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B. Jennings, Asst. Cashier. E. Hay, Inspector

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Capital Paid up..... 1,500,000.00
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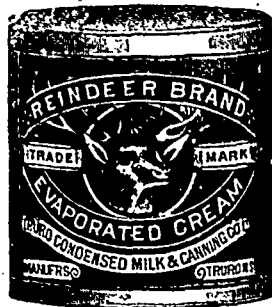
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The Commercial certainly enjoys a very much larger circulation among the business community of the country between Lake Superior and the Pacific Coast, than any other paper in Canada, daily or weekly. By a thorough system of personal solicitation, carried out annually, this Journal has been placed upon the desks of a great majority of business men in the east district described above, and including Northwest Ontario, the provinces of Manitoba, and British Columbia, and the territories of Assiniboia, Alberta and Saskatchewan. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 11, 1895.

Manitoba.

W. H. Daubney, publisher of the Deloraine Times, is dead.

The grocery stock of Ford & Lowe, Winnipeg, will be sold at a rate on the dollar on Monday, Feb. 11. Stock amounts to \$2,490.

The round house of the Great North West Central railway at Chater was burned to the ground on Feb. 2, with the only two locomotives the road had.

A meeting of those interested in the formation of a Board of Trade was held at Selkirk recently and a committee appointed to canvass the town for the necessary number of charter members.

An effort is being made to start a cheese and butter manufacturing company in Arden. No better place for such an industry can be found on the line of the Manitoba and Northwestern Railway.

Among the important measures to be introduced at the coming session by the local government is a bill on dairying, which is expected to greatly assist in the advancement of this industry in the province.

It is good news to learn that the government of Manitoba intends to employ a competent instructor in dairying. This would indicate that the government is alive to the necessity of encouraging this important interest.

The Manitoba Gazette contains an official proclamation summoning the members of the Manitoba Legislature for Thursday, Feb. 14, for the despatch of business. It is not expected that the sitting will extend beyond five or six weeks.

J. Corbett & Co., clothing and furnishings, Winnipeg, have sold out to R. B. Rodgers, who will continue the business. Mr. Rodgers is a brother of Geo. H. Rodgers, of Geo. H. Rodgers & Co., wholesale dry goods dealers, of Winnipeg.

The first contract for building improvements for the year in Winnipeg was awarded on Tuesday to Contractor D. D. Wood. The contract is the placing of a stone foundation under the Harris block at the corner of Main street and Market avenue for Crotty & Cross.

Before Justice Bain at Winnipeg, in the Commercial bank winding up proceedings on the application of the liquidators an order

was made for the payment of fifty per cent of the double liability by the English and foreign shareholders, payable ten per cent on the 1st April, June, August, October and November next. This completes the call of fifty per cent on all the stock.

The early closing by-law in Winnipeg, so far as grocery stores are concerned, has been quashed. In the case against F. Cloutier, for keeping open after the stipulated hour, it was shown that the law had been improperly enforced, the requisite two-thirds of the grocers of the city not having petitioned to have the act brought into force. The case was therefore dismissed. This case does not in any way test or effect the constitutionality of the law.

The Winnipeg board of trade is to be congratulated upon the selection of officers for 1895. Mr. R. T. Riley as president and Mr. Matthewson, manager of the Bank of Commerce, as vice, will make a strong and active team, who may be relied upon when hard work is to be done. In again re-electing Mr. Bell as secretary, the board could not do a better act. The council is composed of energetic members, who will no doubt have a good report to present one year hence.

Fire broke out Sunday morning in Jacob Winigraska's fruit and confectionery store, Winnipeg, located in a frame building on Portage avenue, next to the Queen's hotel. The flames had gained considerable headway before being discovered, but were speedily extinguished. The damage to the building was not extensive, but Winigraska's stock was nearly all destroyed, chiefly by smoke and water. The stock and fittings were valued at \$1,900, and were insured for \$1,400. The fire was caused, it is supposed, by an overheated stove.

A correspondent at Hilton writes as follows: "Hilton wants some one to open a good general store, a saddler and a doctor would also do well here. There is not a better point in the province for business men than Hilton, surrounded with a first-class farming country, thickly settled with well-to-do farmers. A good little town with good school, churches, etc., a hardware store, flour and feed store, two blacksmith shops, a large livery stable, large hotel, large elevator, two grain buyers and a lumber yard are among the business establishments of the place. A suitable building for a store can be obtained from C. Christie.

The following is a statement showing value of goods exported, entered for consumption and duty collected during January, 1895, and compared with same month 1894, at Winnipeg.

DESCRIPTION	VALUE 1894.	VALUE 1895.
Exported.....	\$110,574 00	\$128,420 00
Entered for consumption, dutiable.....	142,480 00	101,517 00
Entered for consumption, free...	33,429 00	35,787 00

Total for consumption..... \$175,859 60 \$187,804 00
Duty collected..... \$ 48,269 00 \$ 92,877 11

A considerable agitation has been going on in Winnipeg for a reduction in the price of bread, the bakers having recently advanced the price to 18 loaves for \$1, on credit, or 20 loaves for cash in advance. The trouble seems to be mainly with those who buy bread by the single loaf, in which case 10 cents was charged, as the bakers here, like other business places, do not have any smaller change than the 5 cent silver piece. Thus the very poor people who could not always buy \$1 worth of bread tickets in advance, were compelled to pay double the price of those who could pay for their bread in advance to the extent of \$1. Some of the bak-

ers are now meeting this reasonable objection by selling single loaves for 5 cents, or the same price as when one dollar's worth of bread is purchased at a time.

Alberta.

The Northwest Trading Company advertises its retail business in Calgary for sale, it being the intention of the Company to restrict its future operations to its wholesale trade.

N. D. Jackson, late of Red Deer, has moved to Edmonton, where he has started business as an auctioneer and general shipping agent under the style of Jackson & Co.

The Northwest Trading Company, of Calgary, contemplates establishing a pork packing factory. They are giving up their retail departments as soon as they can sell out these branches.

Saskatchewan.

The Prince Albert Board of Trade has addressed a circular letter to Territorial boards of Trade, town and city councils and members of the legislative assembly and prominent men throughout the territories asking expressions of opinion as to the feasibility of holding a convention at Regina during the Territorial Exhibition, on the subject of the Hudson's Bay Railway.

Northwest Ontario.

Hoover Bros. gents' furnishings, Port Arthur, have made an assignment to Mr. Duffield, of the W. E. Sanford Manufacturing Company.

The Port Arthur board of trade held its annual meeting on Feb. 6. Jas. A. Fraser was elected president, James J. O'Connor, vice-president, H. A. McKibben secretary-treasurer, and S. W. Ray, Franklin, S. Wiley, George T. Marks, Geo. W. Brown, Daniel F. Burk, Joseph Brimson, William W. Russell, George Hodder, Joseph G. King, W. J. Schwigler, W. C. Doble and Jas. Meek, members of the council.

Freight Rates and Traffic.

The Minneapolis Market Record of Feb. 6 says: The open tariffs published make through rates on flour from Minneapolis to European ports in cents per cwt. as follows: Liverpool, 42.88; London, 42.88; Glasgow, 44.88; Bristol, 44.88; Amsterdam, 45.88; Leith, 45.88; Antwerp, 44.88. Beginning next Monday there will be reduction of 2c per hundred from above rates. This is in consequence of a rate of 18c from Milwaukee and 20c from Chicago to the coast to take effect on that day. A reduction of more than 5c from the above rates can now be obtained, and it looks as though this reduction in published rates merely means an advance in actual rates. If present unpublished rates can still be obtained the output of flour here in Minneapolis will be increased very materially next week, but if the roads hold firm to the new published rates the mills will perhaps just about keep up the capacity running this week. On Feb. 6th the same paper quotes rates about 5c lower than the above.

Western Hog Pack.

The western marketing of hogs has been considerably reduced the past week, says the Cincinnati Price Current of Feb. 1, packing operations indicating a total of 810,000, compared with 445,000 the preceding week, and 295,000 for corresponding time last year. From November 1 the total is 5,525,000, against 3,795,000 a year ago—an increase of 1,730,000, or 46 per cent.

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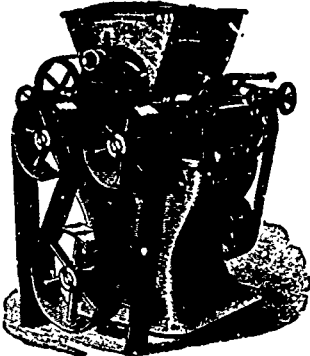
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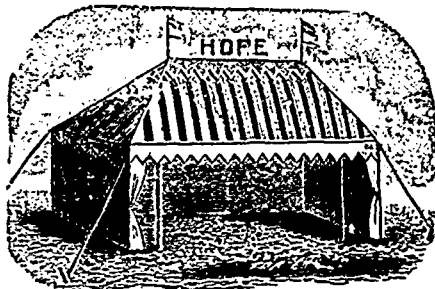


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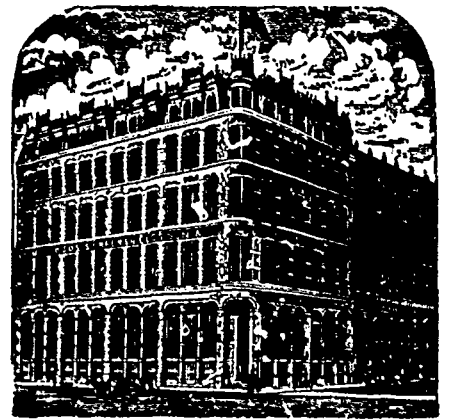


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For Spring, 1895.

Our Travellers are now showing a full range of Imported and Domestic Samples. Extra value in Dress Goods, Peau De Sole, Gloves, Hosiery and Linens.

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See our samples of Grey and White Cottons before placing orders. Full range of Prints, Linens, etc. Full set of Samples with C. J. REDMOND, Room 18, McIntyre Block, Winnipeg.

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Woollens, Tailor's, Trimmings,
CARPETS,
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 TORONTO, ONT.

REPRESENTED BY F. C. S. WETMORE.

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FULL STOCKS OF
NEW CROP
 Field and Garden Seeds.

Just arrived fresh importation of
BROMUS INERMIS (Austrian Brome Grass)
 Catalogues on application. Correspondence invited.
 All enquiries by mail or wire will receive prompt attention

The Steele, Briggs, Maroon
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 TORONTO, - ONTARIO,

Fur Trade News

The following fuller report can now be given of the recent London fur sales: The Hudson's Bay Company's sale was held on January 21; the offerings were 42,058 beaver and 646,202 musquash; results—beaver, 10 per cent lower and muskrat 15 per cent lower.

C. M. Lampson & Co's sale was held from January 21 to January 25, at which were offered the following furs:

Raccoon....	290,000	Bear.....	7,000
Muskkrat....	1,500,000	Lynx.....	5,000
Skunk.....	180,000	Wolf.....	24,000
Opposum..	120,000	Squirrel....	100,000
Mink.....	125,000	Badger....	2,500
Marten....	80,000	Grebe.....	2,000
Russ'n Sable	2,000	Thibet Lamb.	5,500
Red Fox....	17,000	Chi'ch'la bas.	4,000
Gray "....	18,000	Aus. Opossum.	40,000
White Fox..	2,000	Wombat.....	55,000
Japan Fox..	8,000	Wallaby....	45,000
Beaver.....	11,000	Kangaroo ..	200

Prices realized were as follows:

Raccoon,	80 per cent	lower than	March, 1894
Muskkrat,	15	"	"
Skunk,	10	"	"
Kitt Fox,	10	"	"
Black bear,	5	"	"
Beaver,	10	"	January,
Lynx,	15	"	March,
Wolf, nor.	5	"	"
Wolf, s & w	80	"	"
Civet cat,	80	"	"
Wild cat,	10	"	"
Badger,	10	"	"
Grebe,	20	"	"
Hair seal, dry	30	"	"
Monkey,	25	"	October,
Black Muskrat,	same as in	March,	"
Red Fox,	"	"	"
Gray "	"	"	"
Kolinsky,	"	October.	"
Wallaby,	"	"	"
Aus. Opossum,	"	"	"

Fur seals, salted Northwest Coast and Lobos Island, same as in November, 1894.

