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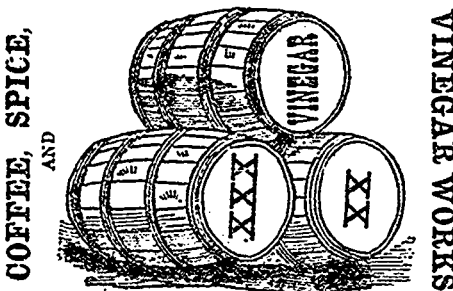
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THE COMMERCIAL GAZETTE

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE FINANCIAL, MERCANTILE AND MANUFACTURING INTERESTS OF THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

PUBLISHED BY STEEN & BOYCE EVERY TUESDAY - \$2.00 PER ANNUM

VOL. 1.

WINNIPEG, JUNE 19, 1883.

NO. 38.

The Commercial

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

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STEEN & BOYCE,

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WINNIPEG, JUNE 19, 1883.

THE C. P. R. monthly pay will amount to \$300,000.

MCCORMICK & EDDY, hotel, Regina, have dissolved.

WATSON & FLEMING, grocers, Nelson, are selling out.

L. J. COLLIN, grocer, St. Boniface, has assigned in trust.

J. J. RADFORD, jeweller, Winnipeg, has sold out by auction.

Miss S. G. Clark, millinery, Winnipeg, has assigned in trust.

THE legal firm of Burnham & Bell, Emerson, has been dissolved.

FRANK DALY, hotel, Winnipeg, is in the hands of the bailiff.

CARMAN BROS., of Stonewall, are opening a branch store at Balmoral.

H. J. RUTHERFOLD is erecting a large carriage shop in Cartwright.

THOS. HOULGRAVE has sold his hotel business in Virdon to a Mr. Bellamy.

GORDON & Co., grocers, Winnipeg, have sold their business to W. F. Smith.

BETHUNE BROS., general store, Archibald, purpose removing to Manitoba City.

MUIR & WAGNER, saw mill, Winnipeg and Cartwright, have assigned in trust.

THOS. BOTTERILL, hardware, Winnipeg, is removing his business to Medicine Hat.

GEO. WISHART & Co., wholesale liquors and cigars, Winnipeg, are closing up their business.

THE C. P. R. are now busy ballasting their road between Winnipeg and Portage la Prairie.

WM. BEECH on Wednesday purchased the stock of Deacon & Co., Emerson, at 40c. on the dollar.

THE Court of Chancery has appointed D. H. McMillan, receiver for the Winnipeg Iron Works.

THE track of the Canadian Pacific Railway was laid eighteen miles beyond Medicine Hat on Saturday.

PERKINS & Co., fire and waterproof paint manufacturers, Winnipeg, have established agencies in Portage and Brandon.

E. F. RADIGER & Co., liquor merchants, Winnipeg, are to be sold out under a chattel mortgage, held by the Union Bank of Lower Canada.

THE stocks of goods formerly belonging to W. H. Cooper & Co., Emerson, has been purchased by Wm. Beech. The stock amounted to \$13,000 and brought 46c. on the dollar.

A KNITTING factory has been started at Dominion City. The proprietor, Mr. Webster, has been granted exemption from taxation for one year, as an encouragement to his enterprise.

MOOSOMIN now has six stores. The latest addition has just been established by McRea & Lewen, formerly of West Lynne. An excellent new hotel, "The Royal," has just been opened.

CHINESE firms are said to be quietly buying or leasing a large quantity of land in Victoria, B. C., on which to erect extensive business houses, so as to monopolize the trade in Chinese and Japanese goods with eastern Canada, on the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

THE crops out west are reported as looking splendid. The Bell Farm Company have 3,400

acres under crop, and the wheat is now from six to eight inches in height. The company have broken this season already 1,600 acres, and it is their intention to break 7,000 acres before fall.

N. GERMAIN & Co., who have been extensively engaged in retail hardware in Winnipeg for some time have assigned. The firm have been in difficulty for some time, brought on by the failure of a large wholesale house in Montreal, with which they had their principal business connection.

ALEXANDER & BRYCE, the well known dry goods firm have made an assignment in trust for the benefit of their creditors. This firm have done a good business, but miscalculating the wants of the country they purchased too heavily, and the dull times following they have been forced to take the course mentioned above. Their creditors are principally in Montreal and Toronto.

BLAIR & LARMOUR, who succeeded to Stobart, Eden & Co.'s retail dry goods business about a year and a half ago, and have been struggling for some time with financial difficulty have decided to go out of business. Insufficient capital and an enormous rental, together with the dull times of the past six months have been the causes of their misfortune. Their creditors are chiefly in the eastern Provinces.

THE Canadian Pacific Railway Co., recognizing the importance of providing suitable accommodation for the transit of butter from the eastern provinces to the North-west, are placing refrigerator cars at the disposal of shippers, so that orders from this country can be promptly filled despite the long journey in the heat of the summer season. This will be a great boon to the people of this country.

A FEW weeks ago the "Dominion Brick and Terra Cotta Company" shipped to Philadelphia samples of clays from their property on the Saskatchewan, for the purpose of having their adaptability for brick manufacture thoroughly tested. The samples of pressed brick made from the clay have been received and are pronounced very fine. The red brick is said by those competent to judge to be much superior to the celebrated article made in Philadelphia. The company intend to get machinery on the ground and commence active operations as soon as possible.

The President of the Bank of Montreal on the North-West.

At the recent annual meeting of the shareholders of the Bank of Montreal, the president spoke at great length upon the condition of the country, financially. Speaking of the North-west and referring more particularly to the operations of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, he said. It is not known to every one that the work of construction has been pushed forward with marvellous energy. The progress has been even greater than I expected, although I looked for great things. The effects of the success which has attended the efforts of the Company to place its stock upon the leading markets of the world can scarcely be over-estimated. It is a matter of congratulation to us all. It has brought large sums of money into the country and has had important influence upon the Exchanges. Exchange on the United States has been very much against this country, and would have been still more so but for the large amount of American funds supplied by the company, amounting in all to many millions. The scarcity of New York funds and the high rates they commanded during the past winter is of too recent occurrence to require any reminder, but had it not been for the supply obtained from the sources I have indicated it would have been very difficult to meet the demand. The expenditure of the company during the coming season is now certain to be large—the works will be pushed forward with undiminished vigor without a doubt, and in connection with the immigration, which is now certain to be larger than ever before, will do much to promote a high degree of prosperity in that region, if we should be favored with a good harvest, and to mitigate the disastrous effects of a bad one, if it should unfortunately be in store for us. In making special allusion to the operations of the Canadian Pacific Railway, I do so partly because it is largely a national undertaking, and partly because the public attention has been turned very much in that direction—the prosperity of the country in the immediate future being very much bound up with the successful prosecution of that great work. I do not, however, forget that we have other old and valued clients engaged in the work of opening up and developing the country and transporting the crops, whose relations to the Bank are of long standing and the connection highly prized. Just here I may say that business has been very dull in Manitoba and the North-west during the winter, partly from the natural reaction from what must be considered a somewhat artificial state of things, and partly from the excessive stock of goods held rendering it necessary for the banks to exercise considerable forbearance in many cases to prevent disaster. There is no denying that things have met with a decided check in the North west, but that was to be expected. That it will recover quickly may also be confidently expected, and, although uninterrupted prosperity can scarcely be looked for, its progress will probably be very like the incoming tide, rising higher every time after receding. There are indications already that things are working into a more satisfac-

tory shape, and we may, I think, look for another considerable influx of money during the coming season."

Have a Specialty.

The sooner people begin to comprehend that practically there is no business calling, trade or profession which any one man can master in all its branches in a lifetime the better will it be for every individual's prosperity. We believe that half the failures in the great struggle for livelihood are due to men trying to do too much, trying to fulfil all the requirements indicated by a name because their father's did, but forgetting that, in their father's time, that "name" included an aggregate of labor of very different extent to that which it now does. Every day as it closes leaves the world richer in knowledge than it did the day before, and the aggregate of knowledge of many days produces a store of learning which increases vastly the quantity which the beginner must master before he approaches proficiency. A couple of centuries ago all that the world knew of the healing art was within the easy grasp of an average intellect. Now, there is no physician living, however eminent, who pretends to have mastered or even to be moderately versed in all the details of medicine and surgery, so it is with science, with law, with mechanics, with journalism, until each calling has reduced itself into an agglomeration of specialties, and without doubt each specialty in the future will be divided and subdivided as learning and education advance.

That which is true of the professions is equally true of the trades. The individual who knows only one thing, but knows that thing well, is unquestionably abler and wiser than another who has dabbled in everything until his mind is one jumble of ill assorted ideas, superficial at the best. If a mechanic, for example, finds that there is any one operation for which he has a special liking, and can accomplish it just a little better than anything else, that is the thing for him to stick to. He should make up his mind to cling to it through thick and thin, to try and improve certain parts until a uniform perfection is attained. It does not take the world very long to discover who is the best man for this or that purpose, and when it finds out that man who has made a specialty of one operation and does it better than anybody else, the world must avail itself of his labor, and, in so doing, must pay him his own terms.

We do not mean to argue that a man should be like a horse, capable of entertaining but one idea at a time, for that would be to advocate narrowmindedness, but we do mean to say that no man should be without one essential and prevailing object, in the prosecution of which he is determined to excel, and it does not make any difference what that is, but the wider a man's education the bigger his index, and perhaps we may safely say that one of the cardinal differences between the educated and uneducated is that the former are capable of instantly selecting the proper means of refreshing their memory, while the latter might spend days in search of the same.

All this adds weight to our first advice, namely, have a specialty, and push it. Be sure

you are right before you select it. We do not believe that any man can rise to eminence in a calling which he dislikes, and herein lie the oft repeated mistakes of parents in forcing children into trades and professions against the latter's inclination. A boy who has a feeling for art, who spends every moment with paint and brush, will chafe under coarse mechanical labor; while another whose delight is in his tool chest will rebel against the slavery of books and brain work. Both, when they become their own masters, will eventually abandon their distasteful tasks, and it is only a question of their continuity of purpose whether they become "rolling stones" drifting from one business into another all their days, or workers, firm, and steadfast, enjoying a constant sense of their chosen labor. Intermittent toil is wasted effort, so also are attempts to manage two or more different pursuits at once. There must be one definite aim, and towards this every thought must be concentrated, for nothing is more certain than that fame, wealth and happiness are the rewards of only those who follow on their business or calling to perfection and that cannot be attained by having too many irons in the fire at once.—*Merchant & Manufacturer.*

Grist and Exchange Work.

From the standpoint of the miller, the relative advantage of the grist and exchange system for country mills, will, says the *American Miller*, hardly permit of discussion. The former means unequal intervals of work and idleness, discontented and impatient customers, and endless trouble and annoyance which no one except the possessor of a grist mill or his miller can properly appreciate. The exchange system means the reverse of all this, and one would think that the farmer was quite as much inconvenienced by it as the miller. Whatever the fact may be, it is difficult to convince him that this is the case, and also, that his neighbor's wheat can possibly be as good as his own. For some inscrutable reason many farmers, perhaps the majority of them, insist on getting the flour from their own wheat so that they may literally eat the bread of their toil.

But leaving the question of convenience and economy out of the reckoning altogether, the chief indictment against the grist system is that it stands in the way of improvement. It is impossible to erect a mill in accordance with modern ideas and yet be suitable for grinding small parcels of different kinds of wheat so as to get the best results. Nor can a miller with any kind of a mill, good, bad, or indifferent, do as good work in quality where he is grinding small lots of wheat, as he would be able to do in a continuous run, while in the matter of clean work there is little or no comparison. An exchange mill can use to advantage every machine that has been devised either for quality of work or economy of material, while the grist miller's hands are virtually tied to as simple a mill as possible. If farmers could be made to see that they reap equally with the miller the advantages of the exchange system, much of their opposition to it would vanish. Every grist miller knows the varying character of the men he has to deal with; how some want the most flour

possible so that it is flour, while others want the best flour possible. The exchange system enables the miller to meet the desires of both to the mutual advantage of each. If the customer is one of the quantity fellows he can get enough low grade for his wheat to make his heart glad; while his more civilized neighbor can get a similar quantity of gilt edged flour in exchange for a grist of poor wheat. Wherever the exchange system has been tried it has proved a success, and millers should labor in season and out of season to induce farmers to assent to this only rational plan of doing custom milling.

