to have fallen off, while no substitute seem yet to have been found instead thereof. The millers' here appear to have been talking of following the example of Minneapolis and closing down, and our local shippers seem quite confident, and increasingly so in fact, that with English quotations for cargoes dealing there is no margin for shipments, while farmers' and country holders seem equally satisfied that there is no necessity to push sales of anything, so that the movement altogether is extremely light and likely to remain so unless something turns up before the close of navigation which cannot be far off now. Of wheat there was very little of any sort either offered or wanted. In oats the offerings have not been large but ready sales were found at steady prices. In provisions the trade of the past week seems to have been generally quiet and steady, while there are prospects shown of an improvement setting in pretty soon. In butter there has been little if any change since our last report. Selected grades have continued in good demand and at firm prices, while purchases of the lower qualities are few and light, and evidently insufficient to check the accumulating of stocks in store.

WHEAT

has continued with very little of any sort either offered or wanted, and none wanted unless at lower prices than would have been paid last week. No. 2 fall sold at 84c; Manitoba spring at 97c. There was nothing doing at the close, No. 2 spring being only nominal at 85 to 86c.

OATS.

The offerings were not very large and have found a fairly ready sale at firm prices. Car lots on track sold at 33c for mixed, and at 34c for milling.

BARLEY.

There was an active demand in this market and firm prices were maintained in the latter part of the week. No. 1 was sold at 90c No. 2 changed hands at 77c, extra No. 3 at 70 to 72 and 73c, No. 3 choice brought 66 and 67c. No. 3 59 to 60c. Towards the close there was a quietness, with lighter grades still steady in value.

RYE.

Inactive, but steamed worth 60c on street.

PEAS.

There was no movement on the spot, but lots outside have been selling at about equal to 61c at this place.

POTATOES.

These have been offered less freely in car lots and might have been taken more readily. Values were rather firmer, with sales at 50c for really sound.

EGGS.

The receipts have increased and prices were easier at 10 to 20c for round lots of fresh, and 16c for pickled, the demand for the latter being very slack.

BUTTER.

There has been really not much if any change in this market during the week. Really choice selected dairy has continued in good demand and firm at 15 to 16c, with all offered wanted, but the heavings are very slow and evidently accumulating. Bakers have begun to buy low grade store at 8 to 10c, but these latter purchases have been few and small and evidently insufficient to check the increasing stocks. Rolls have been coming forward in increased quantities and selling less readily at from 13 to 15c, the latter price for choice and well packed only.

CHEESE.

Has been selling off fairly well in small quantities at unchanged prices: fine at 9 to 9½c, and inferior down to 7c, with very little of the latter selling.

PORK.

Sales were made at \$13 during the week, the close being quiet, but prices held steadily at above prices.

BACON.

There was very little done during the week as there appears to have been nothing to sell beyond the small quantity of new yet cured. Prices were easy at 7c for long clear, Cumberland was only nominal. Rolls 9½ to 9¾c, and bellies 11 to 11½c for small lots, which were the only lots obtainable.

HAMS.

These offered slowly and held steadily at 11½ to 11¾c for new smoked, with a few of the old canvassed still obtainable at 7 to 10c.

LARD.

Has been in good demand and sold steadily in small lots at 9 to 9½c for tinnets and pails, and 8½c for tierces of new.

APPLES.

There was no movement in car lots. On the market prices for good to choice were unchanged at \$1.25 to \$1.75, and inferior about finished.

POULTRY.

Box lots came in very freely and prices have come down considerably. Turkey* have sold at 8 to 10c per lb; geese at 6 to 6½c; ducks at 50 to 60c per pair, and fowl at 25 to 40c.

The following is a statement showing the value of goods imported and entered for consumption, also the duty collected and goods exported during the month of November 1885, as compared with November 1884:

	1885.	1884.
Goods imported, dutiable.....	\$94,753 00	\$103,851 00
Goods imported, free.....	40,895 00	21,790 00
Total imported.....	\$135,648 00	\$125,641 00
Goods entered for consumption, dutiable and free.....	\$139,771 00	\$127,200 00
Duty collected.....	\$ 31,797 30	27,211 15
Goods exported.....	24,254 00	106,553 00
INLAND REVENUE.		
Spirits.....	\$ 12,771 12	
Tobacco.....	4,498 70	
Malt.....	741 07	
Licenses.....	20, 00	
Total.....	\$ 18,030 89	

Commercial Summary.

