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Reserve Fund £265,000 "

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G. WALLIS—Secretary.

Head Office in Canada—St. James St., Mon-real.
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CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED \$1,430,000
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REST \$574,468

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A General Banking Business transacted. Accounts of Merchants, Traders, Manufacturers, Corporations and Individuals received on favorable terms. Interest allowed on deposits. Drafts issued on all the principal points in Canada, also on New York, Chicago and St. Paul. Sterling and American Exchange bought and sold. Letters of credit issued for use in Great Britain and elsewhere.

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Carberry Branch, J. P. ANDERSON, Manager.
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LAID PAPERS. ROLL PAPERS for Spindles
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AND IMPORTERS OF

Green and Dried Fruits.

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INDIAN, CEYLON, CHINA AND JAPAN

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Tanners, Curriers,

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BOOT MANUFACTURERS.

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BOOTS, SHOES AND BOOT TOPS.

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Special attention given to

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NEW SEASON JAPANS!

Now in Store, consisting of Extra Choic
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Congous, Assams and Ceylons.

Cor. McDermot & Princess Sts., WINNIPEG.

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SOUND BOXES. - - WELL PACKED.

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Market Street East, WINNIPEG.

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**Men's Furnishings, Hats, Caps
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The Commercial

A Journal of Commerce, Industry and Finance, especially devoted to the interests of Western Canada, including that portion of Ontario west of Lake Superior, the Provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia and the Territories.

Tenth Year of Publication.
ISSUED EVERY MONDAY

SUBSCRIPTION, \$2.00 PER ANNUM (in advance.)

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6 " do	1 25 "
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JAMES R. STEEN,
Publisher.

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

WINNIPEG, JANUARY 11, 1892.

Manitoba.

Leitch Bros. have opened a furniture store at Killaruey.

Fred. Young is opening in the furniture line at Cypress River.

A new butcher shop has been opened at Troherno by Chas. Barkwell.

A neat little calendar for 1892, has been received from Stephen Nairn.

Mr. Farquharson is making progress with his new hotel at Cypress River.

N. H. Jackson, druggs, Winnipeg, has assigned. Stock sold by sheriff.

Blair & Rogers, dry goods and clothing, Carberry, have assigned in trust.

A. Wimperis, fancy goods and confectionery, Winnipeg, has assigned in trust.

G. D. Rice, stationery and fancy goods, Winnipeg, is giving up business.

Thos. Fogg, harness, Elkhorn, has been sold out under chattel mortgage to J. M. Gilroy.

Wm. A. Mcintosh, sewing machines and musical instruments, Winnipeg, is giving up business.

The Grand Union hotel, Winnipeg, is again under the management of the landlord, John O'Donohue.

Inland revenue collections at Winnipeg for December were \$34,625, being an increase of \$10,714 over the same month last year.

A. F. Eden has been offered and has accepted the position of the manager of the Manitoba Mortgage and Investment Company at Winnipeg.

The annual meeting of the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition Association will be held on Thursday, January 14, in the board of trade rooms.

The Hudson's Bay Co.'s grocery department, Winnipeg, has been awarded the contract for supplying the Selkirk asylum and the Deaf and Dumb institute with supplies for the coming year.

The report of the transactions at the Dominion Gov. Savings' bank, Winnipeg, for month of December shows that the deposits exceed the withdrawals. Deposits, \$22,155 00; withdrawals, \$20,759.33.

The Brandon farmers' institute has passed a resolution in favor of free binding twine. The farmers very naturally want the duty removed from this article, which duty is a direct tax upon their industry.

Mr. Wynne, of Bole, Wynne & Co., druggs, Winnipeg, is cast as far as New York on a business trip. Mr. Bole, of this firm, reports a big demand for the almanacs recently issued by the house, and the 50,000 issue has already been all taken.

The trial of the Prusyche, who recently stole a quantity of goods from Fullerton & Ross, general dealers, Manitou, took place in Winnipeg recently. The prisoner pleaded guilty, and was let off with the paltry sentence of two week's imprisonment in the provincial jail. It seemed hardly worth while going to the expense of capturing a thief and sending him to Winnipeg, when they are let off so easily.

L. C. McIntyre, who has represented Turner, Mackeand & Co., Winnipeg, on the road for the last nine years, has severed his connection with the firm. Just before leaving J. L. Turner presented him with a very handsome gift of silverware for himself and Mrs. McIntyre. On making the presentation Mr. Turner spoke of the pleasant relations that had always existed between them, and also wished him success in his new position as manager of the business of Paulin & Co.

The Canadian Pacific railway land department reports exceptionally large sales of land for the month of December, being double those of the previous month. The sales in Southwestern Manitoba were larger during the month than they were during the whole of 1890. The land sold is chiefly situated in the Killaruey, Deloraine and Boissevain districts. There is also an active demand for land west of Melita. Mr. Sandison, of Brandon, has purchased 36,000 acres near Carnduff and Carievale, and will establish a farm there, as well as working his big farm at Brandon.

Ross & Maw is the name of a new firm which is opening in the implement trade in Winnipeg. J. M. Ross, of the new firm, comes from Hamilton, Ontario, where he was connected with the Massey-Sawyer company. Jos. Maw is an old implement man, and of late years has been agent for the Massey Co. at Calgary, Alberta. The firm has secured premises in the Henderson block, Market Square, Winnipeg, and a stock of goods is on the way. In about three weeks they expect to have full lines. They will carry everything but harvest machinery, among the principal articles being wheeled rigs, plows, harrows, seeders, wind mills, etc.

The following statement shows the value of goods exported, imported and entered for consumption, with duty collected thereon, at the

port of Winnipeg during the month of December, 1891, as compared with the same month in 1890:

	Value 1890.	Value 1891.
Exported	\$170,875 00	\$016,057 00
Imported dutiable	103,795 00	132 767 00
" free	278,244 00	35,276 00
Total Imported	382,039 00	168,043 00
Entered for consumption, dutiable	108,830 00	130,735 00
Entered for consumption, free	278,244 00	35,276 00
Total for consumption	387,074 00	172,010 00
Duty collected	\$31,495 96	\$10,797 75

Since the opening of the Northwest Central railway, a new town has grown up at the present western terminus of the road, called Hamiota. The town is situated in the centre of a splendid agricultural country. It is in the centre of the municipality, and it is situated about twenty five miles from any other point of any importance. Being the end of the track it will gain a lead on any other place between Rapid City and the Assiniboine, and will, no doubt, keep it. It is also well supplied with good spring water. Among the buildings are: W. Elliot, general store and postoffice; J. White, hardware; J. C. Gibbard, boots and shoes; Toad & McKellar, livery, feed and sale stable; Hawthorne Bros., do.; A. Miller, flour and feed; J. McConnell, office and lumber yard; W. Hawthorne, blacksmith shop; McMurchie boarding house; Bethune, do.; Sungman, do.; M. Turriff, real estate, insurance and loan office. Scott, of Shoal Lake, is building a \$2,000 store, with a specially constructed collar for dairy products. The Massey-Harris Co. will build an implement warehouse and S. Dinsmore another one. Notwithstanding the cold weather, gangs of carpenters are keeping right along with building operations. N. Bawlf has built a grain warehouse, which is managed by R. S. Armstrong, of Rapid City.

Alberta.

J. Bailey, furniture, Lethbridge, succeeded by D. Brodie.

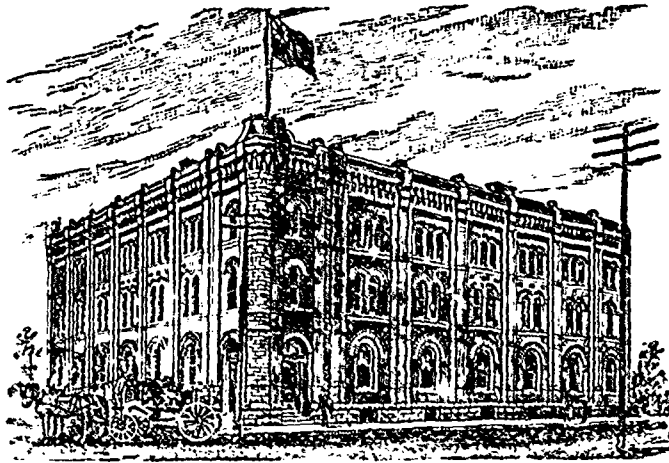
The portable grist mill, purchased by the farmers of Cardston, Lethbridge district, Alberta, has arrived. It has a capacity of a barrel and a half per hour.

Mr. Rankin, late of the firm of Rankin & Alton, dry goods, etc., Calgary, has left that place for a new location. Mr. Allan continues the business.

The Calgary Hardware Co. are moving into their new premises. It is a beautiful stone building, fitted up with all the most modern improvements. The counters and shelves are all of native woods, from British Columbia and Alberta.

The Edmonton board of trade has written to Mr. Whyte, general superintendent of the C. P.R., in reference to the freight rates to Calgary and westward to the coast, about which considerable correspondence has already passed. The importance of having these freight rates reduced is fully entered into as well as the beneficial effect it will have on intending settlers who would be assured of a sale for their surplus products. Mr. Van Horne's doubts as to the existence of a market on the coast for our products were replied to, and proof offered that such a market did exist for more than the present surplus of our grain crop, provided suitable rates could be obtained.

GOODS SOLD TO THE
TRADE ONLY.



GOODS SOLD TO THE
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WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS OF AND DEALERS IN

BOOTS, SHOES AND RUBBERS,

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Redmond, Greenleese and Co.

—WHOLESALE—

HATS, CAPS

AND FURS.

134 Princess Street,

WINNIPEG - MAN.

Eastern Business Changes, ONTARIO.

A.G. Hill, harrows, Merriton, is dead.
Jas. Wilson, grocer, Bronte, is out of business.
King & Wilson, furniture, Owen Sound, have assigned.
J.H. McKerracher, harness, Perth, has assigned.
Weight Deavitt, furniture, Stayner, has assigned.
Allen & Brown, milliners, Toronto, have assigned.
J. I. S. Anderson, watchmaker, Toronto, has assigned.
D.H. Cunningham, jeweller, Toronto, has assigned.
Levi Warner, furs, Hamilton; sheriff in possession.
Jas. Morris, carriagemaker, Bowmanville, has assigned.
Andrew Cary, general store, Millgrove; out of business.

JAMES PYE, FLOUR MILL BUILDER,

—AND—

ENGINEER,
Minneapolis, - - Minn.

CONTRACTS FOR COMPLETE MILLS
A SPECIALTY.

Plans and Estimates Furnished on Application

A FULL LINE OF THE VERY BEST MACHINERY.

WRITE FOR PARTICULARS.

J.L. Smith, general store, Micksburg, offering compromise.
Robinson Corset Co., London, burned out; insurance, \$1,000.
Jas. Edmonson, sawmill, Uththoff, burned out; partially insured.
Mrs. Abbie McNeil, hardware, grocer, etc., Woodville, has assigned.
C. Bate, cold storage, Brockville; stock partially damaged by smoke and water.
Lybster Cotton Manufacturing Co., Merriton; mills and stock damaged by fire.
Norwood—Following were burned out: J. Thompson, agricultural implements, insured; J. McMillan, blacksmith; C.J. Searight, furniture, insured.

QUEBEC.

H. Stone, fancy goods, Montreal, is away.
D. Morrier, general store, Capelton, has assigned.
J. E. A. Loiseau, grocer, Montreal, has assigned.

C. H. Mahon & Co. BOOTS AND SHOES,

Mitts, Moccasins, Felts and Rubbers.

WINNIPEG, - MANITOBA.

SHIP YOUR BUTTER, EGGS, POULTRY, HOGS

AND ALL LINES OF PRODUCE
TO THE

PARSONS PRODUCE COMPANY

Wholesale Commission Merchants,

WINNIPEG, - MAN.

Highest Market Prices Secured for Shippers.

REFERENCES—

Imperial Bank of Canada, Winnipeg.
Parkhill Produce Co., Parkhill, Ontario.

C. E. Johnson, general store, Warwick, has assigned.

J. Boyer & Co., shoes, St. Johns, have assigned.

J.E. Dion, general store, Robertson Station, has assigned.

Turgeon & Corriveau, traders, Beaumont, have assigned.

Jas. Martin & Co., grocers, Buckingham, compromised.

Suzon & Trudelle, general agents, Quebec, have dissolved.

C.H. Gordon, general store, Stanstead Junction, has assigned.

J.B.H. Rickaby & Co., grocers, Montreal, demand of assignment.

Dubuc & Co., general store, Drummondville, demand of assignment.

John Ritchie, manufacturer of shoes, Quebec, demand of assignment.

Jos. Langlois, general store, St. Scholastique; demand of assignment.

Arthur Gagnon, dry goods, (Wellington St.) Montreal, compromised.

J.F.A. Morrison, general store, St. Anne de Bellevue, has assigned to J.L. Michaud.

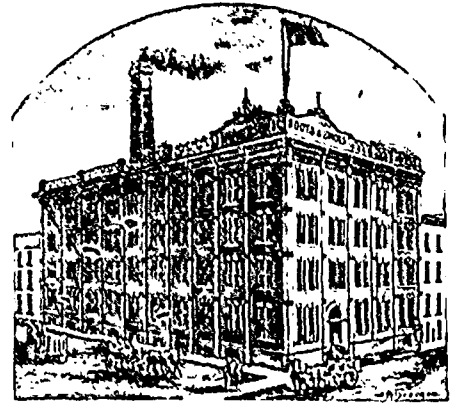
W.C. Davidson & Co., lithographers, Montreal; W. C. Davidson of this firm, is dead.

Towle & Michaud, manufacturers of fire and water proof paint, Montreal, have dissolved.

Russia's Winter Wheat Crop.

The Russian minister of finance has issued a report concerning the condition of the winter wheat crop, recently sown. According to this report the condition is satisfactory in the whole of the Russian provinces in central Asia, including many of the famine stricken districts. In northern Russia and in the Crimea, the crops are in a medium condition, while in southern Russia, below the latitude of 52 degrees, they are unsatisfactory.

