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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

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No. 42.

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.

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JAMES E. STEEN,
Publisher

WINNIPEG, JULY 11, 1887.

GEEN & MCWILLIAMS have opened a blacksmith shop at Virden, Man.

LIVE hogs were in good demand at about 4 cents to farmers, at Birtle a week ago.

HALL & LOWE, photographers, Winnipeg, are said to contemplate removing to Victoria, B.C.

A. L. CAMERON, flour and feed, late of Medicine Hat, Assa., will go into business with Parich at Calgary.

— MCADAMS is erecting a building at Virden, Man., which will be opened shortly as a millinery establishment.

RICHARDSON & EVERSON, of the Mikado Exchange saloon, Medicine Hat, have sold out to Clarke, of Qu'Appelle.

A. R. TRACY, brewer, Medicine Hat, has secured machinery to add the manufacture of soda water and cider to his business.

DONOHUE & McDOWELL, keepers of the Windsor hotel, Calgary, have dissolved partnership. John Donohue will continue the business.

JAMES HERALD, Stonewall, has moved to Balmoral, where he will open a general store, to fill the vacancy caused by the closing of the store of J. O. Stacy.

A JEW peddler who had been selling jewelry at Medicine Hat without a license, was taken before a magistrate and fined \$50 and costs, \$3.50. He subsequently took out a six months' license for \$12.50.

THE store and hotel at Binscarth Farm will be closed on the 23rd of July. The stock of goods has been purchased by Christie & Brown, who are about to open a store at Millwood at the crossing of the Assiniboine by the Manitoba Northwestern railway.

THE Medicine Hat Times says: J. Steele, of Steele & Son, Greenville, Ontario, is in correspondence with Mr. Tweed with a view to starting a two set woolen factory at Medicine Hat. Steele has been offered a bonus to establish the factory at New Westminster, B.C., but he would prefer Medicine Hat, provided satisfactory arrangements can be made.

THE deposits in the Dominion Government savings bank at Winnipeg, for the year ended June 30th last were \$469,517. The withdrawals for the same time were \$408,072, leaving a balance of \$61,444 excess of deposits. The balance to the credit of depositors on the 1st of July, 1887 amounts to \$939,196, or \$97,464 greater than at the same date one year ago.

THE Inland Revenue collections at the port of Winnipeg for June, 1887, are as follows:

Spirits.....	\$25,078 70
Tobacco	3,755 00
Malt and Beer.....	1,100 70
Cigars.....	111 00
Petroleum.....	45 00
Total.....	\$33,189 77
Collection for June, 1886.....	8,127 71

THE total duties collected at this port for the past three months show an increase over the same time last year of \$44,486.25. Following are the comparative figures:

	1886.	1887.
April.....	\$31,270 00	\$39,225 04
May.....	33,805 07	52,274 08
June.....	45,447 87	63,407 00
Total.....	\$110,422 74	\$154,906 07

E. MAYCOCK, fancy goods, Winnipeg, has sold out to Miss A. E. Maycock.

THE estate of Templeton & Harper, grocers, Winnipeg, has been sold to Wm. Harper.

A BRANCH of the Bank of Ottawa will be opened shortly at Keewatin, Lake of the Woods.

GORDON & GRAHAM have purchased the bankrupt stock of Kouk & Co, at Crystal City, Man, and have opened out business in the hardware line at that place.

WE have received the circular of the Dominion Mutual Accident Association of Manitoba, incorporated at the recent meeting of the Legislature. The provisional directors are: G. H. McMicken, Dr. Orton, Dr. J. R. Jones, Joseph Wolf, M. Conway and T. Brown. The circular says: "The plans of the Association are based on those of the celebrated United States Mutual Accident Association, the largest and most successful of its kind in the world." It is also claimed that the association will give lower rates than any other in Canada.

THE financial trouble of C. F. Forrest, jeweller, Winnipeg, previously referred to in these columns is one of the most important events of the kind which has occurred here for some time. The judgments against Forrest foot up to over \$26,000, in addition to which is a claim of the London & Canada Loan Co for \$7,358. Of the first amount, the Commercial Bank has judgment for over \$7,600, and the Federal Bank for \$3,750. The last two claims as well as that of the Loan Company, are secured by the endorsement of A. R. Lillie, against whom judgment has also been obtained. The balance of the total amount is spread over five or six judgments, mainly to eastern jewelry houses. The stock and store fittings, amounting to about \$20,000, were sold at sheriff's sale, and brought 66 cents in the dollar. Jas. McNeil, of the Commercial Bank, was the purchaser. It is likely that the outside creditors will receive very little, as the Banks have the inside track in the matter of judgments, in addition to the security which they enjoy. The latter will probably come out all right. The further disposition of the stock has not been ascertained, but the supposition is that it has been bought in with a view to continuing the business in some form,

THE Montreal board of trade this afternoon discussed the customs question and demanded an immediate reform of the system at present in vogue. It is understood that the importers of the city are taking steps to form an Importers' Protective Association, to consist of importers, for the purpose of resisting unjust restrictions and arbitrary fines imposed under the present customs laws. The developments in the Ayer's patent medicine case have hastened this action.

EASTERN people can hardly be blamed if they fail to see the unanimity of feeling existing throughout the entire Northwest against railway monopoly. They look at the vote on the question in Parliament, where six Northwestern members voted for monopoly and only three against it. Of the latter even, one is pointed out as only opposing disallowance in a half-hearted way. The way in which this part of Canada is represented or rather misrepresented at Ottawa, is quite enough to cause the impression to those not intimately conversant with the situation here, that we are only half in earnest in our opposition to monopoly. The Montreal *Herald* looks at the question from this standpoint, and says: "The views expressed (by the *Herald*) are held by the majority of people in the Dominion of Canada, and apparently by a good number of people in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories. Two out of five of the Manitoba Members voted against the building of the Red River Valley Railway, and even the member for Winnipeg, though voting against disallowance, was honest enough to say that his opinion was to the contrary effect. The whole of the members for the Northwest Territories constituencies voted against the construction of this road."

THE thirteenth annual meeting of the shareholders of the Federal Bank was held in Toronto on the 22nd ulto. The report, which will be found on another page, showed a steady improvement in the general business of the bank throughout the year, the net profits, after deducting expenses accrued interest, the nucleus of an officer's guarantee fund, and writing off all bad and doubtful debts, reaching \$96,868, or \$20,000 more than those of the previous year, and equal to 77 per cent. on the paid-up capital. Of the total profits, \$75,000 was distributed in dividends to the shareholders, and of the remainder, a sum of \$25,000 was added to the rest, bringing that fund up to \$150,000, and the balance of \$72,249 carried forward to commence the new financial year. During the past twelve months the circulation has increased \$32,625, the deposits \$272,776, and the discounts \$335,919, while, thanks to the prudent and conservative policy of the bank's officers, the past due bills have decreased by \$88,372. The commencement of an officers' guarantee fund to provide against errors and defaults is a step in the right direction, and, should necessity ever arise to make use of it, will be found an important and reliable safeguard for the interests of the shareholders. This bank was somewhat unfortunate in its earlier business connections in Winnipeg, but under the present management it is now doing a safe and prosperous business. The officers were not discouraged with these early losses, and with a firm faith in the

future of the country, they determined to hold the fort here. They are now reaping the benefits of their wise foresight.

PROTECTION does not seem to work well in Germany. The German export trade is declared to be in a very depressed state, and the blame for the sad state of affairs prevailing is cast upon the Government for its policy of continually heaping up the duties, which has been in vogue for some time past. In discussing the subject recently, *Kuhlow's German Trade Review* said: "The increasing favor shown by modern German politicians to the imposition of protective duties, is beginning to draw forth signs of disapproval from the different Chambers of Commerce all over the country. The wish is being continually expressed that a period of peace and quietness may now finally be established, so far as the taxation laws are concerned. A perfect chorus of protests against further alterations reaches the ears of the Reichstag from the Chambers of Commerce at Stuttgart, Upper and Lower Bavaria, Reichenbach, Schweidnitz and Waldenburg. Above all, the taxation of the raw materials is vehemently denounced. The coolness with which the most monstrous taxes on wool and flax are demanded is especially noticeable. In consequence of the great lack of both of these raw stuffs in Germany, a lack which in all probability can never be compensated for by an increased production, the whole weight of the tax would fall upon the shoulders of the manufacturers, and the entire export trade would be destroyed. For German industry this would be a distinct blow. Industrial protective duties have the well-known effect of rapidly increasing the number of manufactories, and then, in consequence of the resulting competition, prices become depressed."

