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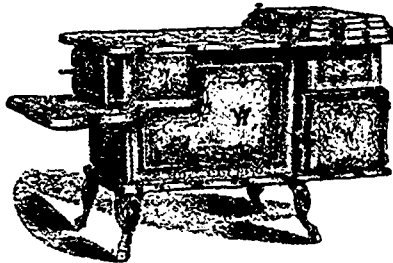
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The Commercial

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

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WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 27, 1883.

NO 22

The Commercial

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

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WINNIPEG, FEB. 27, 1883.

WOOD in West Lynne sells at \$8 per cord.

VILLIERS & PEARSON, dry goods, are retiring from business.

THOMAS HARRISON, general store, Souris City, has assigned in trust.

The Sheriff is in possession of the stock of Holmes & Co., grocers, Winnipeg.

J. B. RUTHERFORD, general store, Stonewall, has called a meeting of his creditors.

DRY cordwood sells at \$3.50 per cord at Prince Albert. Oats are very scarce.

The Morris River dam will likely be located about 600 feet up the stream from Red River.

J. DOWNS, general storekeeper, Virden, has been granted an extension of time by his creditors.

A NEW Post Office has been opened at Shepardsville, with Robert Sheppard as Postmaster.

The Queens Hotel at Rat Portage has been purchased by John Gore, who will run it in future.

A GENTLEMAN, just returned from the Lake of the Woods, reports there are beds of excellent slate in that district.

MCCASKILL & WAITE, of the McCaskill House, have been consulting with their creditors with a view to getting an extension of time.

WALKLEY & BURROWS, lumber dealers, Selkirk, are about forming a joint stock company to go very extensively into manufacturing lumber.

MESSRS. WILSON & MACKENZIE, of Birtle, have just completed their grist-mill at that point. Fortier & Burke, Brandon, supplied their large scales.

ENGINEERS have commenced to make the surveys connected with the short line which is to connect Emerson with the Pembina Mountain country.

ALEX. ROSS, who, about a month ago became successor to A. G. Mackay in the clothing and gents' furnishing business, had but a short career. He assigned last week.

The Department of Agriculture and Statistics have secured a car load of pure Red Fyfe wheat for seed purposes with which to supply the farmers of the country.

GOWANS, KENT & Co., wholesale crockery and glassware, are about to retire from business here, and will handle the trade in this country direct from their Toronto house.

ELFORD, MANNING & Co., manufacturers' agents and commission merchants, have established themselves at 43 King street. They represent large manufacturing establishments in Bowmanville, Cobourg and Oshawa.

A. G. MACKAY, late in the clothing and gents' furnishing business in this city, has compromised with his creditors at 35 cents on the dollar. Mr. Mackay came here from Stratford, where he was for many years extensively engaged in business.

JOHN WOODLEY & Co., of the British Brewery, formerly known as the Kildonan Brewery, have doubled the capacity of the establishment since it passed into their possession. The brewery has now a capacity of fifteen barrels per day, and this will be doubled next fall. Steam power will be put in shortly. All the product of the brewery has been placed in the hands of a wholesale house in the city.

OSILVIE & Co. have let the contract for six elevators to be erected at different points throughout the country. They will have a capacity varying from 30,000 to 100,000 bushels. The contractors are the Parry Sound Lumbering Company.

The dividends paid by the gold, silver and copper mining companies of the United States during 1882, as far as such matters are made public, amounted to \$14,167,179. There are a number of dividend paying mines in California whose payments are never published.

WORK on the C. P. R. branch to Selkirk West has been going on all winter in the swampy country along the route. Work can be prosecuted to a greater advantage in these districts in the winter than in the summer season. It is expected the road will be opened for traffic about August next.

BRICK manufacture will be commenced at Selkirk West early in the Spring. Excellent clay can be obtained. On the east side of the river, where brick making was carried on last summer, the presence of limestone in the clay prevented the manufacture of a good article.

ADVICES from the United States cattle ranges show that losses by cold, snow, exposure and lack of water have been severe in Nebraska, Colorado and Wyoming, where the weather has been milder and the topography of the country affords better protection. No loss has been reported from the ranges on the Canada side.

HON. MR. LA RIVIERE, Provincial Secretary, and Mr. T. A. Bernier, have gone east to complete the organization of the North-west French Canadian Colonization Society. The Society possesses 200,000 acres of land in the Qu'Appelle district, and efforts are to be made to settle the tract with French immigrants from the eastern provinces and from the old country.

BUSINESS difficulties in the North-west have brought to light some peculiar circumstances. One firm went into business in an outside town with a capital not exceeding \$250 and obtained goods on credit to the amount of \$11,000. They failed as a natural consequence and the mourning creditors to day are wondering why they happened to make such fools of themselves. Again we give the advice "Don't give too much credit."

Shingles of Glass.

A manufacturing firm in Pittsburg, says the *Brick, Tile and Metal Review*, has made a new departure in the use of glass, a patent having recently been granted for the manufacture of glass shingles. It is claimed for this material that it is more durable, stronger and more impervious to rain than slate or any other substance now used. The manufacture of these shingles will also be inexpensive, and they can be placed in position by any ordinary workman. They can be used for weather boarding or siding houses, and will be found especially serviceable for conservatories or hot houses, as they can be made of transparent as well as of opaque or translucent glass. These shingles have the advantage of slate in several particulars. In consequence of their shape they lie solid on the roof, and so can be used on comparatively flat roofs, and they will admit of persons walking on them without danger of fracture, a quality which slate does not possess. They are interlocked so as to have no interstices between them, and one rivet holds each pair of shingles so that they cannot be forced from their place by wind or other atmospheric disturbances. They are also made so as to have very little waste material. It takes 300 slates, each 8x12 inches, to cover what is technically known as a "square" of roof (a space measuring ten feet each way), but 150 of these shingles will suffice for the same space. Slats lap on the ends in the roofing, but the shingles lap on the sides. It has been proved by experiment that of two adjacent houses, one covered with slate and the other with translucent glass, the heat of a room near the roof in the former building will exceed that of one similarly situated in the latter, during summer, by 13 degrees, glass being a non-conductor of heat. Houses with glass roofs are also warmer in winter. Glass is likewise a non-conductor of electricity, and houses with these roofs will need no lightning conductors. Although the kind of glass intended to be used in these shingles is non-transparent, yet spaces for skylights may be filled with transparent glass. The exposed parts of the shingles are corrugated to increase the strength and carry off the water. The firm will construct the shingles in hand, some shapes, and they can be supplied in any color required, or of no color if preferred. A roof with colored border and opalescent body is said to be very handsome.

Skilled Labor.

Good mechanics are said to be growing scarce in America in spite of the large accession to the ranks of labor through immigration. The *Chicago Journal of Commerce* says it is asserted that the introduction of machinery and its tendency to have all kinds of manufacturing done on a large scale prevent apprentices from acquiring that thorough and complete knowledge of a trade that a skilled workman ought to have. Again it is said that the regulations of trades unions restricting the number of apprentices have reached such a point as to be a serious barrier to the free instruction of boys who desire to learn trades, and that even wealthy

men who wish their sons to learn trades, in preference to commercial business or the professions, cannot find the opportunity. On the other hand, it is claimed by employers and workmen that there is no system of apprenticeship worthy the name in this country, that parents refuse to have their boys indentured for a term of years, so that the employer or teacher, who has taken the time and pains to teach them the rudiments of the trade to his own inconvenience and loss, might receive a recompensation in their gradually increasing efficiency for the unremunerative labor during the first stages of their progress, and that as soon as apprentices have learned a smattering of their trade, they set up for themselves, or go to work for some one else. There is doubtless truth in all these assertions, and that, combined, they have a serious effect in reducing the quality and number of native skilled workmen, and the increased advantage of the foreign. That it is a serious evil there can be no dispute. In spite of the introduction of machinery, the necessity for thorough skill and knowledge in a trade is as essential for its progress and improvement as it was before, while in many branches of handiwork can never be discarded.

The remedies suggested are various. It is said that if apprentices cannot be taught in shops they must be in schools, and it is proposed that practical industrial education must be introduced into the common school system, so that the boy whose natural genius or inclination point that way, or whose parents desire it, shall be taught the rudiments of mechanics or of the art of design, so as to be ready to enter upon practical work, and sufficiently advanced to be profitable to his employer. This is a more radical remedy than many prefer, who doubt the practical utility of such instruction, or who do not desire to see the present system of education seriously changed. These favor special schools to be sustained by the trade for their own benefit, as in England, or by the public, where those who wish or are qualified to enter can be given special instruction in accordance with their desires. These have worked well where they have been tried. The trade schools in Philadelphia where courses of instruction are given in plumbing and sanitary engineering, in house, sign and decorative painting, and in the skill and practice of education are to be enlarged, and other branches are to be added as soon as practicable. The free industrial institute at Worcester has been training pupils in mechanical and other special education for a number of years, and now graduates classes of two hundred annually who have pursued a course of learning and actual labor for three years, until they are thoroughly equipped for their trades. Technical schools have been established in other States with more or less success, but as a whole the supply is far behind the demand, and it is evident that whether industrial education is supplied by a better and more liberal apprentice system in the shops, by incorporation into the public school system, or by special schools supported by the trades or by the people, it is a great need in our manufacturing interests, and cannot be neglected without the danger of serious injury to them. Under the present sharp compe-

tion between nations for the markets for manufactured products, the value of highly skilled labor cannot be over-estimated. Every reasonable inducement should be held out to mechanics to strive for the highest efficiency attainable.