McMicken & Paterson, insurance agents, Winnipeg, have dissolved. John Paterson now becomes the sole agent of this district for the Commercial Union Insurance company.



JOHN McPHERSON & CO.
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Sole Agents in Canada for the

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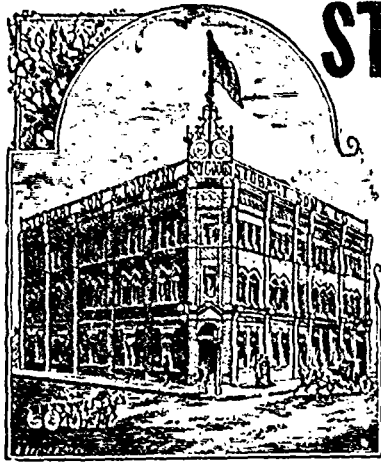
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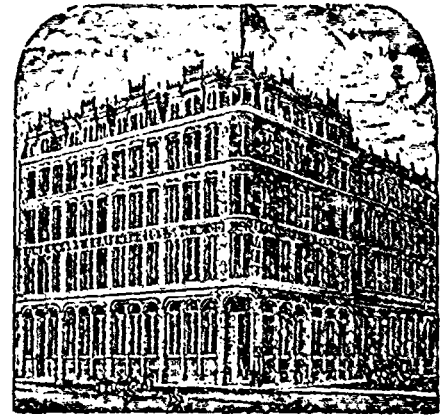
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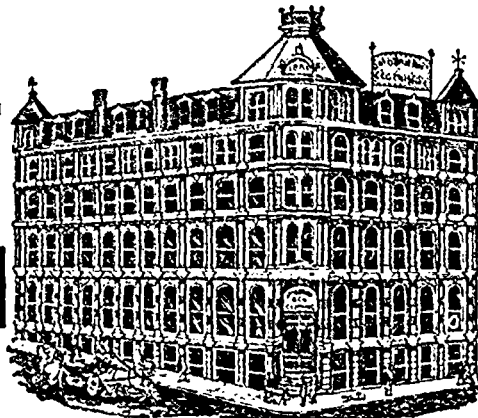
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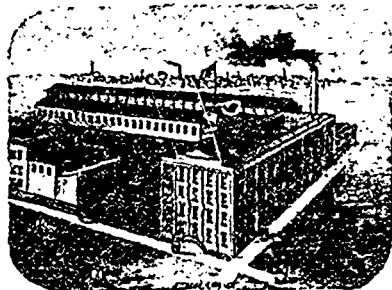
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CHEWING.

'BEAVER'
(In 18 lb. Butts)

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(In 10 lb. Butts)



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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, JANUARY 11, 1902

GOVERNMENT INSURANCE.

Mr. Chamberlain, one of England's most practical statesmen, is at present advocating a scheme which partakes of the nature of a national system of life insurance. He calls it, however, a "pension fund." His plan is, that the government should provide a fund, which should be augmented by the payment into it from time to time of such amounts as the contributors could spare. From this fund contributors would be paid an annual pension, after they had reached the age of sixty-five years.

This partakes so closely of a system of government life insurance, that it brings us again to the consideration of this question. On two or three occasions during the past few years, THE COMMERCIAL has referred briefly to the question of a national system of life insurance. We do not claim that the idea is original with THE COMMERCIAL. Many thinking men are beginning to believe that life insurance should be done by the government, with the double object of reducing the cost and providing the best possible security. Life insurance partakes of the nature of a trust fund. If there is one thing more than another wherein perfect security is most desirable, it is in life insurance. When a man lays something by for a "rainy day," the first thing he should consider is security. When a man pays an annual premium, with the object of securing a fund to come to him in his old age, when he will be no longer able to earn a livelihood in the ordinary way, it is very necessary that he should have unquestionable security for the payment of the expected endowment. When an annual premium is paid upon a life policy, with the object of providing something for the maintenance of helpless children or aged parents, in case of the removal by death of the bread getter, there should be no doubt as to the integrity and responsibility of the company which promises to pay the policy. It is unnecessary to argue this aspect of the question further. Security is the great point in life insurance. There are certainly companies which offer every reasonable assurance of security. The party insuring, however, is not always informed on this point, and undoubtedly a great deal of insurance is placed pretty much at random as regards security. A government system would at the outset offer every assurance of reliability.

The next point is the cost. To most business men and people in good circumstances, the payment of an annual premium upon a reasonable amount of insurance is not a tremendous undertaking. But there are thousands of people, even in this country where poverty is almost unknown, who would find it a most difficult matter to pay punctually the premium upon \$1,000 of insurance. By energy and economy they are only able to pay their way, and if sickness or accident befel them, they would stand to forfeit their policy through

inability to meet the premium. They hesitate, therefore, before taking out a policy, for fear that after paying it for years, they may be forced to drop it. These people, living as they do from day to day, are the very ones who should carry some insurance, hence the necessity will be seen of providing insurance for them at the minimum cost.

In order to cheapen the cost of life insurance, we have scores of benevolent orders and associations, so called, which have multiplied so rapidly of late. These would be all right enough if they afforded ample security; but unfortunately there is a very great element of uncertainty about what is known as "society" or "benevolent order" insurance. In fact, as a whole, they cannot be recommended, and as a general rule, those earnestly desirous of providing something for their families in case of their removal, would be wise to pay a higher premium to some good insurance company. At best, we can only regard this class of insurance as of temporary value, and it would not be wise for a person to trust all his insurance to one of these orders. The order may be able to pay this year, but next year it may not, and in the meantime a person trusting to it for all his insurance, might be so reduced in health from disease or accident, that he would be unable to obtain a policy. At the end of the year he would therefore be without insurance, and would be unable to obtain any.

A government system of insurance should be conducted at a minimum cost. All unnecessary expenses should be cut off, so that the policyholders would obtain all the benefit, and the insurance should be given at just about cost. A government system would be so popular in itself, that it would be unnecessary to have the country scoured in all quarters by agents, to work up business. Every postmaster could be made an agent to receive applications, and the expense of working up business would be so greatly reduced, that the cost of insurance would be materially lessened, and thus the system would be further popularised. A system of government insurance on these lines would first provide ample security, and secondly would bring insurance more largely within the reach of the masses. If properly planned and carried out, such a system of insurance should help very considerably to reduce poverty and pauperism in the nation. It would undoubtedly be popular with the laboring classes, and would encourage a thrifty habit among this portion of the population. On the same lines, separate funds might also be provided for sick benefits and accident insurance. In establishing an official system of insurance, the government could at the outset provide a fund from which to meet any calls, and this could be repaid, when a sufficient reserve had accumulated to permit of the withdrawal of the original fund.

Government insurance is not altogether a novelty. A system of official insurance is in force in Germany. In that country civil servants are obliged to pay a certain portion of their salaries into a fund, from which they receive a return in later life. This, we say, is a great improvement upon our superannuation system. Civil servants are, as a rule, well paid, and their pay is sure. It is but reasona-

ble to expect them to provide the same as other people for after life. In New Zealand a government system of insurance is in effect, but we have no data at hand respecting its workings. A limited system of official insurance is also in force in England. There would be nothing to hinder a province (as for instance the province of Manitoba), as well as a federal government, from providing an official system of insurance.

SELLING FOR CASH.

A year ago quite a number of retail merchants throughout Manitoba and the west announced that they had decided to give up doing a credit business, and would during 1891 adhere to a strictly cash system. THE COMMERCIAL would be pleased to hear from some of the business men who have been doing a cash trade during the past year, with an account of their experience in endeavoring to conduct business on these lines. Brief reports from a few merchants who have worked on the cash principle, would no doubt form interesting reading to the trade generally, and would perhaps have an influence upon some who contemplate abandoning the promiscuous credit system in vogue here.

There are those who believe that a general store trade cannot be successfully conducted in this country upon cash principles. Many country merchants are firmly of this opinion. However, the experiment of doing a cash business has been made, and perhaps some who have attempted it, may prove by practical experience, that a cash trade can be done successfully. Whatever may be the results of experiments in doing business exclusively on the cash principle, THE COMMERCIAL is of the opinion that trade in this country would be conducted with far more satisfactory results generally, if the present wide credit system were very greatly curtailed. We believe that both the consumer and the trader would be benefitted, if there were more cash and less credit business done.

Those who advocate the wide credit business, say that it is useless to undertake to do a cash trade with the farmers. Why so? THE COMMERCIAL asks. Does not the farmer receive spot cash for practically everything he has to sell? Certainly he does. Why then should he not be able to buy for cash? If the farmer were obliged to sell his grain and other products on credit, it would be unreasonable to expect him to be always able to pay cash. But it is all the other way. Everything he has to sell commands spot cash on delivery, and he should be in as good a position as any other class of the community to buy for cash.

Now, we take it, that the reason a cash trade cannot be successfully done with the farmers, is because our agriculturalists have been so thoroughly educated into the long credit system, that it has become distasteful to them to pay for anything until some considerable time has elapsed since its purchase. Now, the farmers cannot be blamed altogether for this state of things. The merchant must also bear his share of the responsibility in the matter. As the farmer has been initiated into the credit system, we hold that he can also be educated to make his purchases largely for cash. He can, we believe, be shown that it will be to

his advantage to buy mainly for cash. If merchants who do both a cash and credit business, would offer reasonable inducements to their customers to pay cash, it would assist very materially in educating the farmers in the cash system. Few business men make a reasonable distinction between cash and credit customers. The system in vogue in most country stores, is a direct encouragement to credit business, rather than an incentive to buy for cash. We believe that a liberal discount should be given to cash customers, not only as an encouragement to buy for cash, but as a matter of justice. When the cash customer is charged the credit price, it is tantamount to making him pay for the bad debts resulting from and interest upon credit transactions.

RECENT WARNINGS.

Several of our western towns have recently received an unwelcome visit from the devouring element. Virden, Lethbridge and Moose Jaw have all suffered severely in turn. These unfortunate occurrences should be a warning to other towns, in the direction of causing the residents to bestir themselves in the matter of providing appliances for fighting fires, and preventing the existence of fire traps as much as possible. Very few of our western prairie towns have anything like ample appliances for fighting a fire. A great deal of carelessness is also shown in allowing an accumulation of rubbish about stores, which is always an element of danger. There is another lesson for business men especially, to be drawn from these fires. This will be found in the following questions: Are you properly protected by insurance? Were your stock and business wiped out by fire, what condition would you be in? Would you be able to meet your creditors and like an honorable man say that you had done the very best you could under the circumstances? If you cannot answer these questions satisfactorily, you should lose no time in setting the matter right. Start out in the New Year by attending at once to the question of insurance. This is a matter which no good business man will neglect.

Winter Fashions in Furs.

Furs continue to lead in fashionable favor, and are regarded as more desirable than at any time in the past. Seal, as usual, occupies the prominent position, and is made up in a variety of forms. Jackets of seal are regarded as especially stylish. One of the latest designs is the bazque jacket, made to fit snugly. It is in three-quarter depth, and is slashed in tailor style from the waist-line downward at the back; the skirt over the hips is in triple-pointed laps; the standing collar fits perfectly about the throat, and a revers collar turns over at the back; sleeves are with the high-shouldered effects; the garment is shown with revers collar of sable, otter, mink or Persian. Other long jackets are shown with neatly fitted back, loose fronts, and set Medici collar, and either high shouldered or puff sleeves. Still others have fronts that close diagonally, fastening with seal buttons and loops of silk cord. Handsome double-breasted coats are made of seal, mink, Persian or other furs. Seal and Persian, seal and mink and other handsome combinations are also shown in these stylish coats; collars

are either standing or rolling, as desired. Rich fur vests are worn in association with some of these coats, the effect being pleasing in the extreme. These garments vary in depth, ranging from thirty-four to forty-four inches. Some elegant jacket-wraps of seal have been produced; these have medium and full length fronts, standing collars of black lynx, or rolling collars of appropriate fur. Coaching jackets are made in seal, mink and fancy furs. The Russian coat is intended for extreme winter weather. It is of full depth, and is made of camel's hair, squirrel lined, and is finished with Persian collar and ample cuffs. Desirable Russian circulars are produced in the same materials. Winter coats are made in beaver, mink, sea otter and Persian, neatly and warmly lined with cloth. Opera cloaks are shown in Russian circular designs in brocaded silk, and choice cloths, fur lined. The high collar is lined with fur, and is exceedingly effective. Outside materials are in delicate colors, such as pearl, Nile, tan and white. Very fine wraps are shown in fur, cloth and velvet. These have two capes of varying length and different materials, and high Medici collar, of which effective designs are in selected mink-tail. Finishing furs are ermine and chinchilla.

Capes command extended interest. The military cape is shown in Russian sables, seal, black fox, Persian, Hudson's Bay sable, black lynx, black marten, black lynx and astrachan. There are rich combinations, the collar and border being of a different fur from the main portion of the garment. Some of the most effective combinations are seal and mink, seal and sable, seal and mink tail, and seal and otter. Short capes are in Alaska seal with Russian collars of sable, stone marten and silver fox. Other capes of moderate depth are made with pointed fronts and rolling collar. Fine krimmer capes have pointed fronts and high shoulders. Short capes for evening wear are of white mandarin, white fox, ermine and Iceland lamb. Muffs of the same fur or combination are provided to be worn with capes not particularly intended for evening wear. Dressy capes are made of seal, Russian sable, sea otter, Persian and Hudson's Bay sable. Some of these have bands of otter that may be worn as set or turned down to protect the ears. Exquisite cravats or neck scarfs are shown in mink, Russian sable, astrachan and other furs. These small articles are finished with mounted heads, with natural or diamond eyes, and are greatly admired. *New York Fur Trade Review.*

Montreal Markets.