FLOUR milling in its present stage of development is in many ways a most precarious business. There is perhaps no industry which requires a more constant display of "eternal vigilance" to make it successful and profitable than milling. There is keen competition from every quarter, and the result is that only the very fittest are surviving. Milling in many districts, and in fact entire countries, has been rendered unprofitable, and at the present day there are probably millions of dollars sunk in milling enterprises. Milling systems are constantly undergoing changes and improvements in the direction of economy, and every part of the business, from the purchase of grain to the disposal of the manufactured product has been reduced to a science, with the same object of reducing expenditure, in order to meet competition. It is therefore necessary that milling enterprises should be under the direction of practical men, in order that success may be assured. The following companion pictures from the *Northwestern Miller* present an apt illustration of what may or may not be accomplished, and it may prove interesting to some here, in view of recent developments in the milling line: "In a certain city there is a large mill, owned by a rich man. It was erected at the time when the flour trade was booming, when profits were high and buyers not as particular as at present. It cost a large amount of

money and was built on the most approved system then in operation. The best work and the best machinery, with careful supervision as to cost and quality, made of it what was considered a model mill. It was operated for a brief period at a profit, but when prices fell and heavy production of similar flours made necessary the employment of improved methods of marketing and economical operation, this mill dropped to the rear and was finally shut down. It has now been idle for years, mention of its name is jeered at, its machinery is rusty, its bolting cloths have been destroyed by insects and decay, and the entire building is fairly alive with rats and vermin." In the same city, and within a stone's throw of this monument to business imbecility, stands a large and handsome mill of about the same capacity. It was built by practical business men about the time the other mill was shut down. They selected a thoroughly competent miller to superintend its construction, gave him a liberal allowance of stock in the company, and placed him in charge of the mill when it was finished. This mill has as good a record for steady running as any in the country, its flours are quoted at the top in the best markets, it is generally behind on orders when its competitors are complaining of dull business, and it has made good profits for its owners from the start."

THE following letter appeared in a city contemporary over the signature of "A country Merchant": "What is to be done with our butter is a question that is now puzzling the brains of our country merchants. Two years ago the city of Winnipeg and western consumption was equal to the production of butter in the Province of Manitoba. Since that time the situation has materially changed. Western production has now a surplus, while that of Manitoba has now more than double. At the same time the consumption in Winnipeg has not increased at nearly the same ratio, while at the present time the city trade is being supplied by farmers direct, who peddle it around to the grocers, hotelkeepers, boarding-houses and even to private dwellings. Consequently large stocks are accumulating in the cellars of the wholesale and commission merchants, as well as those of the country merchants at their places of business. What then are our merchants to do with these surplus stocks? The board of Trade should take the matter up and try and find some solution for the difficulty without delay. Otherwise the country merchants will either have to refuse taking it as an article of commerce or pay such a low price for it as will enable them to ship it out of the country to some other market, the latter being difficult for them to do, as very few have sufficient to make a car lot, and shipping in less than car lots is too expensive." Undoubtedly the first thing to be done should be in the direction of improving the quality and mode of packing and handling butter. So long as there was a home market at good prices, little discrimination was exercised in preparing butter for the market. People had to have the butter, whether it was of first quality or only medium, and usually only the latter qualities could be obtained in this market. Now, however, that there is a surplus over home requirements, matters have

very materially changed. Prices have dropped to a much lower level, and even then only choice qualities will be taken. The purchasing public who are now readily supplied, have become more exacting in their tastes. The first point is therefore clear, that more care must be exercised by butter producers and shippers, in regard to quality. But this will not find a market for the surplus production. What is to be done with the surplus? Simply export it. But here again comes in the difficulty of quality. If improvement is necessary in modes of butter manufactured for the home market, the same is still more true of butter for export. Now, the fact of the matter is, a great deal of the butter sent to the Winnipeg market is not put up in proper shape for export. When these matters of quality and mode of packing have been properly attended to, we fancy the butter problem will be about solved, and it will be found that the bugaboo of increasing surpluses of butter has faded away. It is very seldom that a profitable market cannot be found for really choice butter, though at the same time the market may be glutted with inferior stuff. There is no reason why Manitoba should not produce butter equal in quality to any country in the world, and once the quality of our product is established in outside markets on a high basis, there need be no fear of the result. The bulk of our exports must usually go eastward, and on this account Montreal quotations may be taken as a guide, though before referring to ruling prices there, it may be stated that values are at present more than naturally depressed. However, we find that prices at Montreal for good butter, last week, ruled from 14 to 19½ cents. Choicest creamery brought the highest prices, but the choicest dairy was only 2 cents lower, ruling at 17½c. At these prices Manitoba producers should be able to ship to Montreal at a profit, provided the article would come up to the standard. At present the bulk of the butter produced here would not bring the higher prices named, and would probably not grade higher than the class "western" which ranged from about 13 to 14 cents. The remedy, however, is in our own hands, and it will be the fault of our butter producers and shippers, if a higher standard be not reached which will enable the export of the product at a profit.

The C.P.R. Steamships.

The steamers of the Canadian Pacific Line formerly belonged to the Cunard Line and were transferred by it to John Elder & Co., shipbuilders, in part payment for the company's "Umbria" and "Etruria." They have been altered considerably, and are the finest on the Pacific Ocean. The "Abyssinia" and the "Parthia" have had new triple expansion engines put in, which has, of course, increased their speed very much. The "Batavia" is a fast boat as she is; and all the internal fittings are new, so that they are the acme of comfort as well as speed. Their route will be Hong Kong, Kobe, Yokohama and Vancouver. The company estimated that with these steamers it will make the trip in nineteen days. Whether the Chinese will avail themselves of the Canadian Pacific line will, of course, depend upon the

action of the Canadians toward the Chinese. There never has been a line to Vancouver before now; instead of clipper ships, laden with tea from China and Japan, it will all come by steamer, and then via Canadian Pacific to London. The bulk of the cargo of these vessels from Hong Kong and Yokohama will be principally tea, and the return journey will in time doubtless carry Canadian products. Vancouver will become a regular Liverpool of the North. At Hong Kong the steamers will be berthed alongside the new wharves of the Kow Long Wharf Company. Hong Kong will be considered the starting point of the line and the mails from Shanghai will be carried by the Nippon Gusei Kiashia Company to Hong Kong. Yokohama will merely be a port of call. It has no wharves to speak of. Vancouver will doubtless have large warehouses and good wharves built as occasion demands. Tickets through to London from Hong Kong can be had at considerably cheaper rates via Vancouver and the Canadian Pacific line than via San Francisco.—*Ex.*

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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, JULY 11, 1887.

TURNING THE FIRST SOD.

An event of the first importance to the people of Manitoba, and in fact the entire Northwest, has transpired, an event long looked forward to with feelings of the deepest concern by almost every citizen of the country. The Dominion Government has heretofore succeeded in overruling the unanimous wishes of the people of this Province, and prevented the Province from carrying out necessary measures for the improvement and development of the country. Although independent railway connection was admitted to be absolutely necessary for the further development of our resources, and the bettering of our population, and although it was also admitted that it was just and right that the Province should obtain this independent connection, yet in the interest of a single corporation, the whole population of Manitoba has been compelled to suffer grievous wrong. The right to veto acts of the Local Legislature, centred in the Federal Government, has been strained to an unwarrantable extent in order that one railroad company might profit at the public expense. Thus shielded under the wing of the Dominion Government, the C.P.R. Company has been able to fasten its monopolistic fangs securely upon the Province, and exact the last dram of its pound of flesh from the overburdened people of the country. The affection of the Government for the monopoly corporation has been thinly disguised under a pretense that it was seeking to carry out a policy in the interests of the Dominion as a whole. The true state of the situation was further kept in the background by the efforts of interested journals, whose business it was to misrepresent the question, in the interests of monopoly. In this way, and owing to the false representations of politicians and irresponsible journals, the people of Eastern Canada were falsely educated to look upon the movement in Manitoba as unlawful and likely to operate to the detriment of the Dominion, instead of one being within the constitutional rights of the Province, and most necessary to the further progress and prosperity of Manitoba.

This policy of repression of Manitoba by the Dominion Government, through

exercise of the Federal veto, has resulted successfully up to the present time, in continuing the grinding railway monopoly in this Province. Owing to a lack of nerve on the part of the local authorities, who were evidently overawed by the arbitrary course of the Federal Government, the Province has heretofore submitted to injustice, meantime the people trusting that the Dominion Government would change its policy at an early date. In this way, partly overawed and partly induced to submit for the time being by promises that at a future date the construction of independent roads to the boundary would be allowed, (promises which it is hardly necessary to add have not been kept) the people of Manitoba have heretofore been held in check. But patience often ceases to be a virtue, and in the case of Manitoba it should certainly have ceased some time ago. At last the local authorities have been forced by the strong pressure of public opinion to assume a defiant front and declare that the Province shall no longer be deprived of its just rights under the constitution. Veto or no veto, the people of Manitoba have declared that they must have relief from grinding railway monopoly and burdensome freight rates,—so grinding and burdensome that the natural development of the country has been retarded and the people have been deprived of a large portion of the profits accruing from their toil. It has been proclaimed that Manitoba must have relief from the unjust tax upon her prosperity and resources, with the consent of the Dominion if possible, but without that consent if necessary. This firm resolve led to the important event which transpired on Saturday afternoon at three o'clock—in the turning of the first sod of the Red River Valley Railway—the road which it is intended shall deal the first and most effectual blow to monopoly.

The event was made the occasion of some display of that earnestness which all Manitobans feel in the work. In view of the obstacles which may yet be thrown in the way of the undertaking by the Dominion, the occasion was marked more by a display of earnest determination than by an exuberance of enthusiasm. Still, it was a matter of great satisfaction to know that the construction of the road had actually commenced; and notwithstanding that the Federal veto has since been again applied, the people of Manitoba undoubtedly breathe freer than they

have done for a few months back. The mayors of the two principal cities of the province—one at the east and the other at the west—were there, to show that Manitoba is not divided in its desire for release from monopoly.

