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**TINSMITHS' AND PLUMBERS' SUPPLIES**  
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 W.D. PETTIGREW, Manager. WHOLESALE ONLY.

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 VARNISHES, BRUSHES, PLASTER.  
**GOLDEN STAR MACHINE OILS.**  
 NORTHWESTERN AGENTS FOR  
 Benny, Macpherson & Co., Importers of Shelf and Heavy  
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 Nails, Railroad Spikes, Horse Shoes, Tacks, Brads,  
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 Alex. McArthur & Co., Manufacturers Tarred Paper,  
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**Choice Havana Cigars,**  
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 In order to introduce my home manufactured cigars  
 on the trade of the Northwest, I will send one half box of  
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 me \$5. Fleeton's A 1, Key West and Grand Discovery.  
 Seven half boxes, all different brands, for \$10. Sent C.O.  
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 the finest leaf tobacco, and far superior to the ordinary  
 imported 10 cent. cigars.

**W. J. MITCHELL,**  
**WHOLESALE DRUGGIST**  
 350 Main St., WINNIPEG.  
 A Full Assortment of Drugs, Patent Medicines  
 and Sundries at Lowest Prices.  
 ✉ CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED. ✉

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 PRACTICAL CARVER AND GILDER,  
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 MIRROR & PICTURE FRAME MANUFACTURER.  
 ✉ A complete assortment of Artists' Materials in stock  
 RETAIL BRANCH AT 324 MAIN STREET.

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**W. N. JOHNSON & CO.,**  
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**THE FEDERAL BANK**  
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Capital Paid-up, - - \$2,810,000.  
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**GEO. F. R. HARRIS,**  
**Banker, Broker & General Loan & Insurance Agent**  
 DRAFTS SOLD ON ANY PART OF CANADA  
 OR UNITED STATES,  
 ✉ Collections promptly attended to ✉  
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A. G. McBEAN, P O. Box 1299, Montreal.  
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**GRAIN & PRODUCE.**

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**GENERAL HARDWARE MERCHANTS,**  
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**MANUFACTURERS OF TINWARE,**  
 Agents or by W. Hunt & Moon Celebrated Galvanized Barbed Wire  
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**FRANK BOISSEAU, Proprietor.**  
 LATE OF THE RUSSELL HOUSE, OTTAWA.  
 Strictly first-class in every respect. Commercial Sample  
 Rooms Attached.

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Prepared specially for the ALKALINE waters  
 of the NORTHWEST, the  
**ONLY RELIABLE**  
 preparation of its class made.  
**JOSEPH PARKINSON,**  
 MANUFACTURING CHEMIST,  
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**Archie C. Crosbie,**  
 Sole Agent for the Dominion of Canada for  
**THE HAYWARD HAND GRENADE**

**FIRE EXTINGUISHER,**  
 It is the only Grenade that is imported into Canada  
 freight and duty paid Indorsed by Chiefs of Fire De-  
 partments, Fire Insurance Companies, Business Houses,  
 Hotels, and by all who have seen its practical workings.  
 Price \$15 a Doz., baskets included.  
 ✉ ORDERS filled with Promptness and Despatch. ✉  
 Also with  
**Munderloh & Co., Agts for the White Cross Line**  
 and Sole Agents for the Dominion of Canada for  
**MYER'S WATCHMAN'S CONTROL CLOCK,**  
 Indorsed by Chiefs of Police, Business Houses and all who  
 have used them.  
 ✉ PRICE \$35. Will last for years. ✉  
 Contracts for either supplied with promptness and  
 despatch.  
**ARCHIE C. CROSBIE,**  
**Post Office, Montreal, Canada.**

**Hodgson, Sumner & Co.**

IMPORTERS OF  
 British, French, American and German  
**DRY GOODS,**  
**FANCY GOODS,**  
**Smallwares,**  
**TOYS, BEADS, & C**  
 WHOLESALE ONLY.  
**Cor. Princess & Bannatyne Streets**  
**WINNIPEG.**

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

**THE VULCAN IRON COMPANY,**

OF MANITOBA, (LIMITED),  
**BRASS & IRON FOUNDERS,**  
 Light and Heavy Forgings, Engine and Boiler Works,  
 Millwrighting,  
**GENERAL BLACKSMITHING,**  
 All kinds of Machinery.  
**POINT DOUGLAS AV., WINNIPEG,**

**HENDERSON & BULL,**

Wholesale Commission Merchants

AGENTS FOR

The Canada Sugar Refining Company,  
The Canada Jute Company,  
MONTREAL.STORAGE, Bond or Free. Lowest Rates of  
Insurance Liberal Advances made on Consig-  
ments.

OFFICE AND WAREHOUSE:

Corner Princess and Alexander Streets,  
WINNIPEG.

AMES, HOLDEN &amp; CO., MONTREAL.

**The Ames, Holden Company,**  
WHOLESALE

Dealers in

**BOOTS & SHOES,**

33 Queen Street,

WINNIPEG.

JAMES EDMOND,  
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WINNIPEG.**BISCUITS**  
**CONFECTIONERY****PAULIN & CO.,**

Wholesale Manufacturers.

Orders by Mail promptly attended to.

OFFICE &amp; STEAM FACTORY:

11 Ross St., WINNIPEG.

**NEW FRUITS**

IN STORE AND ARRIVING.

Choice off-stalk Valentias, London Layers in boxes and  
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finest Dehesa in Fancy Cartons. Sultanias, Loose Musca-  
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Currants, Prunes, etc. CRANBERRIES**New Teas, '85-86**Choice assortment of Japans, Oolongs, India Teas,  
Hysons, Gunpowders, Scented Peaches, Assams and Caper  
teas in c chests, half chests, caddies and 1lb fancy papers.

PROVISIONS.

HAMS, BACON, CHEESE, BUTTER, LARD, ETC.

WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS.

TABLE LUXURIES.

Closest Prices. Samples Mailed. TEA

**G. F. & J GALT**  
PRINCESS STREET, WINNIPEG**Thompson,  
Codville & Co.,****WHOLESALE GROCERS,**

26 McDermott Street,

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**E. F. Hutchings,**  
MANUFACTURER AND DEALER IN  
**SADDLERY, HARNESS,**

SADDLERY HARDWARE,

Leather &amp; Findings, Trunks, Valises, &amp;c.

EVERYTHING IN THE SADDLERY LINE.

See my Felt Horse Blankets, Fall Lap Rugs, Frost  
Proof Whips, Maud S. and Blue Ribbon Driving Harness,  
To parties wishing goods manufactured for Spring Trade  
will save 10 % by placing orders now during dull season.Store: 569 Main Street.  
Hotel Brunswick Block,

WAREHOUSE AND FACTORY:

46 McWilliam Street East,

ESTABLISHED 1367.

WINNIPEG.

SAMUEL HOOPER, DEALER IN MONUMENTS, HEAD  
Stones, Mantle Pieces, Grates, etc. Special designs fur-  
nished on application. Cor. Bannatyne and Albert Sts.,  
Winnipeg.**THE LONDON AND CANADIAN  
Loan and Agency Company (Limited)**

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO.

CAPITAL, \$5,000,000.

**Loans effected on Farm & City**

PROPERTY. DEBENTURES PURCHASED.

GEO. J. MAULSON, Local Manager for Manitoba and  
the N.W.T.

OFFICE: McARTHUR BLOCK,

Cor. Lombard and Main Sts., Winnipeg.

**Sutherland & Campbell,**  
WHOLESALE GROCERS

—AND—

**COMMISSION MERCHANTS**

STOCK LARGE AND WELL ASSORTED

PRICES LOW TO CASH AND

PROMPT MEN.

PRINCESS ST., WINNIPEG.

**J. Thomson & Co.,**  
Undertakers & Embalmers,FUNERAL FURNISHINGS OF EVERY DES-  
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OPEN DAY AND NIGHT.

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**RICHARD & CO.,**

Importers and Wholesale Dealers in

**Wines, Spirits and Cigars**

365 MAIN STREET,

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**LYON, MACKENZIE & POWIS,**

WHOLESALE GROCERS,

Cor. McDermot &amp; Albert Sts., WINNIPEG

GEO. D. WOOD,  
Winnipeg.WOOD & LEGGAT,  
Hamilton, Ont**GEO. D. WOOD & CO.**

WHOLESALE

**Hardware & Metals**

GUNS AND SPORTING GOODS.

22 & 24 ALEXANDER STREET EAST, and  
35 & 37 McWILLIAM ST. EAST,

WINNIPEG.

**TEAS**Congou, Moning and Kiskow in half chests and caddies.  
Young Hyson, Pingsuey and Moyuue do do  
Japans—Basket Fined and ored do co**OFFEE**Chase and Sanborn's celebrated Roasted and Ground  
Coffee.  
Green Ito.**CIGARS**

A full line of Domestic and Imported.

**DRIED FRUIT**New Valencia, Elenco, London Layers and Sultanias Baisins  
200 Barrels A1 Dried Apples.  
and a full assortment of General Groceries at**Turner, MacKeand & Co's**  
BANNATYNE ST. EAST, WINNIPEG,

# The Commercial

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

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

VOL. 4

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 16, 1886.

NO. 21

## The Commercial

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

ISSUED EVERY TUESDAY.

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

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

Book, Newspaper, Railroad, Commercial and Job Printing specialties.

Office, 4 and 6 James St. East

JAS. E. STEEN,  
Publisher.

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 16, 1886.

Geo. Watson of Manitou, will open a general store at Killarney.

A PRIVATE bank has been opened at Qu'Appelle.

ARNOLD & Co. have lately opened a hotel at Griswold, Man.

G. C. CINCLAIR has opened a general store at Crystal City.

WISHART & RONAS have opened a tobacconist store at 499 Main Street.

COLEMAN & BELL, grocers, Morris, have sold out to Edward McTavish.

E. O. DENNISON, general storekeeper, Minnedosa, has assigned in trust.

JOHN ELLIOTT & SON will build an implement warehouse at Portage la Prairie.

W. SENKDEIL, boot and shoed dealer, Brandon, has sold out to Flumerfelt & Powers,

DANIELS is erecting a building at Medicine Hat, which he will use as a restaurant.

JOHN MONTGOMERY, blacksmith, Storaewall, will open a hardware store at that place.

HARRIS, SON & Co. have moved their implement warehouse at Nelson, to Morden.

The elevator at Morris has been re-opened, and a large quantity of grain is now coming in.

