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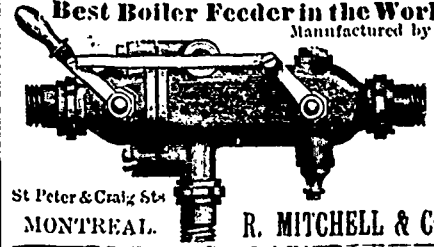
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Published by James E. Steen—Every Tuesday—Subscription, \$2 per annum.

VOL. 4

WINNIPEG, AUGUST 3, 1886.

NO. 45

The Commercial

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

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

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JAS. E. STEEN,
Publisher.

WINNIPEG, AUGUST 3, 1886.

McLEOD & O'BRIEN, are opening up a restaurant at Calgary.

W. A. HAYES is about to open up a hotel at Vancouver, B. C.

BUTTON & GODWIN, plumbers, Vancouver, have dissolved partnership.

ROBERT MATHESON, job printer, has opened up business in Vancouver.

TAYLOR BROTHERS, from Birtle are opening a butcher shop at Minnedosa.

R. H. BRATNOBER has opened a branch harness and saddlery house at Battleford.

A. K. FRANCIS, from Calgary, has opened up business as a photographer at Edmonton.

ELLIOTT & McDOWELL, hotelkeepers, Brandon, have dissolved; McDowell retiring.

DUNCAN McLAREN, blacksmith, Neepawa, has sold out his business to Alvan G. Grant.

HENRY & WHITNEY, livery men, Lethbridge, have dissolved. Whitney continues the business.

JACQUES BROTHERS, have opened up business in furniture and musical instruments in Calgary.

MRS. MELVIN from Winnipeg, is about to open up in millinery and fancy goods at Neepawa.

COLE & SANDERS, dry goods merchants, Brandon, are about to dissolve partnership. J. E. Sanders retiring.

R. W. DULMAGE, late of Saskatoon, has located in Battleford and opened up as a tinner and dealer in that class of goods.

ROWE & NEWTON, handling bankrupt stocks in Winnipeg, have dissolved. The business will be continued by C. H. Newton.

A. C. PERRY, stationer, formerly of Winnipeg, has reached Vancouver, B. C., and is about to locate there in the same business.

F. and J. SKELDING, dealers in hardware, advertise that they are going to dissolve partnership and close out their business in Neepawa.

S. WARDEN, who has run the stage line between Swift Current and Battleford for some time has been compelled to abandon the route, as he found it was not paying.

HORNE BROTHERS have opened up in groceries at the former stand of John A. Locke, Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, the latter having decided to go out of business for a time.

S. F. JOHNSON, of the former firm of S. F. Johnson & Co., hardware merchants, Winnipeg is at present in Brandon arranging for the purchase of the hardware business of J. A. Smart, of that place.

THE Birtle Observer publishes the statement, that Mr. Barker, of Minnedosa, and Mr. A. McDonald, of Strathclair, have struck two petroleum wells near Lake Dauphin. The wells are said to be equal to any in the United States or Eastern Canada for flow or quality. A great deal of prospecting for oil has been carried on in this locality, and it is satisfactory to know that all search has not been fruitless.

MORDEN butchers are quarreling and are now selling beef steak at three pounds for twenty-five cents. Each should start a branch in Winnipeg, where the extortionate prices charged would enable them to even up a little.

A LINE of railway is about to be built from Kootenay Lake to the junction of the Kootenay and Columbia Rivers, B. C., and when completed boat communication between the latter point and the C.P.R. at Farwell will be established.

JOYNER BROTHERS & ATHERTON of the Qu'Appelle Valley hotel, Fort Qu'Appelle, have arranged their dissolution of partnership, A. Atherton and H. B. Joyner, being the retiring partners, and the business will be continued by A. W. B. Joyner.

ALEX. DOUGLASS, H. M. Howell, and other prominent citizens of Winnipeg are organizing a company to start hog butchering and packing in the city. The paid up capital of the company is to be \$75,000. They have applied to the City Council for a \$10,000 bonus, besides exemption from taxation.

It is stated that three car loads of anthracite coal from the Cascade mine in the Rocky Mountains are now on their way to this city. This coal is said to contain from ninety to ninety-five per cent. of carbon, and the results of a test on an extensive scale of its properties will be anxiously watched by those here interested in the fuel question.

THE effort of the corporation of Portage la Prairie to reach a settlement with the creditors of the town has failed, several of the creditors having refused the offer made by the town, which was that the debt be reduced from \$265,000 to \$200,000, interest on the reduced total to be 3½ per cent for the first 6 years, 4 per cent for the next nine years, and 5 per cent thereafter. One creditor has suggested that the principal be held intact, and that the interest be fixed at 3 per cent. for the first six years and 3½ for the next nine. The proposal the Portagers will not agree to, and the matter is now at a dead-lock. It is to be hoped however, that some arrangement will soon be reached, and that the town will be saved from an experience like that of Emerson.

Business East. ONTARIO.

W. C. Dillon, grocer, Forest, has sold out.
 R. Linker, grocer, Kincairdine, has assigned.
 J. F. Wilson, shoes, Newmarket, has sold out.
 Thos. P. Caird, hotelkeeper, Sunderland, has assigned.
 Christopher Fox, grocer, Thamesville, has assigned.
 Campbell & Moore, bakers, Strathroy; have dissolved.
 J. R. Kingsbury, grocer, Toronto; sheriff in possession.
 J. H. Leitch, hotelkeeper, Ridgetown, is out of business.
 W. H. Grant dry goods dealer, Strathroy, has sold out.
 W. J. Hall, dealer in dry goods, Peterboro, has sold out.
 Alonzo Coughell, hotelkeeper, St. Thomas, has sold out.
 Thos. T. Kavanagh, grocer, Mallorytown, has assigned.
 Denis Fox, dealer in dry goods, Belleville, has assigned.
 P. Spragge, hotelkeeper, Guelph, has sold out to T. R. Galea.
 M. Leavens, grocer, Meaford, has sold out to Geo. Jenkins.
 B. Coruell, dealer in dry goods, Rockton, was burned out.
 D. L. Hardy, wholesale confectioner, London, is out of business.
 J. Hogan, hotelkeeper, Guelph; succeeded by J. W. Beechin.
 Wu, Niehaus, dealer in shoes, Berlin, has sold out to his son.
 Mrs. A. McDowell, confectioner, Hamilton; bailiff in possession.
 W. R. Pattison, grocer, Gananoque, has moved to Uxbridge.
 Metropolitan Roller Skating Rink, Toronto, sheriff in possession.
 Wm. Real, cigar manufacturer, Toronto; sheriff in possession.
 Frank Robertson & Co., dealers in Berlin wool Toronto, have dissolved.
 J. S. Dignam, dealer in wholesale crockery, London, is moving to Toronto.
 B. & M. Saunders, tailors, Toronto, have dissolved; B. Saunders continues.
 G. H. Flack, jeweller, St. Thomas; stock advertised for sale by assignee.
 D. R. McGuigan, general storekeeper, Newbury, has moved to Port Alma.
 Andrew Clamahan, sash and door manufacturer, Glencoe, was burned out.
 Lindsay Bros., general storekeepers, Shelburne, called a meeting of creditors.
 Lefevre & Son, hardware merchants, Bothwell; style now C. L. Lefevre & Co.
 Kingsville Woolen Manufacturing Co., Kingsville, have dissolved; E. E. Harris retires.
 R. H. Thonson, tailor, Mount Forest, has admitted John Dana as partner; style now R. H. Thomson & Co.

QUEBEC.

Andre Labrecque, baker, St. Raymond, is dead.
 Samuel Read, dealer in dry goods, Quebec, is dead.

Chas. Cadotte, manufacturer of shoes, Montreal, has assigned.

J. A. Claveau, general storekeeper, Chicoutimi, has assigned.

D. Drolet, dealer in dry goods, Quebec, stock damaged by fire and water.

Claude & Co., builders and contractors, Notre Dame de Grace, have dissolved.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Donald McMillan, general storekeeper, Whyecoma, has assigned.

Alex. G. Bremner, dealer in confectionery, Halifax; failed and out of business.

Walker & Currie, general storekeepers, Milford, have dissolved; G. W. Walker continues.

Communication.

To THE COMMERCIAL, Winnipeg.

May I be allowed to say a few words on your article on Commerce with the Antipodes, in your issue of the 27th?