With work now progressing steadily on the road, the future indeed looks cheerful. Increased prosperity must certainly follow the opening of the Province to free railway communication and railway competition. The opening of an alternate route to the east will also work to the advantage of the people of Eastern Canada, in their commercial relations with the West. The people there are fast commencing to discover that the Manitoba question has been systematically misrepresented to them by interested journals and politicians, under the influence of the railway monopoly. They are beginning to find out that railway monopoly in the West, in preventing the development of the country, will result to the injury of both East and West. Public opinion has consequently undergone a great change in Eastern Canada during the past few months in favor of Manitoba, and this fact has already been of service here. It has been recognized that without the moral support of the people of the East, the Dominion Government would not be able to effectually overcome the determination of Manitoba to build the road. Obstacles may yet be thrown in the way, but they can hardly prove insurmountable, in view of what has already been overcome.

A PREMIUM ON DISHONESTY.

The Customs investigation which has been progressing in Montreal lately in the Ayer's case, has brought prominently to the front the utter depravity of some of the systems employed in connection with the Customs Department. THE COMMERCIAL has heretofore described some of the practices in vogue in connection with the administration of the Customs as vicious, and later developments have amply justified the use of the word. The arguments previously advanced in these columns to show the immoralities to which the system referred to would inevitably lead, have been proved by the practical results lately made apparent in the case against J. C. Ayer & Co. The developments in the case have been most disgraceful to Customs officials at Montreal, and this disgrace must rebound upon the entire Department, which ap-

proves of a system through which such outrages are not only possible but probable. Indeed, they are the natural outcome of the obnoxious means employed. The system which lends encouragement to moral depravity and even renders outrage upon the public possible, cannot be palliated in the public service, and the excuse that the end justifies the means is at best a very weak one. Surely the efficient management of the Customs Department does not call for the employment of means which open the doors to the commitment of dishonest acts, on the part of the officials, and if the interests of the Crown cannot be adequately protected in an honorable way, then those interests had better be allowed to suffer.

The late disgraceful developments, which have brought the entire Department into mistrust with the commercial community, are the direct outcome of the employment of questionable means in connection with the special agents' service. This branch of the service seems to be founded upon principles utterly at variance with honorable observances. The regulations are such as to render the agents more anxious for the spoils of office, than the efficiency of the service. In the Ayer's case it has been shown that disgraceful and contemptible means were resorted to in order to obtain plunder, to be divided among the officials. Vicious is too mild a word to apply to this system. More booty is the only incentive to action, no matter how dishonorable the means employed to obtain it. Under such a system it is almost possible, by a well-arranged intrigue with employes or others, to rob an innocent person. The incentive of obtaining two-thirds of the fine is enough to cause some men to resort to almost anything. It has been asserted that one agent cleared \$24,000 out of a season's operations. It is also said that agent Wolff, at Montreal, has derived an annual income of \$10,000 for the past three years, from his share of the plunder obtained from seizures, in addition to which he has had a salary of \$1,600 and traveling expenses. With this prospect of plunder in view, it will be seen how honest traders could be pestered and hampered by special agents and detectives, who work on the principle that every importer is as dishonorable as themselves. If these men are a necessary adjunct to the efficiency of the Customs service, by all means let the best men procurable be employed, at liberal salaries.

The booty system is a disgrace to the Department, and it should be thoroughly purged away.

THE BANQUET.

In a country so strongly partisan as Canada is generally believed to be, the banquet tendered to Mr. Robert Watson, M.P., by the citizens of Winnipeg, presented several remarkable features worthy of careful reflection. It has often been declared by men of broad and independent thought, that the extreme party feeling which prevails in Canada is the curse of the country, and is fast driving us toward national ruin. But the desert is not without its oases, and the spectacle of Thursday evening last would, to the independent mind, resemble one of those refreshing spots, which often prove such a haven of rest to the weary traveller over the burning sands. So in the heat and rancor of party strife, an occasion such as the Watson banquet, could not but prove a place of enjoyable rest from partisan bitterness. To the man of broad and liberal thought, it would prove a feast, and even to the diseased partisan it must have administered an allopathic dose. Surely no man, no matter how strongly partisan in sentiment, could have gone from the banquet hall as strongly partisan as when he came. The sharp edge must have received a grinding down at some point. Those who have had occasion to lament the bigotry of party feeling here, cannot but take a less pessimistic view of the situation now. A very few of the party whips and wire-pullers, who see that their occupations are fast passing from them, and that their "usefulness" is rapidly on the wane, were the only ones to attempt to throw cold water on the affair, but their vain spoutings had no more effect than the proverbial water thrown upon the duck's back. The party machine here has lost its influence with the intelligent public, and the impotent ravings of the "bosses" can well afford to be looked upon with a smile of disinterested nothingness.

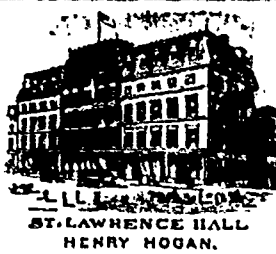
The banquet itself was a magnificent success in every particular. Nothing like it has heretofore occurred in Winnipeg, nor perhaps for that matter in Canada. It was a tribute simply to honest worth, born of a desire to recognize, independent of party, the labors of Mr. Watson, in the interest of Manitoba's rights. Though returned as a Liberal, the people believed that he was actuated by honest purposes in working so arduously, and on every

occasion, against the hated monopoly. This feeling found vent in the demonstration and presentation to Mr. Watson on Thursday evening last, and what took place in Winnipeg was re-echoed to a great extent throughout the province, in the hearts of the people. The Conservatives of Winnipeg who took the leading part in the proceedings, and were mainly instrumental in bringing about the banquet, deserve the greatest praise for the independence of spirit shown. Their action is in strong contrast with that of the Conservative members from this province, at Ottawa, who sought to ignore Mr. Watson, and it is to be hoped it will be taken by these parties as a wholesome rebuke for the infinite littleness of soul which they displayed in this matter. The banquet should do much toward uniting the people of the province, in defence of our provincial rights.

THE RED RIVER VALLEY RAILWAY.

The road to the boundary is still the great matter of paramount interest to Manitobans. The most important move in connection with the project since our last review of the situation, was the turning of the first sod by Premier Norquay, on Saturday, July 2nd. On or about the same day it is said the Dominion Government disallowed the Act. The last statement is generally accepted as true, though official notice of the exercise of the veto power has not yet been made public. It is even thought in some circles that the Governor-General may refuse to veto the Act, notwithstanding the decision of Parliament and the Government. Be this as it may, it is now believed that the Dominion will rest with vetoing the Act, without resorting to extreme measures to prevent the building of the road. Indeed, public opinion has changed so rapidly in favor of Manitoba in the east of late, that it is doubtful if the Government dare resort to extreme measures. The local authorities claim that the veto will not interfere with their intentions, and that the road will be completed within the specified time. In the meantime the work goes steadily forward. The survey has been about completed, and a number of men have been employed clearing the road through the bush, along the first few miles of the line, before the prairie is reached. Grading will commence this week. A telegram from the contractor, dated from Toronto, stated that the rolling stock had been purchased and that the road would be completed before the specified time. The bonds have not yet been floated, but the local authorities claim that the necessary funds can be secured, the delay being caused from a desire to realize to the best advantage. With the Grand Trunk and the Northern Pacific railways both backing the scheme, there should be no insurmountable difficulties in the way of obtaining the funds, even with the opposition of the C.P.R. Co. and the Dominion Government.

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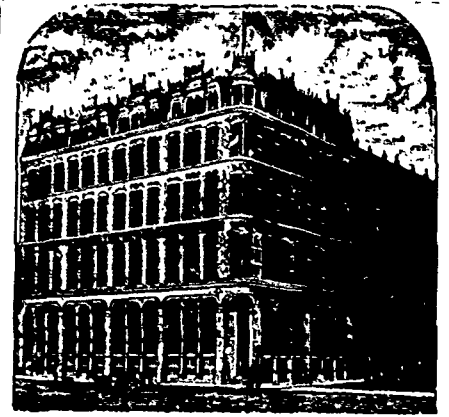
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WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET

There was something of a more active disposition in money matters last week. The week commenced with July 4th, and with a considerable quantity of paper falling due, though the amount was not particularly large. There were about the usual number of renewals, mostly in part, and considering the indications for the past while back, the result was fully as favorable as could be expected. The financial situation, however, cannot otherwise be considered than close, and there has been really no reasonable hope to lead to the expectation that it can be otherwise than stringent for some time to come. There has yet been simply nothing done in the way of railway building or other large undertakings to circulate funds, and the country must ere this have been pretty well drained of the income from last season's crops. The abundant crop in view will be mainly looked forward to, to increase the circulating medium.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE

Offices were almost deserted in several of the leading wholesale establishments last week, and many of the warehouses looked as though the employes had gone to some of the numerous picnics which occurred on about every day of the week. In some instances a search through the premises would reveal a solitary individual, hidden away in a dark room, vainly endeavoring to escape from the oppressive heat which pervaded the innermost apartments. Even the railway situation failed to prove an interesting topic of conversation, and in the face of the thermometer crawling up to 100 in the shade, to talk ordinary business was out of the question. The few remarks made were generally in some way connected with the adjective hot, often coupled with and preceded by various other adjectives. The week was altogether such a one as is usually put in during smelting July weather.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

The situation in this trade speaks volumes for the condition of the crops throughout the country. The exceptionally favorable prospects for an abundant harvest are shown more fully and practically than could be set forth in many columns of crop reports. Stocks of agricultural machinery have been completely cleaned out. Scarcely a binder, mower or rake has been left, and many of the dealers are largely oversold. One firm has taken orders for four car lots of binders more than can be filled, on account of stocks having been exhausted, though first importations amounted to over 500 binders. Nearly all the dealers are oversold, and it is thought that some orders will have to go unfilled, or perhaps importations from the States will have to be made. Nothing more forcible could be said regarding the grain crops, than this report.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS

Prices as follows: Howard's quinine, 90c to \$1; German quinine, 70c to 80c; opium, \$4 to \$4.50; morphia, \$2 to \$2.50; 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, 25c to 30c; alum, \$3 to \$3.75; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur, flour, \$4 to \$4.50; sulphur, oil, \$4 to \$5.25; American blue vitrol, 6 to 8c

DRY GOODS

This branch is about as quiet as it usually is at this season of the year, if not more so than in average seasons. The city and country trade are all alike in this respect, and only very small packages are usually taken. Samples of fall importations of British goods have arrived, and are now being shown. The clothing branch is very quiet and without features of any importance.