J. R. CAMERON, merchant tailor, Winnipeg, lately burned out, will re-open with a new stock.

The name of Cherry Creek station, at the end of the S. W. track, has been changed to Bois-savain.

THE Minnesota & Ontario Lumber Co., Rat Portage, will open a branch yard at Portage la Prairie.

BORIGHT & PARSONS have secured territory for ranching purposes near the Cypress Hills, N.W.T.

GEO. COUTURE, grocery and provision dealer, St. Boniface, has had his stock seized under execution.

CONNOLLY BROS., butchers, Winnipeg, have changed the style of their firm to Geroux & Connolly.

J. H. HUGHES has purchased the entire stock of the Braudon Saw Mill, consisting of 150,000 feet of lumber.

JAS. MARSHALL has been appointed Collector of Customs at Portage la Prairie, in the place of his father, deceased.

A STEAMER will be put on Long Lake in the spring, to run in connection with the Regina and Long Lake Railway.

BATTISCOMB & TUCK, farmers and stockraisers, Indian Head, have dissolved partnership. — Battiscomb will continue.

THE store of F. J. Agnew, Prince Albert, was entered by burglars last week, and \$370 in cash taken, besides notes and vouchers.

THE Canadian Pacific railway has concluded arrangements for steamship connection between Vancouver, B. C., and San Francisco.

STROME & HENDERSON, general storekeepers, Portage la Prairie, have dissolved partnership. J. R. Strome will continue the business.

JOHN MORRIS is opening out in the tea, coffee and spice lines, at No. 517 Main St., Winnipeg, under the style of the Canada Pacific Tea Company.

THE Souris Joint Stock Company will apply for incorporation. The capital stock is placed at \$35,000, and the business of the company is to be ranching.

C. FLEXON, druggist, Emerson, will close up business in that place, and open in the same line in Winnipeg, and not in Crystal City, as was previously stated.

E. DEACON, postmaster and general storekeeper, Fort William, was burned out on Monday last. Nothing was saved from the stock, which was not insured.

THE C. P. R. Co., has announced a reduction of five cents per hundred on the present freight rates for frosted wheat shipped to eastern markets for feeding purposes.

M. C. CLARKE has secured the interest of A. D. McLean in the grocery and liquor business of M. C. Clarke & Co., Winnipeg, and will continue in the same premises.

ALEXANDER MACDONALD, contractor, has entered suit against the Northwest Central Railway to recover \$139,000 and interest since 1883, for work done on the old Souris and Rocky Mountain Railway.

DESPATCHES from Toronto state that Mr. Beatty, M. P., president of the Northwest Central Railway, has signed a contract in New York for the construction of that line from Brandon to Battleford.

THE Manitoba Southwestern Colonization Railway has been completed to Holland, a station eighty-five miles from Winnipeg and north of the Tiger Hills. The first regular train commenced running on Monday.

At a meeting at High Bluff it was decided to form a joint stock milling and elevator company with a capital stock of fifty thousand dollars in shares of \$25 each. A board of directors was appointed and steps taken to apply for letters of incorporation at once. The board of director are as follows: H. J. F. Rose, Geo. Tidsbury, Mac. Owens, Alfred Bailey, Chas. Cutbert, Max. Wiltan, Geo. Greenlay, Geo. Dilworth and John Dilworth.

## Business East.

## ONTARIO.

Wm. Plewes, miller, London, was burned out.

P. H. Wright, tobacconist, Ottawa, has assigned.

Nicklo Bros., dry goods, Dresden have assigned.

Cyprian DeLorme, carriages and livery, has assigned.

Heron & Jackson, dry goods, London, have assigned.

E. M. Blakely, jeweler, Campbellford, has sold out.

W. F. Taylor & Son, painters, Sarnia, have sold out.

Henry Wilson, grocer, Tibury Centre, has sold out.

R. Tracey, hotelkeeper, Tottenham, was burned out.

T. S. Bell, general storekeeper, Blenheim, has sold out.

Wm. Coulteo, hotelkeeper, Point Edward, has sold out.

Jos. Waters, hotelkeeper, Lindsay, has assigned in trust.

A. E. Saunders, grocer, Toronto, has assigned in trust.

Bucham & Co., dry goods, Guelph, have assigned in trust.

C. Young, grocer, Ashburnham, has sold out to D. Shannon.

Mackie & Edsall, hotelkeepers, Toronto: bailiff in possession.

John McGuire, carriage manufacturer, Lucan, was burned out.

Lazier & Meyers, fur dealers, Belleville, have assigned in trust.

Alex. McKay, flour and feed dealer, Hamilton, has sold out.

Brown Bros., general storekeepers, Toronto, were burned out.

L. Campbell, hotelkeeper, Gorrie, has sold out to Jno. Allen.

Jas. Patterson, general storekeeper, Tyne-side, has sold out.

Mrs. Deming & Son, hotelkeepers, Leamington, have sold out.

H. C. McLean, druggist, Port Elgin, has sold out to R. C. Muir.

R. Osborne, tinsmith, Listowel, has sold out to Bonnett & Boyer.

Jas. McGowan, restaurant, Teeswater, has moved to Lucknow.

W. J. Bryanton, furniture dealer, London, has sold out factory.

R. H. Hughes, general storekeeper, Aurora, has assigned in trust.

W. H. Scott, general storekeeper, Riceville, has assigned in trust.

Adam McDowell, harness dealer, Kinloss, has assigned in trust.

H. W. Tripp, merchant tailor, St. Marys, has assigned in trust.

Lalor & Fair, bakers, Shelburne, have sold out to W. J. Craven.

O'Hara & Matthews, hotelkeepers, Wallace-town, have dissolved.

The following were burned out at Blenheim: D. Baird, photographer; L. S. Plummer, tailor; and B. F. Sutherland tailor.

Brignall & Thompson, drug store, Belleville, have assigned in trust.

Frank Doble, hotelkeeper, Sunderland, has sold out to T. P. Card.

T. E. King, grocer, Woodstock, has sold out to Tutbill & Callender.

Swaissard Bros., bankers, Brantford, have given up business there.

Mrs. S. Ross, grocer, Southampton, has sold out to Thomas Morrison.

Decow & Martin, stove manufacturers, Fletcher, are about to dissolve.

Roe Bros., hotelkeepers, Kincardine, have dissolved; J. Roe continues.

Fred, Goldsmith, saloon keeper, London, has compromised at 40c on the \$.

Jas. Parks & Son, provision merchants, Toronto; stock damaged by fire.

Plewee & Co., photographers, Cobourg, have sold out to T. C. Williamson.

W. F. Ashborough, general storekeeper, Huntsville, has sold out to Thos. Goldie.

Davis & Abbott, general storekeepers, Centralia, have dissolved; S. Davis continues.

Jno. Cunningham & Co., general storekeeper, Hespeler, have sold out to Jas. Cunningham.

A. Barber & Sons woolen manufacturers, Port Elgin, have dissolved; style now Barber Bros.

Scates & McDonald, general storekeepers, Arkona, have dissolved partnership; McDonald continues.

W. C. Coulson, hardware merchant, Leamington; closed this business and moved stock to Comber.

W. H. Nelson, hotel, and Umlin Bros., general storekeeper, Dutton; sustained loss by recent fire.

H. Bailey, general storekeeper, Meaford, has admitted Geo. A. Jenkins under the style of Bailey & Jenkins.

Sutherland & Co., general storekeepers, Goodwood and Uxbridge, have closed Goodwood business and will close Uxbridge shortly.

W. & R. Balkwill, tinsmith; B. Curtis, general storekeeper; D. McMillan, harness; E. Roach, boots and shoes, all of Dutton; burned out.

## QUEBEC.

C. T. Bernier, dry goods, Montreal, is dead.

Toupin & Perras, grocers, Montreal, have dissolved.

Barriere & Frere, dry goods dealers, Montreal, have dissolved.

Norbert Leclerc, general storekeeper, Contrecoeur, has assigned.

L. H. Tetrault, tailor, St. Jean Baptiste, has assigned in trust.

Jos. Christin, clothing manufacturer, Montreal, has compromised.

J. O. Normand & Co., hat manufacturers, Montreal, have assigned.

G. A. Brouillet & Co., dry goods dealers, Montreal, have assigned.

Alain & Castelli, cardboard manufacturers, Montreal, have dissolved.

Lightbound, Ralston & Co., wholesale grocers, Montreal, have dissolved.

Jos. Gervais, general storekeeper, Lacheuretiere, has assigned in trust.

A. M. Esdaile & Co., coal dealer, Montreal; A. M. Esdaile of this firm dead.

J. H. Jones & Co., dealer in wholesale fancy goods, Montreal, have dissolved.

McIntosh & Knapton, general storekeepers, Huntingdon, have assigned in trust.

S. J. Shaw & Co., dealers in wholesale and retail hardware, Quebec, have dissolved.

Laramée & Co., dealers in wood and coal, Montreal; O. A. Laramée of this firm dead.

## NOVA SCOTIA.

Wm. Moody & Co., dry goods dealers, Halifax, have assigned.

Oliver & Larkin, general storekeepers, Pub-ince, have dissolved.

P. D. Kinney & Co., grocers, Yarmouth; advertises business for sale.

Bowers & Havey, general storekeepers and fish dealers, Westport, have dissolved.

J. W. Ryan, dealer in dry goods and clothing, Halifax and Kentville, has sold out Halifax business.

## NEW BRUNSWICK.

J. B. Bowser, general storekeeper, Victoria Corner, has assigned.

Jno. Richards & Son, commissioners, Fredericton, have dissolved.

White, McRobbie & Clarke, boot and shoe manufacturers, Sussex, have dissolved.

## Manitoba.

AS HIGH as 74c was paid for wheat at Brandon last week.

MANITOBA has a milling capacity sufficient to turn out 2,500 bbls of flour daily.

THE thaw has destroyed the sleighing throughout the southern portion of the Province.

KELLY & Co's roller mill at Brandon, has been remodelled and fitted up at a cost of about \$12,000.

THE well at Solsgrith is now 350 feet deep, but no water has yet been struck. The drill is now working in hard clay which resembles soap stone.

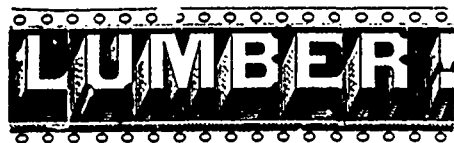
A LARGE quantity of lumber and other building material has been taken from the Birtle Saw Mills to build up the new towns of Solsgrith and Shoal Lake.

