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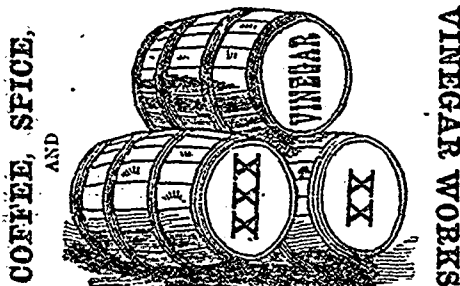
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# The Commercial

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

PUBLISHED BY STEEN & BOYCE EVERY TUESDAY - \$2.00 PER ANNUM.

VOL. 1.

WINNIPEG, JUNE 26, 1883.

NO. 39.

## The Commercial

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

ISSUED EVERY TUESDAY

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STEEN & BOYCE,

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WINNIPEG, JUNE 26, 1883.

McCORMACK & EDDY, Regina, have dissolved.

H. C. MARLATT, of Oak River, is moving his store west.

WILSON & WINNETT have opened a furniture store in Moosejaw.

G. E. FULTHORP, groceries, Winnipeg, has sold out his business.

WM. FERGUSON has disposed of his grocery business in Winnipeg.

CAMPBELL & LEROY, hotel, Winnipeg, have dissolved partnership.

A. LEMIEUX, leather and findings, Winnipeg, has closed his business.

THE *Globe* is the name of a new paper to be started at Medicine Hat.

M. D. KEAN is leaving Moosejaw to go into business at Medicine Hat.

COPELAND & GIBBONS, custom house brokers, Winnipeg, have dissolved partnership.

REID & PERCIVAL, saloon, Winnipeg, have dissolved. James Percival continues.

F. J. YORK, of the *Stonewall News*, is forming a partnership with James Toombs.

TENDERS are being asked for the construction of a dam across the Wascana, at Regina.

J. W. WINNETT, furniture dealer and manufacturer, Winnipeg, has assigned in trust.

J. E. JOHNSTON has sold the lease of his hotel in Clearwater to Pollock Bros., of Silver Springs.

JOHNS BROS., have purchased the interest of Irwin & Whitely in the Mountain House, Nelson.

A SCHEME is on foot to dam the creek at Moosejaw, and thus secure a considerable water power.

MOONEY & HOLDITCH, commission, Virden, have dissolved, John Mooney continuing the business.

LYTLE & McLEOD, general store, Regina, have dissolved. John S. Lytle continues the business.

A LARGE store is being erected in Cartwright, to be occupied when finished by T. S. Menary.

The Morris by-law granting a bonus of \$55,000 to the C. P. R. was carried on Friday by a majority of 58.

THE hotel, store and blacksmith shop at Pembina crossing have all been closed. The mill is still in operation.

MORRISON & DUFF have purchased the carriage business long carried on by A. T. McNab on James st. east.

THE effects of Stoddart & Johnson, late of the Kerby House, Winnipeg, were sold by the bailiff on the 16th inst.

JOHN HOGARTH, merchant tailor, Winnipeg, is about to remove to Edmonton, and will go into business there.

ONE of the members of the firm of J. & J. Pennington, stoves and tinware, Winnipeg, is reported to have left the city.

JAMES W. PEDDIE, dry goods, Winnipeg, has made an assignment of his stock in this city in trust to H. P. Picken, jr., Montreal.

TEN millions more Canadian Pacific Railway stock have been taken up by the same syndicate that floated the previous twenty millions.

BALLENTYNE & McTAGGART, general mer-

chants, Sourisburg, have dissolved partnership. The business will be continued by McTaggart & Scott.

DURING the present month, an average of 400 bushels of wheat per day has been taken in at Nelson. Some days as much as 1,000 bushels have been received.

EVIDENTLY the question of improving the navigation of the Red River is forcing itself upon the public. A meeting of all interested is called for to-day, to take place in the Stock Exchange rooms over the Bank of Montreal.

LORD DUNSMORE and party who recently visited the North-west have purchased from the North west Land Co. \$150,000 worth of land located at various points in the North-west. For some of it from \$9 to \$10 an acre was paid.

THE Nelson *Mountaineers* says, business in that place still continues quiet, owing to the low price and damaged condition of grain last season, the farmers are not flush, and as a rule wants are being curtailed and general economy practised.

The Ayr American Plow Company has been organized with a capital of \$100,000, with head quarters at Ayr, Ont. Operations will be commenced at once on a large scale, with a full assortment of plows for the Ontario and North-west trade, under American supervision in connection with Buford's extensive plow works at Rock Island, Massachusetts.

OGILVIE & Co. are now actively engaged on their grain elevators in different parts of the country. The Winnipeg elevator which will have a capacity of about 150,000 bushels is well under way. The material is on the ground for these at Portage la Prairie, Brandon and Grotina. These elevators will all be completed in time for marketing this season's crop.

A DESPATCH from Ottawa says, that E. A. Pew, who has been in England for sometime, has received from capitalists in that country \$300,000 to build the first fifty miles of the Souris and Rocky Mountain Railway. He has also disposed of 32,000 acres of silver lands near Port Arthur to an English syndicate for \$50,000. He also sold his ranche of 100,000 acres on St. Mary's river to a syndicate with a capital of \$500,000, he retaining 20 per cent. of the stock. The company will stock the ranche this season with 10,000 head of Montana cattle.

### Torrens Land Transfer System.

A public meeting of those interested in the reform of the laws of land transfer was held in the Stock Exchange hall on Tuesday last, when about forty were present, principally land owners, financial and loan agents, and members of the legal profession. Ex-Alderman William Bathgate was called to the chair, and Mr. F. B. Ross was elected secretary pro tem.

The Chairman stated the object of the meeting, and made a few remarks as to the present cumbersome and troublesome system of land transfer in Manitoba, stating his belief in the necessity for some amendment of the law upon the subject, which would simplify matters.

Mr. C. S. Drummond gave a verbal report of what had been accomplished by the delegation appointed by a former meeting, to wait upon members of the present Manitoba Government, and lay the question before them. Mr. Drummond stated that assurances had been received from the Government that a commission should be appointed to inquire during recess into the wants of the province in the matter of land transfer reforms, and that at next session they, the Government, would introduce a complete bill based upon the Torrens principle, and make it a Government measure. This report was unanimously adopted by the meeting.

Mr. Beverly Jones, of Toronto, a strong advocate of the Torrens system, gave a full detail of its workings in the Australian Colonies, answering lucidly the questions of numerous inquirers as to details. The leading points were the substitution of the certificate for the abstract system of title, the replacing of district registry offices by a metropolitan one. The details of its workings in connection with leases, mortgages, temporary small loans and liens of every description he explained very clearly, and showed how a guarantee fund, which had proved ample in all the colonies where the Torrens system had been in operation, had been secured by a fee of 20c on each \$100 of the value of the lands when first registered under the act, and the same when they descended to heirs at the death of the owner.

At the conclusion of Mr. Jones' remarks the meeting seemed to be unanimous in favor of the adoption of the Torrens system to Manitoba, and it was accordingly moved by Mr. R. D. Bathgate, and seconded by Mr. J. S. Ewart.—“That, inasmuch as a society has been formed in Ontario called the ‘Canada Land Law Amendment Association’ for the purpose of promoting the introduction into Canada of the Torrens system of land transfer, which association by its constitution has made provision for the formation of affiliated associations it is hereby resolved that this meeting approves of the objects of such association and does hereby form itself into a branch association, under the designation of the Manitoba Branch of the Canada Land Law Amendment Association, and that Messrs. C. J. Brydges, Ewart, Killam, Armstrong, C. S. Drummond, F. B. Ross, Wm. Bathgate, J. H. Brock and J. H. McTavish be a committee to draft a constitution and by-laws for such Association, and submit same at an adjourned meeting to be held in two weeks from this day.”

A vote of thanks to Mr. Beverley Jones concluded the proceedings, and the meeting adjourned.

### Business in the North-West.

The following remarks appear under the above caption in a recent issue of the *Montreal Gazette*. It says: “The speculative ‘boom’ has apparently collapsed in the North-west. Men who a year ago reckoned their fortunes by the tens and even hundreds of thousands of dollars, find them to-day computable at not much more than as many dimes; traders are loaded down with stocks, collections are difficult to make and sales exasperatingly slow. A business man who has just concluded a tour through the country writes that: ‘Last year traders came in with goods and sold at high prices, and the parties coming in then had to pay them. This year the parties moving in with their stock, families, &c., say they can bring in goods from Ontario cheaper, and they have done so. On the other hand, the parties in business had doubled and trebled their stock, and what is still worse, three more new ones have set up for every one last year—the result being that sales have fallen off and business has become very flat, and many failures must take place. They have pushed things too fast. Every town almost is a year or two ahead of the requirements, and patience must be exercised very much by the majority. The effect of this over-stocking and intense competition will be felt chiefly by wholesale dealers in the East, who, if they do not lose by failures and compromises, will be obliged to treat their customers with a good deal of leniency, and exercise patience in the collection of their accounts. But while this is true, it is important to bear in mind the fact that the real, substantial prosperity of the North-west is to-day greater than ever before, and enlarging by leaps and bounds. Many men who entered the country with a few hundred dollars in their pockets and in the space of a month or two grew rich on paper by speculating in town sites and town lots have lost their all, which means simply the margins they put up on the purchase price of the lands, but those who bought outright and paid in full for the property acquired have no cause to lament the investment. Immigration is pouring into the country in an unprecedented large stream, lands are being taken up, settled and cultivated with marvellous rapidity, the production of cereals will speedily exceed the home consumption and leave a substantial margin for export. It requires only the exercise of prudence on the part of traders to enable them to work off stocks in hand, and recover lost ground. Consumption will quickly overtake the supply of goods, if wholesalers in the east will only stay their hand, and cease the liberality with which they have thrown stocks into the North-west. The speculative fever has died out, but the solid, enduring wealth of the country in its soil remains, each day giving it a larger development. It is neither a cause of surprise nor of any special regret that the collapse of unhealthy and injurious speculation has come, since the steady, robust growth of the trade is thereby better assured.

### To Young Merchants.

Every person, says the *United States Economist*, is not formed to be a leader. The number of principals is far too great in proportion. Let the young man understand well that it costs something to be successful and honorable. He should firmly determine, at the hazard of much weariness and smart, to pass contentedly through the appointed stages and to become a thorough merchant. Consider how many a man, now foremost in the mercantile ranks, came to New York with all his personal effects in one bundle and with but a few dollars in his pocket. Write then, as the motto in your business life, “honest perseverance.” Quash every disposition to make changes, except where they tend to moral benefit or knowledge of business. It is ill transplanting a tree which thrives well in the soil. Dismiss from your mind all belief in the divinity of modern pagans, called luck, and stake nothing on sudden windfalls. Under the general determination to succeed, beware of early disgusts, whether towards persons or work. All new trials are burdensome; all beginnings are hard and vexatious. He that ascends a ladder must take the lowest round. All who are above were once below. ‘An two men ride of a horse, one must ride behind.’ To consider anything menial which belongs to the career of training, is to be a fool. Hard rubs are an indispensable part of education, and it is best to have the worst first. Meet them cheerfully and contentedly then, for the after hours, or days, or years of repose, when the mighty, oppressive hand of the giant Business is let up, will be none the less sweet, for you have taken a genuine satisfaction in your work as you went along. You will not make the journey better, if, like famous pilgrims to Loretto you put peas in your shoes.

### Over Protected.

The following we take from an article on the above subject in the *Monetary Times*: “The fact of over production, in several lines, in Canada and the United States, lies on the surface. Into the causes, which lie deeper, the *New York Public* has been enquiring, not altogether without success. The explanation that gluts are caused by improved methods of production and increased means of transportation may hold good in certain cases; but it touches on the accidental rather than the uniform and the permanent. In 1870, each man's labor in the iron industry of the United States, was equal to 100 tons of iron a year; now, with the latest contrivances for making labor effective, the product is 240 tons. From this cause alone, a glut in iron-production is what might have been expected. But this is not the only cause of over production in this line. New railways have led to the opening of new and productive mines. At the same time, the mineral has been both got out and worked at less cost than formerly. If the force of natural law is to be felt here, a reduction of price must follow.