Sources of Trade Prosperity.

Under the above caption an excellent article appeared in a recent issue of the *Montreal Gazette*, which points out that despite a temporary dullness in business, occasional failures, &c., there are two potent influences at work assuring the continuance of solid prosperity to the country—a steady stream of immigration from the old world and the vigorous construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The number of settlers who have entered the Dominion from abroad in the five months ending with May is 45,451, against an influx in the corresponding period of 1882, of 24,135. If this proportion of increase is maintained throughout the year, the addition of population by immigration in 1883, will foot up to 175,000 souls; as against 112,000 in 1882. The cash value of such an immigration may be estimated as close upon twenty million dollars; that is to say these people bring that amount of money in hard cash into the country with them, to be put immediately into circulation by the purchase of food supplies, agricultural implements, farm stock, &c., or be placed in bank on deposit to the advantage of the foreign exchanges and the increase of the available wealth of the country.

Then the Pacific Railway Company is pushing forward the work of construction with unabated vigor. The main line is now being operated for 660 miles west of Winnipeg, and progress is being made at an average speed of about three miles a day, which assures the completion of the main line for a thousand miles west of Winnipeg by the close of the season. In connection with the work at the other end of the road, upon the branch lines in the North-west, upon the Algoma Mills branch, and upon the main line north of Lake Superior an army of men are employed, who become consumers of the products of our fields and factories, while the railway itself is an important consumer of the products of our forests and mills. The railway company has already this year introduced a large amount of foreign capital into Canada, and it will continue to do so down to the final completion of the work in 1886. The influence of immigration and the construction of the Pacific Railway, it is that maintains the trade of Canada as a whole in a prosperous condition, in spite of dullness in particular localities, which in the near past we have been wont to regard as the pivots of our commerce; these it is that cause imports to maintain their volume, and the public revenues to expand from month to month.

Straw Lumber.

In Dakota it is proposed to establish a manufactory for making lumber out of straw. If there is a process by which it can be cheaply made and it possesses the qualities claimed for it, and can be utilized in so many of the ways for which lumber is used, it would certainly be a profitable branch of industry in Manitoba and the North west, if anywhere, where straw is abundant and almost without value and lumber expensive. If the straw now burned or wasted can be profitably converted into lumber, the demand in this country will be almost unlimited. The *American Architect* treating of the subject says: "The standard manufacture is in width of thirty-two inches, a length of twelve feet and a thickness corresponding to that of surface boards. These dimensions may be varied to suit such orders as may be given, and embrace any width, length or thickness. It may be finished with varnish or white paint, and is susceptible to a high polish. It is practically fire and water-proof, being manufactured under 500 degrees of heat, and we are assured has been boiled for some hours without apparent changes of structure. Its tensile strength is greater than that of walnut or oak, and its weight about one-fifth greater than the former when dry. It is made from any kind of straw, including hemp and flax fibre—in fact from any material that will make pulp—and a ton of straw will produce 1,000 feet of boards. The pulp is rolled into thin sheets, a number of which, corresponding with the thickness of the lumber desired, are placed together with a peculiar cement, which is claimed to be water-proof, and are then rolled under a pressure sufficient to amalgamate them into a solid mass, which may be worked with the plane if desired. When it is remembered that it takes fifty years to grow a tree to maturity, suiting it to commercial purposes—and a tree producing thirty-two inch lumber will require twice that time—while 20,000 feet per acre is a large yield under the most favorable circumstances, it will at once be realized that where 3,500 feet can be taken from an acre of ground for an indefinite number of years, the process which enables such a result to be accomplished, and which will yield a really valuable lumber, is one of vast importance.

Mid-Ocean Telegraphy.

Engineering says. The idea of telegraphing from ships at sea is not a new one, and crops up from time to time. Mid-ocean telegraph stations have been proposed and will probably be carried some day. The chief difficulty in the way of their adoption has hitherto been the necessity of keeping the ship connected by a branch cable to the main cable lying on the bottom, and anchoring her so as to maintain this communication in all weathers and depths desirable. But Professor A. E. Dolbear has proposed a plan which may render this fixed communication unnecessary. A large metal plate attached to an insulated conductor is lowered from the ship to the bottom on the track of the cable and another plate is merely submerged. Between these two plates a battery

and Morse key is inserted. On working the key the Morse currents induce other currents in the cable, which can be heard in telephones attached to the cable on shore.

An Extensive Granary.

Mr William Hamilton, of Souris, an active enterprising young Donegal man with commendable foresight and strong faith in the reward the rich plains around him will give, has near completed a fine granary, 35 by 70 feet and 27 feet high, two floors, with hoists and all complete, and well shingled. He will have ample means of saving his harvest in prime condition; the outlay is considered large, but as he shows on good calculation the superior manner in which the grain will be kept free from damage, with the greater freedom which the possession of such an arsenal gives to break more land it will in two seasons fully repay him. It is to be hoped that many will follow his example, as the loss in grain from exposure to the weather and bad storage over the country last season, not in the statistics, would startle the public if known. I saw in one place over 450 bushels of Fyfe wheat burned. This is only one of many instances all over the country. The prairie chickens and ducks have high times over it until the new supply comes on. Messrs. McGregor & Fairclough, the contractors, did the work well, and certainly they can have no objection to any one coming to see a piece of work, which it would be much better for the country if there were more. Mr. Hamilton's enterprise is the more to be commended as he had to haul the material and lumber to his section thirty miles south of Brandon.

W. T. B.

Grain Storage in Milwaukee.

At the present time the question of grain storage is attracting considerable attention in Winnipeg and throughout the North-west. The following in reference to grain storage at Milwaukee will be of interest. The total grain storage capacity of the elevators in that city in 1882 was 5,530,000 bushels; receiving capacity 580,000 bushels, and shipping capacity 1,000,000 bushels per day. The storage charges remain as established in 1877, and for the first ten days or part thereof, are 1½ cents per bushel, and for each additional ten days or part thereof, ½ cent per bushel. Winter storage commences on the 20th of November and terminates on the 15th of April. During that period, when four cents per bushel shall have accrued at the foregoing rates, the grain is not subject to additional charge. The elevators reserve the right to charge on grain that may become heated or otherwise out of condition, while in store 1 cent per bushel for every five days or part thereof to take effect five days after public notice shall have been given. This very seldom occurs. The weigh master elected by the Chamber of Commerce is authorized to charge for supervising the weighing of grain at the rate of 25 cents per car load, from or into railway cars, and 30 cents per 1,000 bushels from elevators into vessels.

The Commercial

WINNIPEG, JUNE 19, 1883

CONSIDER THE SOURCE.

During the present trying state of commercial affairs in the North-west, the opinions are many and varied as to the causes that have led to such undesirable results. In looking over these one should be careful to consider the source each comes from and form an opinion accordingly. As a rule the opinions claiming to embody the most reliable view of the matter are from the most unreliable sources, and those claiming most extensive knowledge of the state of affairs are from those who have given them least study and consideration.

The casual visitor who spends a few weeks, or perhaps only a few days in the North-west, returns to his eastern home with a self-satisfied feeling that he has thoroughly investigated North-western business affairs, and is prepared to give the most absolute opinion upon all connected with the country. In this manner the wildest stories of the Boom were circulated throughout the eastern provinces, and now that a reaction has taken place stories of a correspondingly gloomy character, equally wild in their nature find free circulation by the same parties.

But it is not only visitors to the North-west who circulate these unreliable statements, for they find their way into the press, and often into the columns of journals that better could be expected from. For instance the *Toronto World* of the 13th inst., in referring to the collapse of a prominent Winnipeg dry goods firm, makes some flippant statements regarding the present poverty of what it is pleased to call boomers, many of whom it states are still wearing fur hats, and are unable to purchase a prairie helmet. These statements may seem witty to the writer, but we question if, to understand their nonsense, it is even necessary to consider the source. So many misrepresentations and libels on the North-west have come from this morning sheet devoted to the interests of Toronto stock gambling, that truth regarding this country would be questioned, if it appeared in its columns.

But it would be well to apply the heading of this article to the very evils, real and imaginary, which such journals as the *World* pretend to expose. The

sources of inflation it is impossible to saddle upon the North-west, as the most prominent and reckless parties engaged in the same were importations from the east. The real residents of the North-west have come out of the collapse of the Boom with comparative safety in most cases, while the impecunious and gambling crowd have returned to the east, and left little behind but jumped board bills and unpaid tradesmen's bills. There are still a few left, who linger around Winnipeg and other North-western towns with a Micawber-like hope. But it is only a question of time until these are again in the east and hanging around some bucket shop of Toronto or some other eastern city.

It is always with regret that the *COMMERCIAL* refers to the business misfortune of any individual or firm. But in the case of the firm whose name the *World* drags into print as a basis for its flippant aspersions on the North-west, their failure is a forcible illustration of the facts we have above stated. The members of the firm are eastern men in the fullest sense of the term. It is but a little over a year since they came to Winnipeg, and purchased a business which a now prosperous wholesale man in this city had built up from nothing. Coming from a slow Ontario town and entering into a business where they were selling more goods, better goods and at better prices than they ever thought of, they like many other importations from the east became intoxicated with success. To them the North-west was only a field in which to sell goods and make money, and to prepare for a time of stringency was a thought they never entertained. To make purchases in the North-west was beneath their consideration, as they had come here merely to make money out of the country; and now that they have collapsed it is discovered that less than one per cent. of their trade liabilities are to Winnipeg creditors, the balance being owed in Toronto, Montreal and other eastern cities. In viewing the collapse of this firm we say again, "Consider the source." The parties themselves were thoroughly eastern men, and brought with them their recklessness. The credit as well as the trade of the city they took advantage of to build up the balloon, which has now exploded. The credit, which created the inflation, they secured in eastern markets, and in every other respect the details of

this firm's collapse point to an eastern source. The same can be traced through a great proportion of the business troubles of the North-west. A vast rich country has been saddled with a wild speculative mania from eastern sources, and now that the evil results of the same are cropping out, the very parties who laid on the burden are loudest in their recriminations.

AN ELEVATOR COMPANY.

With many laudable and necessary movements it is the case, that when hope seems almost dead something springs up which brightens the whole aspect; and in connection with the organization of an elevator company in Winnipeg, this is the case at present. For months *THE COMMERCIAL* has endeavored to show the absolute necessity for some move in this direction, and lately its efforts have been supplemented by those of the daily press of the city. After months of seeming apathy on the subject there is at last a promise of a move towards the formation of an elevator company. For some weeks back several heavy property owners in the city have had the matter under consideration, and the first move in the matter has been made by Messrs. Gerrie & Bathgate, who now offer a very suitable site for an elevator, the price of which after being fixed by qualified appraisers, they are willing to take in stock of a properly organized elevator company. The site offered is close to the C.P.R. track at the north end of Princess street, is about an acre in area, and is admirably suited for the purpose it is offered for. Altogether the offer is a liberal one, and it is to be hoped that other citizens with means at their disposal will display equal enterprise, and the weeks will be few until the construction of a public elevator will be commenced.

The funds required for the construction of an elevator with a storage capacity of 500,000 bushels would not exceed \$100,000. The land offered by Messrs. Gerrie & Bathgate, taken at its lowest possible cash value, would be worth at least one-fifth, if not one-fourth of this sum, so that by starting upon this enterprising offer one-fourth of the total necessary capital of a company is subscribed. Scores of charters have been granted during the past two years for companies, who have never had one-half of this proportion of capital subscribed, and several large un-

dertakings have been successfully commenced, when very little more of the capital stock was available, and have since proved successes. Here is a field wherein the returns are as certain as in wheat raising, with a good start made in the way of capital, and the opportunity of supplying a much felt want. It now remains to be seen if men of means in this city will supplement the enterprise of Messrs. Gerrie & Bathgate, or if the city of Winnipeg is to lose its chances of becoming the grain centre of the North-west, through the parsimony of her citizens who have funds to spare.