NEEPAWA merchants and farmers are agitating for a roller mill of about 50 to 75 bbls capacity with a wheat elevator, to be erected at that place, the small stone grist mill formerly in operation there being shut down.

THE Birtle Observer says:—The delegates from Russel, who waited on the Government the other day, desire that aid will be withheld from the M. & N. W. R'y Co., if the line is not run so as to accommodate the country north of Birtle as was at first intended. It is not always in the power of a Company to decide the exact location of their road, especially when an obstacle such as the valley of the Assiniboine has to be encountered. If the crossing at Shellmouth is as good as the crossing elsewhere the people of that district are fully entitled to the road and will no doubt get it; but if a much better approach and advance to and from the river can be discovered the chances are that the Railway Co. will avail themselves of the advantage.

# BOYD & CROWE,

WHOLESALE DEALERS IN



MAPLE STREET,

## WINNIPEG.

### North-Western Planing Mills

Main St., Opposite C. P. R. Station.

### SASH, DOORS, BLINDS,

And General House Furnishing  
Made to Order.

The Wholesale Trade supplied on the Best  
Terms Orders attended to promptly.

PATERSON & MITCHELL.

### Winnipeg Warehousing Co.

## STORAGE FOR ALL KINDS OF GOODS

BONDED OR FREE.

Customs Government Bond in Building  
Freight advanced. Negotiable Receipts issued  
and Goods Insured. Charges moderate.

Warehouses and Office: POINT DOUGLAS AV. and HIGGINS STREET.

JOHN E. DINGMAN, Acting Manager.

## Winnipeg Elevator Co.

WINNIPEG.

On and after Monday the 28th  
December, the Winnipeg Elevator  
Company will be prepared to  
receive Grain for Storage and  
Clearing.

For terms apply to Winnipeg  
Elevator Co., 5 Owen St.

## N. BAWLF,

WHOLESALE DEALER IN

# Grain, Flour and Feed

Special attention given to

GRAIN EXPORTS.

Cor. Princess & James St. West, WINNIPEG

## City Roller Mills.

### D. H. McMILLAN & BROTHER,

Manufacturers and Dealers in

## ROLLER PROCESS FLOUR,

In the following Grades:

Patents, Strong Bakers, and Spring Extra  
Graham Flour, Cracked Wheat,  
Bran, Shorts, Oats, Barley and Oatmeal.

MILLS: FOOT OF LOMBARD ST.,

WINNIPEG.

## PARSONS & FERGUSON,

### Wholesale Paper Dealers

—AND—

### GENERAL STATIONERS.

AGENTS

**Canada Paper Company,**  
Manufacturers Printing, Wrapping & Writing Papers  
&c., Montreal and Windsor Mills, Quebec.

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

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

GERRIE BLOCK, PRINCESS STREET,  
WINNIPEG.

## MOORE'S CHINA HALL

Direct Importers of

### China, Glass and Earthenware

SILVER-PLATED WARE,

Lamps, Cutlery and General House Furnishings

### MOORE & CO., Proprietors,

Wholesale Warehouse, 21 Albert St. WINNIPEG  
Office and Sample Room, 430 Main St.

Orders by Mail will receive prompt attention.

## THOS. W. TAYLOR,

THE PIONEER PAPER RULER,

AND

### Blank Book Manufacturer,

Of Manitoba and the North-West.

13 OWEN STREET, WINNIPEG, MAN.

## J. H. ASHDOWN,

Wholesale Dealer & Importer of all kinds of

# Shelf and Heavy Hardware,

STOVES AND TINWARE,

PAINTS, OILS AND GLASS,

### Railroad and Mill Supplies

The Trade furnished with our ILLUSTRATED  
CATALOGUE on application.

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# The Commercial

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 10, 1886.

## BARLEY RAISING.

This is the first winter in which Manitoba has had an export surplus of barley so large that shipments to eastern markets became imperative, and it is to be feared that the results of shipments made will not be such as to encourage the raising of that grain for export in future. People are too apt to draw conclusions from the results of first attempts, although these attempts may be very imperfectly made, and we have no reason to believe that in barley raising there will be an exception.

In another part of our columns will be found a letter from Mr. Robert Kerr, traffic manager of the C. P. R., which indicates that there are markets for other grain than wheat raised in the Northwest, and that there is every encouragement held out to farmers here to make an effort to raise prime barley as well as wheat. The letter is well worthy of perusal by those who are directly interested, and can bring influence to bear upon our agriculturists.

It is now admitted by every one that with proper care and cultivation this country can raise heavy crops of the best wheat produced in the world. Yet we have a large proportion of our people who cannot be brought to look upon barley raising as a success either in the quality or financially. This mistaken opinion is based solely upon the experience of old settlers who have given the matter a trial, but in nine out of ten cases such a trial as would insure failure in any country besides this. Hitherto barley sowing has been something like a pastime engaged in by our farmers after every other class of spring work had been completed. Barley was the grain sowed when it was too late to put in either wheat or oats, and was depended upon merely as an item of animal feed, no calculations being made upon raising anything good enough for malting purposes. It is safe to say that ninety per cent. of the barley sown in this country up to the present time was not in the ground before the last week in May, and more than half of it not till after the first of June. Then in harvesting the arrangements have been equally careless and slipshod. When cut barley in days gone by was usually raked into a heap

until it was wanted for threshing, and even of late, when self-binders have put it into sheaves, the work of shocking and stacking was frequently never done, and if done, only when the finish up of every other part of harvest work allowed leisure. In spite of all this carelessness last fall barley was brought to the thresher in fairly good condition, and it seemed as if for once the goodness of providence had triumphed over the farmer's stupidity and obstinacy. But the thresher took sides with the farmer, and the brutal manner in which the work of threshing was done has made the bulk of the brightest barley raised last year unfit for malting purposes, so badly has it been shelled or hulled in the operation. Can anyone wonder that barley shipped east this year brings anything but a high figure in eastern markets?

Now notwithstanding all that old settlers say, we affirm that this is a barley country. We do not say that it can be raised every year in the heavy black soil of the lower Red River valley. But we have millions of acres of loamy lands where a heavy crop can be secured every year, and the quality will depend mainly upon the care taken in its cultivation, harvesting and threshing. But then it must be remembered that barley must be sown almost as early as wheat; must be cut as soon as ready, and must receive special care in shocking, stacking and threshing. The cool summers, long days during the time of ripening and short nights which do not allow of dew-soaking are all climatic advantages in the raising of this grain, and if farmers will only take as much pains with it as they do with wheat they will have no reason to complain about its not being a successful or remunerative crop.

But let us look at the question of profit and a ready market. At present all kinds of grain are low in price. Our No. 1 hard wheat will sell in Montreal at present at or under \$1, and No. 2 at or under 95c. No. 1 Barley will sell in the same market within a few cents of \$1, and No. 2 over 90c. Now the difference in the freight of a bushel of barley and a bushel of wheat from this city to Montreal is fully equal to the difference in the price of the two commodities there, so that No. 1 barley is as valuable in this city for shipping purposes as No. 1 hard wheat. The relative prices are not always as they are now, but it is on the average worth ninety per cent. of prime wheat for

shipping purposes in Winnipeg. Now the farmer who raises No. 1 hard wheat year after year can raise No. 1 barley if he will take as much care and pains, and where he raises thirty bushels of the former he can raise fifty of the latter. With a price per bushel only ten per cent. less, and his yield so much larger his cash returns will be just fifty per cent. more from barley than from wheat. It might be worth a trial by some of our farmers to raise some good barley during the coming season, and if they do so they will repeat the trial or we are far mistaken.

The calculations we have made are based upon a market only in eastern Canada for our barley, but with competition from the United States and reasonable freights to the south the chances of barley raising being profitable are greatly increased.

## HUDSON'S BAY RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION.

There is a strong probability that the construction of the railway from Manitoba to the Hudson's Bay will be commenced during the coming spring, and that the work will be prosecuted with vigor, and without let up until completed, unless when severity of weather will compel a cessation of work.

It is a matter decided that the work of construction will commence from the head of Lake Winnipeg and be pushed onward in a northerly direction until tide-water navigation on the Nelson river is reached. There may be those who will object to this point of commencing construction, and who think that it should commence from the terminus in this province and move by stages northward. That selfishness might suggest such a course there is no doubt, and the the people of Winnipeg more than those of any other place can produce selfish arguments in its favor. But after all we believe the projectors of the road are adopting the wise and sensible course, and even those who see immediate gain in another will eventually be most benefitted by that about to be pursued.

The commencement of construction at the head of Lake Winnipeg is a wise move, because by the construction of less than half of the whole road a summer outlet can be secured, which will furnish a source of earning to the company in a very short time, and commence the practical test of the value of the outlet for commercial purposes.

Then this course is a wise one because it will compel the utilising of our North-western waterways, which has scarcely been attempted as yet, and which will we believe prove them to have a value, for beyond any calculations hitherto made upon them, and ere the construction of the whole road is completed show what a valuable auxiliary they really are to railway facilities.

Then the course is a wise one because it will hurry the opening of an outlet which if only available in summer time will be of value to the whole province; whereas starting construction from Winnipeg or any other point in the province a road would be in progress for several years, which ended at nowhere, opened up no productive country of any consequence, and would be of no material value to anyone until completed unless for the circulation of money which its construction created. Thus looking at the programme of construction we must say that from every view point it gives evidence of wisdom, caution and economy on the part of those who arranged it.

But as we look at the arrangements for utilising Lake Winnipeg in connection with this Hudson's Bay outlet, we naturally incline to ask: But what about the Red River as a feeder to this northern gateway? In almost every calculation made of value of the Hudson's Bay route the grain carrying from Dakota and Minnesota has been counted upon, and indeed the route would lose much of its commercial value if it did not attract a good share of that trade. But then navigation of any practical value for such a traffic reaches no further up the Red River than St. Andrew's Rapids, and from there north to the international boundary the river needs no small share of improvement to make it navigable all the open season for craft large enough to be employed in a carrying trade on Lake Winnipeg. Without these improvements Winnipeg, Emerson and the towns south of our province cannot take advantage of a waterway, and would have to transport all freight by rail to the mouth of the river or at least to Selkirk. Under such circumstances the Hudson's Bay line from the head of Lake Winnipeg to Fort Nelson would be of very little value to the southern portion of Manitoba, and would offer no temptation to grain shippers south of the line. The haul to the lake port would have to be made by the C.P.

