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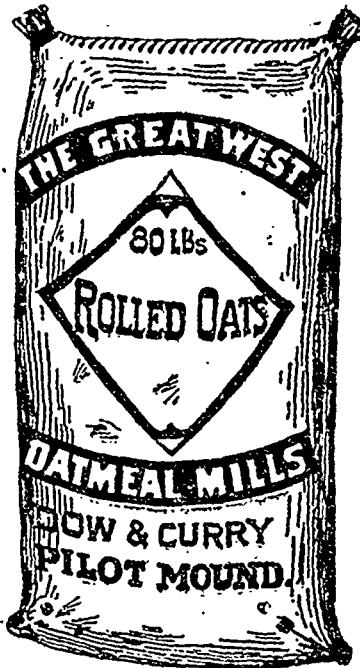
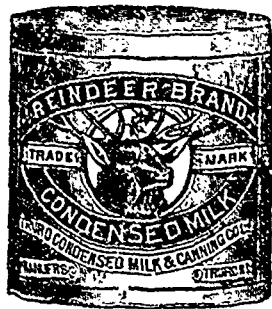
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# The Commercial

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WINNIPEG, JANUARY 13, 1896.

## Manitoba.

Another general store is talked of at Gladstone.

The Ross Drug Co. has opened business in retail drugs in Winnipeg.

Kennedy & Waddington, fruits and confectionery, Souais, have assigned.

The Killarney Guide, a new local paper, has appeared as a weekly journal with W. Hatch as editor.

The business of C. B. Gordon & Co., general store, Manitou, is now carried on by the Donaldson Trading Co. Mr. Gordon is going into the grain and live stock trade with Gordon & Ironsides.

It is reported that the projectors of the Manitoba Southeastern railway—the proposed lumber road from Winnipeg to the Lake of the Woods—will apply again for aid to the provincial government.

We noted a short time ago the dissolution of the firm of Ross & Maw, dealers in vehicles, windmills, harness, etc., Winnipeg. The business is being continued by J. Maw & Co., who continue all the old lines and agencies carried on by the old firm, including the control here of the Brantford carriages, the Chicago aermotor windmills, grain crushers, pumps, etc. The new firm occupy the same premises on Princess street, opposite the city market.

A new produce firm has been established in Winnipeg under the style of Robt. I. Crisp & Co. Promises have been secured at 547 Main St. Mr. Crisp, the head of the firm, who resides at Souris, in this province, has been handling grain and produce for some years, and he has decided to open in Winnipeg in order to conduct the business on a more extensive scale. J. D. Forestar, late of Vancouver, will be in charge of the Winnipeg office. Butter, eggs, cheese, dressed hogs and all kinds of produce and grain will be handled in season.

## Alberta.

W. Maloney, dealer in agricultural machinery, Calgary, has assigned.

Calgary has been made an independent port of entry for customs purposes with Amos Rowo as collector. He will resign the land agency now held by him.

## Canadian Trade Returns.

The trade and navigation returns for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, have been printed by order of parliament. The aggregate trade for the year on the basis of goods for consumption amounted to \$218,891,000 as compared with \$230,618,000 in 1894, a decrease of nearly \$12,000,000. Total trade of all kinds amounted to \$221,420,000, against \$241,000,000 in 1894, a decrease of over \$16,000,000. Compared with 1893 the decrease was \$23,000,000. The exports and total imports compared with the two previous years were as follows:

	Exports.	Imports.
1893 .....	\$118,564,000	\$129,074,000
1894 .....	117,521,000	123,474,000
1895 .....	118,638,000	110,781,000

The aggregate trade with our chief customers was for the past two years as follows:

	1894.	1895.
Great Britain .....	\$107,256,000	88,311,000
United States .....	88,311,000	7,887,000
Germany .....	7,887,000	7,121,000
West Indies .....	7,121,000	1895.

Great Britain .....	\$92,988,000
United States .....	95,932,000
Germany .....	5,421,000
West Indies .....	8,681,000

Our aggregate trade with Great Britain was less in 1895 than in 1894 by \$15,000,000, and with the United States more by over \$5,000,000.

Imports for consumption by countries for the last two years were:

	1894.	1895.
Great Britain .....	\$38,717,000	\$31,181,000
United States .....	53,034,000	54,634,000
Germany .....	5,811,000	4,794,000
France .....	2,586,000	2,585,000
West Indies .....	3,677,000	4,956,000
China and Japan .....	2,524,000	2,528,000
Italy .....	402,000	881,000
Spain .....	889,000	402,000
Holland .....	314,000	243,000
Belgium .....	550,000	441,000
Newfoundland .....	814,000	789,000
South America .....	872,000	806,000
Switzerland .....	274,000	259,000
Other Countries .....	3,066,000	1,789,000

Total .....

The value of Canada's exports by countries for the past two years was:

	1894.	1895.
Great Britain .....	\$68,538,000	\$61,656,000
United States .....	35,809,000	41,297,000
France .....	544,000	395,000
Germany .....	2,046,000	626,000
Spain .....	56,000	84,000
Italy .....	109,000	34,000
Holland .....	281,000	140,000
Belgium .....	708,000	251,000
Newfoundland .....	2,818,000	2,825,000
West Indies .....	3,448,000	3,725,000
South America .....	1,892,000	1,303,000
China and Japan .....	540,000	378,000
Australia .....	322,000	417,000
Other countries .....	882,000	853,000

Totals .....

The fact that our aggregate trade with the United States increased by \$7,000,000 in the face of a decline with nearly all other countries can be attributed to the operation of the reduced tariff under the Wilson bill. While we bought a million and a half more from them in 1894. The average duty collected on British goods imported amounted to over 22 per cent., while the average duty collected on United States goods was only 12½ per cent. British importations to the value of \$31,181,000 paid \$7,006,000 in customs duty. United States goods imported to the value of \$51,634,000 paid \$6,897,000 in customs duty. The revision of the Canadian tariff in 1894 has resulted in an

enormous increase of the discrimination against British products. The average duty on all imports, both dutiable and free, was 10.1, and consequently British goods were made to pay 6 per cent. more than the average, and United States goods 4 per cent. less than the average. The average duty collected on dutiable imports was 80½ per cent. The average in 1894 was 80.8, or three-tenths of 1 per cent. less.

## Statistics of Railways.

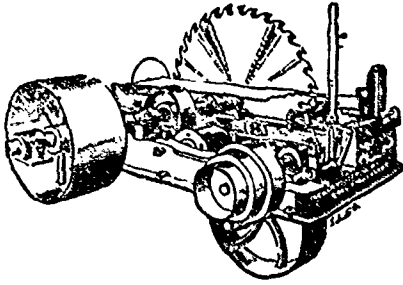
The annual report of the Interstate Commerce Commission includes statistics of railways in the United States for the year ending June 30, 1894. On that date there were 178,708 miles of line, an increase during the year of 2,247 miles. There were 1,924 separate corporations, an increase of 84 over the previous year. Of these, 915 maintained operating accounts, 805 were subsidiary companies, 98 were private roads, and 76 were not operated during the year. The number of roads having an operated mileage of 1,000 miles or over was 44, and these roads operated 56.80 per cent of the total railways. The capitalization of roads filing reports was \$10,796,473,816, or \$62,961 per mile.

The number of passengers carried was 540,688,199, and the number of tons of freight moved was 638,186,553; both of these items show a decrease as compared with the previous year. Gross earnings were \$1,073,861,797, a decrease of 12.07 per cent. Operating expenses were \$781,414,822, a decrease of 11.66 per cent. Net earnings were \$31,947,475, a decrease of \$50,833,100 from the previous year. Income from other sources was \$142,816,805, which added to net earnings, made the amount available for fixed charges and dividends, \$484,764,280. Fixed charges were \$429,009,810, dividends, \$95,515,226, and other payments \$6,092,038; leaving a deficit from the operations of the year of \$45,851,294 as compared with a surplus of \$8,117,745 in the previous year.

The number of employees was 779,608, a decrease of 93,994. The number of employees killed was 1,823, and the number injured 23,422, a marked decrease in casualty as compared with previous years. The number of passengers killed was 324, an increase of 25, and the number injured was 3,034, a decrease of 195.

A preliminary income account for the year ending June 30, 1895, including the returns from 650 roads, and covering the operations of 164,529 miles of line, is also included in the report. The gross earnings of these roads for this period were \$1,003,022,823, or \$6,096 per mile, a decrease of \$13 per mile, operating expenses were \$677,667,635, or \$4,119 per mile, a decrease of \$4 per mile, and net earnings were \$325,355,218 as compared with net earnings of \$320,137,670 for the same roads in the previous year, an increase of \$31 per mile. Passenger receipts fell off \$177 per mile, while freight receipts show a gain of \$149 per mile. Total net earnings and income, including income from other sources, were \$58,412,461. Fixed charges and other deductions were \$336,851,946 and dividends were \$53,135,545, leaving a deficit from the operations of the year of \$31,075,030. The amount of dividends paid by the same roads in the previous year was \$61,501,785. Remissness on the part of the railways in filing their reports continues to cause serious delay in the compilation of these statistics.

The Philadelphia Bourse, the first general exchange to be erected in the United States was formerly dedicated on December 31. The building, which is eight stories in height, runs through from Fourth street to Fifth street, and between Chestnut street and Market street. The structure complete has cost \$2,500,000. It is already occupied by a number of trade organizations,

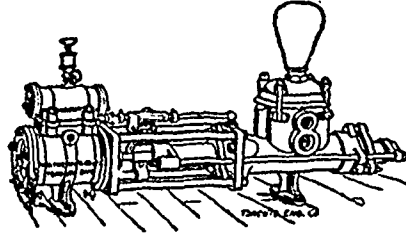


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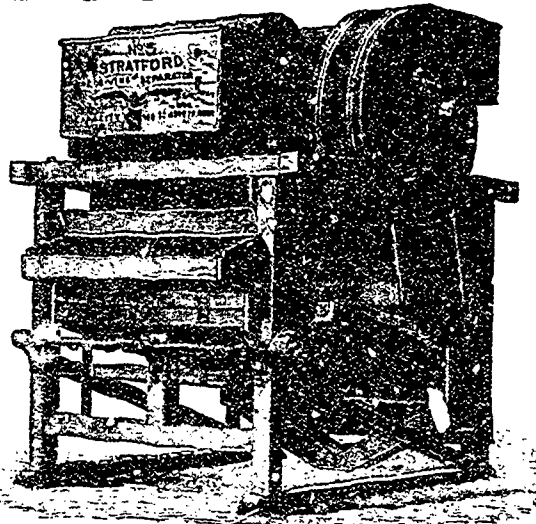
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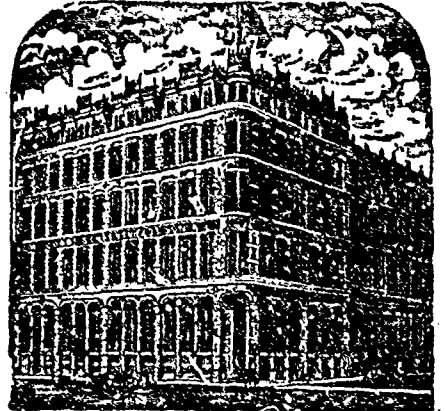
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# The Commercial

WINNIPEG, JANUARY 18, 1896.

## ADULTERATED BLUESTONE.

At the annual meeting of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange, held on Tuesday last, the principal discussion was upon the question of smut in grain. This is a matter which the exchange has taken a lively interest in for years, as the members are in a good position to know of the vast loss which Manitoba farmers annually meet with from this cause. It seemed to be the opinion of the members that a large quantity of poor or adulterated bluestone had been put on the market last year, and to this cause is attributed the large increase in smut prevailing in the crop of 1895. The council of the exchange was urged to take immediate action in the matter and it is likely the attention of both the Dominion and provincial governments will be called to the question, with a view to having a number of samples of bluestone analyzed, as well as to have the farmers thoroughly warned against using inferior bluestone. If climatic conditions cause any damage to the crop in any year, a great deal is heard about it, but the loss to farmers from smut in grain is much greater one year with another than the loss from all adverse climatic conditions combined. This is the more regrettable because it is preventable. It has been proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that smut can be eradicated by the proper use of pure bluestone. Some farmers perform the work in such a careless way that they might as well have not treated their seed grain at all. It will not do to sprinkle the seed over in a haphazard way. Every berry should be thoroughly wet with a solution of bluestone of proper strength. In such an important matter no risk should be taken by purchasing a cheap article of bluestone, and only the best should be taken by farmers. As the matter of the sale of adulterated bluestone will be fully ventilated between now and spring, merchants should see to it that they secure only a pure article. Country merchants by refusing to handle a cheap or adulterated article, will be doing the farmers a real service.

## AN ALARMING SITUATION.

These are exciting days for the world in general, the British Empire in particular and Canada especially. Ever since Japan started the ball rolling by declaring war on China, the situation has been more or less threatening. The China-Japan war came to a more speedy termination than might have been expected, but it has left the "Far Eastern Question," which threatens the peace of the world. Japan would undoubtedly like to hold Corea, and also that portion of China in which Port Arthur is situated. Russia has stepped in however, and so to speak has ordered her out. Russia will certainly not rest until Japan is out of Corea as well as Port Arthur, for the reason that Russia wants the territory herself. Russian territory on the Pacific does not include a winter port, and Russia wants a winter port for a naval station as well as for the Pacific terminus of

her great railway now building across Siberia. To obtain a Pacific port which is not closed by ice a part of the year, Russia will have to move her boundaries further south, and she undoubtedly has covetous eyes on the Korean peninsula, and Port Arthur as well. The latter would give her a grand harbor and a natural stronghold. Great Britain, however, is opposed to Russian encroachments in China, regarding it as a menace to her commercial supremacy there, and Lord Salisbury has publicly warned the great northern power that she will not be permitted to encroach in that direction. Thus we have the Far Eastern question, as a menace to the peace of the world.

Following the China-Japan scrap, the rebellion in Cuba was inaugurated and has been maintained with considerable success to the present day. While the Cuban trouble does not perhaps threaten to draw in any of the great powers, it is a source of great uneasiness to Spain, on account of fear of the United States. The latter country would certainly be glad to find any reasonable excuse to take a hand in the conflict, with the object of course of gobbling up Cuba.

Then we have that everlasting Eastern Question, which has again assumed a very acute form, as a result of the Armenian massacres. While the European powers are alleged to be acting in concert, it requires no discernment to see that no concert exists among the powers. If it did, the matter would have been settled long ago. While the powers apparently presented a harmonious front, there has evidently been much secret intriguing all around, hence no real progress has been made in instituting reforms in Turkey, nor is there likely to be until the Turk is driven out. The British government has no doubt been really anxious to assist the Armenians, but they have wisely refused to play a lone hand in the matter. Russia, backed by France, is not likely to fall in cordially with British proposals, while Germany has evidently adopted a dog in the manger policy in this matter. As matters now stand throughout the world, it would, perhaps, be the best course for the British government to cease to push its traditional policy of opposition to Russia, and allow the Bear to occupy Armenia, leaving Austria and Russia to do their own fighting as to the disposition of European Turkey. Austria is really the country most deeply interested in the disposition of European Turkey. Let the latter country pull her own chestnuts out of the fire. She has never done anything to further British prestige. It would perhaps even be a wise policy for the British to cultivate Russian friendship, though opposition to Russia has been so long drilled into the Britisher, sometimes showing itself to an unreasonable extent, that it would require a great revulsion of feeling to think of an alliance with the northern colossus. Prudence, however, is often the better part of valor, and Great Britain, threatened as she is at present, is certainly not in a position to force the Eastern question.