Flour—Apart from the local trade which is fairly good, there is not much to report as the only export business mentioned refers to low grade winter wheat flour for English and Continental account. In strong bakers' quite a few sales have been made by local millers at prices ranging from \$4.00 to \$5.10 as to quantity and quality. Some Manitoba strong bakers' have sold at \$4.50 to \$4.75. In winter grades sales of straight rollers are reported at \$1.05 to \$1.70, the range being from \$4.65 to \$1.70. Extras are said to have been placed at below \$4.25.

Oatmeal—Prices in favor of buyers and for round lots prices would be materially shaded. Granulated and rolled oats, \$4.55 to \$4.65 per barrel, and \$2.20 to \$2.25 per bag; standard

and fine oatmeal, \$4.50 to \$4.55 per barrel, and \$2 1/4 to \$2.20 per bag; put barley, \$4.00; pearl barley No. 1, \$7.25 per barrel.

Millfeed—There is a great scarcity of bran in this market with sales of car lots reported at \$17.00 to \$17.50 on track, and broken lots may be quoted at \$18.00. There is also quite a scarcity of bran in the west, United States buyers paying \$16.00 at the mills and we hear they have paid as high as \$18.50. Shorts are also scarce and quoted at \$19 to \$21.

Wheat—Nominal. No. 2 hard sold at equal to \$1, Montreal freights.

Oats—Offerings in the country have been liberal, sales of which have been made at country stations at 30 to 31c. In this market few car lots are reported sold at 35 to 35 1/2c for 34 pounds f.o.b.

Barley—Feed barley quoted at 45 to 47c and malting barley at 55 to 60c as to quality.

Butter—There has been some enquiry for exports account and we learn of several lots being placed. There are, however, quite a number of unfilled orders owing to holders' ideas being above the export basis. Shippers say that their limits will not permit them to pay over 24c, and business, it is said, have been put through at 23 1/2 to 24c in dairy butter. Eastern Townships has been placed all the way from 18 to 21c. There is a fair enquiry for choice Western at 16 to 16 1/2c for English account, but holders want fully one cent more. Western, 15 1/2 to 17c as to quality.

Cheese—A few sales have been made over the cable at equal to quotations. We quote finest western 11 to 11 1/2c, finest Townships 10 1/2 to 11c, medium 10 1/2 to 10 3/4c. The Liverpool cable continues steady at 55s, although sales have been made during the past few days in Liverpool at 57s.

Eggs—The market is in much better shape than it was ten days ago. Choicest lots of Montreal lined eggs have sold to dealers at 15c to 16c, and in small lots to grocers at 16 to 16 1/2c. There is still an export demand, and shipments from this city are going forward this week and next.

Dressed poultry—The Christmas demand being over dealers find considerable difficulty in disposing of anything below choice and fresh goods. A fairly good demand has been experienced for fine turkeys at 10c per pound, held over lots being placed at 9 1/2c. Choice chickens have sold 7 1/2 to 8c. Geese at 5 to 6c. Ducks 7 1/2 to 8 1/2c.

Apples—Prices ranging from \$2.50 to \$3 per bbl. Dried apples at 4 1/2 to 5c per lb as to quality. Evaporated apples sold at 6c, and we quote 6 to 7c as to quantity.

Hides—Hide men are paying 5c for No. 1 and are only getting half a cent more. Calf skins are down in price. We quote: No. 1, 5c; No. 2, 4c; No. 3, 3c; tanner: are paying 1/2c more: lambskins, 80c; calfskins, 6c.

Boots and Shoes—The boot trade, like the leather trade, has lots of news, and of an unsatisfactory nature, from Quebec. At the time of writing a couple of boot manufacturers have suspended and rumors say that at least two more will speedily follow. In fact, the leather and boot business in Quebec appears to be in a very demoralized condition, and it is difficult to surmise where the mischief will end. Our own market is naturally affected by the failures in Quebec and by the continued mild weather and business is less encouraging than it was.

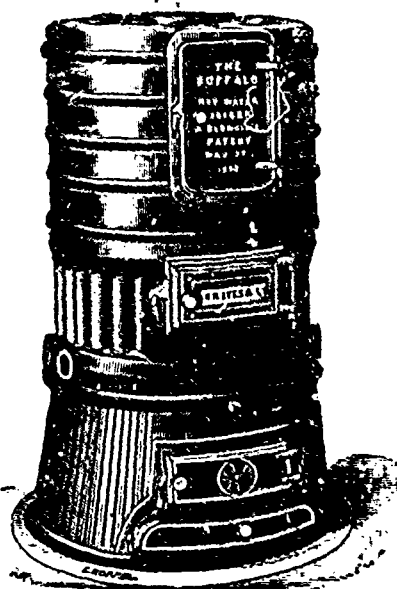
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 EACH PLUG OF THE
Myrtle Navy!
 IS MARKED
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 In Bronze Letters.
None Other Genuine.

THE FLYS ARE GONE. Our low prices for ENVELOPES make them fly, over 250,000 in stock, ALL COLORS AND SIZES. In lots of 5 and 10,000, No. 7's, we quote from \$1.25 per 1,000 printed complete. Will be pleased to show samples. The "Commercial" Job Department.

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BOURBON COFFEE
 The New Mocha and Java Blend of French Cream Coffee In one and two pound Cans.
 IT SURPASSES ALL OTHERS.
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Eldorado Castor, the best Oil in the world for Farm Machinery.
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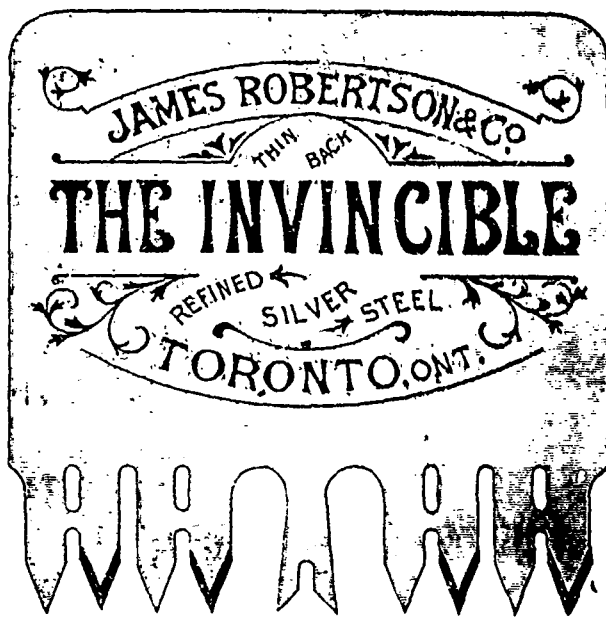
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 EVERY SAW WARRANTED.

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PURE VINEGARS.

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DRY GOODS,

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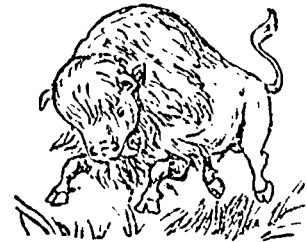
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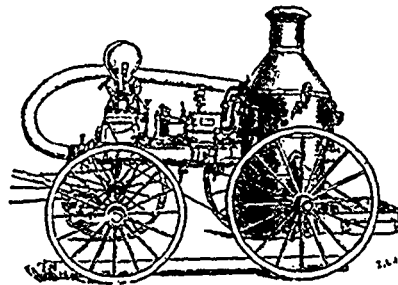
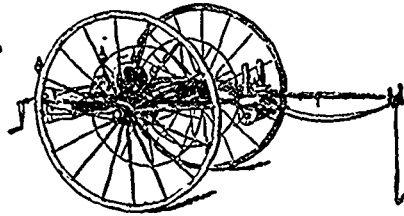
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WINNIPEG MARKETS.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, JAN. 9.

GREEN FRUITS—Business has been quiet since the holidays, though it was picking up toward the close of the week, in spite of the cold weather. Apples are 25 to 30c per barrel higher, and stocks are not large. California winter pears are higher. A few bananas are obtainable, at higher prices. Cranberries were about out, but more on the way. Malaga grapes were getting scarce. Prices are:—California fruits—Winter pears, 49 pound boxes, \$3.50 to \$4.00; Ontario barrel apples, \$3.15 to \$3.25. Lemons—New Messina, \$6.75 to \$7.25 per box; bananas, \$1.00 to \$5.00 per bunch. Florida oranges, \$1.50 to \$5.00 per box. Cranberries, \$10.00 per barrel Malaga grapes, \$7.50 to \$10 per keg, as to size of keg.

NUTS—Good stock is quoted. Taragona almonds, per pound, 18 to 19c; Grenoble walnuts, 17 to 18c; polished pecans, 20c; Sicily filberts, large, 14 to 15c; Brazils, 15c; chestnuts, 15c; peanuts, green, 14 to 15c; peanut, roasted, 16 to 17c; coconuts, per hundred, \$10.00.

FURS—The outlook is not considered satisfactory for higher prices, owing to mild weather east and light Russian demand. Prices are unchanged since last published. Fur men are looking forward to the London sales, dates of which will be found elsewhere in this number.

FISH—The market is well supplied with native varieties, fresh. Prices are: Whitefish 6c lb., pickerel 5c, pike 2½c, sturgeon, 6c lb. Lake Superior herrings, 35c dozen, B. C. salmon 15c. Smoked haddies 8½c lb. Oysters are quoted at \$2.15 for standards and \$2.35 for select per gallon, for Providence river stock, with Baltimores at \$2 to \$2.20.

FOUR—There has been considerable wood on the market, hauled in by settlers, mostly poplar poles. Dealers have not been able to more than keep up the supply, owing to difficulty in bringing in train loads. Tamarac on track, held at about \$4.50 in car lots, and poplar, \$2.75 to 3.00 per cord. Coal unchanged.

HARDWARE AND PAINTS—There is now a plentiful supply of Manitoba linseed oil. Representatives of iron and nail manufacturers of Canada, met at Toronto last week, and after three days' discussion, fixed the price for cut nails, the agreement to hold good for one year.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

GENERAL WHEAT SITUATION—After the holiday quiet, trading in wheat showed some signs of increasing activity. There was not much of interest, however, until Thursday, when the publication of the United States official crop estimate for 1891, showing 15,000,000 bushels more wheat than was counted upon by previous reports, caused a big slump in the markets. The visible supply statement, published on Monday, showed an increase of 1,132,000 bushels in stocks at principal points in the United States and Canada, east of the mountains. Imports into the United Kingdom and home marketings, exceeded consumption by 1,300,000 bushels for the week, which indicates that they are still getting lots of wheat on the other side. Wheat and flour on ocean passage decreased 1,920,000 bushels for the week.

LOCAL WHEAT—The railway situation remains about as it was a week ago. Two or three shippers, who have made special arrangements with the eastern connecting lines, are getting their grain through to the seaboard, but there is no general movement. The week was the coldest of the season, and this, together with some blustery weather, reduced farmers' deliveries, and made railway operation somewhat slower. Country roads were reported to be heavy. Threshing would be about at a stand still. There was considerably more activity on the Winnipeg exchange. No 3 hard sold on Monday, C. P. R. west, at 64½c, for three cars, and ten cars of No. 1 regular sold west at 59 cents, on a 22 cent rate to Fort William. On Wednesday No. 1 hard sold at \$1.01½ at North Bay. On Thursday 56c was bid for No.

1 regular, and 70c for No. 2 hard, on a 22 cent rate. No. 3 hard was offered at 79c, with 78c bid, at Fort William. On Friday 2 cars No. 3 hard sold at 79c at Fort William, and 10,000 bushels of No. 1 regular sold west at 58c on a 22 cent rate to Fort William. No. 1 regular was offered at 53½c, with 57c bid; No. 2 regular offered at 49c, 48c bid; No. 3 regular offered at 39c, with 37½c bid, all on 22 cent rate. Prices to farmers at country markets are about the same, with good qualities of hard wheat still at a premium over shipping values. Stocks in store at Fort William, on Dec. 31, were 809,395 bushels, being an increase of 80,324 bushels for the week.

Flour—There has been considerable cutting in flour, and prices are rather demoralized, quotations this week being about the lowest on record for this market. It is thought that hard pan has now been reached. With millers running up the price of wheat above a shipping basis, and cutting the price of flour, it looks as though they were giving a little holiday benefit to the wheat growers and the consumers. Whole-sale quotations on the local trade in broken lots are as follows per 100 pounds:—Patents, \$2.35; strong bakers', \$2.15; second \$1.70 to \$2.00; XXXX, \$1.30; superflour, \$1.15 to \$1.25. These prices are for well-known brands. Country mills are obliged to cut even under these prices.

Millstuffs—This is about the dearest article on the list, in comparison with other quotations, and consumers are grumbling thereat. Millers quote \$12 for bran and \$14 for shorts, in small local lots, but sales are made considerably under these figures for a quantity.

Feed—Held locally at \$15 to \$17 per ton as to quantity and quality.

Oats—The local market has held easy at about last prices, 20 to 21c per bushel of 34 pounds being the usual range for farmers' offerings in the city. On change two cars sold on track, C. P. R. west, at 19c, on Thursday, but bids were usually at 18c, with holders at 19½c to 20c, for ordinary feed quality. Prices indicate rather a lower tendency.

Barley—The only sale on change was two cars on Thursday, at 23½c per bushel of 48 lbs, for feed quality, on track C. P. R. west. The street price for farmers' offerings in the city is about 23 to 25c per bushel.

Butter—Very quiet demand. Average good dairy is selling about 20c per lb, with occasionally up to 22c obtained for a package or two of selected.

Cheese—No movement to speak of. Normal in small lots at about 11 to 11½c.

Eggs—No country fresh offering, and stocks of limed light. A car of eastern limed was expected daily. Quoted 20 to 22c.

Cured meats—Local packers are working on eastern hogs, which they are bringing in in car lots. Prices are lower all around. Dry salt long clear bacon, 9½c; smoked long clear, 10½c; spiced rolls, 10½c; breakfast bacon, 12½c; smoked hams, 13c; mess pork \$16 to \$18 per barrel. Sausage are quoted: Fresh pork sausage, 10c per lb; Bologna, sausage, 8c per lb; German sausage, 9c per lb. Ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 9c per ½ lb package.

