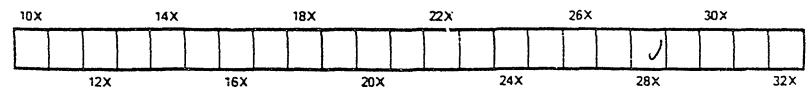
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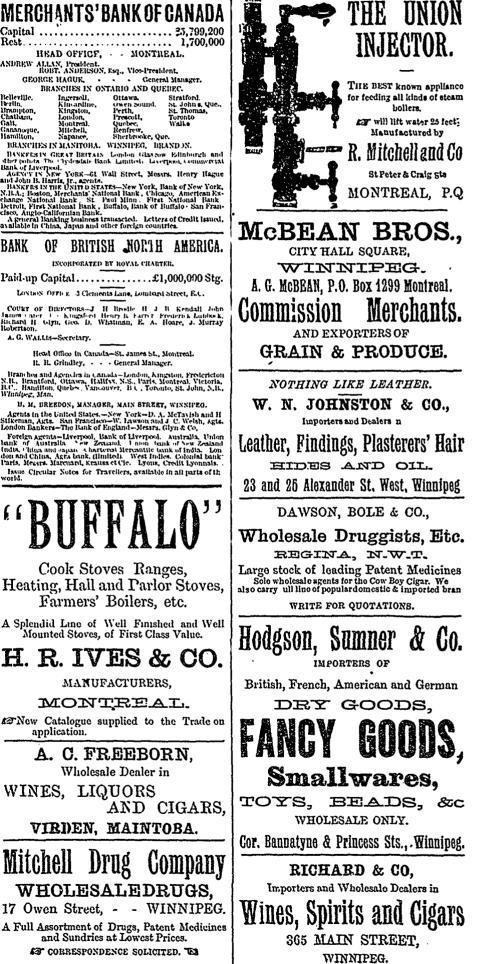
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The Commercial

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Sixth Year of Publication

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The Commercial certainly enjoys a very much larger circulation among the business community of the country between Lake Superior and the Pucific Coast, than any other paper in Canada, daily or weekly. By a thorough system of personal solicitation, carried out annually, this journal has been placed upon the desk of the great majority of business men in the vast district designated above. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholessele, commission, and manufacturing houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, MAY7, 1888.

W. P. DUNCALVE will open a drug store at Morden.

SAM. TEESE has leased the livery stable of J. Doolittle at Qu'Appelle.

Jos. DooLITTLE is crecting a new implement warehouse at Qu'Appelle.

J. RITCHIE & Co. have opened a stock of furniture at Necpawa, Man.

R. JOUNSTON has succeeded to the implement business of S. R. Edwards, of Qu'Appelle.

S. T. HANDSCOMB, of Winnipeg, has opened au office as customs broker and commission agent.

J. A. TEES, late wholesale grocer at Winnipeg, of the defunct firm of J. A. Tees & Co., has gone to the United States.

THE Calgary council has passed a by-law granting a company a contract to supply the town with natural gas. The gas has not yet been discovered, but a search will be made.

A. C. McEows, general merchant, Boissevain, Man., has added millinery and dress making to his business. An addition of 20x20 feet has been built to his store to accommodate these departments.

A TORONTO tolegram on Friday says: This afternoon a long expected crash came, when Hughes Bros., wholesale dry goods, at the corner of Melinda and Yonge streets, suspended. The firm did a rushing business up to last year, when trouble overtook them. The bank of Commerce did its best to help them, but for the last month has had a special examiner at work on the books, as a result of which the firm has suspended. The Bank of Commerce ranks first on the estate for about \$450,000, all of which is secured except \$140,000. Outside of this the liabilities are over \$100,000.

A. H. CLARK, of Prince Albert, Sask., purposes erecting a building this summer for a drug store.

OATS are selling at 85 cents per bushel at Edmonton, Alberts, and fresh butter is scarce at 40 cents per pound.

BRANDON Mail: So far Capt. Michell of the board of trade has located 125 persons in this county, many of whom are possessed of means, and will purchase as soon as they get in the way of the country. A number of families are stopping in shell tenements in this city erected by themselves until they can locate to their satisfaction.

BRANDON Sun: On Monday morning last the locating engineers of the great Northwest Central commenced the survey of a new line to secure an entrance into the city. The old line carries the road midway between Chater and Brandon, while the new survey will cause a line to be made north of the city, then to follow the slope of the hill skirting the northern limits of the city to the west of Eighteenth street. It will gradually work down into the valley, and cutting off the corner of sec. 27 will cross the river west of the snye and the Eighteenth street bridge. Again turning, it will follow the valley to the neighborhood of the round house, and then into the centre of the city.

THE amount of inland revenue collected at Winnipeg during April was as follows: Tobaccos and cigara

Toorceos and eights	0,,,0 00
Spirits	7,814 36
Inspection of petroleum	82 80
Malt	1,150 39

Total.....\$14,796 45

Statement showing the value of goods exported, imported and entered for consumption at Winnipeg, with duty collected during the month of April, 1888, together with a statement for the same period of last year, is as follows :--

Description.	Value 1887.	Value 1883.
Goods exported	\$ 6,938 00	\$ 41,589 00
Goods imported, dutiable Goods imported, free	$125,096 \ 00 \ 20,734 \ 00$	127,088 00 10,543 00
Total imported.	\$145,830 00	\$137,631 00
Goods entered for con	nsumption-	
Dutiable	\$126,931 00	\$131,497 00
Free	20,734 00	10,543 00
Totalentered for consumption	\$147,665 00	\$142,040 00

Duty collected..... \$39,225 04 \$ 42,664 78 Some objection has been made to the appoint ment of Capt. Wastie and A. J. McMillan us immigrant agents for Manitoba in Ontario, on the ground that both men come from Brandon, and that on this account they will favor Brandon, in directing immigrants to that district in preference to other parts of the province. This, however does not necessarily follow. The agents are acting for the province as a whole, and not for a limited district, and they will no doubt fully appreciate their position. Still, owing to the rivalry which is going on between different sections of the province for settlers, it would have been good policy on the part of the Government to have selected the second agent from an eastern, southern or northern district, and thus a shadow of reason for complaint would have been avoided.

A. FERLAND & Co., Calgary, advertise a dissolution sale.

HENDERSON'S C. P. Ry. pocket Gazetteer for May is to hand.

D. COLQUHOUN has opened a general store at Winlaw, Assa, west of Deloraine forty miles.

OPERATIONS are going on at the experimental farm at Indian Head. Fruit and other trees are being planted.

THE stock of the estate of Downs Bros., general merchants, Virden, Man., is offered for sale by tender up to 15th May. The stock amounts to about \$8,000, and book debts \$3,500.

THE liabilities of John Fehr, general dealer, of Dufferin county, Man., who has assigned in trust to J McLeod Holiday, amount to \$2,200. The assets, including \$700 in book debts, are placed at \$4,500. Also a 160 acre farm. The estate should pay in full.

GEO. A. CROSSTHWATE, general dealer, of Souris, Man., who has made an assignment in trust to F. W. Stobart, shows quite a surplus of assets over liabilities. A receiver will be put in to continue the business in the meantime, with the probability that some satisfactory arrangement may in time be made with the late proprietor.

Sir Charles Tupper has given notice of important resolutions in committee on ways and means. The first gives power to the governorin-council, by proclamation, to abolish export duties on certain kinds of logs mentioned in schehule E to the Customs Dutles act, in order that lumbermen in Canada may obtain the full benefit of Mills' tariff bill in the event of its becoming law in the United States.

í

THE location of the experimental farm at Brandon will give satisfaction to the people of that district. The selection has been made owing to its central location in one of the most populous farming districts of the province, and to the variety of soil found on the farm itself. The disadvantage of the location is, that owing to the fact that all the branch railways of the province diverge toward Winnipeg, considerable delay will be experienced in visiting the farm from points on any of the railways excepting the main line of the C. P. Ry. This drawback will no doubt be overcome in time by the construction of railways north and south from Brandon.

At a public meeting held at Calgary, a committee was appointed to make inquiry regarding a creamery and report at a meeting as early as possible.

Arrangements have almost been completed for starting the Newdale cheese factory. Nearly the required number of cows have already been obtained. Walldock, of Shoal Lake, will be manager.

The Manitou chcese factory commenced the season's operations on Thursday. Only a limited quantity of chcese is being manufactured at present, but that amount will soon be rapidly increased.



WATER communication invariably plays an important part in the early days of settlement of any new country, wherever such communica tion of even an indifferent nature can be had. The waterways of these western prairies have been of great service in times past, and in the nothern portions of the country yet afford the only means of communication other than with wheels. Not many years ago the Red and the Acciniboine rivers were the only highways of commerce, save the serpentine trails made by the Metise with their Red River carts, in what is now the prosperous and rapidly developing Province of Manitoba. Though these water ways have now largely fallen into disuse since the advent of railways, yet with the carrying out of a system of improvements they could then be rendered very valuable to the country. The great waterway of the Saskatchewan system is still the only highway (other than prairie trails) of a vast region of country stretching a * thousand miles to the northwest of Manitoba. Along this great natural highway of northern commerce, thriving settlements have grown up. But for the existence of this waterway, the settlements of the Saskatchewan would not now be in existence. Beyond the Saskatchewan, with its almost thousands of miles of navigation, is another and far greater system of inland navigation. This is the great Mackenzie River system, which is just beginning to be utilized, and which affords a commercial highway for that vast northern region, estimated at something like 4,000 miles of navigable waters. Through the enterprise of the Hudson's Bay Company, steamers are now navigating portions of these waters. Bishop Clut says of the Mackenzie :--- "It is the finest river in the world for length, depth and navigation in summer. It is a good deal larger than the St. Lawrence in depth and volume of water." The Mackenzie, with its tributaries, the Athabasca, Peace, Slave, Liard and other rivers, with several large lakes in their course, undoubtedly forms a system of inland navigation in northern Canada whose vastness is almost beyond comprehension. In British Columbia the construction of the C. In British Columna the construction of assisting in P. R. promises to have the effect of assisting in The the development of inland navigation,

mountain fastness of the interior of this large province is broken by many fine stretches of navigable waters. Some of these waters have not heretofore been utilized to any extent, from the fact that, so to speak, they commenced and ended nowhere, so far as settlement was concerned. Now, however, the great solitude has been broken by the construction of the railway, which, at several points touches some of these navigable water stretches, and they will henceforth be brought into use as connecting links between the railway and the districts north and south of the road. At Golden, 140 miles west of Calgary, where the C. P. R. first enters the Columbia valley, there is a fine stretch of water, which is now being utilized for steam navigation. A trip up the Columbia from Golden will afford a continuous scene of wonders to the tourist. Spreading along between two great snow-capped ranges of mountaius, and with its grand scenery, the Columbia valley forms a most romantic region. Across the Selkirk range of mountains the railway touches another fine stretch of navigable water on the Columbia River, and westward again are reached the Shuswap lakes and the Thompson and Fraser Rivers, all of which are made serviceable to some extant as highways of commerce, and which are destined to play an important part in the development of the interior of British Columbia.