Special telegrams to *Bradstreet's* record a smaller volume of transactions in staple lines during the past week than the week before. This is particularly noticed in the distribution of dry goods. The prevalence of unfavorable weather and the suspension of business one day during the week were responsible for a decline in the aggregate of transactions as compared with previous weeks, but the falling off in the dry goods trade was in addition to the loss attributable to these influences. In this line it has been the most inactive week of the season. Commission houses at eastern centres have not been doing much and jobbers less. Both are still waiting for a revival of activity among retailers, which they expect to result in renewed orders. Some lines of goods are accumulating, and there is talk of the New England mills shutting down again. Prices are, however, fairly well sustained. The movement in raw wool is only fair. There is some speculative activity in medium territory wools. There is a decline of from ½c to 1c per pound in Michigan X, with which exception fine fleeces are steady. The popularity of rough dress goods has resulted in a good demand for low and medium sorts. It is added that importations will prevent an advance in prices of fine wools. The Providence manufacturers of woolen goods report the general demand declining. In the absence of any special influences the cotton market is dull. Futures have been hanging within three points above and below Wednesday's close. The covering on that day, prior to a holiday, left the market without special inquiry yesterday, which resulted in the heaviness noted. The movement of grocery staples has been disappointing, with weak sugar and coffee markets. Dairy products are still depressed, with small export demand. The wheat market has declined almost steadily during the week. Causes for this are comprised in the stubborn refusal of foreigners to purchase more freely in this market, the increased receipts at western primary markets and steady increase in the visible supply. Added to this are heavy sales by holders and the stoppage of Minneapolis flour mills, which virtually throws on the market 125,000 bushels of wheat per day additionally. Indian corn, in view of unfavorable weather, a better speculative and consumptive demand and relatively light stocks, has been firmly held. Flour has been weak and power, in sympathy with wheat. Hog products have been quite irregular, but as compared with last week are higher. There is no new feature in iron, steel or coal. Petroleum certificates, owing to active and powerful manipulation, was broken some 17 cents per barrel within a few days. Refined lost 3c per gallon, but subsequently recovered a portion of the loss. The total number of failures in the United States this week was 225 as compared with 234 last week, with 237 in the like week in 1884, 232 in 1883, 186 in 1882, and 115 in 1881. The total number of failures in the United States from January 1 to November 27 is 10,086, against 10,171 in a like portion of 1884 (a loss of 85), as compared with 1,916 in 1883, with 7,049 in 1882, and with 5,447 in a like

portion of 1881. Canada had 20 failures this week, as compared with 19 last week.—*Bradstreet's*.

Annual Fire to

Many and varied have been the schemes proposed for minimizing the immense destruction of property by fire from year to year. Some eminent underwriters allege with plausibility and apparent force that reckless underwriting is the cause of a very large proportion of fires. Property over insured contributes largely to the ravages of the fire-fiend. To remedy this, the introduction of the value clause—the co-insurance clause in policies of insurance has been proposed, but little progress has been made in this direction. The general adoption of this principle by companies would go a great way in reducing the number of incendiary burnings. Fire-preventive appliances of different kinds have been introduced, with more or less success, with the view of preventing and extinguishing fires. Still with all the various modes adopted for lessening the enormous fire waste, there is still great room for improvement.

It is estimated on good authority that in the United States and Canada over one hundred and thirty-five millions of dollars, of property is destroyed every year by fire. The feeling is gaining strength that something more must be done to prevent this great and irreparable waste of property. We find in the November number of the *Century Magazine* a long article from the pen of Charles Barnard on "Fire Prevention," in which it is shown that many fires could be easily extinguished if attended to at their inception. The average citizen, we are told, "in ninety cases out of a hundred, if he had kept his wits about him, might have put out the fire. A fire-extinguisher may be near, but he has never learned to use it. There may be hand-grenades within reach, but his terror is so great that he wastes them. There may be water and even a hand pump close at hand, but he cannot use them."

To accustom people to render assistance at fires, associations composed of men, women and boys have been organized in some of the New England States. The first of these was formed in the town of Wakefield, Massachusetts in November, 1882, and has been in successful operation since. Its report for 1883, states that there were in 1883 nineteen fires, thirteen of which were put out by the small hand pumps and other appliances of this association. Three fires were put out by the regular fire department. The other three got beyond control and resulted in the total destruction of the buildings in which they originated. In 1884 there were twenty-six fires in that town. All but three were put out by the hand pumps of this association. Every person becoming a member agrees to pay one dollar a year to pay the expenses of the association and to lend a helping hand at any fire in reach, as far as his or her services are needed. The equipment of the association consists of fifty or more small hand-pumps and pails. These are distributed to such members as agree to keep them ready, and to take them to any fire within half a mile of their homes. A supply wagon is kept in