Holding Produce for a Rise.

A practical farmer in Ontario writes to a paper in that Province giving his experience in marketing grain, which is well worthy of consideration. He says: The present prices are a lesson to those farmers who are always holding their produce for a rise, which nine times out of ten does not come. Wheat sold in July and August at \$1.04 to \$1.10; corn, November, 50c; December, 47c; hay, in August, \$12 to \$13 per ton, and the indications are that they will not reach the top figures before another crop. They not only lose the difference in price, but interest, shrinkage, rotage, damage from weevil and all the other ills that stored grain is heir to. They renew their notes and let their store bills run, thus not only losing themselves but discommoding others. My invariable rule is to sell my crops as soon as garnered, and my average prices for the past five years have been as follows: Wheat, \$1.04; corn, 43c; and hay, \$12; which is a very satisfactory price. The wheat weighed 108 bushels per 100 measured bushels, and the corn realized 50c dry and no cribbing.

A Trip to the Mines.

Staff Correspondence of the Commercial.

In order that our readers may be kept well posted in matters connected with the development of the mining industry in the Lake of the Woods district a representative of THE COMMERCIAL last week paid a visit to that section of the country.

On arriving at Rat Portage, within easy distance of which the mines are located, it was surprising to notice the life and stir that existed about the place. Quite a number of prospectors had recently arrived, and the hotel accommodation was pretty well taken up. Building operations promise to be carried on quite extensively as soon as the weather permits. The residents of Rat Portage are a live business people, full of hope in the future of their town.

The first mine visited was the Keewatin, situated on Hay Island. The Superintendent, Mr. J. T. Nagle, was on hand, and at once kindly undertook to show to the scribe stir that was being done. The shaft has been started on the most elevated part of the island. The island, it may be mentioned, is about four miles long, and from one to two miles wide. It contains 4,500 acres. The shaft, which runs in a slanting direction, is 9 feet x 7 feet, and at the time of writing, a depth of 32 feet had been reached. Progress was being made at the rate of about 2½ feet per week. A vein of quartz containing fine gold was being worked. The size of the vein is 9x11 inches, and was increasing in width. When a depth of about 80 feet has been reached a drift will be commenced for the shore. Six men are at present employed, but the number will be doubled shortly, when the work will be carried on night and day. The

ber is being got out for a mill, and also for the erection of houses for the men.

The George Heenan mine, about one mile distant on the same island, was next visited. Mr. Caldwell is the practical manager, and showed some rich specimens of native gold in small nuggets, which can be easily seen with the naked eye. The quartz is pure free milling, and not in the slightest degree refractory. Work is only being got fairly under way at this mine. The main shaft is located at an elevation of 60 feet from the lake, and 200 feet from the water's edge. The contract has been let for a two-story house, 30x25 feet, for the accommodation of the men.

The next day a trip was made to the Winnipeg Consolidated, about four miles distant, on the mainland. Mr. Fred Brown soon had the party in hand, and at once visited the shaft, which is said to be only for prospecting purposes. The shaft is 7 feet by 4 feet. A rich vein of decomposed quartz was examined and nuggets of native gold were easily discernible. A large quantity of paying rock had been dumped ready for the stamping mill which is being brought over from Boulder Island. A large number of bags well filled with richer ore were also stacked away awaiting the mill, which is expected to be in running order by the middle of March. Samples of decomposed quartz and also rock which were afterwards ground in a mortar on the spot, and washed, showed plainly numerous specks of gold. The depth of the shaft was about 50 feet, and had to be timbered. These measures are not taken perpendicular, but in a slanting direction.

The mines will be worked at light expense owing to the inexhaustible supply of water and wood, the want of which has proved a great drawback in other countries.

If any readers are dubious of the existence of gold in the islands and on the mainland in the Lake of the Woods district, we would advise them to go and see for themselves. A run by rail of a few hours lands the prospector at the scene of operations.

Railway Construction.

The railway construction of 1882 exceeded that of any previous year in the history of the United States. According to the *Railway Age*, the number of miles of new track laid during year was 10,821, on 316 lines, in 44 States and Territories. Full returns will probably make the grand total 11,000 miles, which is 1,500 miles more than was constructed in 1881, which, up to that time, led all other years in railway construction. Iowa heads the list in the number (953) of miles constructed, Texas coming next with 817 miles, New York with 752 miles, and Ohio with 555 miles. The capital invested during the year is estimated at \$270,000,000, exclusive of the amounts expended in the preparation of the road-beds, on which tracks are not yet laid. Add to this the large amount of railway construction that has been done in Manitoba and the North-west during the year, and the figures show a large increase, making a total undreamt of by the most ardent railway enthusiast in the past.

Don't Stop to Grumble.

The *Chicago Journal of Commerce* of a recent date has a few pertinent remarks, which are not applicable to this country. It says: "It is hardly understood why a few people in this country have so suddenly become rich. It is because the country is doubling in value every ten years, and a few men happen to be in possession of the main arteries of trade and manufacture; and as the land of every town doubles in value, so does the railroad and telegraph right of way double each ten years, and will continue to do so until the country is fully occupied. Every foot of land in the new West every railroad and telegraph and manufactory will be worth double in 1890 what it was in 1880. Only get hold of as much as possible of the material of this country and hold it. If the grumblers would do this instead of finding fault with owners of railways because their property doubles and doubles again in value! Opening mines and laying railroads is not always a sure road to wealth, but the mines which chance to be bonanzas and the roads which chance to be the great highways will give their holders fortune. Go in, don't stop to grumble!"

Mining News.

The Hudson Bay Company in Winnipeg regularly receive bags of gold from some part of the North-west. It is supposed that the gold is procured by the Indians, and the locality not is known to others outside of the H. B. Co. and the Indians.

Gold mining is to be prosecuted during the coming summer on the shores and islands of Lake Winnipeg. The locations are supposed to be a continuation of the Lake of the Woods deposits.

W. H. Nagle, J. S. Coolican, Thomas Coolican, Frank Coolican and John T. Nagle have formed themselves into a company to carry on gold mining in the Lake of the Woods. A claim has already been located and the survey made by Snow & Codd. The location was made by F. Coolican. John T. Nagle will have the practical management. W. H. Nagle is in Ottawa securing the necessary papers.

Last week Mr. George Heenan shipped from the George Heenan mine rich samples of gold quartz and rock by rail to Winnipeg. Some of the samples are expected to yield very heavy. The richest specimens are expected to be on view at the store of Thompson Bros. & Forrest, Main street, Winnipeg.

During the past ten days there has been more stir in the Lake of the Woods district than has hitherto been recorded. The Winnipeg Consolidated forcibly removed the old mill from Boulder Island, and are now erecting it on their property at Big Stone. This mill is a poor piece of machinery, and the best that Superintendent Brown can do with it is to patch it up so as to make the first brick and give milling tests as the work of development proceeds. The character of the ore now being taken from the shaft clearly indicates that furnaces will have to be used in the treatment. The sooner the idea that there is free milling ore in the Lake of the Woods is exploded the better. There is no such thing as absolutely free milling ore in this district. The milling of the ore, however, need not be expensive, for \$2 per ton at the outside should in this country pay for the free treatment. The ore which is being taken out by the Winnipeg Consolidated is rich and increasing in value with depth. Being now considerably below the water level they may proceed with the

construction of their workingshaft, in the meantime utilizing their prospecting shaft for the production of further testing.

The Keewatin Mining Company's work has been prosecuted both with vigor and intelligence, and in substantial, permanent work they are further advanced than any of the other companies. Their working shaft is down about forty feet, and arrangements have been made, or are being made, whereby the rock will be pierced with greater speed. The country rock is a very hard mass, through which progress must be slow compared with such talcose slate as is found at other points. Superintendent Nagle's work has been pronounced by visiting experts as perfection, and showing thorough knowledge of mining in all its branches. The company is reported as about to finish the new buildings and erect others close to the property.

The George Heenan Mining Company, who are operating the Frenchman's lead, adjacent to the Keewatin on Hay Island, have furnished the sensation of the week in the shipment of 900 pounds of rock as blown from the vein at the water level, the rock being pronounced among the best auriferous quartz ever taken from a Canadian mine. Samples from which every vestige of free gold has been removed have been handed to the Canadian Assaying Company, and others of the hungriest looking pieces have been forwarded to Prof. Chapman of Toronto. Five or six hundred pounds of the rock have been shipped to the Hamilton Reduction Works in New York, where they will be put through the regular mill process whereby the working assay will be ascertained. The company has ascertained what the lead contains throughout a distance of over five hundred feet, these tests being obtained at the water level, and then on the hill. At the water level the vein is 4½ feet wide. At the point where the shaft is located, about 30 feet above the water level, the vein is ten inches wide. On the south side of the main vein is another heavy vein, distant about thirty feet, and on the north side another vein. The formation here is slate separated into layers by small veins, and bound together by little stringers. While at the mine last week, the managing director, Mr. David K. Brown, located the shaft, the mill site and the new camp which is being erected with accommodation for sixty men. In three weeks three gangs will be put on, and the development of the mine prosecuted with vigor. No stock of this company has been placed on the market, and will not be for some time to come.

Messrs. Dobbie & Palmer, Ontario capitalists, are opening up a location on the Pine Portage. They have an undeniably valuable property, the vein being very wide. The ore is extremely refractory and will require expensive treatment, but capital will place the mine on a paying basis. Mr. Dobbie is in Chicago hurrying forward a ten stamp mill.

Work will be commenced on the Maiden vein next week.