COST OF LIVING IN WINNIPEG.

Nothing at the present time is operating more surely against the prosperity of Winnipeg than the fact that the cost of living is much higher than it should be. It is not so much in the price of provisions or articles of wearing apparel that the difficulty lies, for in the purchase of these a dollar will go as far in Winnipeg as in any of the eastern cities of the Dominion, and as regards the latter we believe it will go even farther. The great bugbear is the exorbitant rents that are being asked for dwelling houses. There are numbers of men employed in Winnipeg to-day who would willingly bring their families here and thus enjoy the comforts of home life as they have been accustomed to in the past, could they obtain suitable houses at anything like reasonable figures. This they cannot get, and the consequence is that a large amount of population which should belong to Winnipeg, are living in the older provinces. The money which is earned here and should in the natural course of things be spent in our midst is sent away to be spent among the merchants of Ontario. This has a direct effect upon the trade here, and accounts in no small measure for the dulness of trade in retail circles. The large money order business done at the post office here indicates very clearly to what a large extent this is true.

Unless something is done by capitalists to remove the difficulty, the evil will increase instead of diminish. The rate of wages received this year is not so high as last season, and the slight decrease that has taken place in rents is not even in proportion. What is wanted is a class of comfortable houses of from four to six rooms which could be rented at from

twelve to fifteen dollars a month. Such would be eagerly grasped at, and the capitalist would at the same time be paid a reasonable interest on his money. The day has passed when men can expect to realize the whole cost of building out of two or three years rental. But if they will persist in this course, and thus keep the population of the city from increasing to what it should be, the evil will revert upon their own heads, and they will learn in the long run by bitter experience, that their avarice and extortion was a very poor policy to have pursued. "Live and let live" is a wise and humane principle to work upon, but it is a principle which the average Winnipeg landlord seems never to have had any acquaintance with.

The whole question resolves itself into the one plain fact, that unless rents do come down to a proper level, this city cannot increase in population as it ought to, and the commercial progress of the city will be in a corresponding degree retarded.

SHAKEN CONFIDENCE.

Many people accepted as an axiom of trade, that after expansion must naturally come contraction, and just in proportion to the extent of the expansion will be the reaction in the opposite direction, as soon as the former tendency has subsided. This may not serve as an axiom in all trade matters, but it is certainly proving to be one in connection with the confidence of eastern men in the North-west as a trade field. A year ago the manufacturers and wholesale dealers in eastern cities allowed their confidence in the North-west to run into recklessness, while at present many of them are allowing their lack of confidence to develop into commercial timidity of the most nervous description. The reasons for this shaken confidence are not difficult to account for, although they are by no means justifiable of the present reaction. These eastern houses and their travelling representatives seemed to have caught more than their full share of the boom fever, and assisted very much in producing the present undesirable state of mercantile affairs. The records of insolvency for the past three months have shown that overstocking and not rottenness is to blame for present troubles, and there is every reason to expect, that with the co-operation of all concerned, these troubles will prove only tem-

porary. In view of their being so the contrast is very marked between the course now being pursued by eastern wholesalers and manufacturers, and that adopted by wholesalers in Winnipeg. While many of the former are shutting down upon the North-west trade, and pursuing a rigorous and crushing policy towards many retailers, who with assistance might weather through, the latter are using every endeavor to mitigate the evils, which their eastern competitors have had a greater share in producing, than they themselves had. While eastern wholesalers are pressing numerous stocks of goods into a forced market here, and assisting to demoralize the retail trade: North-western wholesalers are at present endeavoring to make some provision for the prevention of the very evils their competitors are forcing upon them. The contrast tells well in favor of local wholesalers, and when confidence and prosperity is once restored, which will be sooner than eastern men anticipate, the hold secured upon the trade of the North-west by the local houses, will be a firm if not unassailable one.

As above stated it is easy to account for the present shaken confidence of eastern merchants, but is questionable if they are pursuing a wise or even selfish policy in applying the unnecessary pressure to the North-west which they now apply. A milder policy might enable them to hold an influence which would prove of value in the future, if it did not prove more profitable than the one now followed.

LAND TRANSFER.

In our correspondence this week will be found a letter on the above subject signed "Subscriber," which makes a valuable suggestion regarding the facilitating of business in connection with land transfers in the North-west, and advocating the Torrens system as the simplest and most effectual yet put in operation.

In viewing the matter of land transfers as a commercial journal would be expected to, difficulties such as do not appear within the proper realm of commerce, have to be contended with. The commercial economist finds himself surrounded by a maze of national, historical and race prejudices, every one of which has its origin in principles or usages of bygone days, principles and usages based

upon the wants of the days in which they were formed, and few if any of them in accordance with the laws of supply and demand, which are infallible guides in the present day in matters of purchase and sale. It does seem strange, but it is nevertheless true, that in a new prairie country like Manitoba, where the struggle of reclaiming from nature's wilderness has only fairly commenced, our ideas of land ownership should have a taint of feudal times. True none of our land owners claim their lands by the power of their sword to hold them, as did the sturdy old Norman baron, who refused to prove by deed to the needy, greedy King John his right to the lands he held. It is equally true that we have no law of entail, by which the estates of impecunious land owners can be protected from the claims of an urgent creditor. Yet there still lingers with the European races who have peopled this continent a taint of the old system which produced these annoyances, and more or less of a feeling that the possession of land requires some system, to make this right of ownership more sacred, than that of any other class of property. It is undoubtedly to this desire for greater guarantee of ownership that the present system of titles to lands owes its existence. The actual wants of this country would never dictate that a complete record of every change in ownership which land had undergone since the granting of a crown patent, was necessary to validate the last transfer. There is no system of teaching here either in commerce, politics or any other field, which would suggest such a system, unless it be that our nurseries cling to the old rhyme of "The house that Jack built," and that the marriage of the "maiden all forlorn" was incomplete without the record of the construction of Jack's domicile. It is clear therefore that the present cumbrous system of land transfer cannot trace its origin to actual local wants, but is merely the relic of prejudices of ages long gone by.

A cumbrous system of transacting business may be born with it if the cumbrousness were productive of any extra security. But experience has shown, that the present land transfer system does not afford any extra security, but on the contrary opens up numerous loop holes, whose obstructions to a perfect title are insurmountable. In the city of Winnipeg for

instance there are scores of pieces of property, a complete title to which no lawyer or law firm in the city would guarantee, so frequent have these changes taken place during the past few years. Other localities of the western portion of this continent are in circumstances equally as bad, and in some of the western United States prominent legal men have stated that a title secured by purchase at a sheriff's sale was the only one beyond dispute.

The Torrens system, by which a certificate of ownership duly registered is issued with each transfer, and constitutes a complete title, would be a good preventative to disputed titles. Each transfer once registered is an end to all controversy regarding ownership, and is a protection from fraudulent property sales, which are not unknown in the North-west. There exists here no fund for heraldry as to the original requisition of lands, all being conveyed from the crown in the most common place commercial fashion, so that even the sentimental susceptibilities of no one can be injured by the simplifying of land transfers. Viewing the matter from the commercial economist's point of view, and in the spirit which western progress dictates, and the question resolves itself into this: Why should the purchase and sale of lands be loaded with innumerable cumbrous and unnecessary details more than the purchase and sale of any other property? The question is unanswerable by a mind untainted with prejudices of a by-gone age.

That the Torrens system of land transfer may have its defects there can be no doubt. But these defects will be found to exist in its details, and not in the principles upon which it is based. As it has been in operation in Australia, it may not exactly suit the wants of the Canadian North-west, but the principle of free and unburdened transfer which it embodies is much wanted here, and would prove a great and valuable principle of reform. Not only would the transfer of lands be facilitated, but hundreds of struggling landowners would be saved from pecuniary embarrassments, by securing loans upon property, the delay and uncertainty to the title of which now prevents them from negotiating.

It is to be hoped not only that the efforts of Mr. McCarthy in the Dominion Parliament will culminate in the passing of a bill embodying the fundamental prin-

ciples of the Torrens system, but that some move in this direction will be speedily made by the Parliament of Manitoba. It will be a move thoroughly in keeping with North-western ideas of progress, and towards obliterating prejudices which while hereditary no doubt are like many other relics we inherit, thoroughly valueless.

IMMIGRATION.

The tide of Immigration continues to roll into the North-west. Every train that arrives at the depot brings with it a precious cargo of human freight which has come to swell the ranks of those already actively engaged in developing the resources of our rich agricultural country. Many of them are possessed of considerable means and will in a short time establish themselves in comfortable homes. Others not possessed of so much means, will by patient industry and the judicious exercise of the resources at their command, soon be in a position equally as good as their more favored neighbor. The land lies waiting for them and will quickly yield up its latent wealth in response to the call of honest labor.

A noticeable feature of immigration this season is the success with which Canada is competing with the United States for its share of the thousands who leave the old countries of Europe for American shores. Up to May 31st the total arrivals at Canadian ports numbered 71,293 souls; in the same period last year 49,462 souls arrived. But last year Canada lost 26,327 of these to the United States, while this year only 26,843 have gone south of the 49th parallel. This means that Canada has retained the whole of the increased immigration touching her shores. This shows conclusively that the stream of British emigration is fairly turned towards Canada in preference to the United States, and the probability is that this country will in future gain largely in population at the expense of the neighboring republic, from the stream of humanity which every year pours out from the Eastern to the Western continent. This is, of course, only what might be expected. Our lands are as fertile as any that can be found; our land policy is liberal, our people are as free, and the security of the person is as well if not better assured under the British flag as under the stars and stripes.

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

The past week has developed no new feature in connection with the monetary affairs of the city, and so far as their connection with commercial affairs are concerned they have subsided into a rather slow going state. The usually active demand for money which existed in the early days of June, has fallen to a great extent. Not that there is any less stringent feeling; but merchants and manufacturers are tightening every string in business demands that call for money, and are consequently lessening as much as possible demands upon the banks. This system of rigid retrenchment has had a good effect, and maintains confidence to a great extent, as there is every evidence that united efforts are being made to prevent any financial disarrangement, and that the effort will prove successful. The fact that monetary affairs in the east are also in a more satisfactory state than they were a few weeks ago, lends some aid and creates hope. Still there is a stringent money market in the city, and the best feature in connection with the same is that all are aware of the fact, and have made preparations for the same. Rates are unchanged, commercial paper being received at 8 to 10 per cent gilt edge, and 10 to 12 for ordinary. Loans on landed mortgage have been rather slow during the week, their range of interest being from 8 to 10 per cent, the bulk of them being at the latter figure. Funds for such investment are not scarce, and on first class property can be easily secured.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

In wholesale circles during the week there has as a rule been little or no activity. The general run of orders from regular customers in the city and provincial centres has been lighter in nearly every line than for some time past. The arrival in the city of some leading merchants from Calgary, Fort McLeod and other far west points, who have bought extensively has been the only relief from absolute inactivity, especially in dry goods and clothing. Merchants in the older towns throughout the province are very conservative in their dealings, and buy only as necessity requires. This state of affairs cannot last long. Stocks in hand must soon get low, and as the retailers' shelves become empty they have to be filled again; consequently a revival in trade is generally anticipated before many weeks. A good fall trade is looked forward to with confidence. The unhealthy competition of eastern houses will not interfere with the trade this fall in the same way that it did last year. Toronto and Montreal wholesalers have learned a lesson which they will doubtless profit by and be content to stay and attend to the wants of their regular legitimate trade nearer home. The failures of a large dry goods house, and a hardware firm, both with heavy liabilities, does not directly affect the wholesale houses here, as their creditors are nearly all firms in the eastern provinces. Still the throwing of their goods on the market as bankrupt stock will indirectly affect the lines of business they represent to some extent.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

The amount of business being done in this line is such as to be very satisfactory to the leading houses. There is not the rush that characterized last season, but business is much more steady. The total of trade done this year so far is fully equal to what it reached up to this time last season, and it is steadily advancing and appears to be in a very healthy condition. Some country agents are sending in to the depots in the city for fresh supplies, and these are promptly forwarded to their destination. Just now the principal business is in harvesting machinery and waggons, the season for plows, seeders, &c., having pretty well passed. After harvest again there will be a demand for plows. Threshing machinery is now being inquired for. Take it all round this line of business is in a very satisfactory condition, more so than any other.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

Although the report from this line of business for the week cannot be said to be of the most cheering character, still it cannot by any means be called unsatisfactory. City trade has been almost at a standstill, and the leading houses are not making any effort to force it at present, preferring to keep their goods in stock rather than let them out into the hands of retailers while the present dull state of business continues. Country business keeps up very fairly; sorting orders considerable in number, but small in amount, are being received. The volume of trade has been swelled considerably by two or three heavy orders from far west points. Collections are about as good as could be expected, and tend to be a little better than they were a week or two ago.