FRUITS—GREEN, VEGETABLES, ETC.

The probability of an advance in lemons, noted in our last report, has been fulfilled, prices having gone up from \$1.50 to \$2.00 per box. Tomatoes are a little lower. Now apples are now being received in barrels, and of better quality than first receipts. A car of melons was on the way, and prices will probably be lower on its arrival. Quotations here are: Messina oranges, in half-boxes, \$4.00 to \$4.25 per box; Messinas in boxes, \$8.00 to \$8.50; blood oranges, Malta, \$8.50 to \$9.00—last price for single boxes. Messina lemons, \$7.50 to \$8.00 box; bananas, \$4 to \$5 per bunch; apricots, \$3.50 per box; tomatoes, \$1.75 to \$2.00 for one-third bushel box; cucumbers, 80c; watermelons, \$9.00 per dozen. New apples, \$6.00 to \$6.50 per barrel; California peaches, \$4.00 per box; California plums, \$4.00 per crate. Bermuda onions, \$3.75 per box of 50 lbs. southern onions, 5c lb.; Egyptian onions, \$7 per case of 100 lbs.; apple cider, \$7 per keg of 15 gallons; cabbages, 5 to 6c lb; lettuce, radishes and onions, 15c per dozen bunches; rhubarb, 2c per lb.

FRUITS—DRIED, AND NUTS.

Quotations remain as follows: Figs, Turkey, in boxes, 10 to 11c, new Elme figs, in layers, 10c per lb.; boxes, 15c per lb., or \$2. per dozen in 1 lb. boxes; Golden dates, 9 to 10c; Valera raisins \$2.25; London layers, \$3.50; evaporated apples, 15c; dried apples, 7½ to 8c; new Turkey prunes, 18c to 9c. Nuts are quoted: Peanuts, roasted, 18c; peanuts, raw, 15c; walnuts, 18c; almonds, 20c; filberts, 12½c; Texas pecans, 17c; coconuts, \$12.50 per 100; maple syrup, \$15 per dozen cans of 1 gal.; maple sugar, 13c per pound, in cakes, new.

FISH

Prices for cured are: boneless fish, 6½c; boneless cod, 8½c; prepared herrings, 7½c; mackerel, 15-lb kits, No. 1, \$2.50; other qualities, \$1.75 upwards; smoked herrings, per box, 25c.

GROCERIES

A Montreal report says: "The sugar market has been more active, and prices for refined stronger, the advent of the fruit season causing a brisk demand. Sales of round lots have been made at 6½c, and we do not hear of any business being done at lower figures. Barbadoes molasses is offered here at 29½c to 30c, and the market is firm. In teas there is very little doing. Some lots of new teas are now arriving, and the market is rather easier." The market here was steady, with prices as follows: yellow sugar 6½c to 7c; granulated 7½c;

lump sugar, 8½c to 9c; Coffees, Rio, 22 to 23c. 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 50c. Old range Moyune gunpowder, 25 to 70c; panfried Japan 23 to 45c, basket-fired, 25 to 40c; Ping Suey young hyson, 25 to 35c; Moyune 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.

CANNED GOODS

Prices generally are steady as follows, per dozen: Salmon, \$1.70, mackerel, \$1.50 lobsters \$1.87, sardines (French) ½ tins, \$1.70, ¼ tins \$2.00, cove oysters, \$3; corn, \$1.65, peas \$2.00, tomatoes \$2.00, baked beans \$2.75, corned beef \$3 to \$3.25, lunch tongues, 2 lbs. \$7.00; 1 lb, \$3.50. Fruit in 2 lb. tins, are quoted: pears, \$2.50 to \$2.75, strawberries, \$2.00 to \$2.75; plums, \$2.25 to \$2.50, peaches, \$3.75.

HARDWARE AND METALS

Reports from the east indicated that prices are firmly held, since the advance in the duties, there now being no prospect of further changes in the duties for some time. Here prices are steady and quotations are: Cut nails, 10d and larger, \$3.75 to \$4.00; I. C. tin plates, \$5.50 to \$5.75; I. C. tin plates, double, \$11.00 to \$11.50; Canada plates, \$3.50 to \$3.75; sheet iron, \$3.50 to \$5.00, according to grade; iron pipe, 35 to 40 per cent off list prices; ingot tin, 23 to 30c per lb., according to quality; bar iron, \$3.00 to \$3.50 per 100 lbs.; shot, 6½ to 7c per lb.; tarred felt, \$2.75 to \$2.95 per 100 lbs.; barbed wire, 7 to 7½c.

HIDES

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

LEATHER AND FINDINGS

Prices are: Spanish sole, 23 to 32c; slaughter-ole, 33 to 35c; French calf, first choice \$1.35 to \$1.50; Canadian calf, 90c to \$1.00; French kip, \$1 to \$1.10; B Z kip, 85 to 90c; slaughter kip, 55 to 75c; No 1, wax upper, 45 to 50c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, 33 to 35c for plump stock. American oak sole, 45 to 60c; buffe, 17 to 22c a foot; cordovan, 25 to 27c; pebble, 21 to 23c; colored linings, 12c.

PAPER AND STATIONERY

The past month, in spite of the quiet times, has shown an increase in the aggregate business over the same month last year. Samples of fall goods, including Christmas cards and other holiday goods, have arrived. A few early consignments of fall stocks have also come to hand.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS.

Trade remains quiet and prices have not changed since our last report. Quotations are now as follows: Turpentine, 80c in five-gallon cans, or 75c in barrels; harness oil, \$1.25; neatsfoot oil, \$1.50; linseed oil, raw, 72c per gallon; boiled, 75c in barrels or 5c advance 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, 28c; headlight, 28c; water white, 30c. American

oils, Eocene, 35c; water white, 33c; sunlight, 29c. 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

Quotations are now as follows: Gooderham & Wort's five year old, \$2.40; seven year old, \$3; old rye, \$1.75; Jules Robin brandy, \$4.50; Bisquet Debonche & Co., \$4.75; Martell, \$6.50; Hennessy, \$6.50; 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 per case; DeKuyper green gin, \$6.50 per case; Tom Gin, \$9.00 to \$10.00; Martel and Hennessy's brandy, \$15.00 per case of 12 bottles.

WOOL

Prices are: Cotswold and Leicester, washed and in merchantable condition, 12 to 15c; do. unwashed, 8 to 10c, according to condition and quality. Pure Southdown and Shropshire, washed and in good condition, 15 to 18c; do. unwashed, 10 to 12c. Montana and Oregon fine wools, unwashed, 13 to 15c, when in good condition.

THE MARKETS

WINNIPEG

WHEAT

There are no further features to note in wheat and literally nothing is doing. Crop prospects continue to improve, and every day brings the time nearer to an abundant harvest.

FLOUR

A Montreal report says exports of flour to Europe this season have been heavy, amounting to 150,707 sacks to date, against 104,712 last year. Strong flour was in good request, both on local and export account, and an active business was done. Sales included a number of cars Manitoba at about \$4.35, some was also taken for export. Here matters continued steady. Prices to the local trade are as follows: Patents, \$2.25; strong bakers', \$1.90; XXXX, \$1.30 to \$1.35; superfine, \$1.10.

MILLSTUFFS

Unchanged, at \$8.00 for bran and \$10.00 for shorts. Chop feed, \$25 to \$30 per ton.

OATS

Quiet and unchanged, at about 45c on track.

OATMEAL

Granulated held at \$2.60 per sack, and standard at \$2.45.

POTATOES

Old not in much demand. New worth about \$5 per bbl.

EGGS

Were usually held at 13c, but the course of the markets is uncertain. Packers have now ceased operation for the season, and with receipts not always in good condition, prices are more likely to decline than advance. However, this will depend upon the freedom with which stocks come forward.

BUTTER

The situation remains about the same. Retailers are supplied mainly direct from farmers, who disposed of their stocks at from 10 to 12c, often in trade. There is scarcely any movement in a wholesale way, through dealers. A quantity was shipped to British Columbia on Thursday, in a refrigerator car. About 13c is the quotation usually given by dealers, but this price is little more than nominal, as there is scarcely anything moving.

CHEESE

There is very little in the market. Sales of single boxes were made at 13c, but the feeling seemed easier.

LARD

Chicago is usually held at \$2.30 per pail, and native at \$2.20 to \$2.25 for small lots.

CURED MEATS

The feeling seemed easier, notwithstanding that stocks are light and live hogs high. About four packers are now cutting up small quantities daily. Quotations were: Long clear bacon, 9½c; breakfast bacon, 12c; spiced rolls, 11c; hams, 13c; Chicago mess pork, \$18 per barrel; mess beef \$13 per bbl.