While trouble appears to be slowly brewing in the East, all the world was suddenly startled by the almost savagely warlike attitude

of President Cleveland in the Venezuelan matter, and as the president's message was speedily adopted by congress, it may be regarded as the attitude of the United States as well as the president. This "bolt from the blue," as it has been called, is so recent as to be fresh in the minds of all newspaper readers. The president's message produced an outbreak of warlike feeling throughout the United States such as caused surprise both in Canada and the mother country. Of late however, our neighbors have cooled down considerably. Newspapers sometimes speak of the danger of war from this question being over, but this is a mis-take. The matter remains in exactly the same state that it was when the president's bold utterances were first published. The surprise only has had time to wear off. In Great Britain the feeling seems to be that there is little danger of war with the United States and the sentiment expressed there is much less bellicose than in the republic. The matter is regarded largely as an electioneering dodge, but this does not remove the real danger of the situation. For Canada an armed conflict over this or any other question involving Britain and the United States, would be most distressing. The greatest hope for an amicable settlement of the matter is found in the vast commercial interests existing between the British Empire and the Republic, and these interests are now making themselves felt in the cause of peace.

No first surprise of the Venezuelan trouble had scarcely passed away when another and even more startling situation is suddenly sprung upon the world, and the British people in particular, arising from the invasion of the Transvaal Republic by a body of British subjects. It is not the trouble in Africa itself, but the position taken by Germany in the matter, which has caused the greatest excitement in Great Britain. The Dutch African Republic is only a semi-independent country. By the treaty which Mr. Gladstone made with the Boers, as the people are called, they were given the management of their own internal affairs, but British suzerainty of the country was maintained. Since this arrangement was made with the Boers, a large British population has gone into the Transvaal, owing to the discovery of rich minerals, and towns have grown up as if by magic. The Boers, while taxing the newcomers heavily, have refused to give them the franchise, or any share in citizenship, fearing that they would eventually make the country simply a British colony. Hence the trouble and the raid of a number of British subjects into the Transvaal from the neighboring British territory. The home authorities did their best to prevent the raid when they learned of it, but they were too late to stop it. The action of Germany in relation to this matter has caused a wild feeling of excitement throughout Great Britain, and the most intense bitterness is shown against the Germans. In fact the Venezuelan matter has sunk into utter insignificance as viewed in Great Britain, compared with the feeling stirred up against Germany by the action of its emperor. The first action of Germany was a curt note, asking the position of the British Government in regard to the

raid on the Transvaal. Secondly, the German Emperor telegraphed congratulations to the Boer president on the defeat of the misguided Britishers, and, thirdly, it is alleged that Germany refuses to recognize British suzerainty over the Transvaal. Popular opinion at the moment in Britain appears to be anxious to resent the insults of Germany by a resort to the most extreme measures. That Great Britain will yield her suzerainty of the Transvaal is not for a moment to be supposed, and if Germany has deliberately decided to face this issue they will certainly be given a chance to fight. It is, however, hard to say what the erratic German Emperor may mean in this matter. A feeling of enmity to everything British has certainly been growing in Germany of late years, but it has been regarded mainly owing to jealousy of British commercial supremacy. The particularly alarming situation from the British point of view is the isolation of Great Britain at the present time, with war threatened by the United States, France openly hostile, Russia always to be feared, and now Germany apparently seeking a *casus belli*.

There is, however, another important side to this African trouble, besides the position of Germany in regard to it. The British raiders and their chief, Dr. Jamieson, are now held as prisoners by the Boers. What is to be done with them? What is to be done with the British subjects resident in the Transvaal who started the trouble? Will public opinion in England tolerate the execution or severe punishment of any of these? We think not. The British African colonists are greatly worked up over the matter, and it would almost bring on a rebellion there if the home government allowed these men to be executed. Notwithstanding the position of Germany, it looks as if the British Government will have to interfere to protect these men, and also force the Boers to give equal rights to British subjects in the Transvaal or falling in this to place the country entirely under British rule.

While all these exciting events are happening abroad, and the British Empire is threatened with war from no less than four quarters, we are having an exciting time in this part of the Empire over domestic affairs. A political crisis in the federal government is now on, and the party which has held power so long in Canada appears to be in a sadly demoralized state. While it has long been thought probable by close observers that the Manitoba school question would lead to a crisis in the federal government, the way the crisis has come about has been a cause of surprise. Mr. Foster's statement in Parliament ascribed the cause not to the school question, but to dissatisfaction with the leadership of the government. It is most remarkable that just at the opening of parliament and after a programme had been arranged and announced in the speech, the premier should find himself deserted by one half of his cabinet. The situation is certainly a most remarkable one. The statement made by Mr. Foster was unnecessarily humiliating to the first minister and it can only be regarded as discredit to those who acquiesced in it. The bolting ministers were at perfect liberty to resign,

but the peculiar time selected and the manner in which they have forced their resignations must be humiliating to right-thinking Conservatives. The action of Foster and his followers was not only rude and ungenerous, but it may almost be described as treacherous, and the result will certainly be to deal a blow to Conservative ascendancy in Canada.

Coming still nearer home to our own province of Manitoba, we are now in the white heat of a political contest, involving the most momentous issue ever presented to the people of Manitoba, and one affecting the welfare of all Canada—the Manitoba school question. That the government will make a great sweep of the province, is expected, and to this extent it will show the federal authorities that Manitoba is solidly opposed to interference from Ottawa in this matter. With matters in a state of chaos at Ottawa, however, it is impossible to predict at this moment what may or may not be attempted in regard to the school question.

### EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE increase in the sale of Canadian Pacific Railway lands for 1895, over 1894, is reported to be 25 per cent. This is gratifying as showing an increased demand for these lands, which means increased settlement. For the year now entered upon a much larger increase in land sales is expected, as a result of the big harvest of last year. The benefit of last year's big crop will be felt more generally this year than it would during the year now closed.

REGARDING the question of the removal of the live stock quarantine the MacLeod Gazette says that it has received several letters on the subject and has had numerous interviews with the ranchers. From all that can be gathered, says the Gazette, the feeling of the stockmen is overwhelmingly opposed to any interference with the existing regulations. The Gazette is in a position to voice the feeling among western stockmen, and it no doubt represents the real sentiment prevailing in the range country upon this question.

THE annual meeting of the Winnipeg board of trade will be held on Tuesday, February 4, and it has been decided to have a banquet on the evening of the same day. This is a good move. It is fit and proper that the commercial interests of Winnipeg should meet in social reunion at least once a year. An annual board of trade dinner was inaugurated a few years ago, but was not kept up, probably owing to the commercial depression of the past two or three years. It may be taken as another sign of better times that the annual social event of the board will be restored once more, and it is to be hoped it will not be allowed to drop again.

THE annual meeting of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange was held on January 8, a report of which will be found in another column. The exchange is to be congratulated on the officers secured for the current year. Mr. Nairn as president will make a good presiding officer, and he has able assistants in Mr. Harris as vice, and Mr. Bell, who has so ably discharged the duties of secretary since the

exchange was first organized. The proceedings of the annual meeting, as usual, were mainly of a routine character, given to the reading and adoption of the various annual reports. About the only discussion of importance was upon the question of smut in wheat, which we refer to under another heading.

THE dangerous aspect of the African trouble has been largely removed by the information that the Boer president would hand Dr. Jameson and the other prisoners over to the British authorities. This very temperate action of the Boers is most commendable. It will cool down the intense irritation of the British African colonists, thus removing danger of further trouble, and will leave Germany no possible excuse to interfere in any way in the matter. Advices from Berlin are also more pacific, and the importance attached to German action has been modified by explanations from Berlin. It is now stated that Germany only thought of landing troops to protect her consulate, and not with any idea of interfering in the Transvaal affairs. This is a complete back-down from the supposed intentions of Germany, and relieves the strained situation, though bad feeling will remain for some time.

ONE thing which has been shown as a result of the Venezuelan war scare is that there is no sentiment in Canada in favor of political union with the United States, or annexation as it is familiarly termed. Whatever doubts there may have been in the minds of some persons on this question, we know now that no such sentiment exists in this country. From one end of the Dominion to the other the determination has been expressed to stand by the Empire come what may. There has been much talk about Canadian loyalty to the Empire, but our loyalty has now had a practical test and it has not been found wanting. On the contrary the threatening of war right on our own border only served to bring out the determination more strongly than ever that Canadians were ready to fight, if need be, in the cause of the Empire. The idea prevailed quite largely in the United States that Canadians were only waiting for an opportunity to throw in their lot with the great republic. One good feature of the Venezuelan trouble is that they have been rudely disabused of this belief. United States papers that talked of annexation before have now been forced to admit that they have been badly deceived in supposing that there was any feeling in Canada in favor of annexation. As one United States journal put it, instead of getting any support from Canada in the event of war with Great Britain, they would have to fight Canada as well as the mother country. It is probably just as well that our southern neighbors should understand this fact, and knowing it they will be less likely to force the Venezuelan matter to extremes.

D. McCall & Co's representative is now on his spring tour in Manitoba and the Territories.

S. V. Bray, formerly a leading merchant of Wolseloy, Assa., and family have moved to Toronto. Magee Bros. & Co. continue the lumber and furniture business.

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Our Travellers are now out with a complete line of new samples of our specialties in . . . .

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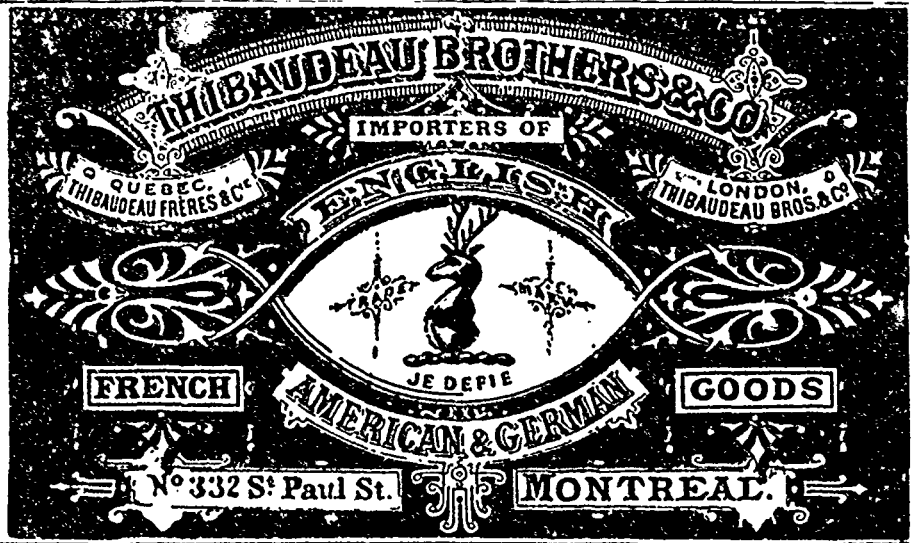
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<b>WHEAT</b> 2 Bushels	<b>B A G S .</b>	<b>FLAX</b> 2 and 4 Bushels
<b>FLOUR—Jute</b> 49, 98 & 140 lbs.	<b>B A G S .</b>	<b>POTATO</b> 90 lbs.
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"OGILVIE'S FLOUR."

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

**OGILVIE'S HUNGARIAN,**

Unequalled for fine Cakes and Pastry. Stands unrivalled 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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Goods are advancing.

We have made ample preparations for this, and can give our customers the benefit.

Our Spring Samples are now complete, and it will mean \$'s to you to see them before placing your orders. Our Mr. E. G. Crawford will call on you shortly, when the favor of your orders will oblige. G. H. R. & Co.

Way to get a practical education is by attending Winnipeg Business College and Shorthand Institute for a term. Circulars free. Address C. A. FLEMING & CO., Winnipeg, Man.

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FEED BARLEY.

**WHEAT,**

**OATS AND BARLEY WANTED!**

Send Large Samples and Name Prices Wanted.

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Board of Trade, Toronto, Ont

## Winnipeg Grain Exchange.

The annual meeting of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange was held on Wednesday last. President G. R. Crowe delivered his annual address reviewing the work of the year. Mr. Crowe spoke as follows: "Following the custom of my predecessors at the annual meetings of this exchange, I will briefly offer a few suggestions concerning matters of interest to the exchange. Last year, the retiring president, Mr. McGaw, in his address, commented on the importance of the crop in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, in its influence on trade, not only in the Northwest, but also in Eastern Canada, and in speaking of the crop of 1894, said: 'It was by far the largest ever produced in the province of Manitoba.' It is most gratifying to be able to say that the crop of 1894 was small when compared with that of 1895, figures representing which are familiar to you, and are fully and reliably given in the last bulletin issued by the department of agriculture in Winnipeg; the aggregate yield of all grains being about double the quantity of 1894. Unfortunately for the producer, the prices of all grains of this year's crop have been very low, the causes for which are beyond my ability to explain, unless it might be in a well-worn phrase, viz: 'That the supply is greater than the demand.' It may not be out of place, however, to say that one of the causes of the low prices prevailing in Manitoba was the higher freights east of Fort William during the season just closed, the cost of transporting a bushel of wheat from Fort William to the seaboard being from five to six cents per bushel in excess of the cost for freighting the same quantity in the fall of 1894. The cause of the higher freight rates was the phenomenal activity in the iron trade throughout the United States, the movement of iron ore, during 1895, being far in excess of any previous year and which, in consequence, brought into service all the available lake tonnage.

### ALL RAIL RATES.

In November a committee was appointed to wait on the general freight agent of the Canadian Pacific Railway to press upon the attention of the railway authorities the importance of a reduction on all rail rates on grain. The deputation was kindly received by Mr. Kerr, and the representations made by the committee were placed before the proper authorities, and as you are well aware, a substantial reduction was made on grain to the seaboard 'for export.' It is a matter of regret that notwithstanding this very considerable reduction the cost of transportation to Atlantic ports by the 'all rail' route is too great to permit of any volume of business being done. The committee further pressed for a reduction of freight on coarse grains to Eastern Canada. Up to the present time, no reduction has been made, but it is earnestly hoped that the railway company will recognize the necessity of such action, which is rendered doubly urgent on account of the extremely low price of these grains, and the necessity of securing a market for the exportable surplus before the return of hot weather. The whole subject of transportation is vital to the interests of this country and should command the most careful and constant attention of this exchange."

Mr. Crowe next referred at length to the various discussions regarding the standards board. "I am of opinion, he said that these resolutions if followed, are of such a nature as to maintain the high reputation of Manitoba wheat in the markets of the world, and also secure the best possible price to the producer. It is well known that in the United Kingdom, our wheat is brought into competition with wheat of a similar character, grown in Dakota and Minnesota. Statements had been freely made both publicly and privately, that the methods adopted by

Manitoba grain dealers in making their shipments, were of such a nature, that Manitoba wheat was not being placed on the English markets in such a way as to compare favorably with Duluth wheat, and that in consequence, it was being sold at from one to three cents per bushel less than Duluth grades. These statements had been stoutly denied by Manitoba dealers, but the most complete contradiction is that furnished by actual transactions, made during the summer and fall of 1895, in the United Kingdom, as recorded in Boerbohn's Corn Trade List, published in London, showing that the English buyers had given the sellers the option of delivering either Duluth or Manitoba wheat of the same grade at the same price."