A mining town is being laid out on Heenan's Point, near, or on which there is a prospect of a customs mill being erected. While visiting the mines last week, Mr. Brown, of the Bourse, sold a car of dynamite and secured two fine properties, one for Toronto capitalists and another for an American syndicate.

A new branch of industry has sprung up in Sweden lately—the fabrication of paper from moss, not from the living plant, but from the bleached and blanched remains of mosses that lived centuries ago, and of which enormous masses have accumulated in most parts of Sweden. A manufactory of paper from this material has begun operations near Joekaepping, and is turning out paper in all degrees of excellence, from tissue to sheets three-quarters of an inch in thickness.

The Commercial

WINNIPEG, FEB. 27, 1883.

BRANCH LINES WANTED.

Business men in many branches of trade report collections slow. This has been the result to some extent of the cold January, of which most of us have had some experience. Farmers were afraid to start out while the cold snap continued, and consequently a stagnation in monetary circles was the inevitable result. Now that a milder period has set in there is a general improvement. But still the fact remains that there is grain in the country, which can be counted by thousands of bushels, which cannot find a market this winter. Far removed from railway facilities, it takes nearly all the grain is worth to haul it to the nearest market—in many cases from sixty to one hundred miles.

Unless branch railways, running into these districts are built, these settlers cannot hope for an improvement in their circumstances. We know of a case where a farmer has two thousand bushels of wheat stored in his granary. If he undertook to haul it to market and sold it at present prices he would not have more than a hundred dollars left over expenses. He has incurred liabilities to some extent and cannot pay. The present state of affairs affords no encouragement for him to go to work and haul his grain to market in this inclement season for the sake of the paltry hundred dollars that would be placed to his bank account after the whole business had been transacted.

This naturally leads to the conclusion that branch lines leading into the settled districts of the North-west must be constructed in the immediate future. The Southwestern and the Portage Westbourne and North-western will bring a certain amount of relief, but they will not be sufficient to meet the demands of the country. There are still large and thickly populated sections of the country which require accommodation in this respect, and must have it, if the country is to maintain the position it has already attained.

There is plenty of capital laying idle in the coffers of capitalists, all over the world, which, if feasible schemes were offered, would be easily made available for purposes of railway construction. In

providing the country with abundant railway facilities depends, to a large extent the future of Manitoba and the North-west. We have land and climate in which to raise the finest quality of grain ever graded in an elevator. Willing hands and honest labor are ready to produce it, and all that is now required are the facilities to bring it to market. Therefore let there be no stumbling block placed in the way of the construction of railways branching in all directions from the main line.

THE OUTLOOK.

The prospects for Manitoba and the North-west for the coming season are good. True, we have been passing through somewhat of an ordeal of late. But this was only what might be expected. The "boom" that set in in 1881 and lasted well into 1882 had, in the natural course of things, to be followed by a reaction. The inflation that existed could not continue forever, and the sooner business generally returned to its normal condition the better. The weaker have had to go to the wall in some cases, but those that remain will be in a better position than before. The immigration this year will be on a scale hitherto unparalleled, and with the opening of spring will pour like a deluge into our country. They come to develop the rich resources of our fertile prairies stretching to the base of the Rockies, and with their every endeavor the soil will yield up its latent treasure. To the east the development of the mining industry will attract a large amount of capital, the expenditure of which will go to make a freer circulation of money. Then the large expenditure to be made in the construction of the C. P. R. and on numerous other lines to be built in every direction throughout the country will place an enormous amount of ready money in the hands of the people. A little caution in not repeating the mistakes of the past, and there cannot be a doubt but that an era of prosperity will be entered upon much more substantial and satisfactory to every one than that which characterized the period of inflation, from the evils of which we are now emerging.

THE BANKING ACT.

Sir Leonard Tilley has introduced into the House of Commons a series of banking resolutions providing for the more regular and earlier transmission of certi-

fied lists of shareholders to the Government, and imposing a penalty for the violation of such provision; and by imposing penalties on banks allowing the amount of their notes in circulation to be in excess of that limited by law, or holding a less amount of their cash resources in Dominion notes than is required by law, or neglecting to make up these amounts by return, either in the time prescribed by law or contravening any provision of Sec. 43, or of Secs. 46 or 51 of the Banking Act; and amending the form of monthly returns and provisions respecting parties unlawfully styling themselves banks or assuming any designation implying that they are acting as chartered banks or as an agent of any bank. These changes are not of a revolutionary character and do not materially affect the general principles of the Act as it has been. The object in view is chiefly to make existing enactments more effective. The necessity for such legislation was made evident by the irregularities brought to the surface a few months ago, it having come to light that one or two prominent institutions had openly violated the law in loaning money upon the security of their own stocks. One bank evaded the law forbidding such loans, by advancing the funds through the medium of a loan company, while another made advances to directors, who in turn loaned out the money on bank shares. It is also known that some small banks have been in the habit of increasing their circulation, in busy seasons of the year, to an amount beyond the limit allowed by law. It is to put an effectual stop to this class of business that the amendments to the law have been introduced. They are in the right direction, and cannot but have a healthful effect in keeping our monetary institutions within legitimate bounds.

CORNERS IN PRODUCE.

The *Rural New Yorker* has a very sensible article under the above caption. The subject of "corners" in produce has become one of intense interest to all classes of the community, and so often fraught with undesirable and evil results that a special committee of the New York Legislature has been giving it their fullest consideration. The same important topic has engaged the attention of Legislatures in other States also. In all cases the monstrous evils of such transactions have been clearly demonstrated. Every wit-

ness examined has acknowledged their magnitude. Even the manipulators of frequent "corners" have confessed that the public must be the losers by such dealings. By them the price of the necessities of life are unduly raised, entailing stint and privations on multitudes of the poor for the benefit of a handful of the rich. When railroad stocks and other financial securities are "cornered," the people at large do not suffer; the losses and winnings are confined to a few; whether "bull" or "bear" is triumphant, the price of the poor man's loaf is the same. When the food of the world is "cornered," however, the people suffer, whether "bull" or "bear" is victorious. From the meagre loaf of the multitudinous poor man a slice is taken to add to the superfluous stores of the rich man. From such transactions the consumers always lose, but the producers seldom gain; for what one of them gains to-day he or another will lose to-morrow. By a fair amount of study and observation any intelligent farmer can obtain such a knowledge of the relation of demand and supply in any product as to be able to decide, with a fair chance of being right, whether to sell it at current prices or hold it for better. "Corners," however, raise or depress prices irrespective of the relation of demand and supply, and consequently often render the study and observation of intelligent farmers useless or worse in marketing their products.

In all such transactions trade and traffic are impeded and demoralized by a few unscrupulous capitalists in order that they may add unjust gains to their superabundant wealth. Scandalous as are the acknowledged evils of "corners" in produce, however, no legal remedy has yet been hit upon. The "sanctity of contracts" is the great bugbear to legislation repressive of this mode of gambling by millionaires; but the "sanctity of contracts" offers no impediment to legislation hostile to ordinary forms of gambling by "sports," though the latter is ten times less hurtful to the public than the former. It was thought that the Board of Trade of the great produce markets might be able to suppress or check the evil, but little is now to be hoped for from this agency. Some time ago the Chicago Board of Trade established a rule by which, in case of settlements, where a corner was alleged to have existed, the losers might demand the appointment of an arbitration com-

mittee to fix the terms for settlement. However, this rule was repealed by a large majority of the Board on the ground that the abuses to which it gave rise were as scandalous as those it was intended to restrain. For every evil there must be a remedy, and it is the imperative duty of legislators to discover one for corners in produce.

SCATTERING ACCOUNTS.

The financial difficulties that have overtaken many business men throughout the country are largely their own fault. Many of them came here with limited capital, and some with scarcely any. They opened an account with some wholesale firm in the city, and they, always willing to assist every honest endeavor, sold them goods to a large extent on credit. Had these men stuck to their first friends they would not have found themselves in the position in which they are placed to-day. Instead of continuing to deal with those who gave them the start in business, they have, in scores of instances, opened accounts with perhaps a dozen different firms. Every traveler who came along succeeded in getting an order. All kinds of inducements were offered. Dating goods ahead, promising renewals, etc., were the baits thrown out, and the unwary were as a rule caught.

The consequence is that now their notes are coming due and the merchants find themselves at the mercy of a dozen creditors. No one can take any special interest in carrying them through. Had they placed their accounts in the hands of good solid firms handling the goods they required, and dealt exclusively with them, it would have been in the interest of these firms to carry them through. Wholesale firms are not banking institutions. Far from it. But still we believe that the wholesale men of Winnipeg are able and willing to carry any man through the present crisis who shows honest intentions and whose prospects for the future are reasonably good.

The trouble so far has, as a rule, arisen through some foreign creditor taking action on some small account. They got him into their clutches and refused to let go. This explains to a large extent the cause of the numerous failures that have occurred.

Our advice to retail men is, deal with the best firms; don't open accounts with every Tom, Dick and Harry that comes

along with a sample case. Stand by the firm that supplies you, and in the day of adversity, if the business has been conducted honestly, they will be found ready to lend a helping hand.

LOTTERIES.