What has now happened, in this particular, is indeed an old experience. It is as old as machinery, and the same result occurs with every great improvement in the methods of production. Prices adjust themselves to the new order

of things; and after the first disturbance, regularity of procedure is found on a new plane.

But over-production has another and more general and permanent cause. Anything which for the time, makes profits exceptionally high, in any branch of industry, causes a general desire to share in those profits. New factories are started and production is overdone. The glut brings down prices, by the law of competition. Under a high tariff, the temptation to over-production betrays numbers of people into a competition which can only end in loss. To this cause may be traced, the over-production of woollen goods in the United States, and cotton goods in Canada.

The remedy is to slacken speed. This means that machinery must lie idle part of the time, and labor be denied full employment. The sacrifice implies loss; but loss has been bargained for and it is only a question what form it shall take. To go on producing what cannot be sold only adds to the evil; to lessen production till consumption can get rid of surplus stocks is the only rational mode of proceeding. The over-production of cotton, in Canada, is but a trifle compared to the over production of woollens in the States. There is nothing that leads us to expect a serious sacrifice of cottons.

### Barbed Wire.

The barbed wire industry is a most extensive one in the United States. Last year about 500,000 miles of this wire was manufactured, resulting in a profit to the makers, of from \$4,000,000 to \$5,000,000. The right of manufacture has heretofore been controlled by the Washburn & Moen Company of Massachusetts, and many have been the attempts both in Canada and the United States to break what has long been looked upon as an exceedingly oppressive monopoly. These attempts, however, have previously ended in total failure, or compromise. Latterly, several firms in St. Louis and Iowa refused to pay the royalty imposed by the central office, whereupon the usual injunctions to restrain manufacture followed. It has already been decided by our court that the patent issued to the Washburn & Moen Co. is void. The case will probably be given a final hearing before a higher court; still it is generally admitted on all hands that the right to exclusive manufacture, by this company, is practically at an end.

### Passenger & Freight Rates in the North-West.

The following are the freight and passenger rates which will be charged during the coming season by the Winnipeg & Western transportation company between Winnipeg and Edmonton and intermediate points:—Freight—Winnipeg to foot of Grand rapids \$1, down \$1; to head of rapids \$1.50, down \$1.25; Prs \$2.50, down \$2.25; Cumberland \$2.75, down \$2.50; Fort a la Corne \$3, down \$2.50; forks of Saskatchewan \$3, down \$2.50; Prince Albert \$3.25, down \$2.50; Carlton \$3.75, down \$3; Battleford \$4.50, down \$3.50; Fort Pitt \$4.25, down \$4; Victoria \$5.75, down \$4.50; Fort Saskatchewan \$6.25, down \$5; Edmonton \$6.25, down \$5. Furniture set up and finished will be 100 per cent. over the above rates. The same not

set up 50 per cent. over regular rates. Builders and heavy machinery 50 per cent. over regular rates, and gunpowder will be charged double rates to all points. Passage—Winnipeg to foot of Grand rapids, cabin \$9, deck \$5; down cabin \$9, deck \$5; the Pas, cabin, \$20, deck \$10; down, cabin \$15, deck \$7.50; Cumberland, cabin \$24, deck \$15; down, cabin, \$12.50, deck \$12; Fort a la Corne, cabin \$20, down, cabin, \$25, deck \$20; Forks of Saskatchewan, cabin \$30, deck \$23, down, cabin \$27, deck \$20; Prince Albert, cabin, \$25, deck \$25, down, cabin \$30, deck \$20; Carlton, cabin, \$37.50, deck \$25; down, cabin \$35, deck \$20; Battleford, cabin, \$45, deck \$30, down, cabin \$40, deck \$25; Fort Pitt, cabin, \$50, deck \$32.50, down, cabin \$45, deck \$30; Victoria, cabin, \$55, deck \$35, down, cabin \$50, deck \$32; Fort Saskatchewan, cabin \$55, deck \$35, down, cabin \$50, deck \$32; Edmonton, cabin \$55, deck \$35, down, cabin \$50, deck \$32.

### Opening up New Avenues of Trade.

The rapidity with which channels of communication with the American and Canadian North-west have been opened up," says the *Montreal Gazette*, "is little short of marvellous. Half a dozen years ago there did not exist a single continuous cheap and expeditious route from Canada to the North-west by way of the lakes and the North western States, but to-day such connections are being consummated as to reasonably assure to Canadian carriers and Canadian ports the bulk of the foreign trade of that vast region. Take as an illustration the work accomplished by the Canadian Pacific. There is from Prince Arthur's Landing, running westward or more than a thousand miles, a continuous line of railway stretching out its branches through the fertile belt, with which the most perfect, cheap and expeditious connection with Eastern Canada, by water, is now made for half the year. Still another avenue of trade with the North-west is about to be established via Sault Ste. Marie. The Canadian Pacific has under way a branch line to the Sault, and the Ontario system of railways will also be placed in direct communication with this point by one or other of the present projected lines, giving an alternate water and rail route during the summer months with the Canadian North-west, and an all-rail route to the American North-west during the whole year. By this connection a large share of the traffic of the American North-west will be diverted through Canada to Montreal in summer and the maritime ports in winter."

### The Effect of Heat on Flour.

It frequently happens that wheat or rye flour, in spite of the greatest care in baking, yields an inferior loaf, and the failure is commonly attributed to adulteration; but when submitted to investigation, neither microscopic nor chemical tests reveal any adulteration. Such flour is returned to the miller or dealer as unfit for use. The miller says the flour was injured by the heating of the stones, and the dealer attributes the defect to the circumstances that the sun must have shone upon the sacks during transportation. It has been proved by numerous

experiments that flour cannot bear the action of the sun, even when not exposed directly to its rays. When flour is exposed to the heat of the sun an alteration takes place in the gluten similar to that produced by the heating of the stones. For this reason it is advisable that the transportation of flour should take place, if possible, on cool days or by night, as well as that flour should be stored in a cool place.—*Boston Journal of Chemistry*.

### Japanese Tea.

Japanese tea as exported, which ten years ago rose to such favor, especially in this country, is falling very low. It was at first choice in quality, and the quantity produced was relatively small; but the great demand for it induced the growers to abandon their ancient custom of picking only the young spring leaves. They soon took to stripping the plants all through the season, and even to adding wisteria leaves. Formerly the long and wiry tea leaf had a natural olive tint, and an especially delicate flavor, but now the leaves are broken short, while their dusky brown or yellow shades are disguised with ultramarine or indigo blues, gypsum, or soapstone, and the twenty-seven tea firing houses in Yokohama where these sophistications take place appear, from the report of Drs. Geerts and Wheeler, to be filthy, crowded, unhealthy dens. Strenuous efforts are, however, being made to better this condition of affairs. It is curious to find also that the rich, fragrant Oolong teas of Formosa, which sprang into such sudden repute, are falling off in quality.

### How Celluloid is Made.

A roll of paper is slowly unwound, and at the same time saturated with a mixture of five parts of sulphuric acid and two of nitric, which falls upon the paper in a fine spray. This changes the cellulose of the paper into fine pyroxylic (gun cotton). The excess of acid having been expelled by pressure, the paper is washed with plenty of water until all traces of acid have been removed; it is then reduced to pulp, and passes on to the bleaching trough. Most of the water having been got rid of by means of a strainer, the pulp is mixed with from 20 to 40 per cent. of its weight of camphor, and the mixture thoroughly triturated under millstones. The necessary coloring matter having been added in the form of powder, a second mixture and grinding follow. The finely divided pulp is then spread out in thin layers on slabs, and from twenty to twenty-five of these layers are placed in a hydraulic press, separated from one another by sheets of thick blotting paper, and are subject to a pressure of 150 atmospheres until all traces of moisture have been got rid of. The plates thus obtained are broken up and soaked for twenty-four hours in alcohol. The matter is then passed between rollers heated to between 140 and 150 deg. Fah., whence it issues in the form of elastic sheets. Celluloid is made to imitate amber, tortoise-shell, coral, malachite, ebony, ivory, &c., and besides its employment in dentistry, is used to make mouthpieces for pipes and cigar-holders, handles for table-knives and umbrellas, combs, shirt-fronts and collars, and a number of fancy articles.

# The Commercial

WINNIPEG, JUNE 26, 1883.

## THE OUTLET OF THE NORTH-WEST.

The importance of having an outlet by Lake Superior for the products of the North-west is not fully appreciated by all who are interested in the welfare of this country, and there are few who have looked so far ahead as to estimate its effects upon the grain trade of a large portion of this continent, both within and without the limits of British authority.

By many ultra patriotic Canadians the opening of the Canadian Pacific Railway to Thunder Bay is merely the first step towards the national policy of retaining Canadian traffic in Canadian channels. But the opening of that route means considerably more than this, and has points worthy of much greater consideration by the person interested in trade development. Some people look upon the Port Arthur route as merely a summer one, which until the completion of the North Shore road of the C.P.R. must remain closed for nearly half of the year. So far as passenger travel is concerned this is true, but for the export of North-western products, which must for many years be principally grain, it should prove a highway capable of taking away the entire traffic for many years to come. If one will only look at the route of grain shipments to the Atlantic seaboard through the United States, it will be found that the same difficulties of closed navigation have to be contented with in the winter. Grain from Manitoba, after being taken over 900 miles to Chicago has then to be taken by lake or pay exorbitant freight rates by rail for 1,000 miles more. The elevator system of Chicago with its 12,000,000 to 14,000,000 bushels capacity obviates that difficulty, and enables grain to be held there at small cost until the opening of navigation in spring brings cheaper freights. Now to all intents and purposes Port Arthur is as convenient to the Atlantic seaboard as Chicago, and by using the Canadian waterway system is even more so. With an elevator system at Winnipeg, and a supplementary one at Port Arthur the difficulty of closed navigation during winter is overcome, and the new outlet is as useful in winter as in summer. The people of Port Arthur as well as Winnipeg should recognize this fact and profit by

it, and before the all rail route from the North-west to the Atlantic is in operation the former town may rise to the position of one of the most important shipping points on the chain of American lakes.

But these two systems of elevators will accomplish much more than the direction of the grain traffic of the Canadian North-west. The new route must prove both a shorter and cheaper one for the transportation of grain from the wheat fields of northern Minnesota and northern Dakota. The influence of Winnipeg backed by a good elevator system would aid in directing this traffic, and Port Arthur would be indirectly the gainer thereby. Tariff on grain may cause a little annoyance to this American traffic, but shipping in bond can be accomplished through Canadian as well as United States territory, and Winnipeggers, who have been compelled for years to make shipments under such circumstances, should be adepts at the business and know well how to manipulate it.

But it is evident to the student of United States commercial legislation, that the tariff on grain in that country is doomed, and their existence is near to an end. With the abolition of grain duties in the States, Canada according to the Dominion tariff acts, would be compelled to make a similar abolition, and in that case the grain of northern Dakota and northern Minnesota would find via Winnipeg and Port Arthur a route to the Atlantic several hundred miles shorter than by Chicago, and consequently much cheaper transportation. These matters are well worthy of the study of Canadians both in Manitoba and Ontario, as with the elevator systems above indicated a great grain collecting centre would be established at Winnipeg, and a growing shipping point at Port Arthur, and the trade of both would be steadily augmented by the exports of the North-west both on the Canadian and American side of the boundary.

## CAPITAL FOR THE NORTH-WEST.

During the present period of stringency in Manitoba and the North-west it is particularly encouraging to notice the confidence with which capitalists abroad view the future prospects of the country. Nearly every day we hear of large investments being made in our agricultural, mineral and timber lands. These investors have all visited the country, and having spied out the land for themselves,

freely venture of their capital to develop its resources. The record of progress in the North-west for the past decade stands without a parallel in the history of the whole civilized world. And this event has taken place under circumstances not by any means favorable, until two or three years ago, when the railway first crossed the boundary into our land. Now that we have railways throughout the breadth of the land, it cannot possibly be otherwise than that the progress that will be witnessed during the next few years will far outstrip that of the past. No country offers greater inducements combined with perfect security for the investment of capital.

## PROVISION CORNERS.

The failure of McGeoch, Everingham & Co. of Chicago and Milwaukee, which caused such wild excitement in these two cities on Saturday, the 16th inst., is another powerful illustration of how demoralizing corners are upon any legitimate business in which they are attempted. The name of Pete McGeoch, as the head of the firm was familiarly called, brought up unpleasant remembrances in the mind of many a disappointed speculator, especially among the class of gushing country speculators, who after making a small and successful deal, come to the conclusion that they completely understand the manipulation of the Chicago or Milwaukee grain or provision market.