DRESSED MEATS

Hogs have held at 7c, but toward the close of the week there was some cutting under this price, perhaps as low as 6½c; beef was also easier, and quoted from 6 to 7c for sides; mutton easier at 10c; veal, 9 to 10c.

LIVE STOCK

Two sales of hogs part car lots, were reported from second hands at 5c, for good animals, but it is not likely that lots shipped in on forced sale would bring this price. From 4½ to 4¾c could be quoted as the probable range. Cattle are said to be easier. Prices would range from 3 to 3½c, though it is said some have been brought in, which could not be sold profitably at these figures.

Personal.

MR. JOS. TASSE, of the extensive cigar manufacturing establishment of Tasse, Wood & Co., Montreal, arrived in the city last week.

FRANK J. WATEROUS, of the Waterous Engine Works, St. Paul, was in the city last week and paid THE COMMERCIAL a visit.

MR. J. M. BOWELL, surveyor of customs at Winnipeg, has been transferred to Vancouver, B.C., having received the appointment of collector for that port.

MR. ROGER CRYSLER, representing the Delhi Fruit and Vegetable Canning Co., of Delhi, Ont., was in the city last week. He had just completed a business trip over British Columbia and the Northwest.

THE voting on the debenture by-law at Calgary, to raise \$30,000 for public improvements will take place on August 4th.

THE C.P.R. Co. has commenced construction of stock-yards at Calgary. The yard will be about 100 feet square. A good chute is being put in, but the yards are only of a temporary nature.

THE abundant rains of this month says the Birtle Observer have so raised the river that timber and railway ties have been floated down to their destination. The ties will be used this season on the railway extension.

THE Canadian Club of New York seems to be a lively institution. The Club is made up of many leading citizens of the American commercial metropolis, who are Canadians by birth. The club is doing a great deal to increase the friendly relations existing between the English speaking countries of America. An illustrated volume will shortly be issued containing the various papers read before the club, many of which have been prepared by popular authors. The work can be obtained through communication with Jas. Ross, Canada Club, 29th street, New York.

BADGLEY & HAMILTON will open a lumber yard at Emerson.

THE Lethbridge, Alberta, News has been enlarged and improved.

NEW native potatoes have appeared on the Portage la Prairie market.

IT is said another furniture store will be established at Rapid City soon.

SOME damage to crops from gophers, is reported from some districts, but so far the injury is light.

GRAND preparations are being made for the celebration of Jubilee Day and Civic holiday, on July 15th and 16th, in Winnipeg.

A GENERAL meeting of the subscribers to the capital stock of the Winnipeg and Western Railway Company, will be held on July 19th.

MARSHALLSAY & KNOWLER, and J. H. Knowler, general store, Whitewood, Assa, have assigned in trust to J. H. Ashdown, of Winnipeg.

THE general stock of J. O. Stacy, Balmoral will be sold under execution, by the sheriff, on Wednesday afternoon next, at 309 Main st., Winnipeg.

RAPID CITY, Man., wants a baker, the manufacturer of the staff of life at that place having become an officer of the Salvation Army and given up business.

JAS. DOWSWELL, proprietor of the Carney house, Emerson, will shortly open the Golden hotel at West Linnie, Man., which has been closed for some time.

THE Northwestern Coal & Navigation Company offer their steamboat at Medicine Hat, for sale. The boat cost \$5,000 laid down at this point, but \$1,000 will purchase it.

FARMERS have commenced haying to some extent. The Birtle Observer says of that district: "The grass crop this season will be good and no doubt the disastrous fires of last year will cause men to place stacks in such a position that they may be plowed around and protected."

NUMEROUS samples of grain are being brought to town every day, all of them showing what Regina soil can produce when properly mollified with rain. Barley will be ready for harvesting in about three weeks. New potatoes will be ready for table next week. Hay will be plentiful, though pasture is abundant.—Regina Journal.

SAVS the Birtle Observer, only a few are aware that excellent flax grows wild on the Manitoba prairies in great abundance. At present the wild flax is upwards of two feet high and is in full bloom. The position of some of the plants should be marked and the seed preserved and sown on cultivated ground as an experiment.

THE Canada Northwest Land Co. have appealed against the Court of Revision and their liability will be gone into again. Their assessment in Calgary is about \$300,000, so it is a good rich thing for the lawyers. A commission has been issued by the company's solicitors, Messrs. Loughheed & McCarthy, to examine witnesses in Winnipeg, and the town solicitor has been authorized by the council to employ a solicitor to attend on the commission on behalf of the town.—Calgary Herald.

EASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO

The market opened on Tuesday after an adjournment from Friday. The visible supply of wheat showed a decrease for last week of 4,200,000 bushels. Exports, for the same time from Atlantic ports were 3,487,000 bushels, wheat and flour. Trading was quiet and values steady. Closing prices were:

	July.	Aug.
Wheat	69½	71½
Corn	35½	36½
Oats	24½	25½
Pork	—	—
Lard	6.55	6.62½
Short Ribs	7.60	7.70

Trading was quiet on Wednesday. Corn was the main feature of interest. Leading futures sold down ½ to ¾c. A rally brought prices up nearly to the starting point. Good crops the cause of weakness. July wheat opened and closed at 69½c, and ranged from 69½ to 70c. August opened at 71½c and ranged from 71½ to 71¾c. Closing prices were:

	July.	Aug.
Wheat	69½	71½
Corn	35½	36½
Oats	25½	25½
Pork	—	—
Lard	6.45	6.52½
Short Ribs	7.52½	7.62½

On Thursday wheat was more active, and closed higher. August opened at 71½c and closed at the top. Pork was not selling. Closing prices were:

	July.	Aug.
Wheat	70½	72½
Corn	36½	36½
Oats	25½	25½
Pork	—	—
Lard	6.40	6.47½
Short Ribs	7.50	7.60

On Friday trading in wheat was more active and prices slightly stronger, on less favorable crop news and heavy exports. A large decrease is expected in the next visible supply statement. August opened at 72½c and ranged from 72½ to 72¾c. July closed at the opening figure, the range being from 70½ to 70¾c. Corn declined about ¼c. Closing prices were:

	July.	Aug.
Wheat	70½	72½
Corn	35½	36½
Oats	25½	26
Pork	—	—
Lard	6.57½	6.42½
Short Ribs	7.50	7.60

On Saturday wheat was strong, closing higher. Closing prices were:

	Aug.	Sept.
Wheat	73	75
Corn	36½	36½
Oats	27½	26½
Pork	—	—
Lard	6.52½	6.65
Short Ribs	—	—

MINNEAPOLIS.

Prices for wheat closed about 1½c higher than a week ago. The *Northwestern Miller* says of the crops: "Crop reports are not at all unfavorable, the scattered sections where insects or drought are reported as doing damage, being too limited in area to effect the grand total to any serious extent. The winter wheat harvest is fast approaching completion, and the crop is

turning out well." The closing on Thursday was as follows:

	July.	Aug.	On track.
No. 1 hard	73½	74½	75
No. 1 northern	72½	73½	74
No. 2 "	71	71	72

Flour quotations were:

Patent sacks to local dealers, \$4.00 to \$4.20; patent, to ship sacks, car lots, \$4.00 to \$4.10; in barrels, \$4.10 to \$4.25; bakers', \$3.25 to \$3.55; superfine, \$1.75 to \$2.50, red dog, sacks, \$1.50 to \$1.60; red dog, barrels, \$1.75 to \$1.85.

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET.

Closing prices for No. 1 hard on each day of the week were:

	Cash	Aug.	Sep.
Monday	—	—	—
Tuesday	—	71½	73½
Wednesday	—	74½	76½
Thursday	—	74½	75½
Friday	—	75½	77½
Saturday	—	76½	78½

MONTREAL MARKETS.

GRAIN

Prices were lower by about 2c. Quotations were given about as follows: Canada red winter wheat, 83 to 85c; white winter, 83 to 85c; Canada spring, 83 to 85c; peas, 66c per 66 lbs.; oats, 24 to 25c per 32 lbs.; rye, 50 to 55c; barley, 48 to 55c.

FLOUR

The demand has been quiet and prices easy. Manitoba medium sold at \$4.15 in car lots. A large lot of superior is reported to have sold at \$3.92½. Prices were as follows: Patent, \$4.15 to \$4.70; Canada strong bakers', \$4 to \$4.05; Manitoba do., \$4.35; American do., \$4.40 to \$4.60.

BUTTER.

Creamery butter has improved. About 20c has been paid for export shipment. Prices are: New creamery, 19 to 20c; new townships, 15 to 17c; new western, 12 to 14c; low grades, 8 to 10c.

CHEESE.

At Ingersoll, Ont., on Tuesday, offerings were 2,000 boxes June made. Sales were 340 on private terms. The June cheese is nearly all sold in that section. The local situation was unsettled and with some fear of a further break. Cables reported 47s. per cwt. Prices here are quoted as follows: Finest white, 9½c; finest colored, 9½ to 9¾c; medium to fine, 7½ to 9½c.

PROVISIONS.

Prices were: Mess pork, \$17.00; hams, 11½ to 12c; bacon, 10½ to 11c; shoulders, 10c; lard, 9 to 9¾c; eggs, 16 to 16½c.