Lard—Compound held at \$1.90 per pair. Pure at \$2.25 per 20 lb pair.

Dressed Poultry—Stocks are light, but the demand is also slack since New Year's day. There continues to be very little native poultry offering. Good chickens will bring 10c readily, and choice have sold 1c higher. Turkeys, 13 to 13½c, geese, 11c, ducks, 12c.

Dressed meats—Butchers are well stocked, and will not be buying much for weeks. The demand is also very slack. Not much country dressed beef is offering. There is a firm undertone in beef, and better prices are looked for toward spring, though values are easy at the moment, on account of slackness. About the best beef going could be had for 6c per lb, this applying to fancy holiday beef, while good to choice ordinary is quotable at 5 to 5½c for city

dressed, with country frozen beef at 2 to 5c as to quality. Mutton steady at about 10c and lamb 11c. Hogs lower. Packers will not pay over 6c for country hogs, as they can lay them down in car lots from the east at close to this figure. One car is said to have cost even under 6c and another 6-10 here. By peddling about the city, 6 to 6½c could be obtained in small lots, but 6c is the best price for a lot.

Vegetables—Dull demand, but prices firm on account of cold weather. Following are prices at which city dealers buy on the market. Potatoes, 40c per bushel; carrots, 40 to 50c per bushel; beets, 40c bushel; parsnips 14 to 15c lb; turnips, 20 to 25c per bushel; cabbage, 40 to 75c per dozen; celery, 33 to 50c dozen; onions, 2 to 2½c per pound; horseradish, 8c lb. Dealers are selling sweet potatoes, \$6 per barrel, and Spanish onions at about \$1.40 per crate.

Hides tallow and wool—Frozen hides quoted here at 3c. No. 1 cows, 3½c. No. 1 steers, 4½c. Sheep and lambskins, 10 to 6½c each. Tallow, 4½c rendered and 2½c for rough.

Hay—Loose offering freely at \$5 to \$6 per ton. Pressed in car lots \$6 to \$7 per ton.

Winnipeg Board of Trade.

At the council meeting of the board held last week, the question of the establishment of a binder twine factory at Winnipeg was discussed, a movement being now on foot to establish such a factory. A resolution was passed to the effect that in the opinion of the council, such an industry would prove financially successful, if properly conducted, and would be a great benefit to the country.

The drainage question was discussed, and also the matter of the Manitoba and the Lake of the Woods fishery regulations. The opinion was, that the present fishery regulations are unnecessarily severe. The committee having this matter in charge were asked to investigate further.

A committee was appointed in the matter of a board of trade dinner, proposed to be held at or about the time of the annual meeting.

A New Implement House.

H. C. Cockshutt, secretary-treasurer of the Cockshutt Plow Co., of Brantford, Ontario, who has been in Winnipeg for some time superintending the opening of a wholesale warehouse here, returned east last week. The company has secured the handsome building on Princess street, until recently occupied by the Harris implement company. This will be made the headquarters for the company for Manitoba and the territories. E. A. Mott, who comes from the Brantford establishment of the company, and G. Silvester, an implement man from Brandon, will be joint managers of the Winnipeg establishment. The company will do a wholesale trade here in their own manufactures in the plow line, and will also handle harrows, and wheeled rigs, and perhaps some other lines. The warehouse they have secured here is one of the finest in the city, and is thoroughly adapted to the trade, having been built for an implement establishment.

A Vancouver telegram, of January 5, says: "The sealing schooner Beatrice, forty-nine tons, owned in this port, sailed this afternoon on a sealing cruise. She will sail south to about San Diego, where seals appear and work up north. She is the first of the British Columbia fleet out."

Grain and Milling.

A big flour mill, to be operated by electric power, will be built at St. Paul, Minnesota.

The first consignment of wheat from Edmonton, Alberta, over the new railway, has been shipped to Toronto.

The annual meeting of the Winnipeg Grain and Produce Exchange will be held on Wednesday, January 13, at 3 o'clock.

On December 30th the amount of the *Northwestern Miller's* subscription list to the Russian famine cargo was 1,534,590 pounds.

Killarney, Man., offers a bonus of \$1,000 for a flour mill. It is said that 400,000 bushels of wheat have been grown around Killarney this year.

Since going out of the machinery business, Robert Muir & Co., Winnipeg, are giving more attention to their grain and flour department, which now becomes their exclusive business. They are now prepared to handle any quantity of grain, flour, etc., in car lots or otherwise.

M. Leitch, of Leitch Bros., millers, Oak Lake, Man., was in Winnipeg last week, on his way to Montreal. He says that 250,000 bushels of wheat have been marketed to date at Oak Lake, and the quality is averaging fair. The lowest grades offered have brought 45 cents per bushel. Leitch Bros. have erected a 35,000 bushel elevator at their mill the past fall, which with their old 25,000 bushel warehouse and the mill storage of 11,000 bushels, gives them a storage capacity at the mill of 70,000 bushels.

The Duluth correspondent of the *Northwestern Miller*, writing on Dec. 28, says:—"Re-

ceipts of wheat last week were 1,048,020 bushels, against 1,100,022 bushels the week before. Receipts here seem to average about 1,000,000 bushels a week, and, if they continue at this rate, Duluth elevators will be well filled by the time navigation opens. Shipments are comparatively light, 37,503 bushels last week, compared with 23,200 the previous seven days. The stock of grain in store, by grades, this morning, is as follows: No. 1 hard, 1,093,605 bushels; No. 1 northern, 2,191,081 bushels; No. 2 northern, 1,022,050 bushels; No. 3 spring, 370,401 bushels; no grade spring, 856,714 bushels; rejected and condemned, 84,633 bushels; Special bin, 50,146 bushels—total, 3,070,332 bushels. In store a year ago, 3,441,577 bushels.

Freight Rates and Traffic.

The capacity of freight cars has increased constantly says the *Northwestern Miller*, until now the maximum capacity is 60,000 lbs and the average capacity 50,000 lbs, against 25,000 lbs five years ago and about 20,000 lbs ten years ago. It was only a few days ago that a car containing 1,222 bushels wheat was received at Minneapolis, representing 73,000 lbs or over. Each car to day occupies no more space on the track than before.

The *Northwestern Miller* of January 2 says: There has been a perceptible easing-up in the scarcity of cars at Minneapolis, and millers are able to get what cars they require much more readily than a week ago. This change seems to have resulted from various lines disengaging

some proportion of their rolling stock, this in the aggregate being sufficient to at least temporarily relieve the pressure. The red and blue lines on Tuesday came into the market for traffic across lake via Manitowoc and Ludington, and this has helped matters considerably. Western roads generally adhere to the rule of not allowing their cars to go east of Chicago, and the eastern lines are equally careful that their cars do not go west of Chicago. As a result, "line cars" are very scarce and hard to get. Grain men are more affected than the millers and do not try to make many shipments east of Chicago. The lowest rates obtainable Tuesday were: To London, 51c; to Liverpool 49c; to Glasgow, 53c; to Leith, 54c; to Amsterdam, 55c. This is in cents per 100 lbs, for prompt shipment through from Minneapolis.

Assiniboia.

J. A. Pritchard & Co., general store, Wapella, stock sold to A. Roberts & Co.

British Columbia.

R. A. Chisholm, restaurant, etc., Victoria, has closed up.

Marymont & Lavis, clothing, etc., Nanaimo, are out of business.

J. G. Pomeroy, furniture, Chilliwack, has sold out to A. H. Gillanders.

G. E. Hawes & Co., groceries, etc., Victoria, have assigned to W. J. Pendray and S. Leiser.

Several good reasons WHY the Trade should handle

MELISSA

RAINPROOF COATS

Instead of RUBBER COATS.

MELISSA Coats will always be found good sound reliable stock and will not deteriorate in value.

MELISSA Coats will not get stiff, hard and worthless after being on the shelf a few weeks as Rubber Coats generally do.

MELISSA Coats will never be brought back by customers, a few days after purchase, with sleeves and collars off as rubber coats frequently are.

MELISSA Coats are full value for their price simply as ordinary cape overcoats leaving out of account altogether their GREAT value as rainproofs.

As MELISSA Coats are sold to all dealers at uniform prices, no one can undersell his neighbor.

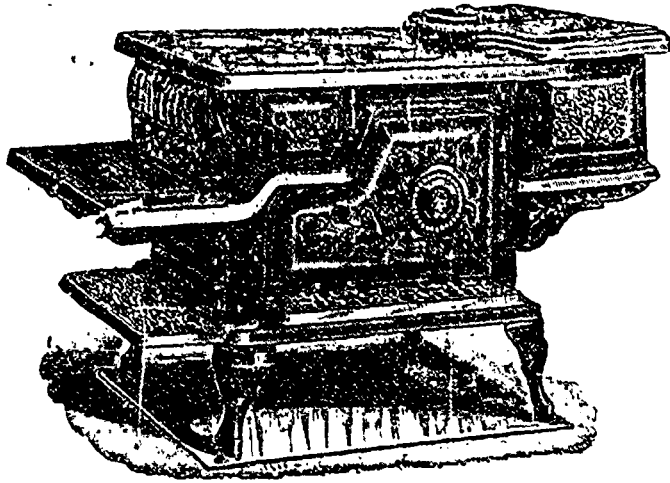
IT WILL PAY dealers to see these goods before placing orders for waterproofs.

Spring Samples are now in the hands of Travellers in all parts of the Dominion

MELISSA MANUFACTURING CO.

J. W. MACKEDIE & Co., Montreal, } WHOLESALE AGENTS
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E. & C. GURNEY CO.
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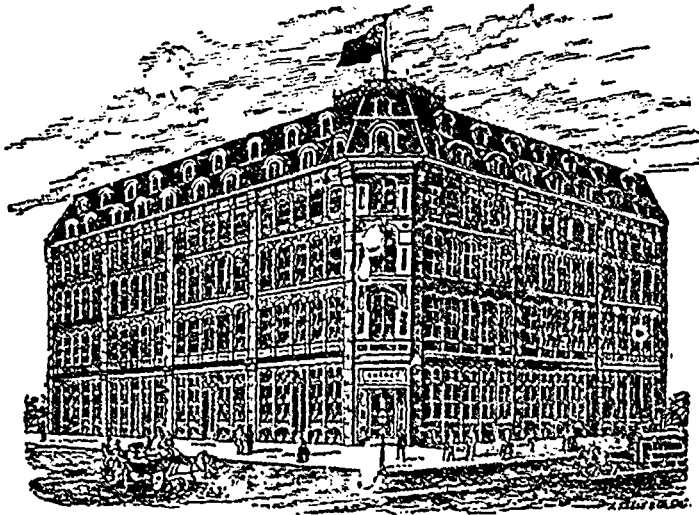
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B	FOR FLOUR
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A	FOR OATS
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Full Stock Carried in Winnipeg. Write for Samples to our Manitoba and North-West Agents.

Merrick, Anderson & Co., 203 Princess St., Winnipeg.

MEN'S BOYS' AND YOUTHS' CLOTHING
CHILDREN'S CLOTHING A SPECIALTY.



Our Travellers with Samples for the Spring
and Summer Season of 1899, are
now on the Road.

H. SHOREY and CO., CLOTHIERS, WHOLESALE

1886, 1868 and 1870 Notre Dame and 36, 38, 40 and 42 St. Henry St., MONTREAL.

It was very Rank.

Yes, it was rank and it an importation too. We are afflicted with many rank importations and nowhere is it more noticeable than in the cigars we smoke. Many of us have already learned that Tasse, Wood & Co., manufacture a better cigar than any imported, and selling at \$150 per thousand wholesale. The "Rosebud" you know—fifteen cents, or two for a quarter—is the brand. Compare it with the imported article and you will like it much better.

WALKER HOUSE.

The most conveniently located Hotel in Toronto.
One Block from Union Railway Depot
A first-class Family and Commercial House.

Terms from \$2 a Day

DAVID WALKER, PROPRIETOR.

Corner York and Front Sts., TORONTO, Ont.

HOGS WANTED !!

—AT—

Allen & Brown's.

THIS SEASON'S GOODS.

Fresh New Cured Hams, Breakfast
Bacon, Spiced Rolls, Long Clear
Bacon, Boneless Ham, Pure
Lard, Pickled Eggs,
Sausage Casings,
etc., etc.

Write for Prices as our Quotations are Low.

70 McDERMOTT STREET,

FRESH PORK SAUSAGE. BOLOGNA SAUSAGE.

**NEW CURING
BREAKFAST BACON.**

SPICED ROLLS.

LONG CLEAR.

HAMS.

LARD.

Now ready. Also Pure Pork Sausage. For
fine flavored goods send us a sample order.

DRESSED HOGS WANTED

Choice DAIRY BUTTER wanted, and for
sale. Orders and correspondence solicited.

**J. Y. Griffin & Co.,
WINNIPEG.**

J. S. CARVETH & CO.,

Pork Packers and Commission Merchants.

Egg preserving fluid. Smoked meats. Horse-Radish
in bottles. Ham Tongue and Chicken Sausage.
German Sausage. Fresh Sausage.

—ASK YOUR WHOLESALE GROCERS FOR—

Carveth & Co.'s Mince Meat, (Finest Quality.)

Sole Agents for S. Oppenheimer & Co., Chicago, and
Kochler & Hinrichs, St. Paul, Minn., Butchers, Packers
and Sausage Makers'

MACHINERY, TOOLS, FIXTURES, CASINGS, SPICES, etc.
Write for quotations.

SAMUEL HOOPEE, DEALER IN MONUMENTS, HEAD
Stones, Mantle Pieces, Grates, Etc. Special designs fur-
nished on application. Corner Bannatyne and Albert
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Chemically Pure

WHITE LEAD

THE BEST IN THE MARKET.

MANUFACTURED BY

**Montreal Roller Mills Co'y,
MONTREAL, P.Q.**

Members of the White Lead Association of Canada.

ROBERT MUIR & CO.

Grain and Flour Merchants,

WINNIPEG, MAN.