some central place, usually in a private stable. This wagon stands ready for use at all times. Arrangements are made for securing a horse for it at short notice. In this wagon are hand-pumps, pails, poles for elevating hose, a variety of noozles, ladders, axes and other fire tools, rubber blankets for covering goods, barrels or milk cans filled with water. Rain and water casks are kept full by private citizens for the use of the associations. To insure attendance at fires, prizes are given to those who first discover a fire and those who help to put it out. These prizes are given to any one, young or old, whether members of the association or not. For the person giving the first five calls of fire for a burning building 25 cents. For the first stream one dollar and a half. For the next four one dollar each. First pump with 25 feet of hose, 25 cents; first 15-foot ladder 25 cents; for the first 15-foot pole or other fire tools, 25 cents each; for the first response with pump or bucket of water without using it, 50 cents each, and also to the next five persons bringing either pump or bucket, an equal sum. Owners, tenants or employees are excluded from prizes as it is supposed their own interest is a sufficient incentive to exertion.

It is evident that the above appliances, though very effective at the commencement of a fire, are of little use in case of a conflagration. They are only intended to be used at the beginning of a fire and for preventing large fires. We think that some of our country villages should adopt this system, which no doubt would prove as useful here as it has in New England towns and villages. The pumps referred to can be purchased from three to four dollars each and are very effective. The addition of Fire-King Extinguishers would be of great assistance at the incipient stage of fires. The great element of success in coping with a fire is to be on hand early.—*The Monetary Times.*

The Disadvantages of American Wool Manufacturers.

The reply of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers to Secretary Manning's tariff circular of July 18 is just out in a pamphlet of 55 pages. It declares emphatically against any renewal of tariff agitation at present. Nevertheless, in view of the fact that the question is bound to come up again, several changes in duty are proposed for adoption in case of another revision. It is worthy of note that these recommendations, where any change whatever is suggested, are all in favor of higher taxes on imports. It is demanded, for example, that the specific duty on woolen or worsted cloths, woolen and worsted shawls, &c., under section 362, T. I. New, be raised from 35 cents to 45 cents per pound. An increase of the specific duties mentioned in section 363, on flannels, blankets, hosiery, &c., is also called for, on the ground that the reductions made in 1883 disturbed the "symmetry" of the woolen duties and were "arbitrary" and unwarranted.

But by far the most important part of this document is its explanation of the disadvantages under which American manufacturers labor by reason of the duties on imported wool. No more striking elucidation of this phase of the question has ever been published. It is

asserted over and over again in this authoritative statement that the wool manufacturing industry is subjected to disadvantages from which our foreign competitors are wholly exempt, and to which no other branch of domestic industry is subjected to any material extent. Not only is the cost of raw material enhanced by the taxes, but their effect is also to enforce stringent limitations on American manufacturers in choosing sources of supply for their various wants. The declaration discusses the duties on wool as follows:

"The European manufacturer possesses the advantage, which would be overwhelming if not contracted by special legislation, of having the raw material of his manufacture free from duty—no duties on wool existing in Great Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and very slight duties, if any, in other manufacturing nations. Our European competitors are exempt from the direct enhancement, by a duty, of the cost of wool, thus requiring less capital to supply their mills, and no cost of interest on the duty required in carrying their stocks of wool and goods. They are free from the apprehension of changes in the value of wool such as have taken place in this country, in consequence of no less than seventeen changes in the tariff on wools within the memory of living manufacturers. They are exempt from the duties on wool substitutes, so usefully employed to mix with wool in the manufacture of the cheaper and heavier cloths—duties which with us are absolutely prohibitory. They are able, from the lower cost of their raw material, to relieve themselves from overproduction by consigning their surplus stocks at comparatively slight sacrifice to foreign markets to which their cheapness has already introduced them. They are not compelled, as we are, to discriminate in their choice of wool to avoid the effect of the duty, and are able to select their wools in any condition, whether unwashed, washed or scoured, with reference only to their desirable qualities. Through freedom of importation they have near markets, as at London, Havre, Antwerp and Berlin, offering vast assortments and a steady supply of all kinds of wool—advantages especially favorable to the small manufacturer. The high duty is not the only difficulty with which our manufacturers requiring foreign goods have to contend. It is held that complete protection to the most important branch of our wool-growing industry, the Merino sheep husbandry, requires that washed wools in Class I. should be subject to double the duty of unwashed wool, and the duty on scoured wool should be three times the amount upon the unwashed wool—an arrangement which compels the importations of Class I wools to be in the greasy state, necessitating the transportation charges on from two and a quarter to three pounds of grease and dirt in the wool required for a pound of cloth. The effect of the compulsion to buy greasy wools and pay a heavy specific duty on their impurities is that the American manufacturer is thereby obliged to give undue preference to light condition over fineness and the other valuable qualities of the wools offering in foreign markets. To these considerations it should be added that the high specific duty on clothing