THE immense value of the Canadian fisherics may be imagined from the statement that Nova Scotia's fish harvest in 1887 was eight and a half millions of dollars, of which the cod contributed no less than four and a half millions. This is considerably more valuable than the wheat crop of Manitoba. With Newfoundland added to the Dominion, as it is likely to be in time, the total wealth derived annually from the fisheries of this country would be something enormous. Then there is the vast fishery wealth of British Columbia and Hudson's Bay, which have not yet been developed to any great extent. It is therefore of the utmost importance that the fishery rights of the country should be fully maintained and protected.



THE PORTAGE MILLING CO Jas. MacLenaghan, Manazing Director. THE British Columbia papers lately expressed great dissatisfaction with some Norwegian colonists who lately located in that province, with a view to engaging in fishing. They took up a location at Plumper's Pass, but although it is said fish were plentiful, yet they became dissatisfied and returned to the immigrant shed at Westminster, for the reason, as alleged by a local paper, that the "rent is low and an occasional day's work suffices to keep them in food." In addition to being lazy they are charged with being quarrelsome, vicious and a nuisance generally. Altogether, British Columbians do not seem to be pleased with the Norwegians as settlers. The sample they have been favored with, cannot justly represent the average Norwegian. In Manitoba the Scandinavian people are always welcome, and are looked upon as among the most steady, industrious and persevering of our ammigrants.

THE co-operative style of conducting retail stores does not seem to work well in Toronto. In 1880 the Central Co-Operative of Toronto commenced business, and after an eventful and precarious existence the institution is now being wound up. Notwithstanding that the society was bound under the act of incorporation to transact its business on a cash basis, it has been gradually, but surely running into debt for some years. It is now discovered that the accounts are short about \$6,000. The shareholders, who are mostly poor people, will lose their investments. The society was managed by a committee of twelve. An audit of the accounts has shown that the reports given the shareholders were misleading. Though advantageously located, the store has not been doing a good business for some time, and even shareholders have been in the habit of doing their trading to a considerable extent with private merchants. Though nothing can be said against the principle of co-operation, yet in practice there seems to be a great difficulty in making the co-operative store a success.

LEATHER tanning is an industry which in time should be carried on in the West on a



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large scale. In British Columbia, there are three tanneries in Victoria, and one at New Westminster. These are principally carried on in connection with the manufacture of boots and shoes. In Manitoba a little tanning has been done on a small scale, but in the Territories nothing has yet been attempted towards developing this industry. In the western portion of the Territories the conditions are most favorable for the establishment and growth of this industry. There is first an already considerable and rapidly increasing supply of hides and sheep skins, whilst the neighboring mountains afford an abundant supply of hemlock bark. Water powers abound everywhere in the mountains, and could be utilized in grinding the bark. A tannery at a point on the main line of the C. P. R., say Calgary, for instance, would be well located for obtaining the bark at a minimum cost. One advantage in connection with tanning in the West would be the superior quality of the hides, which are freer from grubs and other defects than hides rom cattle raised in southern climates. The M. GAZTELU E YRIARTE, PORT ST. MARY. WINNIPEG REPRESENTATIVE :

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JOHN B. MATHER, McDermott Street.

quantity of leather used in the ranching country of the West is very large, in proportion to population, leather leggings and other articles in leather being largely used.

A NEW YORK COMMERCIAL exchange says: "Little by little 'time' is being shortened and the retailer wonders why this is thus. The jobber is making a discount inducement for prompt cash. The trade, generally, is getting on a firmer and better basis every year. The same sum of money is buying a greater quantity of goods each year. Spot cash is on deck !" If the same could be said of trade in Canada, the outlook would be satisfactory indeed, in comparison with what it really is. In fact almost the opposite has been the case. Credit is certainly fur too cheap in this country, and almost ninety nine out of one hundred commercialdisasters can be traced to this fact. The situation has become almost alarming owing to the long credit system. It is not the wholesaler alone who suffers from the cheapness of credit. To retail dealers it is as great a disadvantage. Many a retailer who would have done a successful business if obliged to purchase for cash, or on short time, is induced to overload himself

with liabilities on account of the long credits offered. Then the retailer who buys on long credits, is more liable to dispose of his goods too freely upon credit, often resulting in serious loss. The retailer who finds himself in a cramped position financially, will receive more liberal treatment from his creditors if he can show that his assets are largely in stock and very light in book debts. A large amount in book debts is invariably regarded as the very worst asset a dealer can show. Then the long ciedit system tends to unduly stimulate competition, resulting in compromises and failures, which are a great injury to the retail trader who endeavors to pay 100 cents on the dollar. The dealer who pays in full for his goods can hardly he expected to compete with the man who gets over head in debt and is fina'ly given his stock at 50c in the dollar. All these evils are largely traceable to too cheap credit, and the direct loss to the wholesaler or manufacturer only represents the commencement of the trouble.

Policies of insurance, being in the words of the insurers, are to be construed against them in case of doubt.

The Commercial

WINNIPEG, MAY 7, 1888.

PORK PACKING.

The thirty-ninth annual report of the Cincinnati Price Current of pork packing in the West, has been received. Statistics for other parts of the United States and for Canada are also given, and compared with the returns for previous years. The growth of the pork packing industry in the Western States has been one of the marvels of the century. The rapidly increasing population and large consumption of hog products at home, has given great stimulus to the industry, whilst the facilities which the country afforded for raising hogs cheaply, has rendered an export business in the cured product both possible and profitable. The great corn growing regions of the West afford so to speak a perfect paradise for the hog, and the capabilities of the region in this respect have been largely utilized. In recent years exports of hog products from the United States have greatly fallen off, owing to prohibitory measures adopted by the importing countries, against the American product. For instance, in 1881 France imported 70,002,856 pounds of American hog meats, and but 186,716 pounds in 1887. In the same time German imports fell from 43,000,000 pounds to 3,000,000. Great Britain continues to be the largest importer of these meats, amounting to 577,799,000 pounds in 1881, and 380,345,000 pounds in 1887. British America imported 53,828,000 pounds of hog meats from the United States for the year ending June 30, 1887, an increase of over 16,000,000 over the previous year. British America is next to Great Britain the largest importer from the United States in these meats. Belgium stands third, importing 19,627,000 pounds in 1887. Lard is included in the above figures.

In 1860 the total of meats and lard exported from the United States was 107,000,000 pounds, and in 1863 reached 439,000,000 pounds. Then followed a decline to 98,000,000 in 1886; for five years, 1867 to 1871 inclusive, the annual average was 128,000,000 pounds; in 1872 the exports were largely increased, and exceeded any previous year—the annual average for five years, 1872 to 1876 inclusive, being 568,000,000 pounds. The

next five years marks the largest exports recorded, reaching 1,233,000,000 pounds in 1881, the preceding year being about an equal quantity, and for the five years ending with 1881 the annual average was 1,076,000,000 pounds. This was also the period of lowest average prices. Since 1881 values have averaged decidedly higher, especially the first part of the period, and the exports have been much reduced, declining to 627,000,000 pounds in 1883, and 754,000,000 pounds as the annual average for six years, from 1881 to 1887 inclusive.

The Western reported packing in recent years has been 10,000,000 to 12,000,-000 hogs annually. Eastern packing, for which returns have been obtained, has been 2,000,000 to 2,500,000 hogs. The annual number killed by regular packing concerns is approximately 15,000,000 hogs, for the entire country. It is estimated that including the number of hogs killed by farmers and butchers, the total would amount to about 30,000.000 hogs annually, about 40 per cent of which gets into commercial channels. It will thus be seen that, after making allowance for exports, the people of the United States consume annually about 25,000,000 hogs. Reduced to pounds the consumption of hog products, including lard, is placed at about 60 pounds per capita of the population, 50 pounds of which would be in meats, and the balance in lard. One is almost tempted to exclaim that this is rather hoggish.

The drought of last summer throughout the corn states of the West, had the effect of driving the hogs to market, and animals which were not intended for the market before last winter, were at once disposed of. This caused a short supply last winter and produced a sharp advance in prices. In turn the advanced prices have operated unfavorably upon the distribution of the product, both for home consumption and export. The shortage in the pack will therefore he overcome by the decreased consumption at home and exportation. The winter pack in the West for the season 1887-88 is placed at 5,921,181 hogs, a decrease of 517,828 hogs as compared with the previous year. For the summer season of 1887 some 5,611,526 hogs were packed, a decrease of 32,477 as compared with the previous year. As to the prospective supply of hogs the Price Current does not look for any great dimunition in the supply as compared with the previous year, for the

coming season. The total number of hogs packed in the districts outside of those included in the figures given of packing in the West, are as follows: Eastern States, for summer and winter 1887-88, 2,258,557 hogs; Pacific coast, for 1887, 225,000 hogs. These figures, as in the case of the West, include only hogs packed in factories, and not those killed by butchers and farmers,

The Price Current also gives figures of pork packing in Canada, as follows: Total packing for 1887-88, 216,214 hogs, against 256,485 hogs for the year 1886-87. The last year named is the largest on record for packing in Canada. The falling off for 1887-88 is attributed to the high price of hogs in the United States, whence a portion of the supplies for packing are drawn. Last winter only 4,900 hogs were imported into Canada from the United States, against 24,000 for the same time a year ago. For Manitoba, Winnipeg is credited with having packed 4,125 hogs, against 6,700 for the previous year. Montreal packed 28,000, against 20,000 for the previous year. The balance were packed in Ontario, Toronto packing 36,264, Hamilton 20,000, Ingersoll 9,300, Aylmer 7,000, and other points from 400 to 5,000.

SETTING A PRECEDENT.

An important bill has been introduced into the Manitoba Legislature, which if passed will establish a precedent in dealing with municipal corporations which have got into financial difficulties. That the bill will be passed it is almost certain. At the time of writing it has received its second reading, and in the ordinary course of events will doubtless become law, especially as the Attorney-General has taken the measure in charge. This measure has grown out of the unfortunate situation in which several Manitoba municipal corporations have been placed financially. The causes which led to the municipal difficulties are well known. Excessive obligations were contracted during the period of inflation, about the years 1880-82. The country was developing and expanding at an abnormal rate, and the future looked so hopeful that little thought was taken of keeping down expenditure. The greatest difficulty with corporations as well as with individuals (as many merchants have experienced to their sorrow), is to economise during periods of prosperity. . There is great danger of running excessively into debt during such times, on the expectation that the stream of prosperity is to flow on without interruption ad infinitum. Several municipal corporations in Manitoba did not avoid this danger, but on the contrary went straight into it.