The success of the London lottery, which proved an easy way of making money to its promoters, has set all Canada ablaze with a mania to make money in the same manner. Several schemes have already been set afoot in Ontario, and Manitoba seems determined not to be behind, even if it is in this undesirable way of extracting money from the masses. Portage la Prairie has a gigantic scheme on hand, and amongst those who are lending the influence of their names and position in order to make it a success we are somewhat surprised to find the names of some of the most reputable citizens of that ambitious town. Lottery is nothing more nor less than gambling, with, as we pointed out in a previous article, the chances to the ticket holder much less than if the speculator ventured his money in a faro bank or on a horse race. These forms of gambling are all contrary to the law of the country. In Ontario, the authorities are taking active measures to put a check to the evil at once. Games of chance have an extraordinarily fascinating effect upon the general run of humanity, and once allowed an opportunity the victim soon becomes entangled in its toils. Men who consider themselves far too high up in the moral scale to play a game of cards, if only for pastime, are found taking an active part of lotteries, which in no matter how honestly they may be conducted, the odds are largely in favor of those who get it up. It is the introduction into our social system of a practice which, if allowed to go on, cannot but have a pernicious effect upon the youth of our country. There are plenty of snares and traps in this country already to entice the young and the unwary from the paths of rectitude. Whether cloaked under the guise of charity or for the benefit of the church or State, the evil remains all the same. Let this system of gambling be put a stop to at once, or if it is to be allowed to continue, then do not give one class of the community privileges which are denied to another, but allow faro bankers, thimble-riggers and wheel-of-fortune men to carry on their traffic without molestation. The principles involved are equally the same. But let it all be stamped out by the strong arm of the law.

DANGER OF FLOOD.

This year, so far, has an extraordinary record for disasters by flood. Large American cities, such as Cincinnati and Pittsburg, have suffered in a manner hitherto unparalleled in their history. The loss of life has been large, and the destruction of property unprecedented. Their experience comes home to ourselves. We have not yet had time to look upon the floods that inundated this city last spring as a thing of the past. Although unaccompanied by loss of life or serious disaster, their serious aspect will for many a year to come be a vivid recollection.

The danger of flood from Colony Creek which inundated the north side of the city will not occur again. That was owing to the turning of the water from its natural channel by the railway track. Sufficient culverts had not been provided, and the dam created by the grading sent the water down over the city.

But the danger from an overflow of Red River still remains. But even this is not so great as in the past. The record of the past shows that every year high water serves to diminish the prospect of harm from that point. Fifty years ago a tree could be felled and thrown over Red River so as to provide a sufficient pathway on which to cross. The channel has since then widened with every succeeding freshet, until it has reached the dimensions it now assumes. Where only the red man's canoe could find room to navigate, magnificent craft of five hundred tons burthen ride with ease, and carry to market the produce of our country. Last year the channel was greatly widened by the flood, and the possibility of a repetition was consequently diminished. If the river could be straightened so that the stiff bend around Point Douglass would be abated there would not at any time be the danger that exists. The strong current drives the ice up against the bank, and this by accumulating, the jams are so formed. With a straight channel this would be obviated. We commend this matter to the attention of our city fathers.

But the chances of escape from the flood in Winnipeg this spring are said to be good. The ice in the river is very rotten and will break up easily, so that no danger is expected. Still it is well to be prepared for the worst.

STONEWALL is to have a bank very soon. Two or three local capitalists are the promoters.

Winnipeg Wholesale Markets.

During the past week business in wholesale circles has been quiet. It was only what was to be expected at this time of the year. The season for the sale of winter goods has passed, and the spring trade, except in a few branches, has not yet set in. Wholesale houses are busily engaged in making preparations for the coming season. Large instalments of goods are being received and the hands are busily engaged in putting them in order. A certain number of sorting up orders are continually coming in, but these are only small in amount. No general revival of trade is expected for a month to come, and then it is expected that the demand for goods will be active. Collections are still sluggish, but show some improvement over the past few weeks. The milder weather of the past few weeks has facilitated the marketing of grain in the country, and considerable money has thus been put into circulation. Those who ask for renewals shew that if they are allowed a month or two longer they will be in a position to pay without difficulty. There is plenty of grain in the country, which if turned into money will give general relief. The prospects for spring trade are excellent, and men in business feel correspondingly encouraged.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

There is very little being done in the way of selling at present. The manufacturer's houses are busily engaged stocking their country agencies. Large quantities of goods have arrived during the week, and there is a heavy stock in transit. There is little chance of the supply being unequal to the demand this summer. Collections are still slow, and show but little improvement. This is owing to the cold weather and the consequent difficulty experienced in marketing the products of the last harvest.

ROOTS AND SHOES.

Spring orders in this branch of trade to a large extent have been taken, and the houses are busy filling them. Shipments from the eastern Provinces are being received daily. Beyond the filling of orders there is but little doing. Some of the houses report collections very fair, while others complain that they are not up to the mark. Still there is not much reason for complaint on this score, and a few weeks more will, it is expected, bring things back to a satisfactory condition.

CLOTHING.

Quiet, is the unanimous report from the clothing houses. Business in their line has not yet fairly opened, and beyond the filling of some spring orders business is literally at a standstill. A good trade is confidently expected to open up with the advent of spring. Collections are only middling, and cannot be said to have improved any since last week.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

There is no particular change to note in this line of business. The wholesale men are laying on their oars and are not pressing business at all. Beyond the ordinary run of city trade there is nothing doing. Collections show but little improvement, but the accounts are mostly

in good hands. With the opening of spring a general revival of trade is expected.

DRY GOODS.

The dullness which has been the leading characteristic of the dry goods trade for the past few weeks still continues to be its chief feature. Travelers in the country have sent in very little beyond small sorting up orders. It is not expected that there will be any change in circumstances to report for fully a month yet. Dealers in the city and country as well have in many cases overstocked themselves, and do not feel at liberty to make further additions to their stocks until their shelves have been more thoroughly cleared. The wholesale houses, recognizing the existing condition of things, are not pressing business eagerly, but are content to hold off till nearer the end of the season. Collections are very slow, in fact only a small percentage of notes is paid as they come due. Still many of them are being reduced in amount by small degrees, customers showing a disposition to do the best they can under the circumstances. The stocks of goods on hand are heavy, and all the leading houses are well prepared for the spring trade.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

During the past week a better business has been done than for some time past. Considerable orders are being received from the country, and the city trade keeps well up to the average. Collections are very fair, there being but little ground for complaint in this respect.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

Dealers in this line report a very satisfactory trade. Orders coming in, though not large, show no falling off in numbers. The demand from the country has been fair, and collections are by no means bad. Travelers report a good prospect for spring trade.

FISH, POULTRY AND GAME.

During the lenten season the demand for fish is greater than at any other period of the year. The supply has, however, been sufficient of late and prices are reasonable. Considerable quantities of white fish and sturgeon are on hand, and the coarser qualities have been well supplied. Finnan haddies by the case sell at 12½ cents per pound. Very little poultry is offering, and game, being out of season, is not expected. There is a good supply of cod on hand at \$13 per barrel.

FRUIT.

There is no change in prices from last week's quotations. A very fair trade is being done in all lines. Apples hold firm at \$6.00 to \$7.50 per barrel; Valencia oranges, \$12 to \$13. California grapes, \$10 to \$11 per barrel; figs in mats, 10c; large boxes, \$14c; small boxes, 20c. Raisins, loose Muscatels, \$3.50; black crown, \$5.25; triple crown, \$8.50; four crown, \$8.75. Extensive additions to stock are expected in a week or two.

FURS AND SKINS.

No change to report in prices from that given last week. Very little doing. A few green hides are coming in. The price quoted is \$5. No salted offering.

GROCERIES.

Business, although still quiet, shows an im-

provement over last week. The amount of transactions foots up well, and the prospects for the future look brighter every day. The opening of spring will cause an active demand for staples in the grocery line. Collections show a slight improvement, but there is still considerable to be desired in this respect. Canned meats hold at old prices, and are likely to remain where they are. Sugars are quoted: Raw, 9 to 9½c; yellow, 10 to 10½c; granulated, 11½c; Paris lumps, 12½c. Coffees, Rio, 16 to 22c; Java, 22 to 31c. Dried apples are still scarce and held at 12½c.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

Business has not shown any more activity during the week, but this is only as was expected. Building operations are virtually at a standstill, and this has a direct effect on the trade. With the revival of building operations in the spring there will be a consequent briskness in business. Collections are about as they were, no worse and no better. There is no change in prices to note. For metals they are: Tin plate, 14x20, \$7.75 to \$8.00; 20x28, \$15 to \$15.25; bar iron, \$3.75 to \$4.00; sheet iron, 5½ to 7c; iron piping, 26 per cent off price list; ingot tin, 32 to 35c; pig lead, 8½ to 7c; galvanized iron, No. 28, 8½ to 9c, according to brand.

LUMBER.

Scarcely anything doing at present beyond the ordinary run of custom trade. Dealers are all busily engaged in the woods getting out logs for next season's manufacture. The output promises to be larger than that of any previous year. Prices are: Sheeting, \$28; common, dimensions, \$30 to \$33; fencing, \$28 to \$34; stock, \$33 to \$40; flooring, \$35 to \$45; graded clear, \$50 to \$70; shingles, \$4.50 to \$6; laths, \$5.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

Orders have been light for the past week, but not more so than was expected at this time of the year. Collections are reported good, and the prospects for spring trade excellent.

WINE AND SPIRITS.

Trade quiet. Good men are buying very carefully, and the dealers are very cautious as to whom they sell outside of that class. Collections have not been very satisfactory of late.

FUEL.

The receipts of coal of late have been heavy, and with the supply now on hand there is no danger of a dearth in that useful article. Prices are unchanged. Wood is a little cheaper. Quotations are: Egg stone and nut by the car load on track, \$14; soft coal, according to quality \$10 to \$12. Poplar wood rates from \$5 to \$6 per cord, and ash, oak and tamarac from \$7 to \$8.