He made reference next to the fact that the samples selected for the standards board do not represent the actual quality of the crop, and in this connection said: "I would express the hope that the department at Ottawa will abolish the present cumbersome and expensive standards board and either instruct inspectors to perform their work according to the statute or appoint the inspectors a commission to select proper standards. In any event the board should be composed of men residing at and west of Port Arthur."

The question of smut, Mr. Crowe said, called for further action on the part of the exchange and he thought the attention of the farmers should be again called to the necessity for a thorough treatment of their seed, as well as care in selecting the best quality of bluestone.

The need of a revision of trade terms was also mentioned by Mr. Crowe. It might also be well, he thought to take steps for the adoption of some plan with other exchanges in Canada and the United States whereby the provisions of arbitration in such exchanges would be made available to members of this exchange.

He referred to the movement to organize a dairy department in connection with the exchange, thought that interest in the exchange might be increased by some new feature, spoke hopefully of the finances and closed by speaking of the harmony that had characterized the working of the exchange during the year.

### REPORT OF COUNCIL.

The eight annual report of the council was submitted. Reference was made to the call board and to the action taken in January resulting in the securing of a half-rate on seed grain transported from one locality to another in Manitoba. Several hundred samples of seed grain for railway agents were prepared by inspector Horn for distribution, and the provincial department of agriculture paid back to the exchange the amount expended for the bags and seeds required.

Early in the past year the exchange received an official request from the statistician of the United States department of agriculture to supply them regularly with quotations of the prices of agricultural products in Manitoba. The prices of wheat are at regular intervals forwarded to the department, and on return the exchange receives all copies of the crop reports and statistical information issued by that department.

Through the action of a committee the abolition of a tax of five cents per \$100 of insurance placed with companies doing business in Winnipeg has been secured. The board of Underwriters recently announced that the charge would no longer appear on the face of their bills.

In September last a resolution was passed requesting the government to take the necessary steps to have carloads containing scoured wheat unloaded into special bins at Fort William and the grain kept entirely separate from other graded wheats in public bins.

At a general meeting of the exchange in September a resolution was passed recommending to the Dominion Government that the grain inspectors at Fort William and Winnipeg, and the chairman of the western board of arbitrators be constituted a permanent board to select such standards as the department may deem necessary. At the same time a resolution was passed, "That the standards as made by the last standards board, other than commercial grades—3 hard and frosted—be rejected, and that the inspectors be instructed to grade according to the wording of the act. Mr. E. Miall, commissioner of inland revenue, was present at the meeting. No action has been taken by the department.

The council recommends the publication in the annual report of a list of all the grain elevators in Manitoba and the territories.

On representations being made to the Canadian Pacific Railway authorities an answer was returned that it had been decided to grant a reduction in the all rail rates on wheat and coarse grains to the Atlantic.

The arbitration board has given decisions under a small number of disputes submitted for settlement, but the cases have been few in number owing to the better understanding of trade terms prevailing.

The exchange was requested by the railway companies to designate the grades of grain to be exported via New York, and named Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Manitoba hard wheat; No. 1 Manitoba Northern; Nos. 1 and 2 frosted wheat; No. 2 white oats and No. 2 mixed oats.

On petition of the exchange Mr. David Horn, grain inspector for the Winnipeg inspection division has been appointed official weigher and the department of inland revenue has approved of the weighing regulations adopted by the Winnipeg board of trade.

The exchange secured by petition the passing of an order-in-council reducing the fees for inspection from sixty cents to forty cents per car when inspected on the rail, and fifty cents per thousand bushels when inspected on vessels.

The report noted several changes that had been made in the inspection act by which clearer definition has been given to the provision applying to the duties of the inspectors in certain cases. The council recommends that the amended schedule of grades and provisions as to inspections grading be published as an appendix to the annual report.

### GENERAL BUSINESS.

J. T. Gordon and N. Cleveland were elected members of the exchange.

The reports of the council and treasurer as presented were adopted.

### NEW OFFICERS.

The annual election of officers then took place and resulted as follows, in each case being by acclamation:

President—Stephen Nairn.

Vice-president—Joseph Harris.

Secretary-treasurer—Chas. N. Bell.

Council—S. A. McGaw, G. R. Crowe, A. McBean, R. D. Martin, F. W. Thompson, N. Bawlf, W. W. McMillan, Wm. Martin, S. Spink, Robt. Muir, and S. W. Farrell.

Board of Arbitrators—N. Bawlf, S. A. McGaw, J. A. Mitchell, Jos. Harris, G. R. Crowe, R. D. Martin, and A. McBean.

Board of Appeals—S. Spink, F. W. Thompson, S. P. Clark, R. Muir, R. P. Roblin, D. H. McMillan and A. Cavanagh.

Before adjourning, considerable discussion took place on the question of preventing smut in grain and the matter was referred to the council for action.

Regulations for enabling the official weighmaster to discharge the duties of the office were also left to the council for action.

Young Bros, stationary, Moosomin, have assigned.

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Wholesale Grocery and Liquor  
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Early Dew Old Rye, Malt and Spirits.  
JOHN LABATT, London, Canada.  
Ale and Stout  
G. A. HOFFMAN & CO., Bordeaux,  
Clarets, Wines and Brandies  
H. DYKEGAUTIER, (Successor Marett & Co.)  
Cognac Brandies.  
RONALDSON & CO., London and Glasgow.  
Sootch and Irish Whiskies, etc.  
HAMILTON VINEGAR WORKS CO., LD.  
Vinegars, Pickles and Jams.  
FRANCIS PEEK WINCH & CO., London,  
Indian and China Teas.  
THE MORSE SOAP CO., Toronto.

**JOHN L. CASSIDY & COMPANY,**

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I am prepared to buy in car lots free on board at all Manitoba points or delivered in Toronto. Correspondence and Samples Solicited.

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Reference permitted to publisher of this Journal.

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WHOLESALE STATIONERS,

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Dealers in all Classes of

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WINNIPEG, MAN.

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COMPRESSED MINCE MEAT in neat packages, 3 doz.  
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Choice Horseradish in 16 oz. Bott'es  
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Fresh Pork Sausage, German Sausage, etc.

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Packers of Pure Goods.

**Hudson's Bay Company,**

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**Hungarian and Strong Bakers Flour**

Chopped Feed, Oats, Bran, Shorts, etc.

Sole agents in Manitoba, Northwest Territories and British Columbia for

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CASH and PROMPT PAYING BUYERS will find it to their advantage  
to get our prices before purchasing elsewhere,

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Tea Importers and Wholesale Grocers.

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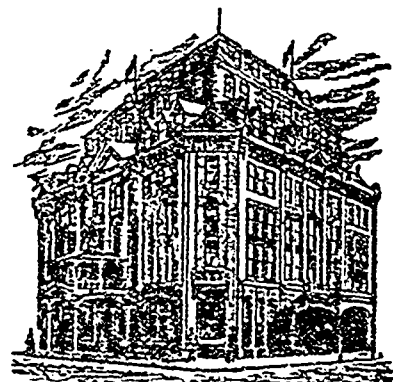
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OAK TANNED "EXTRA" BRAND

**BELTING**

MONTREAL AND TORONTO.

**THE J. C. McLAREN BELTING COMPANY.**

THE BUSINESS SITUATION.

WINNIPEG, Saturday, Jan. 11, 1896.

Business is very quiet in about every line of wholesale trade, and the produce and grain trades are in about the same state of inactivity just at present. A feature of the produce trade is the limited quantity of dressed hogs and poultry received here this season. To such an extent is this the case, that it looks as though the farmers have been neglecting these two profitable lines this season. Bank clearings at Winnipeg this week show an increase of about 89.5 per cent over the corresponding week for the past two years.

There were 53 business failures reported in Canada this week. Last week the total was 38, but in the corresponding week one year ago it was also 53, while two years ago it was 47.

Bradstreet's report for the United States this week says: The impression is general that uncertainty as to financial action by congress and disturbing political conditions have an unfavorable influence on prospects. The general industrial situation is moderately improved. The idleness of some steel mills and the certainty that production of pig iron would be curtailed, have produced a better feeling. The cut of \$1 for southern pig iron is backed by the blowing out of three stacks. Cotton goods are firm, owing to the position of raw cotton, the latter having advanced nearly one-half from the lowest price, and the former only about one-seventh. The course of prices of staples continues upward, in live stock, pork, and other meats, lard, flour, wheat, corn, oats, Bessemer pig and bar iron. In addition to these, firm prices are named for coal, tobacco, print cloths, steel billets, sugar, lumber, leather and hides; decreased prices being noted for coffee, cotton and petroleum, in addition to the cut of \$1 for southern pig and 25 cents for eastern iron.

Stock markets have been irregular this week, owing to the war scares, but yesterday both New York and London showed improvement, owing to the apparent passing away of the danger of trouble with Germany. At New York yesterday money on call was easy at 4½ to 6 per cent.; prime mercantile paper 6 to 9 per cent.; sterling exchange dull and higher with actual business in bankers' bills at \$1.89 to ¼ for demand and \$1.87½-¾ for sixty days; commercial bills \$1.86½; bar silver 66½; government bonds strong and higher; new fours up 1 per cent.

WINNIPEG MARKETS.

WINNIPEG, SATURDAY AFTERNOON, Jan. 11.

[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.]

**DRY GOODS**—Travellers are now out or preparing to go out at once with full ranges of spring samples. So far as the trade has progressed, the outlook is good, and the tendency of prices is firm.

**FISH**—There is a fair supply of fresh fish. Manitoba lake fish are abundant, but prices are higher than usual, owing to the good demand for shipment to the United States. The usual winter catch is now going on at Lake Winnipeg and other Manitoba lakes. Fresh sea fish are in fair supply.

Salmon are coming from Seattle. Haddies are lower. Oysters have been sold lower than usual, owing to cutting in prices, selects having been sold as low as \$1.80 in some instances, but this was owing to a temporary oversupply. The Selkirk Record says that export dealers there are paying the following prices to fishermen: Whitefish 5c; pickerel, boxed, 4c; pickerel, loose, 3½c; jackfish 1½c; tullibee 1½c; perch 1c, per lb. Fresh fish are quoted here: Cod 9c a lb; haddock 9c a lb; salmon 14c; halibut 12½c; smelts 9 to 10c; Lake Superior trout 9c; whitefish 5c; pickerel 4c; pike 2c; perch 2 to 2½c; sturgeon 7c; finnan haddies 7½c, or \$2.25 per box; kippered gold-eyes 30c doz.; oysters \$1.75 to \$1.90 for standards and \$2 to \$2.15 selects, per gallon, extra selects \$2.25 to \$2.35; oysters, in cans, selects, 55 and standards 50c per can; shell oysters, \$7.50 per barrel. Cur. fish are quoted: Boneless codfish, 40lb boxes 7c, do crates 7½c; boneless fish, 40lb boxes, 5c; smoked herrings, 19c box.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

**WHEAT**—General Situation—Prices in leading markets have been well maintained this week, on a slightly higher basis than ruled last week. The Anglo-German war scare had only a slight influence on prices. The visible supply statement on Monday showed a small decrease of 116,000 bushels. Atlantic coast exports of wheat were 2,337,000 bushels, flour included, compared with 2,010,000 bushels for the corresponding week last year. Receipts of wheat at spring wheat markets have continued very large, proving one of the weakening features. The enormous milling demand, however, continues to absorb a vast quantity of wheat, and this, with the improved export demand, constitute the two best features of the situation on this continent. Russia has shown a tendency to hold wheat of late, for higher prices, which no doubt helps exports from America.

**WHEAT**—LOCAL SITUATION—The local market has been very dull. Deliveries in Manitoba country markets have been very light of late, farmers apparently being determined to hold for higher prices. In this market, transactions are so few that they are not sufficient to fix a close idea of values. In Manitoba country markets, prices to farmers have ranged at 36 to 40c for No. 1 hard, according to freight rates and local conditions of the different markets. No. 2 hard and No. 1 northern, 28 to 3c under No. 1 hard. No. 3 hard, 28 to 32c, frosted wheats, 20 to 26c. In the Winnipeg market a few sales were reported of cash wheat at between 57 and 58c for No. 1 hard, afloat basis, Fort William, No. 2 hard at 55 to 55½c and No. 3 hard at 50 to 50½c. We quote to-day's prices easier at 57 to 57½c. No. 1 hard, No. 2 at 55c and No. 3 at 50c per bushel, c. i. f., Fort William. There is a very trifling export movement and light shipments to Eastern Canada. Shipments from Fort William represent the bulk of the movement Eastward, as most of the stuff going east is from the elevators at Fort William, not much going through direct all rail from Manitoba points. The advantage in shipping from the elevators is the guarantee of weight of cars obtained in case of disputes or demands for shortages.

Receipts at Fort William for the week ended Jan. 4 were 457,031 bushels; shipments 62,292 bushels; in store 3,105,732 bushels. At interior points stocks are not increasing, as buyers have been pushing the wheat through to Fort William to take advantage of the storage space there while it could be obtained, as it looks as though space would soon be filled up.

**FLOUR**—Prices have been a shade firmer, but there is no change. Sales by millers here are now made at \$1.70 to \$1.75 for patents

and \$1.50 to \$1.55 for strong bakers per sack of 98lbs. delivered to city retail dealers, second bakers, \$1.30 to \$1.85; xxxx, \$1.10 to \$1.15, delivered.

**MILLSTUFFS**—City mills are selling at \$9 per ton for bran and \$11 for shorts, delivered in the city. Small lots \$1 per ton more.

**OATS**—There is no change and the tendency is easy, a limited number of cars are moving east and some are being taken for the lumber districts between Sudbury and Ottawa. Prices in foreign markets are to low to permit of export shipments. At Manitoba country points, for shipment east, cars are worth from 11 to 13c as to quality and freight rate. In the Winnipeg market dealers are paying 15 to 16c for farmers' loads, per bushel of 34 pounds.

**BARLEY**—Car lots at Manitoba country points quoted at 14 to 16c as to quality and freight rates for from food grade up to No. 3. Scarcely any moving and very little demand. Farmers loads here bring 16 to 17c for feed, and no demand for malting. A car of No. 3 barley was reported sold at Toronto on Wednesday at 37½c per bushel, which is equal to 15½c on track average Manitoba freights.

**WHEAT**—Local farmers' market.—Farmers' loads are being taken at the mills here at 40 to 43c per bushel of 60 pounds for milling, as to quality. Smutty wheat for feed 30 to 35c per bushel.

**GROUND FEED**—Prices range from \$11 to \$13 per ton, as to quality, the top price for rolled oat feed, and the lowest price for mixed mill feed.

**OATMEAL**—Rolled oatmeal is selling at about \$1.25 per sack of 80 pounds in broken lots to retail dealers. A decline of 10 to 15c per barrel was reported at Montreal on Monday.

**OIL CAKE**—Ground oil cake meal is quoted at \$20 per ton in sacks.

**FLAXSEED**—Prices to farmers in Manitoba country markets are about 60c per bushel.

**BUTTER**—The local market is dull and the feeling still easier. There is no demand. Rolls are not as desirable as good dairy tubs. We quote round lots of good to choice dairy tubs at 12 to 14c and rolls at 12 to 13c.

**CHEESE**—Cheese is jobbing here in small lots at 8½ to 9c.

**EGGS**—Easier. Dealers are still paying 21c per doz. for receipts of fresh eggs, but the jobbing price is lower, at 22 to 24c. Limed are practically out of this market.