During the "boom" period almost worthless real property was valued at high figures, and tax rates were calculated upon an inflated and rapidly increasing assessment. Consequently debts were contracted, which, though apparently not excessive when based on the inflated assessment, became prodigious when the assessment had shrunk to normal figures. Thus the shrinkage in the assessment of a town from two or three million dollars to figures within the hundreds of thousands, as was actually the case, put quite a different appearance upon the financial situation of the place. In order to pay obligations, the tax rate had to be increased in proportion as the assessment figures decreased. Of course this was not always practical. Beyond a certain rate the people would not pay their taxes, and to attempt to enforce anything differently would only be to defeat the object sought. For instance, if a tax were levied so excessive in its nature that the people could not meet it, the effect would be to still further decrease the value of the property, and on an attempt to seize or sell to meet liabilites the real property of a town would be rendered about absolutely worthless. To attempt to "close out" a town the same as a stock of goods, to meet obligations, would therefore defeat the object sought, and bring greater disaster upon the creditors. This was the position in which several municipal corporations in Manitoba found themselves following the collapse of the "boom." The property owners were unable to pay a tax rate sufficiently high to meet liabilities, and in order to prevent action against the corporation, the councils resigned and left municipal matters in a state of chaos.

The bill which has been introduced into the Legislature applies only to the town of Portage la Prairie, but it is understood that the principle contained therein may be applied to other "diseased" municipalities, under ceparate acts. The bill is intended to provide first for the re-establishment of municipal government for the town, and secondly for the fixing of the rate of taxation. After the council has been duly elected under the proposed act, t is provided that an assessment for the

municipality shall at once be made, and a rate of 21 mills on the dollar shall be lovied on this assessment. During the time the act shall remain in force, the rate shall continue to be 21 mills on the dollar. It is further provided that the taxes so collected shall be applied as fol-Nine mills for educational purlows: poses, five mills for current municipal expenses, and the remaining seven mills on the dollar shall be deposited in a chartered Bank in Manitoba to the credit of the municipal commissioner and shall be distributed by him rateably among the creditors of the municipality. The assessment of the property within the corporation shall be made according to its actual value, and creditors are given the privilege of appealing against any assessment, in order that there may be no under valuation of property. The council and school board will not be allowed, under the act, to contract any indebtedness beyond what the rate provided will be sufficient to meet, together with any cash incidental revenue which the town may receive. An important provision of the bill is the clause which debars the creditors from proceeding against the town for debts or interest keyond the amounts allowed by the act, whilst the act remains in force. It is to be understood, however, that the full claims of the creditors shall remain valid, the creditors being for the time merely debarred from proceeding against the town. In short, the bill provides for the re-establishment of municipal government for Portage la Prairie, whilst at the same time exempting the corporation from any action against it by its creditors. In other words, the bill deprives the creditors for the time being, of their right to proceed against the town to recover money's loaned the together with corporation. the interest thereon, beyond acertain sum provided for in the act. The precedent is a dangerous one in principle, and is only excusable on the ground that under the act the creditors will get something, whilst otherwise they would get nothing at all. There has been no assessment in Portage la Prairie since 1885, and the creditors of the town have consequently been receiving neither principal nor interest. Besides, the public matters of the town have been in a deplorable condition, and the school closed, since the resignation of the council. The seven mills provided in the act will pay interest on but a small portion of the debt of the town, which latter amounts to over \$260,000, including arrears of interest.

Practically, the bill will have the effect of improving the value of the claims of the creditors. As matters now stand, the town cannot improve, and as no effort is being made to pay interest upon the debt, the liabilities of the town are steadily increasing. By a reorganization of the municipality, the town will be placed in a position to make some advancement, and this is really the principal hope of the creditors for the future. Portage la Prairie has good natural advantages, and under the proposed act it will, no doubt make steady progress. In this case the sum available for the payment of interest upon its debt, will be larger year by year, until perhaps ultimately the full liabilities of the town will be covered. The most satisfactory feature apparent in dealing with the financially embarrassed corporations of Manitoba is the fact that the repudiation of any portion of the debts of such corporations is not for a moment taken into consideration, either by the corporations or the Legislature. Furthermore, the trouble is all owing to the old "boom" obligations, and there is no danger of corporations now on a solid basis, becoming so involved as to require special acts of relief.

RUSSIAN WHEAT.

One Johnson, who has gained considerable notoriety as a distributor of alleged Russian wheats throughout Manitoba, writes to a country paper as follows :

"The attack which has been made on them (the wheats) by that belligerent body the Winnipeg board of trade, was done in the interests of a coterie of millers and dealers and not in that of the farmers."

No attack has been made upon these wheats, the Saxonca and Kubanka varieties, by the Winnipeg board of trade. Professor Saunders, of the Government experimental farm, forwarded samples of these wheats to the board of grain examiners at Winnipeg, (not the board of trade), asking an expression of opinion from the board as to the value of the wheats, as compared, with red fyfe and Ladoga wheats. The Ladoga is the Russian wheat which is being introduced by Prof. Saunders. Following is the reply of the board :

"In the opinion of this board of grain examiners, the Manitoba millers and grain dealers would not buy Kubauka wheat at any price, though it might, however, be useful for feed purposes. In the opinion of the examiners the samples viewed are none other than 'goose' or "rice" wheat, and of little value. The Saxonca variety belongs to the spring or soft class of wheat."

Samples were also submitted to the Toronto board of grain examiners, who declared the Kubanka wheat "similar to the variety known as goose, and of little value." Saxonca was said to be about equal in quality to No. 3 Ontario spring wheat. The opinions were solicited, and no doubt were given honestly by the respective boards. Coming from men who are thoroughly posted in the commercial value of the different wheats, they should carry a great deal of weight.

THE COMMERCIAL



WINNIPEG MONBY MARKET.

The monetary situation has chauged very little in the city since our last report, and even the advent of the fourth on Friday last produced no remarkable features. There are no complaints of scarcety of funds at the banks, as resources there are ample, but both traders and bankers are in so way anxious to extend the volume of paper at discount. Payments from the country are far from as good and prompt as they might be, although on the fourth there were no irregularities to speak of, and a smooth surface was maintained, although considerable financial patching was necessary. Thero'scems, however, to be a general hope, not unsupported by symptoms too, that the list of compromises and extensions has about run out, and that a more satisfactory state of affairs is at hand. If this was once reached lower discount rates might be expected, but S per cent. is still the minimum rate quoted. In real estate mortgage loans business is slow, although a certain number of farm loans are being made right along. The volume is not heavy, however, and that of interest payments is equally light. The steady .ate of interest for such loans is eight per cent.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

The movement in the wholesale trade was of a steady nature last week, and indicated a fair average distsibution for the season in most staple lines. Provisions were in improved demand, and generally firm. Produce receipts are not yet large, but increasing. Textile branches of trade were rather quiet, but with perhaps increasing signs of life. Building material and supplies are growing in demand, and promise to be active in the near future. Fruits were among the most active branches of trade, though the varieties in the market are limited mostly to staple sorts.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

The seasons' business is now over in spring implements and it has been a very satisfactory one. There has been a large sale of plows, harrows, seeders, etc., probably the largest trade in these articles since 1882. The number of orders already taken for harvesting machinery is large, and the prospects are good for a considerable increase in the sales of binders, though of course crop conditions hereafter will influence the season's sale of binders.

CANNED GOODS.

Prices were as follows: Tomatoes, \$3.25; peas, \$3.50 to \$3.75; beans, \$2.75 to \$3.00; corn, \$3.25 to \$3.40; peaches, (Canadian) \$7.00 to \$8.00; apples, \$3.25 to \$3.50; pears, \$3.25 to \$3.50; plums, \$4.50 to \$5.00; strawberries \$5.25; raspberries, \$4.75 to \$5.25; peaches (California) \$3.50; pears, \$8.00; Plums, \$7.50; apricots, \$8.00.

DRUGS.

Quotations are unchanged and as follows: Howard's quinine, 75 to 90c; German quinine, 65 to 75c; morphia, \$2.50 to \$3.00; iodide of potassium, \$4.25 to \$4.75; bromide of potassium, 65 to 75c; American camphor, 40 to 45c; English camphor, 45 to 50c; glycerine, 30 to 40c; tartaric acid, 70 to 75c; cream of tartar, 35 to 40c; bleaching powder, per keg, \$8 to \$10; blearb soda, \$4.50

to \$5; sal soda, \$2.50 to \$3.00; chlorate of potash, 25 to 30c; alum, \$4 to \$5.00; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur flour, \$4.50 to \$5.00; sulphur, roll, \$4.50 to \$5.25; American blue vitrol, 74 to \$4c.

FRUITS -OREEN, VEORTABLES, ATC.

Doalers experienced a fairly active brainess last week, as a result of warmer weather. In apples some russets are in the market, in good condition and held at \$6 to \$7 per barrel. Other varieties of apples are more or less demoratized in quality, and sell from \$2 per barrel up and. Quotations are as follows. Mesina oranges, \$6 to \$6.50 a box; California Riversides, seedlings, \$6 to \$6.50; Fancy Riverside Navel, or seedless, \$7 to \$7.50; Choice Los Angeles, \$5.25 to \$5.75; Messina blood oranges, in half boxes, \$4; Mesina lemons, \$6 to \$6.50; Pincapples. \$6 to \$7 per dozen.

FRUITS-DRIED, AND NUTS.

Valencia raisins are easier. Quotations are now an follows: Dates, 10c per lb.; in 50-lb. boxes; Valencia raisins, \$2.30 to \$2.50 per box; Morand's Valencias, \$2.40 to 2.50 per box; Malagas, London layers, \$3.50; Eleme figs, in different sized boxes, 15 to 18c per lb.; Walnuts, 18c per lb.; peauuts, raw, 15c; roasted, 17c; almonds, 20c; pecans, 17c; Filberts, 15c; Brazils, 17c per lb.

FURS.

In the following range of prices it will be understood that only a No. 1 prime skin will bring the highest figure, and that the bottom prices are for the lowest grade of unprime skins. There are usually about six grades from the lowest to the best qualities. This will account for the wide range of quotations, as follows :- Beaver, \$1 to \$6 per skin; badger, 25c to \$1.50; black bear, \$2 to \$16; cubs do, 50c to \$4.00; brown bear or cinnomon. SI to SI5 ; cubs do, 50c to \$3; grizzly hear, \$3 to \$35; cubado, \$1 to \$12; white bear, \$3 to \$50; cubs do, \$2 to \$15; lynx, 25c to \$3.00; cubs do, 5c to 40c; wild cat, 25 to 75c; timber wolf, 25c to \$3; large prairie do, 25c to 31 30; small prairie do or coyote, 25c to \$1; wolverine, 50c to \$4; panther 10c to \$2.50; fisher, 50c to \$6; red fox, 25c to \$1.50; kit fox, 25c to 60c; silver, grey, or black fox, \$4 to \$50 according to coler and quality, cross fox, 50c to \$5; blue fox, 50c. to \$4.50; white fox, 25c to \$1.50; martin, 25c to \$1.25, mink, 15 to 60c, muskrat, midwinter, 6 to 10c, full, 3 to 5c, spring, 3 to 12c, culls and kits, 1 to 2c, otter, \$1 to \$8, do cubs, 25 to 75, raccoon, 25 to 80c, skunk, 15 to 50c. Skins may be so badly damaged or out of season that even the lowest price stated can not be obtained.