THE MARKET.

WINNIPEG

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

There has been but little movement in grain during the past week. The cold weather and the blizzard season that followed has been the means of preventing many of the farmers' bins being emptied. The temporary excitement which agitated the market in Chicago and other points East, has not had any influence here.

That was caused by reports of damage done to the crops in Britain by flood and frost.

WHEAT.

The receipts by rail this week have been light, and the street offerings amounted to very little. Considerable quantities are being stored at outside points which will be brought in when urgency demands. The mills have a supply on hand sufficient to keep them running steadily for some time. Prices are unchanged from last week. The ruling figures have been from 76 to 78c. A choice sample of No. 1 hard would command 80c.

OATS.

Receipts have been on the light side, both by rail and off the street. From 38 to 41c has been paid, according to sample, the majority selling at about 40c. For extra lots a cent or two higher was obtainable. Prices are likely to hold firm at these quotations, as the spring immigration and the recommencing of construction on the C. P. R. will be sure to create a demand.

BARLEY.

There is scarcely any barley offering in the market. Quotations are nominal at from 40 to 47c per bushel.

FLOUR.

Mills have been running full time, and there is a steady run of shipment east. The local demand, although not heavy, has been steady, and corresponds with the record of the past few weeks. Prices have not changed. Quotations are: Patents, \$3.10 to \$3.20; xxx or strong baker's, \$2.50 to \$2.60; baker's, \$2.00 to \$2.10; trader's or xx, \$1.50.

BRAN.

The supply is fully equal to the demand, and prices remain without any change from those of last week. Quotations, \$12 per ton on track, and \$13 delivered.

SHORTS

Remain at the old figure of \$1.50 per ton on track, and \$14 delivered.

CHOPPED FEED

There is a steady demand for feed at \$30 per ton. There is little being done in shipment, and the demand is almost altogether for local supply.

POTATOES.

The supply from the street during the week has been good, and prices dropped accordingly. Dealers still hold their stocks at from \$1 to \$1.10, but prices on the street have not exceeded the former figure, and some lots sold as low as 75c per bushel. A large quantity is still held in the farmer's pits. If the mild weather continues and the roads do not become blocked the supply from this source will be large between now and spring, and a corresponding decline in prices may be anticipated.

BUTTER.

There is no change in prices to note, and the supply is fair. Quotations are: Choice dairy, 25 to 27c; Ontario creamery, 30 to 31c; low grades, 19 to 22c.

EGGS

Continue very scarce, and unless new stocks are received shortly they will be out of the market. Prices have advanced until now they cannot be had at less than 50c per dozen. There is said to be scarcely any stock available in Ontario, all offering being wanted to supply the local demand.

BACON.

Firm and prices unchanged indicates the state of the market. Dry salt is quoted at 16 to 16½c; rolls, 16½ to 18c; breakfast bacon, 17½ to 18c.

MESS PORK.

The excitement in Eastern markets last week has not exerted any influence on prices here, quotations remaining at \$25.50 to \$26.

CORNER BEEF.

Prices have for some time been fixed at \$18

and seem likely to remain so. There is but little changing hands, but a more active movement is expected towards spring.

CHEESE.

Is in fair demand and firm at 10c.

CRANBERRIES.

Are entirely out of the market, and there seems but a poor prospect of an immediate supply. If they could be had they would sell at \$25 per barrel.

HONEY.

Considerable is held by dealers, but sales are slow at 35c for comb and 20 to 25c for strained.

ONIONS.

Fair stocks on hand at 3 to 3½c per pound.

MINNEAPOLIS.

The week opened with prices strong and with an advancing tendency over those of the week previous. A slight increase was perceptible about the middle of the week, but not sufficient to cause any drop in prices. Receipts were fair throughout the week. On Tuesday the markets were firm. The following quotations represent the day's business:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.13 to \$1.15; No. 1, \$1.05 to \$1.11; No. 2 hard, \$1.05 to 1.11; No. 2, \$1.07.

CORN, No. 2 49c to 50c; samples nominal at from 45 to 48c.

OATS, No. 2 white, 39 to 40c; No. 2 mixed, 38 to 39c; Rejected, 36 to 38c.

FLOUR, patents, \$6.50 to \$7.00; straights, \$5.50 to \$6.50; clears, \$5.25 to \$5.55.

On Wednesday there was a slightly weaker feeling in wheat, but prices remained the same for No. 1 hard. Lower grades fell slightly. Corn was also easier. Quotations representing the day's business were:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.13 to \$1.15; No 1, \$1.05 to \$1.10; No. 2 hard \$1.05 to 1.10.

CORN, No. 2 49 to 49½c.

OATS, No. 2 white, 40 to 41c; No. 2, 39 to 40c; rejected, 35 to 39c.

FLOUR, patents, \$6.50 to \$7.00; straight, \$5.50 to \$6.50; clears, \$5.25 to \$5.55.

CHICAGO.

The markets for the week have fluctuated considerably, but still the general tendency has been to advance. Once or twice there was a drop during the day, but prices generally pulled up again before the close of the day. Unfavorable reports as to the state of crops in Britain and in the Continent was the principal cause of the firmness which prevailed. Tuesday the markets were very active and stronger than the preceding day. Quotations towards the close were:

Wheat, February,	\$1.09½	March,	\$1.10½
Corn,	57½	"	57½
Oats,	39½	"	38½
Pork,	18.25	"	18.30
Lard,	11.50	"	11.55

On Wednesday the markets were less active. A large amount of trading was done, but a feeling of weakness prevailed. Wheat declined about two cents in sympathy with a fall in the British market. Corn and oats also suffered a decline. Provisions were active, with a tendency downward. Nearer the close quotations were:

Wheat, February,	\$1.07½	March,	\$1.08½
Corn,	56	"	56½
Oats,	39½	"	39½
Pork,	18.10	"	18.12½
Lard,	11.45	"	11.47½

CHICAGO.

On Thursday there was scarcely any business transacted. Prices were firm and advancing.

Quotations were:

Wheat, February,	\$1.08	March, \$1.08½
Corn,	56	56½
Oats,	39½	39½
Pork,	18.20	18.12½
Lard,	11.45	11.47½

On Friday all kinds of produce held firm, and the market was steadier than for several days past. Quotations towards the close were:

Wheat, February,	\$1.08½	March, \$1.08½
Corn,	56½	56½
Oats,	39½	39½
Pork,	18.20	18.22½
Lard,	11.60	11.62½

MINNEAPOLIS.

Friday's market was firm, and considerable business was transacted. The business of the day is represented by the following quotations:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.14 to \$1.15; No. 1, \$1.05 to \$1.11; No. 2 hard, \$1.06 to \$1.11.

CORN, No. 2, 49 to 50c,

OATS, No. 2 white, 40 to 40½c; No. 2, 39 to 39½c.

FLOUR, patents, \$6.50 to \$7.00; straights, \$5.50 to \$6.50; clears, \$5.25 to \$5.55.

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

The dullness in the stock market which commenced a week or two ago still continues unabated. Transactions have been very light and the transactions were principally on brokers' account. On Wednesday there was a slight decline in bank stocks generally, especially on Montreal, Toronto, Merchants, Commerce and Standard. Ontario advanced slightly. Bids at the close were: Montreal 206½, Ontario 112, Molsons 130, Toronto 183½, Merchants 125½, Commercial 133½, Imperial 140, Federal 141, Dominion 199, Standard 114½, Hamilton 115, North west Land Co. 55.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

The market for the week has been considerably unsettled. The demand has been active and receipts small and insufficient. The tendency has been steadily upwards but the close showed confusion and unsettlement, especially in wheat and flour. Coarse grains were firm with demand keen.

FLOUR.

A demand in excess of supply kept prices firm during the early part of the week, but toward the end an easier feeling prevailed. Superior extra went up to \$4.70 to \$4.75.

WHEAT.

Offerings have been light, and prices advanced until Wednesday, when a reaction set in. A drop was made to the level of the week before. No. 1 spring, \$1.08 to \$1.09; No. 2 spring, \$1.06 to \$1.07; No. 2 fall, \$1.04 to \$1.05.

OATS.

The supply has been limited, and prices held firm. Prices on track 43 to 44c; on street, 45 to 46c.

BARLEY.

Good demand and steady prices. No. 1, 77c; No. 2, 72 to 73c; No. 3, 65 to 69c.

BUTTER.

Market quiet. Prices are: Choice dairy, 20 to 21c; large rolls, 17 to 20c; superior, 13c.

EGGS.

Tendency downward. Fresh, 25c.

MEATS.

Firm. Sales mess pork at \$22; bacon, long

clear, 12c; Cumberland, 11½c; rolls, 12½c; for long bellies 13½c; smoked hams, 13c; packed, 11½c.

Markets by Telegraph.

Special Dispatch to The Commercial.

STOCKS.

TORONTO, Feb. 26.—Stocks are active though weak at lower prices, but close with recovery to-day. Closing bids: Montreal, 206½; sales 206; Ontario, 125; Toronto, 182½; sales, 182½; Commerce, 133½; sales, 133½ to 143; Molsons, 130; Merchants, 125; Imperial, 140½; Federal, 154½; Dominion, 199; Standard, 114½; sales were made of all last six at quotations. Hamilton offered, 113½; North-west Land, stronger at 57, bid. Pacific Railroad bonds sold at 98; Manitoba Loan, 120 bid.