Mink,	10 per cent	higher than	March, 1894
Opposum,	10	"	"
Marten,	60	"	"
Russ'n sable,	25	"	"
White Fox,	130	"	"
Japan "	17½	"	October,
Thibet lamb,	15	"	"
Ch'ch'la bas.	15	"	"
Wombat,	15	"	"
Brown bear	80	"	March,
Grizzly "	20	"	"
Russ'n "	80	"	"
Squirrel,	15	"	"

Mink is the fur of the season. There are reasons why. It is beautiful and it is docile. Its golden brown is a color that is in favor and it allows itself to be snipped into ribbons and used to "edge" anything from collars to stockings without getting stringy. Most furs when cut into trimmings look stingy; mink does not. A French street dress of dark serpent green cloth is a good model. It has a full skirt with the fashionable swing that comes of haircloth and a wire hem. This skirt "just clears" the ground, which means, of course, that it just touches. It is trimmed with three bands of mink, each three inches wide and arranged in the deep curves that are less formal than plain round bands. The round bodice belts with green velvets and the frill below the belt has an edge of fur.—Detroit Tribune.

The London correspondent of the New York Fur Trade Review writes as follows on January 16. "The new year has not developed anything new in the fur trade. The holders of fur seals seem very pleased with the small offering in seal skins, and in fact an advance is anticipated. Only about 4,000 skins in all

will be offered in January, with about 9,000 in March. A few American buyers have been in the market, but nothing important has taken place. Thibets are selling very freely, being about the only article obtainable in quantity, for which there is any demand. We hear some startling stories from Paris, viz., that some of New York fur importers have left carte blanche orders for one-half sheared coneys, at prices to be made by the manufacturers after their collection of skins. This bland confidence is surely amusing to a conservative business man, and more especially to the French coney manufacturers. Nearly 100,000 monkeys are offered for sale, but the article is getting neglected, except for the German market, where they can only be used at a low price. The unusually large quantity of Australian goods is expected to still further decline. Since writing the above monkeys have been sold, mostly for Germany, at a decline of twenty-five per cent. The Australian goods were mostly withdrawn, owing to lack of competition."

In sending raw furs to concerns offering prices very far above market values, says the New York Fur Trade Review, do not be misled by any concern, in New York or elsewhere, that claims to be exceedingly anxious to buy for manufacturing in advance of sales which determine prices, and especially firms which assume to "know it all," and in consequence pretend to be willing to risk all their cash upon their reputation as prophets. The concern that is too anxious to bear all the loss, on such a basis, really wants the raw furs but we have reason to believe that the country shipper will just as truly and forever want "the price." Ship only to reputable houses giving, or that can give, reference in the trade.

Price of Silver.

The present price of silver is almost the lowest on record. The lowest point ever yet touched was in March last year, when the price at one time stood at 27d, or only 3d below the present quotation. Whether the value of the metal is likely to recede still further or whether we may expect an appreciation within a reasonable time is a matter of the utmost importance to the market and to the public generally—not only to that section of it which holds investments in securities based on silver, but also to that which is interested in trade with silver using countries. More or less, indeed, the whole community is concerned in this vital question. Before discussing the prospects of the white metal it will be perhaps as well to refresh our memory by a glance at the past. It seems almost incredible nowadays to recall that silver was at one time quoted at 60d, or 5s per ounce—that is to say, only 3d below the nominal parity. Yet that happened no further back than February, 1873, and must be well within the recollection of many who are to-day scarcely more than middle-aged. For a year or more subsequently the course of silver was consistently towards lower values, and in July, 1876, the price dipped to 49½d—an unheard of quotation at that period. Early in the following year it recovered to 57½d and for several years following the figure went zigzagging downwards. The twelve months ending December, 1890, were in particular a period of wide fluctuations, the quotations varying from 44d to 54½d. Thenceforward the trend of prices was again steadily downhill, the lowest level in 1892 being 37½d. Without entering into bimetallic controversy, it is pretty safe to say that the chief factor in bringing about the depreciation was over-production, caused partly by the Sherman act, which fostered most unwisely the industry in the United

States, and partly by the development of silver mining in Australia, Mexico and other parts of the world.

The question naturally arises, what reason is there to suppose that this movement, extended now over so many years, will not be continued? Is there any rock-bottom to the silver quotation; anything, in short, to prevent it going eventually to 20d, or even lower? From 6s to 2s 8d an ounce is a big drop, and may not a similar development await us in the future? The lowest cost of production with our present methods seems to be, under the most favorable circumstances, about 14d per ounce, and between this and even 27d there is a wide margin. But the average cost is considerably above this figure, and among the safeguards against a further excessive depreciation in price must be reckoned the limitation of production and the increasing use of the metal in the arts and in coinage.

It is, however, almost idle to speculate about the ultimate fate of silver; even the prospects of the immediate future are extremely uncertain. One of the causes of the recent fall in price is traceable to the lessened demand from China, where trade is interfered with by the war. Indian trade is also for the moment rather dull, notwithstanding the commencement of the export season, and this circumstance has effected adversely the sale of Council bills. The Japanese demand for silver has also declined of late for similar reasons. For the next two or three weeks silver will probably fluctuate between 27d and 28d, but with the settlement of the war between China and Japan we may look for fresh developments. It is the general belief that peace will be proclaimed between the belligerents within the next three months at the latest. After that one of two events affecting silver must happen, and opinion is pretty evenly divided in the city as to which is the more likely. One is that Japan may, after exacting a large war indemnity in gold from China, set up a gold standard for herself, in which event a further fall is inevitable. The other is, that she may take her indemnity, in part, at least, in silver, and maintain her adherence to her present standard. Should this latter view turn out to be correct, a rise in the quotation for the metal may fairly be counted upon. Those people who fancy a gold standard is likely to be adopted argue that the Japanese are an imitative people, and that a leaning towards a gold standard has long been observable, both in the press and in the legislature. Their opponents say that if the country alters its standard it will place itself at a commercial disadvantage as regards China, with which a large proportion of the foreign trade is transacted, and they add that the Japanese are well aware of their own interests in the matter. The probabilities seem about evenly balanced, and the only thing certain is that the course of the silver quotation will largely depend upon the action taken by Japan after the war. A more remote contingency bearing upon the future of the metal is the possibility of the United States going to a silver basis. Should that not altogether improbable event occur, a large appreciation in the price would almost immediately follow. As regards Mexican dollars, in addition to their being compelled to follow the fortunes of silver, they have an added difficulty of their own to contend with in the circulation of the new British trade dollar in the East. This coin is likely to grow rapidly into favor, and the demand for the Mexican dollar must necessarily be curtailed.—London Financial Times.

There are in the United States at present 6,000,000 farms. About one-half of the population of the republic, or over 50,000,000 people, live on them; and these farm dwellers furnish more than 74 per cent of the total value of the exports of the country.

Winnipeg Board of Trade.

The annual meeting of the board was held on Tuesday afternoon. President Scarth occupied the chair and gave a very interesting address, which will be published in a special number of *The Commercial*, to be issued in a few days, together with the report of the council.

After the usual annual reports had been disposed of the election of officers for 1895 began and resulted as follows:

President—R. T. Riley (acclamation.)

Vice-president—F. H. Mathewson (acclamation.)

Treasurer—Andrew Strang (acclamation.)

Secretary—C. N. Bell (acclamation.)

Council—D. W. Bole, S. A. McGaw, K. McKenzie, G. F. Stephens, W. B. Scarth, H. Miller, F. W. Stobart, J. H. Ashdown, W. Georgeson, T. A. Anderson, J. E. Steen, J. Y. Griffin, D. K. Elliott, F. W. Thompson, A. B. Bethune, G. H. Webb.

Board of Arbitrators—K. McKenzie, E. L. Drewry, G. F. Galt, G. J. Moulson, S. A. D. Bertrand, J. H. Brock, R. T. Riley, S. Spink, John Galt, W. Hespeler, J. E. Steen, W. B. Scarth.

The Council was on motion recommended to publish the report of the freight rates committee in the annual report.

Considerable discussion followed on the question of the settlement of the vacant lands surrounding Winnipeg and a motion was passed instructing the council to appoint a committee to take the whole question into consideration.

Mercantile Taxes in Winnipeg

A joint meeting of the Jobbers' Union and Retailers' Association was held Monday afternoon, when the system of municipal taxation now in vogue in the city was discussed with a view of arriving at some scheme whereby the retail merchants would be relieved of the heavy taxes that they have to pay on the floor space plan. No definite conclusion was reached, but another meeting will be held, and it is expected that certain modifications of the present system will be adopted and presented to the city council in time to have the law amended at the coming session of the legislature. It is understood that these modifications will be designed to meet the complaints of the retailers without altering the principle of the law.

Manitoba Wheat in Favor.

A London cable of Monday says: "The splendid wheats of Manitoba have been recently very much to the front. They have a great deal of attention both from their hardness, weight and general appearance. One large importing house stated that Manitoba wheat of last year's crop handled by them is the finest quality that has ever been received in the market, and millers appreciate it more generally and are using it more freely than they have ever before done. Another merchant writes that Manitoba wheats are of finer quality than they have been for a number of years. It is stated to be the intention of Sir. Chas. Tupper to offer small sample bags of wheat to farmers, millers and others who may apply for them, with the object of directing the attention of agriculturists to the quality of the cereal and to the suitability of the country for farming purposes and of creating a still greater demand for wheats in the United Kingdom."

This advice from England is somewhat contradictory of the statements of those who a short time ago started an agitation against mixing and cleaning wheat before shipping, alleging that inferior grain was being freely mixed with the standard grades.

Freight Rates South.

There is said to be considerable cutting in railway freight rates from Minneapolis, Chicago, and other points south to the East. The open tariffs published make through rates on flour from Minneapolis to European ports in cents per cwt. as follows: Liverpool, 42.88, London, 41.88, Glasgow, 41.88, Bristol, 41.87, Amsterdam, 45.88, Leith, 45.88, Antwerp, 41.88. These rates, says the Minneapolis Market record, are made on a basis of the 85c rate, Minneapolis to New York. There is an open unpublished rate of 80c to New York which shippers can take advantage of, or even a reduction from that rate can be obtained. This unpublished rate is on the basis of 22½c from Lake Michigan to points east. Beginning next Monday there will be an across lake rate published of 18c from Milwaukee east, and a rate of 20c east from Chicago over the lines of the Central Traffic Association and the Trunk lines. It cannot now be learned whether or not the western roads will make a proportional reduction.

The Cheese Question.

There can be no doubt that the cheese trade has entered upon a depressed cycle, a further drop of 1s. per cwt, being cabled from Liverpool to-day, white being quoted at 48s and colored at 49s. In the present state of the market it is difficult to give an exact line of quotations, as those who have very little or no stock are talking the market worse than it really is, while some who are well loaded naturally talk in a more roseate strain than the facts warrant. Consequently there is a wide difference of opinion on what finest cheese are worth, the bears maintaining that 9½c is all that can be had for finest colored, while sales by two different firms were made this week at 49s over the cable, or equal to 10½c here. The range of prices is of course wide, according to quality, and we quote all the way from 7½c up to 10c, as some bar room cheese has sold at the inside figure, but we quote 8½c to 10c. Notwithstanding the easy condition of the market, there is some business being done all the time as some holders are selling, on the lower range of prices, which will no doubt increase consumption. An order was received for summer goods a day or two ago at 46s, and, strange as it may seem, it had not been filled up to time of going to press. On the other hand, a most reliable shipper reports having offered a lot of finest July cheese by cable at 44s without receiving any response.—*Montreal Trade Bulletin*, Feb. 1.

Railway Enterprise in India.