**LARD**—Lard is again easier. Prices are: Pure, \$1.80 for 20 pound pails, and \$1.50 for 50 lb pails; pure leaf lard in 3, 5 and 10 pound tins, quoted at \$6.50 per case of 60 pounds, tierces 8½c pound.

**CURED MEATS**—Smoked meats are quoted: Hams, assorted sizes, 11c; breakfast bacon, bellies, 11½; do., backs, 10½c; picnic hams, 8c; short spiced rolls, 7½c long rolls, 7½c; shoulders, 6½c; smoked long clear, 9c; smoked jowls, 5½c. Dry salt meats are quoted: Long clear bacon, 7½c per lb; shoulders, 5½c; backs, 8½c; barrel pork, heavy mess \$19.00, clear mess \$13.00; short cut, \$16.00; rolled shoulders, \$14 per barrel, pork sundries, fresh sausage, 7c; bologna sausage, 7c; German sausage, 7c, ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 10c per package; pickled hocks, 2½c; pickled tongues, 5c; sausage casings, 30c lb.

**POULTRY**—Prices have been firm in the absence of large stocks, and light receipts. There has in fact been a scarcity of native poultry all the season, and the market is supplied mainly with eastern goods. Prices are higher. For native poultry, dealers are paying 10 to 11c; for turkeys, 8 to 9c for ducks, and 8 to 9c for chickens, according to quality. Geese were very scarce and nice stock would bring 10c. Ontario turkeys are selling here in small lots at 12 to 12½c.

**DRESSED MEATS.**—Hogs are holding up well and offerings have been light. The ruling price this week is still 5c per lb. We quote country beef at 8 to 4½c as to quality, good frozen beef has brought 4½c. The bulk sells at about 4c to 4½c per lb. by the side or carcass. \$3.80 to \$3.40 per 100 pounds has been paid for round lots of frozen beef to ship to the woods, the quality averaging rough, heavy stuff. Fresh, unfrozen, city dressed beef, 5 to 5½c, as to quality. Mutton steady, and we quote 6 to 6½c for choice mutton, and about 5½c cents for country mutton. There is very little business doing in dressed meats of any kind.

**GAME.**—Rabbits, 6c each; jack rabbits, 50c each.

**VEGETABLES.**—Following are prices on the street market: Potatoes, 20c per bushel, cabbage 25 to 40c per dozen, as to size; celery 25 to 40c per dozen bunches; onions 40 to 50c per bushel; turnips 10 to 15c per bushel; parsnips, 40 to 50c bushel; carrots 25c; beets 25c bushel.

**HIDES.**—Prices are higher, owing to local competition and firmer outside markets. The price for country frozen hides varies from 4½ to 5c, 4½c being the usual price. We quote prices here as follows: Green frozen hides, 4½ to 5c, 5 lbs tare off. We quote: Calf, 8 to 15lb skins, 5 to 6c per lb; deacons, 15 to 20c each; kips, 4 to 5c; sheep and lambskins recent kill, 50 to 60c. Tallow, 4 to 5c rendered and 2 to 3c rough.

**WOOL.**—Manitoba fleece, nominal 10 to 12c per lb. Owing to the proposal in the United States to put a duty on wool again, prices at Boston have advanced ½ to 1c, with large sales.

**SENECA ROOT.**—Nominal at 18 to 20c per lb.

**HAY.**—Baled prairie is quoted at about \$5.50 to \$6 on cars here. Loose hay on the street market, \$4.50 to \$5 per ton.

**LIVE STOCK.**—The markets are practically dead, as butchers are buying next to nothing. Prices are nominal at 2½ to 3½c for fair to choice butchers' cattle. Sheep hardly wanted, as butchers are holding plenty of mutton, nominal at 2½ to 3c. Hogs are steady at 3½c off cars here.

### The Ottawa Crisis.

GOVERNOR Lord Aberdeen has administered a rebuke to the bolting ministers at Ottawa, by refusing to accept the resignation of Premier Bowell until parliament has given an expression upon the questions submitted in the opening address. The important question is of course the school question. The more the matter is considered, the more unseemly becomes the action of Mr. Foster and the other members in deserting the premier at such a critical time. Nothing has happened for many a day which so strongly emphasizes the necessity for a purification of Ottawa politics, as this humiliating situation. Evidently the party which has so long governed Canada, requires a term in opposition to recuperate its powers and develop some new men, of strong moral and personal qualities. The prospect is, after this shameful exhibition which has been made at Ottawa, that they will get it.

### The Live Stock Trade.

British markets were ½c higher on Monday for cattle, best United States being quoted at 11½c and Argentine at 10½c and Argentine sheep at 11½c.

At the East End Abattoir, Montreal, on Jan. 6, the market was firmer, but values no higher. The best cattle sold at 9½ to 3½c, fair at 8 to 3½c, common at 2½ to 3c, and inferior at 1½ to 2c per lb. Sheep sold at 3½c per lb.,

and lambs at 8½c per lb. The supply of live hogs was small, but quite ample to fill all requirements, and sales were made at 3½ to 4c per lb.

At Chicago on Jan. 10, hogs declined, Sales ranged at \$3.50 to \$3.85 for common to prime droves, with sales largely at \$3.75 to \$3.80.

At Toronto on Jan. 7 prices were not advanced to any extent. A load of very fine young cattle, averaging 1,010 lbs each sold for 8c per lb less \$10 on the deal. In sheep all offered found a buyer, prices ranging from 2½c to 3c per lb. There is a good demand for good grain-fed lambs, the ruling prices being 3½c to 4c per lb. To-day's prices for hogs again took a step upward, good choice kinds being now worth \$3.70 while thick fat and light hogs are worth \$3.50.

### Toronto Grain and Produce Market.

**Wheat.**—Cars of red wheat sold north and west freights to-day at 66c, and white was quoted at 67c. Manitoba wheat is firm. Cars of No. 1 hard are quoted at 73c, grinding in transit, and No. 1 northern at 72c; No. 1 northern is quoted at 72c asked North Bay.

**Flour.**—Cars of branded straight roller sold at \$3.09 and patents at \$3.22 Toronto freights.

**Millfeed.**—Cars of shorts are quoted at \$12.50 and bran at \$11 west.

**Barley.**—Cars of No. 1 are quoted at 48c to 44c, No. 1 extra at 45c to 46c, and No. 2 at 39c east. On call here to-day a car of No. 1 Manitoba barley sold Montreal at 44c, and one car of No. 3 Manitoba barley was sold to arrive at 37½c.

**Oats.**—Cars of white sold west to-day at 23c, and mixed are quoted west at 22c to 22½c.

**Butter.**—Prices are unchanged at 14 to 15c for good dairy tubs, 8 to 11c for medium and low grade dairy tubs, 13 to 15c for good fresh-made large rolls, and 14 to 16c for dairy pound rolls. Creamery sells at 21 to 22c for rolls and 19 to 20c for tubs.

**Eggs.**—Prices remain the same at 14 to 14½c for pickled, 16 to 18c for held fresh, 18c for cold storage and 17 to 17½c for late gathered.

**Baled Hay.**—Prices are firm at \$14.50 to \$14.75 for No. 1 and \$13.50 to \$14 for No. 2 in car lots here.

**Dressed Hogs.**—The offerings are liberal and quotations are steady at \$4.50 for ordinary lots and a little more for choice selected weights delivered here.—Globe, Jan. 8.

### Proposed Dairy Exchange.

A meeting was held in the Grain Exchange rooms, Winnipeg, on Thursday evening, to discuss the advisability of organizing a dairy exchange, as a branch of or in affiliation with the Winnipeg Grain Exchange. Mr. Nairn, president of the Grain Exchange occupied the chair and Mr. Bell, secretary, explained the object of the meeting in a few concise remarks. A lengthy and somewhat rambling discussion then followed, but owing to the small attendance of actual producers or of dealers in dairy goods, it was thought best to adjourn the meeting until the next meeting of the Manitoba Dairy Association. Quite a number were present but they were mostly persons not directly interested in dairy affairs as dealers or producers. The feeling of the producers present, however, seemed to be in favor of an exchange here, where they could send their goods and receive prompt returns, the greatest complaint now being the delay in receiving returns from goods shipped to Pacific coast points or Montreal. It was pointed out that the main inducement to farmers to go into dairying, is to get a little ready money during the summer season, to tide them over while their crops are growing. If the factories cannot get quick returns, they cannot pay their

patrons promptly, hence the farmers become disappointed and withdraw their support from the factories.

As usual at such preliminary meetings, there was much discussion which was foreign to the question at issue, and some of the more lengthy speakers apparently came primed to air their knowledge of dairy matters in general, rather than to speak to the point as regards the organization of an exchange. However, much of the discussion was interesting and instructive, especially the remarks of Mr. MacDonald, dairy instructor, and the statistics given by Mr. McKellar, of the department of agriculture.

However, the meeting passed an expression of opinion that it was desirable to form some organization to handle dairy products; and a committee was appointed to consider a plan of working, composed of Messrs. Barke, Pearson, McCuaig, Bousfield, Hopper, Greig, Philp, Dawes, Macdonald, Scott and Reimer.

The Manitoba Dairy Association will meet on February 19, when it is expected the committee mentioned above will have some programme prepared to submit to the dairy-men.

### Grain and Milling Notes.

The total receipts of wheat at the four principal United States winter wheat points, Toledo, St. Louis, Detroit and Kansas City from July 1st to date are 21,817,331 bushels, against 28,347,265 bushels in 1891 and 86,140,955 bushels in 1893. The total receipts at the four principal United States spring wheat points since August 1st, the beginning of the crop year foot up—Minneapolis 48,747,900 bushels; Duluth 38,838,204 bushels; Chicago 47,226,914 bushels, and Milwaukee 5,974,684 bushels; making a total of 110,787,699 bushels against 81,130,471 bushels during the same time last year and 72,233,702 bushels in 1893.

The exports of wheat from India since April 1, the beginning of the crop year for that country, aggregate 16,896,000 bushels, of which 12,914,000 bushels went to the United Kingdom and 3,944,000 to the Continent. The total shipments for the corresponding time, previous year, were 10,204,000 bushels, of which 7,568,000 bushels went to the United Kingdom and 2,636,000 bushels to the Continent.

### Literary Notes.

Another new trade paper, hailing from Toronto, reached The Commercial this week. It is called Industrial Canada and is published by W. Sanfield Johnston. The new paper will be devoted in particular to mining, lumbering, milling and general manufacturing, and to business matters in general. The number received is very handsomely printed, on fine paper and elegantly illustrated.

With the advent of the new year, a new Canadian magazine is ushered into existence. It is given the name of Massey's Magazine, and is published by the Massey Press, of Toronto. It supercedes Massey's Illustrated, a rural home publication which has been in existence for the past fourteen years. The new publication is nicely printed and liberally illustrated, though there is room for improvement in quality in some of the illustrations. There are a large number of excellent papers and contributions in the first number, some from well known writers. Heretofore it seems to have been a difficult task to maintain a good magazine in Canada, but with the capital and energy behind it which this latest venture will have, The Commercial feels like prophesying that it has come to stay and will succeed.

H. S. Law, grocer, Victoria, has moved to Wellington.

**British Columbia Business Review.**

Vancouver, Jan. 7 1896.

The new year has opened up well in British Columbia and collections are reported good, on every hand there are the evidences of returning prosperity, business could not revive unless confidence is thoroughly restored, and confidence is certainly restored in the Canadian Pacific Province.

The lumber industry is brisk, and the mills are running night and day. Vessels from every part of the world are now loading lumber at Vancouver.

Mining news is still of a very hopeful nature and mining men continue to predict a coming boom. Active operations are still reported at Trail Creek and will continue throughout the winter. The "Center Star mine next to the famous La Roi will be developed sufficiently in August, say the owners, to show in sight 250,000 tons of ore valued at \$5,000,000. This result will be obtained with a capital stock of half a million dollars. A railway is being built with the intention of bringing the ores of the fabulously rich Boundary Creek country to the Trail Creek smelter. The road will go from Trail landing to Rossland thence by Midway to some point on Okanagan Lake.

Owing to the weather mining matters are quiet in Boundary Creek. A new mine the Anarchist shows a 50 foot vein of gold ore and improving in richness as it goes down. Ore from another new mine the "Smuggler" assayed \$39 to the ton in gold. This was a test assay taken from all parts of the mine. The ore is abundant and easily worked. A company has been formed to work the old "Ironsides" located in 1891. The ore is mined with great ease. In East Kootenay work is progressing quietly, the best mines are being run with half gangs.

There is a remarkable mineral claim at Ainsworth. Part of it is under water, Loon Lake. This lake is being siphoned and in three months will be dry, at present it has been lowered twenty feet and besides rich deposits of ore running \$77 to the ton taken from the bottom of the Lake. A rare collection of bugs and lizards of species not known in British Columbia have been made.

Cariboo is frozen up, but many Cariboo miners have come to town and are enthusiastic over the results anticipated in that golden country next year. Development work has been very extensive. Probably the most promising portion of the province just now is Alberni. Many excellent claims have been staked, and on account of easy access and cheap shipping facilities marvellous results are anticipated. Numerous rich strikes about Vancouver will also be worked in the spring.

J. Gordon, expert, of Portland, Conn., has reported on tobacco grown in British Columbia, at the experimental farm, Agassiz. He says the tobacco is of excellent quality and would pass for A 1 wrappers. The tobacco is of a beautiful silky texture, is free from blemish and has very fine veins. The color is good, the leaf small, and consequently the texture finer than the large samples of leaf. In certain districts of British Columbia tobacco can be raised to rank with any produced in the States. Mr. Gordon concludes by saying that he will be in British Columbia in the spring to look more thoroughly into the tobacco question and its possibilities in this province.

During 1895 Nanaimo exported 935,392 tons of coal, valued at \$1,776,128. This is 46,815 tons less than in 1894. This is a far better showing than was anticipated, and demonstrates that if it had not been for the influx of cheap European coal carried by tramps the result would have been satisfactory.

The inland revenue of Vancouver shows an increase of \$17,145 over last year, and a similar large increase in noticed in other

cities. The exports of Westminster district increased a million, and for the Province the exports increased while the imports diminished.

**British Columbia Markets.**

(BY WIRE TO THE COMMERCIAL.)

Vancouver, January, 11, 1896.

The only important change is the sharp advance of 8c in eggs, owing to the scarcity of eastern stock which is now nearly out of this market. Butter is rather easier. Cured hog products are 3c lower all around.

Butter.—Dairy butter, 20 to 22c; creamery 27c; Manitoba cheese 11½c per lb.

Cured Meats.—Hams 12c; breakfast bacon 12c; backs 11½c; long, clear 8½c; short rolls 9c; smoked sides 10c. Lard is held at the following figures: Tins 10½c per pound; in ails and tubs 10c. Mess pork \$14; short cut \$15.

Fish.—Prices are. Flounders 9c; smelt 5c; sea bass 4c; black cod 6c; rock cod 4c; red cod 4c; tommy cod 4c; herring 4c; salmon 9c; halibut 7c; whiting 6c; soles 6c; crabs, 60c dozen; smoked halibut 10c; bloaters 10c; kippered cod 9c; sturgeon 6c.

Game.—Mallards, 50c; pintails 40c; widgins, 35c; venison, 5c.

Vegetables.—Potatoes new, \$10 per ton; onions silver skins, 1½c; cabbage, 1½c; carrots, turnips and beets, ¾ to 1c a lb.; sweet potatoes, \$2.50 per 100 lbs.

Eggs.—Fresh, local, 85c; Eastern 25c per dozen.