Wheat, Oats, Barley, Flour & Mill Feeds.

Advances made on Consignments. Corre-
pondence solicited.

P.O. Box 415. TELEPHONE 313.

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MIXED PAINTS

ARE THE BEST IN THE WORLD.

SEND FOR SAMPLE CARD OF 40 COLORS

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SPECIAL TRADE NOTICE.

AN old smoker declares that he has been
using "Myrtle Navy" tobacco ever since the
second year of its manufacture and that during
that time he has never suffered from a blistered
tongue or parched tonsils or any other of the
unpleasant effects which most tobaccos will
leave behind them. His experience, he says,
is that no other tobacco which he has ever
tried is quite its equal and that in value for the
money "no other comes anywhere near it."

Chicago Board of Trade Prices.

(Quotations below are per bushel for regular No. 2 wheat, which grade serves as a basis for speculative business. Corn and oats are per bushel for No. 2 grade; mess pork quoted per barrel, lard and short rib sides per 100 pounds.)

Wheat was more active but easy in price on Monday. Prices opened $\frac{1}{2}$ c lower, and after slight fluctuations closed for the day $\frac{1}{2}$ c lower than Saturday. There was little news. Receipts were 231 cars. Corn and oats were lower, the latter closing 1 to 2c under Saturday. Provisions were firmer. Closing prices were:

	Jan.	Feb.	May.
Wheat.....	83 $\frac{1}{2}$	84	94 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn.....	33 $\frac{1}{2}$	33 $\frac{1}{2}$	41 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats.....	28	29	31
Pork.....	10.52 $\frac{1}{2}$	11.07 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Lard.....	6.10	6.40	
Short Ribs.....	5.30	5.05	

All cereals were higher on Tuesday, with more activity. No. 2 regular wheat declined $\frac{1}{2}$ c, but recovered and closed about $\frac{1}{2}$ c higher. Receipts were 193 cars of wheat. Closing prices were:

	Jan.	Feb.	May.
Wheat.....	89 $\frac{1}{2}$	90	95
Corn.....	38 $\frac{1}{2}$	39 $\frac{1}{2}$	41 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats.....	29	31	31 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pork.....	10.52 $\frac{1}{2}$	10.95	
Lard.....	6.05	6.35	
Short Ribs.....	6.25	6.57 $\frac{1}{2}$	

On Wednesday the wheat market opened weak and declined $\frac{1}{2}$ c, but later advanced steadily $\frac{1}{2}$ c, closing about $\frac{1}{2}$ c higher. Receipts were 103 cars of wheat. Closing prices were:

	Jan.	Feb.	May.
Wheat.....	89 $\frac{1}{2}$	90	95 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn.....	39 $\frac{1}{2}$	39 $\frac{1}{2}$	41 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats.....	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	31	31 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pork.....	10.90	11.32 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Lard.....	6.16	6.45	
Short Ribs.....	6.40	6.72 $\frac{1}{2}$	

On Thursday wheat was greatly depressed by the Government crop report, which gave the yield of wheat at 15,000,000 bushels more than indicated by the condition reported in October. Closing prices were $\frac{2}{3}$ c lower. Receipts were 139 cars. Closing prices were:

	Jan.	Feb.	May.
Wheat.....	87 $\frac{1}{2}$	87 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn.....	38 $\frac{1}{2}$	38 $\frac{1}{2}$	41 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats.....	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	29	31
Pork.....	10.80	11.80	
Lard.....	6.12 $\frac{1}{2}$	6.40	
Short Ribs.....	5.90	6.72 $\frac{1}{2}$	

On Friday wheat was irregular, the early session being weak, with a decline of over 1c, which was recovered later. Receipts, 93 cars. Closing prices:

	Jan.	Feb.	May.
Wheat.....	87 $\frac{1}{2}$	87 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn.....	38 $\frac{1}{2}$	38 $\frac{1}{2}$	41 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats.....	28 $\frac{1}{2}$	29 $\frac{1}{2}$	31 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pork.....	11.30	11.80	
Lard.....	6.25	6.67 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Short Ribs.....	5.90	6.72 $\frac{1}{2}$	

Duluth Wheat Market.

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

Monday—Cash, —; January, 83 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; May, 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.
 Tuesday—Cash, —; January, 86c; May, 92c.
 Wednesday—Cash, —; January, 87c; May, 93 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.
 Thursday—Cash, —; January, 84 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; May, 91 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.
 Friday—Cash, —; January, 85c; May, 91 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.
 Saturday—Cash, —; January, 85 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; May, 91 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

A week ago January closed at 85 $\frac{1}{2}$ c and May at 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

James Brown & Sons, dry goods, Montreal, have assigned. The liabilities reach \$23,000.

Minneapolis Closing Price Wheat.

At Minneapolis, on Saturday, January 9, wheat prices closed as follows for No. 1 northern: Cash, 87c; Jan., 85 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; May, 89c. A week ago January closed at 86c and May at 90 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

Winnipeg Wheat Inspection.

The number of cars of wheat inspected at Winnipeg for the two weeks ended Dec. 25, 1891, and January 2, 1892, are shown below, with the grading of the same:

Grade.	Dec. 25.	Jan. 2.
No. 1 hard.....	18	6
No. 2 hard.....	179	112
No. 3 hard.....	147	95
No. 1 Northern.....	5	12
No. 2 Northern.....	12	14
No. 1 Rejected.....	7	2
Rejected.....	25	26
No. 1 Regular.....	160	123
No. 2 Regular.....	135	94
No. 3 Regular.....	17	32
No Grade.....	12	5
Feed Wheat.....	14	16
No. 1 White Eye.....	2	—
Total.....	733	530

Number of cars inspected as previously reported, 5,273. Total number of cars inspected from September 1 to January 2nd, 6,536. The number of cars inspected for the same period of last year was about 3,800.

British Grain Trade.

The *Mark Lane Express* of Jan. 4, in its weekly review of the British grain trade says: English wheat has been selling at a decline since Christmas, and the mean value of prices during December were 5d below that of November. The average for the entire year, however, shows an advance of 5s, 4d on the figures of 1890. The fact that the American wheat surplus of 1891 is the largest on record is advanced as an argument of ultimate firmness. Foreign wheats sold slowly, but on the average were firm. The imports of wheat and flour for the last four months have met the whole inquiry without having recourse to home-grown wheat. The trade in spring grain has been slightly in favor of buyers.

On Monday, January 4, English wheats were held firmly. Foreign wheats showed no improvement, large stocks requiring to be worked off. Barleys were steady with an improved retail demand. In the market for oats prices were firmly maintained. The market for Indian corn was in favor of buyers.

The wholesale dry goods house of P. Hudson, Montreal, has suspended payment. The liabilities are \$100,000.

A. Paterson & Co., wholesale milliners, Montreal, have assigned. The liabilities are \$55,000 and assets nominally the same.

Thompson, Codville & Co., wholesale grocers, and T. W. Taylor, bookbinder, Winnipeg, have favored THE COMMERCIAL with calendars for 1892.

A demand of assignment has been made by the Canadian Bank of Commerce on Hua & Richardson, tanners and importers of leathers, of Montreal.

Geo. S. Matthews, proprietor of the Capital Pork Packing establishment, of Ottawa, has gone to Vancouver, B. C., where he will open up a branch packing establishment.

Robertson, Thompson & Co., commission merchants, Winnipeg, have dissolved partnership. Thos. G. Thompson will continue the business, under the style of Thompson & Co.

The new government for the territories was announced at Regina on December 31. It will comprise Haultain, member for Macleod; Clinkskill, of Battleford; Neff, of Moosomin, and Tweed, of Medicine Hat. Haultain will be the leader.

The well known Hamilton wholesale grocery house of Lucas, Park & Co., has been dissolved, J. H. Park retiring. The remaining three members of the firm, R. A. Lucas, R. T. Steele and Geo. E. Bristol, will continue the business, under the style of Lucas, Steele & Bristol. The firm will continue to push business in the west, as heretofore.

W. W. Watson, formerly manager of the Winnipeg business of the Watson Manufacturing Co., is going into the grain business. He will open an office on William St., near the Leiland house on January 15, after which date he will be prepared to do a general grain brokerage business. Mr. Watson recognizes that the grain trade has a great future, and he is taking time by the forelock.

A lamp exploded in Laughton's tailor shop, Brandon, Friday evening, and though a number were present at the time, the conflagration started thereby was not got under control until after two hours' hard fighting by the firemen. The following is an estimate of the losses: W. Senkbell, boots and shoes, \$1,500; W. J. Young & Co., \$1,000; Bower & Co., \$870; Rose & Co., \$500; Laughton, \$600; H. E. Henderson, \$200. The buildings damaged were owned by W. H. Anderson, of Komptville, Ont.; J. W. Horne, Vancouver; and Ed. Hughes, Winnipeg. The first named being the heaviest loser.

Taylor Importation Co.

WHOLESALE IMPORTERS OF
 COFFEES, TEAS, WINES AND SPIRITS,
 BELGIUM & HOLLAND CIGARS.
 French and English Specialties.
 375 MAIN STREET, - WINNIPEG, MAN.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the partnership heretofore existing between the undersigned, who carried on business as Wholesale Grocers in Hamilton under the name, style and firm of LUCAS, PARK & CO., has been dissolved by mutual consent, Mr. J. H. Park retiring therefrom.

R. A. LUCAS,
 J. H. PARK,
 R. T. STEELE,
 GEO. E. BRISTOL.

Witness: W. FRED. WALKER.

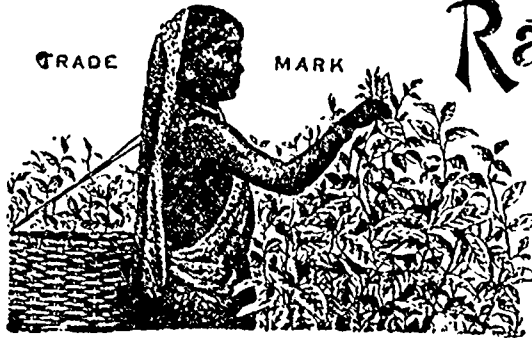
NOTICE.

Referring to the above the undersigned give notice that they will continue the business of Wholesale Grocers heretofore carried on in Hamilton under the name, style and firm of LUCAS, PARK & CO. under the name, style and firm of

LUCAS, STEELE & BRISTOL

(Signed) R. A. LUCAS,
 R. T. STEELE,
 GEO. E. BRISTOL.

Witness: W. FRED. WALKER.
 Dated 31st December, A.D. 1891.



**Ram Lal's
PURE
INDIAN TEA**

GUARANTEED ABSOLUTELY PURE
AS MANUFACTURED ON THE
GARDENS IN INDIA.

Sold by Turner, Mackeand & Co., Wholesale Grocers, Winnipeg.

STEEL, HAYTER & CO.

Toronto

GROWERS AND IMPORTERS OF

INDIAN TEAS

PROPRIETORS OF THE WELL KNOWN

"MONSOON" BRAND.

Agent: GEO. PARR, 521 Central Avenue,
WINNIPEG.

LAKE OF THE WOODS MILLING CO.

LIMITED.

The most perfect Flouring Mill in Canada. CAPACITY 2,000 BARRELS A DAY.

Barrel Factory at the Mill and Grain Storage Capacity of 550,000 bushels in addition to which we have a system of handling Elevators throughout the Northwest.

All Grades of HARD WHEAT FLOUR in Barrels and Bags.

Offices at: MONTREAL. KEEWATIN. WINNIPEG.

E. A. Small & Co.,

—MANUFACTURERS AND WHOLESALEERS OF—

Men's, Boys' and Children's Clothing.

Our representatives are now on the road with Fall and Winter Goods.
Reserve your orders until you see their Samples.

**Albert Buildings, Victoria Square,
MONTREAL.**

C. MATTHEWS.

W. C. TOWERS.

Matthews, Towers & Co.,

—WHOLESALE—

MEN'S FURNISHING GOODS

Our MR. MATTHEWS is at present on his journey through to the Pacific Coast with Samples of New Goods for Spring, and we trust to be favored with the same liberal patronage.

7 VICTORIA SQUARE,
COR. ST. JAMES STREET.

— MONTREAL.

Samples may always be inspected at the office of our representative in Winnipeg.

Harry L. Langelier, Agent.

Office and Sample Rooms: 455 MAIN STREET, WINNIPEG.

Our new lines of Brooches, Barpins, Eardrops, and Scarf Pins in Rolled Plate and Gold Front are now complete. See our new Styles of Black Goods.

WE SELL WHOLESALE ONLY.

**Grigor Bros.
WHOLESALE JEWELERS**
527 MAIN STREET,
WINNIPEG, - MANITOBA.

Andrew Allan, President. John McKechnie, Superintendent.
F. H. Brydges, Vice-President. H. H. Williams, Sec.-Treas.

THE VULCAN IRON COMPANY,
OF MANITOBA, (LIMITED)

BRASS & IRON FOUNDERS,
Light and Heavy Forgings, Engine and Boiler Works,
Millwrighting,
GENERAL BLACKSMITHING.
POINT DOUGLAS AVE., WINNIPEG.

Redwood Brewery

Fine Ales, Extra Porter and Premium Lager.

Most Extensive Establishment of the kind in Western Canada.

ED. L. DREWRY,

PROPRIETOR,

WINNIPEG, - MANITOBA.

☞ Highest cash price paid for good Malting Barley

CIGARS!

Encourage Home Manufactures by smoking

Republics, Columbia, Canucks, Selects & Specials

—MADE BY—

Bryan & Co

WINNIPEG, - MANITOBA.

EVANS BROS.' PIANOS,

Fine Finish, Fine Toned, Easy Touch.

THE UNEQUALLED

Doherty Organ.

If YOU THINK OF BUYING AN ORGAN OR PIANO
☞ Send for Catalogue and Price Lists ☞

O. E. MARCY, GENERAL MANAGER.
WINNIPEG.

Toronto Grocery Market.