The "Times of India," published at Bombay, urges strongly the building of feeder lines of railway in Guzerat on a rupee basis, when the funds can be obtained, instead of increasing India's gold indebtedness and discouraging the first attempt to introduce Indian capital into railway enterprise. The anticipated success of the Ahmedabad Prantiz Railway makes it probable that the line will be the precursor of others on a larger scale. The article goes on to remind Mr. Fowler that he is the first Secretary for India to whom the opportunity has been given of affirming in a practical way the principal that local railway extension in India should be carried on with local capital, under the impulse of local enterprise. The Bombay Chamber of Commerce strongly advocates the principal of rupee capital, and public opinion emphatically endorses its views. The article, in conclusion, says that the question before the Secretary of State admits of but one answer.

The Dressed Hog Trade,

The dressed hog trade for the season of 1891 and 1895 is now practically over, although of course a few odd cars will no doubt find their way from the West to this market, but they will be chiefly light, lean hogs suitable for butchers' purposes. The total receipts of dressed hogs in this city from November 1st, 1891, the commencement of the season, to February 1st, the close, was 46,597 head against 81,741 head, showing an increase of 11,855 head. The prices of carloads of dressed hogs this season have ranged from \$5.20 to \$5.75, the latter price being the one paid at the beginning of the season. Last sales of car loads of choice heavy packers were made at \$5.25 to \$5.35 per 100 pounds. Last season the prices for car lots ranged from \$6.55 to \$7.25 per 100 lbs. The dressed hog trade of Montreal has increased during the past season over 83 per cent compared with that of last season.—*Montreal Trade Bulletin*, Feb. 1.

Toronto Board of Trade.

Between one and two hundred members assembled at the annual meeting of the Toronto Board of Trade on January 30th. Retiring president, Hugh Blain, was in the chair. Reports were presented by the treasurer, the secretary, the Harbor Trust and the Exhibition Committee.

The scrutineers, Walter S. Lee, George McMurrich, C. B. Watts, and H. C. Dixon, brought in the following report as to officers elected: President—Stapleton Caldecott. First Vice-President—E. B. Osler. Second Vice-President—E. Gurney. Treasurer—D. W. Alexander.

The new council is composed of the following members: A. A. Allan, wholesale hats, caps and furs; H. N. Baird, grain merchant; Hugh Blain, wholesale grocer; William Christie, biscuit manufacturer; John Donough, lumber merchant; M. C. Ellis, manufacturing jeweller; William G. Gooderham, of Gooderham and Worts Company; J. H. G. Hagarty, steamboat owner; Peleg Howland, wholesale hardware; John MacDonald, dry goods; J. Herbert Mason, president Canada Permanent Loan Company; W. D. Matthews, grain merchant; M. McLaughlin, miller; Elias Rogers, coal merchant; D. R. Wilkie, cashier Imperial Bank.

Guns Go Up.

Guns have been twice advanced within two weeks. Cables this week advised sales agents in Montreal of the second advance in guns. Medium priced shot guns are from 10½ to 12½ per cent higher than they were.

A meeting of the Winnipeg Retailers' Association was held Tuesday night for the purpose of receiving the report of the committee appointed to confer with the Jobbers' Union in regard to municipal taxation. Much interest was manifested in the report, which was to the effect that the Jobbers' Union had unanimously agreed to co-operate with the Association in securing a more equitable system of taxation. A special meeting of the committee will be held on Friday night at 8 o'clock, when the matter will be further dealt with. Owing to the removal of President Lang from the city Ald. Geo. Craig was elected President of the Association by acclamation, and Ald. Sproule was elected Vice-president also without opposition. After the business of the evening had been transacted the members present were pleasantly entertained for a couple of hours at the Delmonico restaurant by Ald. Craig, the newly elected President.

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Moccasins,
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In addition to our regular line we have the exclusive control of the Celebrated Chester & Workers Suspenders for the Dominion. Neat est, Strongest and Best Suspender in the market at popular prices.

Customers may have sorting orders in any of our lines filled promptly from stock at our
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Cor. BAY & FRONT STS, TORONTO.

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Block, Winnipeg } A. W. Lasher W. W. Armstrong.

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British Columbia Branch; WM. SKENE, Van Horne Block, Vancouver.

AUSTIN & ROBERTSON,

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Plain,
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MONTREAL.



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Want to Lead ?

Then do not fail to see our SAMPLES

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IRON BEDS, SCHOOL DESKS.

Always the Lowest Prices. Send for photo of our \$10 sideboard.

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(Late of Scott & Leslie.)

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Fruit Cleaner

Controlled exclusively by J. W. Humble, Rat Portage, Ontario, for Manitoba, Northwest Territories and British Columbia. Buy the only satisfactory fruit cleaner on the market, you will save money thereby and give your customers entire satisfaction. The most useful machine yet invented in its line. Will clean

A BARREL OF CURRANTS IN AN HOUR.

Removes all sand, grit, stems and other matter, leaving the fruit absolutely clean. Cleans all other fruits equally quickly and thoroughly.

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F. H. Brydges, Vice-President. W. R. Allan, Sec.-Treas

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Compressed Mince Meat.

Put up in neat paper packages and packed (3) three doz. in a case. Price per gross net \$10.

GUARANTEED STRICTLY PURE.

HORSERADISH—Put up in 16 oz. bottles 3 doz. in a case. Price per doz. \$2.50 Patronize home industry.

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Wholesale Dealers in

Wines, Liquors and Cigars

OF THE BEST BRANDS

9th STREET, - BRANDON

THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

WINNIPEG, Saturday, Feb. 9.

The severe weather which continued to prevail until towards the close of the week (when it moderated) has influenced business considerably. Trade in green fruits has been shut of and receipts of perishable country produce have been about nil. In fact grain and country produce of any kind has not been moving to any extent. While the temperature has ruled low, we have not had a storm in this district up to the present date, this winter, though telegraphic reports tell of severe storms almost all over the continent this week. In the absence of storms the low temperature has not been so severely felt, though it has a quieting effect on business, except in the fuel trade which has been brisk. In fuel, a movement is on foot to advance the price of fire wood, which trade has been greatly demoralized of late by keen competition and ruinous cutting in prices. Coal is unchanged. The first live stock shipments eastward of the year have already been made, consisting of a couple of mixed cars of cattle and hogs. Dressed hogs have also been shipped east this week. No further statements have been made regarding the proposals to begin an export business in lumber from our Lake of the Woods mills, via Fort William and the St. Lawrence lakes to the great consuming lumber markets of the lake board cities. There are still rumors that the Dominion Government will grant such assistance to the Hudson Bay railway as will ensure the construction of the road this year as far as the Saskatchewan river. If that goes on it will be a great thing toward evening up matters the coming summer, especially as no other important railway projects appear likely to be undertaken this year. General business is being conducted on conservative lines, and there is a curtailment of consumption of general merchandise, due to restriction of credit business and more careful business methods. This is having an excellent effect in placing business on a better basis than in former years. Payment, as reported at length under the heading of dry goods, are spoken of very favorably this week.

Winnipeg Markets.

WINNIPEG, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, Feb. 9.

[All quotations, unless otherwise specified, are wholesale for such quantities as are usually taken by retail dealers, and are subject to the usual reduction on large quantities and to cash discounts.]

NUTS.—Soft shelled almonds are quoted at 15 to 16c, walnuts, 17 to 18c, filberts, 12 to 13c. New Chestnuts, 12½ to 15c lb; Figs, new layers, 15 to 22c; Cooking figs, 8 to 9c, dates, 8 to 10c. Coconuts \$1 to \$1.20 per dozen.

CANNED MEATS:—

Corned Beef	2 lb tins, per case	1 dozen	\$2 65
Roast Beef	2 " "	1 " "	2 75
Brawn	2 " "	1 " "	2 65
Pigs Feet	2 " "	1 " "	2 25
Lunch Tongue	2 " "	1 " "	7 65
"	1 " "	2 " "	7 80
Ox Tongue	14 " "	1 " "	6 70
Chipped Dried Beef	1 " "	2 " "	5 25
Compressed Ham	1 " "	2 " "	4 50

FISH.—We quote British Columbia salmon, 14c lb; British Columbia halibut, 14c. Fresh mackerel, 12½c lb.; cod, 7c; haddock, 7; smelts, 12½c; Lake Superior

herring, 80c dozen. Lake Superior trout, 9c; whitefish, 5 to 6c; pickerel 8 to 4c; pike, 2 to 3c; perch, 3c; Smoked whitefish, 8c lb; smoked goldeyes, 30 to 35c dozen; red herring 20c box; linen haddies, 7c lb. Oysters, \$2 for standards and \$2.25 for selects, per gallon. Shell oysters, \$7.50 per barrel; cans, selects, 48c; cans, standards, 45c each; dry cod, 7c lb, boneless cod, 7 to 7½c; boneless fish, 6c.

FLUID BEEF, ETC.—Following are prices of the goods put up by the Johnston Fluid Beef Company of Montreal:—Johnstons Fluid Beef—No. 1, 2-oz. tins, per dozen, \$2.70; No. 2 4oz., \$1.50; No. 3, 8oz., \$7.88; No. 4, 1 lb., \$12.83; No. 5, 2 lb., \$21.80. Staminol—2oz. bottles, per dozen, \$2.55; do, 4oz., \$5.10; do, 8 oz., \$7.65; do, 16oz., \$12.75. Fluid Beef Cordial—20oz. bottles, \$10. Milk Granules—In cases of 4 dozen, \$5.10. Milk Granules with Cereals—In cases of 4 dozen, \$4.25.

GROCERIES.—There is no further change in sugars and the feeling seems to be that the bottom has been reached. Some rather stronger advices have been received. Coffees have taken an easier turn, due to new crop influences. Currants are the strongest feature in dried fruits, with advances in outside markets.

GREEN FRUITS.—The severe weather has practically put a stop to fruit business, both receiving and shipping. Some cars of oranges in transit from the south were stopped en route and housed, for fear of frost. Good re-packed apples bring \$4 to \$5 per barrel, as to quality. Prices are as follows: Florida oranges \$5.00 to \$6.00 per box; Mexican oranges \$5 to \$6.00 per box as to sizes; Japanese oranges, \$1.25 per box of about six dozen; Messina lemons, \$5 to \$5.50 per box; apples, \$2 to \$5 per barrel as to quality and condition; California winter pears, \$2.50 to \$3.00 per box; bananas, when obtainable \$3 to \$1.50 per bunch; Malaga grapes, \$11.50 per large keg; cranberries, \$13 per barrel for fancy Jerseys, Spanish onions, \$1.25 per crate of 50 lbs. New river figs, 15 to 18c per pound as to quality and size of boxes. Sweet potatoes \$5.50 per barrel. White comb honey, 22c lb; new dates, 7 to 8c. lb.

DRY GOODS.—The event of the week was the 4th of February, which is about the heaviest settling up day of the year in the dry goods trade. The general report is that payments were made much better than was expected. It may be said that expectations were not very high, but in a year when there has been so much talk of hard times, it is gratifying to hear favorable reports as to payments. One house stated that payments have been excellent during January and to date, but predicted that collections would be slower for the next two months. Another large wholesaler said that payments with them had been better than in the previous two years. Their only trouble had been with old renewals; but 1894 paper and accounts had been well met. This confirms what The Commercial has said from time to time, that the general restriction of credits, the widespread practice of economy in business and in other ways, and the generally conservative lines upon which business has been conducted the past two years, has placed the country upon a greatly improved basis. While new business is being done on a safe basis, there are, as noted, a number of old scores which have been carried along from previous to 1894, which are not in satisfactory shape. A good many meetings of creditors were held during the week to consider the affairs of various retailers. Assignments, however, will not be advised where there is reasonable hope of pulling a trader through by extending time. A telegram to-day says the annual statement of the Montreal Cotton Company has been issued and is regarded as very satisfactory. After providing for the usual dividends of 8 per cent, over \$85,000 is carried forward to

profit and loss account. The gross profits on the year's operations were over \$197,000 and the reserve fund or surplus now amounts to over \$800,000.