The article is based on the report of Mr. Woods, Commissioner to Australia, and he gives some valuable information as to the possibilities of trade from the Pacific Coast to the Dominion. Writing from Australia, he properly confined himself to the opening likely to be in that market. I propose to show where there is a larger. The exports of wheat from the United States amount to 50,000,000 bushels per annum, of which fully a half is shipped from the Pacific coast; and of that half, all but two per cent. is to England. The shipments of flour from the States are, in round numbers, 7½ million barrels per annum, of which 1½ millions are from Pacific ports, over 800,000 bbls going to England from the Pacific Coast, over 300,000 bbls to China, and the bulk of the remainder to British Columbia. It may seem to some that this is a round about way of shipping, but little consideration is wanted to show the advantage of the Pacific route. Grain of this year can be milled and shipped and landed in England by sailing vessel, by the month of May following, before it could leave the port of Montreal, the value can be drawn for and cash back months before the grain could leave Canada by the east. These figures are not of so much importance to the farmers in the immediate neighborhood of Winnipeg, but to those of the farther west they must have a meaning.

When the steamers are running regularly from Vancouver to China, the miller of the west will have an advantage over those of California. The steamers from San Francisco, it is admitted, can no longer be run if Government subsidies are withdrawn from them and liberal subsidies given to the English lines. This alone will be an item in favor of the Canadian producer. Agricultural machinery is shipped from the States and from Canada, but it can be done on a much larger scale, and that can be done best by making on the Pacific coast, where lumber is the best, coal abundant, and where iron can be landed at less than at any inland town in Canada. Iron will be made there to compete with the world in course of time, but for the present it can cheaply be carried from England.

I hope these few considerations may be of interest to the farming classes of the far west and encourage them to look out for a great future. Winnipeg, July 28th. Mccator.

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JOHN MATHER, - MANAGER.

The Commercial

WINNIPEG, AUGUST 3, 1886.

STOCK YARDS AT WINNIPEG.

The value of stock yards to the city of Winnipeg cannot be overlooked by any person who will take the trouble to give the question only a short study, and that their value has not been more generally recognized, is due to the fact that their utility has not been felt so far. We have for a few years been in that progressive state of production in this country, that wants were only discovered as a rule when there was great necessity for them, and there is every reason that stock yards should come through a similar experience.

Five years ago this country had to import a share of its flour, now it exports annually about half a million of bags. Five years ago we exported no wheat, and now in a rough and manufactured form we export at least five millions of bushels a year. Oats had to be imported three years ago, and now we have a good surplus every year. Up to one year ago we had to import butter, and now we send it out of the country in car load lots. With many other articles of produce it has been similar, and now we have reached the point where we must prepare to export our beef and pork products in some form.

Before any extent of an export business in beef and pork can be done, stock yards somewhere in Manitoba is a necessity. It matters not whether we export live animals or meats slaughtered and cured, they are necessary all the same, and as was shown by Alderman Penrose at a recent meeting of the Winnipeg Board of Trade, there must be stock yards in Winnipeg or somewhere in its neighborhood, if this province and the territories beyond are to take their proper position as exporters of meats. That gentleman's suggestion is good, that freight arrangements on the C.P.R. should allow of cattle being unloaded in Winnipeg for selection purposes. Only a smaller class of cattle are necessary for the home butcher market, while these are not wanted at all in Montreal for the export business, as it pays only to handle the heaviest cattle for this trade. Manitoba furnishes quite a surplus of cattle that are too big for the home market, and others that are too small for the Montreal market. When

either market has to receive other than its actual wants, it will be received at a loss in price to the producer and shipper. The utility of stock yards here would therefore be to secure the highest price for our products, which catering for different markets will bring, and this is based upon the opinion of gentlemen, who believe that stock yards for slaughtering business are still unnecessary in Winnipeg or anywhere else in Manitoba.

But we question the opinion of the gentlemen referred to on the item of a slaughtering and packing centre here, and we do not admit that their's are the opinions of practical men. So far as a slaughtering centre for beef is concerned there is as yet some argument in favor of their statements, for without beef canning factories and other arrangements, the wisdom of which as investments is somewhat problematical, this city can only use a very limited quantity of beef, too limited as yet to call for very extensive stock yards. But with regard to pork packing there is a totally different aspect on affairs. We have no experience as yet by which we can determine the profit in pork packing in this country. True it has been tried on a small scale during the past two years, and while it has not been a failure, it has not been a bonanza to those engaged therein. But it should be known that pork packing up to the present date has been conducted on the antiquated plan of purchasing the dressed hogs from the raiser, a system which the experience of every packing centre in the Western United States has shown to be a failure, while slaughtering and packing at the same time has made more wealthy men, firms and companies than any other branch of industry of the same magnitude.

Objectors to pork packing here endeavor to make a strong point out of the belief that Winnipeg with a population of over 25,000 does not furnish a large enough market for offal to allow of profitable pork packing. The experience of much smaller places knocks the bottom out of this absurd argument, and we do not require to go outside of one western state to prove this. The live little city of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, with a population at least 10,000 less than Winnipeg, has a packing house with a capacity of 3,000 hogs a day, and it has grown to this magnitude from a business of fifty a day in about fourteen years. It is one of the

most profitable concerns of its kind in America, and is the back bone of the industries of the city it is located in. Dubuque, Des Moines, Davenport and other points furnish further though less marked proofs of what we state, and Iowa, although it does not possess a city having 30,000 population has pork packing houses at quite a number of points, the aggregate capacity of all being somewhat over 14,000 hogs a day. Such facts and figures should silence all objections on the offal question. The facts are that in these places the bulk of the offal is manufactured into some product which can be shipped to wider markets at a profit.

Another argument used against pork packing here is the uncertainty of a supply of hogs. That argumens should be traced back a little, and it would be found that the uncertain supply has been the outcome of an uncertain market. Establish pork packing and curing on an extensive scale, and with slaughtering arrangements connected, and we will establish a steady market for live hogs, which will soon tempt our farmers to raise them in abundance.

The objectors to pork packing here as a last stand argue that hog raising will not pay our farmers. On that point the objectors, being men of trade and not agricultural experience, are not competent to judge, and we can furnish them with the opinions of men, who have had chances of overlooking more regarding hog raising than these objectors ever had of learning about it, and these opinions agree that in few if any places on this continent does the hog raiser start in with better advantages.

But the question comes to this; Are we to export our pork in the expensive way of live hogs or in the economical way of packed or cured pork? There can be but one answer to such a plain question, and the additional fact that the first ten cars or so of live hogs shipped east from this province, are met in Montreal, by a carefully circulated but lying rumor of hog cholera in Manitoba, adds firmness to the tone of that answer, and shows how our live hog export business can be placed at the mercy of eastern spectators.

There is no use trying to evade the fact that we require pork packing houses here at once, and stock yards in connection, and if the latter are wanted for the live cattle export trade, then it will only increase the necessity for them.

There is now a company being organized in this city for the purpose of pork packing, and we believe the men who are behind the movement are the right parties to grapple with such a question. We regret that they should see fit to appeal to the city for aid in the way of a bonus, as we believe the undertaking would be self-supporting from the very start, and soon become very profitable. However as they have decided to ask for assistance, we hope it will be given liberally, for we know of no other industry that could be established here, which would prove of greater value to the city and the whole province. There is the additional recommendation in favor of this movement, that it is starting out on proper principles, namely of slaughtering and packing, so that the citizens if they do aid it, will not have the future displeasure of looking at a hot house plant they have nursed into existence.

AMERICAN EXPORTS.

The *Chicago Journal of Commerce*, an ultra-protectionist organ, recently gave vent to the following statement:

"The production of wheat in 1885 was 357,112,000 bushels, and the export 51,000,000 bushels; the production of corn was 1,937,176,000 bushels, and the export only 90,000,000 bushels. How absurd then to say that the price of even the cereal products of the American farmer is fixed by the peasant of England or the ryot of India? The price of wheat is made in *Chicago and Minneapolis*. The price of corn is even less dependent upon European influences than wheat. And in fact the only American agricultural product whose price is fixed in Europe is cotton."

The *Journal of Commerce* is evidently well pleased at the fact that the United States exports of agricultural products are on the decrease, and that the great republic is steadily nearing the blissful day when its sons will have no dealings with foreigners, but live and trade together oblivious of the doings of all outside of their national family. Our contemporary wishes the American people to emulate the Hossier's family of seven sons, who were forbidden to trade horses and other truck outside of their own circle, to which doctrine they stuck to for three years, and to the delight of their watchful parent every one of them made hundreds of dollars out of their trucking transactions.