CLOTHING.

The clothing trade, take it all round, presents a rather better report this week than last, and the total of business will amount to a rather larger figure. This is not due to any particular revival in business in a general way, but to the receipt of a few good additions to the order book from the end of the track and beyond. At this season of the year briskness is not expected in the ordinary run of trade. Collections are fair, and no worse than they have been for some time. There will not likely be much improvement in cash receipts until after harvest.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

The usual amount of business has been done during the week. Orders received from the country are light but sufficient to keep the houses moving along. Collections are about as they have been, from fair to good.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

The past week has been on the quiet side in the crockery and glassware business. Retailers in the country have about all the stock they require for present demands, and beyond sorting up orders in the commoner line of staple goods there is but little doing. The season for fancy lines has passed, and no activity is expected before fall. Collections are reported fair, with considerable room for improvement.

DRY GOODS.

Beyond a few good orders received from the west business for the past week may be said to

have been at a stand still. City trade is especially quiet, and sorting up orders from the country merchants have neither been numerous nor heavy. The principal houses are very cautious in extending their trade, and unless the customers can pay a good percentage in cash and show a very good prospect of being able to meet the balance on maturity they prefer to keep the goods in stock. Merchants along the line of railway towards the end of the track, and between there and the Rocky Mountains, seem to be doing well and experience no difficulty in disposing of considerable quantities of goods. The failure a few days ago of one of the largest retail houses in the city has not interfered seriously with the wholesalers here, as the bulk of the creditors are in the eastern provinces. There will not likely be any briskness in trade until after harvest, and should the crops be such as present indications promise, a good trade will then be done. Collections are a little better than they have been, but the promptitude with which paper maturing on the 4th was met, left the wholesalers' bills receivable book comparatively clear until nearer the end of the month. On the whole trade may be said to be in a more satisfactory condition than it has been, and a hopeful feeling is generally to be found.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALL WARES.

The leading houses report the dullest week that they have experienced for some time. There is scarcely anything doing beyond a small sorting up order now and then, which happens along to relieve the monotony. Collections are fair but cannot be said to be good.

FISH AND POULTRY.

During the week business has been on the quiet side; still it cannot be said to have been dull. There are no novelties in the market. Lake Superior trout are beginning to come in, and find ready sale; they are quoted at 8c; whitefish are worth 8c, and pike 3c; oysters are entirely out of the market.

FRUIT.

In the fruit line a very fair business has been done during the week. There are no novelties to report of any consequence. A small consignment of new apples was brought, but the price at which they had to be sold was so high that it was thought advisable to discontinue importation for a week or two. Oranges are becoming scarce and are now worth \$9 to 9.50; lemons are not so plentiful as they were, and have gone up to \$8; apples are getting to be extremely scarce, and are quoted at \$8.50 to 9.00. Quotations in dried fruit are: Loose muscatel raisins \$3; black currants \$4.75; triple crown \$8; golden dates 11c to 12½c in mats, and 16c in boxes.

FUEL.

Prices remain unchanged: Anthracite is quoted at \$15 delivered, and bituminous from \$13.50 to 14.50. Wood is in good supply. Tamarac in lots of ten cars or over sells at \$6.50; smaller lots \$6.75; poplar is quoted at \$5 for large lots and \$5.50 for smaller quantities.

FURNITURE.

There is a healthy report from this branch of business this week. Trade although not rushing is good for this season of the year. Collec-

tions are improving. What trouble there is in that way is not with transactions of the last six months, but with old outstanding accounts which have become rusty, and which have been found hard to brighten up.

GROCERIES.

The grocery trade as might naturally be expected holds its own well. The business done during the past week, although not what might be called a rushing trade has at the same time been fairly up to the average of the past month or two. Collections are rather on the slow side but still not by any means bad. Prices have not changed from last week. Quotations are: Sugars—Yellows 9½c to 10c; granulated 10½c to 11c. Coffees 15c to 18c for Rio's; 22c to 27c for Java's. Teas—Japan 25c to 45c; Moyune gunpowders 35c to 75c; new season congocs, 30c to 40c.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

Quietness still prevails in the hardware and metal business. Building operations are being carried on only to a very limited extent, and this directly affects the trade. Quotations are unchanged, as follows: Tin plate, 14x20, \$8 to \$8.25; 20x28, \$15.00 to \$15.25; bar iron, \$3.75 to 4; sheet iron, 5½ to 6c; iron piping, 25 per cent off price list; ingot tin, 32 to 35c; pig lead, 6½ to 7c; galvanized iron, No. 28, 8½ to 9c, according to quality.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

Business in this line has been on the quiet side, and collections are fair. There has been no change in prices, which are as follows: Sole slaughter, 70 to 75c; B. Z., \$5 to 90c, French first choice, \$1.15 to \$1.25; French calf first choice, \$1.40 to \$1.50; wax upper, No. 1, 55c; grain, No. 1, 55c; harness leather, 34 to 36c for plump stock.

LUMBER.

There is no unusual briskness in the lumber market at present. The lull in building operations has had the effect of creating quite a check on trade. Quotations same as last week and are: Pine lumber,—1st, common boards, dressed, \$26.50c.; 2nd, dressed, \$25.50c.; 1st do., rough, \$26.50c.; 2nd do., \$25.50c.; sheathing, rough, \$25.00; timber 16 feet and under, \$25.00; do. over 16 feet, for each additional 2 ft., \$1.00; dimension and joists, 16 ft. and under, \$25.00; do., over 16 ft. for each, \$1.00; fencing, \$30.00; 2 and 3 in. battens, \$32.00; A stock boards, all widths, \$50.00; B do., \$45.00; C do., \$40.00; D do., \$35.00; 1st clear, 1, 1½, and 2 in., \$66.00; 2nd, do., \$50.00; window and door casings, \$50.00; base boards, dressed, \$50.00; 1st pine flooring, siding and ceiling, \$40.00; 2nd do., \$35.00; 3rd do., \$32.00; ½ in. split siding, dressed, \$30.00. Spruce lumber, timber 16 ft. and under, \$24.00; do. over 16 ft., for each additional 2 ft., \$1.00; dimensions and joists, 16 ft. and under, \$24.00; do., over 16 ft., for each additional 2 ft., \$1.00; boards, \$24.00; 1st flooring, siding and ceiling, \$32.00; XX shingles, \$5.50; Star A star shingles, \$5.50; X shingles, \$5.50; A do., \$5.00; lath, \$4.50.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

Business quiet and not likely to improve much for a month or so yet. Collections are coming in fairly well.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

The leading houses report business quiet, although not by any means dull. Collections fair. Quotations to jobbers and heavy purchasers are: Hennessy's one star, in cases, \$14.00; in wood, \$5 per gallon, Imperial, vintage of 1878, \$5.50; Martel, in case, one star, \$14; Renault, one star, \$12; Roleyn, in wood, \$4 to \$5.50; Ronet, in cases, quarts, \$3.50; flasks, \$10, half flasks, \$11; Pinette, in wood, \$4 per Imp. gal.; Louis Freres, in cases, qts, \$10; flasks, two dozen in a case, \$11; half flasks, four dozen in a case, \$12; M. Dubois, in wood, \$3.50 per gallon; cases, quarts, \$8; flasks, \$9; half flasks, \$10. Gin, Holland, in wood, \$3 per gallon; red cases, \$11; green cases, \$6; Old Tom gin, Bernard's, in wood, \$3.25 per gallon; Booth's, in wood, \$3.25; Booths, in cases, quarts, \$3.50; Scotch whisky, Ramsay's in wood, \$4.00; Caol-Ila Islay, in wood, \$3.50; Stewart's, in cases, quarts, \$3.50; flasks, \$9.50. Irish whisky, John Jameson & Sons, in wood, \$4.50; Bernard's, in cases, quarts, \$8; flasks, \$9.50. Jamaica rum, \$3.50 to \$4 per gallon. Domestic whiskies, Gooderham & Wort's, in wood, \$1.65 per gallon; 65 o. p. rectified, in wood, \$3.50; W. F. L. five-year old, \$2.50 per gallon; cases, quarts, \$7.50; flasks, \$8.50.

THE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

During the past week the grain market, as was to be expected at this season of the year, has been one of very little activity. Although there are still considerable quantities of grain in farmers' hands in sections of the country remote from the railways, very little has found its way to the market, actual operations on the land occupying the whole of their attention. The provision trade has held up pretty well, and fully the average amount of business has been done. Prices generally have suffered little change, and held steady at very nearly the figures of the past week or two.

WHEAT.

The receipts for the week have been very light, both by rail and off the street. A good sample of hard is worth 80c. The millers still hold fair stocks, sufficient to supply all local demands until such time as more comes in sight from the country.

OATS

The amount of business done in this grain during the week has not been anything beyond usual. The city demand is not heavy, but considerable orders are now and then received from western points, the end of the track being the chief objective point. Good dry oats are no doubt somewhat scarce in the country, a large proportion of last season's crop having been badly damaged by wet. The ruling figure for a good sample is 40c, and in some cases a trifle advance on that may be had.

BARLEY.

During the week there has been some movement in barley, which is quite a relief from the monotony which has characterized the past few weeks. This has been caused by the demand from local brewers, which has considerably reduced the stocks in the city. A good bright sample is worth 40c.

FLOUR.

The mills are only running to supply the local demand and do not intend to manufacture for shipment east until the supply of wheat in sight is more liberal. There has been a good

local demand, both in the city and from western points. Prices have not changed; quotations are: Patents \$3 to 3.20, xxx or strong baker's \$2.50 to 2.60, baker's \$2 to 2.10, traders or xx \$1.10.

BRAN

is not much inquired for and holds steady at old quotation of \$10 per ton on track; the supply in the city is fully sufficient for the demand.

SHORTS

The demand for shorts has been light; quotations have not changed, but remain steady at \$12 per ton on track.

CHOPPED FEED

is very little asked for, and not wanted in quantities as a rule; quotations are nominal at \$28 per ton.

POTATOES.

The supply of this useful vegetable during the week has been liberal, which has had a tendency to bring down prices. Car lots have changed hands at from 60 to 65c, and for smaller quantities as high as 75c is asked. There will not likely be any advance for a time as it will not be many weeks now till the new crop begins to come on the market.

BUTTER.

Consignments of new butter from the eastern provinces have been coming in slowly, and prices have held firm at 26 to 27c for choice dairy, and 30c for creamery; inferior qualities range from 20 to 24c. It is expected that considerable quantities of new butter will shortly arrive. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company have placed refrigerator cars at the disposal of shippers from eastern points, to facilitate transport here. Some firms have purchased heavy stocks and these will arrive in a short time, when there may be a decline in prices, but it is not expected the drop will be great.

CHEESE

Although there has been a decline in prices east, it has not as yet affected the market here, and sales are steady at 16c for a good article.

EGGS

are plentiful and in good demand, quotations are still 21c for barreled and 22c for cases. It is not expected that prices will change materially for some time, and they will not likely fall below 20c this season.

HAMS.

There has been a fairly steady demand during the week at prices unchanged from those quoted last; canvassed are held at from 16 to 16½c; smoked 15½ to 16c.

BACON.

The supply in the city is pretty large, and the demand both in the city and from outside points has been good; prices are about as they were, viz: Dry salt 14½ to 15c; long clear 14 to 15c; spiced roll 16c; breakfast bacon 17c.

MESS BEEF

is in very little demand, and quotations may be said to be nominal at \$18.50.

MINNEAPOLIS.