Fruits.—California seedling oranges \$3.50, navels, \$1.50; native apples \$1.00; California lemons, \$4.00 to \$1.50; California apples, \$1.20 to \$1.80; Jap oranges 50c.

Evaporated Fruits.—Apricots 11c per lb; peaches 7½c; plums 7c; prunes, French, 4c; loose Muscatel raisins 4c; London layer raisins \$1.65 box.

Nuts.—Almonds, 18c; filberts, 12½c; peanuts, 10c, Brazil, 12½c; walnuts, 10 to 16c lb.

Flour.—Manitoba patent, per bbl., \$4.40; strong bakers, \$4.10; Oregon, \$3.80; Oak Lake patent \$4.20; do strong bakers \$4.00.

Meal.—National mills rolled oats, 90 lb sacks, \$3.00; 45 pound sacks, \$3.10; 22½ pound sacks, \$3.30; 10.7 sacks, \$2.60. Oatmeal, 10-10's, \$3.00; 2-50's, \$2.75. Off grades, 90 lbs, \$2.70; 2-45's, \$2.80.

Grain.—Washington State wheat \$25.20 per ton f. o. b. Vancouver, duty paid. Oats 16.00 per ton.

Ground Feed.—National mills chop, \$20 to \$22 per ton; ground barley, \$22 ton; shorts, \$18.50 ton; bran \$16.50; oil cake meal, \$26 ton; F. O. B. Vancouver, including duty paid on import stuff.

Hay.—Nominal at \$3 per ton. Dressed Meats.—Beef, 7c; mutton, 7½c to 8c; pork, 6 to 7c; veal, 7 to 9c per lb.

Live Stock.—Steers, 3 to 3½c lb; cows 2½ to 3c; sheep, \$3.25 to \$3.50; hogs, 4½ to 5½c; lamb, per head \$3.00 to \$3.50.

Poultry.—Chickens, \$4 to \$6 per dozen. Sugars.—Powdered and icing, 6c; Paris lump, 5½c; granulated, 4½c; extra C, 4c; fancy yellows 3½c; yellow 3½c per lb.

Syrups.—30 gallon barrels, 1½c per pound; 10 gallon kegs, 2c; 5 gallon kegs, \$1.25 each; 1 gallon tins, \$3.75 per case of 10; ½ gallon tins, \$1.50 per case of 20.

Teas.—Congo: Fair, 11½c; good, 18c; choice, 26c. Ceylons: Fair, 25c; good, 30c; choice, 35c per lb.

**British Columbia Business Notes**

W. J. VanHouton, hardware, Nanaimo, has assigned.

A. McRae, tailor, New Westminster, has assigned.

Oban & Scott, confectionery, etc., Vancouver, have dissolved, each continues alone.

Samuel Hanson, drugs, Victoria, is out of business.

**Tinkering with Wheat & Oats.**

It is reported from Ottawa that Senator Perley intends to introduce legislation with respect to wheat grading in Manitoba and the Territories. His proposition is to have only four grades, viz: Extra hard, No. 1 hard, No. 2 hard and No. 3 hard. For the highest quality he wants 85 per cent. of sound fyt free from frost and smut, and weighing over 60 pounds to the bushel. For No. 1 he wants 80 per cent of fyt, and weighing 60 pounds; No. 2, 75 per cent of fyt and weighing 59 pounds; No. 3, 75 per cent of fyt, and weighing 68 pounds, all free from frost and smut. For wheat not good enough to grade in any of these qualities he says no standard should be made, and dealers allowed to fix their own values on it; thus farmers would have an incentive to raise good wheat and dealers would not be able to destroy the higher qualities by mixing.

**Refined Sugar Review, 1895.**

The year began with granulated at 8.74c per pound net cash, declined in February to 8.68c per pound, the low point of the year, advanced to 8.86c per pound in March, and remained steady until the first of May, when a sharp advance was made to 4.35c per pound, and the market remained unchanged until August, when it declined to 4.10c per pound recovering in October to 4.53c per pound, the high point of the year. A decline to 4.23c per pound came in November, followed by a steady market in December at 4.35c per pound until the 26th to 4.47c, at which the year closes for granulated sugar, being .73c per pound above the opening, which it will be noted is about the same advance as has taken place in raws. The average price of granulated for the year was 4.146c per pound against 4.12 per pound in 1894, and 4.84c per pound in 1893, and 4.346c per pound in 1892, and 4.691 per pound in 1891. The average difference between centrifugals and granulated was .378c per pound against .88c per pound in 1894, 1.16c per pound in 1893, and 1.035c per pound in 1892, and 0.828c per pound in 1891. Early in the year refiners evidently changed their policy of keeping prices of refined at a sufficiently low point to prevent the importation of foreign sugars, which would have caused them to continue business through the entire year with little or no profit under the small protection given them by the present tariff. They therefore made prices at about the dividend paying basis, with the result that the importation of foreign refined increased 100 per cent for the year over 1894, although the total quantity is but 27,226 tons. The sugars have, however, gained such a foothold that the quantity may be largely increased during the coming year, especially as the German Government have in contemplation the rising of its sugar bounties, thereby reducing the present protection of American refiners.—Willett & Gray, New York.

**Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.**

Ocean rates are considerably firmer, owing, it is said to the fact that the steamships are getting a great deal of grain to carry. Some round lots of flour for London were reported placed last week at a through rate of 40c, 12c being counted the ocean part, but it was claimed, apparently with good reason, that so low an ocean rate was not to be had. More London flour, in about 100-car lots, is being offered this week, but 41c was about the most favorable rate available.—Minneapolis Northwestern Miller,

Winnipeg Clearing House.

Clearings for the week ending January 9 were \$1,540,906; balances, \$228,980. For the previous week clearings were \$1,250,537. For the corresponding week of last year clearings were \$1,110,578, and for the week two years ago, \$1,115,806. For the month of December clearings were \$6,641,454, as compared with \$5,199,672 for December, 1894, and \$4,970,725 for December of 1893.

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

Table with columns for City and Clearings for Jan. 2. Rows include Montreal, Toronto, Halifax, Winnipeg, Hamilton, and a Total of \$19,585,810.

Total . . . . . \$19,585,810

Following is the report issued by F. H. Mathewson, secretary of the Winnipeg clearing house, showing monthly clearings at Winnipeg for two years :

Table comparing monthly clearings for 1894 and 1895 from January to December. Total for 1894: \$50,510,617; for 1895: \$55,873,630.

The following shows the largest and smallest transactions at Winnipeg by months, weeks and days during the same period :

Table of largest and smallest transactions for 1894 and 1895. Categories include Largest Month, Smallest Month, and Average Daily Clearings.

The following shows the total clearings for the cities of Canada for two years :

Table of total clearings for Montreal, Toronto, Halifax, Winnipeg, and Hamilton for 1894 and 1895.

\$939,497,940 \$1,043,009,347

The aggregate clearings at the cities in Canada for 1895 showed an increase of 7.53 per cent as compared with 1894. The increase for Winnipeg during the same period is \$5,382,938, or 9.50 per cent.

Winnipeg Markets A Year ago.

Wheat.—No. 1 hard, c.i.f. Fort William May, 70c and 50 to 52c to farmers, Manitoba country points. Flour.—Local price, per sack, Patents, \$1.65; Bakers, \$1.55. Bran.—Per ton, \$11. Shorts.—Per ton, \$13. Oats.—Per bushel, car lots, 25 to 28c. Barley.—Per bushel, feed 30c. Flax Seed.—95c to \$1.

Butter.—Round lots country dairy 12 to 14c. Cheese.—Small lots 11 to 11½c. Eggs.—Fresh, 16 to 17c round lots. Beef.—Frozen country, per lb., 8 to 4½c, best butchers, 5 to 5½c. Mutton.—Fresh, and lamb, 5 to 6c. Hogs.—Dressed, 4 to 4½c. Cattle.—Butchers, 2½ to 3c. Hogs.—Live, off cars, 3½c. Sheep.—\$2.25 to \$2.50 per 100 pounds. Seneca Root.—19 to 20c. Poultry —Chickens, 5c, turkeys, 9 to 10c, geese, 7 to 8c, ducks 6c. Hides.—Frozen Hides, 2½ to 3c. Potatoes.—40 to 45c per bushel. Hay.—\$1.50 to \$5.00 per ton, car lots.

Winnipeg Wheat Inspection.

The following shows the number of cars of wheat inspected at \*Winnipeg for the weeks ended on the dates named, compared with the number of cars inspected for the corresponding weeks a year ago, as reported by Inspector Horn to the Board of Trade:—

Table showing wheat inspection statistics by grade and date (Dec 7, 14, 21, 28, Jan 4). Includes categories like Extra Manitoba hard, No. 1, 2, 3, and various types of white and frosted wheat.

Oats.—For week ended Jan. 4—No. 1 white, 18; No. 2 white, 16; No. 2 mixed, 6; No. 2 black, 0; feed, 6; total, 41.

Barley.—For week ended Jan. 4—No. 3, 4; feed, 2; total, 6.

\*Wheat inspected at Emerson going out via the Northern Pacific to Duluth, is included in Winnipeg returns. A considerable portion of the wheat moving is inspected at Fort William, and does not show in these figures.

Montreal Grain and Produce Market.

Grain—there was a firmer tone to the grain market. The demand for wheat for export account was good, and considerable business was worked. Prices are: No. 2 oats, per 34 lbs. 29½ to 30c; Barley, feed 38 to 39c; Barley, malting 53 to 55c.

Flour.—Cable enquiries from Glasgow and London were received, to-day, by millers, for Manitoba strong flour, and 2,000 sacks were offered to London, but up to the time of writing, no actual business has resulted. Prices are: Winter wheat, \$3.60 to \$3.80; Spring wheat patents, \$3.75 to \$3.85; Straight Roller, \$3.80 to \$3.40; Straight roller. Bags \$1.60 to \$1.65; Extra bags, \$1.40 to \$1.45; Manitoba strong bakers \$3.60 to \$3.65.

Oatmeal.—There was no change in oatmeal, business being quiet and of a jobbing character at, Standard, brls. \$2.85 to \$2.95; Granulated, brls. \$2.90 to \$3.00; Rolled oats, brls. \$2.40 to \$3.00.

Feed.—The demand for feed was fair at the following prices: Bran \$14 to \$15; shorts \$15 to \$16.

Dressed Meats.—There have been no arrivals of Northwest beef this season yet, but Mr. Bickerdike stated that he thought some consignments could now be handled in this market at a profit and he has advised some of

their old customers to make shipments, consequently, some may be expected in the near future.

Cheese.—The cheese market continues firm. If sellers were willing to let go at 9½c quite a lot of cheese could be moved, but the buyers refused in each case, stipulating for 9½c.

Butter.—Butter continues quiet and steady. Creamery moves from 20½ to 21c and dairy at 15 to 17c as to grade.

Eggs.—The demand for eggs to-day in a jobbing way was fair. We quote: Boiling stock at 18 to 20c, Montreal limed at 14 to 15c. Western limed at 13½ to 14c and held fresh at 13½ to 14c per dozen.

Poultry. Choice fresh killed turkeys sold at 7½ to 8½, chickens at 6 to 6½c, ducks at 7 to 7½c, and geese at 5 to 5½c per lb.

Dressed Hogs.—The receipts of dressed hogs have been light of late and values are firmer, recent sales of car lots having been made at \$1.75 and jobbing lots at \$5.25 to \$5.50 per 100 lbs. There is considerable stock on the market yet, which went through the thaw, and this is offering at \$4.50 in car lots.—Gazette, Jan. 8.

Jerusalem's Milling Industry.

This ancient city, which has figured so largely in scriptural history, is seldom considered in connection with secular affairs, yet it has considerable commerce, and readers may be surprised to learn that milling is among its prominent industries. From the 1891 report of the Austro-Hungary consul at Jerusalem, it appears that Palestine is quite a milling section, and that Jerusalem alone has five steam mills, which grind partly for pay and partly on their own account. In 1891 these mills made 28,000 to 30,000 sacks of flour, of 90 kilograms, or 193 lbs each. They have capacity to make twice as much if the conditions of the trade demanded it. The grain used comes from the territory about the Jordan and east thereof. Besides the five steam mills, there are in Jerusalem 11 small horse mills. In Jaffa there are two more steam mills, these being located in the villages of Medjel and Esdud. But little flour comes into Palestine from the outside, this little being of the finest grades of wheat flour and cornmeal.—Northwestern Miller.

Flax Seed.

The following is from Chicago and from a man who keeps pretty well posted on flax conditions: I feel bearish on flax stocks of oil are accumulating with light demand and stocks of seed are large. I believe the extreme Northwest and Manitoba have a lot of seed yet to market. Argentine has a 12,000,000 bushel crop. We can look for no export business as the La Platte seed is offered in London at 96 cents, which is 20 to 25 cents cheaper than our seed.

He is slightly wrong on our prices, however, as our seed can be offered in London even now at \$1.05 to \$1.10.—Duluth Commercial Record.

A Mammoth Paper.

A mammoth paper is the holiday number of the British and Colonial Printer and Stationer, of London, England. It has 100 pages, each page being fully double the size of The Commercial's pages. The illustrations are by the score, every page being illustrated, and these illustrations, together with the letter press, deal largely with leading British newspapers. The whole number, in fact, is on a scale of magnitude which is quite remarkable, making it the largest number of any journal received at this office for many a day.

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**Chicago Board of Trade Prices.**

The prices below are board of trade quotations for Chicago No. 2 wheat, No 2 oats and No 2 corn, per bushel. Pork is quoted per barrel and lard and short ribs per 100 pounds.

Wheat was weaker on Monday, influenced by a smaller decrease in the visible supply than was expected, easier cables and speculative selling. Prices were  $\frac{3}{8}$ c lower than Saturday. Closing prices were:

	Jan.	May.	July.
Wheat.....	56 $\frac{1}{2}$	59 $\frac{1}{2}$	59 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn.....	25 $\frac{3}{4}$	28 $\frac{3}{4}$	29 $\frac{3}{4}$
Oats.....	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Mess Pork..	9 35	9 65	—
Lard.....	5 47 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 75	—
Short Ribs..	4 50	4 80	—

On Tuesday the general tone of the wheat market was strong, under foreign buying, large exports, higher cables and war rumors. Closing prices were:

	Jan.	May.	July.
Wheat.....	57 $\frac{3}{4}$	60 $\frac{3}{4}$	61
Corn.....	26 $\frac{3}{4}$	28 $\frac{3}{4}$	29 $\frac{3}{4}$
Oats.....	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{3}{4}$	—
Mess Pork..	9 25	9 50	—
Lard.....	5 45	5 70	—
Short Ribs..	4 45	4 75	—

On Wednesday prices were irregular, opening strong on war talk, declined on lower cables, light exports and foreign selling and closed heavy on speculative selling. Closing prices were:

	Jan.	May.	July.
Wheat.....	57 $\frac{3}{4}$	60 $\frac{1}{2}$	60 $\frac{3}{4}$
Corn.....	26 $\frac{3}{4}$	29 $\frac{1}{4}$	30 $\frac{3}{4}$
Oats.....	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Pork.....	9 50	9 80	—
Lard.....	5 47 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 75	—
Short Ribs..	4 60	4 87 $\frac{1}{2}$	—

Wheat was irregular within a narrow range on Thursday. Closing prices were:

	Jan.	May.	July.
Wheat.....	57 $\frac{3}{4}$	60 $\frac{1}{2}$	60 $\frac{3}{4}$
Corn.....	26 $\frac{3}{4}$	29 $\frac{1}{4}$	30
Oats.....	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	20 $\frac{1}{4}$
Mess Pork..	9 62 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 92 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Lard.....	5 55	5 85	—
Short Ribs..	4 70	4 95	—

On Friday wheat was easier, influenced by the passing of the war scare and large receipts at spring wheat points. Closing prices were:

	Jan.	May.	July.
Wheat.....	57	59 $\frac{3}{4}$	60 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn.....	26 $\frac{3}{4}$	28 $\frac{3}{4}$	29 $\frac{3}{4}$
Oats.....	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{3}{4}$	20
Mess Pork..	9 50	9 82 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Lard.....	5 47 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 82 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Short Ribs..	4 60	4 87 $\frac{1}{2}$	—

Wheat was easier on Saturday, opening at 59 $\frac{3}{8}$ c for May, and declining. The close was at about the lowest point. Closing prices were:

	Jan.	May.	July.
Wheat.....	56 $\frac{3}{4}$	59 $\frac{3}{4}$	59 $\frac{3}{4}$ - $\frac{3}{8}$
Corn.....	26 $\frac{3}{4}$	28 $\frac{3}{4}$	—
Oats.....	17 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{3}{4}$	—
Mess Pork..	9 45	9 75	—
Lard.....	—	—	—
Short Ribs..	—	—	—
Flax Seed..	—	—	—

A week ago January wheat closed at 57 $\frac{3}{8}$ c. A year ago January wheat closed 54 $\frac{3}{8}$ c.