It may be that as the *Journal of Commerce* shadows the national millenium of

being free from all dependence on the outside world is drawing nigh in the United States, but the idea does not agree with the oft repeated cry that an outlet must be had for the surplus products of that country. It is to be feared, however, that the falling off in grain and other exports is not a cause for rejoicing there, but rather an indication that the time is steadily drawing nigh when the United States will be a huge over-producing and inflated country with the best fields for export closed against its producers.

For a long time we have been hearing the cry that Great Britain and other thickly populated countries in Europe must have the grain of the United States to feed their millions, until the commercial world had almost come to the conclusion that this was an axiom of supply and demand. But of late years the illusion has been steadily vanishing. Great Britain and other industrial countries in Europe have been growing tired of purchasing from a country which by a system of tariffs prompted by national selfishness allowed of no exchange of products and have been looking for markets in other lands and have had no difficulty in finding them. In the case of Great Britain a market is being found in her own colonies and that has been growing so rapidly that it will soon place that nation in a position of complete independence of the United States, so far as the products of the latter are concerned. Yes, the day is not far distant when Great Britain will be in a position to draw from her own colonies all the wheat she requires to import, all the corn she has to import and even her supply of cotton. When that time arrives it will be strange if the people of both Great Britain and her colonies are not selfish enough to see where, by a kind of imperial commercial union, in which the growing industries of the latter would have ample protection, the empire would be able to supply its every want without having to apply to the United States, Russia, or any other country. Already talk of Imperial Confederation is heard, and favorably spoken of both in the Old Country and in the colonies, and without attempting to reason even the wisdom or practicability of such a federation, we say that it must be preceded many years by a commercial union such as we suggest, before even its benefits can be understood by those interested.

There are many other indications point-

ing in the direction of such a commercial union, and none more than the interest taken in the industrial progress of the colonies by the Old Country at large. There is a bombastic ring about the praise sounding of the empire on which the sun never sets, and the boast is getting so old now, for the sun has not set on that empire for nearly two hundred years. But there is a practical sound about the boast of an empire which within itself produces what will satisfy the wants of everyone within its limits. With the grain fields of Canada, India and Australia, the wool producing districts of the latter country and New Zealand, the rice and cotton fields of India, the coffee and sugar plantations of the West Indies and other advantages at command the bulk of all the empire's wants can be supplied therefrom, and others will be filled in time through the opening secured through Burmah into the heart of China, and the grasp on the commerce of Egypt, which the present British protectorate gives to the merchants of that nation. Assuredly the time is coming when Great Britain will not require to ask for one bushel of grain or one bale of cotton from the United States and other nations of Europe with less advantages are imitating her example and lessening their demands upon the great republic. Before the present century comes to a close we are greatly mistaken if the producers of the United States be not allowed to turn their entire attention to the home trade, which the *Journal of Commerce* deems to be alone in importance. But we fear there are many who will then differ with the *Journal*, and wish the country could again secure a grain export of 51,000,000 bushels of wheat and 60,000,000 bushels of corn.

It has been a common thing for people on this continent to pose nationally as benefactors, in sending bread to the millions of Europe, who cannot raise enough to feed themselves, and it has proved a profitable kind of benevolence. So profitable that other countries have followed our example, and the business is now overdone with competition. The hungry millions (!) of Great Britain are much averse to a tax on imported bread, but when there is such keen competition to appease their hunger, it is an easy matter to persuade them to become fastidious, and prefer bread imported from British colonies to that from the United States, Russia and other outside countries, especially when by such a preference they can secure an open market for their own products that are not bread. There is but one way that the United States can avoid being left out by such an arrangement, and that is by less a selfish system of import tariffs by the adoption of which that great nation can soon take the place it ought to occupy in the commerce of the outside world.

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In Wood and Bottle always on hand.

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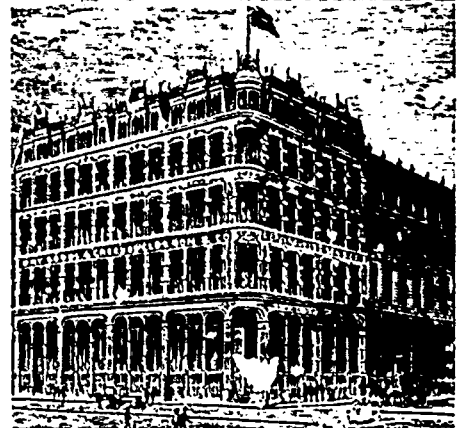
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Corner of William and Princess Streets

WINNIPEG.

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

Monetary affairs in the city have been on the quiet side during the week, and only the stir which the opening of each month makes in commercial discounts things would have been dull at the banks. The amount of transactions going into paper with the opening of August is phenomenally light, and although it is known to be supplemented by some part renewals it is still far below an ordinary month. There is no grain movement and no other unusual call for money, so that while banks have abundance of funds the circulation has been very limited. There is no change in discount rates, first-class paper being still held at 7 to 8 per cent. and ordinary at 8 to 9. In mortgage loans business has been very light and companies' agents are getting plenty of leisure. The demand from the country is nil, and in the city very little funds are wanted. Until harvest is over no real business is expected, and interest for new loans is now nominal at 8 per cent on farm lands, while first-class city business can be done from 7 to 7½.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

The past week has been a very quiet one generally with the wholesale trade of the city. In almost all branches of season goods the first orders for fall and winter have all been booked, and as yet there has been no stir in the way of sorting trade. As harvest draws near the feeling seems to get quieter, and at points in the territories where the crop prospect is very poor it has reached a state of deadness. In quite a number of instances opening orders given to eastern houses, and a few to houses here have been cancelled or greatly reduced owing to the disappointment in crops. These are confined to the territories and although they are not numerous, they show the worst cases in what must be considered a not very satisfactory outlook. Inside of the province the feeling is totally different, owing to the prospect of an unusually early harvest, and a fine sample of grain being secured. Still there is but a light demand for all classes of goods there, and in city only one or two lines show any activity. Wholesalers do not display any disappointment at the quietness, but are satisfied to wait until the harvest is nearly over, when they look for a lively sorting trade to spring up. Only in lines dependant upon building has there been any increase of activity, and some of these have not reached the height of the season's trade. Even in lines of provisions matters have been quiet, and in retail circles all over the country at present there is a disposition to make no purchases unless what actual wants dictate, and with farmers commenced to harvest the actual wants are few and light. In collections there is a corresponding slowness, but not enough to cause any dissatisfaction, and although there have been quite a number of applications for part renewals of paper falling due on the 4th, they have been for short dates, and are evidently meant only to tide over harvest.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

A few binders are still being called for at country agencies, and these are wanted in a

hurry owing to harvest coming so early. There is equal rush in getting out supplies of binding twine, so that houses here have their hands full at present, and they have the additional push to get their collection arrangements ready much sooner than was expected. Of course collections are at a standstill until harvest is over.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

Business has been very slow in this branch, and no improvement is looked for during the present month. The work of filling orders taken from sample during the past two months will commence now, and will keep moving until the sorting trade opens up. The report on collections is satisfactory.

CLOTHING.

Business is very quiet in this branch, a point on which all houses agree. Demands from the country have been fewer than in any week since the opening of the year, and only the most trifling odds and ends are called for in the city. Collections are also reported slow, with a few calls for part renewals of paper falling due on the 4th.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

Business might be rated as moderate in this line, but with no tendency to increased activity. In Collections the report gives no reason for dissatisfaction.

DRY GOODS.

This staple branch is also in a quiet state, although there is some business doing in the towns of the province. Some travelers are still out, but are not making great headway. Others have come in, and do not propose going out again until harvest is well advanced. The business to be done in the territories this season will be from hand to mouth, and scattered over the greater portion of the fall. In the province a much better state of things is looked for, and a stir in the city trade is expected very soon, which will increase activity. Collections are reported fairly satisfactory.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

Business in this line moves at a very steady pace of modern activity. There has been an absence of any special features, except that collections are a little slower than usual. Prices of goods are unchanged and as follows: Howard's quinine, 90c to \$1.00; German quinine, 80 to 90c; opium, \$4.50 to \$5.00; morphia, \$2 to \$2.50; iodine, \$4.25 to \$4.50; bromide potassium, 60 to 65c; American camphor, 40 to 45c; English camphor, 45 to 50c; glycerine, 25 to 35c; tartaric acid, 70 to 75c; cream of tartar, 35 to 40c; blacking powder, per keg \$8 to \$10; bicarb soda, \$4.50 to \$5; sal soda, \$2.25 to \$2.50; soda ash, \$3 to \$3.25; chlorate potash, 30 to 35c; alum, \$3 to \$3.75; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur, flour, \$4 to \$4.50, salpeter, 10lb, \$4 to \$4.25, American blue vitrol, 6 to 8c.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

Business has been quiet in these goods, but not actually dull. There has been a scattered irregular demand for staples, with a few fancy lines called for, but there has been nothing like general activity. The report on collections is fairly satisfactory.