Special Dispatch to The Commercial.

TORONTO, Feb. 26.—The week shows a reaction in flour and wheat, which closed easy. Superior extra has brought \$4.70, but not taken when offered at \$4.65 to-day. Bran is scarce with \$13 bid. Wheat sold \$1.05 for No. 2 fall last week. To-day 1,000 bushels mixed spring sold at \$1.09 to \$1.10. Barley firm but nominal, No. 2 firm at 73c; No. 3 steady at 63 to 67c. Peas are scarce at from 75 to 76c. Clover is down to \$7.25, closing at \$7 to \$7.05. Butter is scarce and firm at 20 to 21c for choice. Eggs are easier at 25c. Fresh meats are firm but quiet, only round lots selling. Lard is scarce and firm at 13½c.

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

The dullness which has been the leading feature of the money market for the past few weeks still continues, though to a somewhat abated extent. Commercial paper has been met somewhat more promptly, but still the banks have all they care to do in making advances. A more hopeful feeling, however, pervades all financial circles. It is generally believed that the worst has been past, and there is a confident expectation that a few weeks more will see a much easier feeling. Rates have not undergone any change. Gilt edged paper is hard to negotiate at 9 per cent, the ruling figure being 10; ordinary, 10 to 12 per cent, as a rule approaching nearer the latter figure.

In real estate circles the same difficulty of negotiating loans, which we noted last week still prevails. The banks are very chary in giving accommodation in that respect, and speculators have to depend largely on private lenders. For short dates high rates have been paid, though perhaps slightly less than hitherto. Still the easier feeling which pervades all commercial circles finds its counterpart among real estate men.

An English contemporary asserts that the unsatisfactory prospects of the autumn-sown crops in France have not created a speculative feeling, although it concedes that the promise of French crops is not favorable. This confirms the idea, that while the probability of a poor harvest in Europe this year may have some influence on the value of wheat, the advance which has been noted in the wheat markets is rather due to the opinion that values have been too low and that too much credence had been given to the false estimates of the extent of our last wheat crop.

THE Brandon Mail, a good paying concern, is offered for sale.

ANOTHER newspaper is to be started in Rat Portage, and one in Prince Albert.

LETTERS patent have been granted to the Keewatin Paper Manufacturing Company.

J. V. AYER & SONS, iron dealers, Chicago, have failed with liabilities amounting to two million of dollars.

THE Portage Westbourne and North-western Railway is making application for permission to change its name to the Great North-western Railway of Canada.

S. C. MILROY, representing the Peters Combination Lock Company of Moncton, N. B., in the city, and is showing samples in the Mc-Nee Block, opposite the Hotel Brunswick.

WE have been shown samples of gold from the Minnesobic Island in the Lake of the Woods, about twelve miles from Rat Portage, which promise very well. A shaft fifteen feet in depth and 10x7 feet has been sunk and indications are good.

MR. JORDAN, of this city, has secured the exclusive agency for several mining machines of English manufacture. A sample machine is now on the way, arrangements for the manufacture of which have been made with Chisholm, Jones & Co. This privilege is secured by paying a royalty on each machine turned out.

W. F. IRWIN, from Woodstock, Ont., has gone to Portage la Prairie to act as agent for the Massey Manufacturing Company in that district. Mr. Irwin comes to this country with an excellent reputation as a business man, and cannot but succeed.

ON Monday evening a meeting was held in the Queen's Hotel, at which it was decided to organize an open Board of Trade, and committees were appointed to make the necessary arrangements, to report at another meeting to be held on Wednesday evening.

THERE were 226 failures in the United Kingdom reported to Kemp's Mercantile Gazette for the week ending January 20, against 221 in the preceding week, 247 in the third week of January, 1882, and 268 in that week, 1881. England and Wales had 215, against 224 and 258 respectively in the third weeks of January, 1822 and 1881; Scotland, 11, against 18 and 7; and Ireland none, as compared with 5 and 4.

A WATERPROOF glue may be obtained by dissolving 10 grains saunders and 16 grains of mastix in ½ liter of alcohol, afterwards adding 10 grains of turpentine. This solution is placed in a waterbath, where an equal quantity of a hot solution of glue or isinglass is mixed with the same. Still hot, the mixture is strained through cloth and ready for use. For the gluing of mineral bodies it is well to add to the above mixture 10 grains of finely powdered glass.

SO FAR the directors of the Qu'Appelle Farm Syndicate have shown no disposition to settle the claims held against them by different parties, and some of them, when interviewed, plead poverty as a reason why they should not be pressed for payments. They cannot with honor repudiate the debts incurred by the grandiloquent Colonel and his faithful manager, who ran the concern in their behalf, and who put on such an air of business as to inspire that confidence which enabled them to obtain credit. For the sake of their own business reputation and credit the directors ought to settle up at once, before legal proceedings are resorted to.

LAST spring Mrs. Black went into the millinery business in this city. She came from Toronto, where she had been similarly engaged. Business did not prosper under her management, and a few weeks ago she failed. The stock amounted to \$1,500, against which there were several large executions. Just before closing, Mr. Doritty, manager for D. McCall & Co., obtained a chattel mortgage on the whole stock. The execution creditors disputed the validity of the mortgage, contending that it had been given by Mrs. Black to protect herself and shut out the other creditors. Suit was entered and the case came before the Chief Justice last week. After hearing all the evidence in the case, His Honor held that the mortgage in question had been obtained from Mrs. Black on the representation that it would be held for the benefit of all creditors, but there being nothing on the face of the mortgage to show this, and the affidavit made by McCall & Co's manager that it was for a debt due them alone, he held that the document was void as against creditors. The mortgage, he held, was also bad on account of the insufficient description of the articles. The mortgage was therefore set aside, and execution creditors can take possession of the stock and realize. Lack of sufficient capital at the outset was the principal cause of failure.

A LATE dispatch from London, Eng., indicates a bad state of affairs in that country. It says that the rain and floods which have been prevailing in all parts of the country have now assumed the proportions of a national calamity. Large tracts of land are totally submerged. By this time of the year a considerable area of wheat should have been sown, but scarcely an acre has yet been seeded down in all England. The land is literally a morass, and the winter wheat is rotting in the ground. Whatever may happen now there cannot be a great harvest, even if it does not turn out one of the worst that England has ever known. To add to the misfortunes of the sorely tried agricultural population, disease has broken out among the cattle and sheep.

WALKLEY & BURROWS intend taking out logs for six million feet of lumber from their limits at Bull Head, on Lake Winnipeg, this season. Three million feet have already been hauled to the lake ready for rafting. They will be towed down to Selkirk. This firm will also cut a stock of logs at Fort Alexander, where they have a mill capable of cutting 20,000 feet per day. They will also build a large new mill at Selkirk to cost \$15,000.

KEEWATIN.

The Kewatin Lumber Company are putting in a slab burner for getting rid of their refuse.

Messrs. Dick & Manning are putting new machinery in their mill at Kewatin which will increase its capacity to 60,000 feet per day.

It is estimated that there will be 55,000,000 feet of logs taken out on the Lake of the Woods and Rainy Lake this winter.

The Rainy Lake Lumber Company have their mill building at Rat Portage completed, and are now busily engaged putting in the machinery.

PRINCE ALBERT.

Real estate is quiet at present. Property holders are holding back for the spring boom.

Miss Mack & Co. are extending their business, and are sending east for trained assistants.

Markly & Co., general merchants, have at last received their long looked for stock, and are doing fairly.

James Sinclair, merchant tailor, has removed into his new and commodious quarters. He is doing a good business.

A grand concert will be held on the 22d February for the purpose of raising funds to establish a brass band.

Business has been rather dull during the last few weeks, but has brightened up considerably since the cold weather has moderated.

T. O. Davis, the proprietor of the Horse Shoe Store, has received his billiard tables, and has opened out a neat little billiard parlor.

Walters & Baker have opened out in the old stand of J. O. Davis & Co., and are doing a good business in general merchandise.

Messrs. Peterson & Hanafin, real estate agents and auctioneers, have taken Mr. Harry Keenan into their business. He will be a valuable acquisition to the firm.

J. K. McPhail has received his duplicate order of goods, his first order having been left at Cumberland through the bungling stupidity of the steamboat company.

The railway engineers and Col. Sproat are busily engaged on the railway plan of this town. The roundhouse and workshops of the Saskatchewan Railroad will be surveyed out next week.

Tenders have been asked for the supply of flour for the Carlton and South Branch Indians. About 6,000 sacks more will shortly be put up for tender for Indians that are supplied from the Battleford department.

Judging from the enormous quantity of cord wood that is being hauled across the river by the brick manufacturers it is reasonable to suppose that this industry will be prosecuted vigorously the coming season.

A petition from the merchants of this place has been framed, and will be sent to Ottawa by this mail, to be presented at the present session for the removal of boulders in Cowles' Falls, between Prince Albert and the junction of the North and South Saskatchewan.

Coal has been discovered six miles east of here. Being near the surface it can be cheaply got out. Mr. Johnson, the fortunate discoverer and proprietor, has gone east for machinery. This will prove a great boon to the inhabitants of the town and the surrounding country.

Considerable freight has arrived during the past three weeks, and the town is well stocked with goods. We learn that the trail is snowed up between here and Capelle on the C. P. R., and we cannot expect much more goods, as the months of February and March are usually stormy.