The market during the past week has been very slow and dull, consequent upon inactivity reported from Eastern and British markets. Prices for wheat have fluctuated considerably, but never over half a cent on any one day. Corn and oats have been quiet. On Tuesday the market was very dull, and receipts from the country light, owing to recent heavy rains. Wheat and corn were weak and oats steady. The flour trade was exceedingly slow. The business of the day is represented by the following quotations:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.113 to \$1.13½, No. 1, \$1.02 to 1.10; No. 2 hard, \$1.09 to 1.10½.

CORN, No. 2, 50 to 50c; no grade, 44 to 48c.
OATS, No. 2 white, 39 to 39½; No. 2, 37 to 38c; rejected, 35 to 37c.

FLOUR, Patents, \$6.50 to \$6.90; straights, \$5.50 to \$6.00; clears, \$5.00 to \$5.25.

On Wednesday the feeling in wheat was weaker than the previous day, owing to maturity at eastern points, accumulation piling up at lake ports and promising prospects for the spring wheat crops. Corn was dull and in little demand. The following quotations represent the business of the day.

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.13 to 1.13½; No. 1, \$1.02 to \$1.09½; No. 2 hard \$1.08 to \$1.10.

CORN, No. 2, 49½ to 50c; no grade, 44 to 47½c.

OATS, No. 2 white, 39 to 40c; No. 2 37 to 38½; rejected, 35 to 37c.

FLOUR, patents, \$6.50 to \$6.90; straights, \$5.50 to \$6.00; clears, \$5.00 to \$5.50.

On Thursday the wheat market was generally dull and quiet, and buyers and sellers were considerably apart. Corn was a little firmer; oats quiet. The quotations given below represent the business of the day:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.13 to \$1.13½; No. 1 \$1.02 to \$1.09½; No. 2 hard, \$1.07 to \$1.09½.

CORN, No. 2 50 to 50½c; rejected, 44 to 48½c.

OATS, No. 2 white, 40 to 40½c; No. 2 37½ to 38c; rejected, 35 to 37c.

FLOUR, patents, \$6.50 to \$6.90; straights, \$5.50 to \$6.00; clears, \$5.00 to \$5.50.

Friday was a very dull day on 'change, very few transactions being reported. What business there was is represented by the following quotations:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.13 to 1.13½; No. 1, \$1.02 to 1.09½; No. 2 hard, \$1.07 to \$1.09½.

CORN, No. 2, 50c to 50½c; rejected, 44 to 48c.

OATS, No. 2 white, 40 to 40½c, No. 2, 37½ to 38c; rejected, 35 to 37c.

FLOUR, patents, \$6.50 to \$6.90; straights, \$5.50 to \$6.00; clears, \$5.00 to \$5.50.

On Saturday the amount of business transacted was light, and wheat was weak. Corn and oats were quiet. The following quotations represent the business of the day:

WHEAT, No. 2 hard, \$1.12½ to 1.13; No. 1 \$1.02 to 1.09; No. 2 hard \$1.07 to 1.09½.

CORN, No. 2, 50c to 50½c; no grade 44c to 48c.

OATS, No. 2 white, 40c to 40½c; No. 2, 37½c to 38c; rejected 35c to 37c.

FLOUR, Patents, \$6.50 to 6.90; straights, \$5.50 to 6.00; clears, \$5.00 to 5.50.

CHICAGO.

During the week the market has inclined to be quiet, and on the whole rather weak. A fair average amount of business was transacted. On Tuesday the wheat market was quiet and fluctuations were confined within a small range. Corn was fairly active, and oats firm. Provisions were steady. Quotations towards the close were:

Wheat,.....	June, \$1.11	July, \$1.12½
Corn,.....	" 56	" 56½
Oats,.....	" 39½	" 40
Pork,.....	" 18.35	" 18.45
Lard,.....	" 11.50	" 11.52½

On Wednesday wheat and corn were quiet and generally easy; oats active and stronger; provisions active but irregular. Quotations towards the close were:

Wheat,.....	June, \$1.10½	July, \$1.11½
Corn,.....	" 55½	" 56½
Oats,.....	" 39½	" 39½
Pork,.....	" 18.20	" 18.30
Lard,.....	" 11.50	" 11.45

On Thursday wheat was firm. Corn and oats advanced slightly over the previous days prices. Provisions were a little firmer. Quotations towards the close were:

Wheat,.....	June, \$1.10½	July, \$1.11½
Corn,.....	" 55½	" 56½
Oats,.....	" 39½	" 39½
Pork,.....	" 18.27	" 18.37½
Lard,.....	" 11.47½	" 11.50

Friday's market was subject to considerable fluctuation. Quotations towards the close were:

Wheat,.....	June, \$1.09½	July, \$1.10½
Corn,.....	" 55½	" 56½
Oats,.....	" 39½	" 39½
Pork,.....	" 17.85	" 17.90
Lard,.....	" 11.25	" 11.35

On Saturday wheat was excited and lower; corn also dropped, and oats also suffered a slight decline. The provision market was in rather a demoralized condition with a big break in prices. Quotations towards the close were:

Wheat,.....	June, \$1.08	July, \$1.08½
Corn,.....	" 55	" 55½
Oats,.....	" 39½	" 38½
Pork,.....	" 17.40	" 17.45
Lard,.....	" 9.80	" 9.82½

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

The revival in the stock market which was noted last week held its own very well. There was a slight drop for a day or two, but after that they began to pull up and have continued to do so ever since. The improvement has only been gradual, but is considered a healthy advance, and one which is not expected to be checked. The transactions, it is true, have not been heavy, but the purchasers seemed to be well satisfied with their transaction, and that there is a growing confidence in the future is beyond a doubt. On Tuesday quotations advanced slightly over those for the previous day. Commerce and Federal were the most active, Dominion also well. The market closed firm. Closing bids as compared with prices of the previous week are as follows:

	June 6.	June 13.
Montreal	198	197½
Ontario	111½	111½
Toronto	187	186
Merchants	122½	123
Commerce	133½	135½
Imperial	145½	146
Federal	156½	158½
Dominion	197	196½
Standard	116½	116
Hamilton	112	113
North-west Land	73½	73

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

The market continues very inactive, and the prospect of a better state of trade in the immediate future are not bright. Shipping demand has been light, and local buyers have not been inclined to make purchases beyond what was required to supply immediate demand. Offerings have been on the light side. Holders as a rule seem confident of the future and do not press sales. A light stock on hand of some classes of produce, and the prospect of a rise in these are the inspiring sounds.

WHEAT

Transactions in this cereal have been few and but small in amount. There is scarcely any shipping demand. Crop reports are becoming more encouraging daily. The spring crop looks well, and the fall wheat has not suffered nearly so much damage as had been reported. Quotations are. Fall wheat, No. 1, \$1.10, No. 2, \$1.07 to 1.08, No. 3, \$1.05, spring do, No. 1,

\$1.10 to 1.11; No. 2, \$1.08 to 1.09; No. 3, \$1.05 to \$1.06.

OATS.

There is very little change to note in the market for oats. The feeling is easy, and transactions have been light. Quotations are from 44c to 46c f.o.c.; street prices are 46c to 48c.

BARLEY.

There has been no activity in the market and prices are nominal at the following quotations: No. 1, 73c to 75c; No. 2, 68c to 70c; extra No. 3, 59 to 60c; No. 3, 48c to 51c; very little first quality is offered.

RYE

There is nothing doing in this grain, and prices are nominal at 65c.

POTATOES

The market is rather unsettled. Prices fluctuated according to the supply, sight or in hand. Car lots have ranged from 55c to 60c. On the street from 65c to 75c per bag is paid.

FLOUR.

The demand during the week has been light, and the feeling has been easier, although prices have not dropped; superior extra is quoted at \$4.70, f.o.c.; choice extra \$4.60 to 4.63,

BUTTER.

Receipts have improved but yet there is not more than enough to supply the demand, and with best qualities there is still an insufficiency. There has been a shipping demand for eastern and north-western points. There is a prospect of a large supply throughout Ontario, and a drop in prices is expected. Dealers are on this account buying only to fill present orders. Choice is quoted at 16 to 16½c; tubs 15 to 16c; good store packed 14c. The trade in rolls is almost finished.

CHEESE.

There is a decidedly easier feeling. There have been no round lot transactions; small lots sell at 12 to 12½c.

EGGS.

Prices have remained steady notwithstanding that the supply has been liberal all the week, round lots sell at 15 to 15½c, single cases 16 to 18c; street prices are 17 to 18c.

PORK

There have been a few sales of small lots, but no business of any consequence. The feeling is weak; quotations are \$22.50 to \$23.

BACON.

Tons and cases move slowly and there is nothing doing in round lots; Long clear is quoted at 11½ to 12c; Cumberland 10½ to 11c; rolls are worth 13 to 13½; and bellies 14c; the stocks in the city are small and prices hold steady.

HAMS

are quiet and unchanged at 14c for smoked and 14½ to 14¾c for canvassed in small lots. Round lots are about ¼c lower; pickled are worth 12½ to 13c.

SUNDRIES.

Dried apples 10½ to 10¾c; evaporated apples 16 to 17c, lard 13½ to 14½ according to quantity; apples \$2.75 to 3.50; oatmeal \$5.35 to 5.40 by car lot.

Markets by Telegraph.

Special Despatches to the Commercial:

TORONTO, June 18.

STOCKS.

Stocks are rather firmer on the week, but closed below the highest points reached yet. They are now more active: closing bids on Montreal 197½, sales 197½; Ontario 111, sales 111½; Toronto 185, sales 185½ and 185½; Merchants 122½; Commerce 131½, sales 131½; Imperial, 143½, sales 143½; Federal 159½, sales 159½; Dominion 195½, sales 196½; Standard 114½ ex-

dividend; Ontario and Qu'Appelle 63, the company has declared a ten per cent dividend on paid up stock, and has made a call of ten per cent on subscribed stock; North-west Land 72½ ex-dividend; Manitoba Loan is offered at 120.

TORONTO, June 18.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

The markets dull, inactive, and declining, closing with buyers and sellers apart. Nearly all neglected. Few flour sales pressed superior extra not likely to bring over \$4.60, or extra \$4.50; but it is held 10c. higher. Bran is lower, and is sold at \$10; wheat is weak, No. 2 fall lying at a point east sold at \$1.07; No. 2 spring on spot sold at \$1.07 on track. Oats are easier, sales have been made of eastern at 44c; western at 46c; barley is wanted and very little offered. 48½c has been refused for poor No. 3. Peas are nominal at 78c. for No. 2. Butter is offering more freely. Sales of selected are from 16c to 17c; white 13c. The grain crop is good, and lower prices are expected. Eggs are steady at 15½c. to 16c. Meats are inactive, and prices unsettled in sympathy with the fall in the States, but no change is as yet established. New wool is selling at 17c to 18c for coarse; 19c to 20c for fine Cotswold.

Winnipeg Manufactures.

During the past week manufactories in the city have been kept fairly busy. The iron industry is especially active and the shops have all they can do. The Winnipeg iron works, which got into difficulties a week or so ago, have not yet got things into running order again, but it is expected that a start will soon be made.

The saw mills have not much more than fairly got to work, and as the demand is lighter than was anticipated they are not running so strong as they otherwise would. An immense amount of lumber is reported as on the way to this market via Port Arthur, which will tend to make business in the lumber line quieter.

The furniture factories are kept going pretty well. There cannot be said to be any particular rush, but still a good healthy trade is being done.

At the biscuit factories everything is running along very smoothly, and there is a good steady demand for all that is turned out. A first-class article is being made, and the probability is that the home product will drive imported goods out of the market.

Carriage and wagon factories are doing a good trade, but still not nearly so much as they had calculated upon.

The flouring mills are not manufacturing for export, but only to supply the demands of the local trade.

In other minor lines there is the ordinary run of business doing, tending however towards the quiet side.

American Wheat Prospects.