FURS.

The season may now be considered over, and

there is not enough business doing to make a basis for quotations.

FRUITS.

Business has been fairly active in this line during the week, and there has been no change of any moment to report. Two car loads of water melons reached the city during the week, and the supply of blueberries and other native wild fruit seems in no way falling off. There are no change in prices. Apples are plentiful at \$6.50 a l.b. Lemons are quoted at \$12 a box, and oranges at \$9; peas \$3.50 a box; peaches \$3.50; tomatoes \$1.75 \$2 a box and \$5 per bushel basket; golden dates 10c per lb; peanuts 17c; English walnuts 15 to 18c; almonds 15 to 20c; filberts 13 to 15c. Plums, apricots and other delicate fruits are in fair supply. Dried fruits are quoted, valencia raisins \$3.15 to \$3.25; London layers \$3.90 to \$4; black crowns \$5 to \$5.25. Apple cider is worth \$10 a bbl.

FUEL.

There has been no stirring up of this branch as yet, and matters are still in a rather slow state. There is no change in prices. Poplar can be had on track at \$2.50 to \$2.75, and tamarac at \$3.50 to \$3.75. Anthracite coal is worth \$9 to \$9.50 on track; American bituminous \$6.85; and Leithbridge at \$6.50. Smithy coal holds steady at \$12.

FURNITURE.

There is still a quiet feeling in this branch, and shipments to the country are confined to small lots. There are, however, signs of some stir, and improvement is looked for during the month.

GROCERIES.

Business in this staple branch has been quiet and steady like most regular lines, retailers being purchasing only for immediate wants, and without any view of stocking up. The only stir is caused by the arrival of new season teas, quotations of which will be given in our next issue. Prices are: Yellow sugar 6½ to 7½c; granulated 8c to 8½c; lump sugar, 9c to 9½c; Coffee, Rio, 12 to 13½c; Government Java 28c, other Javas 22c; Mochas 31 to 34c. Teas range, Moyune gunpowder 25 to 70c; pan-fired Jap. 23 to 45c, basket-fired 25 to 40c, Ping Suey young hyson 25 to 35c; Moyune young hyson 25 to 50c; Season's congous, 1885-86, 20 to 55c. Syrups, corn, \$2.00 to \$2.35; sugar, cane, \$1.85 to \$2; T. & B. tobacco \$10.

HIDES.

No change to report and prices are steady as follows: Steers, Winnipeg inspection, No. 1 7c; No. 2, 6c; cows, No. 1, 6c. No. 2, 5c; balls, 5c. calf, fine haired real veal, 7 to 13 pound skins, No. 1, 10; No. 2, 8c. Sheep pelts, 30 to 65c. Tallow 3½c per lb.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

In this branch business has been moderate during the week, reports varying. In shelf goods a fair trade has been done. In heavies and metals some business has been done at about last week's prices. Quotations are: Cut nails, 10d and larger \$3.35 to \$3.75; I. C. tin plates, \$5.00 to \$5.75; I. C. tin plates, double, \$11 to \$11.50; Canada plates, \$3.50 to \$3.75; sheet iron, \$3 to \$4.50, according to grade; iron pipe, 40 to 50 per cent. off list price; ingot tin, 26 to 30c per lb., ac-

cording to quality, bar iron, \$2.50 to \$3 per 100 lb; shot, 6½ to 7c a lb; tarred felt, \$2.60 to 2.85 per 100 lbs; barbed wire 7 to 7½.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

There is no improvement to report in this branch, and business is still very slow. Prices are not changed. Quotations of goods are as follows: Spanish sole, 30 to 32c; slaughter sole, 33 to 35c; French calf, first choice, \$1.35 to \$1.50; Canada Calf \$1.00; French kip, \$1 to \$1.10; B Z kip, 85 to 90c; slaughter kip, 55 to 75c; No. 1, wax upper, 50c; grain upper, 65c; harness leather, 33 to 35c for plump stock; American oak sole, 45 to 60.

LUMBER.

Dealers report a fair business doing, but principally in the city, country demands having fallen off somewhat. As building progresses the city demand improves, and a steady business of that kind is looked for during the next two months. There is considerable cutting of prices still done, although no slaughtering is heard of, but it is still impossible to secure reliable quotations.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS.

Wholesalers note just a slight improvement since our last report, but there is no very active feeling as yet. Improvement depends in a great measure upon the building operations around, and the real rush of the season, will not be entered upon until about the end of this month, when finishing of buildings will become a necessity. Prices are as follows: Turpentine, 75c; harness oil, \$1.10; Neatsfoot oil, \$1.50; linseed oil, raw 65c per gal., boiled 71c; seal oil steam refined, \$1.10; castor, 14c per lb; laid No 1, \$1.25 per gal; olive, \$1.00 to \$2, according to quality; machine oils, black 25 to 40c; oleine, 40c; fine qualities, 50 to 75c. Coal oils, headlight, 26c; water white, 30c. Calcined plaster, \$3.75 per bbl; Portland cement, \$4.75; white lead, genuine. 7.00; No 1 \$6.50; No 2, \$6.00 and window glass, first break, \$2.40.

SADDLERY AND HARNESS.

There has been a little improvement in this trade during the week, which is not confined to any line of goods, but generally all over. Further activity is looked for as August advances. Collections are reported a little slow.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

There has been a falling off in sales during the week, and matters have taken a quiet turn. Collections are reported satisfactory.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

Matters are still quiet in this branch, and wholesalers do not take a very hopeful view of the outlook. Prices unchanged and as follows: Gooderham & Wo: 5 year old, \$2.50; 7 year old, \$3.00; old rye, \$1.75; Jules Robin brandy, \$4.50; Bisquet Dehouche & Co., \$4.75; Martell, \$6.50; Hennessy, \$6.50; DeKuyper gin, \$3.50; Port wine, \$2.50 and upwards; Sherry \$2.50 and upwards; Jamaica rum, \$4@4.50; DeKuyper red gin, \$11 per case; DeKuyper green gin, \$6.50 per case; Tom Gin. \$9 00 to \$10.00; Martel and Hennessy's brandy \$14.00 per case of 12 bottles.

WOL.

There is rather a falling off in receipts at present, but prices are unchanged and are as

follows: Leicester and Cotswold, washed, 14c; cotted and broken, washed, 10c unwashed 8c; Southdown, washed, 16 to 18c; unwashed, and tags off, 10 to 12c; Montana sheep, unwashed, 11 to 22c.

THE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

The movement in grain during the past week has been nil, we might say, and altogether the trade has been at a standstill. Crop prospect has been the topic of conversation on all hands, and as harvest comes on us, the better feeling regarding the crop yield steadily gains ground. It is admitted that forty miles west of the Manitoba boundary, and from that to the Rocky Mountains, the crop is practically a failure. The best yield of any grain within these limits will not exceed half an average crop, and many a field will not pay the expense of cutting. Within Manitoba the prospect has been steadily improving during the whole month of July, until now there are quite a number of men who ought to know what they talk about, and who place the provincial average of wheat at over twenty bushels to the acre. Even the Red River valley where least rain fell, has been improving greatly during the past three weeks, and estimates as high as fifteen bushels of wheat the acre are made for this less favored locality. The wheat crop may be summed up as follows: In the Territories not a bushel of surplus over local wants, and in Manitoba a little below the average in quantity, but with the quality good all over. This is about the prospect now as the harvest commences, and wheat cutting will be pretty general within ten days, while in many places it has commenced already. The improved prospect and the unusually early harvest have made millers and grain men a little careless about handling old wheat unless at a bargain, and all are inclined to hold off as much as possible until new grain comes to market. The consequence has been that no transactions are reported outside of the round lot of good hard stored since the crop of 1883. The crop prospect in barley and oats is by no means encouraging. Six weeks ago the prospect of a heavy surplus of oats to carry over from the crop of 1885 was a source of annoyance to holders, but now they can see clearly where every bushel will be wanted. The average yield of this cereal will not be more than half of what it was last year, and barley has no better prospect. In flour the movement during the week has been moderate and steady with considerable export business doing. In provisions, and especially in meats, the business of the week has been light, but prices have been tending upwards. In dairy products a fairly good feeling has existed, and the market has been relieved a little by one car lot and other smaller export shipments. Altogether the week has been a quiet one, and there is very little hope of any marked stir until harvest is over or nearly so.

WHEAT.