Messrs. Moore & Macdonald have a number of large lumbering camps in the woods this

winter getting out an enormous quantity of saw logs. They have sold out all their dry lumber, and kilns will have to be used to dry the lumber for next summer's building operations, which are likely to be very large. Mr. Thomas McKay also has a great number of men in the woods getting out a supply of saw logs. Another firm is speaking of erecting a mill to have a furniture factory in connection. J. O. Davis & Co., general merchants, intend building another branch store some 20 miles west of here, also one in the Carrot River settlement. Evidently this enterprising firm intend holding the lead they have gained in this section of the country.

BROADVIEW.

Trains are blocked to-day.

Cordwood sells at \$4 per cord.

A good wooden hotel would pay well here.

A blacksmith shop is in course of construction.

McKinnon & McDonald are doing a good business.

Mr. Sherburn has put up a shop 24x30, and is doing a good business.

Six stalls are completed in the roundhouse and drivers are rejoicing.

Good spring water is obtained three hundred yards from the station at a depth of twenty feet.

Hotels are doing a good business on account of so many passengers being forced to lay over.

Dr. Dodd has bought Mr. A. Stinson's house, facing the station, and intends to reside in "town."

Some farmers have arrived in order to make arrangements for the reception of their families and stock.

Several car-loads of lumber have been received by Clemenston & Painter, who intend putting up a large store.

Archibald & Alexander have a large and varied stock. They have received several cars of lumber and report ten on the road. They are pressing 150 tons of hay.

EMERSON.

J. H. Fleury, in the harness business, has assigned.

The Ontario Bank is now located in the Alexandria block.

Grain is coming in very slowly. Prices are a little better. No. 1 hard brings 50c; oats, 40c.

J. E. Burnham will begin early in the spring to rebuild his block destroyed by the recent fire.

Noble & Follis have leased a store in the Alexandria block, and will commence business again as if they had never been victims of the fire fiend.

The first pile on the new railway and traffic bridge across Red River was driven last Wednesday. The contract price of the bridge is \$200,000. to be completed by the first of September.

An investigation into the cause of the late fire has been held. There is little doubt but that it was the work of an incendiary, but it is difficult to bring the guilt home to any one.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE.

Business has shown signs of improvement of late, and consequently a better feeling pervades all classes of the community.

A fair amount of grain comes into market. Quotations are: Wheat, 68 to 70c; oats, 35 to 38c; barley, 45 to 55c. Potatoes are worth 70 to 80c per bushel. Poplar wood sells at \$4 and oak at \$5 per cord.

Goldie & Co. have erected another large bonded warehouse in connection with their brewery, the capacity of the old one not being sufficient.

A large amount of wheat has been sold here this winter. The quantity is estimated at 200,000 bushels.

Messrs. W. P. Smith and H. J. Leroy visited Winnipeg last week and succeeded in making all arrangements necessary for the holding of the Provincial Exhibition here next fall. The Portage society, backed up by the people of the town, are determined to spare no effort to make it a success. A statement of the financial condition of the local society shows that with cash on hand, value of ground, and amount due on the sale of the old grounds, they are worth \$24,072.35.

It is expected that the Council will make a loan of \$2,500 to Mr. Hay to assist him in enlarging his foundry.

Mellvanie's paper mill suffers from lack of water supply. A largely signed petition has been presented to the Council asking for assistance for him to dig a ditch from the slough to the mill in order to bring in a sufficient supply.

Application is to be made to the Local Legislature at its next session to incorporate the Portage as a city. Another step.

Sutherland & Byers, general store, have dissolved. The business will be continued by Mr. Sutherland.

BRANDON.

Messrs. Winter & O'Neal have dissolved partnership, and the business will be carried on by Mr. O'Neal.

Mr. Port Waram, general storekeeper, is in financial difficulties.

Mr. E. Hughes has sold property on the corner of Sixth street and Rosser avenue to Mr. Meredith at \$150 per foot. It is the purchaser's intention to erect a brick block of large dimensions.

Great preparations are being made for building in the spring, and it is expected that even greater advance will be made this season than last.

Messrs. Ogilvie & Co. have purchased L. M. Fortier & Co.'s warehouse here. We suppose it is the way of this world, but it does appear strange that the C. P. R. Co. would not allow the former owners to use the warehouse, but have no objections to allowing the Ogilvies to use it. Why does one company receive more consideration than another at this railroad company's hands.

Considerable excitement took place in the oat market this week, and the buyers have been

bidding pretty freely. The week opened with price at 35c, and advanced very rapidly until it now stands at 45c.

Messrs. Ogilvie & Co. intend building a large elevator here next summer.

Wheat has taken a rise of two cents per bushel, and now brings 76c.

Fine weather has made business very brisk again. The increase in the prices of oats and wheat is bringing farmers to town.

A BILL has been introduced into the House at Ottawa to incorporate the Manitoba and Northwestern Fire Insurance Company, with a capital of \$1,000,000. The provincial directors are Hugh Sutherland, H. G. McMicken, Robert Gerrie, R. A. Hunter, S. W. Farrell, R. A. Ruttan, W. N. Kennedy and L. W. Coutlee.

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- A.—Nature of ground and size of lot. Best to make a rough draught of lot, with points of compass and direction in which building is to face and where it is to be placed.
 - B.—Materials to be used in construction—wood, brick veneer, or stone.
 - C.—Whether you wish to supply any materials, and if so what quantities and kinds.
 - D.—Size, height, arrangements, numbers and uses of rooms and floors.
 - E.—Style and amount of outside finish—porches, verandahs, balconies, bay windows, tower, etc.
 - F.—Outbuilding and offices, and distance of same from main building, also fences.
 - G.—What improvements are wished—rain water system, drainage, heating, ventilation, baths, W.C's, etc.
 - H.—Prices of labor and material in your locality.
- Give full name and address with nearest Post Office.

ASSINIBOINE MILLS AND ELEVATOR .A

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE.
The Purest and Best Flour

That Modern Inventions can produce to be had in large and small quantities at said roller mills. Three grades. Also large quantities of SEED WHEAT, BARLEY, AND OATS. Chop, bran and shorts constantly on hand.
Capacity Elevator.....115,000 Bushels
Capacity Mills.....200 Barrels daily.

TRAILL, MAULSON & CLARK,
Agents at Winnipeg.
Correspondence Solicited.

TRAILL, MAULSON & CLARK,
EXPORTEES OF

Grain, Flax-Seed, Flour,
ETC., AND

General Commision Merchants.
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

BUYERS AT
West Lynn, Brandon, Dominion City,
Emerson, Portage La Prairie, Neeriville,
Smuggler's Point, Carman, Chate, Carberry,
And other Points on Railway and River.

OGILVIE MILLING CO.

Mill at Point Douglass.
Capacity.....750 Barrels per day.

OFFICE :—Corner King and Alexander Streets, Winnipeg.

A Full Stock of Patent Hungarian, Strong Bakers' and Spring Extra Flour; Oatmeal, Pot and Pearl Barley, Graham Flour, Cracked Wheat, Bran, Shorts, Ground Feed, Oats, Barley, etc., always on hand.
Wheat buyers at all Shipping C. P. R. Stations

MANITOBA
MORTGAGE & INVESTMENT CO.,
(LIMITED.)

CAPITAL \$2,500,000.
LOCAL ADVISORY BOARD.

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C. Sweeney, Esq., Man'gr, Bank of Montreal, Winnipeg.
A. F. Eden, Esq., of Messrs. Stohart, Eden & Co.
A. W. Ross, Esq., M. P. P.
R. H. Hunter, Esq., Manager, Imperial Bank of Canada, Winnipeg.
W. Hespeler, Esq., German Consul, Winnipeg.
This Company has been formed expressly for the purpose of lending money on the security of Real Estate in Manitoba. Advances made on the security of farm and city property at lowest current rates.
OFFICES: 11 Notre Dame Street, East, Upstairs.
H. R. MORTON
Manager.

ROSS, KILLAM & HAGGART
Solicitors.

WESTERN CANADA LOAN AND SAVINGS CO.

CAPITAL.....\$2,000,000
ASSETS.....4,000,000

Head Office—Toronto WALTER S. LEE, Manager.
This Company being an old established one, and having a command of large funds, are prepared at all times to advance money on security of Farm or City improved property. No delays. No commissions. Lowest rates.
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IMPORTERS,

Wholesale Druggists
AND

Manufacturing Chemists,
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ROBERT MUIR,
MACHINERY BROKER,
And Manufacturers' Agent.

P. O. Box 584. 544 Main St.

THE QUEEN'S,
The Palace Hotel of the Northwest,
WINNIPEG.

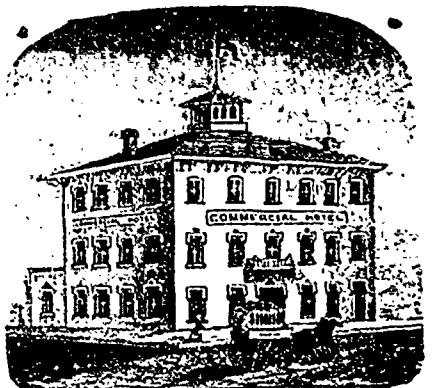
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OPPOSITE NEW C. P. R. STATION.
BRANDON. MANITOBA.
FRANK BOISSEAU, Proprietor.
LIFE OF THE RUSSELL HOUSE, OTTAWA.
Strictly first-class in every respect. Commercial Sample Rooms Attached.