The *North Western Miller* speaking of crop prospects in the United States, says the prospects of spring wheat are everywhere excellent, the weather so far having been very propitious; but the winter wheat is not in so good a condition, and there may probably be a loss of 50,000,000 to 75,000,000 bushels. Despite this, the country will have a surplus of about 200,000,000 bushels for the Europeans who come to

us for food supplies, and our millers are already preparing their mills by putting in new machinery in a great many places, so as to give those who seek breadstuffs from us the advantage of our very superior flour instead of the wheat. The reason our flour market is dull now is accounted for by the fact that just at present there is no European demand, and as the crop prospects over there have also improved, we need not be disappointed at the inactivity which prevails in the market just now. Russia and India promise an almost unlimited supply, and at present there seems to be no reason for apprehending very high prices for breadstuffs the coming season.

Business in the States.

In discussing the business outlook in the United States, the *Banker's Magazine* for June asserts that there is a very uncomfortable feeling as to the future, and states that for a year at least no profits have been made by many manufacturers. In looking around for the cause of the existing depression our contemporary comes to the conclusion that railroad mismanagement and the consequent disinclination or fear of the public or at least that part of it that operate in Wallstreet to engage in stock speculation or so called investments. "Railroad managers in many cases," it says, "have abused their trusts for personal ends. Stockjobbing and railroad management does not blend well, and yet the two kinds of business for several years have been mingled in a most extraordinary manner. Within ten or fifteen years large fortunes have been secured by some of these managers. Men who were worth nothing then, to-day possess from fifteen to twenty millions, which they have acquired by taking advantage of their official position to enrich themselves. If they reply: 'It is true we are rich, but the companies we represent have been faithfully managed, the answer is not correct. Whatever statement they may make concerning their companies, however skillfully they may put figures together, whatever representations they may utter concerning the wisdom of their leases and other contracts and purchases, it can easily be shown in every case, without a single exception, in which these enormous fortunes have been made by the railroad managers, the companies they represent have been or certainly will be the sufferers. It is a familiar doctrine of political economy, that in every well considered contract both parties to it are gainers, and doubtless this is so; but when the gains on one side are so enormous, it is absolutely certain that a tremendous loss has been incurred on the other. * * * The effect of this manipulation of railroads for private ends is now clearly seen. Persons are unwilling to invest either in railroads already established or to aid in building others. Consequently the value of railroad property falls, railroad construction flags, and other kinds of business dependant upon railroads for their prosperity suffer; notably all kinds of iron and steel industries. The depression in these extends to others and by and by suffering in a greater or less degree will run through all. * * * One great need of the hour is to distinguish properly be-

tween the really good properties and the good-for-nothing ones, and to try and sustain the former and let the latter go to the wall — the sooner the better. * * * Stockholders should exercise larger powers in the management of their property, and no longer put it so completely into the hands of persons whose reputations for sacrificing corporate for private ends have become so well known."

The causes of the existing depression are not deeply rooted nor incurable, and the sooner investors and stockholders begin to exercise greater judgment in buying and managing railroad property, the sooner will the business of the country be restored to a healthy condition.

Insolvents' Stocks.

On Friday last a meeting of wholesale merchants was held at the office of Thibaudeau Bros., Queen St. east, for the purpose of making arrangements for the proper handling and disposing of the stocks of insolvent merchants throughout the North-west, in order to prevent the demoralization of trade by the slaughter sale process. There were present representatives from Thibaudeau Bros., R. J. Whitla & Co., Stobart, Eden & Co., Griffin & Douglass, Turner, McKeand & Co., Bannatyne & Co., W. Higgins & Co., Jas. O'Brien & Co., Shorey & Co., Mackadu & Co., J. H. Ashdown & Co., Marsh & Co., and Sandford, Vail & Co.

In discussing the subject it was clearly outlined, that the association proposed was not for the sole purpose of taking care of stocks of goods which insolvencies would throw upon the market; but as a check upon the tendency to compromise with creditors, which was becoming too frequent among retailers. When a merchant secured a settlement by composition, a cheap sale of his stock usually took place; to the injury of other traders, who after paying 100c on the \$, were unable to compete. Those present expressed their determination to make no more compromises with insolvents, unless under very exceptional circumstances, and the association sought to be formed was for the purpose of taking over the stocks of such, and disposing of them to regular traders, so as to give them the advantage of the forced sale.

An adjournment was made till Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock, when further discussion resulted in the appointment of Messrs. Bertrand, Strang, Mackeand, Eden, and Ashdown as a committee to make inquiries, and report at a future meeting the best possible means of carrying the objects of the meeting into effect.

The government method prescribed for cleaning brass, and in use at the United States arsenals, is claimed to be the best in the world. The plan is to make a mixture of one part common nitric acid and one-half part sulphuric acid in a stone jar, having also ready a pail of fresh water and a box of sawdust. The articles to be treated are dipped into the water and finally rubbed with sawdust. This immediately changes them to a brilliant color. If the brass has become greasy, it is first dipped in a strong solution of potash and soda in warm water. This cuts the grease so that the acid has free power to act.

TROY.

From our Travelling Correspondent.

The new station is nearly completed. Messrs. Love & Raymond have rebuilt on their premises and will shortly move into their large billiard hall, with four tables.

Mr. Carswell has begun a two-storied frame store. There are several other new buildings in course of erection, among them a large hardware establishment. In a short time no trace of the late fire will be left.

Russell & Davis, butchers, purchased from Penrose & Rocan, last week, 16 head of fine fat cattle. Among them were two steers weighing 2,100 and 1,940 lbs. This is said to be the finest stock ever brought to this place.

MANITOBA CITY.

The late copious showers of rain have greatly improved the crop prospect in this locality, consequently farmers are happy.

Business has brightened up considerably within the last two weeks, and the prospect of a station being built here very soon has greatly encouraged the business men of the city.

The surveyors who have for the past ten days been busily engaged laying out this place, have just completed their work, and it is acknowledged by those who ought to know, that there is no more eligible site for a city in the North-west.

We are at present very much in need of some person here to buy both wheat and oats, as there are still considerable quantities of both these grains in the country, and farmers are anxious to dispose of them before the new crops come in.

Mr. Huckins has recently opened a lumber yard here and we understand he finds a good demand for all classes of building material. It would be a good thing for this part of the country if every farmer would buy a sufficient quantity of lumber to build a granery and use it for that purpose, so that they can keep their grain safely after threshing.

REGINA.

From Our Travelling Correspondent.

Business is reported quiet, the smallest shops crying the loudest.

The town at present has a tendency to grow south and west from C.P.R. depot.

A public building, custom house, &c., costing in the neighborhood of \$7,000 to \$8,000 is to be erected near the station.

The North-west Land Co. are engaged in grading two miles of streets. Broad and Victoria streets receive first attention.

There is going to be a wholesale dropping out of luxtershops, but enough of large substantial stores will be erected to take their place.

A perfectly level, treeless prairie surrounds the capital. The soil is a grayish clay resembling very much the Lake shore clay of Ontario.

There is lumber enough in Regina to supply the country west of Brandon. One dealer remarked that two might do well, three could make a living, but six could do no business at all.

Mr. Pugsley has purchased a twenty five horse-power steam plow from Haggart Bros.

The engine is a double cylinder power, and can be used for stationary work if desired.

New buildings on Broad street are: John Seccord's dwelling and offices; W. B. Searth's offices and stores; John Ross has lumber on the ground for a very large fine store, also a store to be erected near the Royal hotel.

CRYSTAL CITY.

J. Mooney arrived here a few days ago with a car-load of horses and has sold them all but three.

Business continues good and the tightness in money matters is not so keenly felt as in many other parts of Manitoba.

We understand W. Baker is about to retire from the implement business. He is agent for the Watson Manufacturing Co.

Farmers in this vicinity are going extensively into wire fencing and as a consequence the trade in wire has been active this season.

Crops are looking magnificent and the prospects of a bountiful harvest were never better.

Encouraging letters have lately been received from Hugh Sutherland and J. J. Hill re the extension of the Manitoba South-western. They state that there is every probability of the road being built as far west as Rock Lake this season.

J. Briton has traded his livery outfit, together with house and stable, to Geo. Huston, for a farm of 320 acres two miles east of the city. Mr. H. received a substantial sum as "boot" money.

J. E. Johnson of the Brunswick here, has disposed of his hotel at Clearwater to Pollock Bros., formerly of Pilot Mound. He is also building an addition to the Brunswick which is designed as a billiard hall.

FORT QU'APPELLE.

From our Travelling correspondent.

There are about 70 town lots sold on building conditions.

A tinsmith and a harnessmaker are the latest additions to the place.

Messrs. J. A. Fraser & Co. real estate agents, make a specialty of locating settlers.

Messrs. Goldstein, Zinkan & Co. are shortly to begin work on their new store 22x50.

Only three mounted police are stationed here now under Sergeant Hamilton. Last year Qu'Appelle was headquarters with a force of 50 men, who are now at Regina.

The Dominion Colonization Co. is in possession of the police barracks except what is actually required by the four men. The company has also leased the police reserve and intends to farm it.

Mr. Smith, of the Head Quarters, has contracted for a new hotel of more than ordinary dimensions. The hotel will be a two-story frame building, 50x60, with billiard hall and sample rooms. Mr. Smith will run in connection a livery and feed stable.

The charter is granted and has received the sanction of the Governor-General for the Wood Mountain and Qu'Appelle Railway. The survey is made from Troy to the Fort. This road, when built will run from the Wood Mountains

crossing the C. P. R. at Troy, will bridge the Qu'Appelle river at the Fort, and running north will cross Jumping creek to meet the Manitoba North-western, which is to extend to Prince Albert.

The fort must be the summer resort of the North-west. For boating and fishing pleasures it is unsurpassed in this country. The town is beautifully situated between two lakes to the east and west. The site is very romantically chosen at the foot of the towering banks of the Qu'Appelle river. In a short time as good hotel accommodation will be provided as in our large cities and towns. Families wishing to spend their vacation during the heat of summer, cannot fail to enjoy themselves in this beautiful valley.

Land Transfer.

To the Editor of the Commercial

Will you kindly permit me to call your attention to a matter that affects all classes of the community, and especially in this new country. I refer to the simplification of our present system of land transfer. There are few among us who have not had some experience in having to pay large bills of costs and disbursements, as well as enduring vexatious delays, in getting a title searched, either in purchasing a property, or obtaining a loan on it after it has been purchased. Each transaction with a property under the present system only increases the bill, adding another instrument to the list to be searched, and put on the abstract. I noticed with pleasure, that a move has already been made in our city towards introducing the Torrens system of land transfer, which has worked so well in Australia, New Zealand and other colonies, and which has been tried now for some twenty-five years, during which period all possible objections to it have been raised and successfully overcome, so that land with a Torrens title in Australia is now really at a premium over that held under the older and more cumbersome system of registration of deeds. The principle of the Torrens system is so simple, that it can at once be seen by all. It gives an indefeasible title from the crown in each transfer or sale, and like a stock certificate, the last one cancels all previous certificates, so that the owner carries his title in his pocket, requires no long abstract or bundle of deeds to show it, but can sell, mortgage or lease the land, and have the transaction closed in an hour or two, where it would take days or weeks, if not months in many cases, under the present system, while the expense is reduced to a merely nominal one, a transfer costing in Australia only £-. I cannot trespass further on your space to go into details, but as a bill was brought into the House of Commons last session, by Mr. McCarthy to this end, and as our local government has signified their willingness to bring in a resolution this session referring it to a committee to consider it, would it not be well to have the system fully discussed and explained by the press. Trusting that you will bring your strong influence to aid in the good work,

I remain, yours truly,

SUBSCRIBER.

EMERSON.

Wood is down to \$6 a cord, and coal to \$14.50 in single tons, or \$14 in five ton lots.

Carney & Watson have had their saw mill overhauled, and it is now doing first-class work.

Wm. Beach has purchased the stock formerly belonging to W. H. Cooper & Co, amounting to \$13,000 at 40c. on the dollar.

Mr. Gallaway, chief clerk of the C.P.R. here, has resigned and gone to Winnipeg. He is succeeded by Mr. Longworth, formerly cashier.

Business is inclined to be quiet at present. The crops look splendid, and the prospects of a good fall trade are excellent. A little wheat is coming in which brings 75c to 80c, oats are worth 35c to 37c.

TORONTO NOTES.

From our own Correspondent.