LUMBER.—No further developments have been announced regarding the proposals referred to in our report last week, to make the Lake of the Woods mills a centre for manufacturing lumber to be shipped eastward for distribution by water to the large consuming markets of the great lakes. All depends on the rate of freight which the Canadian Pacific Railway will be willing to give on the lumber from the Lake of the Woods mills to a Lake Superior port, presumably Fort William. If the railway company can give a rate which will enable the Lake of the Woods mill to saw lumber for shipment eastward, it is apparent that the lumbering industry will at once assume much greater proportions than was ever before thought of. There is a magnificent timber country both in Canada and the United States which is by nature tributary to the Lake of the Woods. The Canadian Pacific is the only railway touching the Lake of the Woods, consequently the only suitable milling points on the Lake, for large mills, are at Rat Portage and vicinity where the Canadian Pacific Railway touches the lake. If the railway company pursues a liberal policy, it has the opportunity of assisting to build up a vast lumbering industry on the lake tributary to its line, concentrating the industry at and around Rat Portage before other railways reach the lake and establish new manufacturing points. If the Canadian Pacific Railway refuses to encourage the industry, lumbering at Rat Portage will remain stationary and within a few years we will probably find that other railroads will tap this great timber country at the southern end of the Lake of the Woods and establish a great lumber centre there. Now is therefore the time for the Canadian Pacific Railway people, by a wise policy, to make the great industry for all time largely tributary to their line, by building up the industry at Rat Portage and vicinity before other competing points are established. The railway people have not yet been heard from as regards the rate they will give on lumber from the Lake of the Woods to Lake Superior.

CORDWOOD.—The Commercial has from time to time noted the demoralized state of the local market for wood fuel, on account of cutting in prices. Prices have been reduced so low this winter that there has been no profit in the business. City retail dealers claim that the trouble has been largely due to the practice of shippers of wood who have gone into the retail business. Not being satisfied with selling the wood in car lots to retail dealers in the city, some of the wood men have engaged in peddling wood about the city to consumers, thus competing with their own customers—the retail dealers. At any rate, there has been very sharp competition and prices have been all cut to pieces, tamarac wood, for instance, having been sold as low as \$3 per cord in car lots on track here, as compared with the usual price of about \$1.50 per cord in former years. The wholesale wood dealers who cut and ship cordwood here have lately been trying to advance prices by concentrated action among themselves. Several meetings have been held and it has been given out that an arrangement has been agreed to to advance the price to \$1.25 for tamarac and \$3.75 for jackpine, in car lots on track here. Though the agreement has been announced, it can hardly be said that it has gone into effect yet. In fact wood is being sold retail, delivered to consumers in the city, this week at the prices named. The idea of one of the large shippers of wood is to open a central office here and have all the shippers sell through one agent here, thus ensuring

uniform prices. It is very doubtful, however, if the agreement can be carried out, as there are so many persons in the business. Cheaper coal is also a factor which has to be taken into consideration, the cheap native coals now obtainable here reducing the demand for wood. Tamarac has sold at a range of from \$3.25 to \$3.75 per cord on track here, the general price being \$3.50 to \$3.75, pine 50c per cord less, and spruce, 75c to \$1 per cord less than tamarac. Poplar has sold at \$2.25 to \$2.50 as to quality. A retail dealer advertises to deliver fire wood to consumers in the city at the following prices: Choice tamarac \$1.25, pine \$3.75, spruce \$3.25, green cut poplar \$2.75, dead cut \$2.50. Another dealer advertises tamarac retail, delivered by the cord at \$1.

COAL.—Prices delivered to consumers in Winnipeg are as follows: Imported anthracite, \$9 per ton for egg, stove and nut sizes; western anthracite, \$8.50 per ton for stove and furnace size; Lethbridge bituminous, \$7.50 per ton; Souris lignite, \$1.25 delivered or \$3.75 on cars here, and \$1.50 to 1.75 on cars at the mines.

HARDWARE, ETC.—The feature of the situation in hardware and metals is the decline in wire announced by Eastern Canada manufacturers. Last week we noted that a second decline within a brief period had been announced by the Eastern barb wire manufacturers. Now prices have been reduced on smooth wire, annealed, oiled and galvanized wire. The discount has been increased 5 per cent to 25 per cent. The new lists as published on another page this week, show substantial reductions on the wires named. The cause of the decline is owing to competition from the United States. The new lists went into effect on January 1.

PAINTS, OILS, ETC.—Local business is very dull. A few orders have been received from British Columbia, but nearer home no business is being done. Local prices have not been affected by the advance in white leads of 25c at Montreal, and turpentine has not been affected here by the advances reported last week in other markets. This is largely due to the fact that business is practically nil and prices nominal.

DRUGS.—Following prices are for small parcels and will be shaded considerably for full package orders: Alum, per pound, 33 to 14c, alcohol, \$1.75; bleaching powder, per pound, 6 to 8c; blue vitrol, 5 to 8c; borax, 11 to 13c; bromide potash, 55 to 75c; camphor, 75 to 85c; camphor, ounces, 80 to 90c; carbolic acid, 40 to 65c; castor oil, 11 to 15c; chlorate potash, 28 to 35c; citric acid, 55 to 65c; coppers, 34 to 4c; cocaine, per oz., \$7.50 to \$8.00; cream tartar, per pound, 28 to 35c; cloves, 20 to 25c; epsom salts, 34 to 4c; extract logwood, bulk, 14 to 18c; do., boxes, 18 to 20c; German quinine, 30 to 40c; glycerine, per pound, 20 to 25c; ginger, Jamaica, 25 to 40c; do., African, 20 to 25c; Howard's quinine, per ounce, 35 to 45c; iodine, \$5.50 to \$6.00; insect powder, 35 to 40c; morphia sul., \$1.90 to 2.25. Opium, \$1.50 to 5.00; oil, olive, \$1.25 to 1.40; oil, U.S. salad, \$1.25 to 1.40; oil, lemon, super, \$2.25 to 2.75; oil peppermint, \$1.00 to 1.50; oxalic acid, 13 to 16c; potass iodide, \$1.25 to 1.50, saltpetre, 10 to 12c; sal rochelle, 30 to 35c, shellac, 45 to 50c; sulphur flowers, 34 to 5c, sulphur roll, per keg 34 to 5c. soda bicarb, per keg of 112 pounds, \$3.75 to \$1.25, sal soda, \$2.00 to \$3; tartaric acid, per lb., 45 to 55c.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

WHEAT.—The wheat markets have been a little stronger this week, though nothing of much importance has occurred. The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada east of the mountains for the week ended Saturday, February 2, shows a decrease of 1,289,000 bus. against a decrease of 371,000

bus. for the corresponding week last year and a decrease of 97,000 bushels the corresponding week two years ago. The total visible supply on Feb 1 was 83,376,000 bushels, compared with 79,868,000 bushels a year ago, 81,393,000 bushels two years ago and 43,161,000 bushels three years ago. Supplies of breadstuffs on ocean passage decreased equal to 1,040,000 bushels. The English visible supply increased 1,297,000 bushels. Shipments to Europe from all countries last week were 6,512,000 bushels. Exports of wheat, flour included as wheat, from both coasts of the United States this week amounted to only 2,029,521 bushels this week, against 2,483,000 last week, 2,678,000 one year ago, 3,931,000 bushels two years ago and 3,641,000 three years ago. Weekly exports of wheat within the past four weeks have steadily declined from 3,561,000 to 2,020,521.

LOCAL WHEAT.—Wheat has been very dull locally farmers have been offering scarcely any grain, and prices in country markets are about the same. Holders of wheat are holding it in country elevators to earn or save storage charges, and with prices considerably off for the top, holders are not pushing business. The basis of prices this week is about 65c per bushel for May Wheat, Fort William delivery, afloat, with holders about 1c higher. There appears to be little wheat left in the country in farmers hands, and stocks in store are held principally by two large millers. The smaller country millers have very little wheat as a rule. The question of re-importing Manitoba wheat from stocks held at Buffalo, is still provoking some discussion, and it is understood further efforts are being made to induce the government to allow some of the wheat to be brought into Eastern Canada free of duty for milling. Receipts at Fort William dropped last week to a trifling quantity and stocks show the first reduction there since the close of navigation.

Stocks of wheat in store at Fort William on February 2 were 878,204 bushels and a year ago they were — bushels. Receipts for last week at Fort William were 5,681 bushels and shipments were 13,541 bushels. The corresponding week a year ago stocks increased — bushels. Stocks of Manitoba wheat at Lake Superior ports, together with interior stocks at all points west of Fort William, are estimated to approximate 3,500,000 bushels.

FLOUR.—There is no further change in flour, and local prices remain steady. Sales to local millers are still made at \$1.35 patents and \$1.65 bakers delivered to city dealers, with a discount of 5c per sack for cash.

MILLSTUTS.—Prices remain the same. The quotation is \$11 for bran and \$13 for shorts, with small quantities held at \$1 per ton more.

GROUND FEED.—Prices range from \$14 to \$15 per ton for mixed wheat feed, up to \$16 to \$18 for pure oat and barley chop, and \$18 to \$19 for rolled oats.

OATMEAL.—Rolled oatmeal is quoted at \$1.90 to \$2 per sack in broken lots, as to quality. Standard and granulated meal, \$2.15 in small lots, per 100 lbs. for best grades.

OATS.—Oats are firm. Marketings by farmers here have been very light, and prices paid to farmers have ranged from 28 to 30c for feed, and 31c for milling. Most feed has been taken at 29 to 30c. Car lots have sold here at 27½ and 28c per bushel of 34 pounds, and close rather firmer with holders talking higher.

BARLEY.—There is really no business doing in this grain. A couple of cars were reported offered at 32 to 33c here, for best quality. But the grain is very scarce and any held in the city is held at 35 to 40c per bushel of 48 pounds.

OIL CAKE.—Ground oil cake meal is quoted at \$21 per ton in sacks, with small lots at \$25.

BUTTER.—Dealers were asking 14 to 16c for packages of selected. Medium and low grades unsaleable. The situation in butter all round is still extremely flat.

CHEESE.—Dealers are selling at 11c per lb.

EGGS.—We quote good fresh at 18c and down to 10c for held stock. New pickled are selling at 12 to 11c as to quality.

CURED MEATS.—Smoked Meats are quoted: Hams, assorted sizes, 10½c; breakfast bacon, bellies, 10½; do backs 10c; picnic hams, 9c, short spiced rolls, 8c, long rolls, 8½c; shoulders, 8½c; smoked jowls, 5½c. Dry salt meats are quoted: Long clear bacon, 7½c; shoulders, 7½c; backs, 8½c; barrel per mess pork, \$14.00; fancy mess, \$14.50; rolled shoulders, \$15 per barrel, pork sundries; fresh sausage, 7c; bologna sausage, 7c; pickled hocks, 2c; pickled tongues, 5c.

LARD.—We quote: Pure, \$1.90 for 20 pound pails, and \$1.50 for 50-lb pails; compound at \$1.75 per 20-lb pail; compound in 3, and 5 pound tins, \$6 per case of 60 lb. Pure leaf lard in 3, 5 and 10 pound tins, quoted at \$8.50 per case of 60 pounds, tierces 8½c lb.

POULTRY.—Poultry continues very dull and hard to sell. Chickens have sold at 5c and ducks at 6c. Geese are quoted at 7 to 8c and turkeys 9 to 10c.

GAME.—Large supplies of rabbits at 10 to 15c per pair.

DRESSED MEATS.—Good, fresh killed, (unfrozen) beef is worth about 5½ to 6c, frozen country beef 3 to 3½c. Mutton 5 to 6c a lb. Hogs \$1 to \$1.50 per 100 lbs. A carload of hogs went through to Montreal this week, the shipper not being satisfied with the price offered here. \$2.50 was the best price for choice packing hogs at Toronto this week, per 100 pounds.