Pete was one of those who knew well how to bleed the lambs, as the roping in of country speculators is termed; and was equally well aware of the power of that element, and how to take advantage of it when its aims and his were identical. But the cunning old fox gets caught at last, and Pete McGeoch now takes his place among the many whose speculative ambition exceeded both their judgment and financial resources.

The history of the now defunct firm is a short but brilliant chapter of Chicago speculation. Until 1879 the firm of Everingham & Co. confined their operations to Milwaukee, and were reputed to be doing principally a straight commission business in grain and provisions, and were known to be heavy receivers of country consignments. Instead of holding to this steady and lucrative business, they opened a house in Chicago, and with the admission of McGeoch as partner launched heavily into a purely specula-

tive business. In this wider field the tact of the firm proved insufficient, and the collapse of the great lard deal of June 1883 will long be remembered as one of the most exciting scenes of the Chicago Board of Trade.

One can have no idea of the demoralization of business which the collapse of this firm caused. July lard closed at \$11.32½ the previous evening, and scarcely was the Board opened on Saturday (usually a dull uneventful day) when a rapid decline set in, and in a few minutes it reached \$9.00. A recovery was afterwards made and \$9.80 was reached. The fact of a commodity like lard dropping over 20 per cent in value, and recovering over one third of the same during a three hours session of a board of trade, and without the slightest influence to affect its price, outside of local speculation, shows how far the staple products of a country can be dragged down to the level of a mere basis of speculation, so that unscrupulous operators can by combination corner and dictate prices. Such exciting scenes are becoming every day more likely occurrences, and must continue so in an association like the Chicago Board of Trade, three fourths of the members of which never claim to be actual dealers in the products supposed to be handled there, but are merely brokers for others, or speculators on their own account on the margin principle. State and national supreme Courts may render decisions as to the transactions on this board; but the settling committees seem to pay little attention to these decisions, and decide disputes day after day, where transactions are gambling in the purest sense, and according to the unheeded decisions not only void, but within the scope of criminal law. While rising market centres have many points to copy from the system of Chicago, there are many of the evils they should be careful to avoid, and a great share of these can be best avoided, by confining the membership of boards or exchanges to parties engaged in trades whose transactions they are formed for the protection of. Wherever a market for any commodity forms speculation will find its way, and its total exclusion is a matter impossible, but it can be kept at a minimum, by excluding all from such market but actual dealers in the commodity in question, and in nothing is there more necessity for clinging rigidly to such a policy, than in connection with the food products of a country.

### IMPORTANCE OF THE GRAIN TRADE.

The prime source of the world's wealth is the product of the soil. In proportion as its latent resources have been developed has capital increased throughout the civilized world. It was the rich agricultural capabilities of Great Britain which first enticed the Roman conquerors to her shores. It is the same cause which has brought this western continent to its present high position in the eyes of trans Atlantic countries, and in the development of these resources lies the strength of the Canadian or American future. Great Britain from being an agricultural country has to a large extent developed into a nation of trades people and mechanics, and the same holds to some extent good in the older provinces of the Dominion and the old New England States. They have become the great consuming centres for the extra product of the rich harvest fields of the west.

We live in a country where agricultural pursuits must for a long time be the principal following of its inhabitants, and the fountain from which will spring the country's wealth. Such being the case it behoves those possessed of capital to put forth their best endeavors in the direction of advancing the agricultural interests, and so arrange matters that the cultivation of wheat and other grains will be as remunerative here as in any other part of the continent. The commercial prosperity of Winnipeg and all other business centres in the Northwest is so closely allied to and to such a large degree dependent upon the welfare of the country around that its very existence depends upon it. In order to foster the grain growing interests it is in the first place necessary that the farmer receive as much as possible for his honest labor. This cannot be accomplished by allowing the market for the sale of our grain to be established at some place remote from the place where it is grown. It is imperative in the best interests of the country that Winnipeg be the point in which the handling of the grain takes place. To accomplish this a public elevator system is a necessity. Private enterprise has already done considerable in this way, and their efforts are being extended this season. But a public elevator where the product of the millions of acres of fertile soil between here and the Rockies can be handled expeditiously

and to the best advantage must also be had. A liberal offer has already been made in the shape of land on which to erect such a building, and if this action is followed up with the enterprise and spirit which it deserves, Manitoba and the North west will soon have become established permanently as one of the great granaries from which the older portions of the world will draw a large proportion of their food supply. Prompt action is required, and we trust it will be speedily taken.

### SAVE US FROM OUR FRIENDS.

The people of a city, town or district look to the local press, to advocate their cause under all reasonable circumstances, and even when facts are rather unfavorable, to reflect them truthfully, but at the same time without aggravation. In this way newspapers should be the friends of the locality in which they are published; but if we are to judge by the report in the *Sun* of last Tuesday, the people of Winnipeg may well reiterate the words "Save us from our friends."

The report referred to appears under the heading of Finance and Commerce, and among other wild statements regarding financial stringency in the city includes the following: "The list of commercial disasters for the last week, it is said, would be sufficient to disgrace and destroy the commercial credit of any city."

From a journal professing to be guarding the trade, as well as other interests of the city in which it is published, the above statement shows very poor judgment, allowing that it was true in the fullest sense. It certainly shows a lame friendship for trade circles of the city, and a friendship from which these circles may earnestly pray for salvation. When, however, the facts in the case do not support the assertion made, even want of good judgment will not explain such a course.

The week closing Saturday, June 15th, showed the failure of one firm in Winnipeg whose liabilities were heavier than those of any North-western firm that had previously gone into insolvency, the figures being nearly three times as large as those of all the other insolvencies of the same week. But even their case is not one which would bring disgrace, as the *Sun* states. Their assets show quite a surplus over liabilities, and their whole affairs are destitute of any evidence of wilful dishonesty. The whole failures in the Northwest during the week in question num-



bered six, and their gross liabilities were \$199,000, while their aggregate assets are estimated at \$244,500, showing a surplus of \$45,500. Such a record may be one of misfortune and even of culpable miscalculation, but it cannot be classed as one of disgrace. It is questionable if in the history of any city passing through a time of stringency, a week of commercial disaster can be shown, where as little rottenness is to be found.

It is not at all likely that the commercial editor of the *Sun* took the trouble to post himself regarding the above figures before writing the report in question, and his negligence if persisted in, must do more to disgrace and destroy the commercial credit of Winnipeg and the whole North-west, than a dozen such weeks of commercial disaster as he has so gloomily pictured. It cannot be wondered at, that eastern wholesalers and manufacturers are shutting down upon the North-west trade, when the press of the Manitoba capital publish such statements as above quoted, and publish them as actual reports of the state of trade.

### THE SITUATION AND OUTLOOK.

It is always wisdom to squarely face difficulties even when a fair view of them affords but little hope of relief; and it is sheer folly to adopt the ostrich course of burying our heads in the sand in the vain belief, that blindness to danger means immunity from it.

In viewing the present trade situation and outlook in the North-west, it requires commercial courage, to follow the wise course above indicated. It must be acknowledged that there is little cause for congratulation in viewing the situation, while there may be less for alarm in the prospect, than many despondent people would have us believe. To secure the gloomiest view of the present situation the most thorough course is by a review of the commercial disasters of the immediate past, and draw what lessons we can therefrom. June is drawing to a close, and the insolvencies that have occurred since April 1st may now be accepted as the disasters of the second quarter of 1883. These number forty-five, and their gross liabilities foot up to \$596,000, and their estimated assets at \$550,000. The heaviest liabilities in any one case is \$130,000, and the assets in this instance are estimated at \$150,000. Of the \$46,000 of a discrepancy shown by these gross

figures \$30,000 is represented in the case of one manufacturing concern, while the remaining 44 have only \$16,000 to distribute over all.

In going over this insolvency record in detail one must be struck with the large proportion of cases, where assets were equal to and over liabilities. This feature shows how many have honestly endeavoured to squeeze through and pay 100c. on the dollar, but were compelled to call a halt for want of immediate resources, or in consequence of some over-urgent creditor. Altogether the record is as free from dishonesty and taint of fraud as one of commercial misfortune possibly can be.

Compared with the first quarter of 1883, the second displays no new features, only that it contains more heavy failures. The first quarter shows 47 failures, with liabilities of \$400,000, and assets of \$450,000. From this the North-western failures for the first half of 1883 number 92, with gross liabilities of \$996,000, and assets of \$1,000,000, giving the narrow surplus of \$46,000. These figures give a key to the present situation, and show on what grounds so many have lost confidence in the North-west.

Starting from this record we cannot give a clearer and more concise view of the trade situation than will be found in the quarterly report of Dun, Wiman & Co., in another part of our columns. The report while admitting the burdened state of trade in the North-west, clearly shows the knowledge of the existence of the burden which all here possess, and the sensible preparations being made on all sides to mitigate as much as possible the weight of the same. In short the North-west is at present overloaded but not rotten, and it only requires the leniency of those who have assisted in laying on that burden, to enable the country to carry it safely through.

The prospective portion of Dun, Wiman & Co.'s report is equally true regarding the North-west. Permanent relief can only be expected from the coming crops, and it is well to have our hopes directed to such a source. During the past six months people have been looking to the importation of foreign capital for relief, or to put it in less pleasant language, to a continuation of the system of borrowing and inflation, which has produced the present results. Relief of that description the country is better without, and

the sooner we get down to a dependence upon its production the sooner permanent prosperity will set in.

As we have viewed the dark side of affairs, we are entitled to a view of the bright side. The prospects of an abundant crop never were better in the North-west, as reports from every source would indicate. The Provincial Department of Agriculture have received reports from some 200 townships which show an increase in wheat acreage alone of about 55 per cent. Crops are a month ahead of what they were this time last year, and the stand of grain would indicate a crop of at least one third more to each acre. The quality of wheat sown is better all over than in 1882, Red Tife being the prevailing seed, and farmers will profit by the experience of last year, and not let one fourth of their whole crop be lost by insufficient protection from fall rains. With the increased acreage, the better state of crop and promise of a larger yield, there can be no doubt but the North-west will have 2,000,000 bushels of wheat for export, and under very favorable circumstances the quantity may reach 2,500,000. Had the crop of 1882 been properly saved nearly 1,000,000 bushels could have been exported, and a large share of the present stringency would not have been felt.

But to the wheat expectation of the North-west must be added the production of other staples for home consumption. This spring it was found that there was no necessity for importing oats, very little for potatoes, and the trade in importing butter, eggs and other articles of produce is not increasing with the settlement of the North-west. The country is beginning to produce in those lines, and the production of the present season will retain a large amount of money in the country, that formerly went to eastern markets. It is to such sources as these that the North-west now looks for relief, and the hope is a self-reliant and commendable one. The relief may not come as quickly as nervous alarmists would desire, but it will come surely, and when it does it will be permanent.

There is really no cause for alarm regarding the trade prospect of the North-west. While the dreams of the crazy speculator are thoroughly dispelled, the hopes of those who desire to prosper in the country by industry are only beginning to brighten up.

## WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

There is rather an easier feeling in the money market to report this week. The strings of eastern capital have been somewhat relaxed, and money is now more readily obtained for use in this country. Notwithstanding this, however the fact still remains, that for commercial purposes the accommodation that is available is not sufficient to meet the demand especially during this period of depression in business. There are many firms in the city who could pay a hundred cents on the dollar and over could they obtain necessary assistance at the present crisis. The banks are often not inclined to deal liberally, and the consequence is the merchant is forced to make an assignment. The wholesalers are not pushing business, and the amount of customers' paper offered by them is consequently reduced. Rates are unchanged at 8 to 10 per cent for gilt edge, and 10 to 12 for ordinary. Money for loans on mortgage security is plentiful at from 8 to 10 per cent, on first class property. The bulk of business is done at 10 per cent, but there have been of late a good many transactions at nine and a few at eight per cent.

## WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

The general monotony which has been the chief characteristic of wholesale business in the city during the past month, has not as yet been relieved, and the state of trade generally is dull. City trade is particularly dull, and were it not for the considerable orders that are being received from the far west business would be almost at a standstill. Merchants coming in from the end of the track to purchase goods are as a rule well supplied with cash, and what little accommodation is asked for is only for short dates. Travellers from the leading houses who have just returned from trips as far as they can go by rail, bring back glowing reports as to the prospects of the Western country, and all unite in one opinion that the trade to be done in that section will contribute in no small degree to the building up of the commerce of Winnipeg. In the older portions of the country things are very quiet. The heavy stocks purchased some time ago have not yet been sufficiently cleared from the shelves to inspire merchants with the confidence necessary to cause them to stock up again to any greater extent than the actual necessities of business demand. This course is the safest and best that could be adopted. The revival of business will not be done under the "boom" influence that prevailed a year ago, and although the volume of trade may be smaller in amount it will be of a much more healthy character, and much more satisfactory, to all concerned. Money is more easily obtained than it has been. Notes are being met more promptly on maturity. The difficulty in collections now is not in connection with recent sale of goods, but is almost entirely confined to old accounts of from six months to a year's standing, which have become somewhat rusty, and are consequently hard to revive. There is certainly on every hand a much better feeling, and business men everywhere express strong confidence in the trade of the near future. The soil is the

great capital producer and until the crop now in the ground has been harvested and brought to market it is not expected that there will be much difference in the state of trade from existing conditions.

## AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

This is the season of the year when considerable activity is to be expected by dealers in agricultural implements. Harvest will commence in ten weeks or so, and farmers have to see to it that they are fully equipped with the latest and most approved machinery, so as to gather it in as quickly as possible and in good order. The lack of sufficient machinery was felt keenly last year, and the experience thus gained has impressed upon all the necessity for good implements. Consequently there has been a steady demand all season. The trade being done is a good healthy one and entirely free from the baneful boom element which has left its traces upon nearly every class of business throughout the length and breadth of the country. There is a possibility that the wagon business may have been somewhat overdone, but in all other lines the impression exists that supply and demand will have, been nicely calculated.

## BOOTS AND SHOES.

A good steady trade has been done during the week. The additions to the order book have been chiefly from points towards the end of the track. City trade has been very light, and sorting up orders from the older settled districts throughout the province have not come up to expectations. Of course, it is always expected that this season of the year in boots and shoes will be dull, and the houses are, therefore, not much disappointed. Collections are reported as very fair, and not much ground for complaint. A general revival of trade will not likely take place till after harvest.

## CLOTHING.

In this line there is a fair amount of business being done, although nothing that might be termed a rush. Some of the houses have filled considerable orders during the week, while others have been inactive. Still the total volume of trade being done is tolerably satisfactory for this season of the year. Collections are fair.

## DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

During the week the leading houses have been kept busy filling orders for the west, especially for Moose Jaw, Medicine Hat, and points beyond. This has been nearly all a cash business, and consequently very satisfactory. Collections are improving.

## CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

Business in this line still keeps on the quiet side, and beyond a few sorting up orders in the common classes of staple goods there is little doing. Fancy trade amounts to literally nothing. Collections although not so good as might be wished are still very fair.

## DRY GOODS.

In this line of business it is not to be expected that there will be any general brightening up for a month or two yet. There is, however, a little improvement noted during the past week, a sort of premonitor of the silver lining which

it is expected will relieve the darkness of the cloud that for some time past has hung over the trade, and which the ingathering of the harvest will dispel. A good many sorting up orders are coming in, which though not large in amount serve to keep the houses moving along. Travellers out on the road report the retailers' shelves becoming pretty well cleared of the overstock which encumbered them, and prospects for the fall trade are considered good. One thing seems to be assured, viz. that the ruinous competition of eastern houses will not interfere much with the general trade this season, and what business is done will be of a healthy character and on a sound basis. Collections are improving, especially from the country. City trade is still dull, and does not show much signs of revival as yet.

## FANCY GOODS AND SMALL WARES.

The past week has been considerable of an improvement on the previous one. Business is not brisk, but at the same time it cannot be said to be positively dull. Collections are fair.

## FISH AND POULTRY.

Fish business has been quiet during the week. Lake Superior trout are quoted 8c; whitefish at 8c, and pike at 3c. Very little in the shape of poultry is offering.

## FRUIT.

Business has been quite brisk during the week, and stocks in the city are getting low. Oranges and lemons have been in fair demand and have risen to \$10 per box. Apples are very scarce and what is offered is not of first quality. Quotations are \$8 to 9 per barrel. New apples have not yet been received in such quantities as to warrant quotations. Dried fruit quotations are: Loose Muscatel raisins \$3; black currant \$4.75; triple crown \$8; golden dates 11 to 12½c in mats; 16c in boxes. No novelties have been received.

## FUEL.

There has been no change in price, and it is not expected there will be any until the influence of Port Arthur shipments makes itself on coal. Quotations are: Anthracite coal \$15 delivered; bituminous \$13.50 to 14.50; a good deal of wood is on hand; tamarac in lots of ten cars or over sells at \$6.50, smaller lots \$6.75; poplar \$5 in large lots, \$5.50 in smaller quantities. The demand is light as is to be expected at this season of the year.

## FURNITURE.

The furniture business for the week has been rather quiet, but not dull; considerable orders of the commoner qualities of goods are being received for shipment west. Collections are reported fair.

## GROCERIES.

There has been a good demand during the week. Collections are still a little slow. Prices unchanged; quotations are: Sugars — Yellow 9½ to 10c; granulated 10½ to 11c; Coffees 15 to 18c for Rio, 22 to 27c for Javas; teas — Japan 25 to 45c, Moyune gunpowders 35 to 75c; new season Congous 30 to 40c; Young Hyson 26 to 55c.

## HARDWARE AND METALS.

Trade is very quiet; building operations are not being prosecuted on the large scale that

was expected, and business in this line is directly affected thereby. Quotations have not changed and are as follows: Tin plate 14x20, \$8 to 8 25 20x28, \$15 to 15 75, bar iron \$3.75 to 4; sheet iron 5 1/2 to 6c; iron piping, 25 per cent off price list; ingot tin, \$2 to 35c; pig lead, 6 1/2 to 7c; galvanised iron, No. 28, 8 1/2 to 9c according to quality. Collections are fair, but might be much better.

#### LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

Business is quiet; collections tolerably good; prices remain unchanged as follows: sole slaughter, 70 to 75c; B. Z., \$5 to 90c; French first choice, \$1.15 to 1.25; French calf first choice, \$1.40 to 1.50; wax upper, No. 1, 55c; grass, No. 1, 55c; harness leather, 34 to 36c for plump stock.

#### LUMBER.

The lumber trade has got into a sort of monotonous condition, and business is on the quiet side. Quotations are: Pine lumber—1st, common boards, dressed \$26.50; 2nd, dressed, \$25.50; 1st do. rough, \$26.50; 2nd do. \$25.50; sheathing, rough, \$25; timber 16 feet and under, \$25; do. over 16 feet, for each additional 2 feet, \$1; dimension and joists 16 feet and under, \$25; do. over 16 feet for each, \$1; fencing, \$30; 2 and 3 inch battens, \$32; A. stock boards, all widths, \$50; B do., \$45; C do., \$40; D do., \$35; 1st clear, 1, 1 1/2, 1 3/4, and 2 inch, \$60; 2nd do., \$56; window and door casings, \$50; base boards, dressed, \$50; 1st pine flooring, siding and ceiling, \$40; 2nd do. \$35; 3rd do. \$32; 1/2 inch split siding, dressed, \$30. Spruce lumber—timber 16 feet and under, \$24; do. over 16 feet for each additional 2 feet, \$1; dimensions and joists, 16 feet and under, \$24; do., over 16 feet, for each additional 2 feet, \$1; boards, \$24; 1st flooring, siding and ceiling, \$32; XX shingles, \$5.50; Star A shingles, \$5.50; X shingles, \$5.50; A do, \$5; lath, \$4.50

#### BOOKS AND STATIONERY.

In this line business is very quiet, and it is expected will remain so for a month or two to come. Collections are passably good.

#### WINES AND SPIRITS.

The usual amount of ordinary custom trade is being done, although the total volume of trade falls a long way short of last season. Quotations to jobbers and purchasers of heavy quantities are: Hennessy's one star, in cases \$14.00; in wood, \$5 per gallon, Imperial, vintage of 1878, \$5.50; Martel, in case, one star, \$14; Renault, one star, \$12; Roleyn, in wood, \$4 to \$5.50; Roubert, in cases, quarts, \$8.50; flasks, \$10, half flasks, \$11; Pinette, in wood, \$4 per Imp. gal.; Louis Freres, in cases, qts, \$10; flasks, two dozen in a case, \$11; half flasks, four dozen in a case, \$12; M. Dubois in wood, \$3.50 per gallon; cases, quarts, \$8; flasks, \$9; half flasks, \$10. Gin, Holland, in wood, \$3 per gallon; red cases, \$11; green cases, \$6; Old Tom gin, Bernard's, in wood, \$3.25 per gallon; Booth's, in wood, \$3.25; Booth's, in cases, quarts, \$8.50; Scotch whisky, Ramsay's in wood, \$4.00; Caol-Ila Islay, in wood, \$3.50; Stewart's, in cases, quarts, \$8.50; flasks, \$9.50. Irish whisky, John Jameson & Sons, in wood, \$4.50; Bernard's, in cases, quarts, \$8; flasks, \$9.50. Jamaica rum, \$3.50 to \$4 per gallon. Domestic

whiskies, Gooderham & Wort's, in wood, \$1.65 per gallon; 65 o. p. rectified, in wood, \$3.50; W. F. L. five-year old, \$2.50 per gallon; cases, quarts, \$7.50, flasks, \$9.50.

### Winnipeg Manufactures.

There has been no particular rush of business at the factories during the past week, but a good steady run of trade has been done. The foundries have been kept busy, but still not sufficiently so to render it necessary to run day and night. They have all the work they can possibly get through with in the ordinary hours of labor for some time to come in hand. The Winnipeg Iron Works have not yet got their difficulties arranged and the establishment is now standing idle.

The saw mills are getting into running order, and had the demand for lumber been greater, they would have been in more active operation. It is not likely that there will be much necessity for night and day running this season, the demand for lumber being much less than was anticipated.

The furniture factories are moving along quietly, business being rather slacker than it was a few weeks ago.

The biscuit factories report business quiet but steady. They find a good demand for all they can manufacture, and there is no doubt but that the home product is fast taking the place of imported goods. The excellent quality of goods turned out was sure to bring about this desirable result.

Carriage and wagon factories are not very busy outside the ordinary run of custom work.

The flour mills are running only to supply the local demand, and there is nothing being manufactured for shipment east, nor is there likely to be till towards fall.

Breweries are running strong, the recent warm weather causing a greater demand for the lighter qualities of ale.

Other minor lines are running along in their usual way.

## THE MARKETS.

### WINNIPEG

#### GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

There has been very little movement in grain during the week, either by rail or on the street. Considerable quantities of wheat are being marketed at Gretna and other points in Southern Manitoba, which will be brought in to the mills in the city. At Nelson there has been a good deal received, chiefly from the Mennonite settlements. The provision trade has been somewhat affected by the big break in Chicago last week, and although there has not been much change in prices there is a weak feeling.

#### WHEAT.

Receipts for the week have been light, but the quantity in sight at various points in Southern Manitoba has increased. The ruling figure for a good sample of hard wheat is 80c. The mills have fair supplies in store, sufficient to meet all the local demand.

#### OATS.

Have not been coming in in any quantity. The city demand has been light, but considerable quantities are required to supply western

orders. Good samples are not so plentiful as was anticipated, bad stacking and want of proper care in curing the grain after it was threshed having rendered a large amount comparatively useless. Quotations are from 40c to 45c.

#### BARLEY.

The quantity of barley raised in the country last season was not large, and what is now held will be required to supply local demand. Stocks in the city are not heavy, and the brewers will use the most of it. For good bright samples 40c is paid.

#### FLOUR.

There has been a good local demand during the week, and the mills are only running to supply it. There will not be any manufacture for eastern shipment for some time. Quotations are as they were, viz: Patents \$3 to 3.20; xxxx or strong bakers \$2.50 to 2.60; bakers \$2.00 to \$2.10; traders or xx \$1.10.

#### BRAN

The stock held in the city is not heavy, but still ample to supply all asked for. The demand is light. Quotations are \$10 per ton on track.

#### SHORTS

Have not changed from the old quotation of \$12 per ton on track.