FISH.

Lake Winnipeg white are quoted at 5 to 6c; picke-el at $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3c; Lake Superior trout, 8 to 9c. These are all frozen, no fresh caught yet being in the market. Fresh B.C. salmon held at 14 to 15c.

GROCERIES.

Prices remain very steady. Rio coffees only being reported easier. Price* are. Sugars, dark yellow, 7 to 74c; bright yellow, 78 to 74c; granulated, 84 to 84c; lumps, 94 to 94c. Coffees— Rios, from 18 to 22c; Java, 25 to 30c; Old Government 33 to 34c; Mochas, 32 to 35c. Teas, Japan 23 to 46c; Congous, 22 to 60c;

Indian teas, 35 to 600; young hyson, 26 to 50c. Syrups, corn, \$2.40 to \$2.60; sugar cane, \$2.50 to \$2.75; T. and B. tobacco, 560 per pound; P. of W., butts 475; P. of W. caddies, 480; Houeysuckle, 78,556; Brier, 78,530; Laurel Bright Navy, 38, 560; Index d. thick Solaco, 68, 480, Brunette Solace, 122, 480. McAtpines classing tobaccos. Beaver, 80, 636; Jubilee, 48, 590, Anchor, 580; Sinoking, Virginia Leaf, 38, 560, do Leaf, 78, 560; Silver Shield, 78, 530; Cut Cavendish, 88, 700; Silver Ash, 88, 6 P. tín boxes, 640, Club Mixture, 88, 650. Speciaf brands of eigars are quoted: Reliance, \$50; Gen. Arthur, \$50; Mikado, \$40; Terrier, \$30 per 1000.

HIDKS.

Quotations are unchanged and as follows Winnipeg inspection, No. 1, 4c; No. 2, 3c; bulls, 2c; calf, fine haired real veal (011 pound skins, No. 1, 6c; No. 2, 4c; sheep pelts, 25 to 50c. Tallow, rendered, 4c per lb; rough, 14c per pound.

MARDWARE AND METALS.

Prices remain steady at prices as follows Cut rails, 10d and larger \$3.75; I. C. tin plates, \$6 to \$6 25; I C tin plates, double, \$12.00 to \$12.50; Canada plates, \$4.00 to \$4.25; sheet iron, \$3.75 to \$5.50, according to grade; iron pipe, 35 to 40 per cent off list prices; ingot tin, 40 to 42c per 1b., according to quality; bar iron, \$3.00 to \$3.50 per 100 lbs.; shot, 64 to 7; per lb.; tarred felt, \$2.75 to \$2.95 per 100 lbs. barbed wire, 62 to 7c

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

Prices are steady as follows: Spanish sole 27 to 31c; slaughter sole, 30 to 32c; French calf. first choice \$1.25 to \$1.50; Canadian calf, 75c to \$1.00; French kip, \$1 to \$1.10; B Z kip, 85 to 90c; Bourdon kip, 70c; slaughter kip, 55 to 65c; No 1, wax upper, 45 to 50c; grain upper, 50c; harness leather, 29 to 32c for plump stock. American oak sole, 45 to 60c; buffe, 17 to 22c a foot; cordovan, 17 to 21c; pebble, 21 to 23c; colored linings, 12c.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS.

Prices now quoted: Turpentine, 80c in five-gallon cans, or 75c in barrels; harness oil \$1.00; neatsfoot oil, \$1.25; linseed oil, raw, 70c per gallon; boiled, 73c in barrels or 5c advance in five-gallon lots; seal oil, steam refined, \$1; castor, 12½c per lb.; lard, No. 1, \$1.25 per gal. olive, oil, pure, \$1.50; union salad, \$1.25; machine oils, black 25 to 40c; oleine, 40c; fine qualities, 50 to 75c. Coal oils, silver star, 26c; water white, 29c. American oils, 26c, Calcined plaster, \$4.25 per barrel; Portland cement, \$5 to \$5.50; white lead, genuine, \$7.00; No. 1 \$6.50; No. 2 \$6.00; window glazs, first break, \$2.25. Alabastine, \$8 per case of 20 pkgs.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

Prices are: Canadian rye whiskey, five year old, \$2.40; seven year old, \$3; old rye, \$1.75; Jules Robin brandy, \$4.50; Bisquet Debouche & Co., 4.50; Martell, vintage 1885, \$6.50, vintage, 1880, \$7.50; Hennesy, \$6.50 to \$7.50 for vintage 1885 to 1880; DeKuyper gin, \$3.50; Port wine, \$2.50 and upwards; Sherry \$2.50 and upwards; Janaica rum, \$4.00 to \$4.50; DeKuyper red gin, \$11.50 per case; DeKuyper green gin, \$6.50 per case; Tom Gin, \$9 00 to \$10.00; Martel and Hennesy's brandy, one star, \$14 per case of 12 bottles; v. o., \$19; v. s. o. p., \$22.

WHEAT.

Seeding has been going on rapidly during the past week, under favorable conditions. The weather has been very favorable for seeding, though not for growth. In some districts farmers are well up with wheat seeding, and later reports indicate that there will be no shortage in the area sown to wheat, as compared with last year, with a prospect of a slight 1 crease. It is gratifying to learn that notwithstanding the late season, there will be no falling off in the acreage. In coarse grains there will be a considerable increase in the area sown. A good deal of land which would have been sown to wheat had the season been earlier, will now be devoted to oats and barley, and thus an in tended large increase in the wheat area will be prevented for this year. The prospect of a good demand for Manitoba barley in the future, will draw more attention to that crop. It is also pleasing to learn that farmers are this year giving greater attention to the selection of good clean grain for seed, in oats and barley. Trading in wheat has been light, and confined to sales afloat at Port Arthur for May and June delivery. Prices have maintained a strong tone. No. 1 northern afloat at Port Arthur, has sold as high as 821c, which was the top price paid. This would be equal to 68 to 69c. for No. 1 hard, and 66 to 67c for No. 2 hard ap 1 No. 1 northern on track here. FLOUR.

Flour has been advanced about 15c in this market, for local price Quotations to the local trade, in broken lots now are :--Patents, \$2.20; strong bakers, \$2.00; XXXX, \$1.45; superfine, \$1 25.

MILLSTUFFS.

Brand is now quoted at \$10 per ton and shorts \$12 per ton.

OATS.

Oats maintain a firm tone and show some advance in price. There was a good demand for good clean oats for seed. Ordinary quality were held at about 32c on track here.

OATMEAL.

Local prices are unchanged, as folllows: Standard, §2.45; granulated, §2.60; rolled oats, §3 90.

FCGS

Though receipts were not large, yet price were again lower last week, and ranged from 11 to 12c in case lots. The drop in prices seems to have reduced deliveries.

BETTER

The butter situation remains unchanged. From 17 to 18c is about the usual range for fresh rolls, and 15 to 17c for good old, with the demand light.

LARD.

Best Chicago lard was firm at \$2.2. per 20 pound pail, with native held at \$2.25 to \$2.30. Inferior qualities of imported lard may be obtained from \$2.00 upward.

CURED MEATS.

Prices were generally strong at quotations, with a tendency to higher figures for Chicago Prices were :--Home cured quoted as follows:---Long clear bacon, 11 to 114c; breakfast bacon, 14 to 144c; rolls, 13c; hams, 144 to 15c; pork sausage, 10c per pound. Chicago hams 15 to 16c, dry salt 114 to 114c.

DRESSED MEATS.

Eccl steady at from 6 to 71c. Pork scarce

and bringing 81 to 9c for dressed hogs. Stocks of frozen mutton are running low, and there is no fresh yet in the market. Now quoted at 13 to 14c. Veal 8 to 10c.

LIVE STOCK.

Cattle steady at 33 to 4c. A car lot of ordin-ary sold at 34c. Good animals would bring 4c.

VEOETABLES.

There is yet no outside demand for potatoes, and only a few loads were moving on the market. About 35c per bushel was the usual figure paid. Other quotations were :- Onions St 50 to \$1.80 per hushel : cabbage, \$10 per 100 for good ; celery, 50c to \$1 per dozen bunches, as to quality; carrots 50 to 60c per bushel; turnips, 25c per bushel.

C. W. WILLIAMS, general dealer, Killarney, Man., has assigned in trust.

F. S. MOULE, general dealer, Killarney, Man, has assigned in trust to S. A. D. Bertrand.

W. R. CLARKE, general dealer, Stonewall, Man., who assigned in trust to C. M. Rubidge. has liabilities of \$1,800, and the stock amounts to \$1,200. An offer equal to about 25 per cent. of the liabilities has been accepted by the creditors.

THE customs authorities at Montreal have made a large scizure of valuable Chinese goods on a charge of undervaluation of 50 per cent. The goods were consigned to the King Tye Ching Co, which were about to open a store here. The consignment is valued at over \$75, 000, and consists of fancy articles, silk handkerchiefs, mats, screens and silk quilts. The company is also in business at Victoria.

AN Ottawa telegram of Saturday says: W. D. Perley interviewed Hon. Mr. Costigan this morning relative to the proposed new grading of Manitoba and Northwest wheat. After a lengthy conversation the Minister decided to ask the boards of trade of Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal and Port Arthur to send delegates to Ottawa on the 15th inst., to discuss the whole matter with him, to which meeting the Manitoba and Northwest members will be invited, and it is expected that a satisfactory basis of classification will be arrived at.

THE stock of the estate of Peddie & Co., (J. W. Peddie), of Winnipeg, amounting to about \$16,900, was sold by the sheriff at auction for 41 cents on the dollar. F. Peddie & Co's stock old in the same way, brought 333 cents on the dollar. The stock, including about \$1,700 of shop fittings, etc., amounted to about \$19,300, showing a deficit as compared with liabilities of about \$1,350. Geo. H. Rogers & Co were the purchasers of both stocks. The full liabilities of F. Peddie & Co. were \$20,680, and assets \$19,312. The liabilities of J. W. Peddle were \$17,439, including preferential claims amounting to \$5,394. The full assets were \$22,900, including \$6,000 in bills receivable. This would show an apparent surplus of something less than \$5,500, but a consider-able portion of the \$6,000 asset will not be met in full, and when the preferential claims are covered, the amount to be divided among the unsecured creditors will not be large.

Special Trade Notices.

LET there be no mistake about this, that the Myrtle Navy tobacco is manufactured from the very finest Virginia leaf. No higher quality of leaf can be purchased for any tobacco made. It is selected with the very greatest care, and treated with the most approved processes for preserving the flavor of the tobacco.