Only one sale of any consequence is reported, and that is of a round lot of hard from the crop of 1883, which brought 65c, but it is question-

able if another could be sold at a similar figure. There is nothing doing, no inclination to do anything, and no offers of figures on which even nominal quotations could be based. Prices by grade here purely nominal as follows: No. 1 hard, 70c; No. 2, 65c; No. 1 northern, 65c; No. 2, 60c; No. 3, 55c.

FLOUR.

The home market has been fairly active, while considerable of an export has been done. British Columbia is still getting a share, and the fact that the C.P.R. management have given a more reasonable rate to the Pacific coast, will doubtless stimulate this trade. Yet a little more liberality on this road would enable our millers to sway that market. The demand all round has been mostly for high and medium grades, the inferior goods being slow in sale. Quotations are unchanged as follows: patent, \$2.60 strong bakers, \$2.00; XXXX \$1.50, and superfine, \$1. Prices are for broken lots, delivered in the city or f.o.b.

BRAN AND SHORTS

There is no change to report regarding these products. The product of the mills is readily taken as it comes, and prices still stand at \$9 2 ton for bran and \$10 for shorts.

OATMEAL.

A moderate business is reported with prices unchanged. The shortage in the oat crop may make some change before long, but none are foreshadowed as yet.

OATS.

During the week holders have been growing more confident, owing to the known shortage in this year's crop. Prices have been firmer although the business done has been light. One or two cars changed hands at 27c but holders are insisting upon 30c, and will not move from that figure.

BARLEY.

Nothing can be said about this grain. Nobody has offered any, and nobody wants any, until the new crop comes to market. Not even a nominal quotation can be obtained.

POTATOES.

Imported are still selling freely but at a steady prices ranging from \$3.25 to 4. Natives are coming into market but not in quantities to admit of wholesale quotations.

CHEESE.

There is no change to report since our last issue. The sales have been light and quotations still stand at 9½ to 10c for medium, and 10½ to 11c for good to choice.

EGGS.

The supply is still liberal, and receipts show no falling off. The price has been, if anything, easier, quotations ranging from 11 to 12c.

BUTTER.

The absence of choice lots has been a marked feature during the week. Good, well packed sold fairly well at 11 to 12½c, and higher figures could have been had for choice to fancy, but none of these could be had. Lower grades ranged from 7 to 10c. One car was sent to British Columbia, and that has relieved the market somewhat. Other exports could be made if the quality of butter generally was better.

BACON.

Although the sales have been few and light, the feeling has been firm, and prices have been tending upward in sympathy with markets at packing centres. Dry salt has been steady at 9 to 9½c; smoked 10½ to 11½c; rolls 11 to 11½c; breakfast 12 to 12½c.

HAMS.

The demand has been only moderate, but prices are decidedly firm. The lowest quotation of smoked head is 14½c, while canvassed are held at 15 to 15½c.

MEAT POOK.

The movement slow, and prices unchanged,

the range during the week being from \$15 to \$15.50.

LARD.

A moderate demand has kept up, and prices have been steady. Pafis have ranged from \$2 to \$2.25.

DRESSED HOGS

There has been no movement and very little demand, owing to continued warm weather.

LIVE HOGS.

The shipments to Montreal mentioned in our last have given the market a more buoyant tone, and \$3.50 in Winnipeg could now be had for a lot large enough to make a shipment.

MINNEAPOLIS

Business has been very quiet on 'change the past week, millers being slow to buy on a falling market, and holders being cautious when the tide changed, so that there was a steady disagreement as to values. The rather rapid and frequent fluctuations elsewhere did not tend to reassure local operators, although the bulls were prompt to announce that bottom had been reached and that prices were about to take the up grade for a long season. Crop news is as varied as ever, but the weight of reliable evidence from all points fully justifies our predictions of an early harvest and a fair sized crop of high grade wheat. A severe hail storm in Dakota during the week wiped out several hundred thousand bushels, but this is the worst piece of news afloat.

Receipts have been large and shipments average. The prospect of early and heavy arrivals of old wheat from the north, and of the shutting down of mills for the annual overhauling and repairs indicate that stocks here are likely to increase even before the new crop moves freely.

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

	July 22.			
	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing	1885.
Wheat. No. 1 hard..	77	79	76	91½
No. 1 north'n	75	73	74	88
" 2 ..	72	70	70	83

Futures were active. August 1 hard opened at 77c and closed at 76c; September opened at 78½c and closed at 76½c; August 1 northern closed at 74c and September at 75½c. Corn has been strong and higher, closing at 38 to 43c, by sample. New oats are coming in, dry and in good condition, but sell below old, being quoted at 33 to 34c, while old sell at 33 to 36c, all by sample.

MILLSTUFF—Is a trifle easier, but in good demand and quite firmly held at \$9 to \$9.50 per ton for bulk bran and \$9.50 to \$10 for shorts.

FLOUR.—There has been a better export demand for flour at an advance of 3c, and some millers are selling quite heavily. Domestic inquiry is also more active, and the market looks healthier than for some time. The millers are not yet satisfied with the situation, however, claiming that wheat is too high to leave a decent margin in grinding at present prices of flour.

Quotations for car or round lots at the mills are as follows: Patents, \$4.50 to \$4.70;

straights, \$4.10 to \$4.50; first bakers', \$3.60 to \$3.80; second bakers' \$3.00 to \$3.20; best low grades, \$1.80 to \$2.00, in bags; red dog, \$1.40 to \$1.60, in bags.

These quotations are on flour in barrels, except as stated. The rule is to discount 30c per bbl for 280 and 140 lb jute bags, 20c for 98lb cotton sacks, 15c for 40lb cotton sacks, 10c for 24lb cotton sacks, and 20c for 49lb paper sacks.

The output of flour last week was quite heavy, though over 14,000 barrels below that of the preceding week. Two usually busy mills were idle, and the only wonder is that the product was not lighter, it being kept up by the heavy work of those which ran. The total amount of flour made was 131,000 bbls—averaging 21,800 bbls daily—against 145,800 the preceding week, and 47,440 bbls for the corresponding time in 1885. The two mills idle last week resumed work on Monday, leaving the same old 19 in motion to-day, and they are being crowded as much as the excessively hot weather prevailing will permit of. This activity is mainly attributed to a desire to get as much flour shipped as possible before the advance in freight rates occurs. Millers report rather a better demand for flour, with a considerable number of orders received during the week, but prices were lower, \$5 being freely quoted for some patents at New England points. The exports of last week showed a small gain, despite a decline in output.

The table below gives the exports of flour from Minneapolis for a series of weeks.

Week ending—	Bbls	Week ending—	Bbls
July 24 ..	40,500	June 19 ..	44,400
July 17 ..	48,000	June 12 ..	50,000
July 10 ..	48,000	June 5 ..	79,750
July 3 ..	62,225	May 29 ..	67,810
July 26 ..	56,500		

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

	RECEIPTS.		
	July 27.	July 20.	September 1 to July 27.
Wheat, bus ..	446,059	385,550	30,769,180
Flour, bbls ..	807	250	145,801
Millstuff, tons..	30	115	18,328

	SHIPMENTS.		
	July 27.	July 20.	September 1 to July 27.
Wheat, bus ..	79,200	\$6,900	5,744,430
Flour, bbls ..	112,615	142,646	4,888,686
Millstuff, tons..	3,592	4,774	160,143

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

	MINNEAPOLIS.	
	July 26.	July 19.
No. 1 hard, bus..	1,295,593	1,354,283
No. 1 northern, bus ..	757,524	765,514
No. 2 northern, bus	361,310	368,938
No. 3 ..	4,192	5,857
Rejected ..	19,666	26,002
Special bins ..	384,128	450,243
	* 2,822,383	2,950,837

* These figures do not include a considerable quantity of wheat in private elevators and sheds and annexes to regular elevators, nor that in mill bins.

	ST. PAUL.		
	July 28.	July 21.	July 14.
In elevators—			
bush ..	620,000	630,000	672,000

DULUTH.

July 26. July 19. July 12.

In store, bus. . . 3,570,059 3,700,528 4,126,975
Same date last year 2,788,800
—Northwest Miller.

Board of Trade.

The adjourned half-yearly meeting of the Winnipeg Board of Trade was held Tuesday afternoon in the Board room, Clements' block, Kenneth MacKenzie, Esq., President, occupying the chair.

There were present Messrs. G. F. Carruthers, J. A. Carman, D. K. Elliott, Jas. Penrose, A. McBean, S. Spink, R. D. Richardson, A. MacKeand, G. F. Stephens, W. Hespeler, N. Bawlf, the president, secretary and others.