HIDES.—We quote, Winnipeg inspection 3½c for No. 1 cows, 2½c for No. 2, and 1½c for No. 3, and 3½c for No. 1 heavy steers, and 2½c for No 2 Steers; branded hides grade No. 2, when not otherwise damaged to reduce them to No. 3. Green frozen hides as they run 3c to 3½c. We quote: Calf, 8 to 15 lb skins, 4 to 5c per lb. Kips 2½ to 3c. Sheep and lamb skins, 35 to 40c for fresh, large skins. Tallow, 4½ to 5c rendered and 2 to 3c rough.

SENECA ROOT.—Dull and nominal at 18 to 20c.

FLAX.—Cash flax was quoted at \$1.42 at Chicago on Thursday.

VEGETABLES.—The cold weather has practically stopped business in vegetables, and in some lines stocks were scarce, it being too cold to risk bringing in supplies from the country. Prices are nominal as follows. Potatoes, 40 to 45c per bushel. Onions, 3c per lb; cabbage, 50c to \$1.00 per dozen; celery, 25 to 40c per dozen. Carrots, 50c per bushel; beets, 30 to 40c per bushel; turnips; 20 to 25c per bushel; parsnips, 2c per lb.

HAY. Prices are very low. Loose hay is selling on the street at about \$3 per ton, and baled has sold as low as \$1 delivered here, though held nominally at about that figure on track at point of shipment.

LIVE STOCK.—There is beginning to be some little inquiry for live stock from local butchers, but only to a limited extent, most butchers having stocks of frozen meat on hand. Cattle are rather firmer and good butchers would bring 3c if wanted. One butcher said yesterday he wanted a load at 3c. Nothing has been done in sheep since last fall, but two or three loads would now be taken at about 3c per lb. live weight, if they could be obtained at that price. Hogs have brought 3½c steadily for average packing hogs. A couple of loads of mixed cattle [and

hogs went through to Montreal in box cars last week. 2½c was offered for the cattle here and 3½c for the hogs, but the shipper, Mr. McIntosh, of Oak River, thought he could do better east, thought this is doubtful. This is the first shipping business of the new year in live stock, and it is early for such shipments.

At Toronto on Tuesday cattle were rather easier. A few picked brought 3½c, and good to choice 3 to 3½c, common selling as low as 2½ to 2¾c. Good average loads brought 3 to 3½c. A few export steers and heifers sold for 3¾ to 4c and 3 to 3½c for bulls. Hogs were 5c lower for bacon, while other sorts were about the same. Best bacon brought \$1.20, thick and light fats, \$1.10, stores, \$3.75 to \$1. sows, \$3.50, stags, \$2.25 to \$2.50. Sheep for export brought 3½c and rams, 3c., heavy lambs 4 to 4½c lb. Butchers' sheep \$3 to \$3.75 per head.

Chicago Board of Trade Prices.

Business was quiet on Monday in all commodities, wheat included. May Wheat ranged between 52½ and 53¼c, closing ½c under Saturday, closing prices were

	Feb.	May.	July.
Wheat	49½	52½	53½-¾
Corn	40½	42½-43	42½-43
Oats	26½	28½	28½
Mess Pork ..	—	1 90	—
Lard	—	6 57½	—
Short Ribs ..	—	5 17½	—

The bulls were more active operators in wheat on Tuesday, and under fair buying prices advanced, May wheat opened at about 53½c and advanced to 53¾c, closing at about the top. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	May.	July.
Wheat	53½	53½-¾	51½
Corn	41½	43½-¾	43½
Oats	27½	28½-29	28½
Mess Pork ..	—	10 00	—
Lard	—	6 62½	—
Short Ribs ..	—	5 25½	—

Wheat was irregular on Wednesday and was influenced mainly by corn, rising and falling with the latter cereal. May Wheat opened at 53½c and ranged from 53½ to 54c, closing at about the top price. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	May.	July.
Wheat	53½	51-51½	55
Corn	43	45½	45½
Oats	27½	29½	29½
Mess Pork ..	—	10 20	—
Lard	—	6 67½	—
Short Ribs ..	—	5 32½	—

On Thursday wheat was dull and easy, ranging between 53½ and 51¾c, making a net loss of about ½c for the day. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	May.	July.
Wheat ..	50½	53½	51½
Corn	42½	45½	45½
Oats	27½	29½-¾	29½
Mess Pork ..	—	10 40	—
Lard	—	6 77½	—
Short Ribs ..	—	5 30	—

There was more strength in wheat on Friday, May wheat opened at 51c and ranged between 53½ and 51¾c. Closing prices were:

	Feb.	May.	July.
Wheat	50½	53½-¾	51½-¾
Corn	42½	45	41½-¾
Oats	27½	29½-¾	29½
Mess Pork ..	—	10 17½	—
Lard	—	6 70	—
Short Ribs ..	—	5 30	—

On Saturday, Feb. 9, wheat made a trifling gain and closed at 50¾c for February, 53¾c for May and 51½-¾c for July. A week ago February closed at 49¾c and May at 52¾c.

Duluth Wheat Market.

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

Monday—Feb. 65; May 67½; July, 58.
Tuesday—Feb. 66; May, 68; July, 68½.
Wednesday—Feb. 67; May, 68½; July, 69.
Thursday—Feb. 68; May, 69; July, 69½.
Friday—Feb. 69; May, 69; July, 69½.
Saturday—Feb. 69; May, 69; July, 69.

A week ago prices closed at 55¾c for February and 57½c for May. A year ago May wheat closed at 60c, and two years ago at 72¾c. No. 1 hard is quoted at 1½c over No. 1 northern. No. 2 northern 3c lower than No. 1 northern for cash wheat.

Minneapolis Wheat.

No. 1 Northern wheat closed on Saturday at 55¾c for February delivery, May at 55¾c., and July at 56¾c. A week ago February wheat closed at 51¾c, and May at 55¾c.

New York Wheat.

On Saturday, February 9, May wheat closed at 58¾c and July at 59¾c. A week ago wheat closed at 58c for May and 58½c for July.

Live Stock Markets.

The cable from Liverpool on February 4 says: There was a weaker feeling in the cattle market to-day and prices show a decline of ½c since this day last week, finest steers selling at 11c. The market for sheep was steady and values are unchanged. In London finest steers are quoted at 11½c, good to choice 11c, poor to medium 10c, and inferior and bulls 7½c to 9c. Best sheep are quoted at 14c, secondary 12c to 13c, merinoes 11½c to 12½c, and inferior and rams 9c to 10½c. Quotations are as follows: Finest steers, 11c, good to choice, 10½c, poor to medium, 9½c, inferior and bulls, 7 to 8½c, Best sheep, 13c, secondary, 11 to 12c, Merinoes, 10½ to 11½c, inferior and rams, 8 to 9½c.

The Montreal Gazette of February 4, says: "There has been considerable export business transacted during the past two weeks by Thompson, Sheridan & Dunn, of Toronto, one of our leading export firms, and we understand they have all the space taken for cattle for this month and part of next on the White Star line from New York, the Allan line from Portland and the Dominion line from Halifax. The rate of freight paid is said to be 35s from New York and 40s on the two Canadian lines. The above firm is shipping this week 1,210 head of United States cattle on the steamships Bovic, Cufic and Tauric, which sail from New York, 320 head on the steamship Morgolian from Portland and 182 head of Canadian cattle on the Oregon from Halifax. They have been paying 3½c to 4c for choice Canadian export steers and 3c to 3½c per lb for bulls."

At the Montreal stock yards at point St. Charles on Feb. 4 a large supply of cattle was offered, and as buyers generally showed little disposition to trade the market became weak and holders in order to make a clearance reduced prices ½c per lb, but this did not prove any great inducement as purchasers were well aware of the big run at the East end, and in consequence held off. The amount of business transacted was only fair at prices ranging from 2½c to 3½c per lb. live weight. There was a fair demand for sheep for export account, and all suitable stock for this trade met with a ready sale at 3½ to 3¾c, and butchers paid 3c per lb. live weight. A fair supply of lambs was offered for which the demand was good, and sales were made freely at 3½c to 3¾c per lb. live weight. The receipts of live hogs were small and prices ruled steady at 4½c per lb.

Settling our Vacant Lands.

The movement started by the Winnipeg Board of Trade looking toward the settlement of the surplus population of the city upon the vacant lands surrounding Winnipeg, is being taken up heartily and is likely to achieve good results. Already responses have come in which indicate that the municipalities around the city are not only willing but anxious to do all within their power to assist in furthering any plan of action which may be decided upon in this matter. A leading spirit in one of the rural municipalities adjoining the city writes a private letter to The Commercial strongly endorsing the movement. He says: "In MacDonald and St. Francois Xavier municipalities there is enough vacant land owned by the municipalities to supply farms for all the unemployed persons who could be secured in Winnipeg. He thinks it would be in the interest of municipalities to grant these lands free to actual settlers, and even remit their taxes for a time.

This is encouraging for the commencement. It would certainly pay the municipalities in the end to have these vacant lands settled, rather than that they remain vacant indefinitely. The co-operation of the municipalities is greatly to be desired, and with this secured, there is no reason why excellent work should not be done in settling these vacant lands.

Late Western Business Items.

John A. Gill, general storekeeper, Assinippi, Man., has assigned.

The Winnipeg city travellers met Saturday evening to complete arrangements for their "at home" to be held in Oddfellows hall on Tuesday evening.

The partnership existing between McLean & McBean, general merchants, Emerson, Man., has been dissolved. John McBean will continue the business and settle outstanding matters.

Williams & Son, of Montreal, who have been represented in Winnipeg by John Douglas, in the electrical and mechanical business, have decided to close their branch here for the present. Mr. Douglas and family leave for Montreal in a few days.

F. H. Findlay, formerly of Portage la Prairie, has leased the premises at Brandon formerly occupied by the Brandon Boot company. Mr. Findlay has bought the balance of the boots and shoes from Geo. H. Rodgers & Co., and will sort up the stock and add a full stock of dry goods in addition and open out about to first of March.

Sealed tenders marked "Tender for Bridge Debentures" will be received at the office of the Winnipeg city comptroller, up to 12 o'clock noon on Friday, March 29, for the purchase of \$10,000 of the City of Winnipeg debentures having 30 years to run, and bearing interest at the rate of four per cent per annum payable half-yearly.

A telegram on Saturday morning from Morden, Man., says: A terrific fire is raging here now. The Morden house, D. Kilgour's dry goods store, G. W. McLaren's drug store, Sparling's grocery store, Forrest's jewelry store, Heimen & Co.'s liquor store and the Commercial hotel were burned. Desperate efforts are now being made to save Shultz & Hansen's dry goods store and Geo. Ashdown's hardware store.

BRITISH COLUMBIA BUSINESS REVIEW

Business is still quiet and money very scarce in trade circles, although a large amount of capital has been offered on business block mortgages at a high rate of interest. There are no change in the market quotations, in fact it is not anticipated that there will be much alteration in prices for the rest of the winter.

British Columbia Markets

February 4, 1895.

Butter.—Manitoba dairy butter, 14 to 20c; Manitoba creamery, 20 to 25c; Eastern creamery, 25c to 26; Canadian cheese, 13 to 14c. Manitoba cheese 13.

Cured Meats.—Steadying up Hams 12½c; breakfastbacon, 12½c; backs, 11½c; long clear, 9c; short rolls, 10c; smoked sides, 10½c. Lard is held at the following figures: In tins 11½c per pound; in pails and tubs, 11c; mess pork, \$17; short cut, \$18.00.

Fish.—Prices are: Flounders, 1c; smelt, 6c; scabass, 4 to 5c; Cod, 6c; halibut, 6c; smoked salmon, 12c; smoked halibut, 10c; bloaters, 10c; kippered cod, 10c; sturgeon, 4c; kippered herring, 10c; prawns, 25c; sunnan haddie, 8½c; Manitoba whitefish, 10c.