#### POTATOES

The supply is liberal and prices have declined in consequence. The regular quotation is about 50c, but we hear of a car lot purchased the other day at 40c. Prices are likely to hold low, as the new crop will soon be in the market.

#### BUTTER.

Some new consignments have arrived from the east, but not in sufficient quantity to affect the price. Choice dairy is worth from 23c to 28c, according to quality; Creamery is scarce, and worth 28c. It is expected that the receipts for the next week will be heavy, and there may be a decline in prices.

#### CHEESE.

There is a good supply in the city, and prices hold firm at 16c for a good article.

#### EGGS.

There has been an active demand, and stocks are lighter than a week ago. The tendency in prices is to be firmer. Quotations are 21c to 23c

#### HAMS

In sympathy with Chicago there is a weaker feeling. Canned are held at 16c to 16 1/2c; plain 15c to 15 1/2c.

#### BACON.

Has dropped considerably, and until the market gets over the Chicago tumble will likely remain lower. Quotations are: Long clear 12 1/2c to 13 1/2c; Cumberland 13c; spiced roll 15 1/2c to 16c; breakfast 15c to 16c.

#### MESS BEEF.

There is very little doing in mess beef, and quotations are nominal at \$18.

#### MESS PORK.

Is nominally firm at \$25.

### MINNEAPOLIS.

During the week the market has been characterized by a general weakness, consequent upon the feverish feeling caused by the extensive failures in Chicago. There is, however, still a feeling of considerable confidence in the future, owing to the probable shortage in the wheat crop. On Tuesday the market was slow and weak, caused by the demoralization in lake and seaboard markets. Corn was slow, and oats in slightly better demand, but very few transactions were placed on record. Flour was weak

in sympathy with the fall in the value of wheat. The business of the day is represented by the following quotations:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.12 to \$1.12½, No. 1, \$1.02 to 1.08; No. 2 hard \$1.06 to 1.08½  
 CORN, No. 2, 49 to 50c; no grade, 43 to 47½c.  
 OATS, No. 2 white, 39 to 39½c; No. 2, 37 to 37½c; rejected, 34 to 36c.  
 FLOUR, Patents, \$6.50 to \$6.90; straights, \$5.50 to \$6.00; clears, \$5.00 to \$5.50.

On Wednesday the wheat market was very slow and weak. Corn and oats were also in a sick condition. Flour was slow with a tendency to drop. The following quotations represent the business of the day:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.10½ to 1.11; No. 1, \$1.02 to \$1.07½; No. 2 hard \$1.03 to \$1.07½.  
 CORN, No. 2, 49 to 49½c; no grade, 43 to 47c.  
 OATS, No. 2 white, 38 to 38½c; No. 2 36½ to 37; rejected, 34½ to 36½c.  
 FLOUR, patents, \$6.50 to \$6.90; straights, \$5.50 to \$6.00; clears, \$5.00 to \$5.50.

On Thursday the market continued dull and inactive. The following quotations representing the business of the day:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.10½ to \$1.10½; No. 1 \$1.02 to \$1.07½; No. 2 hard, \$1.03½ to \$1.07½.  
 CORN, No. 2 49 to 49½c; rejected, 43 to 47c.  
 OATS, No. 2 white, 38 to 38½c; No. 2 36½ to 38½c; rejected, 34½ to 36½c.  
 FLOUR, patents, \$6.50 to \$6.90; straights, \$5.50 to \$6.00; clears, \$5.00 to \$5.50.

Friday's market showed but little general difference from that of the two preceding days. Receipts were light, and the lack of confidence which set in early in the week still makes itself felt. The business of the day is represented by the following quotations:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.01½ to 1.10½; No. 1, \$1.02 to 1.07½; No. 2 hard, \$1.03½ to \$1.07½.  
 CORN, No. 2, 49c to 49½c; rejected, 43 to 47c.  
 OATS, No. 2 white, 38 to 38½c; No. 2, 36½ to 37½c; rejected, 34 to 36c.  
 FLOUR, patents, \$6.50 to \$6.90; straights, \$5.50 to \$6.00; clears, \$5.00 to \$5.50.

On Saturday wheat again took a tumble. Corn was not in demand, and oats were not much called for. The following quotations represent the business of the day:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.09½ to 1.10; No. 1 \$1.02 to 1.07; No. 2 hard \$1.05 to 1.07.  
 CORN, No. 2, 49c to 49½c; no grade 43c to 45c.  
 OATS, No. 2 white, 38c to 38½c, nominal; No. 2, 36½c to 37c; rejected 34½c to 36½c.  
 FLOUR, Patents, \$6.50 to 6.90; straights, \$5.50 to 6.00; clear \$5 to 5.50.

CHICAGO.

During the week the market has been in a state of extraordinary excitement caused by the failure of some of the most extensive operating firms on 'Change. For several days things were panicky, but towards the end they began to settle down again to their ordinary way. On Tuesday the market was still full of feverish excitement and uncertainty, although the majority were of the opinion that the worst was over. Wheat and corn were active, but very unsettled. Oats were dull. Provisions were quiet as compared with the few days previous. Quotations towards the close were:

Wheat.....	June, \$1.05½	July, \$1.06½
Corn.....	" 53½	" 54½
Oats.....	" 35	" 35½
Pork.....	" 17.22½	" 17.32½
Lard.....	" 9.75	" 9.80

On Wednesday wheat was active and feverish and so was corn. Oats were lower and made quite a break during the day. The provision market was much excited, pork dropping considerably. Lard was irregular and active. Quotations towards the close were:

Wheat.....	June, \$1.05½	July, \$1.06½
Corn.....	" 53½	" 54½
Oats.....	" 38	" 37½
Pork.....	" 16.85	" 16.90
Lard.....	" 9.60	" 9.65

On Thursday the market though active was still very much unsettled, and subject to sudden fluctuations. Provisions were quieter and prices steadier. Quotations towards the close were:

Wheat.....	June, \$1.04½	July, \$1.05½
Corn.....	" 53½	" 54½
Oats.....	" 37½	" 37½
Pork.....	" 16.85	" 16.87½
Lard.....	" 9.67½	" 9.70

On Friday there was considerable excitement but somewhat less of an unsettled feeling than the previous day. Quotations towards the close were:

Wheat.....	June, \$1.04½	July, \$1.05
Corn.....	" 53½	" 54½
Oats.....	" 37½	" 37½
Pork.....	" 16.90	" 16.92
Lard.....	" 9.70	" 9.72

On Saturday wheat was quiet, but a weaker feeling prevailed. Corn was quiet and easier, and oats weaker and lower. Provisions were active, higher, and in good demand. Quotations towards the close were:

Wheat.....	June, \$1.03½	July, \$1.04½
Corn.....	" 53½	" 54½
Oats.....	" 36½	" 36½
Pork.....	" 17.12½	" 17.20½
Lard.....	" 9.80	" 9.90

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

During the week the stock market has continued quiet, and the total amount of transaction has been light. There has been very little fluctuation in quotations. This is the season of annual meetings of bank shareholders, and it is not expected that there will be much briskness in the market until these are all over. The annual reports already made public are very satisfactory. On Tuesday the market was dull but steady, and the feeling prevailed that if the present dullness continued, it is questionable if present prices will be maintained during the next few weeks. Leading operators adhere to the opinion that a lower range of prices will yet be reached. Closing bids as compared with prices of the previous week are as follows:

Dunn, Wiman & Co's. Quarterly Report.

BUSINESS OUTLOOK FOR MANITOBA.

WINNIPEG, June 10, 1883.

Trade circles and especially mercantile ones are carrying a load, caused by overstocking, and the work of absorption goes on slowly. Banks and wholesale merchants and manufacturers with means are pursuing a conservative but

The week has been a very quiet one in grain and produce circles, neither buyers nor sellers seem anxious to operate. Prices have been easier, but the total decline during the week has been small. There is still considerable un-

certainty as to how the crops will turn, recent storms having swept over the country. Until there is a settled feeling it is not expected there will be any partial renewal from the inactivity which has characterized the past few weeks.

WHEAT.

There has been a very slack demand for wheat, as prices have been weak. Offerings are light, quotations are: Fall Wheat, No. 1, \$1.10; No. 2, \$1.07; No. 3, \$1.05. Spring Wheat, No. 1, \$1.09 to \$1.10; No. 2, \$1.07; No. 3, \$1.05.

OATS.

There have been increased offerings during the week, and prices have tended downwards. Quotations are 44 to 46c for good qualities. One day during the week 46½c was paid. Street prices closed at 47c.

BARLEY.

During the week there has been quite a demand, and offerings have been light. No. 1 was wanted and 73 to 75c would have been freely paid for it. No. 2 is worth 63 to 70c; extra No. 3 59 to 60c; No 3 48 to 51c.

RYE

No offering; prices nominal at 65c either in cars or on the street.

POTATOES\*

The supply is not so liberal as it has been, and prices are firmer. Sales on track have been made at 60 to 65c, street prices firm at 70 to 75c per bag.

FLOUR.

The market during the week has been neglected and prices have been steadily tending downwards. Holders have not pressed sales, being of the opinion that July will bring an improvement. Superior extra has ranged from \$4.60 to \$4.67½; extra \$4.55 to \$4.60; inspected on spot \$4.65 to \$4.70.

BUTTER.

Receipts during the week have been sufficient for the demand, which is lighter than it was the week previous. Dealers are exercising caution, owing to the large amount now in the country, and the low price outside, which it is expected will produce a decline in prices. The best price obtainable for the choicest quality is 16c; medium to good is worth 14 to 15c; inferior 12 to 13c; pound rolls in the street are sold at 17 to 18c; large rolls at 15c. No tubs or crocks offering.

CHEESE

In sympathy with outside markets and a considerable fall in England prices are easier; round lots are obtainable at 11c; small lots at 11½ to 12c.

EGGS

are weaker owing to increased supply. Round lots are not worth over 15c; street prices 16c.

PORK

There has been a decline of about \$1 in sympathy with the American market; the ruling figure is \$22.

BACON.

Prices have been easier and the demand rather slack; nothing doing in large lots; tons and cases are worth 11½ to 11¾c for long clear; 10½ to 10¾c for Cumberland; long rolls 13c; short rolls and bellies 14c.

HAMS.

There has been no movement in job lots, and the market has been generally inactive; small lots of smoked are held at 14c for smoked and 14½c for canvassed; pickled 12¾c.

SUNDRIES.

Dried apples 9½ to 9¾c; evaporated do., 16 to 17c; oatmeal per 136 lbs \$5.30 to 5.35; corn mea \$3.75 to 3.90; apples scarce at \$2.75 to 3.50

## Markets by Telegraph.

Special Dispatch to The Commercial.

STOCKS.

TORONTO, Ont., June 25.

Stocks are exceedingly dull and prices weak almost all over; closing bids to-day: Montreal 197½; Ontario 112, sales 112; Toronto 185½, sales 185½; Merchants 123; Commerce 131½; Imperial 143½, sales 143½; Federal 159, sales 159½ and 159½; Dominion 196; Standard 115; Hamilton 116; North-west Land Co. 70½, sales 71; Ontario and Qu'Appelle 150.

TORONTO, June 25.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

The market is inactive and very dull. Flour is in rather better demand; sales of superior extra have been made at \$1.70 and 4.65; bran is easy and offered at \$9.75 for July delivery. Oatmeal is easy; choice sold at \$5.40, but the average offered was \$5.30. Wheat closed decidedly sick, in sympathy with outside markets; No. 2 fall offered at \$1.00½, with \$1.05 bid; No. 2 spring offered at \$1.07, with \$1.06 bid. Oats weak; western sold at 44½ and 46. Barley is inactive. Peas are wanted at 79 to 80c. Butter is weak; selections are selling at 16 to 17c, and 12 to 13c is bid for the remainder. Eggs are weak at 15c for round lots. Meats are very quiet, and prices are easier; long clear in cars is offered at 11½; tons and cases 11½; hams unchanged.

## Bradstreet's Weekly Report.

NEW YORK, June 23, 1883.

The general business situation throughout the United States as reported to Bradstreet's by special telegrams from leading business centres, exhibits additional elements of strength.

These are partly due to the collapse of the Chicago provision corner, and partly to the brighter prospects for an average crop of wheat in many States where irreparable damage was thought to have been done.