wool's, a duty irrespective of the cost, particularly excludes the cheap and abundant clothing wools of South America, and, by freezing them from our competition for their purchase, makes them much cheaper than they would otherwise be to the manufacturers of France, Belgium and Germany."—*Journal of Fabrics.*

Reciprocity Prospects.

The day draws near when President Cleveland's message will be delivered to Congress; and it is expected to contain a recommendation that a commission be appointed, to meet one from our side, in order to make some permanent arrangement with regard to the fisheries. That the long-standing fishery dispute will be settled in some way or other there is every reason to believe. On both sides there will be free trade in fish, and our fisheries will be made free to the Americans—this much may be considered almost a certainty. Whether reciprocity will go further than this, is, however, a conjecture. Still it may not be out of place to try to foreshow the probabilities, as far as present indications may reasonably lead us to infer.

It will be remembered that about two years ago a small but very influential deputation, representing the coal and iron interests of Pennsylvania and Ohio, came to Ottawa and had interviews with the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Customs. They said that what they particularly wanted was to get coal and iron ore put upon the free list, on both sides; any they intimated that such an arrangement was very likely to be approved of at Washington. Sir Leonard replied by pointing out to them Section 6 of the N. P. Act of 1879, which authorizes the Governor-in-Council to make free a pretty long list of natural products, whenever the same shall have been made free by American legislation. This section further declared that "any or all" of the articles might be made reciprocally free, so that reciprocity might take in one or a few articles only, if not agreed upon for the whole list. Sir Leonard Tilley suggested that salt and lumber would be desirable additions. The gentlemen from the other side intimated that they were not authorized to go further than coal or iron ore in any proposals they might make. To this Sir Leonard replied again that they might consider the Canadian Government prepared at any time to reciprocate in these articles only, or whatever other articles they might choose to add. The deputation left perfectly satisfied that if reciprocity hung fire it was not from any fault on the Canadian side.

Since then nothing has been given to the public to show positively that any action has been taken on the other side in the way of following up the proposal made by the deputation referred to. But there are reasons for believing that the American interests then and there represented have not been idle in the meantime, and that the ensuing session will find Congress prepared to do something. The probability, we take it, is that an agreement will be made for reciprocity in fish, coal and iron ore at all events, and very possibly in salt and lumber too. It is said that, just of late,

American lumbermen have been investing pretty heavily in Canadian timber limits, which is held to mean that they expect their own side to put lumber on the reciprocal free list.

Supposing this forecast to be verified, Canada will be placed in a position requiring immediate and effective action. Reciprocity in grain and flour will have been knocked on the head, and that for probably a long time to come. All all anticipations of that kind of reciprocity may then be abandoned, at least for our time. Such being the case it should be our policy to adopt at once the plain, common-sense plan of making our duties on grain and flour exactly equal to the American duties—no more and no less. This would simply be straight, even-handed justice, perfectly fair to both sides. And let us hope that when the time comes, our new Minister of Finance, whoever he is to be, will be found equal to the occasion.

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WINTER TIME TABLE.

In effect Nov. 1st, 1885.