D. FRASER, baker, Morden, has sold out his business to A. Stewart, also carrying on a bakery business at the same place.

H. G. McMICKEN, who has received the appointment of agent at Winnipeg for anthracite coal, mined near Banff, Alberta, expects a supply to reach here immediately. The company will be in a position to fully supply this market during the coming winter. Prices will be somewhat lower than last year, and will probably range about \$9.25 per ton, delivered in the city, or \$9.00 in larger quantities. This will be about \$1 under the lowest prices ruling heretofore. It is claimed that this coal is superior in heating qualities to the Pennsylvania hard coal, previously used here. Winnipeggers will hope that this is the case.

Dairy Matters.

The people of Balmoral, Man., intend taking steps next season to have a cheese factory established there.

The new cheese factory at Birtle has commenced and the work of cheese making will now proceed briskly no doubt to the great benefit of the farmers of the district.

It is said very little milk is being brought to the Stonewall cheese factory. The manager of the factory says if there is not soon a decided improvement he will be compelled to shut down for the season.

The Morden Man., *Monitor* of last Thursday says:—Prof. Barre will ship to British Columbia to-morrow a car load of dairy produce, containing a quantity of the finest creamery butter ever made in Manitoba. This is the first shipment of the kind, and it is likely to become a profitable trade.

A refrigerator car, containing a considerable quantity of butter, among other commodities, was shipped from Winnipeg on Thursday, the contents billed for points between Donald and Vancouver, B.C. This is the first through refrigerator car of the season, and if the venture proves successful, a regular line will be established. The shippers were: Kirkwood & Rubige; Rublee, Riddell & Co., and Grant & Horne.

CARTWRIGHT, Man., wants a blacksmith, a shoemaker and a tailor.

CRANE & SHEFFER have sold their livery business at Rapid City to W. Grummett.

THE C.P.R. well at Qu'Appelle has caved in. The hole at the top is now fifteen feet across. There was about 30,000 feet of lumber in the cribbing now buried in it.

THE grass in this district is the best we have seen in many years, owing to the abundant rains this summer, and consequently stock is in a fine condition at present.—*Lethbridge, Alberta News.*

JUDGE ARDAN has decided that the mains and hydrants of the Winnipeg Water Works Company are not assessable as personal property. This decision will reduce the assessment of the company by \$59,500, leaving it about \$14,000.

G. C. LONG & Co. have purchased the bankrupt stock of ladies' furnishings and fancy goods belonging to the estate of Mrs. Nagle. The inventory amounted to about \$3,200, and brought 51c in the dollar. The liabilities, which as stated last week were about \$1,900, would be well covered with the amount realized from the stock. The book debts were for a very small amount, only \$150.

AN industrial school for training Indian youth to cost \$25,000, will be established at Regina by the Dominion Government. One to cost \$10,000 will be established at Peace Hills. The former will be under the control of the Presbyterian denomination, and the latter will be in charge of the Methodists. The Government have already established industrial schools at Qu'Appelle, High River and Battleford, which are proving successful. The first two are under Roman Catholic supervision and the Church of England has charge of the last.

J. G. MACKENZIE & CO.,
WHOLESALE DRY GOODS,
MONTREAL.

Samples and Prices of Goods adapted to the Northwest Trade furnished on application.

W. & F. P. CURRIE & CO.,

IMPORTERS OF
 DRAIN PIPES, Portland Cement,
 Ghimney Tops, Cement,
 Vent Linings, Water Lime,
 Fine Covers, Whiting,
 Fire Bricks, Plaster of Paris,
 Fire Clay, Forax,
 Roman Cement, China Clay.
 MANUFACTURERS OF
 23 BESSEMER STEEL SOFA, CHAIR AND BED SPRINGS. **MONTREAL.**

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Manufacturers of
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WINNIPEG FURNITURE AND UNDERTAKING HOUSE
285 MAIN STREET,
 FURNITURE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL Coffins and Caskets of every description in Stock. A great variety of Trimmings. Undertaking a specialty. Undertakers furnished on reasonable terms. Telephone.

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WINNIPEG, - MANITOBA.

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PACKERS AND PRESERVERS OF

FRUITS, VEGETABLES

Jams, Jellies & Fruit Butters.

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 Donaldson's Block, WINNIPEG.

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350 Main St., WINNIPEG.

A Full Assortment of Drugs, Patent Medicines and Sundries at Lowest Prices.

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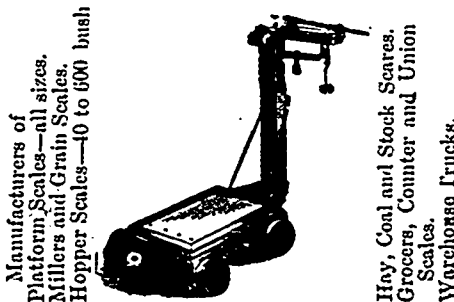
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Manufacturers of Platform Scales—all sizes. Millers and Grain Scales. Hopper Scales—10 to 500 bush

Hay, Coal and Stock Scales. Grocers, Counter and Union Scales. Warehouse Trucks.

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Tents, Awnings, Mattresses, Bed Springs, Binding Canvas, Bolts, etc. Wool and Feather Pillows, etc.

Dealer in Wool Bats & Mattress Material

Rosser Avenue, Brandon.

Correspondence solicited and Mail Orders Carefully Attended to. Satisfaction guaranteed.

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COSMOPOLITAN HOTEL,

Opposite C.P.R. Station, - **Medicine Hat.**
 STRICTLY FIRST-CLASS.

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W. Millichamp & Co., of Toronto,
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OGILVIE MILLING CO.

Mill at Point Douglas.

Capacity - - - 750 Barrels per day.

OFFICE: - - - Corner King and Alexander Streets, Winnipeg.

A Full Stock of Patent Hungarian, Strong Bakers' and Spring Extra Flour; Oatmeal, Pot and Pearl Barley, Graham Flour, Cracked Wheat, Bran, Shortst, Ground Feed, Oats, Barley.

Wheat buyers at all C.P.R. Shipping Stations.

RICHARD & CO,

Importers and Wholesale Dealers in

Wines, Spirits and Cigars

365 MAIN STREET,

WINNIPEG.

Indian Wheat.

The latest report of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce contains good news for the shippers of Indian wheat. It seems that at last a determined effort is to be made to get cleaner wheat shipped to Europe, and already the Bombay Chamber of Commerce have entered into a correspondence with the Corn Association of London, Liverpool, and other important centres in this country, to invite their co-operation. Several experiments have lately been made by the Director of Agriculture in India in the cleaning of Indian grain, and it is stated that after having made use of steam threshing machinery in the Bombay Presidency, it was found that Indian wheat could be cleaned down to as fine a point as any other wheat in the world, and that this result, moreover could be attained with great rapidity, and at a less cost than is involved in the ancient system of treading out the grain under the feet of the bullocks. The question is, how can a shipper of Indian wheat be led to pay more attention to the cleaning of the grain he consigns to Europe. The answer is simple enough. Revise the arrival contracts now in use for Indian wheat. Under the existing system the seller who contracts to deliver these wheats in Europe is allowed what is termed a 4 per cent. refraction; that is, his grain may contain a 4 per cent admixture of dirt and other foreign bodies. So it has come to this, that the shipper who should send a cargo to Liverpool, say, with only 2 per cent. refraction, would be placing himself at a disadvantage with his competitors. The Bombay Chamber of Commerce accordingly propose that these contract forms should be altered, and the 4 per cent. refraction modified to 1 or 2 per cent. The advantages of such a course seem obvious. In the first place there is no doubt as to the bad effect which the habitually dirty condition of Indian wheat has exercised on its popularity in Europe, and in the second place, the amount of percentage of foreign bodies now shipped is so large as to cause an appreciable loss in the shape of fares and freights. Thus it is calculated that last year on the shipments from Bombay alone as much as £51,000 was paid on the transport and freightage of purely extraneous matter.—*London Miller.*

Federal Bank of Canada.

The thirteenth general annual meeting of the shareholders of this bank was held in Toronto, on Wednesday, June 22nd, 1887, when, among others, the following gentlemen were present:—Messrs. R. Thompson, Salter Vankoughnet, Q.C., Rev. E. S. Lawler, Col. C. S. Gzowski, Chas. Doan, Jas. Mason, A. J. Cattauach, J. S. Playfair, W. Croft, jr., J. W. Langmuir, Wm. Galbraith, H. E. Clarke, M.P.P., B. Cronyn, C. S. Gzowski, jr., A. Laurie, G. Noble, etc.

On motion of Mr. Playfair, seconded by Mr. Galbraith; Mr. Nordheimer was appointed chairman of the meeting and Mr. Yarker secretary.

On motion of Mr. S. Vankoughnet, Q.C., seconded by Mr. W. Croft, jr., Messrs. C. S. Gzowski, jr., and Jas. Mason were appointed scrutineers.

Mr. Yarker, by request of the president, then read the annual report as follows:—

REPORT

The directors beg to present the shareholders with the thirteenth annual report of the business of the bank, showing the result for the year ending 31st May, 1887:—

The balance at credit of profit and loss account 31st May, 1886, was \$ 75,381 73
 Profits for the year, after deducting expenses of management, interests accrued upon deposits, providing the nucleus of an officers' Guarantee Fund, and writing off bad and doubtful debts. 96,868 13
\$172,249 86

Appropriated as follows:—
 Dividend 3 per cent.,
 December 1st, 1886. \$ 37,500 00
 Dividend 3 per cent.,
 June 1st, 1887. . . 37,500 00
 Transferred to rest account 25,000 00
100,000 00

Balance of profits carried forward to next year. \$ 72,249 86

The general business of the bank continued to improve during the year, the statements again showing increased circulation, deposits and loans.