Reports from interior towns are to the effect that while the movement of merchandise is only fair, yet a revival in general trade is confidently expected.

Wheat and corn have declined in sympathy with the break in provisions. The position of the foreign grain market does not warrant a belief of an active export demand. The iron market has sustained a slight improvement in some localities, though prices are unchanged. A better feeling, however, is apparent. Coal is still moving west in large quantities, but the eastern markets are dull. Petroleum is some what lower. Ocean freights on the berth are firmer. Chartering has been light. Wool continues quiet, the markets generally ruling weak. There were 178 failures in the United States reported during the past week, 41 more than the corresponding week of 1882, and 93 more than the same week of 1881.

THERE were 165 failures in the United States reported during the past week, 17 more than the preceding week, 61 more than the corresponding week of 1882, and 105 more than the same week of 1881. Canada had 23, a decrease from the previous week.

TELEGRAPH construction follows closely in the wake of the C. P. R. tracklayers, and messages are received daily as the work progresses.

## Winnipeg Labor Market.

There has been very little change in the labor market since our last report. The surplus of labor is much less than it was a few weeks ago. A number of those who failed to obtain work readily left for other points. The demand for labor is not yet brisk, and will not likely be so until towards harvest. The cessation in city improvements has had quite an effect. If these had been carried on as was anticipated a large number who have been obliged to leave the city, or who are now here partly idle would have had no difficulty in obtaining employment. Laborers are now paid from \$1.50 to \$1.75 per day. The C. P. R. pay no higher than \$1.50. Mechanics wages are just about as they were. Blacksmiths can get from \$2.20 to \$2.75; other mechanics all the way from \$2 to \$3 per day. There is not likely to be any keen demand for labor this season, and it is not likely that wages will advance beyond what we have quoted above.

## North-West Crop Prospect.

Each week seems to add to the prospect of an abundant crop, and the one now passed has lent as much to the promise as any. The showers and warm weather of the early days threatened to make growth a little too rapid and rank, but on Saturday and Sunday all over the Red River valley and adjacent country northerly winds prevailed, and a cool spell took place. Wheat is from a foot to eighteen inches high, and a perfect mat with thickness, while its color denotes a most healthy condition.

As stated in another part of our columns, the increase in the wheat acreage in Manitoba over last year is about 55 per cent, while west of the province where new lands are in crop it is much greater. So far all is safe, and with anything like favorable weather from this date forward an unprecedented yield may be expected. All other growing crops look as well as wheat, and in potatoes the acreage is much enlarged compared with last year.

## Wind as a Motive Power.

An American exchange speaking of wind as a source of energy says. When we look at the register of British shipping and see 40,000 vessels, of which 10,000 are steamers and 30,000 sailing ships, and when we think how vast and absolute amount of horse power is developed by the engines of those steamers, and how considerable a portion it forms of the whole horse in the city. At Nelson there were 100,000 head of cattle received, chiefly from the Mennonite settlements. The provision trade has been somewhat affected by the big break in Chicago last week, and although there has not been much change in prices there is a weak feeling.

WHEAT.

Receipts for the week have been light, but the quantity in sight at various points in Southern Manitoba has increased. The ruling figure for a good sample of hard wheat is 80c. The and writing to her, "dearest friend in London" (both sixty years old now if they are living), describes the delight of sitting in a bower and looking over the wintry plain not desolate, because "wind-mills lend additional animation to

the scene," we cannot shut our eyes to a lamentable decadence of wind power. Is this decadence permanent, or may we hope that it is only temporary?

The subterranean coal stores of the world are becoming exhausted surely, and not slowly, the price of coal is upward bound—upward bound on the whole, though no doubt, it will have its ups and downs in the future, as it has had in the past, and as must be the case with every marketable commodity. When the coal is all burned, or long before it is all burned, when there is so little of it left and the coal mines from which that little is to be excavated are so distant and deep and hot that its price to the consumer is greatly higher than at present, it is most probable that wind-mills or wind motors of some kind will be in the ascendant again, and that wind will do man's mechanical work, on the land at least, in proportion comparable to its present doing of work at sea.

## Furniture Manufacture.

The investigator is amazed at the gigantic proportions attained by the infant industry of thirty years ago. Then less than 24,000 operators were employed, producing about nineteen and one-half millions per annum; now at least 80,000 persons are engaged in producing furniture, the value of the annual product reaching the magnificent total of \$110,000,000 to \$120,000,000. The cost of production has steadily decreased as the efficiency of machinery has increased, and the quantity of furniture now valued at \$120,000,000 per annum is many times greater than the same sum of money would have purchased thirty years ago, and so much more generally is furniture purchased now than then, that every inhabitant of America spends annually for furniture \$2.67 for every dollar spent in 1850.

In the past ten years the main growth in furniture manufacture has been in the Western States, various causes combining to move the centres of production from their established seat in the eastern cities. The main causes operating to bring about this result are: the shifting of the centres of population, the great demand incident to the newly-settled and prosperous west, and the location of the lumber supply. These causes have exerted different degrees of influence, so that some branches of furniture manufacture in the East have been almost annihilated by Western competition, others have prospered, suffering only a partial curtailment of their Western trade. The former class is made up of those manufactures requiring much lumber, while chairs, upholstered furniture, etc., have suffered very little by the growth of manufactories of those articles in the West. In the eastern cities as a rule, but little growth is shown, New York, Boston and Philadelphia being about stationary since 1870, but this is owing doubtless to high rates of taxation, as in rural districts of New York, Massachusetts, and in some of the municipalities as Brooklyn, there is a fair increase.—New York *Banker's Magazine*.

THE liabilities of J. McGeoch, Everingham & Co., Chicago, who recently failed, are now said to be over six millions or dollars.

### Insurance Mismanagement.

One of the bulwarks of modern business, and one which affords protection to the merchant and at the same time to his creditors, should misfortune in the shape of fire cause the destruction of his goods, is insurance. It is therefore of the greatest importance that the companies who undertake the responsibility of insurance, should conduct their business in such a manner as to establish and deserve the fullest confidence of their customers. It is no unusual occurrence to read in the wholesaler's invoice to his customer the legend, "are you insured," thus indicating the importance placed upon it, and rightly too. It is one of the foundation planks upon which the retailer obtains his credit; and without it the wholesaler very reluctantly sells his wares unless for cash, and if time were wanted it would in all well regulated establishments be refused.

The majority of insurance companies doing business in Canada are, we believe thoroughly reliable and prepared to meet all their obligations without difficulty. But now and then there do come to the surface facts which tend to shake the public confidence. This is notably the case with recent revelations in connection with the business management of the Standard Fire Insurance Company of Hamilton, and it is pleasing to notice that there is one insurance journal at least in the Dominion which is not afraid to show up to the public the exact state of affairs and let in the daylight upon its internal management. The journal we refer to is *Insurance and Real Estate Society of Montreal*. A short time ago the editor of that paper undertook to criticise the report issued by the Standard's secretary, for which that officer took him severely to task in a circular which he issued to his policy holders, trying to put matters in such a light as would satisfy them. This led the editor to investigate more thoroughly into the company's affairs, and the result must have been rather aggravating to the said secretary. He instituted a comparison of the reports of 1882 as furnished to the Government, and that submitted to the public. We have space for only a few items. The figures first given are those as reported to the Government; those that follow are what the public were shown:

Total assets, \$109,757.25; \$88,325.11. Total liabilities, \$113,962.65; \$97,295.29. Liabilities to policy holders, \$82,526.75; \$64,859.39. Bills payable, \$31,634.10; \$23,771.49. Unpaid losses, \$17,676; \$6,676. Net premium income, \$61,200.16; \$78,215.37. Losses paid, \$44,355.32; \$34,669.78. Total disbursements, \$75,761.15; \$62,805.25. This is certainly a remarkable statement, but we cannot do better than quote our contemporary's own words: The net premium income by the one report is \$61,200.16, and by the other \$78,215.37, and by a curious coincidence the Government statement, which gives the smallest income, states that the losses paid are about \$10,000 more than published, while the commissions and expenses are about \$2,000 more. Thus by the Government statement the amount paid for losses and expenses exceeded the premium income by over \$6,000, while the Company published to the world that it had

made a profit of about \$20,000! on the year's operations.

But we need go no further. Our readers can examine the figures carefully for themselves. We confess though that they are beyond us. We know not what to think of them. How such a Company, issuing such statements, and having a paid up capital of only \$32,000, which it admits to be impaired either \$4,000 or \$9,000, at the very least, can retain the confidence of even a small section of the public, is beyond our comprehension. If we wished to do a man an injury we might induce him to insure in the Standard of Hamilton, but we would certainly advise a friend, especially if living in the Province of Quebec, where the company is doing business illegally, to avoid it as it would tar.

In another place it says: The loss ratio of the Standard Fire Insurance Company of Hamilton, according to the Government report for 1882, is 78 per cent (not including the \$6,487 unpaid losses brought forward from 1881), to which if we add the management expenses, 39 per cent, it will give a total of 117 per cent. This we are informed is a good showing, although it is only 17 per cent on the wrong side.

### BANKRUPT STOCKS.

To the Editor of the Commercial

It is encouraging to the retail trade, to learn that the wholesale firms are making efforts to protect us from this "wholesale-retail slaughter" that seems to surround us on all sides; as it is swamping the retail, so will it demoralize the wholesale trade, if something is not done and that soon, to avert a sure financial and commercial calamity. The wholesale trade in their respective departments, have the lever in their own hands; they can so direct the movements of such stocks, that they need not be "selling off" unless en-bloc; perhaps next door to some of their best retail cash customers. The appointment of one or more competent agents in certain districts or towns in the province would be much more economical than to have such stocks in the hands of sheriffs or bailiffs, who seldom know the value of any class of goods. It would be a great saving to the creditors of time and money, and certainly a great relief to the retailers, who expect to pay cent per cent by a fair profit, and by an honest and legitimate trade. Yours, &c.,

MERCHANT.

Portage la Prairie,  
June 20th, 1883.

### Dunn, Wiman & Co's. Quarterly Report.

BUSINESS OUTLOOK FOR MANITOBA.

WINNIPEG, June 10, 1883.

Trade circles and especially mercantile ones are carrying a load, caused by overstocking, and the work of absorption goes on slowly. Banks and wholesale merchants and manufacturers with means are pursuing a conservative but generous policy to mitigate the evil as much as possible, and the whole business community are making arrangements to grapple with the difficulty, which may be the result of recklessness but not of rottenness.

The principal hope of permanent relief comes

from the crop reports, which are of the most encouraging description. The Department of Agriculture reports from over 200 townships, which will be published in a few days, are very cheering, and old settlers say the crops never looked better in June. An average of the estimates of parties interested in grain exportation, places the wheat available for export at over 2,000,000 bushels, allowing ordinary good success with crops from this time forward. Of the crop of 1882, about 450,000 bushels were exported, about half of that quantity in good condition is still available, and over one-fourth of the wheat last year was damaged by fall rains beyond use for milling or exporting. With the greatly increased aggregate, and better prospects of crops 2,000,000 bushels is quite a moderate estimate for 1883.

### EMERSON.

Business during the week has not shown much signs of improvement over the past two or three, and until after harvest it is not expected that there will be much of a revival. People have been paying more attention to electioneering than anything else lately.

The number of strangers constantly visiting our town to spy out the land indicates the favor with which this district is viewed by capitalists.

### PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE.

Business for the week has been quiet.

Work on the new oatmeal mill is to be commenced shortly.

The *Review* has discontinued its semi weekly publication, and now appears as a weekly.

It has been decided by the Council to grant a bonus of \$50,000 to the Manitoba and Northwestern railway, which will be shortly submitted to the people.

A meeting of the shareholders of the knitting factory was held on Tuesday evening last. A financial statement was presented, when the meeting adjourned till the 29th inst.

A Mr. Bunce, from Ontario, has been here trying to make arrangements with Mr. Hay, of the foundry here, to enter into the manufacture of bells. We have not as yet learned the result of their negotiations.

McIlvaine's paper mill had a narrow escape from destruction by fire on Thursday, a quantity of straw stored at a short distance from the mill having become ignited. Mr. M.'s loss on straw is about \$1,000; no insurance.