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POST OFFICE STREET,
WINNIPEG,
JOHN A. BROOKS, PROPRIETOR

COMMERCIAL HOTEL,

MORRIS, MAN.
BETWEEN WINNIPEG AND EMBERTON, ON THE RED RIVER



GOOD ACCOMMODATION FOR COMMERCIAL TRAVELERS. SPLENDID SAMPLE ROOMS.

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CANNED Peaches, Apples, Pears, Plums, Grapes, Pineapples, Apricots, Jellies, Jams, Honey, Corn, Beans, Peas, Mackerel, Trout, Lobsters, Sardines, Lunch Tongue, Corn Beef, Roast Beef, Turkey, Chicken, Turtle.

PICKLES in Glass, Barrels and Half Barrels.

FISH Boneless Cod, Mackerel in Kits, Trout, etc.

NEW FRUITS.

Finest Prunes in Kegs, Valencia Raisins, London Layers, Muscatelles, Currants, Elmo Figs, Loughorn Lem on Peel, Orange Peel, Citron Peel, etc., etc.

BUTTER Two Carloads of Choice Dairy, also a Complete Assortment of Sugars, Teas, Syrups and General Groceries

GOLDIE & CO.

BREWERS AND MALTERS.

Portage Brewery,

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Ale and Porter in Wood and Bottles.

Orders by Mail and Wire Promptly Attended to.

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WHOLESALE ONLY.

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Office and Sample Rooms, Bird Block,
433 Main Street.

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

Canadian Pacific R'y Co.



(WESTERN DIVISION)
TRAIN SERVICE.

CHANGE OF TIME

On and after October 1st, 1882, Trains will move as follows:

Going West.	Going East
8.15 a.m. leave Winnipeg arrive 6.15 p.m.	
10.35 " Portage la Prairie 3.55 "	
1.55 p.m. Brandon 12.5 "	
4.15 " Oak Lake 10.20 a.m.	
11.30 " Broodview 3.30 "	
5.55 a.m. arrive Regina leave 8.30 p.m.	
9.40 a.m. leave Rat Portage arrive 4.03 p.m.	
1.45 p.m. Whitemouth 12.20 "	
3.45 " Selkirk 0.50 a.m.	
4.55 " arrive Winnipeg leave 8.45 "	
8.25 a.m. leave Winnipeg arrive 5.15 p.m.	
9.45 " arrive Stonewall leave 3.40 "	
Daily except Sundays.	

Going South.	Winnipeg	Going North.
Leave	Winnipeg	Arrive.
7.35 a.m.	7.35 p.m.	7.05 p.m. 6.50 a.m.
	Otterburn.	
9.00 a.m.	8.50 p.m.	5.50 p.m. 5.20 a.m.
	Emerson.	
10.25 a.m.	10.18 p.m.	4.40 p.m. 4.05 a.m.
Arrive.	St. Vincent.	Leave.
10.40 a.m.	10.28 p.m.	4.20 p.m. 3.45 a.m.
* Daily except Mondays.		
* Daily except Saturdays.		

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Magnificent Palace Sleeping Cars will be run daily, without change, between Winnipeg and Regina.

Trains run on Winnipeg time.

JOHN M. EGAN, W. C. VAN HORNE,
Gen. Superintendent. Gen. Manager.
WM. HARDER,
Ass't Traffic Manager.

HUTCHINGS & RICE, UPHOLSTERERS.

MATRASSES, WINDOW BLINDS, LAMBERKINS, &c.
MADE TO ORDER ON SHORT NOTICE.
All orders will have our personal supervision.
South-west Corner of King and McWilliam Sts. Winnipeg.

G. W. GIRDLESTONE, INSURANCE & GENERAL AGENT

ROYAL OF ENGLAND. Assets \$21,000,000
CITIZENS OF MONTREAL. Capital 2,200,000
CITY OF LONDON, of England. 10,250,000

Fire, Life, Marine and Accident Insurance.

Cunard Steamship Line passage tickets granted.
Agents for Collingwood Lake Superior line of steamers.
GOLDIE & McCULLOUGH'S SAFES, VAULT DOORS
MONEY TO LOAN.
OFFICE, NO 10 McBRIDGOTT ST., WINNIPEG, MAN

BISHOP & SHELTON,

Steam Cabinet Works,
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We are now prepared to fill all orders entrusted to us with dispatch.

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B. C. KENWAY,
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TURNING AND BAND SAWING.
NORTH STAR PLANING & SAW MILLS,
Yonge and Disraeli Streets, Point Douglas,
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Manitoba Pioneer PAPER MILLS!

S. McILVANIE, Proprietor.

MANUFACTURER OF

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ping Papers.

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Planing Mill and Lumber Yard
in Connection.

Michigan Central.

EASTWARD.

Express trains leave Chicago at 6.45 a.m., 9.00 a.m., 3.30 p.m., 5.15 p.m. and 9.10 p.m.; arriving at Detroit at 6.15 p.m., 8.30 p.m., 11.40 p.m., 4.35 a.m. and 8.00 a.m.
All trains make close connection at Detroit with the Great Western and Canada Southern for points east, through sleepers being attached.

WESTWARD.

Express Trains leave Detroit at 7.00 a.m., 9.30 a.m., 8.00 p.m. and 9.50 p.m.; arriving in Chicago at 8.50 p.m., 7.40 p.m., 7.30 a.m. and 8.00 a.m.

Those trains take the through sleepers from Great Western, and Canada Southern, and make close connection at Chicago with the trains of other roads.

Dining cars on trains for breakfast and supper.

St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba.

SOUTHEASTWARD.

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

NORTHEASTWARD.

Express leaves St. Paul at 7.00 p.m. and 8.00 a.m., arriving at St. Vincent at 1.20 p.m. and 3.45 a.m. the day following, making close connections with the Canadian Pacific.

Trains run between St. Paul and Minneapolis almost every hour.

Sleeping cars on all night trains.

Trains run on St. Paul time.

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

GOING EAST.

Express trains leave Minneapolis at 1.00 p.m. and 8.00 p.m.; and St. Paul, 1.45 p.m. and 8.45 p.m.; arriving in Chicago at 7.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m.

COMING WEST.

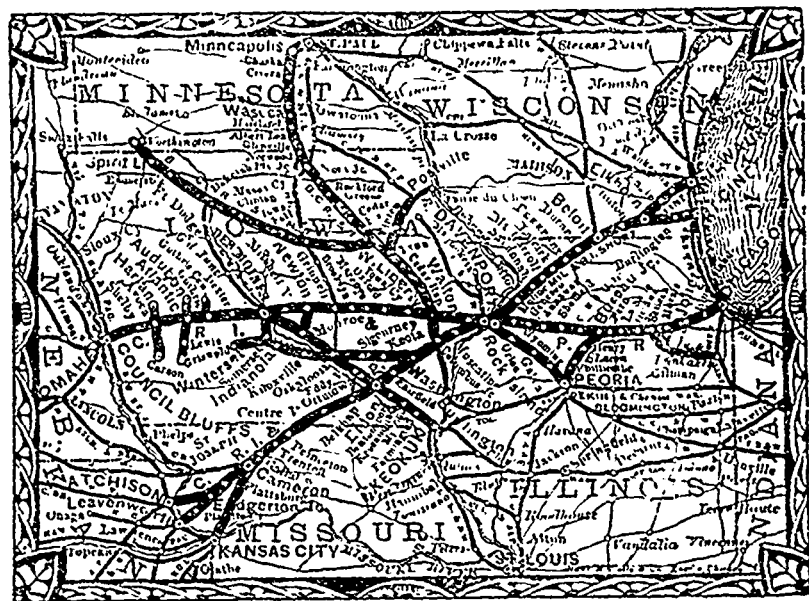
Express trains leave Chicago at 11.30 a.m. (except Sunday) and 9.00 p.m., arriving at St. Paul at 6.15 a.m. and 12.45 p.m., and Minneapolis at 7.00 a.m. and 1.30 p.m.

This is the only line between St. Paul and Chicago running the Pullman Smoking Room Sleepers, and Palace dining cars.

GOING SOUTHWEST.

The Chicago 5 p.m., and Omaha trains leave St. Paul for Sioux City, Omaha, Kansas City and San Francisco at 1.10 a.m. and 3.30 p.m.

MAP OF THE



ALBERT LEA ROUTE.

The favorite route from the North to Chicago and the East. Chicago fast express leaves Minneapolis at 6.30 P. daily, arriving at Chicago 3 P. M. next day. This is a solid train, consisting of Pullman Cars, Coaches and Baggage Cars, running through without change. Trains leaving Minneapolis at 3:30 P. M. and 7:55 A. M., connect through to Chicago via the C., R. I. & P. Ry.

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HOUSE FURNISHINGS!

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LOAN AND INVESTMENT CO

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Have removed their office to the Dundee Block, Main St.
MONEY TO LOAN,
 On improved farm and city property mortgages bought.
 Apply to A. MACNAB & SON,
 General Agents for Manitoba and the North-west, Upstairs, Dundee Block, Main Street, or to P. O. Box 930.

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READY-MADE HOUSES.

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PLANING MILLS.

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SASH, DOORS, BLINDS,

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 Made to Order.

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The Improved Howe Scale Company, Chicago, Ill.

Contracts made at SPECIAL RATES, for supplying large City, Mill, Elevator and Warehouse Scales. Correspondence solicited and satisfaction guaranteed.

Local agents wanted in all towns in Manitoba and N. W. T. to handle the New Wilson Oscillating Shuttle Sewing Machine. Liberal terms given and large profits for cash buyers.

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CONFECTIONERY & BISCUITS.

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"We Sell to the Trade Exclusively."

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