The Universal Knitting Co. are now busy manufacturing a special line of heavy under wear, suitable for Manitoba and the North-west.

The members of the Commercial Travellers Association of Canada now number 2,000, being an increase of 250 up to the same period last year. This includes ten honorary members only.

John B. Mather has recently left the city to permanently reside in Winnipeg. Grocery and general agencies will be his occupation in the future. Mr. Mather travelled about ten years for Frank Smith & Co., wholesale grocers, Toronto.

RAT PORTAGE.

Business continues steady.

The Winnipeg Lumber Company's new steamer was launched on the 14th inst.

The Forey-Johnson boat-race attracted quite a large crowd on the 15th inst.

Large numbers of logs are now being towed into Rat Portage, for the various saw mills now running here.

The ship yards are very active just now, as there are still three boats to be launched for this season's traffic.

M. Alexander & Son have opened out a stock of millinery and fancy goods in their new store on Main street near the Post Office.

Our popular and esteemed townsman, F. H. Holmes is not now C.P.R. station agent at this place, much to the regret of the citizens.

Achton is the name of a new post office on Rainy River about twenty miles from Fort Francis. McCoskrie & Co. have started a general store there.

Quite a large area of crops having been put in this spring on the Rainy River, Rat Portage may look for the marketing of considerable farm produce this fall.

Thompson Bros. & Forest, watchmakers and jewellers, of Winnipeg, are having a building erected here in which they purpose opening a branch of their business.

John Colcleugh, has lately arrived from Toronto, Ont., bringing with him a number of excellent row boats, which he now has for hire. He has built a large boat house at the foot of Fort street, in which to carry on his business.

The new time table on which the trains are run between here and Winnipeg is an improvement appreciated by our business men, as they can now leave here half a day later, and arrive home half a day earlier, and still have about the same amount of time in Winnipeg.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE.

Our people are anxiously awaiting the passage of the railway charters now being applied for before the Local Legislature.

McIntyre & Davidson, jewellers, have removed their wares again into Diamond Hall, which has been fitted up in a handsome manner.

Perkins & Co, fire and waterproof paint manufacturers of your city, have opened an agency here, and have excellent prospects before them.

The Manitoba and North Western Railway Company have located their offices in the Post Office building. The greater part of the men who recently struck on this road have gone back to work at \$1.75 per day.

Business during the week has been very fair. The crops in this district look well, and there is every prospect of an abundant harvest, which creates a strong feeling of confidence in the future among the business community. The agricultural implement firms are doing a good trade.

S. McIlvaine has connected his paper mill with the corporation well recently sunk, by means of an iron pipe, which does away with the necessity of using an engine for pumping purposes. Mr. McIlvaine is determined to keep abreast with the times and by lessening cost of production manufacture an article as good, if not better and cheaper, than any that could be imported.

MEDICINE HAT.

From a Special correspondent.

I am well pleased with the country around this spot, but am afraid it will not make any farming district. The site of Medicine Hat is far ahead of any point between Winnipeg and here. The site lies between two hills on a sloping ground to the river for drainage and water accommodation. Medicine Hat is ahead of any point in Manitoba or the North-west. The view of the city of tents from the top of the hills is grand, but one thing at the present time badly needed here is lumber, which cannot be got for love or money. The town already contains two very good hotels, the C.P.R. hotel kept by Wait & Brown, and the International kept by M. Casey, besides seven or eight inferior ones; eleven general stores, three barber shops, one blacksmith, three or four carpenters, two dry goods, besides several other small establishments. At the present time the town contains about 100 tents of all sizes. One thing is certain, if they continue to pour in the way they have yesterday and to-day the place will soon be overdone.

At 5.30 this morning the last spike was driven on the bridge, and the signal given for the train to cross, which it did at 9:15, when twenty-three loaded cars and two engines stood on the bridge at one time. At the present time of writing the track is laid over five miles past the bridge.

J. P. K.

BRANDON.

Miss Scott has purchased the bankrupt millinery stock of Miss A. M. Elliott.

Gavin, general storekeeper, has assigned. J. G. McLean is in charge of the business for Jas. O'Brien & Co.

The site for the paper mill about to be erected has been fixed on the bank of the river at the foot of 32nd st.

R. W. Hector has purchased the Auburn grist mill for \$10,000, and it is his intention to carry on the business.

Business in the city keeps up pretty well. The crops look excellent and the prospects of a splendid fall trade are good, and our merchants wear a correspondingly cheerful aspect.

A statement of the city's financial position shows an expenditure of \$116,440. The expenditure proposed for this season is \$19,704. The amount at the city's credit is only \$1,730.41.

Owing to the difficulty in driving logs down the river from the limits, Leacock's saw mill is still idle. For the same reason Mr. Grigg is not pushing his mill forward as rapidly as he would have done.

END OF THE TRACK.

From our Travelling Correspondent.

Mr. James A. Loughead, barrister-at-law, late of Winnipeg, has located in the rising town of Medicine Hat, where he is engaged in the practice of his profession.

The number of men on the grade is in the neighborhood of 4,000, exclusive of teamsters. Messrs. Langdon & Sheppard's present contract is fulfilled as soon as Calgary is reached, of which but 40 miles remain to be graded. The wages paid track layers is \$1.75 to \$2, and graders \$2 per day. In 1882 \$2.50 was paid all round.

A very busy scene is observed on one's first arrival. Men, horses, wagons, all astir. The cars now run 18 miles west of Medicine Hat. Two trains are kept running with iron rails ties, etc., from Medicine Hat to the track layers. The track laying detachment consists of about 150 men. Every thing goes on like clock work. Four miles of iron were laid to-day, and the average for the past week was 3½ miles per day. The foreman expects to average four miles a day until Calgary is reached. Mr. Grant confidently expects to reach that place about August 10th.

End of track, June 14.

Straw as Fuel.

Chamber's Journal for May, 1883, says: In Wallachia, on the Danube, and many other districts in Russia, straw is so abundant, corn being so largely grown, that it is a perfect drug in the market and has to be burned merely to get rid of it. There are now engines made, more particularly portable steam engines, used largely for farming purposes, which are so arranged that straw can be used as fuel for generating steam, without the employment of either wood or coal. The arrangement that is found most favorable is the engine on Head & Schiemeth's patent constructed by Ransomes, Head & Jeffries, Ipswich, in which the straw is auto-

matically fed into the furnace by means of toothed-rollers, very similar in action to a chaff cutting machine. To enable our readers to further understand the advantages of such an invention, we should add that in addition to straw, almost every other description of vegetable refuse may be burnt; for instance cotton and maize stalks, gorse or whins, heather, jungle grass, &c., and by simply removing the patent feeding apparatus, the furnace can also be fired with coal and wood in the ordinary manner; it is hardly necessary to point out that by means of this invention steam power can now be introduced into countries which on account of the absence of coal or other suitable fuel, have been hitherto debarred from its many advantages.

Now, Mr. Editor, where is there a greater or finer field for similar enterprise than the North-west supplies ripe for the harvest. No where is there an excess of fuel owing to its intrinsic value, and in very many places there is want. Just consider the millions of tons wasted by prairie fires annually and at all seasons. Just think of the valuable supply of natural fuel to be used for milling, thrashing, pumping, sinking of wells or the other various uses to which it could be supplied, say at any place by a man with a team, a mower and horse rake, very often of a kind, which is no use as fodder, but the removal of which would be invaluable to the land.

W. T. B.

Grain and Produce Exchange.

The great and rapidly growing importance of the grain and produce interests of the North-west has impressed those engaged in the trade with the necessity of a proper organization, so that the business may be handled to the best advantage. As intimated in last week's COMMERCIAL, a meeting of those interested was called for last Wednesday evening, at the office of Mr. Geo. J. Maulson. There was a hearty response to the call. At the meeting the trade was represented by all the leading dealers. There were present Messrs. Kenneth Mackenzie, Wm. Clarke, N. Bawlf, R. R. Keith, M. Bull, A. Douglass, H. Bose, Thos. Waddell, M. J. Feron, W. H. Brown, W. S. Grant and Geo. J. Maulson.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Maulson, who briefly stated the object for which the meeting had been called, after which Alderman N. Bawlf was elected chairman. Considerable discussion then took place upon the object of the meeting, and the feeling was unanimous that the time had arrived for those engaged in the grain and produce business to form themselves into an association for the protection of their interests, and the development of the trade. It was then on motion of Mr. R. R. Keith, seconded by Mr. A. Douglass, resolved, That the membership of the Exchange be confined to parties engaged in the grain and provision trades in this city and elsewhere, all to be subject to whatever ballot arrangements may be hereafter established by by-law.

The provisional officers were then elected as follows: President, D. H. McMillan; Vice President, Kenneth Mackenzie; Secretary, Treasurer, Geo. J. Maulson; Provisional Direct-

ors, N. Bawlf, A. Douglass, R. R. Keith, Wm. Clarke, W. H. Brown, H. Bose, and W. A. Hastings.

On motion of Mr. W. Clarke, seconded by Mr. Kenneth Mackenzie, the Provisional Board were instructed to make all inquiries, secure copies of constitution and by-laws of different similar exchanges, draft by-laws, and report at a future meeting.

In addition to the names already given, the following were proposed as original members of the Exchange: W. W. McMillan, H. L. Masterman, James Anderson (Hudson Bay Company), James Riddell (R. R. Keith & Co.), Andrew Strang, James A. Mitchell, Portage la Prairie; A. P. Campbell (Portage Milling Co.), W. B. Shaw, W. F. Henderson, J. A. K. Drummond (High Bluff), D. G. McBean, A. Armitage, S. K. Clarke, J. A. McNab, and L. McLean.

The meeting then adjourned, subject to the call of the Provisional Board.

JAMES A. LOUGHEED,
Barrister, Attorney, Solicitor, Notary Public, &c.
MEDICINE HAT,
NORTH-WEST TERRITORY.

J. JOHNSON,
—MANUFACTURER OF—
Caps and Furs,
No. 19 FRONT ST. W.,
TORONTO, - - ONT.

Thompson,
Codville & Co.,
WHOLESALE GROCERS,
26 McDermott Street,
WINNIPEG.

REMOVAL.
Mr. Jos. Barrowlough,
Manufacturer of every class of
MATTRESSES,
AND
Fiber and Curled Hair,

Has removed his business to Union Point, near Winnipeg, where he still conducts an extensive business in that line. Post Office address, St. Agathe, Man.

TO THE TRADE.

The undersigned are now prepared to supply the Trade with their manufactures, viz

Biscuit and Pilot Bread. Corn Brooms. Coffees and Spices. Self-Raising Flour.

BISCUITS are packed in barrels, boxes and cartons. COFFEES AND SPICES in bulk, barrels and boxes. Packages 1 lb. and 1 lb., 10 or 20 lb. boxes, tins of 5 or 10 lbs. each.

SELF-RAISING FLOUR—3 or 6 lb. packages in barrels or boxes.

Their facilities for the manufacture of goods in the above lines are equal to any firm in the North-west, and they solicit orders, confident that in quality and price goods will be found satisfactory.

WOODS, OVENS & CO.,

Factory and Office Cor. Higgins and Fonseca streets, or orders may be left at office of WOODS & CO., Alexander street, 4 doors west of Main. Telephone communication in a few days.

NOTHING LIKE LEATHER.

W. N. JOHNSTON & CO.,

Importers and Dealers in

Leather, Findings, Plasterers' Hair

HIDES AND OIL.

No. 8 Logan St., West. Winnipeg.

VIPOND, M^CBRIDE & CO.,

COMMISSION MERCHANTS

AND IMPORTERS OF

Foreign & Domestic Fruits

18 Alexander St., East, Winnipeg, & 261 & 263 Commissioner St., Montreal.

ROLLS & NEELANDS,

IMPORTERS,

Wholesale Druggists

AND

Manufacturing Chemists,

WINNIPEG.

FULL STOCK

Teas,

Sugars,

Syrups,

Molasses,

Coffees,

AND

GENERAL GROCERIES.

M. A. MACLEAN,

WHOLESALE GROCER,

OFFICE AND SAMPLE ROOM 8 and 10 James Street, West,

WINNIPEG.

Manitoba Steam Coffee and Spice Mills.