**Minneapolis Wheat.**

No. 1 Northern wheat closed on Saturday at 54 $\frac{1}{2}$  for January and May delivery at 55 $\frac{3}{8}$ c. A week ago May wheat closed at 56 $\frac{3}{8}$ c.

**New York Wheat.**

On Saturday, Jan. 11, May delivery closed at 67c. and July delivery at 66 $\frac{3}{8}$ c. A week ago wheat closed at 67 $\frac{3}{8}$ c for May.

**Duluth Wheat Market.**

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

Monday—Jan. 53 $\frac{3}{8}$ c., May, 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.
Tuesday—Jan. 54 $\frac{3}{8}$ c. May, 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.
Wednesday—Jan. 54 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. May, 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.
Thursday—Jan. 54 $\frac{3}{8}$ c., May, 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.
Friday—Jan. 53 $\frac{3}{8}$ c., May 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.
Saturday—Jan. 53 $\frac{3}{8}$ c., May, 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ c.

A week ago to-day, (Saturday) prices closed at 58c for May. A year ago May delivery closed at 62c. Two years ago May closed at 63 $\frac{3}{8}$ c. No. 1 hard was quoted at about 1c over No. 1 northern, No. 2 northern, 2 to 3c lower than No. 1 northern for cash wheat.

**"Soo" Canal Traffic.**

The total traffic of the St. Mary's canal for the year that has just closed is 15,062,580 tons of freight, which is an increase of 14 per cent. over the preceding year, and 16,806,781 tons register, which is an increase of 28 per cent. The canal in late preceding years has passed freight as follows:

1891.....	18,195,860
1893.....	10,796,572
1892.....	11,214,938
1891.....	8,400,685
1890.....	9,041,213
1889.....	7,516,022
1888.....	6,411,428
1887.....	5,494,619

In 1895 17,956 craft passed the canal, of which about 96 per cent. were of United States build and ownership. Over 12,490 of these were steamers, many of them the largest size and strongest build. The chief items of freight were as follows: Iron ore 8,062,209 tons, increase 28 per cent.; lumber 749,700,000 feet, increase 2 per cent.; flour 8,902,892 barrels, decrease 1 per cent.; wheat 46,218,250 bushels, increase 33 per cent.; coal 2,574,862, decrease 9 per cent.; pig iron 100,337 tons, increase 65 per cent. Nearly all other commodities handled have shown an increase in some proportion. These comparisons include the traffic of the Canadian "Soo" canal, which was opened for business in September for the first time.

**Prince Albert in 1895.**

The town of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan territory, has been going ahead during the past year, as shown by the following from the Advocate of that place:

"The citizens of Prince Albert have, during this year, shown their faith in the future of the town and district by investing largely in substantial building and improvements of a permanent nature. The largest single structure is the Whittemann brewery costing \$25,000, which will open up a new industry here and afford an addition to the market for home production. It is the intention of this firm to manufacture and ship malt from here to the United States and Europe as the quality produced here is unexcelled anywhere. The next building of importance is the new flour mill of the Hudson's Bay Company. While we might say that this structure is not an addition to the town, it being built to replace the one burned last March, yet it is a much superior mill in every particular to the one it replaces, being built of solid brick, and the latest improved machinery introduced making it the equal of any mill of the same capacity in the world. The mill cost about \$15,000, using existing foundations, boiler and engine, which were not damaged, thereby reducing the cost some six or eight thousand, the actual cost only figuring in our estimates. Some handsome residences have been erected, adding much to the appearance of town town. Some of the most expensive and comfortable being those of B. T. Goodfellow, H. W. Newlands,

D. C. McLellan, Andrew Agnow, Rev. Mr. Moore, Arch. Ballentyne, J. T. Brightmore, A. L. Robertson and others. In addition a new industry has sprung up here and is rapidly being developed—the fisheries of the northern lakes. Two companies are actively engaged in the business at present, the Saskatchewan Fish Co., employing at present about fifty fishermen and fifteen teams and men, and Winnett & Holbrook employing at present about half that number. Our shipping was also added to by the building by Capt. Smith of the steam yacht "Northern Belle," which was needed here as an excursion boat and for general work."

**Duluth's Grain Trade.**

The receipts and shipments of wheat, flax, barley, rye and oats during the calendar year of 1895, at Duluth, as recorded by the secretary of the board of trade are far in excess of any previous year. This is partly accounted for, of course, by the unusually large yields of this year's harvest. But is undoubtedly true that Duluth's unrivalled position as a shipping point has more than maintained her position in the face of competition that has been wholly without precedent. The receipts and shipments are as follows:

Wheat.....	49,599,978	38,356,025
Corn.....	7,001	4,515
Oats.....	1,219,218	1,148,517
Rye.....	454,184	818,722
Barley.....	2,407,707	2,356,519
Flax.....	4,363,517	2,245,182

Commercial Record.

**Russia's Wheat Exports.**

The Statist remarks that if Russia could export ten million quarters of wheat a year from the crops of 1889 and 1892, which averaged 81,600,000 quarters, she could have exported twice that amount in each of the last two years, the crops of which amounted respectively to 48,000,000 and 48,500,000 quarters. But the exports were only about 15,000,000 quarters, leaving a surplus of ten millions for the two years to be added to the current crop, which is said to be little above the average from 1889 to 1893. In spite of this surplus Russians are not selling freely at present low prices. The government makes loans to the farmers on easy terms to help them carry their grain, and it supplies them abundantly with information regarding the condition of the wheat markets of the world, so that the Russian producers and exporters are not in haste to part with the grain they have.

The estate of William Clendinning insolvent, Montreal, was sold on Jan. 10 by auction. The total price reached was \$199,450. The estate consisted of farm property and city lots. The Banque Du Peuple took over the whole.

Robert Barker, real estate agent, Vancouver has been arrested, charged with burning down a block on Granville street, Vancouver. Barker put a bailiff in the house of a tenant and the tenant in revenge swore that Barker had paid a bad character \$50 to burn the building for insurance.

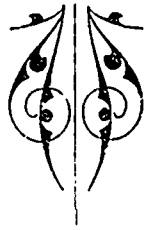
James Leggett, boot and shoe manufacturer, Montreal, has assigned; liabilities \$150,000. The suspension is attributed to heavy losses and the general unsatisfactory state of business. When the business is wound up it is likely there will be a large surplus over all liabilities.

It is announced that E. N. Hopkins, president of the Territorial Dairymen's Association is arranging for a convention of dairy men, to be held at Regina in March next. It is also proposed to have sub-conventions in the principal districts of the Territories.

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 WINNIPEG MAN

## Wheat in Argentine.

The Buenos Ayres Standard has been giving considerable attention to the matter of wheat raising in Argentine, as regards cost to the grower and the resultant probable extension of the industry. In a recent issue it publishes the following communications relating to this subject.

The value of land varies considerably. In some of the good colonies near Carlota it can be bought for \$300 m/n per 25 hectares (about 93 per acre). There are many new colonies being started in all parts of Santa Fe and Entre Rios, and really good, hard-working colonists are much sought after. In Cordoba, new land is being broken up by colonists, costing them \$333 m/n per square, say, 153 per acre.

Colonists are working in two ways;

1. By paying from 13 to 15 per cent of the crop as rent to the owner of the land, all expenses being paid by the colonist.

2. By buying the land, and paying for it in five yearly installments.

The estimated quantity of grain available for export this last season was 2,000,000 tons. Probably this amount would have been exceeded if the wet weather in February had not damaged a large quantity of wheat.

This loss was almost entirely owing to the colonists using the heading reaping machine. Where the binder was used, and the wheat properly stacked and thatched, no loss took place. All the practical men in the wheat districts condemn the use of the header in a country with a climate so uncertain as that of the Argentine Republic. The Italian colonist is, however, a very difficult man to convince. It is cheaper to use the header, and he says, "It may not rain this year." All the Italian colonist thinks of is to get his wheat sold in the shortest possible time, and finger the paper dollars. With this view, the "almacenero," from whom he has bought his stores, and the agricultural implement agent, from whom he has bought his machinery, both agree. There is another very serious evil caused by the use of the header. The fear of losing his wheat when stacked, owing to rain, makes the colonist thresh it as quickly as possible, and send it in bags to the nearest station. The railways become blocked, for there is no ability financially, nor the means mechanically, to deal with such an enormous crop as was rushed into the market this year. In January and February, 1894, thousands of stacks of wheat out by the header were lost, owing to heavy rain, the wheat sprouting, whereas, if the wheat had been cut with the binder and securely stacked and thatched, it would have been saved.

Another, and perhaps more serious evil is the inferior quality of the wheat when reaped by the header and stacked at once. Not allowed to ripen properly by standing in stacks exposed to the sun and air, the wheat is often of inferior quality called "palido" or pale wheat.

When smut is present, and it is not removed before the wheat is bagged, it causes the points of the wheat to become black, or "punta negra."

The wheat, being shipped to Europe in a damaged and inferior condition, will have the inevitable result of discrediting Argentine wheat in the European markets. This has been the case this year, several cargoes having been rejected.

The yield of wheat this year has been exceptionally good, being from 42 qutls. down to 15 qutls. per square. The average yield may be taken as about 25, say about 24 bushels to the acre. This is, however, an extraordinary yield for the Argentine Republic, and about half is the ordinary return.

This season, I learn, more land is being broken up than ever before, and, should the weather prove favorable, an immense quantity will be available for export.

I may say a word here about the uncertain climate of the Argentine Republic. Drought, frost, hail stones, and excessive rains may cause great loss. I have known a large tract of wheat just ready to reap completely destroyed in one hour by hail.

No doubt colonists can only grow wheat successfully within 80 miles of a railway, and all land within that distance of the present railways will soon be taken up. It does not appear probable that English capitalists will be willing to invest more money in railways in the Argentine Republic, so long as the return on the railways now running is so disappointing.

Can wheat be grown at a profit when the price in Europe is 20s per qr.? The information I obtained upon this important point was given me by practical men in the province of Santa Fe, Cordoba and Rosario. The most reliable figures I could obtain were these: A colonist renting 100 squares at 13 per cent. of the crop to the owners of the land and being assisted by his family in plowing, reaping, etc. the account would be as follows, estimating the crop at 25 qutls to the square:

	\$ m/n
100 squares, cost of plowing and planting .....	500
100 qutls of seed wheat .....	650
Reaping and stacking .....	1,500
Threshing 2,500 qutls at \$1.40 .....	3,500
4,000 bags, at 86c each .....	1,410
Cartage to railway station .....	500
Wheat tax, 2,500 qutls at 10c .....	250

Total .....	8,840
2,500 qutls wheat, sold at \$5 m/n delivered at railway station .....	12,500
Less 13 per cent for rent .....	1,625

Total .....

10,875

or a profit of \$2,525 m/n. The result would, however, be very different if the yield had been an average one of 15 qutls to the square. In that case, the colonist would only just cover his expenses.

Wheat shipped to Europe, if bought at \$5 m/n per 100 kilos, delivered at a railway station within 100 miles of shipping port, with present price of gold and rate of freight, can be sold in England at 2s per qr, without the merchant losing money.

The heavy cost of bags is a serious drawback, and sooner or later, we shall have to ship our wheat in bulk if we are to compete successfully, with other wheat-producing countries.

With respect to wheat growing by estancieros who grow it on parts of their estates, paying no rent, but paying labor and all expenses, I am able to give the result for 418 squares of wheat. The yield was 17 qutls per square, and 7,097 qutls were sold at \$5.8, delivered at railway station, amounting to \$11,162.60 m/n. The cost of men's wages, cartage, etc, was \$9,950.28 m/n, leaving a profit of \$92,212 m/n. But no rent is paid, and no allowance is made for management, seed, or depreciation of agricultural machinery. The wages paid averaged \$15 m/n per month (about 7d a day), with food.

In the year 1891, a colonist at El Trevo, on 115 squares of wheat, cleared \$20,000 m/n, or say, at the rate of gold at that time, £1,170, equal to about £2 9s per acre. This was net profit, after paying 13 per cent for rent and all expenses.

To crystallize the matter. 1. Wheat can be profitably grown in the Argentine Republic, in average seasons, to sell at 20s per qr in England. 2. Header machines should not be used. 3. Smut ought to be removed before the wheat is shipped.

Sept. 14, 1891. CHARLES DARBYSHIRE.

With respect to wheat growing in Santa Fe the Standard says: "With much pleasure we make room for the appended com-

munications of Robert Traill, on the cost of growing wheat. Too much light can not be thrown upon this vital question, and there is no greater authority in this country on the matter than Mr. Traill, who has colonized nearly 100,000 acres of land. The cost alone of his bags this season for his wheat crop exceeds \$12,000. This expense in bags shows the necessity of shipping wheat in bulk, and we suppose that before two years are out the wheat grower will be able to effect this economy in bags. The following is Mr. Traill's interesting letter:

"As there appears to be many mistakes on that most important question, the cost of growing wheat, I think it might be useful if I stated what the actual outlay is to an Italian colonist, with a family to help him and his machinery and stock bought and paid for. I take the case of one who rents land at 15 per cent. of the crop, within three leagues of a station, sowing 120 squares of wheat, and producing an average crop of 1,500 kilos per square. An Italian farmer only occupies as much land as his family can cultivate. He engages a couple of extra hands in harvest, for about twenty days. Thus the actual expenses, not counting food and clothing are as follows:

Wear and tear of machinery ....	\$300
Seed .....	600
Harvesting .....	400
Threshing 1,800 qutls at \$1.10 .....	1,980
Bags .....	900
Tax .....	180

Total outlay .....	\$4,860
Rent .....	1,550

Sale of 1,800 qutls of 100 kilos each at \$5 m/n .....	9,000
--	-------

Net profit .....

\$3,990

The question of header versus binder is not so important as many people think, but header stacks should be thatched with wheat or rye straw, on a frame of canes and wire, prepared before the harvest begins. The question of exporting wheat in bulk, and so saving the cost of bags to the producer, is one of greatest importance, and I shall be glad to hear from any gentleman who may be interested in the matter, as I am forming a syndicate to put up deposits at the principal stations to buy or receive in deposit the wheat of the producer, returning him his bags.