R., and so far as freight from all south of fifteen miles this side of the international boundary line is concerned, we would not under the present state of affairs be allowed to build a competing line of rail. Thus the whole United States freight by the Hudson's Bay route could be easily choked off by the managers of the C.P.R., and past experience has taught us how unscrupulous these officials can be when they hold such a power in their hands.

There is no use in trying to hide the fact that until there is independent communication between Manitoba, Minnesota and Dakota, the supplementary trade for a Hudson's Bay railway from the two latter will not make the owners of such a road wealthy. The cheapest and best link of communication is by the Red River with its obstructions removed. A matter of a quarter million of dollars would do that on the Manitoba side, and the efforts being put forth at Washington by our neighbors in Minnesota and Dakota shows that they will not fall short in improving the channel of the river within their territory. Surely private enterprise could take hold of a matter so small as this work in Manitoba, and we might reasonably expect that the Dominion Government would contribute liberally towards the same.

#### PRICES OF FOOD PRODUCTS.

The crash in prices of grain in central markets, which set in with the opening of the present year has dissipated the hopes of many who have been holding on for higher prices, and convinced the bulk of such people that they are doomed to disappointment. Still there are those who grasp at every straw that throws a hopeful tinge, and are persistent in their belief that an advance must soon come.

There is certainly very little foundation for any hope of an advance to be found in the state of the markets on this continent. Even the evident efforts in Chicago to hoist and hold cash wheat above 80c do not seem to have any prospect of success. There continues to be no noticeable decrease in the amount on sight, and bull stories about damage to the winter wheat crop have no effect in producing any firm feeling. As yet it is too early to reach any definite conclusions about the probabilities of yield of winter grain, and it will require a full month yet before the would be prophets can take

hold of spring wheat crops as a subject to make guesses or calculations upon. Grain markets are reduced to a straight view of the supply and demand at home, and have not enough of an export demand to create any interest.

Any hopes real or imaginary which may be indulged in by grain bulls must have their origin in European markets, and an extract from a London letter of date of January 14th, published in the *Winnipeg Free Press* of Friday, gives alleged reasons for a belief in higher prices coming before very long. The decreasing stocks in England, the smallness of the Australian export surplus and other less direct reasons are asserted for the belief or theory. But still the letter is not over enthusiastic on the matter, and admits the necessity for a much firmer feeling in Liverpool before a shipping margin over New York prices can be reached.

Perhaps the prospect held out in this English letter may prove correct, but we must confess that the chances are against its doing so. Stocks may decrease in England, but there is an export surplus still in America beyond the probable wants of the former without having to call in the aid of Australia and India, and experience has taught speculators on this continent that English buyers can be equally as stubborn as American sellers, and with a constantly increasing supply coming from other sources than this continent, they are in a much better position to continue their stubbornness than they were a few years ago.

The only hope of an increased export demand depends upon trade improvement in Britain. The masses of that country can consume a lot of breadstuffs in prosperity, and get along with very little during depression. London riots and soup kitchens prove that the whole country is now down to the lowest level of economy in bread, and that for months to come there is very little hope of any material improvement in this respect. It is not but the masses of the British people require more of our bread products than they are now taking from us. But their demands upon us are not regulated at present by their wants but by their funds and the state of these it is unnecessary to comment further upon. We could wish that the predictions of some of our hopeful people were correct. But as affairs now appear we see very little reason for hopes of higher prices.



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WINNIPEG.

**WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.**

Business at the banks last week moved along in the usual quiet way, and without any feature whatever of more than every day occurrence. The amount of commercial paper falling due was very light and the call for discounts was in proportion. From grain circles there has been but little demand for funds, on account of the light movement and the total stoppage of exportation. The demand for money for regular commercial business has therefore been light all around. Rates of discount have not experienced any change. First class commercial paper is still quoted at 7 per cent; ordinary 7 to 9; promiscuous and one name 9 to 10 per cent. In real estate mortgage loan there has been a slight increase in the number of calls, but nearly all on farm property. Interest on mortgages is still being met in a fairly satisfactory manner, and in this respect the result is beyond the anticipations of agents. Rates of interest are quoted at the old figure of from 8 to 10 per cent, with the bulk of the business done at 9.

**WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.**

The wholesale trade of the city during the past week has been characterised mainly by the commencement of the movement in spring and summer goods. In several lines, namely, dry goods, clothing, small wares and fancy goods, hats etc., a start has been made in the direction of filling orders previously booked for spring delivery, and the next few weeks will witness unusual activity in this respect. In other lines, including lumber, agricultural implements, hardware, etc., a considerable inquiry has set in, and indications point toward an early renewal of activity. The mild and spring-like weather which has prevailed during the week has doubtless had its influence in this direction, and all that is wanted now is a continuation of the same favorable atmospheric condition, to insure a steadily increasing movement in all mercantile commodities. General business is still somewhat hampered by the embargo on the grain trade, and by the delay in the receipt of spring importations. However, a considerable quantity of delayed goods were received during the week, and these are being opened and put in shape as rapidly as possible. In some instances considerable inconvenience is still felt, as some of the goods not yet received are wanted to complete orders that should now be made up. It is hoped that further delays on this account will be of brief duration. In lines not depending on the season there is a slight improvement in the demand, though no particular activity has been displayed. The season's trade in winter goods is now considered about at an end, though there may be an occasional call for very small lots of some sorts, for a while yet. A considerable number of additional orders for spring goods have come to hand during the week, and the outlook continues favorable as to the probable extent of the coming season's trade. The amount of paper falling due has been very light and hardly sufficient to base an opinion as to the state of collection, but the general feeling is that money is closer than last week.

**AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.**

There has been signs of returning life in this branch, the mild weather of the past week having apparently aroused farmers to the fact that it will be but a short time before spring work may be commenced. Numerous inquiries have been coming in, and already a few small orders have been filled for western points. The articles first in demand are plows and harrows. Full supplies will be forwarded to agencies through the province and territories during the present month. Collections are fair.

**BOOTS AND SHOES.**

There is no new feature to note in connection with this branch since our last report. Business is still very quiet and without any improvement over the preceding week. A continuation of mild weather would probably cause a renewal of the demand in some lines, but no very active season is looked for before spring goods commence to move. The amount of paper falling due was very limited, and not sufficient to form an index to the financial situation.

**CLOTHING.**

Dealers are now anxiously awaiting the receipt of their goods to commence shipping spring orders. Goods delayed in transit are now commencing to come to hand, but of course orders cannot be made up until stocks are complete. A few small shipments of spring goods have been made to western points, and the work will commence in earnest right away, or just as soon as the balance of stocks are in. Trade in winter goods is now considered about over for the season. Collections are light.

**CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.**

Some little movement was noticed in this line during the week, which apparently indicates a steady improvement in the demand as the season advances. From this time forward a more active trade will be looked for, should the weather continue favorable. Collections have also improved some.

**DRY GOODS.**

There is now considerable bustle and activity about this branch. Dealers are busy receiving delayed goods and making up orders for shipment as fast as possible. Some orders have already been sent out, and the next few weeks will make a season of unusual activity in this respect, the delay in receiving goods making it necessary to push this work, now that spring importations are arriving. There has been quite an active renewal of the demand for cotton goods, in addition to the regular spring orders. In winter goods the season's trade is now considered over. Collections have been light in amount falling due.

**DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.**

A very steady and fairly active trade is doing. Collections are considered good.

**FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.**

There is only a very light call for immediate wants, and a few small lots are occasionally sent out. Dealers are awaiting the receipt of the balance of their spring importations before they can commence making up and sending out orders now in for spring and summer goods. This work will be actively pushed as soon as stocks are complete. Some orders have already

been forwarded to far western points from such as could be made up from goods now in stock.

**FISH.**

The bulk of the shipping trade in fresh Lake Winnipeg frozen fish is now over for the season. Some lots are still coming in, but the supply in the market is light. Mild weather may also be expected to interfere with shipments to southern points from this time forward. Dealers here received notice last week that hereafter all exports of Manitoba fish to the United States would be subject to a duty of 3c per pound. This new regulation will probably have quite an influence on the export trade henceforth. In salt fish there is very little doing. Prices are unchanged all around, quotations being: whitefish, 5c; pickerel 4c; jackfish 2c. Salt white, \$4 per bbl; Labrador herrings, \$8 per bbl; salmon, \$17 per bbl; mackerel \$1 to \$1.75 per kit; smoked haddocks, 11c per pound.

**FRUITS.**

The mild weather of the past week has given quite a stimulus to trade. Some shipments have been made to the country and a very fair demand has come from the city. There is no new variety of fruit in the market in sufficient quantity to give quotations. A few barrels of Malaga grapes have been brought in, but these are in bad condition and slow sale. Riverside oranges will arrive next week. Apples have been in good demand, at quotations. A few new lots have been received from Chicago, but stocks imported last fall are large and considered quite sufficient to supply all demands during the season. Stocks of cranberries are large and prices have been cut. Quotations are as follows: Messina oranges, \$6.50; Floridas \$7.00 to \$7.50 per box. California pears are worth \$4.50 per box; Apples are in good supply and are worth about \$4 to \$4.50 per bbl for good qualities. Messina lemons, \$6.50 to \$7 per box; cranberries, \$8 to \$8.50; Valencia raisins, \$3.75; London layer raisins, \$4 to \$4.25; black crown, \$5 to \$5.25 walnuts, 15c a lb; almonds, 20c; filberts, 12c; pecans, 16c; peanuts, 15c for roasted and 12c for raw; figs 18c to 2c and dates 10c a lb. Apple cider, \$10 per bbl.

**FURNITURE.**

A few small orders have been sent out to provincial points, but business continues very quiet and with very little improvement in the demand. Anything approaching an active movement is not looked for before spring sets in in earnest. Collections are slow.

**FUEL.**

The mild weather of the past week has caused a decided diminution in the movement of fuel. Farmers have been offering wood extensively on the market, which has operated against dealers in the city. Prices are unchanged for both coal and wood, as follows: poplar \$3.50; oak \$5.75; tamarac \$4.75. Prices are for car lots, delivered. On track, 75c per cord less than above. Hard coal is worth \$10.25, and soft \$8. Galt coal sells at \$7.50 on track.