Game.—Duck, per brace, 50c; grouse, brace, 55c; prairie chicken, 75c; teal, 20c; pintail, 30c; wild geese, 75c each. Rabbits, Manitoba \$2.00 dozen.

Vegetables.—Potatoes, \$14 to \$16; Ashcroft potatoes, \$20 to \$22; onions silverskins, 1½ to 2c; cabbage, 1c; carrots, turnips and beets, ½ to 1c a lb;

Eggs.—Fresh local, 25c; eastern 19c.

Fruits.—Lemons, California, \$3.75 to \$1.00 native apples, \$1.00; California oranges, naval, \$3.50 to \$1.00; seedlings, 2.50; eastern apples, \$1.00 to \$1.40

Flour.—The Ogilvie Milling Co. and Kee-watin Milling Co. quote in car load lots at Victoria and Vancouver: Patent, per bbl., \$1.40; strong bakers, \$1.20, Oregon, \$1.40, Oak Lake patent, \$1.15; strong bakers, \$1.00.

Meal.—Oatmeal—National mills, Victoria, at Victoria, 90-lb sacks, \$3.15. Cornmeal, per 98-lb, sacks, \$2.15; Manitoba 80-lb sacks, \$2.90.

Grain.—Manitoba oats, per ton, \$26.00; Edmonton district oats, \$21.00; local oats \$23; Washington State wheat, \$22.00 do, oats \$25.00, f.o.b. Vancouver duty paid.

Ground Feed.—Manitoba chop feed, \$28 per ton; chop barley, \$28; United States, chop, \$21 ton; ground wheat, \$22.50 ton; ground barley, \$22.50 ton; shorts, \$19 ton; bran \$17 ton; oil cake meal, \$39 ton; F.O.B. Vancouver, duty paid.

Dressed Meats.—Beef 7½ to 7½c, mutton, 7½c; pork, 8 to 9c; veal, 9c; lamb.

Live Stock.—Calves, 6 to 7c; steers, 3 to 3½c; sheep, 3½c; hogs, 6 to 7½c

Sugars—Powdered and icing, 5½c, Paris lui. v, 5½c; granulated, 4½c; extra C, 4½c; fancy yellows 4½c; yellow, 4c; golden C, 3½c.

Syrups—30 gallon barrels, 2½c per pound; 10 gallon kegs, 2½c; 5 gallon kegs, \$2 each; 1 gallon tins, \$1.25 per case of 10; ½ gallon tins, \$5.75 per case of 20.

Teas—Congo: Fair, 11½c; good, 18c; choice 25c. Ceylons: fair, 25c; good, 30c; choice, 35c.

Business Notes

The provincial poultry show got up to encourage poultry raising was a far greater success than was anticipated. There were 500 entries; and the large crowds in attendance during the week made the affair a financial success.

The steamer Empress of Japan left this week with a full cargo and a fair passenger list.

It is said that the boats of the Oriental Line will hereafter make fortnightly trips. This is necessitated by the large and increasing amount of freight offered for our Canadian marine monsters. Keen & Co. are to put on a line of vessels between Vancouver and San Francisco. On the seventh the initial vessel, the barkentine Portland, will start from San Francisco for Vancouver.

The following vessels are loading lumber at Vancouver: The Hiwain schooner, Queen City; Chilean ship, Hindostan; Nicaraguan barque, Bunlaleer; German barque, Artonis. At Victoria the British barque Carmony is discharging general cargo and the United States barque, Detroit, is repairing. At Nanaimo the barque Highland Light and the ship Potter are loading coal.

Westminster exports for January were \$133,615. Their imports, \$11,800. and duty collected, \$8,600.

Vancouver's exports for January, \$15,100. Imports \$12,422; duty collected, \$13,800. Among the cities Westminster heads the list in exports. In Vancouver the increase in exports over corresponding month in 1891 was \$18,700.

The dairymen of the province convened at Victoria on the 30th January. The previously appointed committee on tuberculosis announced that they had delayed their report, waiting to get assistance in their work. A long discussion followed, many prominent dairymen giving their valuable experience and counsel. Mr. Turner, minister of agriculture, said that the government would do all they could to help the farmers to stamp out tuberculosis, that it was a disease always in existence but had broken out worse of late in some countries mainly owing to cattle being pampered and overfed. As far as compensation was concerned he thought the Dominion government was responsible. The following new committee was appointed to make enquiry into the subject of tuberculosis and report to the minister of agriculture: C. E. Renouf, Geo. Deans, T. Cunningham, J. Rodgers, E. A. Wells, Major Mutter and J. Sluggart. Instructive papers were read on the care and handling of milk, the advantages of cooperative dairying and dairying ordinary. The committee on tuberculosis held their first meeting the day after the convention. Several hours were spent in discussing quarantine regulations. The committee adjourned to meet on the mainland.

The fruit growers convened in Victoria some days ago. Many excellent papers were read and great good was done in exchanging ideas, distributing knowledge and comparing experiences.

Poultry raising, dairying and fruit growing have been greatly stimulated of late by municipal and provincial meetings.

J. E. W. Macfarlane, manager of the British Columbia Iron Works, Vancouver, has been arrested on a charge of attempt to bribe a city alderman, in connection with a contract for an electric light plant. The charge is denied.

The stock of W. J. Shear & Co., musical instruments, Nanaimo, is advertised for sale by the assignee.

Scarcity of Canned Salmon.

The canned salmon market in Montreal is quiet and unchanged, but an interesting feature is a decided scarcity of supplies. Not only are there short supplies here, but the catch last year was less than that of 1893, and there is hardly sufficient stock on hand to carry customers along until the next pack.

No new stock can be laid down here under \$5.20, and owing to this condition of affairs, an advance in price shortly would not surprise some Montreal holders.—Grocer.

Winnipeg Board of Trade.

A meeting of the council of the board was held on Thursday afternoon. The question of settling the vacant lands contiguous to the city was taken up and discussed at some length. The members entered warmly into the discussion and all appeared anxious that some means be devised to induce farmers, stock raisers and dairymen to locate in the district. Action was deferred for a few days for another meeting.

The extra charge on insurance imposed by agents to meet the provincial license was next taken up. This matter provoked some emphatic expressions of opinion in opposition to the charge, with the result that a resolution was adopted to the effect that the members of the council protest strongly against the imposition by the insurance companies of the tax of 5 cents per \$100 of insurance for the alleged reason of meeting the local government license; and the members pledge themselves to decline to pay this unjust tax."

Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition.

A meeting of the directors of the Winnipeg Exhibition Association was held on Thursday afternoon. It was reported that the answers to the questions sent out regarding the date of holding the fair, were overwhelmingly in favor of a summer fair, rather than in the fall. It was agreed to ask the city for a grant of \$5,000, and a like amount from the provincial government, in aid of the fair for the present year.

British Grain Trade.

The Mark Lane Express, of February 4, in its weekly review of the British grain trade says:—"During the week English wheats have fallen 6d, and American and Russian 1s. Corn and barley have declined 6d, and oats have been depressed. To-day the tone of the market was better. Wheats were firmer, fine English whites being in demand at 2½s; malting barley advanced 6d; flour was slow. Corn and oats were steady."

Mr. Creagh has become proprietor of the Calgary Tribune. He will certainly conduct the paper in a vigorous manner.

Andrew Allan, President. John McKechnie, Sup F. H. Brydges, Vice-President. W. R. Allan, Sec.-Treas.

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HATS and CAPS,

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Manitoba Spring Trade, 1895.

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Send us your Orders and increase your business.

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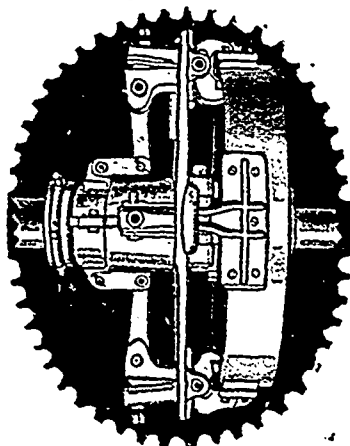
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Forms Sinew and Muscle, and gives soundness to the Constitution.



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Account Books Paper—all kinds
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PRICES AND SAMPLES
MAILED ON APPLICATION.

GRANULAR OGILVIE'S HUNGARIAN CREAMY

HAS NO EQUAL. **FLOUR.** HAS NO EQUAL.

STANDS unparalleled in its
Distinctive Qualities and
Peculiar Advantages. We are
aware others are attempting to
imitate our Brands, which is the
Strongest Guarantee of the Su-
periority of
"OGILVIE'S FLOUR."

WINNIPEG, Oct. 5th, 1893.

Messrs. Ogilvie Milling Co.,

GENTLEMEN:—I have great pleasure in giving you my opinion of the two grades of flour, Patent and Bakers, you are now manufacturing. It excels all other flours that I have ever used, and makes more bread per barrel, and gives me splendid satisfaction in my business, and I am very glad to express my opinion after a number of years experience in flour. Yours is certainly the best I have ever used. H. LISTER, Baker.

—IN HANDLING—

OGILVIE'S FLOUR

YOU HAVE

THE BEST

Each bag guaranteed. Sewn with our Special Twine, Red White and Blue.

OGILVIE'S HUNGARIAN,

Unequalled for fine Cakes and Pastry. Stands unvalued for Bread Making. Make the sponge thin. Keep the dough soft. Do not make it stiff. For pastry use little less flour than usual.

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LEATHER SAMPLE CASES for Grocers, Wine Merchants and
Spice Merchants, for holding Syrups, Vinegars, Wines, Paints,
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Importers of Rice, Sacks, Japan, Indian and China Teas, Steel, Iron, Rope, Cement, Oils, Fruit, Canned Goods, Etc., Etc.

Grain and Milling Matters.

Philip Burnet, contractor Winnipeg has been awarded the contract for building the big chimney which is to replace the one now standing at the Ogilvie mill here.

The Lake of the Woods Milling Company have bought the elevator at Dominion City Man. and will use it for storing their grain at that point this fall. They have not yet decided whether to erect their proposed large new storage elevator at Portage la Prairie or in Winnipeg.

At the close of last week, Feb. 2, the price of wheat in Chicago scored a new low record, cash stuff dipping below 50c per bushel to 49 1/2 cents, being the lowest figure ever before recorded since the Board of Trade was established there. May wheat also sold down to 52 1/2c which was 11c per bushel lower than at the corresponding time last year, when it was so phenomenally low that mostly everyone in the trade thought it could not possibly recede farther.

A telegram from Minneapolis says: "The three great flour mill companies are embroiled in a war of prices that promises to bring the commodity down to a figure which from the standpoint of the miller will be ruinous. The Pillsbury-Washburn flour mill company, limited, announces a cut of 15 cents a barrel to meet reductions by its competitors, the Washburn-Crosby and the Northwestern Consolidated Milling company. Reductions make in jobbing prices in the last two weeks amount to 30 cents a barrel. The trade is further demoralized by a reduction of five cents a hundred in freight rates, Minneapolis to the seaboard, made this week."