There is really no new features in the grocery trade. The jobbing houses are stock-taking and retailers are not buying but a few odds and ends. There is almost nothing doing. Payments have been rather better notwithstanding the holidays; no doubt many retailers were anxious to close up all the accounts possible at the end of the year.

Sugars, syrups and molasses—Though there is no demand there is a better feeling in the market, as refiners are stiffer in their views. Sugars—Granulated, 1 to 15 bbls, 5c; do., 15 bbls. and over, 4½c; grocers' A, 1 to 15 bbls, 4½c; do., 15 bbls. and over, 4½c; Paris lump, boxes, 5½ to 5¾; extra ground bbls, 5½; do, boxes or less than bbls, 5¾; powdered bbls 5½c; do, less than bbls, 5½ to 5¾c; refined, dark to bright, 3½ to 4½c; Trinidad, raw, 3½ to 4c; Demorara, 4½ to 4¾c. Syrups—D., 2½ to 2¾c; V., 2½ to 2¾c; B., 2½ to 2¾c; V. B., 2½ to 2¾c; E. V. B., 2½ to 3c; ex-super, 3 to 3½c; XX., 3½c to 3¾c; XXX and special, 3½ to 3¾c. Molasses—West Indian, bbls 30 to 45c; New Orleans, 28 to 35c; fancy, 45 to 50c.

Teas and coffees—A good movement has been going on in fine blacks at 50 to 60c, and greens at 40 to 50c, but other grades are very dull. Coffees in fair demand, at unchanged prices. Prices are. Rios, 18 to 20c; Jamaica, 18½c to 20c; Java, 27c to 32c; Mocha, 29 to 33c; Porto Rico, 25 to 28c.

Dried fruits—Currants—Barrels, now, 5½ to 6c; half barrels, 5½ to 6½c; cases, 6½ to 6¾c; Vostizza, now, cases, 7 to 10c; Patras, bbls, 7 to 7½c; half bbls, 7½ to 7¾c; cases, 7½ to 7¾c. Raisins—Valencias, 5½ to 6c; do, selected, 7½ to 8c; layers, 8½ to 9c; Sultanas, 10 to 13c; London layers, \$2.25 to 2.50; black baskets, \$3.50 to \$3.75; do ½ boxes, \$1.20; blue baskets \$4 to \$4.50; finest Dehessas, \$4.75 \$5; do ½ boxes, \$2; muscatel, 2 cr, \$2.25; do 3 cr, \$3. Figs.—Elemes, 10 lbs and up, 11 to 16c. Malaga 56 lb bags, 5 to 5½; natural bags, 4½ to 5½; Dates —Hallowee, 3½ to 6½c. Nuts —Almonds, Tarragona, new, 13½c to 15c; Ivica, 14 to 15c; do, shelled Valencia, 29 to 35 cents; filberts, Sicily, 10½ to 11c. Walnuts, Grenoble, 14 to 15c.

Canned goods—Fish Salmon, 1's, flat, \$1.60 to \$1.70; salmon, 1's tall, \$1.35 to \$1.45; lobster, Clover leaf, \$2.95; lobster, other 1's, \$2.10 to \$2.30; mackerel, \$1 to \$1.10; sardines, French, 1's, 40c; sardines, French, ½'s, 17c; sardines, American, 1's, 6 to 8c; sardines, American, ½'s 9c. Fruits and vegetables—Tomatoes, 3's, \$1.05 to \$1.10; Corn, 2's, \$1.00 to \$1.05; corn, 3's, \$1.50 to \$1.60; peas, 2's, \$1.10 to \$1.25; beans, \$1; pumpkins, 55c to \$1; strawberries and rasp berries, 2's, \$2.25 to \$2.40; peaches, 2's, \$1 90 to \$2.10; peaches, 3's, \$2.75 to \$3.50; plums, 2's, \$1.45 to \$1.65; 3's, \$2 60; pears, 2's, \$1 90 to \$2.00; pears, 3's, \$2.90 to \$3.

Rice, spices, etc—Rice, bags, 3½ to 4½c; do., off grades, 3½ to 3¾c; do, Patna, 6½ to 6¾c; do, Japan, 4½ to 5½c; Carolina, 8 to 8½c; sago, 3½ to 4½c; tapioca, 4½ to 6c; pepper, black, 12 to 15c; do, white, 18 to 25c; ginger, Jamaica, 25 to 30c; cloves, 15 to 20c; allspice, 12 to 15c; nutmegs, 90c. to \$1.10; cream tatar, 25c. to 35c.

Peels—Demand dull, but values are firm at 16 to 18c for lemon, 16½ to 18c for orange and 25 to 28c for citron.—*Empire*, January 2.

The Deterioration of Wheat.

The greatest problem in milling is the general improvement of our wheat. As the quality of our milling systems and machinery has improved, the quality of our wheat has deteriorated. There is much truth in the boasts of old millers that good stone flour of a quarter of a century ago would compare favorably with the average of roller flour now. It is as true that the wheat of the present could not be handled at all now with the crude apparatus of the old system as that really good wheat produces much better flour now than good wheat did with the old process. In the older States the soil has become, or is becoming, exhausted, the berry is not so plump nor its nutrient qualities so strong. American farming methods have been careless, and tons of the richest material have been taken off the lands where pounds have been put back into them. The principal reason why spring wheat flour is stronger in gluten is owing to the virgin richness of the soil. But even now deterioration is evident in the older spring wheat districts, and the time will surely come when the spring wheat will lose its pre-eminence for strength, as it has successively been lost by New York, Ohio, Indiana and Michigan. Climate may modify this somewhat, but it cannot prevent the final deterioration of wheat in all sections unless farmers become wiser, and apply measures that will keep up the strength of their soils. Improvement is noticeable in many sections, and it is also noticeable that the mills in those sections are the ones that produce the best flour at the least expense.—*Millstone*.

Railway Construction in 1891.

From statistics compiled by the *Railway and Northwestern Railroader* it appears that while 1891 has been a comparatively dull year as regards railway construction, new track has been laid in forty-three States and Territories, on 249 lines and branches, to an aggregate of 4,168 miles. This increases the railway system of the United States to 171,000 miles.

Since the year of the greatest railroad building, in 1887, when almost 13,000 miles of new lines were added, the falling off in construction has been rapid, the new mileage for each of the last five years being as follows: 1887, 12,878; 1888, 7,076; 1889, 5,706; 1890, 5,739; 1891, 4,168. In 1886 there were added 8,108 miles, and in the following year the construction increased over 50 per cent; but the four years preceding 1886 showed an era of diminishing railway building more marked than that of the last five years, the new mileage footing as follows: 1882, 11,569; 1883, 3,924; 1885, 2,982. It appears, therefore, that in only two of the last ten years the addition of mileage was less than in 1891. In those ten years the increase aggregated 68,800 miles, or an average of 6,880 miles a year.

It is found that the only portions of the country in which new track was not laid are the States of Connecticut, Delaware, Nevada and Mississippi—the latter showing in strong contrast to the other Southern States in which the activity has been notable. The States which have added the greatest mileage are: Pennsylvania, 26 lines, 260 miles; Georgia, 13 lines; 237 miles; Washington, 14 lines, 228 miles; South Carolina, 6 lines, 212 miles; New York, 6 lines, 198 miles; Montana, 4 lines, 188 miles;

Virginia, 10 lines, 188 miles; West Virginia, 10 lines, 188 miles, and so on.

It is notable that the length of lines averages only 16.7 miles, showing that the work of the year has been chiefly in the building of short extensions and branches, although several main lines of importance have also been completed or extended.

The Argentine Harvest.

In presenting some estimates of the agricultural products of the Argentine Republic in 1891 the Buenos Ayres *Standard* says: "The value of agricultural and pastoral products this year will probably far exceed anything ever before known in Argentine. We may look forward to a heavy crop of wheat and maize, a fair yield of alfalfa, a good vintage in San Juan and Mendoza, and an unprecedented clip of wool in Buenos Ayres and the neighboring provinces; besides all this, we learn that there has been a satisfactory increase of flocks and herds. If abundance of products could lift us out of the troubles that have been created by the follies of the last ten years we might at once say that the crisis was really over. Few countries in the world possess a more industrious population than this, although you may often hear Europeans speak of all South America as inhabited by an idle race of cross-breeds. From Chubut in Patagonia to the sugar fields of the Montaco Indians on the borders of Bolivia you find the bulk of the people hard-working."

The following is offered as a fair estimate of the year's products in Argentine in 1891: Wheat, 800,000 tons; maize, 1,000,000 tons; alfalfa, 3,000,000 tons; sugar, 50,000 tons; wine, 6,500,000 gallons; linseed, 20,000 tons; wool, 150,000 tons; meat, 300,000 tons, tallow, 40,000 tons; hides, \$20,000,000 value. The value placed upon these and some additional agricultural productions is approximately \$190,000,000—and products of nearly half this value are considered exportable, in excess of home consumption.

Western Canada Products in England.

An excellent collection of samples of Canadian western produce has been received at the King William Street offices of the Canadian Pacific Railway company, and the commanding windows which face London Bridge are now the centre of attention among all passers-by. The samples of red fife wheat, of two-rowed barley, and other grains, are of singular excellence, while the grains in the straw show to the critical eye, as nothing else can do, the excellent harvesting weather with which the wheat was favored this year. The flax and grasses are also noteworthy evidences of western fertility. The samples were grown on various farms in the neighborhood of Calgary, and were forwarded to Archer Baker, through the Calgary board of trade. Other commercial and municipal bodies in the territories might take a leaf out of the book of the Calgary board in this matter. Samples of this kind have an incalculably beneficial effect upon emigration of the high class.—*Canadian Gazette*.

The creditors of Mills & Macdougall, dry goods importers, Montreal, held a meeting to consider the statements submitted by the firm, offering 60 cents on the dollar.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

[This department is in charge of R. E. Gosnell, who is permanently engaged as a regular member of THE COMMERCIAL staff, for present this Journal in British Columbia Parties in British Columbia who wish to communicate in any way with this paper, may apply directly to Mr. Gosnell, at Vancouver.]

Business remains much the same as usual. There is a quiet in most lines.

It has been reported that the smelter plant at Vancouver was purchased and was to be shipped to the interior and put in operation there, but so far as known there is nothing definite known as to negotiations pending, being completed. Another report says that an offer has been made for the smelting of ores on the ground. And still another report has it that the land has been bonded by the Great Northern railway for terminal facilities.

The British Columbia sugar refinery starts Jan 4 again after being closed a week for repairs.

Apropos of railway matters, it is reported allegedly, on the authority of a C. P. R. official, that a railway from Revelstoke down the Columbia river to connect with the Columbia & Kootenay railway and Sproat's Landing will be commenced shortly. Operations are also said to be about to begin on the Chilliwack railway.

The Pitt River Dredging Co. is about to construct another large dredge to accelerate the work now under way. A large steam scow to carry a pile driver and haul wood, etc., is about completed and operations on a larger scale than at first anticipated will be gone on with in the spring. The work so far has progressed very favorably and the first tract of land will soon be enclosed with a dyke and pumping commence as soon after as practicable. The dyking of overflowed land by means of dredges so long overlooked, is attracting general attention now that it has been fairly inaugurated. The high water last year did considerable damage to the dykes on the lower Fraser, and now the municipality of Richmond is likely to take hold of the enterprise of dyking with vigor and replace the present dykes with more substantial ones on a comprehensive scale. The municipality of Richmond is doing a great deal of good work just now in the way of improving its roads and consequently its communication with the cities of Vancouver and Westminster.

Report has it also that the C. P. R. Co. will build marine shops at Vancouver next summer, and make it the head quarters of their Pacific steamship lines, and that a move will be made in the direction of establishing an Australian line.

R. P. Rithet & Co., have deposited with the department of public works, Ottawa, their plans for the improvement of Victoria harbor, and preparations are being made for a more extended shipping trade, a considerable independent business having been already done there with the Orient during the past season.

The Vancouver foundry and machine works, pending important changes which are likely to place it on a more comprehensive basis, has closed down temporarily and transferred several large contracts to the British Columbia iron works.

During the past week the Eliza Edwards returned from an experimental trip up the coast in quest of halibut, Capt. McKeozio in command. It will be remembered that the Eliza Edwards was one of the sealing schooners fitted

out in Vancouver last year, and is just now being utilized for other purposes in the absence of the privilege of catching seals in Behring sea. She had two tons and a half of fine fresh halibut ranging from 80 to 200 lbs in weight. These were all caught in a few hours after a long and somewhat stormy voyage. The Eliza Edwards went as far north as Alaska and along the coast of Queen Charlotte's Islands. A nother trip is decided upon and she returns this week. The gravamen of the halibut problem is now to discover the winter feeding grounds. The question of an extensive market seems to be one upon which there is little or no doubt. When in New York recently, the writer paid a visit to Fulton market and found a condition of things somewhat adverse to the trade in British Columbia fish. The eastern fish business is largely in the hands of a combine which will not handle British Columbia salmon or halibut and discourages all attempts in the interests of certain sources of supply. There are, however, a few independent dealers outside of the combine that would be willing to undertake it in order to build up a trade in that line. They recognize the superior quality of our fish, and are apparently anxious, if a supply could be guaranteed to handle halibut. It only requires to create a strong financial interest in New York and the eastern cities to back our fish to successfully combat the combine that controls Fulton and similar markets. The first duty, however, to perform is to find the fish and regulate the supply.

Some excitement has been occasioned in the vicinity of Mission by the alleged discovery of minerals in that section, some quite near the townsite. A number of claims have been recorded.

Last week the *Colonist* issued its long expected *Illustrated Victoria*, a work which was brought out under the auspices of the city and of which a very large number of copies have been printed. It contains about a hundred very fine photo gravure illustrations of the city and vicinity, with a clearly and concisely written letter press. Typographically it is a success and in other respects well demonstrates the resources and attractions of the Queen City and the province of which it is the capital.

Mr. Losee's new shingle mill, Victoria, with a capacity of 68,000 a day has started operations.