The policy of not taking into profits accrued interests upon old locked up accounts has been continued, but notwithstanding this we have been able to add \$25,000 to "Rest," making that account now \$150,000.

It was considered advisable to commence the formation of an Officers' Guarantee Fund, to provide against errors and defaults, and a resolution confirming this action will be submitted for your approval.

The branches of the bank have been regularly inspected, and a committee of the directors have made personal visits to the larger offices. The several officers in the service of the bank are zealously performing their duties.

S. NORDHEIMER,
 President.

GENERAL STATEMENT.—31ST MAY, 1887.

<i>Liabilities.</i>	
Capital	\$1,250,000 00
Rest	150,000 00
Dividend No. 24, payable 1st June, 1887	37,500 00
Former dividends unclaimed	211 85
Reserved for interest due on deposits . . . \$ 28,377 88	
Reserved for rebate on bills discounted	30,000 00
	58,377 88
Balance of profit and loss account, carried forward	72,249 86
	\$1,568,339 59
Notes of banks in circulation	672,335 00
Deposits bearing interest	3,094,835 94
Deposits not bearing interest	698,706 96
	3,793,592 90
Balances due to banks in Canada	55,221 00
Balances due to banks in the United Kingdom	82,032 74
	\$6,171,521 23

Assets.

Specie	\$ 81,120 27
Dominion notes (legal tenders)	389,620 00
Notes of and cheques on other banks.	261,288 34
Balance due from other bank in Canada	77,442 49
Balance due from banks in foreign countries	30,573 24
	\$ 840,044 34
Loans and bills discounted current	4,961,319 28
Bills discounted overdue, secured	26,700 00
Bills discounted overdue, on old business, not specially secured (estimated loss provided for)	63,845 50
Real estate	87,682 67
Mortgages on real estate sold by the bank	16,179 57
Bank premises	122,974 75
Other assets not included under foregoing heads	52,757 12
	\$6,171,521 23

G. W. YARKER,
 General Manager.

The Federal Bank of Canada,
 Toronto, 31st of May, 1887.

The president then, after fully reviewing the business of the bank, moved the adoption of the report, seconded by the vice-president, and it was duly carried.

On motion of Mr. Langmuir, seconded by Mr. Cronyn, the formation of the officers' Guarantee Fund and its further augmentation was confirmed.

The thanks of the meeting were unanimously given to the president, vice-president, and directors and also to the general manager, inspector, local managers and other officers of the bank.

In acknowledging the thanks to the general manager and officers of the bank, Mr. Yarker stated that the rest, circulation, deposits and loans during the twelve months had respectively increased \$25,000, \$32,625, \$272,776, and \$335,919 and past due bills had decreased by \$88,372. He also stated that the number of shareholders had increased considerably, there being now no less than 389 persons holding an average of \$1,600 each.

The poll for the election of directors was then opened, and the following were re-elected:—H. E. Clark, M.P.P., B. Cronyn, Q.C., William Galbraith, Edward Gurney, J. W. Langmuir, S. Nordheimer and J. S. Playfair.

A meeting of the directors was held subsequently, when S. Nordheimer and J. S. Playfair were re-elected president and vice-president respectively.

GEORGE W. YARKER,
 General Manager.

J. EMARD, butcher, Qu'Appelle, has given up business.

A GOOD many horses are being imported into Manitoba this spring, for distribution among the farmers. Brood mares seem to be in best demand.

Business East.**ONTARIO.**

Miss Crosby, grocer, London, is dead.
 W. Cochrane, grocer, etc., Toronto, has sold out.
 Thos. Ryan, shoe dealer, Toronto,—sheriff in possession.
 Mrs. Brimicombe, milliner, Oshawa, was burned out.
 Smith & Adams, grocers, Oshawa, were burned out.
 B. F. Rescor, flour mill, Newmarket, was burned out.
 R. S. McCrea, general storekeeper, Chesley, has sold out.
 Newmarket Hat Co., Newmarket, has assigned in trust.
 R. Bell & Son, builders, Toronto, have assigned in trust.
 Chas. Deitrich, jeweller, Toronto, has assigned in trust.
 C. H. Jarvis, grocer, Toronto, has sold out to J. D. Strawn.
 Wilson & Gates, woodenware, Hamilton, has assigned in trust.
 J. A. Turner, grocer, West Winchester, has assigned in trust.
 Halliday Bros., general storekeepers, Chesley, have dissolved.
 John T. Yeats, general storekeeper, White River, has sold out.
 A. J. Ellis, commission merchant, Fenelon Falls, has assigned in trust.
 P. N. Judah & Co., produce, Toronto, have dissolved; P. N. Judah retires.

QUEBEC.

F. A. Cimon, pulp mill, Murray Bay, is dead.
 J. T. Morey, livery, Montreal, has assigned in trust.
 Prendergast & Co., publishers, Montreal, have dissolved.
 E. C. Hughes, cabinetware, Montreal, has assigned in trust.
 L. B. A. Charlebois, general storekeeper, Laprairie, is dead,
 Lonsdale, Reid & Co., wholesale dry goods, Montreal, have dissolved.
 Victor Aubert, general storekeeper, Victoriaville, has assigned in trust.
 A. R. Hudon, general storekeeper, Lake WeeDon, has assigned in trust.
 T. P. Paradis & Bro., general storekeepers, Matane, have assigned in trust.
 M. Feron & Son, undertakers, Montreal, have dissolved; Michael and M. J. Ferron continue under same style.

British Columbia.

Building operations at Victoria, are reported to be brisk.
 James Ferguson, saloon, Victoria, has sold out to E. Legg.
 Hamm & Marbeouf, restaurant, Victoria, have dissolved partnership,—L. Marbeouf continues.

The following are additional particulars of the fire at Revelstoke. The total loss is placed at \$20,000, with very little insurance. Those burned out are: D. McGillivray, hotel; Chas. Kerr & Co., general merchants and miner's supplies; Teezel & Norris, drugs; W. J. Arm-

strong, hardware and tins; J. F. Hume & Co., general storekeepers, had their storehouse burned. A couple of saloons, a barber shop and two dwellings were also burned.

Donald is a busy place just now. Crowds of men are coming in by every train from the east to work on the snowsheds.

The Bank of British Columbia, at Vancouver has moved into new quarters. The business of the Bank is rapidly increasing under the management of Mr. Keith.

The bark Earl Derby has completed loading at Vancouver and has cleared for Valpariso. Her cargo is composed of 731,520 feet of rough and finished lumber valued at \$8,500.

The steamer Parthia, from Yokohama, arrived at Vancouver, on Sunday of last week with a large cargo and list of passengers. The C. P. R. route is becoming popular.

Travel is increasing at an astonishing rate to this city, the trains and steamers arriving daily are often pushed for room to accommodate the travelers. Yesterday morning the number of passengers on the Yosemite was so great that many were unable to get berths.

The *Canadian Journal of Fabrics* has issued a jubilee number, containing an engraving of Queen Victoria.

PIERRE GREY, trader, Lac Ste. Anne, sold \$3,000 worth of fur last week to the H. B. Co. and Jas. Walsh at Edmonton.

DR. ORVILLE and staff, from London, Ont., have established a medical institute in Winnipeg, to be known as the Orville Electro-Hydro-pathic Institute.

THE Calgary Electric Light Company give notice of application for incorporation, for the purpose of lighting that town with electricity. Capital stock \$25,000

W. D. PETTIGREW & Co., hardware, Winnipeg, are moving to more convenient and commodious premises at 523 Main St., nearly opposite their present quarters, the growing business of the firm necessitating the change.

THE Rapid City *Spectator* says: "The \$10,000 debentures of the Municipality of Saskatchewan, repayable in 20 years, interest at 7 per cent., were sold on Thursday last by Geo. McCulloch at 105½. They were bought by M. Turriff acting for the Manitoba & Northwest Loan Co. The next highest tenders were 105 and 104½."

It was stated, in last week's *COMMERCIAL* that: "Private shares in the new Co-Operative Grocery, Winnipeg, were offered recently at 60c." This does not apply to the Manitoba Co-Operative Society (Limited), the officers of which organization claim that their shares are at par. The new Co-Operative Grocery is not now in existence.

Grain and Milling News.

A meeting was held lately at High Bluff, Man. at which it was decided to push the roller mill bonus project.

The bonus to Mr. Germyn to aid him in changing his stone mill at Minnedosa to the roller system has been carried by the ratepayers of Odajah municipality. The bonus was car-

ried by a majority of nine over the required three-fifths of the electors. The amount of the bonus is \$5,000.

The German millers and bakers on the Bohemian Frontier regard with great concern the introduction, on the part of Austria, of a new custom-house tariff, by which the duty on flour and bread is increased to 3.75 gulden, per double centner. Subsequently to the introduction of the first Austrian retaliatory protection measures, numerous large mill-owners on this side of the border set up important baking establishments of their own, the importation of bread being free of duty, according to the terms of the Austro-Italian commercial treaty, in which German dealers were also included. Now that a tax is to be imposed upon bread of about 2 pf. per lb., the export to Austria will be reduced to a minimum, or cease altogether. The ruin of numerous millers and bakers is consequently inevitable, and will add another feather to the cap of the modern protection politicians.—*Kuhlou's German Trade Review.*

The Manitoba Government issued the first crop bulletin for 1887 in June, and it gives the total acreage in crop at 636,295—an increase of 3,091 acres. Of these 432,134 are in wheat—an increase of 47,693, Red Fyfe, the famous "No. 1 Manitoba hard" being almost universally sown. In oats there are 155,176 acres; in barley, 56,110 acres; in peas, 872; in flax, 8,539; in rye, 142; in potatoes, 10,791, and in field roots, 3,541.