THERE is perhaps no article of commerce, in connection with which more trash is forsted upon the public, than soap. It is therefore with pleasure, that we testify to the excellence of μ new glycerino and borax soan recently placed upon the market by the Pure Gold Manufacturing Co., of Toronto. From samples tested, we discover none of the injurious effects upon the hands, so common with laundry soap, and for cleansing powers it has few equals among the manufactures of Canada. In short it is a laundry soap that can be confidently recommended,

MESSRS. MERRICK, ANDERSON & Co. of this city, who have recently been appointed North western agents for the J. A. Converse Rope, Twine and Jute Factory of Montreal, have completed their arrangements for the handling of these goods to suit the wants of the Northwest. Besides taking orders for shipment direct from the factory, they will carry a full stock of jute and cotton sacks, manilla and other cordage and twines, and be ready to supply immediate wants of traders from the same. In their large new premises, (formerly the wholesale groccry house of Messrs. G. F. & J Galt) they will have ample facilities for extending business, and taking a place among the leading wholesale mercantile houses of the Northwest.

Lumber Cuttings.

Leany & Kyle, lumber men and mill owners of Vancouver, B. C., have formed a partnership with George Cassady, of Chatham N. B. under the name of George Cassady & Co., and will shortly commence the manufacture of doors. sashes, etc. at Vancouver. The crection of a large factory has been commenced. The main building will be two storeys in height, and will be 50 by 75 feet. In addition to this there will be a large drying room, a boiler house, and all the requisite outbuildings. The machinery, now in the city, is of the latest aproved make. A shingle mill will also be run in connecton with the factory.

A movement has been set on foot in Chicago for the organization of a mutual insurance com pany, having for its object lumber yard insurance. In calling attention to the step, the Lumber Trade Journal recites that during a period of ten years the trade in Chicago has paid in premiums for fire insurance about \$3,-000,000, and that the loss in the same time, in cluding yards, planing mills and box factories. had been inside of 5,000,000, rates in the mean time having been advanced from 60 and 75 cents to \$2 and \$2.10. The Journal argues that while the lumber interest have claimed losses of not at the greatest over 25 per cent. of the premiums paid, the dry goods, clothing, wholesale shoe and other industries in that city have been able to secure all the insurance they want at three-fourths and one and one half per cent., while the losses to the companies have been nearly if not equal to the premiams paid.

P. E. Gannon, wholesale and retail grocus, Montreal-demand of assignment made on them





BASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO

May wheat opened at 80½ on Monday, and ranged from 80½ to 81½ during the day. The decrease in the visible supply for the previous week was only 169,000 bushels. Trading in wheat was large. Corn was strong. Oats opened ½ lower and sold down ¾c, but recovered. Closing prices were :

	May.	June.
Wheat	813	823
Corn	558	55
Oats	329	32
Pork	13.621	13.75
Lard	7.92	7 97]
Short Ribs	7.175	7.25

May wheat ranged from 80 Åc to 81 µc on Tuesday. The feeling was easier, but prices settled down very slowly. Crop news were more favorable, owing to reported rains. Provisions were firmer owing to small May deliveries, but the advance in prices did not hold. Closing prices were :

01	May.	June.
Wheat	803	821
Corn		543
Oats	324	321
Pork	13.60	13.67
Lard	7.90	7.92]
Short Ribs	7.20	7.27]

Prices closed stronger for all speculative commodities on Wednesday, ac follows :

	Blay.	Jrnc.
Wheat	S14	828
Corn	552	55}
Oats	324	323
Pork	13.70	13.80
Lard	8.02]	8.05
Short filbs	7.30	7.35

There was some tone to the wheat market on Thursday, and June sold up to 833c. Lard was the strongest commodity on the list. Closing prices were:

01	May.	June.
Whest	817	S2]
Corn	50	552
Cats	327	S2}
Pork	13.70	13.80
Lard	8.12	8.171
Short Ribs	7.85	7.40

May wheat opened at Sigc on Friday, and ranged from Sig to Sigc. May corn sold as high as 5Sc. Provisions closed about at the top prices. Closing prices were:

	May.	June.
Wheat	S13	82
Com	575	552
Oats	33}	322
Pork	13.95	14.02]
Lard	8.15	8.17
Short Ribs	7.42	7.50
Closing prices on Saturday	were :	
	May.	Junc.
Wheat	51]	S23
. Com	572	559
Oats	332	322
Iork	14.25	14.20
Lard	8.15	8.17]

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET.

Closing prices for No. 1 hard on each day of the week were :

	Cash	Junc.	July.	Aug.
Yonday Tucsday	82	\$31	843	
Tucsday	82	- 52	84	
Wodnesday	82}	<u>63]</u>	841	
Thursday		\$33	84	85
Friday	<u>82</u>]	83]	54]	813

Closing prices on Saturday wore: Cash, 82₄. June, 83₄; July, 84₄; Aug., 84₄.

MONTREAL STOCK MARKET.

The following quotations on May 4th, as compared with prices on April 27th will indicate the course of the stock market :

	X Apr 1 27.		May	4
`	Offerred.	• Bid.	Offered.	Did.
Montreal		212	214	214]
Ontario	121		123	122
Toronto	2071	203	216	207
Merchants	183	131	1844	154
Dominion				
Commerce	119}	`119	120}	120
Imperial				
Molson's			162	1434
Union.	96	91		
N. W. Land Co	549	50	54	53
C. P. R	60	59}	593	20
		-		

CANADIAN SECURITIES IN ENGLAND.

The Canadian Gazette of April 19, gives the following quotations of leading Candian securities in the London market :

	Price.	Rise.	Fal
Canada 4 per cents., 1860	113	_	1
Ditto 31 per cents	107	_	
Ditto 4 per cents, 1885			1
British Columbia 41 per cents		÷	_
do 6 per cents 1877		_	-
Manitoba 5 per cents			_
Quebce 5 per cents., 1853	117	_	_
Winnipeg 5 per cents	· <u>··</u>	_	_
Canadian Pacific shares (N.Y.register)	603	_	
Ditto chares (London register)	593	-	
Ditto mortgago bonds		11	-
Grand Trunk ordinary stock	- ĩi	-1	_
Ditto first preference.	Č3	-	
Ditto hist preference,	001		
Bank of B. C. fully-paid shares	33	2	- 1
Ditto £15 paid		-	-
Bank of B. N. A	73		-
Manitoba Mortgage			-
Trust and Loan of Canada, £5 paid.		_	-
Canada North-West Land			
Hudson's Bay	20≸	_	-
Vancouver Coal, £9 paid	4	_	-

Wheat at Montreal,

A Montreal report states that within a few days half a million bushels of No. 1 Northern wheat have changed hands at Port Arthur, the prices being SOc to S2c per bushel. At this rate the value of Manitoba wheat is 62c to 64c. The tendency of prices is upward. Dealers' outside estimate the amount of wheat left in farmer's hands is a million. It is believed that the Ontario millers who have carried no stock of wheat will bid against each other for this residue and send prices away up. In the outside markets too the tendency is upward.

The Trade Bulletin says : Manitoba flour has moved up 14c to 15c per bbl., grades that formerly cost \$4 laid down here, being now up to \$4.10 to \$4.15, resales of which in small lots have been made at from \$4.20 to \$4.30. Straight rollers have changed hands at \$4.10 to \$4.15. Sales of spring and winter wheat patents have also transpired at an advance, and more business has been done on American account, sales having been made of both Minncapolis and St. Louis patents for local account. Ontario millers have advanced their prices fully 15c per bbl., and here there has been an average advance of 5c to 10c. Western millers complain that they cannot get sufficient wheat to meet their milling requirements, and that a scarcity of flour must eventually result from the action of the farmers in holding back their wheat. We quote patent, winter, \$4.45 to \$4.60; patent, spring, \$4.45. to \$4.60.

On Friday the wheat market was as follows: Wheat strong, and prices advanced all round. Some round lots of No. 2 hard sold for 95c. No. 1 hard is very scar 2, and it is doubtful if a carload can be bought for less than \$1. Quotations are : No. 1 hard \$1; No. 2 hard, 94 to 95c. All grain space in outgoing vessels taken up.

A British Columbia exchange says: The importation of condensed milk from Truro N. S., of the celebrated Reindeer brand, into this province has assumed large proportions, and is still growing. Where a few years ago a case was imported a car load is now brought in and the Truro brand has virtually driven the American and Swiss articles out of this market.

The full text of the Northwest Terrritories representation bill has been brought before the House at Ottawa. As previously announced. the new assembly will consist of twenty two elected members, and not more than three legal experts. The duration of the assembly is three years. Manhood suffinge is instituted, and every male British subject by birth or naturlization, other than unfranchised Indians, who has attained the full age of 21 years and resided in the Territories for at least twelve months, being entitled to vote. A deposit of \$100 is required from each candidate at nomination. In connection with the bill Sir John gives notice to night that the indemnity to be allowed each member attending each session shall be one hundred dollars and to each legal expert two hundred and fifty dollars, together with actual travelling expenses, payable out of the consolidated revenue fund of Canada. The speaker of the legislative assembly is to receive a salary of five hundred dollars per annum and clerk of the assembly two thousand dollars per annum, both to be paid out of the consolidated revenue fund.

Verret, Stewart & Co., wholesale dealers in fish, Montreal, have dissolved.

Ed. Languedoc, general storekeeper, St. Michel, has assigned.





A Brand of Coffee which represents a perfect blending of strength and flavor. Always packed in 2 lbs. air tight cans; no charge for cans; 15 cans in a case.

.









Ferguson, WHOLESALE

WINES- LIQUOR'S AND CIGARS

27 Permit Orders Promptly Executed The

JOHN HANBURY & CO. Wholesa Dealers in and Exporters of Grain, Flour, Feed and Produce. Wholesale Agents for several LEADING BRANDS OF CIGARS Brandon, Man.

Forbes & Stirrett PLANING MILL AND SASH AND DOOR FACTORY, 10th St., south Rosser Av BRANDON NEUMEYER AND PARES,

BRANDON, MANITOBA Brewers of the Celebrated Export India Pale Ale, Imperial Stout, Noted XX Porter in Casks or Bottles,

Imported,

ndorn.

THE COMMERCIAL



British Columbia.

A. J. Marks has opened in the wall paper line at Vancouver.

J. B. Ferguson has sold his residence at Victoria to J. C. Devlin, commission merchant, for \$3,600.

Leask & Johnson have been appointed agents at Vancouver for M. W. Waitt & Co., of Victoria, for pianos and organs.

A new tailoring establishment has been opened at Vancouver by W. T. Quinn, who has lately come from Portland, Oregon.

British Columbia members of Parliament, urging the granting of a subsidy to the Shuswap and Okanangan railway, interviewed Hon. Mr. Pope at Ottawa lately.

The Legislature has been prorogued by Lieutenant-Governor Nelson, who assented to fortysix bills. One provides for the crection of two sampling reduction works for the purpose of aiding in the development of the quartz ledges of the Cariboo and Kootenay districts.