Municipal matters are gradually acquiring a fever heat. In Vancouver it is developing into a straight dead issue of Cotton vs Oppenheimer and Messrs. Carroll and Cope for mayor, and the aldermen will be elected on the cry of "who is king." Nothing has developed in Victoria of material interest. The report of the Royal Commission now investigating civic affairs will be waited for with interest, but is not likely to be made public in time to influence elections.

MARKET REPORTS.

Vancouver, Jan. 4.

A good deal of dairy butter is now on the market and sales are rather slow. Prices are quoted at 20 to 22c according to quality and size of lots. Good creamery is in good supply and although there is not much demand prices are firm at 27½ and 29c. There is little or no fresh ranch butter on the market. There are good stocks of cheese and considering the state of the eastern markets prices are low at

12½ to 13c. Eastern cheese could not be laid down at the prices, but shipments of Manitoba cheese account for the large stock and the quotations.

Eastern limed eggs are from 20 to 22c. Stocks are not heavy at present, but prices are not likely to advance the dealers say. Quotations in fresh eastern, which are coming in now are at 24 to 26c. Prices, however, are yet a little uncertain.

Onions are very plentiful at \$1 to \$1.50 per cwt., with no prospect of an advance. Notwithstanding the talk among farmers of short crops, potatoes seem to be quite plentiful and as yet no appreciation in quotations appears. The potatoes, however, are not keeping well, rot being prevalent and it is difficult to say how the supply will hold out. Quotations are: Lower Fraser, \$15 per ton; Chilliwack, and Island, \$16 to \$17; Ashcroft, \$20. Turnips are \$8 on the bank of the river or \$10 delivered per ton.

Meats are on the decline, and stocks are heavy. Quotations are: large hams, 13c; medium, 13½c; breakfast bacon, 13 to 13½c; backs, 12½ to 13c; short rolls, 11 to 11½c; long clear dry salt, 10½ to 11c; shoulders, 10½c. Retail men through the agents of eastern firms are pooling and buying by car load lots at ½c less than prices quoted above.

Riverside oranges, seedlings, are quoted at \$3.50; navels, \$5; lemons, \$5.50 to \$5.75; Japanese oranges, 75c to \$1. Grapes are about out of the market and stock inferior. The few peaches coming in are trashy with no demand. Oregon apples are quoted at \$1.15 to \$1.25 per box; British Columbia apples, \$1 to \$1.10; eastern apples, \$5 to \$5.50 bbl. There are a good many eastern apples in the market and the higher price are of fine quality. Pears are \$1 to \$1.25; tomatoes, \$1 to \$1.25. Now Canadian evaporated apples are quoted at 10 to 11c per pound.

The British Columbia sugar refinery has raised the price of granulated sugar to old figures. The market is slightly fluctuating and disturbed, owing to the recent cuts, but the prospects for steady quotations are better.

Local preserved fruit, put up in Victoria, in glass jars, 1½ pound sizes, are quoted at \$3 per dozen; 3 pounds, \$5 per dozen. These include apricot, peach, plums, etc.

Prices of flour seems to have a downward tendency, although dealers say that prices are out of sympathy with those of wheat and should be higher. There is no change in local or Oregon stock. Quotations are: The Columbia Flouring Mills, for Enderby flour in car load lots, premier, \$5.60; XXX, \$5.30; strong bakers' or XX, \$5; superfine, \$4. Quotations to the trade are: Delta, Victoria mills, \$5.50; Lion, do, \$5.50. Premier, Enderby mills, \$5.55; XXX, do, \$5.65; XX, do, \$5.25 to \$5.50; superfine, do, \$4.25 to \$4.50. Ogilvie's Hungarian, \$6; do, strong bakers', \$5.75; snowflake, \$6.25; Portland roller, \$6.25; royal, \$6; Oregon superfine, \$4.25.

Wheat, per ton, \$40 to \$45; oats, \$28 to \$35; oil cake meal, \$32.50 to \$35; chop feed, \$33 to \$35; shorts, \$28 to \$30; bran, 26 to 27.50; National mills oatmeal, \$3.50; California, do, \$4.35; California rolled oats, \$3.75 to \$4; cornmeal, \$3 to \$3.25; cracked corn, per ton, \$45 to \$50; hay, per ton, \$18 to \$20; straw, per bale \$1 to \$1.25.

CONFEDERATION LIFE.

HEAD OFFICE, - TORONTO.

Business in Force, - \$20,000,000. - - Assets and Capital, \$4,250,000.

INCREASES MADE LAST YEAR.

In Income,	\$55,168 00	In New Business	\$706,967 00
In Assots,	\$417,141 00	In Business in Force	\$1,600,376 00
In Cash Surplus.....	\$68,648 00		

W. C. MACDONALD, Actuary.

J. K. MACDONALD, Managing Director.

"WOULDN'T IT PAY YOU"

To mail us orders for new Grenoble or Cahors Walnuts, Oblong Filberts, Hollow Dates, Prunes, Choice Malaga Raisins, boxes and quarter boxes, Layer Valencias, boxes and 14lb boxes, French Crystallized Fruits, boxes of 4 1/2 lbs each, half barrels Sea Trout, Lady Charlotte Gelatine, Lucas, Park & Co's. Pure Spices and Coffees, Etc. Such orders would receive personal care

“GOOD” GOODS BUILD UP YOUR TRADE.

A Trial Order will convince you we Practice what we Preach

LUCAS, PARK AND CO.

Wholesale Grocers and Importers,

73 McNAB STREET NORTH, - - HAMILTON, ONTARIO.

Agents for the now Celebrated Packet Tea, "HILLWATTEE." Send order for a sample hf. ch. each Red and Blue Label.

THE MANUFACTURERS'

Combined Authorized Capital:
\$3,000,000.00.
Full Government Deposit.

Life and Accident

Provincial Manager:
W. R. MILLER,
WINNIPEG, MAN.

The Policies of the Manufacturers Life are not only the most popular but also the most liberal and comprehensive now offered to the public. They are non-forfeitable, incontestable and free from all limitation as to residence, travel, Suicide or occupation after TWO YEARS.

The name of the Manufacturers Accident Insurance Company is synonymous with everything which constitutes safe, comprehensive and cheap Accident Insurance. Its Policies are within the reach of all and all claims are paid without delay or discount immediately upon receipt of satisfactory proof of injury or death.

HEAD OFFICE:
Cor. Yonge and Colborne Sts.,
TORONTO.

Insurance Companies

Managing Director:
JOHN F. ELLIS,
Director of the Barber & Ellis Co., TORONTO.

W. E. SANFORD M'FG CO., Ltd.

MANUFACTURERS OF

CLOTHING

45 to 49 King St. Princess Street.
HAMILTON & WINNIPEG.

S. A. D. BERTRAND, OFFICIAL ASSIGNEE

For the Province of Manitoba, under the recommendation of the Board of Trade of the City of Winnipeg.

Insolvent and Trust Estates Managed with Promptness and Economy.
Special attention to Confidential Business Enquiries.

Corner 2nd. Avenue and 2nd St. North,
WINNIPEG, MAN.

Furniture and Undertaking House.

M. HUGHES & CO.

WHOLESALE & RETAIL

Furniture and Undertaking Warerooms
315 and 317 Main Street
TELEPHONE No. 413.

Closest prices given to dealers
Satisfaction guaranteed in every department.

MUNROE & CO.,
Wholesale Dealers
Wines, Liquors and Cigars
OF THE BEST BRANDS
9th STREET, - BRANDON

E. F. HUTCHINGS'

GREAT NORTHWEST

Saddlery House

Is now Open for Business.

Our new premises will be found opposite the City Hall, Corner Main and Market Sts.,

No. 519 Main St. and 191 to 195 Market St.

The Largest Stock and Best Equipped Establishment in Canada. Lowest prices and Best Goods is our Motto.

TRUNKS, VALISES, LEATHER AND FINDINGS, SADDLERY HARDWARE, WHIPS, &c.

Don't forget the new premises.

E. F. HUTCHINGS, Proprietor, WINNIPEG.

STEVENS & BURNS

MANUFACTURERS

Elevator Engines & Boilers

ERTEL VICTOR HAY PRESSES

—AND—

PORTABLE ENGINES AND THRESHERS.

WINNIPEG, - - MAN

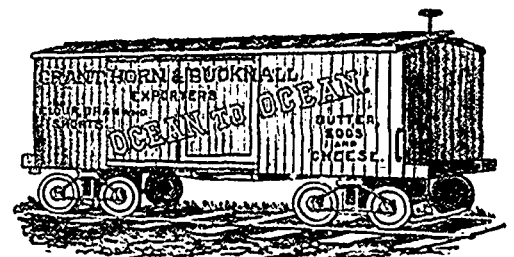
Winnipeg Brass Works

86 ALBERT STREET.

Manufacturer of all Classes of Brass Goods, Brass and Iron Railings, Etc., Etc.

ELECTRIC BELLS KEPT IN STOCK.

ANDREW SCHMIDT, - Winnipeg



J. L. Bucknall,

(Successor to Grant, Horn & Bucknall.)

PRODUCE

—AND—

Commission Merchants,
128 Princess Street, WINNIPEG

CREAMERY BUTTER, no comparison with

DAIRY BUTTER, had one hundred
Winnipeg, tugs, 13; seal.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

LAKE WINNIPEG FISHERIES.

West Selkirk, Man., Dec. 10th 1891.

Editor of *The Commercial* :

Sir,—The fishermen, settlers and Indians of Manitoba have certain rights that have been greatly curtailed by the unjust report of S. Wilmot, who was sent to Lake Winnipeg during the summer of 1889 to examine into the alleged depletion of whitefish in Lake Winnipeg. It can be proven that Mr. Wilmot at Port Arthur on his way to Winnipeg, said he intended to clip the wings of the fishermen. It can also be shown that Dr. Shultz, of "Keewatin famo" exhibited to persons a plan of Lake Winnipeg with proposed water reserves similar to the one that Mr. Wilmot reported should be adopted, one year before Mr. Wilmot's visit to Winnipeg. Wilmot made one trip on steamer with Mr. Ebenezer McColl from West Selkirk to Behren's Island, where there was no fishing being carried on at the time. He then proceeded to Little Saskatchewan, arriving there at 10 a.m. He attended a pow-wow with a few Indians, and at 2 p.m. started on his return direct to Selkirk. Now this is all the experience Mr. Wilmot had of fishing on Lake Winnipeg. He simply learned nothing about that great lake 230 miles in length and in places 80 miles wide, and the many large rivers and bays connected with it, or of the vast millions of fish in its waters. It is hardly creditable that Mr. Wilmot should have allowed Indian agents like E. McColl, McKay and other prominent officials, including Shultz, to place words in his mouth for him to utter, and at one stroke to do a great wrong to our fishermen, settlers, and the poor Indians who have been misrepresented by McColl and the Indian agents. Why should a line be drawn from Dancing Point to Cathhead thence across the lake to Pigeon point, then to Behren's Island, then to Behren's river, then to draw lines across stretches of water so as to cut off Saskatchewan, Nelson and Poplar rivers, and to stop fishing by white fishermen south of Dancing Point to Red river a distance of nearly 200 miles; and within lines drawn near the rivers above mentioned in these water preserves over 6000 square miles are contained. No doubt the true reason for this great wrong being put into force is that it would prevent the Indians catching fish for sale so that they could not secure clothing and provisions from the fishing companies and therefore being destitute, they will be compelled to hunt for furs, and the fur trading companies during the winter will be benefitted. The reason of preventing white fishermen from fishing in prescribed waters is that they could not fish in bays where their nets would be protected from the heavy storms of September, when, if their nets cannot be lifted within three days, all fish caught the first day are not fit to be used and must be thrown away, the object being to stop fishermen from making money so that the northern part of the lake may be forever kept as a preserve for fur traders.

There is no depletion of fish in Lake Winnipeg. License fee for pound net should be \$5, same as that charged on sail gill net boats. Wilmot's water preserves should be abolished.

No fish hatchery should be ever built in Manitoba; the propagation of whitefish is a

great failure. It cannot be proven that a single one ever comes to maturity.

The Indians should be encouraged to fish and sell their fish.

The fishermen should be allowed to fish all the pound nets they desire as it is the best and cheapest way to fish, and the fish all come out of the water alive not a scale injured. The meshes of the Pot should not be over 4 inches other wise the fish will gill; the back of the Pot should be 3½ inches. The fishermen should be allowed to fish all the gill nets they can, and it would be found the stormy month of September, the fishermen would not fish in the exposed lake like they were forced to do during the past season. The writer believes that enough fish were killed during September 1891, and thrown away because they could not lift their nets during heavy storms that could have made \$25,000. The fishermen catch fish with the object of taking them and placing them on the markets in the best possible condition. The alleged depletion of whitefish was brought out in following manner: Each season on the annual trip of the Indian agent paying treaty money he is accompanied by men of leisure from Winnipeg, and they find on their trip the Indians nearly starving, having no fish and no work; during the months of July and August they are at times really in want; during the summer on return to Winnipeg they report fish scarce, Indians starving.

The real facts are the following: During the early spring the pickerel and sturgeon come ashore for a short time, then move out into deep water where the Indians cannot follow them with their few yards of netting and their bark canoes. While there is no fish near ashore, there may be millions of fish three or four miles out in the lake. The fur traders take the Indian's furs and treaty money, \$5.00 per head, for trade at about 25 cents on the dollar, but give him no employment during spring, summer and fall months.

When the whitefish come ashore in shallow water in September and October, then the Indians catch plenty of fish if they have nets to use. The writer in August 1889, saw about 25 Indians from Poplar River Reserve on the verge of actual starvation; they had a few yards of nets but could not catch fish near shore, when at a distance of three miles in lake there were millions of whitefish. The Hudson's Bay agent at that post said he could not give them work; could not give them provisions; his supplies were out, and he hoped that a fishing station would be established near that reserve so as to give employment to the Indians—he was afraid they would starve. This can be proven by a dozen men. Lake Winnipeg is full of fish; it is false, the alleged depletion by Wilmot and other interested parties. The object is to help fur traders; to curtail the fishing industry, so that a fish hatchery will be erected and Mr. Wilmot will receive the credit of having plenty of fish in the lake, your readers should remember it is a large lake teeming with fish. It has been fished only a short time, and that by only a few men and nets. It is capable of producing 20,000 tons of fish each year for the next hundred years, that would be of the value of \$2,000,000, it could give employment to 1,000 white fishermen and all the Indians on its borders.