READ DOWN.	STATIONS.	READ UP.
GOING EAST		GOING WEST
8.00 p.m.	Lv 2 Winnipeg..... 3 Ar	7.30 a.m.
1.20 a.m.	Portage la Prairie..... 3 Ar	1.30 a.m.
7.10 a.m.	Carberry..... 3 Ar	8.50 p.m.
10.15 a.m.	Brandon..... 3 Ar	3.35 p.m.
1.25 p.m.	Lv 2 Pt. Arthur..... 2 Lv	12.05 a.m.
GOING WEST		GOING EAST
8.30 a.m.	Lv 2 Winnipeg..... 2 Ar	6.30 p.m.
11.05 a.m.	Portage la Prairie..... 2 Ar	4.00 p.m.
1.20 p.m.	Carberry..... 2 Ar	1.45 p.m.
3.00 p.m.	Brandon..... 2 Ar	11.00 a.m.
5.30 p.m.	Elkhorn..... 2 Ar	7.25 p.m.
8.45 p.m.	Moosomin..... 2 Ar	6.15 a.m.
9.00 p.m.	Broadview..... 2 Ar	3.45 a.m.
1.00 a.m.	Qu'Appelle..... 2 Ar	1.00 a.m.
3.15 a.m.	Regina..... 2 Ar	11.15 p.m.
5.45 a.m.	Ar 3 } Moose Jaw } 4 Lv	8.55 p.m.
6.15 a.m.	Lv 6 } } 7 Ar	8.45 p.m.
2.00 p.m.	Swift Current..... 2 Ar	12.45 p.m.
8.00 p.m.	Maple Creek..... 2 Ar	7.10 a.m.
12.45 a.m.	Medicine Hat..... 2 Ar	2.30 a.m.
9.45 a.m.	Gleichen..... 2 Ar	6.45 p.m.
1.50 p.m.	Calgary..... 2 Ar	1.50 p.m.
7.25 p.m.	Ar 5 } Canmore } 0 Lv	8.45 a.m.
3.00 a.m.	Lv 11 } } 12 Ar	5.35 p.m.
10.10 a.m.	Laggan..... 2 Ar	2.10 p.m.
11.01 p.m.	Pahiser..... 2 Ar	9.55 a.m.
4.00 p.m.	Ar 11 } Donald. } 12 Lv	7.00 a.m.
GOING SOUTH		GOING NORTH
10.45 p.m.	Lv 1 Winnipeg..... Ar	5.25 a.m.
12.15 p.m.	Donnison City..... Ar	2.25 a.m.
12.40 p.m.	Ar Emerson..... Lv	2.52 a.m.
10.00 a.m.	Lv 1 Winnipeg..... Ar	7.45 p.m.
11.55 a.m.	Morris..... Ar	5.00 p.m.
11.15 p.m.	Rosenfeldt..... Ar	4.15 p.m.
2.15 p.m.	Ar 1 Gretina..... Lv	3.25 p.m.
1.15 p.m.	Lv 2 Rosenfeldt..... Ar	1.15 p.m.
3.25 p.m.	Morden..... Ar	11.20 a.m.
5.50 p.m.	Ar 2 Mantou..... Lv	6.15 a.m.
GOING NORTH		GOING SOUTH
14.00 p.m.	Lv 9 Winnipeg..... Ar	8.50 a.m.
6.00 p.m.	Ar West Selkirk..... Lv	7.00 a.m.
GOING WEST		GOING EAST
10.30 a.m.	Lv 9 Winnipeg..... Ar	3.00 p.m.
10.30 a.m.	Stony Mountain..... Ar	2.60 p.m.
10.55 a.m.	Ar Stonewall..... Lv	1.30 p.m.
GOING S.W.		GOING N.E.
9.30 a.m.	Lv 10 Winnipeg..... Ar	6.00 a.m.
10.40 a.m.	Headingly..... Ar	5.00 p.m.
1.15 p.m.	Ar End of Track..... Lv	2.30 p.m.

Trains west of Canmore subject to cancellation at any time without notice.

- Dining stations
- 1 Daily. 2 Daily except Sunday. 3 Daily except Monday. 4 Daily except Saturday. 5 Sundays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. 6 Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. 7 Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays. 8 Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. 9 Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. 10 Mondays and Wednesdays. 11 Thursdays. 12 Fridays.

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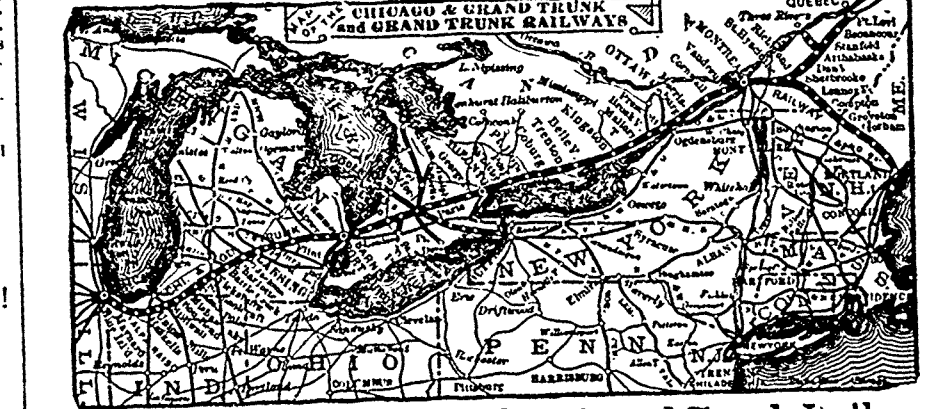
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