The annual meeting of the Portage Manufacturing Company was held last week. The statement of assets and liabilities showed a deficit. This was accounted for to a large extent by the amount of surplus expensive machinery accumulated under the late management, also to useless machinery and experiments. It was decided to get rid of all the stock that could be spared at such prices as it would realize, and call another meeting of the stockholders at an early date to consider what course to pursue, whether to continue the concern or close it up for a term. Directors for the ensuing year were elected as follows:—E. Porter, F. McLean, H. R. Banks, A. Mowat, C. B. Glass, J. A. Little and T. B. Millar.

## STONEWALL.

The Stonewall *News* is in some trouble. The office was locked up the other day on a landlord's warrant.

Mr. William Jackson intends putting up two comfortable dwelling houses on Graham avenue. R. Lowes has the contract.

The builders here having contracts on hand will be pleased to hear that the machinery for the new planing mill has arrived, and will be set up in a few days.

Work in the quarries has not been resumed yet, but a considerable quantity of rubble stone is being shipped to the city. Although quite a number of the quarry men have left the village, we cannot say that business has yet been affected by it.

The crops in the neighborhood, owing to the late rains and warm weather, are looking splendidly. Farmers are showing their satisfaction at the prospects by more frequent purchases, and a number of them are going into extensive improvements on their farm buildings.

## MEDICINE HAT.

*From a Special correspondent.*

The stage leaves here weekly for Fort McLeod.

Mr. J. C. O'Neil intends to place on the river some pleasure skiffs.

The soil is rather light on the surface, but supported by a hard clay bottom.

The Dominion Express Co. have a branch office here with Tweed & Ewart as agents.

Lumber is arriving to suit the demand, which is not as large as might be were the town site surveyed.

The winter in this part is about the same as that in Montana, so says Mr. S. R. Brady, who has experienced both.

Mr. Scarth and party paid the town a visit, one of whom informed us the survey could not be touched for some time.

The land surrounding the town looked very thirsty, notwithstanding abundance of rain having fallen the week previous.

We bespeak for Medicine Hat prosperity, at the same time consider the present size of the town large enough for this summer's business.

Another company have launched a small steamer to carry men up the river, and to bring coal down from a mine about 120 miles up the stream.

The Post office is in good running order with Mr. T. Tweed as postmaster, much to the convenience of the public, as great complaint used to be made at the frequent loss of letters and papers.

A quantity of coal has been brought from the mine, six miles up the river, and tested, proving to be of good quality. Should the vein prove inexhaustible Medicine Hat is no doubt, from this fact alone, destined to be one of the largest cities in the west.

The temporary railway bridge is of wood, over 1,000 ft. in length, 36 feet above the water. The whole construction was completed in 20 days. During the summer the wooden bridge is to be supplanted by an iron one. The depth of water is about 15 feet.

Since the report of your special of last week the town has continued to spread until now it is quite large enough for the present demand in most lines. To the report of last issue we add the Royal Hotel and others just being fitted up, one feed and livery, lumber office—branch of H. R. Banks & Co.; there are two billiard halls, two bakeries and three restaurants.

## BRANDON.

A company is about being formed for the purpose of building another elevator here.

The beautiful weather is bringing on the crops most rapidly, and from present appearances a large harvest may be expected.

The Ogilvies are bringing in lumber for their new elevator, which will be built at once, and will be ready for the fall and winter business.

It is rumored that a prominent firm of builders and contractors is in a tight corner; they will, however, in all probability pull through.

Business has been very good during the past week in all branches, more particularly in the hardware line, some heavy sales having been made.

Messrs. Miller, McQuarrie & Co. have dissolved partnership, and their planing mill and contracting business will be carried on by Miller & McQuarrie.

The owners of section 22 are opening out new roads on their estate. It is their intention to boom this part of the city, as it is well adapted for building purposes.

Mr. Lawrence Buchan has been appointed agent for the Anderson estate here. It is intended to offer great inducements to persons building in that section of the town.

The Brandon station has been in its present unfinished state for some months; the question is when will it be bricked over. Its appearance gives visitors an unfavorable impression.

Mr. Fred. Hesson, son of the member of parliament for county of Perth, has been appointed collector of customs for this Port. The appointment gives general satisfaction to the business men of Brandon, as he is well and favorably known.

## MOOSE JAW.

The town is well represented in the hotel line.

Moose Jaw supports seven lawyers, three M. D's., and two drug stores.

The public school is not opened yet, but Miss Wells conducts a private school.

Mr. Wilson is commencing a brick yard here. This enterprise is highly commendable as the material is badly needed.

There is a new English Church in course of erection. The building we were told is intended to be used for school purposes during the week.

Plans have been prepared for water power, and if carried into effect the dam will be just east of the station. The estimated cost is \$20,000.

The Presbyterian people are completing arrangements for their new church to be built this summer. They hold services now in Florida & McIntosh's hall.

A meeting of the citizens was held on the 14th inst. to consider the question of fire protection. Committees were appointed and are busy at work and meeting with great success.

Moose Jaw is asking the Government for a money order office, registry office, Dominion lands office, a seat at the Board of the Northwest Council, and a settlement of the squatters' claims.

A short time ago we attended a concert in the hall, the proceeds to go towards the organ fund. The programme was excellent. Mrs. White-Fraser's successes added much to the enjoyment.

The citizens had a deputation to interview Mr. Scarth regarding fire protection, market square and school sites, and it is understood that he will cooperate heartily with them in furthering the interests of the town.

## RAT PORTAGE.

G. A. Kobola & Bro., butchers, import their meat alive.

Fitzgerald & Laurenson, are laying out the south addition to Rat Portage.

Jas. Robertson, life insurance agent, of Winnipeg, has taken up his residence here.

The Rainy Lake Lumber Company are erecting a large boarding house across Rat creek.

Business, though not rushing, continues steadily to increase, causing a gradual, healthy growth.

The Dominion Organ and Piano Company, of Bowmanville, have appointed Jas. H. Webb their agent here.

James Gore is erecting a new building on Main st., opposite the post office for lease for business purposes.

The streets of Rat Portage are being graded at the expense of the Ontario Government to the amount of \$400.

M. McQuarrie, formerly of Emerson, has opened out a stock of groceries in his new premises opposite the Rideout House.

The Winnipeg Lumber Company's new steamer the Princess, was launched on the 14th, and the machinery is now being put in.

C. M. Claus, of the firm of Alexander & Claus, publishers of the Progress, returned on the 23rd inst. from Toronto, where he took unto himself a wife.

A tow of two thousand logs was brought in on the 22nd by the steamer Couchiching for the Rainy Lake Lumber Company's mill, which started cutting on the 23rd and is running day and night.

The mayor and council have not yet collected the taxes for 1882, fearing to make themselves personally responsible should they insist on their collection. Those who elected them would now thank them to resign.

The Government has decided to make no further grants to colonization railway companies in the Northwest for the present, and until the present chartered railways are completed there will be no further sales of lands. If, however, it is found necessary in the interests of the country to make further grants the price will be raised at least fifty cents per acre, this conclusion being arrived at owing to the rapid increase of immigration into the Northwest.

**The Frog Industry.**

The following facts concerning the "frog industry" are taken from a Boston exchange:—"A few years ago frogs' hind legs were a comparatively rare dish in Boston, but now they are regularly served at all first-class hotels and restaurants, and a considerable number are sold for family use. The demand is fully three times what it was two years ago, and frog-catching and preparing for market is now a recognized business. The Boston market is supplied with frogs from the country towns in this vicinity, from Cape Cod and from Maine, and a few are received from New Hampshire and Vermont. The Maine frogs are caught and kept in fresh water until needed, and then shipped alive in crates made for the purpose, and provided with wet moss, hay or seaweed. They are kept here and killed as needed. The Cape frogs are dressed before shipping. On the Cape, the men who are in this business employ a number of boys to catch the frogs, and have a number of ponds penned up. One Cape man sends from 50 to 100 dozen per week to this market. A dealer in frogs in this city employs over one hundred boys in the surrounding country towns in catching frogs, but cannot supply the demand for them. The northern frogs are said to be the larger, but the Massachusetts frog is livier and furnishes better eating. Prices in this market range from 30c to 50c per dozen, sometimes even higher, according to size and quality. Canada used to ship the frogs' legs packed in ice, and used to supply this market almost wholly, a few years ago, but the competition of the domestic article has driven the foreign out of the market, and the Canadians now ship wholly to New York city. All kinds of frogs are eaten, but the speckled frog is said to be the most tender. Some frogs have recently been shipped alive to England by a Boston dealer, and were received in good order. It is possible that an export business may be developed, as the first lot was readily disposed of and as the bull-frog is not an inhabitant of British waters.

GRADING on the Selkirk and Winnipeg branch of the C. P. R. is nearly completed.

AN order in Council has been passed approving of the tariff on the western section of the Canadian Pacific Railway. It is stated that although the rates are higher than those of the eastern railway, they are not out of proportion when the great expense of working railways in a country such as that traversed by the western sections of the Canadian Pacific Railway is taken into consideration. The tariff gives exceptional advantages in the way of rates for transportation of settlers' effects. It is only approved for one year.

**JAMES A. LOUGHEED,**  
Barrister, Attorney, Solicitor, Notary Public, &c.  
MEDICINE HAT,  
NORTH-WEST TERRITORY.

**Westman Baker,**  
119 Bay St., Toronto, Ont.  
Manufacturers of the latest Improved  
**GORDON PRESSES,**  
PAPER CUTTERS, BOOKBINDERS  
STANDING PRESSES,  
LITHOGRAPHERS HAND PRESSES,  
COUNTING MACHINES, CHASES, &c.  
All kinds of large printing presses set up and adjusted.  
Send for Price List.

**ENGINEER,**

Twenty five years experience and practice, both Civil and Mechanical, wishes for employment in Manitoba. First-class References and Testimonials. Is well qualified in calculating and designing for water or steam power, bridge work, surveying and leveling. Good Draughtsman, and has been for twenty years member of the Institute of Civil Engineers, Ireland.

Address,  
X. Y.,  
Post Office Dalky, Co. Dublin, Ireland.

**J. JOHNSON,**  
MANUFACTURER OF—  
**Caps and Furs,**  
No. 19 FRONT ST. W.,  
**TORONTO, - - ONT.**

**Thompson,**  
**Codville & Co.,**

**WHOLESALE GROCERS,**  
26 McDermott Street,  
**WINNIPEG.**

**REMOVAL.**  
**Mr. Jos. Barrowlough,**  
Manufacturer of every class of  
**MATTRESSES,**  
AND  
Fiber and Curled Hair,  
Has removed his business to Union Point, near Winnipeg, where he still conducts an extensive business in that line. Post Office address, St. Agathe, Man.

**TO THE TRADE.**

The undersigned are now prepared to supply the Trade with their manufactures, viz:

**Biscuit and Pilot Bread. Corn Brooms. Coffees and Spices. Self-Raising Flour.**

BISCUITS are packed in barrels, boxes and cartons. COFFEES AND SPICES in bulk, barrels and boxes. Packages—1 lb. and 1 lb., 10 or 20 lb. boxes; tins of 6 or 10 lbs. each.

SELF RAISING FLOUR—3 or 6 lb. packages in barrels or boxes.

Their facilities for the manufacture of goods in the above lines are equal to any firm in the North-west, and they solicit orders, confident that in quality and price goods will be found satisfactory.

**WOODS, OVENS & CO.,**

Factory and Office—Cor. Higgins and Fonseca streets; or orders may be left at office of WOODS & CO., Alexander street, 4 doors west of Main. Telephone communication in a few days.

**NOTHING LIKE LEATHER.**

**W. N. JOHNSTON & CO.,**

Importers and Dealers in

**Leather, Findings, Plasterers' Hair**

**HIDES AND OIL.**

No. 8 Logan St., West. Winnipeg.

**VIPOND, M<sup>C</sup>BRIDE & CO.,**

**COMMISSION MERCHANTS**

AND IMPORTERS OF

**Foreign & Domestic Fruits**

18 Alexander St., East, Winnipeg, & 261 & 263 Commissioner St., Montreal.

**ROLLS & NEELANDS,**

IMPORTERS,

**Wholesale Druggists**

AND

**Manufacturing Chemists,**

WINNIPEG.

**FULL STOCK**

Teas,  
Sugars,  
Syrups,  
Molasses,  
AND  
Coffees,

**GENERAL GROCERIES.**

**MacNab, MacLean & Co.,**

WHOLESALE GROCERS,  
OFFICE AND SAMPLE ROOM 8 and 10 James Street, West,  
WINNIPEG.