Vancouver News :--- A large seizure of goods was effected by the Custom House officers the other day. A quantity of household goods came up on the steamer Premier from Seattle, and were entered at the Custom House as settlers' effects. On the cases being opened a large quantity of cloth of all shades and styles, and tailors' trimmings, were found hidden amongst the furniture, and were immediately seized. The owner attempted to bribe the Customs officers, but failed most ignominiously. An appraisement of the seized goods resulted in their being valued at considerably over \$1,000.

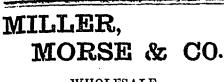
Following is the 14th Quarterly Report of Nanaimo Equitable Pioneer Society, which operates the co-operative store at Nanaimo : Sales during the quarter ending

March 31st, 1888		\$15,619	60
Net profits from sales	- • • • • • • • • •	\$1,688	87
DIVIDE	D.		
Members' purchases at 10 per cent Eight shares in Building	\$1,4 67 00		
Fund	SO 00		
Depreciation	41 87		
Depreciation Reservo Fund	100 00		
		\$1.688	-87

Members added during the quarter, 22, making a total membership of 300.

Vancouver Hera'd :- DeWolf returned to the city yesterday. He has made a final selection of the location for the smelter upon the west half of block C in lot 183, and expects that the erection of the works will commence in about a month. A brother of his will come out to reside here as managing director of the company, and two well known gentlemen in the province will act as local directors. The company is prosecuting development work on the claims it recently purchased near Goldan. It is probable, DeWolf says, that one of the best known chemists and assayers in London will come out to take charge of the technical department of the works, and everything will be done to ensure their success, and a very large increase in the capacity of the works through the quantity of ore which will be offered for treatment.

James Hastic, furniture dealer, Victoria, has admitted C. B. Lockhart into partnership; style now Hastie & Lockhart.



WHOLESALE

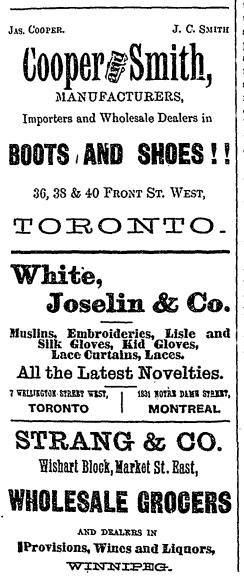
HARDWARE,

BARB WIRE,

HARVEST TOOLS.

PRINCESS STREET, WINNIPEG.





J. A. Brock & Co., photographers, Vancouver, have dissolved partnership. H. T. Devine continues.

Douglas & Hargraves, real estate and commission merchants, Vancouver, have dissolved partnership. The business is continued under the style of D. F. Douglas & Co.

Westminster Columbian :--About thirty-five new houses are in course of erection in this city, and plans are being prepared for nearly as many more. The class of buildings now being erected is far superior to the average dwellings which have been erected heretofore, and though rents are higher, nearly every house is leased before finished.

By the arrival of the steamer Dunsmuir the other evening we learn, says the Nanaimo Free Press, that the work at the Comox mines of Dansmuir & Sons is progressing rapidly. Already three miles of the railway line have been cleared and the logs burned. The steamer Pilot took up a scow laden with machinery and rails for the new mines. The machinery will be hauled over the old road to the mines. The opening of the seam of coal is progressing vigorously. Mr. Bryden, the manager of the Wellington colleries, and Mr. James Dunsmuir are at the mines superintending the work.

British Columbia continues to impose restrictions upon inter-provincial trade. Regarding the latest move in this direction, the Columbian says :-- We agree with a number of our cotemporaries who have expressed approval of the amendment just made to the municipalities act requiring travelling tradesmen to pay a substantial license wherever they may solicit business. Commercial travellers from the east often do a lot of business in the country that belongs legitimately to the local trader: but the trader is forced to pay taxes, while the other escapes free. During the past twelve months several tailors from the cast have visited all the important towns and cities throughout this Province, and have gone home with their pockets full of orders for clothing. They paid no taxes. For many reasons an eastern tailor can make clothing more cheaply than it can be made in this country. Materials there are all cheaper than with us, while wages and all other expenses are less. It is not fair that these people should be permitted to compete with our own workman and escape the taxes we have to pay.

One of the principal establishments of Nanaimo, the coal mining town of B C, is the cooperative store. It is governed by rules similar to the English co-operative societies. Shares were taken at \$25 cach, and paid in full, or \$5 instalments. When about \$1,500 had been raised in this way, a retail store was opened. The business of the society is conducted by a president, secretary and treasurer, and twelve of a committee of management. These are also guided by the instruction of the members at the meetings, which are held every three months, when the quarterly report and balance sheet are read, and the dividend declared. The society now has 300 members, composed of laborers, carpenters, blacksmiths, machinists, teamsters, miners and farmers of the surrounding districts extending as far up as Comox. Dry goods and groceries were sold to the

amount of \$15,619.60, last quarter, realizing a profit sufficient to declare a profit of fifteen cents on the dollar on members' purchases. If not drawn, the dividend is added to his shares. Now that a sufficient amount of capital to sustain the society has been secured, the membership fee has been reduced to \$1. The society have \$22,000 worth of goods in their store, two lots, a good store, the whole costing nearly \$5 000; also three horses, single and double sleighs and wagons. They employ a salesman, a young assistant, a bookkeeper, who also assists in the store, and a teamster, and hire other teamsters and help when business is brisk.

Grain and Milling News.

At a meeting held at Birtle, it was decided to form * milling compay, with a capital of \$15,000. A charter will be procured.

By the retirement of J. R. Reilly from the firm of MacCaul, McNichol and Reilly, millers, Regina, Assa,, the firm has been dissolved. The business will be continued by MacCaul, MacNichol and Hansell, the latter succeeding to Reilly's interest.

Law & Pearson of Neepawa Man., have instructed Timewell & Son of Winnipeg, to prepare plans and specifications and immediately proceed to call for tenders for the erection of a 50,000 bushel elevator at Neepawa, the elevator to be fitted with all the best machinery for receiving, cleaning and shipping wheat.

Northwestern Miller : Some time ago we quoted the remarks of a miller who said he proposed to run his mill steadily this year, no matter how the market changed, believing that this was the true policy in order to do a successful business. Another miller promptly assailed the idea and gravely asked what would become of the milling, industry of the country if every miller should adopt a similar policy. There is but one answer to such a query Adoption of this policy by all or a majority of the mills of the country which are now in operative condition, would cause so heavy an over-production of flour as would result in driving to the wall very rapidly those millers who are weakest financially. That is the true policy cannot be denied, but its general adoption would be fallowed by a wide-reaching revolution in the milling industry.

The Canada Gazette contains notice of application for the incorporation of the Westerm Lumber Company, which asks power not only to manufacture lumber, but also to go into the manufacture of flour, paper, etc., and to run and operate steamboats etc. The operations of the company age to be carried on in the provinces of Ontario and Manitoba and in the Northwest Territories, and the head office or cheif place of business is to be in Toronto. The annount of the capital stock of the company is to be \$300,000. The names of the applicants are as follows: George Graham of Port Arthur John McCrae, lumber dealer, John .Campbell Graham, of Windsor, lumber dealer; James Barry, of Niagara Falls, contractor, and Phillip McCrae, Township of Lancaster, lumber dealers.

Jas. McLaren, an Ottawa valley lumberman, has made another investment in British Columbia, this time purchasing 2410 acres of fine timber land from J. C. Prevost, of Victoria.

Paper Making.

The art of paper making, if not the most important, is at least one of the most useful that has been invented. Paper has, in the present age of rapid advancement and improvement, acquired a degree of importance with which it would not have been credited with a century ago. Being the vehicle of written thought between nations as well as individuals, it has contributed more to the advancement of the human race than any other material comployed in the arts ; and its manufacture constitutes an art depending more closely than any other upon the march of civilization. Its uses are now beyond number, and the demand for it so general that it has become an article of prime necessity, and one that is daily entering more and more largely into the ordinary wants and ordinary life of all classes.

The word "Paper" is derived from the Greek name of a rush which grew in the swamps on the banks of the Nile, about ten to twelve feet high, and from which the Egyptians manufactured a writing material. The inner cuticles under the coarse exterior portion of the plant were carefully removed, and the thin leaves were laid side by side on a table, moistened with water, and rendered adhesive by the use of a paste made of very fine flour mixed with size or glue. Another layer was laid transversely on the top of the first, and the two were pressed together and dried in the sur, when they became sufficiently cemented to form a sheet. The sheet was then besten smooth with a mallet, and a surface imparted to it by polishing with a piece of ivory or tooth.

This paper was probably known and used as far back as the third or fourth century B. C., and it continued in general use until the beginning of the sixth century of the present cra, when it was superseded by parchment and the paper known as "Carta Bombycina," made from cotton, which latter was then just then being introduced from the East. From the Egyptians, the art of making paper from the papyrus was transmitted to the Romans, who greatly improved it, bestowing more care upon the various operations of washing, pressiug, sizing, and smoothing, and they made many different kinds and qualities. The trade in papyrus became considerable, not only at Rome, but throughout the civilized world. The profits from the sale were so large that they produced a revenue sufficient for Firmus, who made himself master of Egypt towards the end of the third century, to boast that he had in his possession as much paper as could support his army. The papyrus, though it was submitted to a special process of manufacture, retained substantially its original form ; and it is to the Chinese that the credit is due of having invented the art of making paper from pulp. They were familiar with the art about the beginning of the Christian era, the materials used being the bark of trees, parts of the bamboo cane, rice straw and cotton. The Arabians and Hindoos, by their inroads and conquests in Tartary at the close of the seventh century, learned the art from the Chinese. It was nex; introduced into Europe through Greece and Spain, the Arabs or Moors bringing it with them in their conquest of Spain during the eighth century, and the Greeks acquiring it through their commerce with Asia and Egypt. From Greece and Spain, the art was communicated to Germany, France and Holland, and thence it reached England. Paper made from cotton, with authentic dates from the tenth and earlier centuries, is preserved, but linen fibre does not seem to have come into use until later, and cannot be traced back further than the middle of the fourteenth century.

The first account of the construction of a paper mill of any note is the establishment of a large one at Nuremberg, in 1390, by Ulman Stromor, a German, in which he employed a great number of persons for the manufacture of paper from linen and cotton fibre. A century afterwards a mill was afterwards erected in this country, at Stevenage, in Hertfordshire, by Mr. John Tate, to which reference is made in a book printed by Caxton, about the year 1490. In 1589, John Speilman, a German, jeweller to Queen Elizabeth, owned a paper mill near Dartford, for the erection of which he obtained from the Queen his knighthood, and a ten-year monopoly for the gathering of all rags, etc., necessary for the manufacture. Only very common paper, principally for wrapping purposes, was made there, the finer sorts coming always from France and Holland. About the year 1770, Whatman had the courage to examine, in the capacity of a workman, the continental mills. On his return to England he founded the mill at Maidstone, which is known at the present day as the manufactory of the finest hand-made paper. Hitherto, all paper had been made by hand, sheet by sheet. At the end of the. eighteenth century, the idea of a machine, for producing at one operation a continuous web of paper from the prepared pulp, was conceived by a Frenchman named Robert. This machine, developed and rendered practicable in England, soon took up a place of first importance in the paper trade ; and from this time the manufacture was divided into two distinct branches, known respectively as hand-made and machine. made.