I propose to ask the assistance of the national government, offering it in return facilities for the remittance of gold to Europe.

Mr. Salazar, a practical farmer of the famous colony of Tranque-Lanquen, in Nueve de Julio, estimates that on a leased farm of, say, 625 acres in that region, located about 15 miles from a railway station, wheat can be raised for 1s 7d, or about 38c per bu. with a yield of 16 bushels per acre. Mr. Salazar says:

"Selling the wheat at 1s 10d (45c) per bu. there would be a profit of 3d, or, say 25c for the whole. Now, if we reckon in five years three good seasons, one bad and one middling, there would be no profit whatever left. This is the case with a well-managed 'chacra,' not to speak of carelessly-managed farms, which are in the majority. In other words, with wheat at 1s 10d (45c) per bu., or 15s (\$3.60) per qr, in this market, it does not pay to grow wheat on leased land at Nueve de Julio and Tranque-Lanquen. Yet the Santa Fe colonist owning his farm, implements and machines, can make a profit off wheat at 11s (\$2.61) per qr at the railway station."

United States Minister Buchanan recently took a trip of 2,600 miles through Argentina, with a view to informing Americans as to the agricultural resources and condition of the country. The conclusion he arrived at is that he has seen a larger amount of uniformly

excellent lands, that are capable of a high state of cultivation, than he ever supposed existed in Argentine. His views upon the holdings of vast tracts are that while the land remains in the hands of proprietors who will not subdivide, the country and its resources will not attain their development. The tracts must be cut up into small farms, as to cultivate the immense estancias requires an army of laborers, and at the present the population of the republic is not sufficient to meet all requirements. He thinks the establishment of agricultural colleges would prove of immense benefit, as methods now employed by farmers are not by any means the most modern.

Regarding the character of the country as to soil and aspect, Mr. Buchanan says:

"With the exception of Tucuman and Cordoba, it appears to me, in a great measure, like Nebraska. Of some 15 years ago, with this difference you do not find here, as there thick timber along the streams. The woods here are open, but in the north frontier of the republic, I am told, the timber grows very dense. There is practically no timber on the hills that I have seen, other than in the province Tucuman. In Santa Fe the soil is generally very good. It is loose and easily worked. In several places there are tracts covered with immense ant hills, so close that it would be tough work to cultivate these lands. In Tucuman, the soil in the valleys and on the mountain slopes is a rich black loam. It is well watered and its products are of a semi-tropical nature. Northern Cordoba, as seen from the cars, is practically worthless for agricultural purposes. The road runs through a series of salt marshes and barren hills, but in the valleys, near the water courses, the soil is very good. Southern Cordoba is an excellent-looking country, similar to southern Minnesota, but without its timber. Between Rio IV. and Buenos Ayres, a distance of 500 miles, the country is as level as southern Illinois, with a soil like that of northwestern Nebraska.

"There are very few small farms in the provinces I visited. The estancias (ranches) are too large by far to be properly cultivated. I visited one of these estancias that has 40 square leagues, or 360 square miles. I do not think there were 1,000 acres under any sort of cultivation. The balance was pasture, with a scarcity not only of water, but also of windmills and wells. In the province of Santa Fe, 85 miles from the capital, and even to a distance of 50 miles from the same point, land suitable for wheat and flax sells for about \$600, paper, for 14 squares or 58 acres. In southern Cordoba land is worth \$50, paper, a hectare or about 2 1/2 acres. In Buenos Ayres there are sales by auction of large tracts of land, situated in the different provinces, at prices ranging from \$25 to \$45 per hectare.

"Practically nothing but wheat, flaxseed and alfalfa is grown, with a little corn and a few small crops of a cereal type. Wheat can be produced at a lower cost here than in the United States, because the people who grow it can, and do, live on food that would seem to our farmers and field hands next to nothing. I think it can be safely asserted that, under existing circumstances and conditions, wheat can be grown for about 36c per bu., figuring the gold premium at 300 and the yield per acre at 13 bus. So far as there being any large increase in the wheat crop for 1895, it is guess-work to make any reliable estimate. Actual statistics are wanting. But, so far as I have learned, I do not think there will be a larger amount for export. There will be an appreciable increase in the quantity of flaxseed to be exported.

"I think this country has only begun to export. That is to say, that the ability of the country to constantly increase its varied products is, to my mind, clear, but, while it will yearly increase its output and become a

prominent competitor with other countries, I believe it will require very big changes in the methods of farming, as well as in the introduction of skilled and practical farmers, of which type there are but few in the republic."

Argentine now holds third rank among the wheat-exporting countries of the world, the figures of export for 1891 being as below.

America .....	170,000,000
Russia .....	108,000,000
Argentina .....	50,000,000
Boumania, Bulgaria, etc .....	28,000,000
India .....	20,000,000
Australasia .....	8,800,000
Other countries .....	10,000,000
Total .....	391,800,000

**Fur Trade News.**

The Leipzig correspondent of the New York Fur Trade Review, writing on December 10, says: "Weather conditions have been unfavorable for business this month, the temperature being rather high and rain frequent. Sales have been generally effected in Russian furs, tibets, black dyed, being a favorite article for several countries, but this business has come to a standstill, and it is learned from London and Russia that large parcels of skins will be brought forward; views for this article, however, remain good. Coats and crosses are offered in limited quantities. There has been some demand for Russian sable, several parcels of good skins being taken for France; the supply of middling sorts, which are in particular request, has not been large; superior grades sell lower. Persian lambs, black colored, have met with a favorable demand for Germany, Austria and France, the buyers wanting large curl and extra size skins; trade in raw Persians has been quite lively, but buyers complain that superior parcels are very scarce, best broadtails sell a little easier than one year ago, and lower grade skins are somewhat neglected. Considerable parcels of Astrakhan remain unsold, and the speculation for extremely high prices at the beginning of this year has proved the reverse of advantageous to the entire trade; flat moires have been sold to some extent; white moutons have again been purchased for England and France, and prices show no particular change, natural dark skins have a slower sale, but several parcels have been taken for Berlin and Denmark at moderate values. Ermine, mainly medium grades, has sold to several countries, squirrel has a firmer stand now than one year ago, back linings have a satisfactory sale and belly linings sell even better; both German and Russian work being exported; some transactions are noted in raw skins. Twisted squirrel tails have met a good demand this season, but boas sell only to a limited extent. Siberian white foxes are offered only in small quantities and sell a little easier than formerly; black colored skins have sold better, and a few parcels of fine bluetes have been in demand. White hares show some improvement as compared with former months, more than usual supplies being taken by France and Germany, in spite of present high prices some transactions have occurred in Russian marmot. Sales of American furs have not been satisfactory; the request for raccoon and skunk has been extremely small, and only moderate transactions have been noted in American opossum and this article should be purchased by American collectors only at very low prices. Dark otter, suitable for men's coat collars, has had the usual sale; there has been no transaction in foxes, and the price of blue foxes in particular should be materially lower. Mink has done better than the other American furs, large skins, suitable for scarfs, were preferred; there has been a fair demand for dressed and dyed musquash, and linings

have sold better than in former years; capes made from dyed skins have found a good sale and muff plates of all kinds have been used; business, however has not been large enough to absorb the supply of musquash which is still very large. Business in beaver has not been bad, German and Austrian furriers being the principal buyers; extra fine skins are scarce and very dear. Australian opossum since the last London sales, have met with a better demand, owing, we think, almost wholly to the present moderate prices. There has been a continuous demand for bastard chinchilla, supplies being taken by France and Austria; real chinchilla is offered in very small quantity and is extremely dear; skunk imitations have been in continuous request, better grades being preferred; blue dyed skins meet with the usual demand. In European furs very little business has been done.

P. Reilly and A. Coghlan, says the Edmonton Bulletin, came in from Fort Assiniboine where they have been trapping, Friday last. They report rabbits very numerous along the Athabasca, and game consequently very careless about bait. Cross foxes are unusually numerous. Several other parties are trapping along the Athabasca above and below Fort Assiniboine, and are doing their share to keep down the game.

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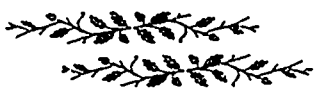
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### Fur Stores of Paris.

A visit to the leading fur stores in Paris has enabled me to give an account of the novelties produced in furs, outside of what is done by the dressmakers.

I first called on Revillon Freres, No. 77, 79 and 81 Rue de Rivoli, one of the oldest fur establishments in Paris, dating from 1723.

M. Theodore Revillon, one of the three brothers who carry on the business, making an exception to the rules of the house in favor of readers of the Herald showed me all the details of his immense organization.

Five large buildings in the Rue de Rivoli and the Rue de Perrault have been joined together and the business has been carried on here since 1855. Through this immense labyrinth of rooms M. Theodore, as he is familiarly called by the employees, conducted me, showing me everything from roof to cellar. I have described it as a labyrinth, and in fact, it is one, for at one moment M. Theodore coming back through a different set of rooms, was compelled to ask his way. In the cellar, powerful steam engines supply the entire block of storerooms with light and heat.

Besides the establishment in the Rue de Rivoli the firm has a model factory in the Rue de la Federation, close to the Champ de Mars. The firm employs 160 workmen and 293 workwomen, besides 310 clerks, 276 saleswomen and workwomen and 270 in-porters and out-porters, making in all 1,300 employees.

Each description of fur has a special department, and I passed through rooms in succession filled respectively with skunk, weasel, beaver, chinchilla, fox, marten, sable, etc.

The most expensive fur, M. Revillon tells me, is that of the otter from Kamchatka, which is scarcely to be got at any price. Some of the skins are worth 5,000 francs. Next comes the black fox, which varies in price from 3,000 to 3,500 francs. Sables of the finest quality they have are worth 1,000 francs. This fur, owing to the small size of the animal, makes up the dearest of all. This year the fur of the chinchilla mouse—a yet smaller animal—has gone up enormously. The fashion has spread so rapidly that for a moment it appeared as though enough skins could not be had to supply the demand. There are chinchilla skins which fetch over 150 francs.

After visiting the peltry department I went through those in which made up skins are kept, each description in its own rooms—muff and boa departments, jackets, cape, men's fur coats, etc.

Among the fur garments which I specially remarked I may mention the sable tippets, rather long, with tails hanging down all round, in the style worn by the English old ladies a few seasons ago. These capes, which are very fashionable now, are to be found in all the other houses.

Other novelties are a jacket of seal and astrakhan with a large collar and lappets, single or double breast; a long cape made in every kind of fur, of the kind formerly known as Talma. I was shown one of this kind in tanned calfskin, the yellow color of which is relieved with jet embroidery and a border of caracal forming wide festoons all round. Another, of black Mongolian goat, is embroidered all over with steel beads and spangles.

In the muff department I noticed one of Canadian badger, a black and white hairy fur which pleased me very much. I need say nothing of the regulation muffs of sable, seal, chinchilla, astrakhan, bear, etc.

M. Revillon, like all their brother furriers, buy their skins in Russia, at the fairs held at Irbitt and Nijni Novgorod, also at the fair at Leipsic and at the public fur sales in London, and at times in America, through their New York house. The firm has agencies at No. 731 Broadway, in Queen Victoria street London, and in Leipsic, for skins.

Here is a description of two model designs by M. Revillon, which have been either copied from garments worn by their customers or by reason of their commercial relations with the dressmakers who deal with them—for M. Revillon do not allow drawings of their creations to be made.

A large sable tippet, cut in the navy style, falls square behind scalloped over the shoulders and rounded off in front. This description of tippet is ornamented all round with sable heads and paws alternating. The collar is of sable on both sides, is rather high, and reversible if required. The tippet is lined with white satin.

Another description of tippet is shorter than the last named. It is also of sable and cut up into scallops all round and ornamented with sable tails and paws. It goes admirably with a velvet dress, and can be easily put on and taken off by the wearer. It is lined with white satin.

I also called on Mr. Grunwaldt, the great fur dealer at No. 6 Rue de la Paix. This house which is a very old established one in Russia, opened in Paris in 1889, and now employs 60 salesmen and women and 250 workers.

Mr. Grunwaldt is the founder of the Russian Seal-skin Company, which has a contract with the Russian government for the purchase of all the sealskins, Kamchatka beaver and blue fox skins which belong to the state. The company pays about half a million rubles for the monopoly. Mr. Grunwaldt has also houses in Siberia, where are purchased sable, black fox, ermine and other skins. Among Russians themselves sable are held in high esteem, and some possess garments that have been in their families more than a hundred years.

This year the most fashionable form is that known as the pelerine or collet.

Among the customers of the house who have bought some of the finest furs are Mmes. Gubbay, Mackay, Winans, Poliakov, Mavrocordato, Earloff, Dudley, Guzman Blanco, etc.

I noticed here a cape of Breischwanz, of moderate length, reaching to the waist and very undulating. Over it, coming half way down, is a stole or chinchilla, crossed over in front at the waist and falling over the skirt. This stole is so cut as to show the upper and lower part of the fur cape. A high demi-reversible collar of the chinchilla, rounded in front, completes this garment, which is to be called the Yvette.

Another model style, the "Delio," is intended to be worn over a skating costume or an elegant outdoor dress. It is made of sable backs, and is not very long and elaborately trimmed with sable tails placed at equal distances. A high sable collar entirely envelops the neck and part of the hair. This garment is lined with white satin. A muff that goes with it, made of sable backs, is flat and soft like shooting muffs, lined with ermine and ornamented with sable tails.

A cape called the "Gracieuse" is made of sealskin. It is shorter than those I have already described, especially over the shoulders. It is cut in scallops all around, the largest scallop being in the centre of the back, where the cape fits the figure. The collar, also of sealskin, is straight and very high. The inside is lined with sable, the fur of which shows above the sealskin. This garment, which is absolutely novel, is lined with seal colored skin.

I now come to a totally different style, the evening mantle, in which velvet and fur are blended. The large wrap I am describing is of sapphire velvet, sleeveless and lined throughout with ermine. A lady, when she wraps herself in it naturally turns back the mantle so as to show the ermine like a flap. The upper part has a yoke of sapphire velvet, at the edge of which is a wide band of chinchilla, forming an undulated flounce. Over the shoulders are bows of sapphire velvet ribbon.

Another model is an astrakhan jacket, very becoming in shape. The basques are rather long and scalloped. This jacket has equal lappets of white velvet embroidered with jet beads and passementerie. The collar, which is high, is of astrakhan on one side and white velvet, embroidered like the lappets, on the other. The sleeves are wide at the top and rather small at the wrists. They are trimmed with the same white velvet and jet already described.

I will describe another which, though much less expensive than those I have already named, is none the less original. It is a palatine of Virginia fox, a yellowish gray and

Continued on Page 384.

### British Empire Exhibition.

The projected international exhibition in Montreal this year is being pressed upon public attention with more persistency than ever. We are now advised that a Department of Publicity and promotion has been established in connection with the British Empire Exposition and International Display of all Nations, to be held in Montreal, from May to October, 1893, and that John A. Boyd, of Montreal, a newspaper man of experience, has been appointed chief of the department, and has offices at 457 St. Paul street. Considering the influence such a bureau exerted in favor of the great fairs at Chicago, San Francisco and Atlanta in recent years, much may be expected of a live man like Mr. Boyd in the way of furthering this Canadian international fair.