The increase in wheat seems to have been at the expense of other crops, as there are nearly 6,000 acres less oats than in 1886; 13,455 acres less barley; 9,000 acres less peas; 9,000 acres less flax; and field roots are less by 846 acres. On the other hand potatoes have increased by over 2,600 acres, and rye by over 70 acres, and later returns will increase barley. Returns were had from 350 correspondents, representing 361 townships.

Seeding began early—was general in the Province the first week in April and was not interrupted. Rain has been general and the weather most favorable for a fine crop. The land summer-fallowed increased 20,000 acres over 1886; the fall-plowed land was 22,420 acres more, and the amount spring-plowed was less by nearly 40,000 acres than in 1886, showing a marked increase in good farming. It is too early to gauge the yield, especially of the great staple wheat. It is much earlier than usual, has had favorable seedtime and growth, and looks well. Allow eighteen bushels as the average per acre, and the yield will be seven and three-quarter million bushels. Of these, one and a half million bushels will be required for our own consumption and one million for seed in 1888, allowing an increase of ten per cent. in acreage, and this leaves for export in grain and flour somewhat over five million bushels of wheat (about 2,500 tons) if all goes well.

The Bell Telephone Co. has been 7 years in Canada, has 160 exchanges, 12,000 subscribers, 7,000 miles of wire, cost of system, \$1,500,000.

A PETITION has been presented to House of Commons, Ottawa, asking for public weigh scales at railway stations, market places, etc., throughout Canada where farm produce is bought, and to aid in founding a Farmers Institute, and special market days in country districts.

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Name prices as low as can possibly be made and maintain the superior quality which our Leading Brands of Coffee enjoy.

Beware of adulterated Coffee!! Beware of firms who offer to sell at the same old price.

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Advance your selling price to conform with the advance in cost. Tell your customers that coffees cost from ten to fifteen cents per pound more than one year ago. Do not attempt to retain trade by keeping your price the same and furnishing much inferior coffee. Such a course will kill your business.

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TORONTO**General Notes.**

Among the financial results of the wheat collapse two facts stand out. Somewhere from \$4,000,000 to \$5,000,000 which might have gone to Cincinnati didn't get there, and about \$2,500,000 has gone into the Northwest sooner than it would have done, had the clique carried the day.

The rates on the government railway in Prince Edward Island have been reduced and the provincial subsidy has been increased by \$20,000 a year. Prince Edward Island elected six opponents of the Government at the last election. The Northwest elected four supporters of the same government and got nothing but contempt.—*Edmonton Bulletin.*

A grocer who had, time and again, presented Colonel Bruiswater with a bill, one day sent him a receipt, thinking that the humiliation would bring the colonel to time. It did bring him to time with the following: "Have received the receipt which you were considerate enough to send, but you failed to include thirty cents worth of tobacco which I got last fall. Please make correction, and oblige, yours truly."—*Arkansas Traveler.*

The Lumber Trade.

THE *Mississippi Valley Lumberman* says: "About the only bears in the lumber market at the present time are the men who made contracts to deliver lumber at a dollar or so a thousand less than the wholesale market price, to the city and to railroad contractors. Some of

these are trying to buy lumber low enough now to get out on their contracts even. The city engineer of Minneapolis even confesses that the strength of the market has upset his calculation, and that the levy for sidewalk purposes is \$1,500 short of the cost of doing the work—all because lumber is worth a good deal more than anybody thought it would be at this time a year ago."

A good many mill owners in the upper Mississippi Valley, and particularly in Minneapolis, are going to put in band mills next year.

George Van Dyke, a big New England lumberman, is this year handling the largest drive that ever went down the Connecticut river, containing over 90,000,000 feet of spruce logs. He is said to have had 600 men and 80 horses employed in camp, at an expense of over \$2,000 a day.

In burning sawdust or any other comminuted fuel which affords no interstitial draft, the proper method is, at the first firing-up, to supply the fire on the extreme one side of the furnace, the next time on the other, and so on alternately. A rigid adherence to this rule, with a little experience, will enable many mill-owners to use sawdust exclusively, who now have to mix in other fuel.

Several saw mill machinery manufacturers have already signified their intention to make exhibits at the Minneapolis exposition.

At Montreal the lumber trade has continued active and some large lines have changed hands for export account. An advance has taken place at the mills on some kinds of lumber.

Furs.

The regular June sale of furs and skins is now over and has resulted in leaving the market in a most unsettled condition, with prices ruling chiefly in buyers' favor. It seems now certain that the opening of the next season will witness, at all events, as low prices as are now ruling, even if we have not to chronicle a further decline. The cause of this weaker feeling is the fact that an average decline of 15 1/2 per cent., throughout the list, took place at the sales, partly from the large supplies offered, but more particularly because the greater bulk of the skins brought forward were decidedly not of the first quality.

All accounts agree that the bearskins sold were of the most miscellaneous character. Those that were of as good quality as is usually offered commanded full prices, but there were many in very poor condition and these naturally sold very low, thus weakening the market and causing the average price to fall below that realized at the March sales. Wolfskins were also in large supply and, at the best, of very ordinary quality. Under these circumstances the demand was naturally limited, and a heavy drop in price resulted.

Muskrat, of fall and winter collection, sold, on an average, fully 10 per cent higher than the prices realized last March, simply because these skins were well cured, in good condition, and in no larger supply than at that period; but those taken last spring fell off quite 10 per cent from March prices, principally on account of their poor condition, but partly owing to the larger stock offering. Beaver skins also fell 10 per cent, and in this case the drop was not due to the condition of the skins, but rather to the slackness of the demand and the fulness of the supply. They were fairly neglected by purchasers and prices necessarily suffered.

The heaviest fall in values was in grey fox skins, which, curiously enough, was more than in those of the red variety. This was due to the very poor order in which the skins were, and also, in part, to the much larger stock offered. So poor was the condition that there was very little call for them, and they suffered a depreciation of 35 per cent. in value, the greatest decline on the whole list; the next sufferer, skunk, which was also in large supply, and which was so much called for last March, falling 25 per cent from March prices, and the next, opossum, over twenty per cent. In the case of this last fur the drop was entirely due to the heavy supply offered, as the skins were in prime condition and a fair demand was evinced; but in the face of such heavy lots as were offered it was impossible to maintain prices at their old basis.

There seemed to be no demand for either raccoon or mink. Both these furs were entirely neglected and buyers refused to touch them except at very low figures. The same thing was noticeable also in the case of lynx and red fox, both of which furs were somewhat off quality and, as a natural consequence of little demand and poor condition, were compelled to suffer a decline of 15 per cent from the prices realized.

On all sides we hear the same complaints of the poor quality and bad preparation of most of the skins for the market. In the case of

wolf, grey fox, lynx, red fox and spring muskrat, the furs offered were far below the average and naturally could not command the same prices as prime skins, and even in the case of bear the skins were so very much mixed as to seriously affect the price. In those cases, such as beaver and opossum, where no complaint as to quality could be made, the excessive supply completely broke the market, and it was only in the case of those furs which were well cured and in only average supply that March prices were able to be maintained. When large supplies of inferior skins are thrust upon a doubtful market it is little wonder that the demand begins to flag, and consequently the average decline of 15 1/2 per cent at the June sales cannot be said to be anything but what might have been expected under the circumstances.

Journal of Commerce.

Montreal Dry Goods.

The city retailers state that they have no reason to complain of business this week, as the general preparations for the summer exodus to the seaside and country has caused quite a boom in the necessary articles of attire and embellishment. Traders in the outskirts also continue to do a steady and satisfactory business. Wholesale houses are getting off their travelers on the regular fall trip, and a good many have already started; reports so far as yet heard, speak of the result as very satisfactory, but of course the trips are not very far advanced. Stocks are assuming larger proportions, as no doubt a large quantity of goods bought prior to the 13th May, are being hurried out as fast as possible so as to be entered here before the first proximo, when the new duties come into force. Cottons are fairly held, and show no weakness. Woollens, except for a break in grey flannel, are firmly held.

It may be that free railway construction in Manitoba might forward, as nothing else can, the development of the country; still, that is a matter of debate, and we cannot blame the Government for refusing to accept that view off hand. For our part, we are inclined to think that the Government policy is a short-sighted one. The Northwest is not making the progress that was reasonably expected; the results, indeed, after seven years, are ludicrously out of proportion to what was predicted when the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway was begun, though that can be no surprise to anybody of sense, whom a heated imagination did not lead to expect that, on the opening of the country, the whole population of Europe would rush over to fill it up forthwith. It is, however, making a healthy though slow growth—perhaps the healthier for its slowness. In view of the great debt incurred, any cause that may impede the development of the Northwest ought to be removed, if it can be done with a reasonable amount of safety. The policy of the Government, broadly state, is to develop the Dominion as a whole and promote inter-provincial trade, which policy is to be entirely approved; but it does not seem clear that this design would be seriously endangered by allowing free railway construction. If, however, it were found to do so, an effectual remedy might, perhaps, be applied through the tariff, which already is a strong protection.—*Toronto Week.*

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