Manitoba Steam Coffee and Spice Mills.

**G. N. SCOTT & CO.**

IMPORTERS, MANUFACTURERS AND WHOLESALE DEALERS IN  
**Coffees, Spices**  
MUSTARDS AND GROCERS SPECIALTIES.  
Roasting and Grinding for the Trade.  
Telephone Communication. P. O. 935 Winnipeg.

**JAMES ROBERTSON & CO.,**

—IMPORTERS OF—  
**TINSMITHS' AND PLUMBERS' SUPPLIES**  
AND GENERAL  
**METAL MERCHANTS.**  
11 McWILLIAM ST., EAST,  
WINNIPEG.  
JAS. THES, Manager. WHOLESALE ONLY

R. JAMES BANNATYNE. ANDREW STRANGER  
**BANNATYNE & CO.**

(SUCCESSORS TO A. G. B. BANNATYNE)

**WHOLESALE GROCERS**

AND DEALERS IN  
Provisions, Wines & Liquors.  
383 MAIN STREET, WINNIPEG, MAN.

**BALFOUR & FRASER**

MANUFACTURERS & DEALERS IN ALL KINDS OF  
**Oak, Dimension Timbers,**  
**Sleigh Material, Bent**  
**Stuff, etc., etc.**

**Bridge & Ship Timber**  
**a Specialty.**

Bridges Built on short notice. Plans  
and estimates furnished on Application  
P. O. BOX 32. EMERSON, MAN.

**CAUTION.**

We beg to call attention to the very close imitation of  
our bottled whiskey, which is being shipped to Manitoba  
and sold, we have reason to believe, for the original RED  
SEAL, which we have registered at Ottawa under the

TRADE MARK OF "W. F. L."

The Red Seal and Label are imitated almost exactly; but  
our whiskey bears our own signature on

**CORKS, LABELS AND CASES,**

besides Dr. Girdwood's certificate attached to every bot-  
tle, which we have placed thereon because of the imita-  
tions of the other labels.

Montreal, April, 1883.

W. F. LEWIS & CO.

**ON HAND**  
**Pressed Hay for Sale Low.**

AGENT FOR  
**Emerson & Fisher's MARLEIZED MANTLES.**  
Parties requiring same will do well to leave their orders  
early.  
**B. V. MILLIDGE,**  
824 Main St., Corner Sutherland St., Winnipeg.

STEEL CUSHIONED  
**BILLIARD TABLES.**  
**SAMUEL MAY.**  
MANUFACTURER,

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Sole Agent for Manitoba and the North West  
Territories.  
P. O. Box 1012, or Room 32 Club Chambers,  
Winnipeg.

W. R. LANGRIDGE. A. McD. WILSON.  
**LANGRIDGE & WILSON,**

**WHOLESALE**  
**DRUGGISTS,**

**PRINCESS ST.**  
Between McDermott & Bannatyne,  
WINNIPEG.

SEND FOR QUOTATIONS.



**Ontario Metallic Spinning Co.,**  
**WOODSTOCK, ONT.**

Manufacturers of the best and cheapest four-pointed

**BARBED STEEL WIRE**

made. Over FOUR THOUSAND MILES already put up  
on the Canadian Pacific Railway and in the North-west.  
For circulars and prices apply to

R. J. SHORT, Agent,  
Opp. C. P. R. Freight Shed, Point Douglas.  
P. O. Box 944.

**CLOVIS LUCIER,**

Manufacturer of  
Saddlery, Harness, Whips, Curry Combs, Horse  
Brushes, Blankets, Bells, Spurs, etc.  
Collars and Fine Harness a Specialty. Special Attention  
to Outfitting Emigrants.  
68 Princess Street, facing Market Square, Winnipeg.

**LEVETUS, WRIGHT & CO.,**

IMPORTERS OF  
**Jewelry, Watches, Etc.,**  
WHOLESALE ONLY.  
Agents for Montreal Optical Co.  
Office and Sample Rooms, Bird Block,  
433 Main Street.  
WINNIPEG, - MANITOBA.

**LINKLATER & DESLAURIER S**

WHOLESALE DEALERS IN

**Hardware, Stoves & Tinware**

MANUFACTURERS OF  
**GALVANIZED IRON COORNICES.**  
Roofing, Steam Heating, Plumbing and Gas Fitting and  
General Jobbing promptly attended to.  
520 & 522 MAIN STREET, WINNIPEG.

**G. F. STEPHENS & CO.,**

Importers of and Wholesale Dealers in  
**PLAIN, FANCY AND PLATE**

**WINDOW GLASS**

Mirror Plates, Paints, Colors, White Lead, Oils,  
Varnishes, Brushes, &c.

93 Portage Avenue, - - WINNIPEG

Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Omaha, &  
North-Western Railways.

GOING EAST.  
Express trains leave Minneapolis at 1.00 p.m. and 8.00  
p.m.; and St. Paul, 1.45 p.m. and 8.45 p.m.; arriving in  
Chicago at 7.0 a.m. and 2.00 p.m.

COMING WEST.  
Express trains leave Chicago at 11.30 a.m. (except Sun  
day) and 9.00 p.m., arriving at St. Paul at 6.15 a.m. and  
12.45 p.m., and Minneapolis at 7.00 a.m. and 1.30 p.m.  
This is the only line between St. Paul and Chicago run-  
ning the Pullman Smoking Room Sleepers, and Palace  
dining cars.

GOING SOUTHWEST.  
The Chicago 5 p.m., and Omaha trains leave St. Paul  
for Sioux City, Omaha, Kansas City and San Francisco at  
10 a.m. and 3.30 p.m.

**St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba.**  
SOUTHEASTWARD.

Express leaves St. Vincent at 11.15 p.m. and 11.30 a. m.  
arriving at St. Paul at 6.20 p. m. and 8.10 a. m. the day  
following, making close connections with train  
running in all directions.

NORTHEASTWARD.  
Express leaves St. Paul at 7.00 p.m. and 8.00 a.m.,  
arriving at St. Vincent at 4.20 p.m. and 3.45 a.m. the day  
following, making close connections with the Canadian  
Pacific.

Trains run between St. Paul and Minneapolis almost  
every hour.  
Sleeping cars on all night trains.  
Trains run no St. Paul time.

**Michigan Central.**

EASTWARD.  
Express trains leave Chicago at 6:45 a. m., 9:00 a. m.  
3:30 p.m., 6:15 p.m. and 9:10 p.m.; arriving at Detroit at  
6:15 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 11:40 p.m., 4:35 a.m. and 8:00 a.m.

All trains make close connection at Detroit with the  
Great Western and Canada Southern for points east,  
through sleepers being attached.

WESTWARD.  
Express Trains leave Detroit at 7:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m.,  
8:00 p.m. and 9:50 p.m.; arriving in Chicago at 6:50 p.m.,  
7:40 p.m., 7:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m.

These trains take the through sleepers from Great  
Western, and Canada Southern, and make close connec-  
tion at Chicago with the trains of other roads.  
Dining car on trains for breakfast and supper.

**WINNIPEG IRON WORKS CO.,**

Cor. of Post Office and Victoria Sts.,  
Manufacturers of  
**Shafting, Hangers, Pulleys,**  
**Brass and Iron Castings**  
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.  
Iron Columns, Gratings, Forgings, Light  
and Heavy, General Blacksmithing, all  
kinds of Iron Work, Millwrighting, etc.  
Our Shops have been fitted up with the LATEST  
IMPROVED MACHINERY and satisfaction  
warranted in all kinds of work.

**Canadian Pacific R'y Co.**

(WESTERN DIVISION)

TRAIN SERVICE.

**CHANGE OF TIME**

On and after April 1st, 1883, trains will move as follows:

Going west.		Going East
8.15 a.m. leave Winnipeg	arrive 6.05 p.m.	
11.10 " Portage la Prairie	3.15 "	
2.30 p.m. Brandon	12.01 "	
4.15 " Oak Lake	10.20 a.m.	
11.50 " Broadview	3.30 "	
5.55 a.m. Regina	3.30 p.m.	
10.55 " Moose Jaw	4.15 "	
9.00 p.m. av Swift Current	lv 7.00 a.m.	

9.40 a.m. leave Itat Portage	arrive 4.03 p.m.
1.40 p.m. Whitemouth	12.20 "
3.45 " Selkirk	9.50 a.m.
4.55 " arrive Winnipeg	leave 8.45 "

8.25 a.m. leave Winnipeg	arrive 4.10 p.m.
9.45 " arrive Stonewall	leave 2.30 "

Daily except Sundays.

Going South.		Going North.
Leave Winnipeg		Arrive
7.35 a.m. Otterburn.	10.35 a.m.	7.00 p.m.
8.50 a.m. Emorson.	5.20 a.m.	5.50 p.m.
10.25 a.m. St. Vincent.	4.05 a.m.	4.40 p.m.
10.40 a.m. arrive	10.23 p.m.	3.45 a.m. 4.20 p.m.

Daily.  
Daily except Saturdays.  
Daily except Mondays.

**SOUTHWESTERN BRANCH.**

Going South.		Going North.
Lv 7.50 a.m. Winnipeg	8.50 p.m.	4.30 p.m. Av.
" 11.40 " Morris	4.45 "	12.25 " "
Ar 1.55 p.m. Gretna	2.30 "	lv.
" 5.00 " Manitoba City		7.35 a.m. "

Mondays and Thursdays to Gretna and return.  
Tuesdays and Fridays to Manitoba City and returning from there on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

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Magnificent Palace Sleeping Cars will be run daily between Winnipeg and Regina.

Trains move on Winnipeg time

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W. C. VAN HORNE, Gen. Manager.  
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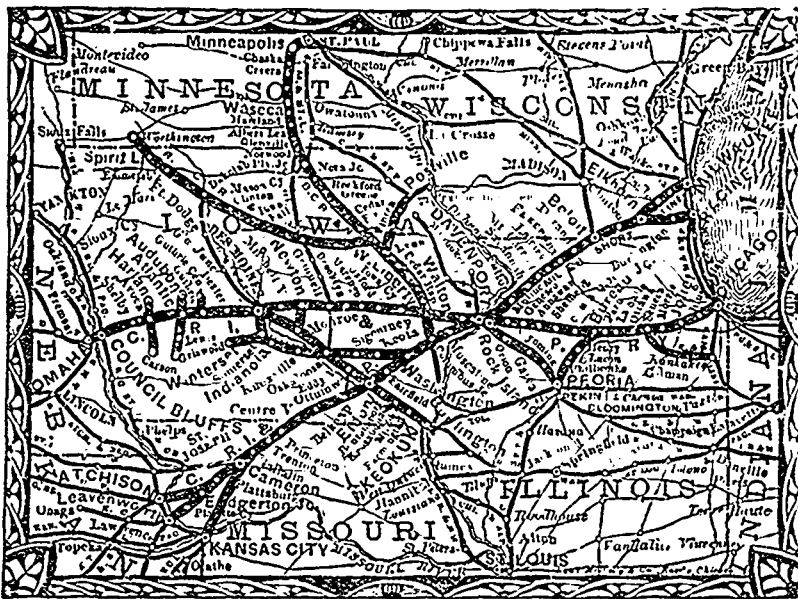


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  - H.—Prices of labor and material in your locality.
- Give full name and address with nearest Post office.

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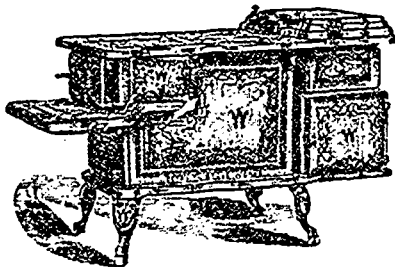
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Capacity.....750 Barrels per day.

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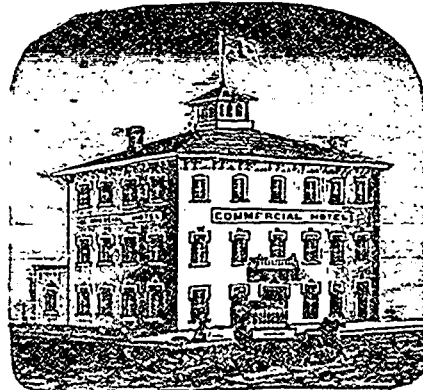
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