### Lumber Trade News.

The great Pacific coast deal is not yet quite closed. Correspondence from San Francisco says that the pine men have concluded that it would be a very good thing to get the redwood millmen all into the same combine and so they have postponed the beginning of the new business method until February 1st, when they hope to have their redwood brethren in the same fold. If they can do this they will have practically all the lumber interests of the coast, save alone those of the interior of the state and of Nevada, in one grand combine. It is however very hard to get all the redwood men to work together. Time and time again combinations more or less perfect have been formed and some one or two or more would stay out or some jealousy would arise and after a longer or shorter period of successful operation the whole thing would be again dissolved. The redwood millmen's combination failed to work because all were not in and some of those who were in became so dissatisfied that the leading man concluded it was just as well to suspend the price list and let all get the best prices they could. The redwood men are now considering the new proposition but what the results will be cannot as yet be predicted. Of course in the new deal each mill would be obliged to take stock in the central lumber company but of course the former holders would lose all control and it remains to be seen whether this would be pleasing to them. If the redwood business should not go through there is the rock on which it would split. There are perhaps some of the millmen to whom this would be acceptable, but there are others who are independently rich and well off and although not making any money in lumber or next to none for some time past would naturally hesitate at this point. However putting the time off till February 1st, gives all a chance to think over the matter. I have already noted that this combine would except all of the interior lumbermen. I might also add that it would not concern the redwood men of San Mateo or Santa Cruz counties who confine themselves to supplying the home demand altogether. It is stated that about three score of the largest retail dealers of Stockton, Portland, Oregon and other places on the coast have agreed to buy exclusively from the combine but this cannot be verified.

A carload of redwood for use in making lead pencils was shipped the other day from California to Nuremberg, Germany. The forests in Europe from which the supply of wood for lead pencils has hitherto been obtained, have become exhausted. California redwood and the different varieties of cedar are about the only woods in this country that are particularly desired by pencil makers.

The first steam mill in Michigan is said to have been the one built at Nortonville in 1839. It had the largest whistle in the state at that time, and although

the mill was three miles inland, the whistle served as a fog horn for Grand Haven and could be heard a distance of 17 miles out on the lake at times. While Minnesota did not have a steam saw mill until about 1859, if we remember rightly, the first saw mill built in the state was undoubtedly the one built at the falls of St. Anthony, now in the city of Minneapolis, in 1821 by the government soldiers stationed at Fort Snelling, and was used to saw lumber for the fort. It was a water mill and was only torn down some ten or fifteen years ago, to make room for the building of the large flour mills that now line the west river bank in the vicinity of the falls. —Mississippi Valley Lumberman.

### Worlds Available Wheat Stocks.

Wheat stocks east of the Rocky mountains, in the United States and Canada, on the 1st instant, were about 15,500,000 bushels smaller than one year ago, about 1,700,000 bushels smaller than on January 1 two years ago, and 9,200,000 bushels smaller than on January 1, 1893, although materially larger than on January 1 in the preceding years.

Stocks of wheat available on the Pacific coast amounted to 7,116,000 bushels on January 1 this year, or 6,000,000 bushels less than one year ago, about 3,500,000 bushels less than two years ago, and varying amounts less than on January 1 in the four preceding years, 1891 to 1893 inclusive.

Total stocks of available wheat in the United States and Canada, both coasts, Jan. 1 this year amounted to 101,895,000 bushels, about 22,000,000 bushels less than one year ago, a little more than 5,000,000 bushels less than two years ago, and about 10,500,000 bushels less than three years ago. As compared with corresponding totals on January 1 in preceding years, the total in sight on the 1st inst was much larger.

Stocks of wheat afloat for and in Europe on the 1st instant amounted to 65,088,000 bushels, a falling off of about 3,500,000 within a month, but a decrease of more than 7,000,000 as compared with the total so held one year ago, and a decrease of nearly 15,000,000 as compared with the quantity afloat for and in Europe on January 1, 1891, nearly 8,300,000 bushels as compared with the quantity so held on January 1, 1893, and almost 18,400,000 bushels as contrasted with the quantity afloat for and in Europe in January 1, 1892.

These data indicate a grand total of available wheat in the United States, Europe and afloat for Europe on January 1 amounting to 169,978,000 bushels, which is nearly 15,000,000 bushels less than the corresponding total one year ago, more than 20,000,000 bushels less than were so held two years ago, nearly 13,000,000 bushels less than three years ago, but nearly 14,000,000 bushels more than were so held on January 1, 1892, 58,000,000 bushels more than on January 1, 1891, and about 55,000,000 bushels more than on January 1, 1890.

Totals indicate a net increase in available wheat stocks in the United States and Canada, both coasts, during December, 1892, amounting to 8,921,000 bushels, as compared with a net decrease of 689,000 bushels in December, 1891, and an increase of over 2,037,000 bushels in December, 1893. Four years ago, in December, 1892, the increase in available wheat stocks, both coasts of the United States and Canada, was about what it was last month, 8,950,000 bushels.

The total net increase in available wheat stocks in the United States and Canada, both coasts, for six months ending December 31, 1892, was 44,677,000 bushels, as compared with a total net increase in the latter half of the calendar year 1891 amounting to 53,506,000 bushels, and an increase in the latter half of 1893 amounting to 31,145,000 bushels. In corresponding periods of six months in 1892

and 1891 the increase of available stocks of wheat was much larger than in the three years just mentioned. —Bradstroets.

### California Dried Fruit

The California Fruit Grower says of California dried fruits in its last issue: "This market is quiet, as a natural result of heavy consignments east from interior points. The time of year cuts a figure. Stock-taking time is close at hand, and the trade generally are sailing close to the wind for light stocks on hand December 31st. There is little or no f.o.b. business at this time, except to nearby points. Locally the peach market is dull and prices weak and lower. The demand for car lots for eastern account is such that shippers refuse to look at samples, except at a great bargain. Generally they refuse to make offers. Good to choice bleached peaches are being offered in the street at 8½ to 8¾, without takers. Pears are scarce and hold their own in price. The stock of apricots is light and in strong hands and prices are firm. Quotations in the absence of transactions are largely nominal, and represent what San Francisco jobbers would like to receive for fruits."

### Wheat Prices at Liverpool.

The Liverpool Corn Trade News, of Dec. 21, quoted the different varieties of wheat in that market as follows per 100 lbs: Oregon, 5s 5d to 5s 7d; California Choice White, 6s 5d to 5s 6½d; California White, 5s 2½d to 5s 4½d; Fleetwood, 5s 2½d to 5s 4d; Walla Walla, 5s 1½ to 5s 3d; American Winter now 5s 1d to 5s 3d; Hard Kansas '91, 5s 2½d to 5s 4d; No. 1 Hard Duluth, 5s 3d to 5s 5d; No. 1 Northern Duluth, 5s 1d to 5s 4d; No. 1 Hard Manitoba, 5s 3d to 5s 5d; No. 2 Hard Manitoba, 5s 1d to 5s 3d; Bombay Choice White, 5s 8d to 5s 5d; Delhi White, 4s 11d to 5s 1½d; Currahee White, 4s 9½d to 4s 11½d; River Plate, 4s 8d to 5s; River Plate, inferior, 4s 3d to 4s 8d; Ghirka, 4s 6d to 5d; Syrian, 4s 1d to 4s 6d.

Waghorn's Guide for January completes its eleventh year of existence, and though it long ago obtained well merited recognition as the official and standard guide to Manitoba and the Northwest, it still well and ably maintains its high reputation. It is safe to say that there is no publication outside of Winnipeg that compares at all with the Guide in the scope and comprehensiveness of its information at so moderate a price. The January issue contains as usual the best time cards of travel and business charts to date. The sailings of ocean steamers, rates of passage new postoffices and stages, military changes, full county court sittings for 1896, new city council are given, weather report showing temperature &c this month last year, dairy and almanac, sun and moon tables, new hockey fixtures &c, city and municipal maps.

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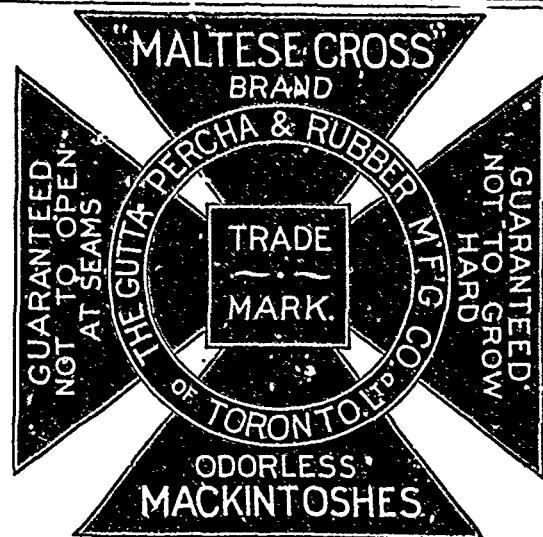
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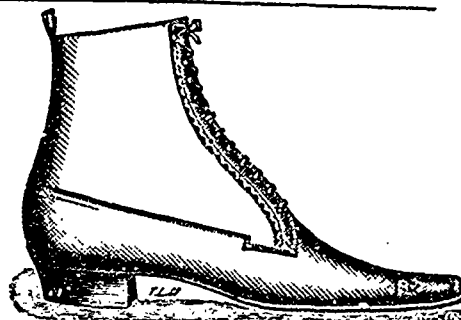
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**Fur Stores of Paris.**

Continued from Page 381.

rather long fur, with white points which give it a singular effect. This garment is tied in at the waist behind, with a waistband fastened in front with a jeweled buckle. It is lined throughout with Scotch tartan, and is as carefully made as those of much higher price. This is a feature which I have remarked in all the work at M. Grunwaldt's.

The firm of Valenciennes Freres, No 17 Rue Vivienne, is one of the oldest established fur houses in Paris. It dates from 1820 and employs about sixty hands. It obtains its raw material from London, also from Nijni Novgorod in Russia, and at the fair at Irbit in Siberia where the most important trade in sables is transacted.

The furs most in demand at this establishment are chinchilla, from Peru; sables from Russia; marten and weasel, from Canada, and black goat, from Mongolia. Sable and weasel tails are also in large demand for trimmings.

The garments most in fashion this winter are chinchilla capes, sable capes, with flouncings at the bottom and very high Medicis collars; sable tippets, with tails and paws hanging; Breitschwantz capes, with collars lined with Peruvian chinchilla and astrakhan and weasel capes.

Jackets of sealskin, astrakhan. Breitschwantz, with marten or sable lappets, are elegant and very useful in severe weather.

For the neck, what is most worn is a sable cravat made of two skins with two tails at each end; also the sable stole with plaits.

In novelties I noticed a sealskin cape very much undulated with sable lappets and lined with the same fur. A broad collar of sable on both sides and reversible. This garment is lined with sable and is worn over a costume, the waistcoat of which ends in a point in front. It is made entirely of sealskin.

Another sealskin jacket has rather short basques. It has plait behind and is fastened in front with a large strip of the same fur ornamented with three large bright buttons. The next is trimmed with a high Henri II collarette, forming plaits. The sleeves are very wide at the top and narrow in the forearm and are trimmed at the bottom with sealskin.

Besides these fancy garments, classic jackets in sealskin or astrakhan are much worn. Here is a description of one of them. It is of astrakhan and has short basques. It fits close behind and is half fitting in front, where it crosses over, showing only one lappet, a style I do not much like, as it makes the garment look all on one side. It buttons at the side, with three large astrakhan buttons, and has a high astrakhan collar lined with ermine, coming round the head. The sleeves are wide. The garment is lined throughout with ermine.

I may as well describe five novelties in muff, seen at the various houses I have visited. One is of sealskin, with a bow of velvet, kept in place by a jeweled buckle for trimming.

Another is of sable, trimmed with buillonnes of velvet to match the dress with which the muff is worn.

Another is of sable with the natural head fixed in the middle.

Another is of chinchilla daintily trimmed with natural violets. All these models are rather small.

A fifth and last is much larger than any of the above named. It is of sable ornamented with three tails of the same shade which look like stripes, rather darker than the rest of the fur.

At Grébert-Borgins', Rue de l'Abre Sec; Sons-Bresson's, Rue de l'Hotel de Ville, and Pfeiffer-Brunet's, Rue de l'Ancienne-Comedie, all of which are high class firms, I ob-

tained very much the same information. An appearance of quality is given to marten, sable and other skins by glazing the fur.

According to what I have been able to learn, the use of furs in ladies dress is more fashionable than ever. Chinchilla is now much mixed with astrakhan and the latter is used with marten. Ermine is mostly used for collars, trimmings and linings. A great many kinds of fur are mixed with guipure and lace, but this is not done by the furriers, but by the dressmakers.—New York Herald, December 15.

**Binder Twine for 1896**

The purchase of binder twine for 1896 is engaging early attention. Already orders are being placed and considerable twine has been received. The feeling is that far more favorable conditions surround the market than for many previous years, and while present sales are made at guaranteed prices, there is no prospect of a material change. The quoted prices are 6, 7 and 8 cents respectively for sisal, standard and pure manilla, the three qualities into which the many grades formerly used, and which were found so confusing, have finally merged.

It is merely stating a well understood fact to say that no speculative features will enter into the plans of the manufacturers. The evil results of that course have been too apparent. A conservative management is in control of the corporation whose combined output has long been regarded as the controlling factor in the market, and only those of its factories the operation of which is essential to supply a well defined need, will be run by the Standard Rope and Twine Company. The same is true of other manufacturers and there will be no making of a vast quantity of twine to be thrown on the market and carried over at great expense. This taken in connection with the disposition made during 1895 of the bankers' twine, gives a healthy tone to the market and thus the promise of stability in prices. The small remnant in the hands of the Western Twine Company is not taken into consideration, as that small quantity can be sold at almost any price without disturbing the prices current. No manufacturer or jobber of new twine can afford to tamper with the old stock, and it will probably be sold off in small quantities during the early part of the season.

The price of fibre has been higher this fall than for a considerable period, and this advance has been reflected in the price of twine. The Minnesota state prison bought fibre when it was at its lowest, and will again be an irritation in the market. The quantity made is not of itself important, because small; but the prices asked for this product, to the farmer direct, are made a criterion in the state by which a regular dealers' prices are judged, and as the state sells direct either at cost or below, whichever seems more expedient, the legitimate dealer finds his lot most unhappy at times.

The grades of twine retain practically the same relative positions in respect to output, sisal being the grade in greatest demand. In the northwest, however, pure manilla is the favorite, and exceeds in consumption both the other grades.—Minneapolis Farm Implements Journal.

**Railroad Construction Limitations.**

The statement of the Railway Age that during the present year railway building reached a lower point than in any of the last twenty years is susceptible of very simple explanation. The greatest era of railway construction is over, and in the future most railroad growth will be in the gradual extension of their iron tendrils in sections already occupied by their trunk or branch lines. In 1891 railroad balance sheets were showing an

alarmingly regular decrease, and the whole theory and practice of railroad management was temporarily condensed to one postulate of the times, reduction of expenses. With increasing earnings and crops already many of the companies are discussing future extensions in adjacent territory upon which their covetous fingers have been itching to close.—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

The Commercial has received a neat desk calendar from Stephen Nairn, manufacturer of cereal foods, Winnipeg.

The San Francisco Commercial News, of December 23, says that twelve charters for wheat to Australia and South Africa have been made so far, of which three vessels have cleared for Sydney with 16,183 barrels of flour and 129,457 bushels of wheat.

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