**GROCERIES.**

There has been a very steady and quiet feeling in this branch for some time, and the aggregate trade movement has not been up to the

expectations of dealers, though fully as good as last year. Sugar has been steady and quiet, with an easier feeling at outside markets. Syrups and molasses are firm and higher. Teas firm and steady. Very heavy importations of teas have been made at eastern Canadian points in anticipation of an increase in the customs duties on the opening of Parliament. Canned goods are firm and quiet. Stocks of domestic are said to be very low at canneries, and higher prices are expected. Collections rather backward. Quotations as follows: Sugars, raw 6½c, yellow 6½ to 7c; granulated 8½c; lump 9½ to 9c. Coffees, Rio, 13 to 15c; Government Java 32 to 33c, other Javas 22 to 27c; Mochas 31 to 34c. Teas range, Moyune gunpowder 25 to 70c; pan-fried Japan 23 to 45c, basket-fired 25 to 40c, Ping Suey young hyson 20 to 30c; Moyune young hyson 25 to 50c; Season's congous, 1885-86, 20 to 55c.

#### HARDWARE AND METALS.

There has been some movement in light hardware, but business is still very quiet. In heavy hardware there has been no demand, and metals are neglected. Builders supplies are not called for. Collections fair. Prices are as follows: Cut nails, 10d and larger \$3.50 to \$3.75; I. C. tin plates, \$5.50 to \$5.75; I. C. tin plates, double, \$11 to \$11.50; Canada plates, \$3.50 to \$3.75; sheet iron, \$3 to \$4.50, according to grade; iron pipe, 40 to 50 per cent. off list prices; ingot tin, 25 to 30c per lb., according to quality, bar iron, \$2.50 to \$3 per 100 lb; shoe, 6 to 6½c a lb; tarred felt, \$2.50 to \$2.75 per 100 lbs.

#### LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

Trade quiet and unchanged. Prices are: Spanish sole, 31 to 33c; slaughter sole, 33 to 35c; French calf, first choice, \$1.40 to \$1.50; domestic, 85c; B Z kip, \$1 to \$1.10; French kip, \$1 to \$1.10; B Z kip, 85 to 90c; slaughter kip, 65 to 75c; No. 1, wax upper, 50c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, 33 to 35c for plumb stock; American oak sole, 50c.

#### LUMBER.

There has been considerable inquiry for lumber and building material during the past week the mild weather having induced some calculation as to future wants. Actual sales, however, have been few, principally for western points.

#### PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS.

Trade is generally quiet and without much change since last report. Some movement is looked for shortly. Prices are steady and unchanged as follows: turpentine 7½c; linseed oil, raw 75c per gal., boiled 78c; seal oil, steam refined, \$1.10; castor, 15c per lb; lard No 1, \$1.25 per gal; olive, \$1.50 to \$2, according to quality; machine oils, black 55c; oleine, 40c; fine qualities, 50 to 75c. Coal oils, head-light, 25c; water white, 30c. Calcined plaster, \$4.25 per bbl; Portland cement, \$5; white lead, genuine 7.75; No 1 \$6.75; No 2, \$5.25 and window glass first break, \$2.50.

#### SADDLERY AND HARNESS.

There has been some improvement noticeable in this branch, the mild weather having probably something to do with it. Manufacturing for spring delivery is going on actively. Collections slow.

#### STATIONERY AND PAPER.

A very steady business is doing and without specially important features. Dealers have been considerably hampered by delays in the receipt of goods. Collections fair.

#### WINES AND SPIRITS.

Trade continues dull and depressed, with but few and light orders coming in from both the city and country. Quotations are as follows: Gooderman & Wort's five year old, \$2.75; 7 year old, \$3.25; old rye, \$1.80; Jules Robin brandy, \$4.50; Bisquet Dehouche & Co., \$4.75; Martell, \$6 Hennessy, \$6.50; DeKuyper gin, \$2.75; Port wine, \$2.25 and upwards; Sherry, \$2.25 and upwards; Jamaica rum, \$3.50; DeKuyper red gin, \$11 per case; DeKuyper green gin, \$6 per case; Martell and Hennessy's brandy \$13.50 per case of 12 bottles.

## THE MARKETS.

### WINNIPEG.

#### GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

The grain market here has made little progress since our last report, and there has been but slight change of any nature in the situation. The embargo on our export trade, through the refusal of the C. P. R. to receive grain for transport to points east of Port Arthur still remains, and is causing no slight inconvenience to dealers and injury to our general trade interests. The officials of the Company promise a speedy removal of the difficulty, and expect soon to have a sufficient number of cars on hand to enable them to resume shipping. In the meantime dealers do not care about taking the risk of purchasing largely until they can ship through. Some lots are being sent through to Port Arthur for storage in the elevators there, and a quantity is also going into store in the city, but as a rule deliveries by farmers are being held at country points. These deliveries have not been large, probably on account of an expectation on the part of farmers that prices will be higher when shipping is resumed, though there is really nothing at present on which to base such expectation. There is no other reason from which to account for light deliveries by farmers at provincial points. Buying is going on just as actively as if through shipments could be made, and the weather has been very favorable to the hauling of grain to market, though the recent thaw has made the roads pretty bare of snow in some parts of the country. In provisions there is a firmer feeling though the demand has kept about stationary. Hog products are quoted higher all around. Dairy products are steady and not materially changed.

#### WHEAT.

The movement has been light during the week though receipts have probably been slightly augmented, but not to any material extent. Farmers seem to be disposed to hold their grain, probably anticipating higher prices later on, when the freight blockade is raised, consequently deliveries at country points have not increased much during the week. There has been no through shipping of course, and dealers do not care about moving their grain until they can run it right through. Receipts in the city and for transport to Port Arthur for storage have therefore been light. There has been a good demand for the higher grades for local

milling purposes, and deliveries of these qualities have been a trifle freer. Shippers have been greatly hampered in their operations on account of the freight restriction on exportation. So far they have not complained, thinking the blockade would be of short duration, but should it last much longer patience will cease to be a virtue with them. Prices still hold at the advance of last week. Quotations for car lots on track here being as follows: No. 1 hard 80c; No. 2 75c; No. 1 northern 75c; No. 2 70c; No. 3 60c. Frosted lots are worth from 30 to 50c, according to quality. At provincial points a good sample is now quoted at from 65 to 70c, and at some points a higher figure has been paid, but this has been on account of local competition.

#### FLOUR.

The feeling has been quiet generally, though there is probably about the average city trade doing. Some shipments have also been made to western points. There is very little demand from the east, and at present low prices, there is no encouragement for shipping. All the mills in the city are running full force and the output is going into store. Prices are unchanged as follows: patents \$2.45; strong bakers, \$2.15; XXXX \$1.70, and superfine \$1.30 to \$1.40.

#### BRAN AND SHORTS.

There has been no change in prices for these products. A good local demand prevails for both bran and shorts. Prices are, \$8 per ton for bran and \$9 for shorts.

#### OATMEAL.

The local demand continues satisfactory, and some improvement is noted. Prices are quoted at the same figures of \$2.25 for standard and \$2.50 for granulated.

#### POTATOES.

There is no movement reported, though milder weather may bring some out. The quotation of from 35 to 40c is merely nominal.

#### EGGS.

Only an ordinary demand. Prices have not materially changed, though the feeling is easier. Quotations are from 25 to 26c for strictly fresh.

#### CHEESE.

In this product there has been a moderate demand, principally for the home manufacture. Prime is quoted at the unchanged price of 10½ to 11c, and medium at 9½ to 10c. Ontario manufacture now in the market is worth 11c.

#### BUTTER.

The demand has been less active and the feeling is easier. Stocks have been replenished and are ample for all wants. The principal demand is from the city trade for choice qualities with some call for medium for shipment west. Prime is now quoted at from 20 to 22c, and medium from 12½ to 18c. Inferior lots could probably be obtained at from 8c upwards.

#### OATS.

Receipts of these have been even more limited than during last week, and as a consequence of this the tone has been firm and prices well maintained. There has been an active demand from the city for feeding qualities, and with light receipts, prices have again advanced. Farmers seem to be holding their surplus stocks with the expectation of realizing something like last spring's prices. But of course there is no reasonable ground whereon to base a likelihood of anything like such prices. Prices are now considerably above export value, quotations being from 28 to 30c on track.

#### BARLEY.

There has been nothing doing in this grain outside of local wants. A few cars have been received for malting purposes here, and some feeding qualities have also been in request, but aside from this there has been no movement. Deliveries at country points have been next to nothing. Prices are unchanged and are quoted as follows: No. 3 30c; No. 3 extra 36 to 37c; No. 2 45c; rejected 23 to 25c.

BACON.

A fair demand has existed from the city, and light country trade. The feeling is firmer and prices have been advanced all around except for old dry salt, stocks of which latter are now about exhausted. Quotations are: dry salt 8½ to 9c; smoked 9½ to 9¾c; rolls 12c; breakfast bacon 12c; old dry salt 7c.

HAMS.

There is no change to note in this product, the invariable quotation still being 13c.

MESS PORK.

Still quiet but higher. Prices range from \$15.50 to \$16.00.

MESS BEEF.

Light demand at the unchanged quotation of \$15 per bbl.

LARD.

No change to note in prices. Quotations are: \$2.10 per pail; or 10c per lb for tierces.

DRESSED HOGS.

The supply still keeps fairly up to the demand, though not as liberal as during the early part of last month. Prices are firmer and slightly higher, the quotations being from \$4.75 to \$5.30.

DRESSED POULTRY.

Stocks here now been considerably reduced and prices are firmer for choice. Turkeys are now worth 12½c to 15c; chickens 10 to 12c; geese 19c; ducks 12c. Old stocks of off-color can be had at lower prices.

OYSTERS.

Only a moderate trade and unchanged, cans are worth 40c for plain select, and 50c for extra. Bulk sell at \$2 to \$3 per gallon.

MINNEAPOLIS.

The local wheat market has been fully as dull and featureless as any other during the past week. The bulls seem to be disgusted because the visible supply does not decrease over a million a week, while the bears are growling because they don't seem to be able to put prices down 5 to 10c. Close observers confess that the salient features of the situation are weak, and while they will not say they expect or apprehend a heavy decline, they are inclined to consider any sort of a bull movement dangerous, although crop scares and war rumors will have much to do with prices for the next sixty days.

"I don't look for an active market, or a heavy advance this month," said a veteran trader, "but wheat will go up one of these days with a bang. I consider it very good property at present prices. The millers are getting under the market on the quiet, and they know when to take hold."

"The millers are buying only what they must have for daily consumption," said another. "Hardly half a dozen do anything on the Chicago or Duluth boards, and these have been out of wheat for some time. They have made a profitable deal or two in port, I believe."