The meeting being called to order, the names of W. F. Alloway and James Hallam were put forward for membership, and on the motion of R. D. Richardson, seconded by Col. MacKeand, the rule on ballot was suspended and both were unanimously elected.

The president called for nominations for the ensuing year, and the following gentlemen were put forward. Mr. G. J. Maulson, S. Spring, W. A. Hastings, E. L. Drewry, D. H. McMillan, S. Nain, D. G. McBean, and N. Bawlf.

On motion of Col. MacKeand, seconded by Mr. D. K. Elliott, these gentlemen were unanimously elected.

The president then called for nominations for the office of hide and leather examiners for the ensuing year. Messrs. J. Penrose, S. Spink, N. Bawlf, F. Osenbrugge, James Hallam and P. Gallagher were nominated, and on motion of Mr. Carman, seconded by Mr. Richardson, they were unanimously elected.

The president stated that in conformity with a motion passed at the meeting a week ago, he would now name Messrs. Jas. Redmond, R. J. Whitla, W. W. McCreary, F. B. Ross, S. A. Rowbotham, T. J. Montgomery, G. R. Crowe, J. B. McKilligan and W. Hespeler a committee to arrange for a convention of owners of land in the vicinity of Winnipeg, with the view of organizing some scheme of colonization.

The question of the exclusion of representatives of the press from meetings of the board was discussed, and Capt. G. F. Carruthers gave notice that at next meeting of the board he would introduce a motion that in future these representatives be admitted.

A discussion took place regarding the location of stock yards in this city, in which Messrs. Penrose, Bawlf, Hespeler, Carman, Spink, Stephens, and others took part.

On motion of Mr. Hespeler, seconded by Mr. Elliott, the president and Messrs. Penrose, Bawlf and Spink were appointed to wait upon Messrs. Van Horne and Olds and endeavor to secure from the C.P.R. concessions in freight which would admit of Winnipeg becoming a cattle market of importance.

In connection with this matter Mr. Penrose showed plainly that if cattle stopped here for selection on their way east, were carried on to Montreal at through rates, a cattle market would soon spring up here, and the C.P.R. would profit thereby.

Some conversation took place as to the entertainment of the Minneapolis Millers' Association when they visited here, and the matter was referred to the council of the Board to look after.

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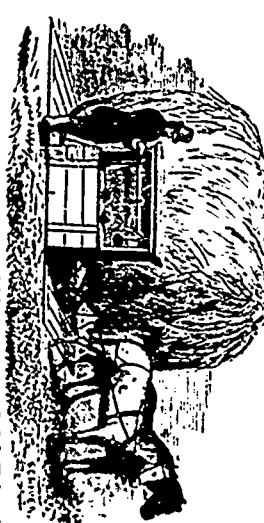
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EASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO.

The feeling in wheat on this market during the week has been one of irresolution, as if dealers and operators were completely puzzled to find out even a tendency in the market. The results have been, as might be expected, much the same as those of the military manœuvre of the general who marched his army up the hill and marched them up down again, for, although there was a range of over four cents in the fluctuations of the week, Monday's closing differed only about half a cent from Saturday's, the advance being in favor of the latter. The facts are the new crops are coming to market, and whatever shortage it may eventually show, there is abundance of supply for all reasonable demands even of a speculative nature; and to attempt to hoist figures at present would entail carrying a load which no bull combination would have the courage to undertake. As a consequence, every attempt at a bulge has met with a heavy check, and offerings too large to allow of its being continued. On the other hand, every attempt at trampling down prices was as promptly and effectually met, and it is certainly a little of a victory to the bulls to hold their own and secure half a cent of an advance during the week. Exports from New York and other ports have been liberal all the week, and that has given power to the firmness and checked any downward move the increasing visible supply might have caused. Even on Tuesday, when the increase was announced as 3,000,000 bushels, it had no weakening effect, and that day's market was the most buoyant of the week. There has been all week no possibility of concentration of effort, not even to give the July shorts a parting squeeze as is customary at the close of a month, and as was done with July shorts on corn, pork and lard. Until the full results of the spring wheat harvest is known there is not much chance of matters taking any decided turn, and it seems as if bears and bulls had agreed to content themselves until then with a little innocent sparring. The movement in corn, pork and lard has been steadily upward all week, and on Saturday Pork topped the \$10 a barrel and closed firm at that, after being a long time below it. In meats, therefore, the market has been decidedly firm, and it is just possible that there may be in the language of the boys "a hev on" in the pork corner.

On Monday the feeling in no article was very firm, and the extent of trading done was rather limited. Corn was decidedly firm and made a clear advance of one cent over Saturday's figures closing quite firm. There was a restless feeling in pork, but no decided turn. Closing quotations were:

	July.	Aug.
Wheat	\$0.74	74½
Corn	40½	41
Oats	27½	28½
Pork	9.42½	9.42½
Lard	6.52½	6.52½

On Tuesday there was a general jump, every article taking an upward turn, even oats advancing about one cent. There was quite a

little excitement all round, while wheat climbed up clear two cents, corn one cent, and pork and lard in proportion. It was a buoyant day all round, and the closing was firm as follows:

	July.	Aug.
Wheat	\$0.76½	76½
Corn	41½	41½
Oats	28	28½
Pork	9.85	9.85
Lard	6.60	6.60

On Wednesday there was a downward reaction in wheat, the cause of which it would be impossible to learn, only that it was now the turn of the bears for a tug. Corn kept traveling upwards, making a clear advance during the day of two cents. Pork and lard were firm and steady. Closing quotations were:

	July.	Aug.
Wheat	\$0.74½	\$0.74½
Corn	43½	43½
Oats	27½	28
Pork	9.80	9.80
Lard	6.67½	6.67½

On Thursday wheat opened higher and decidedly firm. Exports to Europe were reported heavy, and weather there was reported very unfavorable for crops. The firmness was maintained to the close. Corn kept on its upward way, and pork made quite a sharp advance. Closing quotations were:

	July.	Aug.
Wheat	\$0.74½	\$0.75½
Corn	44½	44½
Oats	27½	28½
Pork	9.97½	9.97½
Lard	6.75	6.57

On Friday wheat again opened firm and remained so all day, closing higher than the previous day. Corn weakened somewhat and about one and a half cents, and closing with an uncertain feeling. Pork and lard were steady and scarcely changing. Closing quotations were:

	July.	Aug.
Wheat	75½	75½
Corn	42½	43½
Oats	27½	28½
Pork	9.97½	9.97½
Lard	6.75	6.75

On Saturday wheat opened weak and declined a cent, but recovered and closed with a fairly firm feeling. Corn was slightly firmer than on Friday, and pork was firm and higher. Closing quotations were:

	July.	Aug.
Wheat	\$0.74½	\$0.75
Corn	43	43½
Oats	28	28½
Pork	10.00	10.00
Lard	6.90	6.90

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

There have been no special features about the stock market during the past week. The steady upward tendency in bank stocks is still maintained, but beyond that there is nothing worthy of special note. Northwest Land has been rather weak, but has not declined much. The closing bonds of Wednesday July 21st and July 25th indicate the state of the market.

	July 21.	July 28
Montreal	211	212½
Ontario	116	117
Toronto	202	202½
Merchants'	123½	124½
Commerce	120	120½
Imperial	136	135½
Federal	109	100½
Dominion	213	214
Standard	125½	125
Hamilton	136	136½
Northwest Land	79	68½
C.P.R. Bonds	105	---
do Stocks	---	---

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

There has been very little doing in grain during the week, and neither holders nor buyers have been anxious to push business. Harvesting operations have commenced all over the country, and although it is admitted that the yield will be short of an average, there is a feeling of satisfaction with the expected result, and with liberal stocks of last year still on hand there has been no necessity for any fears of cornering before the new grain reaches the market. The feeling concentrated has been one of rather careless ease, and waiting to see what the new crop will develop. In provisions the movement of the week has been light, and here again there has been no desire manifested to press sales. The receipts of dairy products have been more liberal, and the feeling decidedly easier. In meats the feeling has been decidedly firm, and purchasers of large lots find no holders ready to make material concessions from small lot prices. Altogether the week has not developed much activity, but there has been no symptom worse than one of carelessness.

FLOUR.

The business done has been light, but holders stick firm to prices and will make no concessions. Patents have been scarce and not quoted for some days. Superior extra ranged from \$3.50 to \$3.60 and spring extra from \$3.20 to \$3.30.

WHEAT.