G. N. SCOTT & CO.

IMPORTERS, MANUFACTURERS AND WHOLESALE DEALERS IN

Coffees, Spices

MUSTARDS AND GROCERS SPECIALTIES.

Roasting and Grinding for the Trade.

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JAMES ROBERTSON & CO.,

—IMPORTERS OF—

TINSMITHS' AND PLUMBERS' SUPPLIES

AND GENERAL

METAL MERCHANTS.

11 McWILLIAM ST., EAST,
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JAS. THRS, Manager. WHOLESALE ONLY

R. JAMES BANNATYNE. ANDREW STRANGER

BANNATYNE & CO.

(SUCCESSORS TO A. G. B. BANNATYNE)

WHOLESALE GROCERS

AND DEALERS IN

Provisions, Wines & Liquors.

383 MAIN STREET, WINNIPEG, MAN

BALFOUR & FRASER

MANUFACTURERS & DEALERS IN ALL KINDS OF

Oak, Dimension Timbers,
Sleigh Material, Bent
Stuff, etc., etc.

**Bridge & Ship Timber
a Specialty.**

Bridges Built on short notice. Plans
and estimates furnished on Application
P. O. BOX 92. EMERSON, MAN.

CAUTION.

We beg to call attention to the very close imitation of
our bottled whiskey, which is being shipped to Manitoba
and sold, we have reason to believe, for the original RED
SEAL, which we have registered at Ottawa under the

TRADE MARK OF "W. F. L."

The Red Seal and Label are imitated almost exactly; but
our whiskey bears our own signature on

CORKS, LABELS AND CASES,

besides Dr. Girdwood's certificate attached to every bot-
tle, which we have placed thereon because of the imi-
tations of the other labels.

W. F. LEWIS & CO.

Montreal, April, 1882.

**ON HAND
Pressed Hay for Sale Low.**

AGENT FOR
Emerson & Fisher's MARBELIZED MANTLES.
Parties requiring same will do well to leave their orders
early
B. V. MILLIDGE,
834 Main St., Corner Sutherland St., Winnipeg.

STEEL CUSHIONED

BILLIARD TABLES.

SAMUEL MAY.
MANUFACTURER,

W. O. ANDREW

Sole Agent for Manitoba and the North West
Territories.

P. O. Box 1012, or Room 32 Club Chambers,
Winnipeg.

W. R. LANGRIDGE.

A. McD. WILSON.

LANGRIDGE & WILSON,

**WHOLESALE
DRUGGISTS,**

PRINCESS ST.

Between McDermott & Bannatyne,
WINNIPEG.

SEND FOR QUOTATIONS.



Ontario Metallic Spinning Co.,

WOODSTOCK, ONT.

Manufacturers of the best and cheapest four-pointed

BARBED STEEL WIRE

made. Over FOUR THOUSAND MILES already put up
on the Canadian Pacific Railway and in the North-west.
For circulars and prices apply to

R. J. SHORT, Agent,
Opp. C. P. R. Freight Sheds, Point Douglas.
P. O. Box 944.

CLOVIS LUCIER,

Manufacturer of

Saddlery, Harness, Whips, Curry Combs, Horse
Brushes, Blankets, Bells, Spurs, etc.

Collars and Fine Harness a Specialty. Special Attention
to Outfitting Emigrants.

68 Princess Street, facing Market Square, Winnipeg.

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IMPORTERS OF

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Agents for Montreal Optical Co.

Office and Sample Rooms, Bird Block,
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WINNIPEG, - MANITOBA.

LINKLATER & DESLAURIERS

WHOLESALE DEALERS IN

Hardware, Stoves & Tinware

MANUFACTURERS OF

GALVANIZED IRON CORNICES.

Roofing, Steam Heating, Plumbing and Gas Fitting and
General Jobbing promptly attended to.

520 & 522 MAIN STREET, WINNIPEG.

G. F. STEPHENS & CO.,

Importers of and Wholesale Dealers in

PLAIN, FANCY AND PLATE

WINDOW GLASS

Mirror Plates, Paints, Colors, White Lead, Oils
Varnishes, Brushes, &c.

93 Portage Avenue, - - - WINNIPEG

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

GOING EAST.

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

COMING WEST.

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

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

GOING SOUTHWEST.

The Chicago 6 p.m., and Omaha trains leave St. Paul
for Sioux City, Omaha, Kansas City and San Francisco at
10 a.m. and 3.30 p.m.

St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba.

SOUTHEASTWARD.

Express leaves St. Vincent at 11 15 p.m. and 1.30 a.m.,
arriving at St. Paul at 6.20 p.m. and 8.10 a.m.
the day following, making close connections with train
running in all directions.

NORTHEASTWARD.

Express leaves St. Paul at 7.00 p.m. and 8.00 a.m.,
arriving at St. Vincent at 4.20 p.m. and 3.45 a.m. the day
following, making close connections with the Canadian
Pacific.

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

Sleeping cars on all night trains.

Trains run no St. Paul time.

Michigan Central.

EASTWARD.

Express trains leave Chicago at 6:45 a. m., 9:00 a. m.,
3:30 p.m., 5:15 p.m. and 9:10 p.m., arriving at Detroit at
6:15 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 11:40 p.m., 4:35 a.m. and 8:00 a.m.

All trains make close connection at Detroit with the
Great Western and Canada Southern for points east,
through sleepers being attached.

WESTWARD.

Express Trains leave Detroit at 7:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m.,
8:00 p.m. and 9:50 p.m.; arriving in Chicago at 6:50 p.m.,
7:40 p.m., 7:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m.

These trains take the through sleepers from Great
Western, and Canada Southern, and make close connec-
tion at Chicago with the trains of other roads.

Dining car on trains for breakfast and supper.

WINNIPEG IRON WORKS CO.,

Cor. of Post Office and Victoria Sts.,

Manufacturers of

Shafting, Hangers, Pulleys,
Brass and Iron Castings
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

Iron Columns, Gratings, Forgings, Light
and Heavy, General Blacksmithing, all
kinds of Iron Work, Millwrighting, etc.

Our Shops have been fitted up with the LATEST
IMPROVED MACHINERY and satisfaction
guaranteed in all kinds of work.

Canadian Pacific R'y Co.

(WESTERN DIVISION)

TRAIN SERVICE.

CHANGE OF TIME

On and after April 1st, 1883, trains will move as follows:

Going west.		Going East
8.15 a.m. leave Winnipeg	arrive 6.05 p.m.	
11.10 " Portage la Prairie	3.15 "	
2.30 p.m. Brandon	12.01 "	
4.15 " Oak Lake	10.20 a.m.	
11.30 " Broadview	3.30 "	
5.55 a.m. Regina	8.20 p.m.	
10.55 " Moose Jaw	4.15 "	
9.00 p.m. av Swift Current	lv 7.00 a.m.	

8.25 a.m. leave Rat Portage	arrive 4.03 p.m.
1.40 p.m. Whitemouth	12.20 "
3.45 " Selkirk	9.50 a.m.
4.55 " arrive Winnipeg	leave 8.45 "
8.25 a.m. leave Winnipeg	arrive 4.10 p.m.
9.45 " arrive Stonewall	leave 2.30 "
Daily except Sundays.	

Going South.	Winnipeg	Going North.
Leave	Winnipeg	Arrive.
7.35 a.m.	7.35 p.m.	10.35 a.m.
	Ottelburn.	7.00 p.m.
8.50 a.m.	8.50 p.m.	5.20 a.m.
	Emerson.	5.50 p.m.
10.25 a.m.	10.13 p.m.	4.05 a.m.
Arrive.	St. Vincent.	4.40 p.m.
10.40 a.m.	10.23 p.m.	3.45 a.m.
		4.20 p.m.
Daily.		
Daily except Saturdays.		
Daily except Mondays.		

SOUTHWESTERN BRANCH.

Going South.	Winnipeg	8.50 p.m.	4.30 p.m.	Av.
Lv 7.30 a.m.	Winnipeg	8.50 p.m.	4.30 p.m.	Av.
" 11.40 "	Morris	4.45 "	12.25 "	"
Ar 1.55 p.m.	Gretna	2.30 "		Lv.
" 5.00 "	Manitoba City		7.35 a.m.	"

Mondays and Thursdays to Gretna and return.
Tuesdays and Fridays to Manitoba City and returning from there on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Magnificent Palace Sleeping Cars will be run daily between Winnipeg and Regina.

Trains move on Winnipeg time.

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

BISHOP & SHELTON,
Steam Cabinet Works,
WINNIPEG.

We are now prepared to fill all orders entrusted to us with dispatch.

MANUFACTURING A SPECIALTY.

298 MAIN STREET.

A. B. ELFORD: W. C. MANNING.

Elford, Manning & Co.,
Manufacturers Agents and

Commission Merchants.

OFFICE AND WAREHOUSE,

No. 97 King St., Winnipeg Man.

Money Advanced on Consignments.

Sole Agents for
UPPER CANADA FURNITURE CO. Bowmanville, Ont.
DOMINION ORGAN AND PIANO CO., Bowmanville, Ont.
H. G. PEDLAR'S TINWARE Oshawa, Ont.
THE HARTE & SMITH MFG. CO. Toronto and Belleville.
NAPANEE GLASS WORKS, Etc., Etc.

THE WINNIPEG WAREHOUSING COMPANY.

(LIMITED)

Store every description of goods Free or in Bond. Special attention paid to Emigrants effects, trunks, furniture, agricultural implements, &c.

Insurances effected at lowest rates.

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All goods shipped to the company or to R. W. FRANCIS & Co., when in car lots will be delivered at Warehouses (which have a switch of C. P. R. running directly to them) free of charge.

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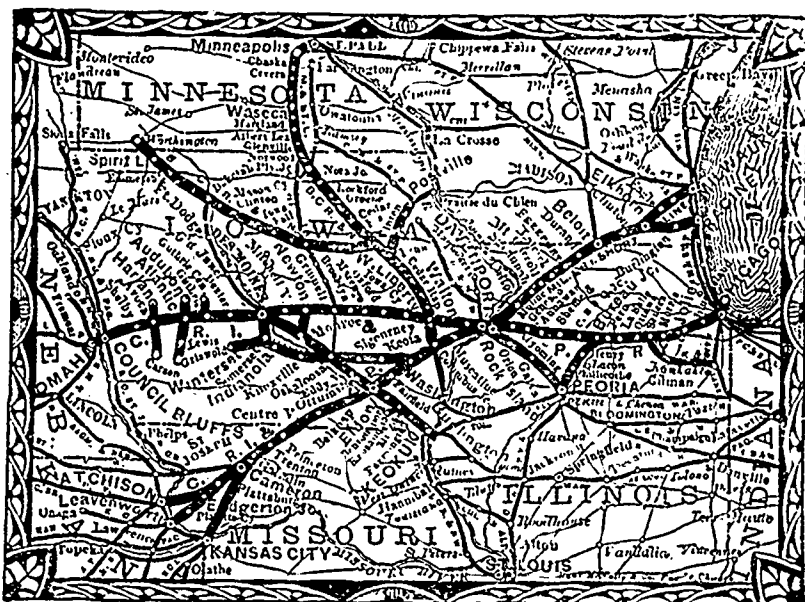


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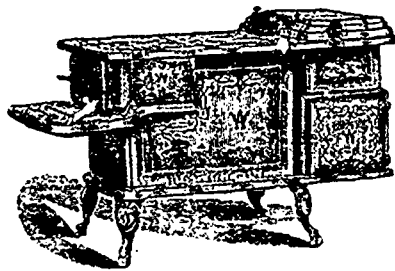
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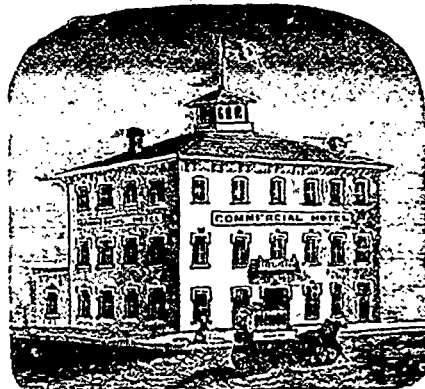
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