Receipts for the week were about up to late averages, but shipments were double those of the two previous weeks, and seem likely to be heavier from this on.

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

	Feb. 11.	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing 1885.
Wheat. No. 1 hard..	\$7½	..	\$6½	.. \$7½
				\$2

No. 1 north'n 86 ..	84½ ..	86	79
" 2 ..	77½ ..	76 ..	77½ 73

MILLSTUFF.—Bran is scarce, strong and in active demand, being quoted at \$9.50 to \$10 per ton in bulk and shorts at \$9 to \$10.

FLOUR.—There is not much life in the flour market. Export inquiry is quite brisk, but the prices offered are, in the main, so far below cost that millers cannot accept them. "About all that is being done abroad just now," said a miller, "is to keep our flour in the market. Demand is light and prices so low that we can only accept an occasional small order to keep our flour in stock in the leading foreign markets. The domestic demand for patents is so good that it takes all we are making at present." Other grades are not in active request and millers are troubled to prevent an undue accumulation.

Quotations for car or round lots at the mills are as follows: Patents, \$4.70 to \$4.85; straights, \$4.40 to \$4.60; first bakers', \$3.70 to \$3.90; second bakers' \$3.10 to \$3.25; best low grades, \$2.10 to \$2.25, in bags; red dog, \$1.50 to \$1.60, in bags.

These quotations are on flour in barrels, except as stated. The rule is to discount 30c per bbl for 250 and 140 lb jute bags, 20c for 125 lb cotton sacks, 15c for 45 lb cotton sacks, 12c for 24 lb cotton sacks, and 2c for 45 lb paper sacks.

The features of the milling situation in Minneapolis this week are a better power, and an improvement, though slight, in the demand for flour. The power for the closing half of last week was considerably better than during the preceding three days, and the operation of the mills was much more satisfactory. The flour production for the week ending Feb. 6 was 59,454 bbls—averaging 14,909 for the 6 days—against 58,480 bbls the preceding week, and \$3,300 for the corresponding time in 1885. Bright sunshine and mellow weather for several days was not without its effect on the supply of water, and since Monday there has been a sufficient head to drive an increased proportion of the milling capacity. As a result those mills whose turn it was to lie idle this week are running off and on, as the stage of water justifies. This noon there were twelve mills in operation, and their output probably reached 14,000 bbls. Steam power is used in only one mill, the engine employed to drive one-half of another of large capacity having been closed down. There is more of an inclination on the part of buyers to buy flour, but they want it at prices that millers do not feel justified in selling freely at. Patents are in better demand than lower grades.

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

	RECEIPTS.		
	Feb. 9.	Feb. 2.	Jan. 26.
Wheat, bus ..	477,630	518,000	404,880
Flour, bbl ..	—	250	355
Millstuff, tons ..	137	174	56

	SHIPMENTS.		
	Feb. 9.	Feb. 2.	Jan. 26.
Wheat, bus ..	\$2,320	34,160	26,880
Flour, bbls ..	79,959	\$3,194	77,575
Millstuff, tons ..	3,614	2,844	2,625

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

MINNEAPOLIS.

	Feb. 8.	Feb. 1.
No. 1 hard ..	1,723,524	1,738,429
No. 1 northern ..	1,720,623	1,735,871
No. 2 northern ..	834,443	858,588
No. 3 ..	12,557	10,252
Rejected ..	55,579	44,012
Special bins ..	1,454,758	1,407,180

5,790,884 5,854,362

ST. PAUL.

	Feb. 10.	Feb. 3.	Jan. 27.
In elevators - bush ..	1,132,000	1,156,000	1,172,000

DULUTH.

	Feb. 8.	Feb. 1.	Jan. 25.
In store, bus. ..	5,533,344	5,497,890	5,442,046
Afloat, bus. ..	124,521	124,521	124,525

Total, bus. .. 5,657,765 5,622,411 5,567,571  
—Northwest Miller.

CHICAGO.

Another uneventful week has been closed in the grain market here, and as far as may be judged from the present aspect the situation is practically unchanged. No feature of any important nature occurred during the entire week to influence prices to any material extent. Each day was characterized by about the same range of prices and fluctuations. These fluctuations have been confined within exceedingly narrow limits, the closing quotations for the week only showing an extreme variation of ½c. between the maximum and minimum prices reached on any particular day. The closing for the week is at the top figure. Cables were of an unimportant nature and often conflict, but the general tendency showed no improvement in the demand for wheat on the other side of the Atlantic. A good deal of speculation was indulged in as to the likely decrease in the visible supply and estimates were generally found to be over the mark, which always had a depressing effect on the market when the official figures were made known. It is expected that from this time forward the decrease will be more rapid. Exportation to Europe has gone on in about the same regular way, although several reports of an increase in the amount of wheat on passage or preparing therefore, have come from New York. These have not yet been sufficiently authentic and heavy to exercise much influence on the market. Corn and oats have been quiet and steady during the most of the week, but towards the close were active and higher, especially in corn. The provision market has been dull and easy as a rule, though prices are not very materially changed from the general ruling of the previous week.

On Monday the wheat market opened comparatively strong, at about Saturday's closing prices, and soon advanced from ½ to ¾c. On receipt of the news that the decrease in the visible supply was only 700,000 bushels, a figure considerably below the bull estimate on Saturday, the market weakened. May sold down ¾c, but again revived and regained part of the decline, remaining steadily at about 85c. Toward the close of the morning session wheat again broke, selling down ¾c. In the afternoon

a series of fluctuations followed, May closing at 84½c. Corn and oats were strong and higher. Provisions were dull and lower. Lard easier. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	Mar.
Wheat .. .. .	\$0.79½	\$0.79½
Corn .. .. .	36½	36½
Oats .. .. .	28½	28½
Pork .. .. .	10.97½	11.00
Lard .. .. .	6.07½	6.12½

On Tuesday wheat opened at a decline of ½c, and advanced during the first two hours about ½c. Toward the close the market became easier and stood at about opening figures. In the afternoon there was little change, but the close was a fraction higher. The feeling throughout the day was one of depression, and at no time was there any active trading. Corn and oats were quiet and unchanged. Pork and lard dull and lower. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	Mar.
Wheat .. .. .	78½	79½
Corn .. .. .	36½	36½
Oats .. .. .	28½	28½
Pork .. .. .	10.90	10.92½
Lard .. .. .	6.05	6.07½

Wheat again opened lower on Wednesday, but the feeling was stronger and soon manifested itself in an advance of 1c. At this figure the upward movement met with a check, and after a time eased off a fraction. In the afternoon an advance of ½c took place, and closed a shade lower than the highest figure reached. The general feeling was stronger and the bulls talked loudly of a permanent advance to a higher range of prices. Corn was firmer and in better demand, transactions being larger than for many days. Provisions were also strong, and pork made a gain of 10 to 15c. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	Mar.
Wheat .. .. .	\$0.79½	\$0.80½
Corn .. .. .	36½	37
Oats .. .. .	28½	29
Pork .. .. .	11.12½	11.12½
Lard .. .. .	6.10	6.12½

Wheat opened about ½c lower on Thursday, and for a time free selling was indulged in. Later, however, the market stiffened up and prices advanced two points. Brokers bought freely, and a considerable quantity of long wheat came out. The general feeling was bullish, and the bears evidenced little concern. In the afternoon speculation was at a discount, and prices went down ½. Corn was active and higher. Provisions opened strong and higher, but closed decidedly weak. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	Mar.
Wheat .. .. .	\$0.79½	\$0.79½
Corn .. .. .	36	37
Oats .. .. .	29½	29½
Pork .. .. .	11.02½	11.02½
Lard .. .. .	6.07½	6.10

On Friday wheat opened at about yesterday's closing figures, with good buying and a firmer feeling. Then the change came and prices declined ½c. After this there was little disposition to do business and the feeling was nervous and uncertain. In corn speculation was lively, May advancing ½c to 41c. Oats were firm and

high. Pork was more active and firmer, and lard strong. Closing quotations were:

	Feb.	Mar.
Wheat .. .. .	\$0.79½	\$0.79½
Corn .. .. .	36½	37
Oats .. .. .	29½	29½
Pork .. .. .	11.17½	11.17½
Lard .. .. .	6.12½	6.15

On Saturday wheat ruled quiet and steady. Fluctuations were narrow, prices closing the same as Friday. Corn and oats were steady and unchanged. Provisions were dull and lower. Pork and lard closed lower. Prices were:

	Feb.	Mar.
Wheat .. .. .	\$0.79½	\$0.79½
Corn .. .. .	36½	37
Oats .. .. .	29½	29½
Pork .. .. .	11.10	11.12½
Lard .. .. .	6.10	6.12½

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

The local stock market has experienced a fairly active week. The leading bank stocks have been firm, and the closing higher all round as compared with one week ago. Ontario is quoted a fraction lower, which is the single instance of a decline, and in this case the difference only amounts to ¼. Federal has made the most marked advance. Miscellaneous and loan and savings stocks were generally steady, with a fair number of transactions. Sales of N. W. Land were made at all the way from 78½ to 80. Ontario & Qu'Appelle sold at 53, or 1½ higher. C. P. Railway sold at 64½, ½ higher, in sympathy with London cables of ½ higher:

	Feb. 3.	Feb. 10.
Montreal .. .. .	205½	207½
Ontario .. .. .	109½	109½
Toronto .. .. .	188	191
Merchants' .. .. .	117½	119
Commerce .. .. .	121	124
Imperial .. .. .	132½	133
Federal .. .. .	103	108½
Dominion .. .. .	204	206½
Standard .. .. .	121	122
Hamilton .. .. .	126	127½
Northwest Land .. .. .	79	79½

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

There has been no material change in the grain market here since last report, the past week having been characterized only by a continuation of the dullness and inactivity previously noted. Very little disposition has been shown from any quarter to do business. Holders have not attempted to press sales and have not been inclined to make concessions, consequently prices have been held pretty steady at last quotations, and the market has maintained a fairly firm tone, though devoid of any active feature. Receipts have been light, and stocks in store have not increased to any perceptible extent. Provisions have been steady and quiet.

WHEAT

There has been little activity displayed in the wheat market during the week, and business transacted light. The few buyers in the market were looking for purchases at a reduction, but holders generally refused to make concessions. Prices are, however, easier, and quotations something under last week. Red winter

sold at about 80c. No. 2 fall was worth about 81c, and No. 2 spring 82c, on track.

FLOUR.

Has been dull and featureless, and without change in the situation. Sales were made at \$3.60 for superior extra and \$3.50 for extra.