There has been very little desire to do business on the part of either holders or buyers, and the former have held prices firm. There has been no tendency much anyway, and the approach of harvest and the decrease in stocks on hand seem to hold the market in a passive state by their opposite influences. No. 2 fall has sold at 75c, and the same figure was quoted for No. 2 spring. Towards the close of the week fall was easier.

OATS.

Receipts have been falling off and a little scarcity is felt, but prices have varied very little from those of our last report. Prime lots sold at 36c, and poorer ones at 35c.

BARLEY.

No sales are reported, and no lots offered as yet. Plenty of samples of new have been shown, but no quotations fixed as yet.

PEAS.

Not much demand, and holders hanging on for prices. Offers of 58c have been made, but brought no lots to the front.

POTATOES.

The feeling has been easier. Cut lots sold at \$1.75 a bin, and small lots have gone off at \$2.

APPLES.

Very little business has been done, and there has been no demand for natives. Imported sold at \$4 to \$1.26.

EGGS.

Offerings have been light and so have receipts. All offered have been taken and the average price has been 13c for round lots.

BUTTER.

Receipts have been much more liberal than during the preceding week, and the feeling has consequently been easier. Good lots of dairy sold at 12c and for some choice 13c was paid, while smaller lots of the same were held at 14c. Prime rolls sold at 12 to 13c, but there was no call for medium and lower grades.

CHEESE.

Fair demand with prices steady. Good to choice sold from 8½ to 9c, and medium at 8c.

PORK.

Pork has been moving slowly and almost at fixed prices the range all week being from \$13 to 13.50.

BACON.

The feeling has been firm all week, with the stock on hand getting low and likely to run short. Bids of 7 to 7½ for long clear round lots were refused, and holders were selling at 7½ to 7¾ in smaller quantities. Cumberland in small lots sold at 7½c. Rolls have ranged from 8½ to 9c, and breakfast has sold at 11c.

HAMS.

The demand has been confined to smoked, and these have sold at 13c plain, while canvassed was held at 13½ to 14c.

LARD.

There is no change to report for the week. Pails held steady at 9½c.

HOGS.

Hogs have been scarce and so have buyers. The few changing hands sold at \$7 to \$7.50.

The State of Trade.

Special telegrams to *Bradstreet's* announce a very general continuance in the seasonably active distribution of merchandise recently reported, with some exceptions. At most of the larger distributing points a fair reassignment trade is reported, but a sensible decline is noted at New Orleans, Dallas, Tex., Burlington, Iowa, and Kansas City, with no signs of early activity in merchandise lines at Pittsburgh. In the southwest and west the drouth is largely responsible for the check to business, and at towns in a portion of the region indicated mercantile collections have become less prompt. At others, notably Omaha, retail dealers' stocks are known to have been very much reduced while awaiting the results of harvesting, and wholesale dealers anticipate an active trade in the early autumn. At St. Louis, merchants report that rains have checked the drouth in Missouri. But a more conspicuous indication of the low ebb of midsummer trade is found in the total bank clearings at twenty-nine cities, specially telegraphed to *Bradstreet's*, amounting to \$827,243,313, against \$848,335,926 one week ago, a decline of \$21,092,613, and to \$799,470,332 in the like week one year ago, or \$57,772,781 less than in the week just ended. Last year's weekly clearings have not generally approached so close to those of the current year. Special reports to *Bradstreet's* of earnings of twenty-three railroads during the second week of July show totals of \$2,646,158 in 1886, \$2,438,375 in 1885, and \$2,669,732 in 1884. This is an unfavorable exhibit, inasmuch as the 1885 total was affected by a severe cutting of

rates. The New York stock market has been dull, but prices have been maintained. This has been rather from an absence of trading than any positive influences either way. A few stocks advanced owing to particular circumstances. Total stock transactions were about equal to those of last week. Bids of all classes were strong, and generally advanced on investment purchases. The effect of the Morrison resolution was to advance U. S. 4s and 4½s. Exchange is weak and money on call easy at 1½ to 2 per cent. Manufacturers are buying wool with more freedom at seaboard points and at Chicago. Prices are steady and so near the importing point that an advance may induce imports of foreign. The movement of cotton goods continues fair; some makes are exhausted and prices are higher, notably in print cloths. It is now regarded as doubtful whether there will be any material advance in the price of woollens this autumn in spite of the higher figures for wool. The export trade in cottons has been larger during the past four months than in a like period in any preceding year, but was conducted on little or no profit. Southern mill cottons have in instances supplanted northern cotton for the Chinese trade. The weather has improved in the south Atlantic and eastern gulf cotton-growing states. Louisville tobacco crop advices are favorable, the staple held there is firm, and while stocks are large receipts are light. Wheat, after some steadiness, has declined on increased supplies in sight on land and sea and heavy receipts at primary markets. Corn and oats are relatively stronger. Improved crop prospects for beet sugar and large stocks have caused a further shrinkage in prices of sugar. The total visible supply is 1,252,331 tons, against 1,271,908 tons last week and 1,204,606 tons last year. The arrival of the first Suez steamer with tea has increased supplies to an unusual amount for the season, and the slow consumptive demand for coffee, combined with lower rates of exchange, has depressed the market. There were just 194 failures in the United States reported to *Bradstreet's*, against 189 the week before, 215 in the third week of July, 1885, 225 in 1884, 165 in 1883, and 131 in 1882. Canada had 20 this week, against 11 last week, and 26 last year. The total failures in the United States, from January 1 to date is 5,971, against 6,831 in 1885, (decline of 860 this year), 5,987 in 1884, 5,683 in 1883, and 4,003 in 1882.—*Bradstreet's*.

Portage la Prairie.

[From our special correspondent.]

The most noticeable feature to the resident of but a few days in the town of Portage la Prairie, is the feeling of satisfaction which pervades the citizens of the town and the unbounded confidence with which they regard the future. A dissatisfied merchant is a *rara avis* here. A short chat with the leading business men of the town will convince the most dubious that this is a poor place for the pessimist. The business men, with but few exceptions, report a very satisfactory trade for the past year, and are sanguine of even a larger business during the fall and winter of 1886-87. Many of the merchants carry large stocks of goods and sev-

eral report a trade of over \$50,000 for the past year. The average citizen points to the fact that though wheat was seriously damaged in many sections of the province last year, yet an excellent crop was taken from the Portage Plains. A leading grain buyer informed me that with the exception of a few loads of smutty wheat, the entire product of the plains would grade No. 1 hard. This year the product is even better, and the plains are now covered with fields of heavy wheat, rapidly turning golden, which will be ready for the reaper in a few days. Some reaping has already been done. No wonder then that the Portagers have such confidence in the future of their town, and that they are proud of it as the second oldest trade centre in the country, and the point possessing more manufacturing industries than any other place in the Northwest outside of Winnipeg.

Portage like all other Northwestern towns, suffered from the boom of 1881-2, and is still suffering from the extravagance of that time of inflation. The lowest point of depression, however, has been reached and passed, and trade affairs seem now to be on a sound and healthy basis. The evil effects of the boom remain only in the large debenture debt for which the town is now under obligation. A new arrangement is likely to be come to with the creditors, which, if accepted, will be a great help to the place. For the \$265,000 indebtedness of the town the council offer to issue new debentures to the amount of \$200,000, payable in thirty years. The first six years interest would be paid at the rate of 3½ per cent., next nine years at 4 per cent., and the remaining fifteen years at 5 per cent. By accepting this arrangement the creditors would not be forfeiting any principal, the \$65,000 being for interest accrued, etc. It is undoubtedly in the interest of the creditors as well as the town, that this offer should be accepted. The offer is a heavy one and fully as much as the town could be expected to pay. Once an arrangement is come to with the creditors, a great improvement is expected to take place in the situation here. Many changes and improvements are already contemplated on the likelihood of the offer being accepted, and it is expected that many industries now idle would be put in operation. Already there are fewer vacant houses in the city than at any time since the boom, and all the better class of buildings are occupied. The population is again on the increase, recent returns showing it to be 2,147, or 161 over last year. These facts, together with the improvement in business during the past year, go far towards establishing a feeling of confidence among the Portagers. A large portion of the debt of the town was brought about through the scattered nature of the buildings. There is now a disposition manifest to concentrate the business portion. The Hudson's Bay Hotel has lately been moved eastwardly to a more central position near the post office, and it is understood the Company's stores will soon follow. One or two more such changes would do away with the extreme western end. Messrs. T. & W. Miller, hardware merchants, have lately moved from the extreme east end to a more central position on Main Street, which they will occupy as tempo-

vary quarters until they can move their large store in the same direction. Messrs. J. E. Thomas & Co. occupy commodious quarters in a central location, where they carry a very large stock of general merchandise.