Early in the present century, Berthollet discovered the valuable bleaching properties of chlorine, which at once caused a revolution in the trade ; manufacturers were able to produce white paper from materials that had hitherto been debarred from use for that purpose owing to their color. About the year 1844, however, a sudden depreciation arose in the value of white papers, especially the French, due to the indiscriminate use of the bleaching agent, Papermakers, although appreciating its value, were not aware of the necessity of destroying all traces of chlorine in the prepared pulp. This free chlorine gradually acting upon the fibres, injuriously affected their resisting power, and rendered the paper brittle and wanting in tenacity. Since that time the manufacture has steadily progressed.

Until the end of the eighteenth century, paper was made in Europe almost entirely from rags. At this period other substances were adopted as substitutes, due in part, no doubt, to the insufficient supply of rags, and consequent rise. The author has a copy of a publication, printed by Burton, of London, and said to have been written by Matthias Koops; it was published in the year 1800, and is printed

on the first paper made from straw in Eugland. It was dedicated to the reigning Sovoreign, George III. An appendix is printed on paper made from wood fibre alone, which, although hardly properly reduced, is strong, tough, and of a light yellow color; the printing shows up well upon it, as also upon the straw paper.

Paper has been made from a great variety of substances without the use of rags; in fact, almost any vegetable fibre can, by proper manipulation, be made into some sort of paper; but the principal substances which have a remarkable value, and are used to any great extent, are esparto, wood and straw.-Brilish and Colonial Printer and Stationer.

The London Fur Sales.

The great March fur sales began sooner this year than usual, on account of the earlier approach of Easter.

The Hudson's Bay Company had sales on Monday, March 12, and the three following days, beginning at 10 o'clock. There were offered 11,588 skins otter, only 9 skins sea otter. 6,138 fisher, 944 silver fox, and 3,821 cross fox on the first day. The first eight lots of otter (about 45 skins each) sold at 57s per skin. These were "York Fort," and brought about 3s more per skin than the same grade last season. Wetted (45 skins in each lot) sold 45s per skin. M. R. in 10 lots of 42 each brought 53s. E. M. and F. G. realized the highest prices. 58s and 60s respectively. Seconds (York Fort) declined about 10 per cent. from last March prices, selling at 37s and 38s per skin. The smalls 27s and 28s per skin. In general, small seconds and large thirds went at last March prices, and small thirds at an advance of about 10 per cent. America took most of these, some were for Russia, but very few for England. Some 3.000 more skins otter were offered than at the corresponding sale last year.

Silver fox realized all sorts of prices. Beginning with four skins which brought £33 apice, they sold as low as 10 per cent. on an average less than last year, and the inferior grades at a reduction of 30 per cent. or 40 per cent. Russia and Germany had most of these. One fine skin brought £40, and 32 skins sold for only £1 2s 0d each.

Red fox Y. F., (17,000 skins) opened at 10s 3d, about the same price as last year. Thirtytwo lots of 42 skins each went for 8s 9d per skin. A long string of seconds (50 each) realized 7s 9d and 8s. Some of the poorer lots went as cheap as 3s per skin.

White fox, of which there were 12,978 skins, fell off in price about 40 per cent., the finer skins 20 per cent. Mostly bought by Germans for dycing, except a few of the best which are for the American market.

Only 72 skins of the expensive blue fox came next, and they brought great prices. Each of the 18 skins in lot 1301 sold for ± 9 , an advance of ± 1 over last year's price; another lot of seven skins brought ± 7 each. The French competed with Russian buyers for these valuable skins.

After 250 kitt fox, which brought an average price of 3s 3d, came 78,555 lynx. The best lots of large Y. F. went 10 per cent. higher than last March; N. W. remained about the same. Some large fine skins marked M. R. brought 26s. Seconds and thirds were about 25 per cent. cheaper. American buyers took most of the best skins, France, Germany and England the cheaper grad s. Next came 16,332 skunk, which sold as a rule as high as last Spring. Inferior grades declined about 10 per cent. This ended the second day's sale of the Hudson's Bay Co.

The best mink skins sold about 15 per cent. cheaper than a year ago, excepting smalls, which held their price. The seconds and thirds declined fully 20 per cent. German buyers took the bulk of these, and a few were bought for the American market. Only 1,678 beaver were offered and these not very good. The first lot went for 33s 6d per skin, compared with Jan. 33s 6d. Some small ones only brought 7 or 8 shillings, but the inferior quality accounted for the falling off in price. After 1,884 Musquash, at about an average price of 6d. came 4,749 wolf skins. A few Y. F. sold for 25s 3d against 24s last year. Large seconds declined 40 per cent., and the smalls 60 per cent. American buyers took the best, and English nearly all the remainder.

Sundries, odds and ends, etc., finished the Hudson's Bay Co.'s sale, which included goat, ermine (at 7s per 40), hare 8s 6d per doz., Raccoon at 4s 3d, squirrel at 6s per 100, swan 3s a piece, weenusk at 3s. Among the final lots, rabbits', loons', panthers', coons', badgers', lynxes', and sea otters' tails were mingled, and were knocked down to doubtless happy buyers who could start quite a large natural history museum withe their purchases if they felt so inclined. The first sale of C. M. Lampson & Co., took place on Monday afternoon and evening follow ing the sale of the Hudson's Bay Co.

3,031 cross fox were offered, which brought lower prices than at the Hudson's Bay sale.

Lot 1, of 45 skins, sold for 38s each. The best seconds went at 39s. Prices varied considerably. Dark sold as high as 78s and 69s. The lots as usual were most carefully sorted, and some of the fourths and fifths went very cheap at 3s, seconds at 23s, and thirds at 10s to 13s each.

Russian sable, consisting of 4,579 skins, were disposed of the next evening. Opening at 75sfor firsts (A. color, silvery), the seconds brought 37s 6d, and 12s 6d. The best prices realized were 210s each for a lot of 14 firsts, 320s each for 12 skins, A. color and silvery, 147s 6d each for 14 skins, 120s each seconds (silvery) and 50s each for firsts (A. color, silvery.)

Blue fox, 2,292 skius, came on the third day's sale, March 14th. The dark firsts sold sold for 155s and 165s a piece to begin with. The seconds for 125s and 130s. Blue firsts for 125s, 135s and 145s, 105s and 100s. Six skins sold for 280s each, being firsts and seconds. Seven skins, firsts and seconds, blue, for 235s a piece. Pale seconds for 65s and 60s. Thirds for 30s each. Most of these were bought by Revellon & Co., for the French market.

Only 919 skins of the expensive silver fox were offered, the first lot (one skin) going for £36, the second for £29, the third (two skins) at £25 a piece. The piece for less choice firsts was £7 10s 0d a skin. One II. skin sold for £32, another for £22, another lot of these at £13,

ESTABLISHED

another £10, and some few seconds as low as £6 a piece. Thirds went for £5, £4 103 0d, £2 108 0d, and some as cheap as £1 103 0d. Fourths for 103. These lots were all most carefully sorted, and the 912 skins were divided in 8141 lots.

2,436 fisher began at 30s each for 21 skins. Seconds followed at 30s (30 skins). Thirds at 13s and 12s. The highest price obtained for fisher was 59s each for 14 skins. Prices varied according to quality all the way down to 8s and even less.

1,246 Fur Seal opened at 28s each for 34 skins. Other lots (about 25 in all) sold at 10s 20s, 27s, 31s, and fully as low as $0s \mod 4s$ cach skin.

To sum up the results of Messrs. C. M. Lampson & Co.'s sales in March 1888 :

Fox, Cross, sold 20 per cent. lower than a year ago, Russian Sable 15 per cent. lower, Blue Fox 20 per cent. higher, Silver Fox 30 per cent. lower, Sca Otter 25 per cent. lower, Fisher, 6 per cent. lower, Fur Seal, dry, 15 per cent. lower than in January.

Red Fox from United States and Canada, sold 15 per cent. higher than last June, while Asiatic and Alaskan 15 per cent. lower than March last.

Musquash about the same as in January. Grey Fox, $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. lower than in January.

Marten, same as in January. Skunk, 10 per cent. higher than in January.

Black and short striped advancing most; white and long striped bringing nearly old prices. Mink 5 per cent. higher than in January.

All kinds of small skins in demand. Large

1825

The J. A. Converse

A.W. MORRIS & BRO., PROPRIETORS, MONTREAL.

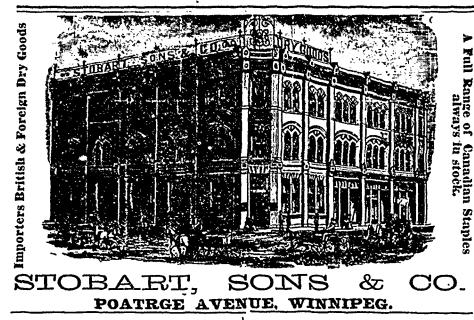
We are the Largest Manufacturers in the Dominion of Manilla, Sisal, Russian and Jute Cordage.

Binder Twine, Jute and Cotton Bags,

CALCINED AND LAND PLASTER.

REPRESENTED IN WINNIPEG BY MERRICK, ANDERSON & CO.

THE COMMERCIAL



pale and coarse pelted kinds sold heavily. Raccoon, 5 per cent. lower than in January, on account of lower prices for poor blue pelts and thirds.

Beaver, same as in January.

Otter sold 15 per cent. higher than in March last year.

Wolf, about the same as January last.

Wolverin, 20 per cent. lower than in March last year.

Black bear, 20 per cent. lower than a year ago. The rough fine pelted sold about the same, but the low pelted heavy sorts declined. Brown and grizzly bear sold 20 per cent.

ower than in March, 1887.

n surance Briefs.

We see it stated that in less than fifty years thirty-four life insurance companies have failed and seventy-eight reinsured.

A new fire engine has been purchased by Vancouver, B. C. It is a duplicate of the present engine, costing in the neighborhood of \$4,000. An new fire hall will be built soon.

The fire tax of the United States, including fire losses, the cost of conducting insurance companies, and the sustaining of fire departments, is not less that \$180,000,000, and is probably \$200,000,000 per annum.

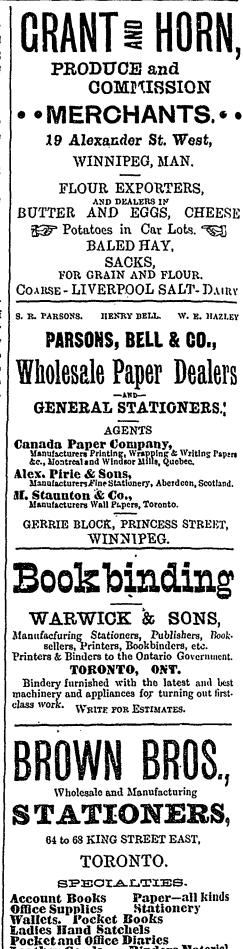
A fire was discovered in Calgary, Alberta, shortly after midnight in a building occupied by Wellington & McKenzie, general dealers. The fire started in the room of Mr. Wellington who was absent at the time. The fire was incendiary in its origin. It was got under contol without serious damage.