OATS.

Have been rather unsettled in price, and supplies light, with a good demand. Sales were made at from 33 to 34c, the latter for white.

BARLEY.

This market has been practically dead so far as the amount offering was concerned, though the demand has probably been better. The inquiry, however, was for the higher grades, and these are not to be had. Nos. 1 and 2 were not offered. Extra No. 3 sold at 71c, with little to be had. No. 3 choice sold at from 65 to 65½c. No. 3 was worth about 58c.

PEAS.

Have been in steady demand and with more liberal offerings. No. 2 sold at 59c.

POTATOES.

Have not been handled to any extent, on account of damage from frost. The quotation is still 50c in car lots on track. Some lots offered were found to be frozen, and were consequently rejected.

APPLES.

There has been no change in these, and but few transactions. Prices are from \$1.75 to \$2.25 in car lots.

EGGS.

Fresh have been easier on account of increasing receipts, and prices tend downward. Early in the week prices were about 20c, but later on dealers would not pay over 19c.

BUTTER.

There was a spasmodic season of activity in the medium grades toward the close of last week, but prices realized were low. A large lot of fair store-packed sold at 7c, and another lot at 6c. Other sales were made of inferior at from 5 to 7c. The demand was soon satisfied, and low and medium grades were as quiet as ever, with the market still overstocked. Choice has been very scarce and in active demand at 15 to 17c. Choice rolls were worth 12 to 14c, and inferior slow at 8c.

CHEESE.

There has been a fair demand for choice, in small lots, with medium quiet. Quotations are from 6 to 9½c, according to quality and quantity taken.

PORK.

has been firmer with sales in small lots at \$14.

BACON.

The supply of hogs has dropped off suddenly and packing has been checked, leaving stocks on hand light. This has given the market a firmer tone, though actual business has been slow. Long clear has sold in cases at 7c; Cumberland quiet at 6½c; rolls 8½ to 9c, and bellies 10½ to 11c.

HAMS.

have been quiet and unchanged in price, at 10½ to 11c.

LARD.

Sales of tinnets were made at 8½c, and one large lot of pails at the same figure. Usual quotations were 8½c for tinnets and 9 to 9½c for pails.

POULTRY.

Receipts very light. Prices are: turkeys 10c; geese 6 to 7½c; ducks 65 to 75c and chickens 45 to 55c per pair.

The Public Works Construction Act is still in operation in the Nipigon district, north shore of Lake Superior, which prohibits the sale of liquor. The people want the act removed, here being no longer any necessity for it.

## COMMUNICATION.

To the Editor of the Commercial:

DEAR SIR,—From correspondence that is being addressed to this Company by large brewers in the United States, it would appear that they are now looking to the Northwest for a supply of the best qualities of barley.

The Anheuser-Busch Brewing Association of St. Louis, Mo., writes as follows: "The composition of the ground and the climatic conditions in a great part of the Northwest territories being favorable to growing a fine grade of barley, and our annual purchases of this grain being one million bushels, we would kindly solicit you to instruct your local agents to inform the growers and shippers of barley in their respective localities that this association will be in the market for next year's crop, and we invite them to send samples of the best grades, as we buy no other, with price quotations, etc."

I think this is a matter of such deep concern to Manitoba and the Northwest that I feel warranted in asking you to give the subject full publicity, with a view of giving farmers early notice that a crop of good barley well harvested will command a ready market.

Yours truly,

ROBT. KERB,

Gen. Freight Agent.

## Manitoba and Northwest.

FRESH eggs are being freely marketed at Stonewall.

PLOWING was going on near Medicine Hat on February 6th.

Two more ranches are to be started at Maple Creek, N. W. T.

STONEWALL merchants are crying out against the credit system.

A 750 pound bell has been placed in the fire hall at Rat Portage.

A STAGE line has been established between Brandon and Cherry Creek.

A ROLLER rink will be erected at Manitou, by J. W. Bethune, of Brandon.

DAN McDONALD has a contract for getting out 30,000 ties at Rat Portage.

THE twenty-four o'clock system will shortly be introduced on the C. P. Railway.

DAILY trains will be run on the Manitoba Northwestern after the 1st of March.

MR. FRAZER of Binscarth arrived yesterday at Solsgirth with 150 sheep direct from Ontario.

THE new roller flour mill at Virden is now completed. Dier, Squair & Craig are the proprietors.

THE Government has sent a large supply of clothing and blankets to the Indians near Edmonton.

AN eastern drummer has arrived at Macleod with samples of straw hats, and the local paper thinks it premature.

At a public meeting held at Stonewall on Tuesday last, it was resolved to petition the council to submit a by-law to the electors, granting \$10,000 bonus towards the erection of a roller flour mill.

THE C.P.R. earnings for the week ending Feb. 7th, show an increase of \$9,000 over the same week last year.

TRANSIENT traders will hereafter pay a license of \$25 per day for the privilege of selling their wares at Port Arthur.

THE buildings at Cartwright will be moved to the station, which has been located a short distance from the old town.

SEVERAL American gentlemen are said to be investigating the mining capabilities of the Lake of the Woods district.

MR. MORRISON, of Medicine Hat, is in Ontario for the purpose of buying 800 heifers for his ranche near that place.

THE snow has nearly all disappeared from around New Westminster, B. C., and the fields begin to look green once more.

ROISSEVIAN, better known as Cherry Creek, terminus of the C.P.R. Southwestern, now contains about forty buildings.

It is rumored that a pail and broom factory will be started in connection with the provincial penitentiary at Stony Mountain.

SHEEP in the ranching districts are said to be in prime condition, although they have so far picked their own living without assistance.

THE papers at Fort Qu'Appelle and Qu'Appelle Station (Troy) are quarreling as to which place has the better right to use the name Qu'Appelle.

THE grain warehouse at Pilot Mound is completed and grain is coming in at the rate of about 2,000 bushels of wheat and 700 bushels of oats per day.

OVER 30,000 bushels of wheat were taken in by the Portage Milling Co., at Portage la Prairie, during the last two weeks, on account of the bulge in prices.

THE C.P.R. Co. surveyors are expected to locate the new town of Pilot Mound this week, after which the buildings from the old town will be removed to the new site.

THE Macleod Gazette wants the Indians fed on home-grown beef, which they prefer to the more expensive American bacon and salt pork now supplied them by the Government.

TRACKLAYING on the Manitoba Southwestern is completed to the end of the grading and the stations are being located. It has been decided to place Treherne station at the northeast corner of sec. 6, tp. 8, range 9, better known as Willet's corner. The Company will be ready to ship grain this week.

A NEW mining company, composed of Toronto, London, Ont., and United States capitalists is now being organized by J. C. Young of Port Arthur. The company will have a capital of twenty thousand dollars, and is formed for the purpose of purchasing mining claims and operating in the Thunder Bay district.

It is stated that the Indians prefer black tea rather than the green which is portioned out to them by the Government. They have acquired a taste for the former on account of that kind having been always sold them by the Hudson's Bay Co. As the black tea will cost no more, there seems to be no reason why they should not get it.

It is not yet known what action will be taken by the C.P.R. Co. during the coming summer, towards extending either of both of the Southwestern branches. Settlers beyond the termini of the two lines are agitating for farther extension, and deputations have waited on the officials of the company here, but no definite answers have yet been given.

NOTICE is given in the Canada Gazette of an application to Parliament by the Manitoba & Northwestern Railway Company, for amendments to their charter to enable them to cancel second mortgage bonds and to issue five per cent. preferred stock, with interest non-accumulative and payable after the interest on the first mortgage bond is paid.

NELSON, which was once a prosperous place and one of the first towns started in Manitoba, is now a deserted hamlet. The newspaper is no longer there, the land office is removed, the mills are burned and most of the houses have been taken to Morden, a town on the southwestern branch of the C.P.R. a few miles distant, and all this from the location of a railway station close by.

THE new town of Killarney, on the C. P. R. Southwestern extension, is located on sec. 2, tp. 3, r. 17. The town at present consists of two general stores, owned by Messrs. Kirkpatrick and Bird & Co.; two temporary hotels, and a livery stable owned by Mr. Rolson; a blacksmith shop owned by Mr. McLeod. There is also a hotel in course of construction, as also a couple of private houses. Mr. McMillan has built a grain warehouse, and both Ogilvie and the Winnipeg Elevator Co. have buyers here, who are handling about two cars per day. Messrs Griffin and Douglass have also an agent here who is offering the farmers a good price for pork. There are also two lumber yards owned by Messrs. Davis and Rolson, and the general feeling is that there are enough in the town at present to do all the business offering.

## Wake up Canada Pacific.

It is to be hoped that because the Government of the country is at the back of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, they do not imagine themselves so secure, that it matters not whether they are particular or not regarding the interests or convenience of the Public. But be that as it may, we have a bone to pick with the management of this corporate body of common carriers—Government or no Government at its back. It has come to the knowledge of the *Trade Bulletin* that freight shipped from Port Arthur on December 21st 1885 for Montreal, arrived here on January 31st 1886, being just 31 days in transit. But goods shipped from Montreal to Winnipeg it seems have fared still worse. What's the matter? Is it for want of sufficient rolling stock, that such unaccountable delays have occurred, or is it the result of a careless happy-go-lucky sort of management which can afford to take things easy so long as it has the Government at its back? Thank goodness, our merchants have two strings to their bow between Montreal and Winnipeg. Wake up Canada Pacific! or the Grand Trunk will "put a head on ye", srre.—*Trade Bulletin*.