The manufacturing industries of the Portage are not inconsiderable. Mr. D. Johnson, of the Pioneer Oatmeal Mills, has lately received orders from British Columbia, and is doing a brisk trade. The Portage Milling Co. have been busy on Indian contracts. They are now negotiating for the enlargement of their roller flour mill to double its present capacity—now 150 barrels, for which their building afford ample room without extension. The Marquette mills are being put in shape for the season's work. The Portage does not boast as many elevators as round other towns, but it claims as great elevator accommodation as some places having twice the number of elevator buildings. The two breweries are both working and kept busy. The Manitoba Wine Co., are doing a very large wholesale trade in the manufacture of aerated and carbonated waters, champagne cider, fruit syrups and other non-intoxicating beverages, their operations extending all over the province and territories. Mr. John Giles, pork packer and butcher, does a considerable wholesale trade, and ships dressed beef to Winnipeg. Mr. C. Culbert, who bought out Morrison, will do a pork packing business this fall and winter. There are several other manufacturing industries, some of them now idle, which might be mentioned. Among the latter are a paper mill, large sash, door and blind factory, and a biscuit and confectionery establishment. It is hoped that the satisfactory arrangement of the debenture indebtedness will bring about the renewal of work in these industries. The foundry will be put in operation at once.

To the casual observer the importance, to the Portage of the Manitoba Northwestern railway is very likely to be greatly underrated; but when the matter is looked into, it will be seen that the fact that the Portage is the terminus and headquarters for this railway is one of vast moment to the town. In the town and immediate vicinity about 150 men are employed, in the offices, round house and shops of the company. Many of these men have their families living here, and purchase their supplies in the town; but these represent but a fraction of the benefit of the railway. A large portion of the expenditure along the entire line and cost of working the road finds its way to the Portage, and into the tills of the merchants here. To learn of the great source of wealth to the Portage from this railway, it will be necessary to interview the merchants as well as the railway officials, and an investigation among the former will find many of them busy filling orders on the railway account from points all along the line.

A Saw Without Teeth.

A saw without teeth that will cut a steel rail in two minutes is in operation at the Central Hudson shops in Greenbush, N. Y. The saw is run by a 90-horse power engine—more power than is required to run all the other machinery

in the shops—and is 38 inches in diameter and $\frac{3}{4}$ of inch thick at the edge. The disk is made of Bessemer steel, and runs at a very high rate of speed. While in operation a band of fire encircle the saw, and the many sparks flying from the revolving disk make a display of pyrotechnics. To keep the saw cool and prevent it from cracking, a tank of water is placed above the machine, from which a small stream runs down and drops on the saw while in motion. By this plan one saw will cut nearly 3,000 rails before it is worn out. A rail after about six years constant use becomes battered at the ends, and by cutting them off the rails can be used in branch and switch tracks. Rails are cut by this machine for whole the line of the Central Hudson Railroad. The saw, while cutting, bears down hard on the rail, the end of which is left as smooth as the bottom of a flatiron. One remarkable thing about the machine is that the chips cut from the rail fly back under the saw with such force as to form a solid piece of steel nearly as firm as the rail itself.

Recent Legal Decisions.

ATTACHMENT CROPS LAND RENTED ON SHARES. Where land is rented on shares the tenant is the exclusive owner of the entire crop while growing, and the landlord's share of the crops reserved as rent cannot be levied upon by attachment until the same is set apart to him. So held by the Supreme Court of Iowa in the case of County of Howard vs. Kyte.

MUNICIPAL CHARTER POWER TO EXTEND STREETS.—The power to extend streets across the right of way and tracks of a railway company is implied in the general authority conferred by city charters for such purpose without express legislative provisions upon the subject, according to the decision of the Supreme Court of Minnesota in the case of St Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba Railway Company vs the City of Minneapolis.

PARTNER DEALING AGAINST OBJECTIONS OF COPARTNERS. According to the decision of the Maryland Court of Appeals, in the case of Forester vs. Urban et al. a mere protest or objection by the majority of the members of a firm against further dealings with a particular customer is not such an absolute prohibition as will render a member of the firm who thereafter continues such dealings personally liable therefor to his copartners. In the same case the court held that a promise by the partner who continues dealings with the customer to individually assume the loss resulting to his firm therefrom if coupled with conditions not accepted by the firm and based upon no consideration moving from the members thereof cannot be enforced against him.

STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS—CONCEALMENT OF DEBTOR.—In the case of Engel vs. Fischer, decided recently by the New York Court of Appeals, it appeared that the defendant, who was a resident of Austria, there accepted, in May, 1873, a bill of exchange, payable three months after he absconded and came to New York, where he has since resided. For the purpose of evading his creditors he concealed himself and lived under a changed name. In

1883 he was discovered by the plaintiff, who demanded payment of the draft, and, upon being refused, brought suit against the defendant. The defendant set up the statute of limitation, and his defence was sustained by the court, which held that, though the defendant had hidden himself under a fictitious name since he was physically within the state at all times, he could not be held to be "without the state" so as to defeat the operation of the statute, under the exceptions contained in section 701 of the code. The court said: "A debtor who has always resided within the state may abscond from his home and conceal himself within the state from his creditors, and yet no one will claim that such debtors are to be regarded as without the state, or that such concealment will defeat the running of the statute."

COMMON CARRIER DISCRIMINATION IN RATES.

A common carrier may make discriminations in rates based upon the quantities of goods sent by different shippers, but he cannot charge a higher rate to shippers who refuse to patronize him exclusively, according to the decision of the United States Circuit Court for the Southern District of New York, in the case of Menacho vs. Ward. The court said: The proposition is speciously put that the carrier may reasonably discriminate between two classes of shippers, the regular and the casual, and that such is the only discrimination here. Undoubtedly the carrier may adopt a commutative system, whereby those who furnish him a regular traffic may obtain reduced rates, just as he may properly regulate his charges upon the basis of the quantity of traffic which he receives from different classes of shippers. But this is not the proposition to be discussed. The defendants assume to discriminate against the complainants, not because they do not furnish them a regular business, or a given number of shipments, or a certain quantity of merchandise to carry, but because they refuse to patronize the defendants exclusively. The question is whether the defendants refuse to carry for the complainants on reasonable terms. The defendants, to maintain the affirmative, assert that their charges are fair because they do not have the whole of the complainants' carrying business. But it can never be material to consider whether the carrier is permitted to enjoy a monopoly of the transportation for a particular individual, or class of individuals, in ascertaining what is reasonable compensation for the service actually rendered to him or them. Such a consideration might be influential in inducing parties to contract in advance; but it has no legitimate bearing upon the value of services rendered without a special contract, or which are rendered because the law requires them to be rendered for a fair remuneration."—*Bradstreet's*.

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Cantaloupes

Melons were first called cantaloupes from being cultivated at Cantaluppi, a villa near Rome, where they had been introduced from Armenia, by missionaries. The name is said to be still in use in some parts of Europe for a class of deeply ribbed, yellow fleshed melons. In this country it is applied to different kinds of melons in different localities, and the significance of the word can not be well defined as now used. - Vick's Magazine.

Clothes-Pins.

Clothes-pins are one of the staple exports of this country. In the spring millions are shipped to Europe, the majority being sent to England and France. There are five factories in this country which manufacture over 50,000,000,000 of clothes pins annually. They are situated in New Haven, Jersey City, Philadelphia, Chicago, and Boston. Yellow pine, maple, and hickory are the best woods for pins, as they season easily, and dampness does not spring them. The greater portion of the wood comes from Maine, and many thousands of feet of the good pine woods of that State find their way into clothes-pins. It takes only a foot of wood, six inches in thickness to produce nearly 300 pins. The block of the dimensions given is divided into 288 pieces, which are thrown into an automatic machine capable of turning out 500 pins every 10 minutes; square pieces of wood thrown into the machine by the bushel, come out of it with neatly turned heads and smooth slots which fit snugly over the clothes-lines. The domestic trade in clothes-pins is calculated roughly at 30,500,000,000 yearly.

It is a singular fact that clothes pins are seldom used in the extreme South. There the clothing is doubled over the line and allowed to hang until dry, which, owing to the warmth of the climate, is a short time. We first began exporting clothes-pins to Europe in large quantities in 1848, and as the duty on them in foreign ports is only nominal, we can sell them cheaper than they can be made there. The American clothes-pin is a civilizer in no slight degree, for where a pin is needed, a washing of clothing is essential; a clean person after clean clothing is demanded, and if "cleanliness is next to godliness," the clothes pin is a missionary to be bought by the gross. - N. Y. Tribune.



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