The fishing companies should be encouraged and protected by the Government, they give employment to large numbers of Icelanders and

Indians, especially if Indians are permitted to sell their fish, and why not? The Indians should be encouraged to work, that is the opinion of Senators McDonald, of B. C., and Jerrard, of St. Boniface, and other enlightened unprejudiced men. S. Wilmot reported against white men fishing near the mouths of rivers. It should be remembered if it is right to fish in the Merimichi and Restigouch rivers of New Brunswick, in the St. Lawrence and other rivers of Quebec, in the Niagara, Detroit, St. Clair, Sault St. Marie, Thames and other rivers of Ontario. 500 gill net boats fish in the Fraser and large numbers of boats in the Skeena and other rivers of British Columbia. It is unjust and a great injury and wrong to prevent the fishermen and Indians of Manitoba to fish within miles of the rivers that empty in Lake Winnipeg. The writer believes that it would be only justice, if Mr. Wilmot was severely punished for making an unjust report.

With few exceptions the residents of Manitoba are aware of the great quantities of fish in Lake Winnipeg and other lakes in the province. No close season should be in force for sturgeon, as they eat millions of the eggs of whitefish and pickerel, in fact the time they frequent the shore and go up rivers is at the time the pickerel spawn in the spring and they follow the schools of whitefish in spawning time in the fall.

Fishermen should not be charged a fee of over \$5 for tugs, sailboats or for each pound net; they should not be limited in use of nets or boats. They could be encouraged in giving employment to Indians, in fact a bounty paid for every Indian they employ. Fishing should only be permitted from May 25th to October 5th, for sale. Indians should not be allowed to fish during spawning time, from October 5th to November 30th. Settlers and Indians should be allowed to fish 600 yards of gill nets each for their own use from December 1st to October 5th, but not for sale, a heavy fine for any infraction of this law payable to informant. This would be a close season of nearly eight months and would be all the protection ever wanted for fish in Manitoba. The fish dealers would have protection, so would the fish. The Indians and Icelanders would find employment with the fishing companies in fishing, cutting and storing of ice, cutting cordwood and mending nets.

The Indians would be prevented from killing fish during spawning time; of course, wherever there was no fishery overseer, the Indians would continue to fish at all times, but as it would be against the law to purchase their fish from October 5 to May 25, it would lessen the injury. It is untrue that the fishing companies have ever charged high prices for fish, in fact at all times have they offered to sell whitefish at 5½ cents per pound. f.o.b. cars at West Selkirk to any party wanting to purchase fish for consumption in Manitoba or along the line of C. P. R., or other railways of the country.

The reader will please notice the amount of nets used, men employed and fish caught in 1890 on Georgian Bay and Manitoulin Island division, the two about the size of Lake Winnipeg, and that too, after fishing has been carried on over fifty years; also the comparison of Lake Erie which has been fished one hundred years, it is smaller than Lake Winnipeg.

Manitoulin Island Division, tugs, 13; sail-

boats, 287; men employed, 337; fathoms gill nets, 209,000; pound nets, 15; tons of fish, 1,796.

Georgian Bay, tugs, 15; sailboats, 300; men employed, 436; fathoms gill nets, 733,000; tons of fish, 3,094.

Lake Erie, tugs, 12; sailboats, 52; men employed, 536; fathoms gill nets, 24,000; pound nets, 197; tons of fish, 4,262.

Value \$293,475 of fish caught in Manitoulin Island Division.

Value \$530,498 of fish caught in Georgian Bay.

Total \$823,973, the two about equal in size to Lake Winnipeg.

Value \$122,464.56 of fish caught on Canada side of Lake Erie.

Lake Winnipeg, tugs, 3; sailboats, 25; white men employed fishing, 188; fathoms gill nets, 60,415; tons of fish, 1,838; value \$150,052. There were 188 white men employed by fishing firms, and about 200 Indians.

To the fish caught on Canada side of Lake Erie should be added the following caught on United States side of Lake Erie, from the annual report of fisheries department at Washington by J. W. Collins, official report for 1890:

South shore of Lake Erie, tugs, 53; sailboats, 395; fathoms gill nets, 2,264,400; pound and trap nets, 2,097; tons of fish, 25,728; value, \$2,122,423. Two millions one hundred and twenty-two thousand, four hundred and twenty-three dollars of fish; add to this the catch on Canada side of Lake Erie will make \$2,544,887. Number of men employed fishing and shore hands on American side of Lake Erie, 4,298. Number of persons dependant on these 4,298 men was 8,698 persons, a total of 12,996 persons dependent upon the fisheries of American side of Lake Erie; this lake has been fished for one hundred years. Lake Winnipeg is capable of producing as many fish as Lake Erie. It is to be hoped the Hon. C. H. Tupper, minister of fisheries, and the Manitoba members of parliament will look after the true interests of Manitoba fishermen, settlers and Indians, and not be influenced by interested prominent officials and Indian agents, who are unreliable as they are friendly to fur traders. E. McColl, Dr. Schultz, S. Wilmot are not practical fisher-

men. They are interested one way or another and cannot see the true state of fishing industry on Lake Winnipeg. There is no other industry on the north end of the lake for two hundred miles; there is not ten white men except fishermen. Mr. Wilmot never saw a net lifted on Lake Winnipeg; he never visited the north end of the lake; he was not within one hundred miles of Great Saskatchewan, Nelson river, or Poplar river. This will show how unreliable his report is. He recommended reserves of water at places he was never at. No wonder Capt. Jonasson should say the proper place for Wilmot is the lunatic asylum. He is cranky on the subject of propagation of fish; he claims to have placed in Lake Erie, from the Sandwich Hatchery, 400,000,000 whitefish fry, which if they all matured, would make 500,000,000 tons, all of which, no doubt, died a short time after being liberated in the lake, at least, no proof can be shown that a single one came to maturity; his hobby is to curtail fishermen, so that fish will increase when he will claim credit for his hatcheries. It will be an evil day for Manitoba fishermen that sees a fish hatchery established here. Ask the fishermen of the county of Essex, if the hatchery is a failure or not.

Mr. Wilmot has made trouble for the fishermen in every province from British Columbia to Nova Scotia. Look at the great difference of number of men employed, number of nets and quantity of fish caught between the American and Canadian sides of Lake Erie. There is no reason for this other than the Canadians are not permitted to fish as many nets as they desire to do, and are harassed by a close season; the Americans pay no license fees, and fish when and how they like; they are free men. Canadian fishermen are not free men, but controlled by theoretical, unpractical officials, such as Wilmot. The deep sea fishermen of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick pay very little license fees and receive \$160,000 per year bounty to encourage them. Most of their fish are salted and shipped to West India, Brazil, etc. The fishermen of Manitoba and Ontario have to pay \$15 per ton duty on the fish imported into the United States, their principal market.

It is as reasonable to restrict the farmers of Manitoba from growing wheat, as to hamper our fishermen and the poor Indians who want to work fishing, but are stopped by the unjust regulations of the fishery department, who have adopted the report of Mr. Wilmot who neglected to learn the true condition of the fisheries of Lake Winnipeg or their extent. Why not consider what would be the true interests of the fishermen from their standpoint, as nearly all the proceeds of fish caught by them is expended here for labor, nets, provisions, salt, boxes and railway freights.

Manitoba should produce \$2,000,000 of fish annually, within five years from date. In 1886 there were only 750 tons of fish exported. So it can be readily noticed that her fisheries have scarcely commenced to be fished. Compare that with Lake Erie, having 4,334 men engaged in fishing, and producing a total of 29,990 tons of fish annually, and this, too, after being heavily fished for 100 years.

It is to be hoped the Minister of Fisheries, Hon. C. H. Tupper, will at once abolish the water reserves, permit Indians to sell fish during the fishing season and do away with the weekly close season, from Saturday night to Monday morning, as it is simply an impossibility to observe this law in fishing with gill nets in the open lake; it could be done by men fishing in a river, but not in the lake.

Truth is mighty and will prevail. I ask that the rights of fishermen and Indians should not be unjustly curtailed.

CANADIAN FISHERMAN.

Greeting From the Balmy Pacific.

THE COMMERCIAL received the following telegram from J. C. McLagan, of the Vancouver World, on New Year's day:—

"The press gang, of the Pacific coast, are not out to-day in their shirt sleeves, but all the same are wearing button hole bouquets, provided by their best girl, and join in wishing their brethren east of the Rockies equally as great pleasure and many returns of this day."

In Manitoba we were not wearing button-hole bouquets, at least out-doors, but nevertheless we had a merry time with sleigh-riding, snow-shoeing, skating and other invigorating amusements.

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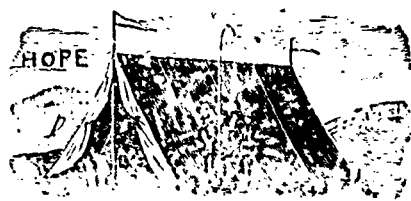
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MILLERS AND GRAIN MERCHANTS will Consult their interests by Obtaining Quotations from us before ordering elsewhere.

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The Monetary and Commercial Outlook.

The old year is closing up under circumstances greatly at variance with a year ago, in fact as regards monetary affairs the conditions are exactly the reverse of those which then existed. There was then a stringent money market, crippled industrial interests, a want of confidence, and an uncertainty of what the failure of the Baring and other monetary institutions in Europe would bring about. A widespread monetary disaster was only averted by the heroic measures taken by the Bank of England and its associates. This aggregation of capital supported the tottering financial fortunes of England and all other commercial nations for the time being, but bad as it was it is certain that it might have been worse. It is now evident that the ability of the United States to send \$2,000,000 of gold to Europe averted a financial panic there and that our abundant and extraordinary crops this year has compensated us for that outgo of gold.

Then railroad earnings were scant, the New York banks were short of reserve, and business was more or less demoralized by the operations of the new tariff as well as the unfavorable financial prospects. Business on the New York Stock Exchange was depressed and prices were low for all securities. All this is now changed and we will begin the new year with abundance of money for all business purposes. Gold has been coming to us from Europe in a large stream, and will undoubtedly come again as soon as the settlements for interest and dividends on our securities held abroad are completed. We have exported of wheat and flour during the last six months considerably in excess of the total exports of these articles for the full year ending June 30, 1891, which were about 196,000,000 bushels. Probably the records will show when December is included that the exports of wheat and flour reduced to wheat for six months were approximately 130,000,000 bushels from Atlantic and Pacific ports. We have exported more cotton since September 1 than last year, and we still have an abundant surplus available for foreign shipment. The incoming corn crop is immense, and whatever foreign nations will take we will be glad to send them. Exports of provisions have not been quite as large since November 1 as last year but here our ability is equal to all probable requirements. The railroad earnings, both gross and net, far exceed last year, and the fact that the great lines in the Northwest are crowded with freight, which they are unable to move promptly with all of their facilities, shows that they have abundant business in sight for many weeks. The New York banks have nearly \$20,000,000 of reserve, and money is "equal to the wants of the trade" in all parts of the country. The New York Stock market is buoyant, and prices of all stocks and bonds are comparatively high, with Europe buying many of our securities. Domestic trade it is true is restricted in many lines, simply because every part of the country has a surplus of the productions of the soil, and there is less necessity for movement of such commodities from one part of the country to the other, but general business in manufactured goods is of liberal volume. Iron is cheap because of the enormous production, but there is a consumption in progress that is unusually large for this

season of the year, and a good prospect that it will be further enlarged.

We have every element of prosperity for the ensuing year, and the cautious and sagacious business man has every reason for encouragement and confidence. — *Cincinnati Price Current.*

Fur Trade Notes

London fur sales for this year take place on the following dates: Hudson's Bay Co. on January 25 and March 21, 22, 23 and 24. C. M. Lamson & Co.'s sales on January 20 for salted seal and January 25 to 26 for general collection of furs. The latter company will also hold sales on March 21 to April 1, June 20 to 24, and October 24 to 28.

Following is the Hudson's Bay Co.'s collection: Black bear, 11,569; brown bear, 1,720; gray bear, 225; white bear, 122; badger, 3,458; beaver, 56,591; cross fox, 2,656; red fox, 11,119; white fox, 9,486; silver fox, 62; pit fox, 519; musquash, 784,077; mink, 41,030; lynx, 8,266; marten, 73,000; fisher, 5,070; otter, 0,689; raccoon, 130; skunk, 10,115; wolf, 1,000; rabbit, 21,688; musk ox, 1,916; wolverine, 1,094; fur seals, salted, 410; hair seals, do., 548, and dry hair seals, 1,500.

The New York *Fur Trade Review* for January says: "The past month closes one of the most peculiar fur seasons that this generation has known. At the opening the prospects were excellent, and the early demand justified the great expectations that were entertained; but in August there was a decided break, the cloak trade countermanning many orders and ceasing to place new ones, and then the furriers perceived that greater caution should prevail and that they should endeavor to reduce stocks without incurring further obligations. With the exception of capes, which have met with a limited sale, manufactured furs are very well sold. This is very satisfactory to the trade, as stocks of skins may be carried over with least prospect of loss. It is too early to predict what kind of furs will be required next season, but if the raw fur price lists, which are being scattered broadcast, may be accepted as authority, American furs will be in great favor. There is no present demand to speak of for anything. The season has been disappointing, the weather at home and abroad is unseasonable, and all the markets are quiet; and it is therefore plain that some of the prices quoted are wholly unwarranted.—It is just as certain that they will not be paid. Our readers should accept this warning word in season."

The New Canadian Monthly.

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