### Commercial Summary.

Special telegrams to *Bradstreet's* indicate that the continued snowstorm south, west and northwest has checked the movement of merchandise more seriously than at the east. The very low temperature has raised doubts as to the condition of western range cattle. The country roads at the interior have in many localities again become impassable, and country merchants find business at a low point. The late snow blockade on western railroads at Iowa shipping points has been renewed. The leading distributing centers east and west, with the exception of Cleveland, Chicago and Milwaukee, report general trade less active than one week ago. At Philadelphia a decline in the volume of merchandise distributed is admitted, though traders there continue hopeful of a good spring trade with an early return of moderate weather. There has been no gain or loss worth mentioning in any of the more important lines at Boston, while at Baltimore the distribution has clearly been light, although improving somewhat. At Chicago mail orders for reassortment stocks of dry goods have prevented special dullness, and a like record is given by other leading lines there. At the east dry goods are moving less freely from commission houses, prints and ginghams being most in demand. There is a fair demand for woolen goods from clothiers. Print cloths are reported slightly weaker at nominally unchanged prices. Wool is in moderate request at the seaboard markets, and late contracts by manufacturers to produce heavy-weight goods indicate probable purchases of raw material to a stimulating extent. The movement of boots and shoes has not been quite so brisk, owing to efforts to obtain an advance of from 2½ to 5 per cent. The general industrial situation may be characterized as in some respects better than for two years past, but manufacturers in many cases are reported to refrain from new ventures through fears of dictation on the part of labor organizations. The prices and demand for pig-iron are unchanged at the east. There has been a slight advance west, owing to the increase in railway freight rates. Steel rails are plainly weak. This is explained, as are the late orders of British steel rails from the United States, by the complaint made through *Bradstreet's* to-day that certain American rail mills have been turning out low-grade rails to the prejudice of the home product. The wheat market has been lower and higher again. On the Pacific coast an excellent crop outlook and heavy stocks have depressed wheat. Corn and oats have been steady and higher. Grocery staples are depressed, the movement of coffee and sugar being behind that of last year. Tea is slightly improved. Cheese is easier and dull and butter is nominal. The total number of failures in the United States reported to *Bradstreet's* this week number 288, a decrease of 49, and as compared with 330 in the first week of February, 1885, 257 in 1884, 256 in 1883 and 194 in 1882. Canada had 34 failures this week, against 30 last week, 38 in the like week of 1885, 33 in 1884, 34 in 1883 and 11 in 1882. The total number of failures in the United States in 1886 to date is; 1,672, against

1,958 for a like period in 1885, a decrease of 300, and as compared with 1,598 in 1884, 1,480 in 1883 and 964 in 1882.—*Bradstreet's*.

### Recent Legal Decisions.

**SAVINGS BANK—PASS-BOOK—NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENT.**—A recent decision of the New York Court of Appeals is to the effect that a savings bank pass-book is not a negotiable paper, and that its possession in itself constitutes no evidence of a right to draw money thereon. *Smith vs. Brooklyn Savings Bank*, reported in the *Albany Law Journal*. The pass-book, according to the court, imports a liability of the bank to the depositor for the money deposited and an agreement to pay it at such time and in such manner as he shall direct. In the case referred to the defendant bank paid a depositor's money to a stranger who had possession of his pass-book, and sought to justify such payment under a by-law, printed in the pass-book at the time it was delivered to the depositor, as follows: "All deposits and drafts must be entered in the pass-book at the time of the transaction, and all payments made by the bank upon the presentation of the pass book entered therein will be regarded as binding upon the depositor. Money may also be drawn upon the written order of the depositor or his attorney when accompanied by the pass-book." The court held that, assuming that the mere acceptance by the depositors of a pass-book containing a by-law regulating the manner of making deposits and payments constituted a contract between the parties, yet the by-law referred to could not be construed to justify a payment to a third party unless a written order accompanied the pass-book.

**STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION—TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS—LEASE.**—Where a firm doing business under the name of a deceased partner rented part of their store in New York, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania held (*Sparrow vs. Kohn*) that the lease was not void under a New York statute prohibiting the transaction of business in the name of a person not interested in the firm. The court took the ground that the making of the lease was not transacting business within the meaning of the New York statute. The court cited a decision of the Court of Appeals of New York, in which it was held that the object of the statute in question was to prevent individuals engaged in business from continuing to use the name of a member of the firm with whom such person had been associated after such member had retired from the concern, or of using the name of a person not interested in such firm, and thus to induce credit to be given by those trading with such persons and to impose on the public. Quoting this opinion, the Pennsylvania court said: We are of opinion that in leasing this property the plaintiffs were not transacting business within the meaning of the New York statute. They were not real estate agents or brokers in any sense. They were in the millinery and straw goods business. The leasing of a part of their premises was not even an ordinary incident of their business; it was done because it happened to be vacant. The act was never intended to cover such a case as this, and as it is highly

penal we will not extend it beyond its plain object and meaning.—*Bradstreet's*

### General Notes.

THREE bills have been introduced in Congress intended to secure the abolition of taxes on commercial travellers.

THE total length of railways in the British Isles is 18,864 miles, and £801,500,000 have been spent on their construction and permanent improvements.

IT is once more a matter of rumour that the Dominion Government intends to introduce a government life insurance scheme at the coming session of parliament.

THE cranberry-growing countries of Wisconsin are estimated to produce this season about 100,000 barrels, which at an average of \$5 per barrel, will aggregate \$500,000.

THE annual report of the Kingston & Pembroke Railway shows a profit last year of \$40,551. The earnings were satisfactory, being a general increase during a year of depression.

THE statement of the defunct Bank of Devils Lake, D. T., shows liabilities of \$25,000. There are no available assets except the bank building and \$9,000 in notes given by Stone, Ferriss & Corsett, which are considered worthless.

THE tobacco consumed in the United States during 1884 is said to have averaged five pounds for every man, woman and child of the population, and its cost was \$500,000,000, the value of the bread consumed the last census year.

THE railway committee of the London Ont. city council has resolved to ask Mr. Van Horne to visit London in company with Hon. Mr. Carling, and take such steps as will insure the building of the C. P. R. extension to here from Ingersoll without delay.

NEARLY one hundred saw, shingle and planing mills have been built in the South during the latter part of 1885. Florida alone built twelve mills in the last four months, besides numerous box, spoke, and furniture factories. The South is indeed booming.

THE exportable surplus of rice from the present crop in Burmah is unprecedented, and the early shipments have been sold at the lowest prices ever known to the trade. Quotations to arrive are 6s. 9d. per cwt., or less than 1½c. a pound. At this figure, rice is the cheapest food in the market.

INTERNATIONAL copyright is being strongly urged upon Congress. There are two bills pending. One concedes copyright to the citizens of any country which gives a like concession to American citizens, and the other provides that a foreign book, for which copyright is asked, must be published in this country.

THE eleventh annual meeting of the Ontario Manufacturers' Association was held on Wednesday, 27th ult. A resolution was made in favor of admitting members from all parts of the Dominion, and that the necessary steps be taken to secure letters patent of incorporation as "The Canadian Manufacturers' Association."

R. A. AND J. STEWART, of Chatham, Ont., have purchased through the Bank of Montreal, the estate of the late Levi Young, at Ottawa. It includes mills on Ottawa River, capable

cutting 25,000,000 feet of lumber in a season, about 700,000 acres of valuable pine lands, 18,000,000 feet of lumber and other valuable assets.

FLORIDA advices state that the orange crop is irretrievably ruined, and that many of the young trees are killed. It is said that people are trying to conceal it, and the land agents swear it is not so; but it is so, not a sound orange being left in some districts. It is estimated that the total loss will aggregate \$5,000,000.

At a late meeting of the Cincinnati tanners of harness leather, it was unanimously resolved to advance the price on No. 1 B. and No. 2 harness leather. This advance will amount to about 2 cents a pound on the prices of ten days ago. This advance was agreed upon, in concert with the tanners of Pittsburgh, Louisville and other tanning centres; there being a unanimous sentiment that the advance was demanded.

A SHARP advance of 3c per gallon has taken place in the price of molasses, with large transactions. Sales of Barbadoes are reported of 800 puncheons at 31c and 200 puncheons at 32c. A large Quebec holder is now firm at 33c. Actual sales however show an advance of fully 3c per gallon since this day week, sales of round lots being then made at 29c. It is believed that stocks here will be very low before the new crop can arrive.

THE Halifax Sugar Refinery has succumbed. The reports read at the annual meeting showed that the refinery owed the Merchant's Bank of Halifax and the Government, the sum of \$550,000 which, with the subscribed capital, made the total liabilities \$905,000. Against this stood the refinery plant, costing \$500,000, sugar on hand, \$195,000, and other assets about \$50,000. The whole capital is lost, and besides, the refinery is about \$300,000 in debt. A committee was formed for the purpose of devising means for continuing the refinery, and it was proposed to issue preferential stock with that end in view.

**Commercial Reciprocity.**

Commercial reciprocity with Canada appears to be out of the question for the present. There is no likelihood of favorable action by this Congress. Even President Cleveland's prudent suggestion of a commission to consider the matter of fishing rights meets with no well-directed support. In the hearings before the House Committee on Foreign Relations the little handful of New England owners of fishing vessels and their agents have monopolized attention. No voice has been raised effectively in support of the broad view that an imaginary line through the great lakes and the St. Lawrence river, and across the prairies of the north-west, and over the hills of Maine, can by no possibility form a boundary for profitable intercourse. If the advocates of reciprocity were half as active as its opponents, the facts and arguments laid before Congress, to say the least, would not be all on one side. The friends of a treaty are letting the case go by default.—Bradstreet's.

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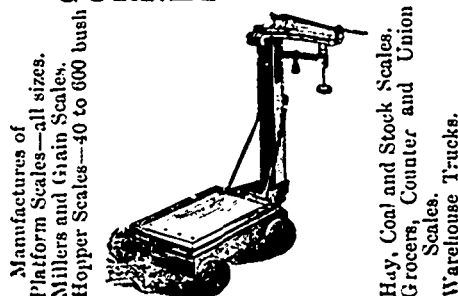
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In effect Dec. 13th 1885.

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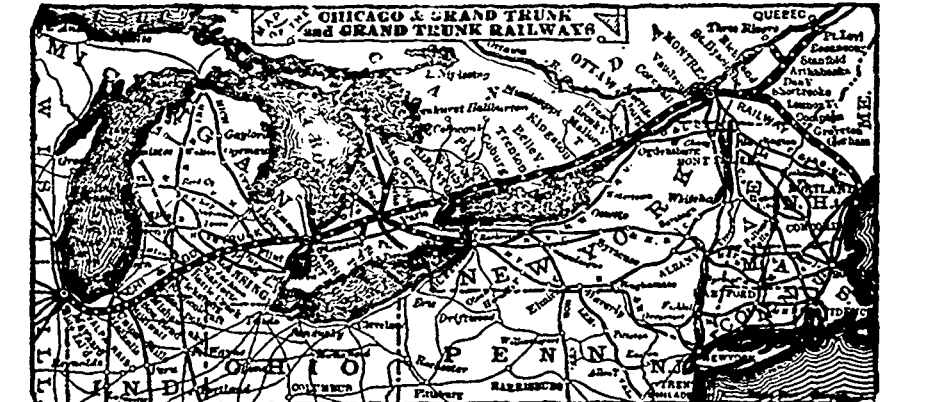
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