The Advocate gives the following report of the remodelling of the Hudsons' Bay Company's mill at Prince Albert, Saskatchewan territory: "The improvements made in the mill during the present season consist of the erection of an elevator of 10,000 bushels capacity, with two elevators capable of handling 1,000 bushels per hour, one monitor dust cleaner, of 600 bushels capacity, one Gurney's latest improved hopper scale of 60 bushels capacity. The weighing is done in full view of the farmer, and in case of dispute, the wheat can be weighed, cleaned and re-weighed. In the mill itself, beginning with the basement, the machinery consists of two driving shafts and boots to 21 elevators, one wheat cleaner, one double cockle machine, two smutters and scourers for preparing wheat for grinding. On the grinding floor, the grinding consists of four double sets of Livingstone rolls (one stand of rolls having McAnuley's automatic feed) and two runs of stones, two Victor heaters and one flour packer. On the second floor, one four-reel chest of hexagon reels, one large centrifugal reel, two No. 1 Smith purifier, one reliance air-belt purifier, one superlative purifier, one reliance dust collector, one Boynton sieve scalper. In the upper story are four hexagon reels and two cyclone dust collectors. Four breaks are made on wheat and five reductions on middlings. The flour is packed on grinding floor by a Matteson packer, which can be regulated to pack the exact quantity required; on the

Every Mackintosh

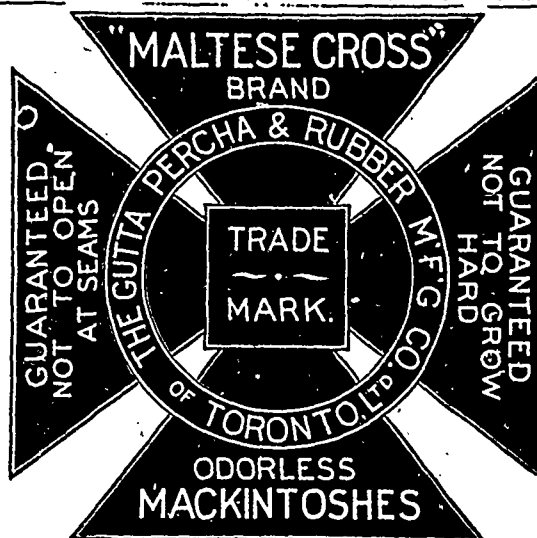
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These are not merely "dew proof" or "shower proof" goods they are THOROUGHLY WATER PROOF and will absolutely withstand all changes of climate.

For Sale by all the Leading Wholesale Houses.

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grinding floor, there are also spouts for bran and shorts bins. The mill has a capacity of 100 bbls. in 24 hours. The power required to drive the mill and elevator is supplied by a 60 horse-power Wheelock engine of the automatic cut-off pattern. With elevator and warehouse the Company have now storage capacity for 35,000 bushels of wheat and have on hand at present about 30,000 bushels of the 'best in the world.' The mill was planned by Chas. E. Steele, superintendent of the H. B. Co's mill of Winnipeg. The company have paid out this season in connection with their milling business between 20 and 30 thousand dollars, and, as far as milling business is concerned, appear, to be determined to their motto "Ancient, honorable, progressive."

Lumber Trade News.

The Mississippi Valley Lumberman is out with a mammoth special issue, handsomely printed and profusely illustrated. Interesting annual reviews and statistical compilations relating to the lumbering industry are given. Another very interesting article is "The History of the Development of Saw Mill and Wood Working Machinery," with many illustrations, showing the evolution of saw mill machinery. There are many other special articles, which all go to make up a grand number of the Lumberman.

The Ontario and Western Lumber Company which controls and operates a big lumbering industry on the Lake of the Woods, with mills at Rat Portage, Keewatin and Norman, has decided to branch out in a new line of manufacture. The company is putting in machinery to equip a first-class box factory on a large scale, with the object of shipping boxes and packing cases in the Knock-down. The factory will have all modern machinery, including stamping and printing presses for taking impressions on wood. Heretofore large quantities of box material have been brought in from the East or the United States to supply Winnipeg factories. This will now be unnecessary, as a supply will hereafter be obtainable close at hand, from a home industry.

The case of the American Watch Case Co. vs. W. F. Doll, at Toronto, resulted in a disagreement of the jury.

The consumption of Paris green in Canada is estimated to be about 350 tons per annum. The trade and navigation returns for 1893 give the imports for that year at about 160 tons, but those in the trade estimate that 125 tons is now about the total brought in. There are now two factories in the country.

Winnipeg Clearing House.

Clearings for the week ending February 7 were \$780,687, balances, \$168,187. For the previous week clearings were \$611,954. For the corresponding week of last year clearings were \$1,001,810.

Following are the returns of other Canadian clearing houses for the weeks ended on the dates given:

	Clearings.	
	Jan. 24th.	Jan. 31st.
Montreal.....	\$10,363,496	\$10,620,344
Toronto.....	5,855,269	4,892,940
Halifax.....	968,225	944,341
Winnipeg.....	752,097	641,954
Hamilton.....	550,169	474,206

Total..... \$21,158,361 \$17,019,785

Montreal Corn Exchange Elections.

At the annual meeting of the Corn Exchange Association, the old officers of the Board were re-elected as follows:—D. G. Thompson, president; Wm. Stewart, treasurer. Committee of Management:—James Alton, E. F. Craig, R. M. Esdaile, W. Hastings, Robt. Peddie, J. Robillard, A. G. Thomson. Board of Review:—G. M. Kinghorn, chairman, Thos. A. Crane, John Dillon, J. O. Lafreniere, Stewart Munn.

Cartor, Macey & Co., New York, the largest tea house in the United States, are reported to be buying all the low grade Japan tea they can get in Canada, at around 14 and 15 cents. They have recently made a purchase, it is said, of 7,000 packages from a Japan house, and have taken a considerable quantity from Hunt & Co., a Japan house, who have consigned to themselves in Canada. The New York firm can use the goods as advantageously here as in New York, as they ship largely to the west, and the freight from Montreal to Chicago is no higher than from New York to Chicago. In addition there is no duty on teas entering the United States from Canada.

"In Point Of thoughtful provision for the comfort of its passengers, the most attractive route from the Head of the Lakes to Chicago, or the Twin Cities, is The North-Western Line. The Chicago Limited for Chicago and Milwaukee via this line is the fastest and finest train that runs out of Duluth.—The News-Tribune, Duluth.

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"RED CROSS"

BRAND OF HAMS.

BACON, LARD, BOLOGNA
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OAK LAKE
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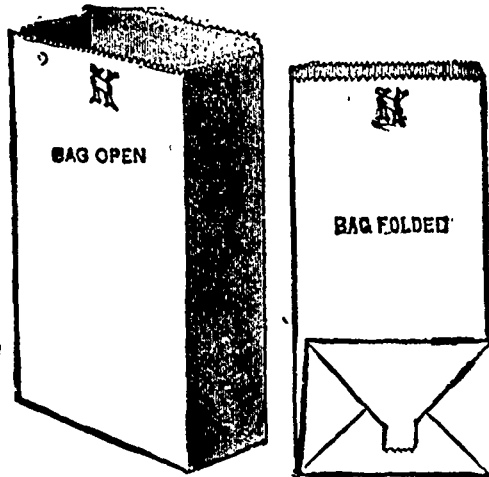
McDermott St., Winnipeg.

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The traveller is not only enabled
 to travel from one point to an-
 other in the very shortest possible
 time but also finds every imagin-
 able comfort on his train just the
 same as he enjoys in his own club or home.
 At least that is the way he finds things on the
 North-Western Limited between Minneapolis,
 St. Paul and Chicago and we all call that
 train the Leader around here.—Der Wander-
 er, St. Paul.

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AND PRINTERS,
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Manilla Grocers Bags,
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Millinery Bags, Shirt Bags,
Hat Pags, Shot Bags,
Candy Bags, Nail Bags,
Oyster Pails.

Montreal Grain and Produce Markets.

Flour.—There is no change in the market save that an easier feeling has been induced by the bad break in wheat, which has caused buyers of flour in this market to restrict their purchases to the bare requirements of the moment, fearing a decline in prices. In this market, however, there has been no concession of values, either as regards Manitoba or Ontario brands. The sale of two car loads of Ontario choice straight rollers is reported at \$3.00 on track here, and a lot of bags at \$1.45. We quote: Patent spring, \$3.50 to \$3.65; Winter Patent, \$3.50 to \$3.65; Manitoba Patents, \$3.85 to \$3.90; Straight roller, \$2.95 to \$3.05; Extra, \$2.60 to \$2.70; Superfine, \$2.35 to \$2.40; City Strong Bakers, \$3.65 to \$3.75; Manitoba Bakers, \$3.40 to \$3.75; Ontario bags—extra, \$1.30 to \$1.35; Straight Rollers, bags, \$1.45 to \$1.50.

Oatmeal.—We learn of an offer of a car of rolled oats delivered here on track at \$3.75, while a car of another mill was offered at \$3.65, said to be equally as good. There is a fair jobbing demand, and we quote as follows: Rolled and granulated \$3.85 to \$3.95; standard, \$3.60 to \$3.75. In bags, granulated and rolled are quoted at \$1.80 to \$1.85, and standard at \$1.60 to \$1.75. Pot barley \$3.75 in bbls. and \$1.75 in bags, and split peas \$3.50 to \$3.60.

Bran, etc.—There is a better enquiry, and prices are firmer for Ontario brands. Western mills have advanced their prices \$1 per ton, and Ontario bran is now quoted on this market at \$16 to \$16.50, and Manitoba brands at \$15 to \$15.50. Shorts \$16.50 to \$17.50.

Wheat.—Prices west of Toronto are quoted 1c less than last week, namely, red and white winter 56 to 57c. Here there is nothing doing on spot, and prices are therefore purely nominal. Manitoba wheat in car lots is quoted at 78c delivered at Western Ontario points for No. 1 hard.

Oats.—Prices here are firmer in sympathy with an advance of 1c at Ontario points. There have been sales of car lots at 36½ for No. 2, and some holders are asking 36¾ and 37c per 34 pounds.

Barley.—We quote prices here 53c to 56c for malting and 47c to 49c for feed.

Pork, Lard, etc.—Everything in the shape of hog products is unusually low, and we heard of a sale of a round lot of Montreal sugar-cured hams at the unprecedentedly low price of 8½c, and a lot of picnic hams sold at 6½c. These prices, however, were admitted to be under the market quotations. We quote as follows:

Canada short cut pork, per bbl., \$14.50 to \$15.50; Canada short cut thin, per bbl., \$13.50 to \$14.00; Extra plate beef, per bbl., \$10.50 to \$11.00; Hams, per lb. 9c to 10c; Lard, pure, in pails, per lb. 8½ to 9c; Lard, compound, in pails, per lb. 6¾ to 7c; bacon, per lb. 10 to 11c; Shoulders, per lb. 8 to 8½c.

Butter.—Holders are at their wits' ends to know how best to dispose of their goods. A round lot of summer Western dairy is offered at 9c, but no one seems to want it. The only demand is for choice winter and late fall made creamery, which sell in a retail way at 20c to 21c, the latter for single tubs of selected. Earlier makes of creamery have been sold at from 15c up to 18c. There is no export demand nor any prospects for any this season.

Eggs.—The market is firmer and higher, owing to the demand that has set in from the United States, and we quote Montreal limed 13c to 14c, and Western 11c to 12c, with an upward tendency. Held fresh is quoted at 10c to 11c as to quality, and now laid at 20c and upwards.

Hides.—There is no change in the hide situation, supplies being light and the demand from tanners good, with sales reported of light hides in car lots on the basis of 5½c for No. 1, with two lots reported at 5¾c to 6c. Heavy steers are quoted at 6½ to 7c to tanners and at 6c to 6½c to butchers. Grubby hides sell at the usual reduction. In calfskins there is no change, 5 to 6c being the quoted rates. We quote prices here as follows:—Light hides, 5c for No. 1, 4c for No. 2, and 3c for No. 3; to tanners 5½c to 6c for No. 1. Heavy hides are quoted at 5½ to 6½c; calfskins 5c to 6c; lambskins 60c to 65c. The sale of a lot of about 3000 lambskins reported at 70c.—Trade Bulletin, Feb. 1.

Toronto Grocery Market.

Canned Goods.—Demand for peas, corn and tomatoes still light, lighter in fact than the trade appears to have anticipated. There is scarcely anything doing in canned fruits. Salmon is quiet and lobsters dull. We quote: Tomatoes and corn, \$5 for 3's, \$1.75 to \$1.90 for 2's; raspberries, \$1.65 to \$1.80; strawberries, \$1 to \$2.10; apples, 3's \$1 to \$1.10, gallons, \$2.10 to \$2.25, and preserved fancy quarters at \$1.35 to \$1.40; salmon, \$1.30 to \$1.35 for good red fish in tall tins, and \$1.50 to \$1.60 in flat tins; do., second quality, \$1.10 to \$1.25; canned mackerel, \$1 to \$1.10; lobsters, \$1.70 to \$2 for tall tins, and \$2.25 to \$2.75 for flat tins. Australian mutton, boiled, 2 lb. cans, \$3.40; ditto, corned and roast, \$3.75.