If Dr. David Hostetter, the bitters man of Pittsburgh, Pa., should step down and out, the life insurance companies would drop \$100,000. He was about to raise the amount to \$1,000,000, but prolonged illness prevented. No man should be permitted to carry such a line of insurance. No man's money value of life is worth any such sum. Such large sums on a single life is a wrong upon those who insure in smaller sums.—Exchange.

The Guardian claims that the assessment life insurance companies are paying more in losses to the beneficiaries of deceased members than are the old line companies. The growth of assessment life insurance during the past few years is simply wonderful. It gets severely criticised by insurance journals generally. We sometimes think the insurance journals give assessment life insurance a vast amount of free advertising, and that this contributes largely to its growth.—Exchange.

The old plan life insurance companies are walling up to the fact that they cannot much longer maintain their unnecessarily rigid rules, and they are beginning to make concessions. The latest we note is that of one of the most prominent life companies announcing the issue of a non-forfeiting free tontine policy, which will include the advantages of tontine accumulation, guaranteed options at the end of tontine periods, and perfect freedom, after two years, as to residence, travel and occupation (except service in war). In case of death by reason of engaging in the military or naval service in time of war, the reserve value of the policy will be paid. Now what is wanted is a reduction in the expenses of management, and a reduction in the rate of premium, so as to bring the blessings which life insurance is capable of bestowing within the reach of those most need. ing them.

Few people have any idea of the magnitude of the life insurance business. From the recent reports of the superintendent of insurance for the State of New York, we learn that the eleven life insurance companies of that State have received in premiums since their organization \$\$41,926,043, and that they have paid to policy holders \$577,230,493. There are thirty life companies reporting to the New York In. surance Department. These thirty companies have received since their organization in pre-miums \$1,521,536,694, and have paid to policy holders \$1,097,603,940. Now it is fair to pre-sume taking the general statements of the com-panies as to their interest earnings, that \$1,-500,000,000, at least should be added to the \$1,526,536,694, making the premiums and inter-est over \$3,000,000,000. Out of this there has been paid to policy holders a small fraction over \$1,000,000,000, leaving the nice plum of \$2,000,000,000, or two dollars for one, for management expenses and in our city officers' parlance, "soap and things."-Cincinnati parlance, "s Price Current.



Binders Material

Leather Goods

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Business East.

B. Butler, grocer, Port Dovor, has sold out. M. P. De'ouche, tins, Guelph, has assigned. Edward Daly, hotelkcoper, Lindsay, has sold

Liward Daly, notenceper, Lindssy, has sold out. John Cooper, grocer, Ridgetown, has sold

out. Samuel Best, general storekceper, Eldorado,

has sold out. Hy. Watson, general storekeeper, Clearville,

has sold out. J. C. Barcows, general storekeeper, Ruthven,

has assigned.

Jas. Ridnoy, general storekceper, Campbellville, is dead.

Robertson & Johnston, carriages, Harriston, have dissolved.

S. S. Weaver, publisher, Madoc, has removed to Eldorado.

S. B. Morris & Co., bankers, Rodney, advertise to sell out.

R. H. Stephenson, livery, Port Elgin, is giving up business.

Chas. Ashley, carriages, Foxboro, a meeting of creditors held.

A. Lamomt, general storekeeper, North Bruce, is about selling out.

Kerby & Purcell, general storekeepers, Rodney, have assigned.

Mrs. J. L. Simpson, general storekceper, Chesley, has assigned.

Chaffey & Nicholls, general storekeepers, Nov..., have dissolved.

Stephens & Adams, general storekeepers, Norwich, have assigned.

J. E. Baxter, grocer, Simcoo, has assigned. W. W. Crnise, grocer, Sarnia, has assigned. T C. Legault, grocer, Ottawa, has assigned. J C White, tinsmith, Almonte, has assigned. Thos. [Armitage, grocer, Hamilton, has sold out.

M. L. Stevens, grocer, Ingersoll, has sold out.

Mrs. J. J. Ryan, hotelkceper, Pickering, has sold out.

Ezra R. Armstrong, grocer, Landsdowne, has assigned.

John Kylc, general storekceper, Seaforth, has sold out.

R. M. Blair, general storekeeper, Bervie, is out of business.

C. O. Rapelje, deater in books, Essex Centre, is out of business.

L. A. Gauthier, dealer in liquors, Sturgeon Falls, has assigned.

Jos. McKay, general storckeeper, Mount Elgin, has assigned.

Wiseman & Co., dealers in dry goods, St. Thomas, havo assigned.

J. & G. Peppler, general storekeepers, Bloomingdale, have assigned.

Tune & Robertson, dealers in soda water, etc., Stratford, have dissolved.

Alex. Beattie & Co., general storekeepers, St. Marys-Alex. Beattie is dead.

Edward Robinson, manufacturing jeweler, London, is retiring from business.

Lawrence Murphy, dealer in agricultural implements, etc., Seaforth, has assigned.

Rutherford & Hall, general storekeepers, Blenhein, have dissolved-James Rutherford continues alone. T. Walker, builder, Woodstock, is away.

A. O. Wheeler, builder, Toronto, hasassigned. Geo. Lawrence, dealer in cigars, Toronto, has assigned.

Broderick Bros., grocers, Toronto, have assigned.

Wm. McConnell, grocer and baker, Wyoming, has sold out.

Mrs. Wm. Gibson, tailor, Toronto-style now Gibson & Ball.

Thos. Robertson, dealer in clothing, Toronto, was burned out.

Jus. Habgood, dealer in shoes, Toronto, stock damaged by fire

Wm. White & Co., dealers in hardware, etc., Tweed, have dissolved.

A. J. Patker, general storekcoper, West Winchester, has assigned.

H. McDonald, dealer in shoer, Tara, is removing to Mount Forest.

D. Cameron, general storekeeper, Underwood, is giving up business.

Hugh McGilvray & Co., planing mill, Toronto, are out of business.

Miss M. A. Stewart, dealer in fancy goods, Port Elgin, is offering to sell out.

QUEBEC.

Moore & Honey, roller rink, Montreal, have dissolved.

Rochon & Monette, contractors, Montreal, have dissolved.

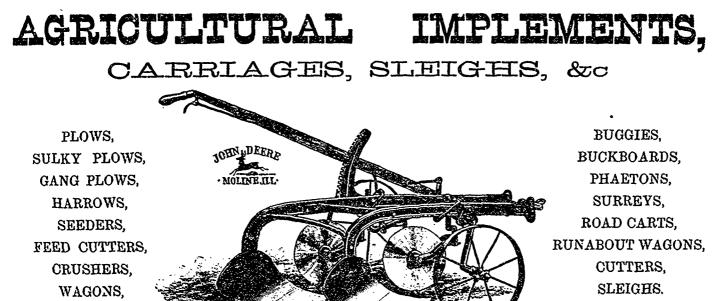
Victor E. Rcy, general storekeeper, Coaticooke, has assigned.

J. O. Bourret & Co., manufacturers of vinegar, Montreal, have dissolved.

Noonan Giblin & Co., wholesale clothiers, Montreal, have assigned.

F.A. FAIRCHILD & CO.

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Our Coming Route South.

Manitobans have been so long compelled to travel to St. Paul and Minneapolis over the St. P. M. & M. rai'way, it being the only i vailable road there, that it is with a feeling of relief that they look forward to the opening of the Red River Valley road to connect with the Northern Pacific, which will give them the much desired, and indeed much needed choice of routes. Wo say much needed choice, for the monopoly compact between the C. P. R. and St. P., M. & M. roads has been so managed, as to drive all possible trade between here and the east over the former road, where the equipment showed up much better, than it did over the road to St. Paul and Minneapolis

A representative of THE COMMERCIAL has taken time by the forelock, and made the trip between St. Paul and Pembina over the Northern Pacific, with a view of comparing the new and the old routes, and has no hesitation in stating his preference for the new one.

The reasons for preference are due entirely to the country travelied through, and are not based upon the treatmont accorded to passengers on either route. From St. Paul to the Red River Valley the roads are practically similar so far as the country travelled through is concerned. But the monotony from entering the Red River valley until Winnipeg is reached by the road east of the river has always been the great objection to a trip to Manitoba, and those of us who have been compelled to make it frequently, know well how genuing the objection really is. Fortunately by the new route much of this monotony is escaped. From the point where the main line of the N. P. R. is left, namely ; Winnipeg Junction, a few miles brings the traveller to a rolling prairie country, with little timber clumps to relieve the eye, and ere he is an hour on his way north he is passing through the beautiful valley of the Wild Rice River, shrouded in brush and poplar, with occasional gnarly old oaks towering above all around. Emerging from this be has another hour's ride over rolling prairie, when he enters and passes through another wooded valley hemming in a winding stream. Thus the scene kceps changing until Red Lake Falls is reached, from which the road follows or skirts the valley of the Red Lake river down to its junction with the Red at Grand Forks. Up to this point the most fastidious traveller could not complain of monotony of scenery, and after crossing the Red River the route lies through Grafton and other thriving Dakota towns, until Pembina is reached, a streak of country well known to Manitobans, and much pleasanter to travel through than the flat monotonous Red River Valley, on the Minnesota side.

Taken altogether the new route will be a great improvement over the old one, so far as pleasing scenery is concerned, and we learn that the Northern Pacific management intend putting on first class sleeping and duning cars through to Winnipeg, and thus furnishing a degree of comfort and convenience hitherto unknown between this city and the Minnesota capital. When they come they will be welcome, we say.

Fire insurance was a losing business in Minnesota last year.



fMeals.

theals. No. 4, Mondays and Thursdays. No. 1, Wednesdays and Saturdays. No. 2, Tuesdays and Fridays. No. 3, Tuesdays and Fridays. Trains leave Minnedosa for Rapid City Tuesdays and Fridays at 17 10; returning leave Rapid City. Wednesdays and Saturdays at 9. For Langenburg Saturdays only at 21.00; returning leave Birtle Tuesdays only at 21.00; returning leave Birtle Tuesdays only at 21.00; returning leave Birtle Tuesdays only at 2.30. For Russel leave Birtle Tuesdays only at 2.30. For Russel wednesdays only at 3.45, making connection with main line trains. Above trains connect at Portagela Prair o with trains of the Canadian Pacifie Railway to and from Winnipeg. For information as to Freight or Passenger Rates apply to A Macdonald, Assistant Freight and Passenger Agent Portage la Prairie, or to

Portage la Prairie, or to

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Des Moines Passenger	a6 25 p.m	a7.05 p.m
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