Coffees.—There is just an ordinary inquiry for green Rio coffee, stocks of which are bare upon this market. Advices received by a local wholesale house state that higher prices are probable. We quote green, in bags, as follows: Rio, 20½ to 22c; East Indian, 27 to 30c; South American, 21 to 23c; Santos, 21½ to 22½c; Java, 30 to 32c; Mocha, 27 to 28c; Maracaibo, 21 to 23c; Jamaica, 21 to 22c.

Rice.—Business continues quiet and prices unchanged. We quote: "B," 3½ to 3¾c; extra Sapan, 5½ to 5¾c; imported Japan, 5½ to 6¼c; tapioca, pearl, 4½ to 5c.

Spices.—We quote: Pure black pepper, 10 to 12c; pure white, 18 to 25c; pure Jamaica ginger, 25 to 27c; cloves, 25 to 30c; pure mixed spice, 25 to 30c; cream of tartar, 20 to 25c per lb.

Nuts.—We quote as before: Brazil nuts, 11 to 12½c; Sicily shelled almonds, 25 to 26c; Tarragona almonds, 14 to 14½c; peanuts, 10 to 12c for roasted and 7 to 10c for green; coconuts, \$1.50 to \$5 per sack; Grenoble walnuts, 15 to 16c; Marbot walnuts, 12½ to 14c; Bordeaux walnuts, 12 to 13c; Sicily filberts, 9 to 10 for sacks and 10½ to 11c for small lots; pecans, 10½ to 11c.

Sugar.—Demand for granulating sugar has eased off a little during the week, although the turnover is still fair. Last week's advances in outside markets appear to have been maintained, and quotations on the local market are without change. We quote: Granulated, domestic, 3½ to 3¾c; do. No. 2 grade, 3½c; German granulated, 3¾c; yellows, 2½ to 3¾c; Raws.—Demerara, 2½ to 3c; Muscovado, in 115-lb bags, \$1.90.

Syrups.—Some American dark syrups are arriving on the market in spite of the tariff of 7c per lb. There is a fair sorting up trade doing in syrups at firm prices. We quote: Dark, 25c; medium, 28 to 30c; bright, 35 to 40c; very bright, 45 to 50c.

Molasses.—We quote as follows: New Orleans, barrels, 26 to 28c; half-barrels, 30½ to 32c; Barbadoes, barrels, 28 to 32c; half-barrel, 30 to 34c.

Teas.—Market continues healthy, but business while fair, is not brisk. Low grade China black teas continue to be absorbed in consequence of the scarcity of low grade Indian and Ceylon teas. Low grade Panyongs ought to show good value now. China green teas are still scarce. Japan teas are quiet and strong. We quote ruling prices on the Toronto market as follows: Young Hyson, 12 to 18c for low grades; 21 to 27c for mediums, and 30 to 45c for high grades; China Congous, 14 to 18c for mediums, and 35 to 55c for high grades; Japans, 16 to 20c for

mediums, 28 to 35c for high grades; Indians and Ceylons, 18 to 22c for mediums, and 80 to 45c for high grades.

Fruits—Valencia raisins are quiet and unchanged. We quote good fruit as before. Off-stalk, 4 to 4½c; fine off-stalk, 4½ to 5c; selected, 5½ to 6c; layers, 6 to 6½c. We quote California loose muscatels at 5½ to 6½c. Malaga raisins are dull and nominally unchanged. We quote: London layers, \$2 to \$2.25; black baskets, \$2.90 to \$3; blue baskets, \$4 to \$4.75, extra dessert clusters, \$1; connoisseur clusters, \$2.65 to \$2.90; quarter flat connoisseur clusters, 90c to \$1.15; Royal Buckingham, \$1.50 to \$5. Sultana raisins were cabled 9d. higher on Monday, making an advance of 2s. 3d. from the bottom. Local houses have advanced prices about ½c.; ordinary quotations now being 6 to 7½c per lb. The higher prices in the outside markets are principally in the lower grades of fruit. Demand for prunes is still light. We quote Sphinx as follows: "U," \$1.10 to \$1.15 per half kilo, 5 to 5½c per lb.; "C," 85 to 90c per half kilo, 6½c lb.; "B," 80 to 85c per half kilo, 7 to 7½c per lb. "Atlas," "D," \$1.10 to \$1.15 per half kilo, 4½ to 5c per lb. For Bordeaux prunes, 4 to 4½c is the idea. Currents continue to advance. The cable announced another jump of 1s. 6d. on Monday, making the total gain during the last six weeks 3s. No change has yet been made on the local market, but higher prices may be looked for when present stocks are exhausted. We quote: Filiatras, half-barrels, 4 to 4½c, barrels, 4½c; fine filiатras, half barrels, 4½c, barrels, 4½c; Patras, 5½c in cases; Casalinas, 5½ to 6c; Vostizzas, 6½ to 7c in cases and half cases; Panartes, 8 to 8½c. Figs continue dull at nominally unchanged prices. We quote: 14 oz., 8 to 9c; 10 lb 8 to 10c; 13 lb, 12c; 28 lb, 15c; tups, 4½ to 4½c; naturals, 6 to 7c.

SALT.—Large lots are freely moving in view of anticipated rise in price to be brought about by the producers. We quote: Barrels, 90c; coarse sacks, 56c; fine sacks, 60c; dairy, \$1.50; rock, \$9.—Canadian Grocer, Feb. 1.

The Evolution of Store Trade.

The idea of a large store, which under the same general name shall include separate departments covering special lines of goods, is not a new one. The public have long been familiar with such departments in many of our larger retail enterprises; such, for example, as those where china and glassware in their various forms are sold. The present novelty which has recently attracted a good deal of public attention lies in the fact that groceries are to be added to the list. Recently announcements have been made that grocery departments have been established in several old houses doing a large and miscellaneous trade. We are now told that other firms, supposedly dry goods merchants, are to keep groceries, and that other department stores soon to be established in this city will devote a large part of their space to the same line of trade. From all the large cities come reports of the spread of the same idea. Undoubtedly all over the United States grocery keepers must face a new competition, with which dealers in china and other wares have long been familiar.

Naturally enough the retail grocers, being the ones whose business is the latest to be injured by the movement, are indignant; yet it is not easy to see how they are to avoid the new competition. If, years ago, traders devoted themselves to this or that line of goods exclusively, it was simply because it seemed to them best. There is no rule of commerce or of equity under which a dry-goods dealer should not sell tops or a toy-dealer sell dry goods; it is

simply a question of profit. The claim, therefore, of the American Grocer that the department stores have a legal but not a moral right to sell groceries is clearly untenable. Alike in small matters and in great, the majority of our commercial problems do not concern morality or equity directly, at all.

Everyone who has been watching the evolution of commerce and trade is aware that the progress of recent years has been brought about by the carrying or manufacturing or selling of large quantities of goods at a small ratio of profit per ton, per pound, or per box; and it would be strange indeed if the same principle should not in some way be applied to retail trade. Just as in large manufacturing industries the proportional expenses of production are reduced by being spread over a large output, so can retail business be more cheaply carried on by concentrating a large number of transactions under the same management. It is useless to complain that a store sells goods too cheaply, or to aver that shoppers should pay more for their purchases in order to allow a small trader to live. Such a policy if practically carried out would stop progress. Nor is it always correct to say that by this process the small trader is deprived of a livelihood. In many cases, and perhaps in most, he may accept service under the large firm and receive steadily the same amount which he before tried to earn precariously as an independent shopkeeper. Cheapness, if not accompanied by a deterioration in quality, is the one thing for which the whole shopping community is in search. —N. Y. Evening Post.

United States Production of Gold in 1894.

The Wells, Fargo & Co. Express advance statement of production of gold in the United States covering the Pacific coast states and territories reckons silver as worth an average of 69c. per ounce, copper 10c. per pound and lead \$3.11 per 100 pounds. The table covers fully 95 per cent. of the entire gold and silver output of the country:

	Percentage.	Value.
Gold	49.66	\$45,892,668
Silver	27.83	28,721,014
Copper	21.19	22,276,294
Lead	7.82	8,223,518

* Totals..... 100.00 \$105,118,489

The gold product of these states and territories shows an increase of \$11,790,000 compared with 1893. The gold production for 1894 was the largest in a quarter of a century, the nearest approach to these figures being in 1877, when the amount was \$44,890,223. The smallest yield was \$25,183,567, in 1884. The value of silver produced showed a decrease of \$9,771,500 from 1893, largely owing to the lower valuation per ounce. In 1893 it was figured at 74c per ounce. Taking the precious metals together, Montana was the largest producer in 1894, followed by Colorado, California, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, Nevada, the Dakotas, New Mexico, Oregon, Alaska, Washington, Texas, British Columbia and Wyoming.

* The province of British Columbia, Canada, is included in the totals.

The Commercial has been favored with a copy of the beautiful catalogue of The Steele, Briggs, Marcon Seed Co. of Toronto. This is the best known seed house in Canada. The catalogue will be found a most useful work for amateur and professional gardeners. It gives a list of about every known plant, flower, shrub or seed that can be grown in this country, in or out doors, with useful hints on cultivation. This firm is particularly noted for the choice quality of its seeds,

Heavy Decline in Wire.

During the week the smooth wire manufacturers held a meeting. The result of which was a radical change in the price of these staple kinds of wire. The change was sudden and in a sense unexpected, as the makers decided upon a new list only a month ago. American competition has been so keen, however, that they were compelled to lower prices. The reduced list goes into effect after the 1st of February, and the lines chiefly affected are annealed, oiled and annealed and galvanized wire, the decline in some cases being over 10 per cent. and in others under. The trade discount off the list has also been increased from 20 per cent. to 25 per cent.

In annealed wire only three numbers are changed, viz. Nos. 13, 14 and 15, the first being marked down 10 cents and the two latter 25c from the list price issued January 1st. In oiled and annealed wire Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 are all reduced, the three first 20c each, and the three last 25c, 85c and 15c respectively. In galvanized wire all the lower numbers have been marked down, the reductions being of a very substantial character as the following table will show:

Number,	New List.	Jan. 1, '95.	Reduction.
7.....	\$3 00	\$3 25	25c
8.....	3 00	3 85	85c
9.....	2 85	3 50	65c
10.....	3 20	3 60	40c
11.....	3 20	3 65	45c
12.....	3 20	3 75	55c
13.....	3 50	3 90	40c
14.....	3 60	4 20	60c
15.....	3 75	4 80	1 15

—Montreal Gazette.

Postal Insurance.

Congressman Hayes, of Iowa, proposes that the United States Congress establish a system of postal insurance by which the government will insure letters and their contents and merchandise sent through the mail. This he would substitute for the registry system which now prevails. The latter is good as far as it goes, but it does not go far enough. The United States agrees to be a little more careful with a registered letter or parcel than it does if mailed in the ordinary manner, but it does not guarantee its delivery. If it is lost the government will investigate the matter and probably inform you how and where it was lost, but there is very little satisfaction in this. If the losses in the registered mail are many, then the insurance of letters is necessary, if they are few, then the amount that the government has to make good will be very small, and there is every reason why it should assume responsibility. With its magnificent system of tracking missing letters it can prevent any considerable losses and keep track of letters, etc. This is the view that Mr. Hayes takes of the matter, and he proposes a system of postal insurance up to \$100, the fee being from 10 to 40 cents, according to the amount insured.

Electricity and Steam.

Electrical engineering has advanced far enough to demonstrate the superior economy as applied to short railways, of the electric method of propulsion. That is to say, it has been found cheaper to have one or two central reservoirs of steam power, directly converted into electricity, and through that into motion, than to have fifty separate engines converting their own steam into motion. It does not, of course follow that the future application of electrical mechanism to railroads must all be on this line,

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