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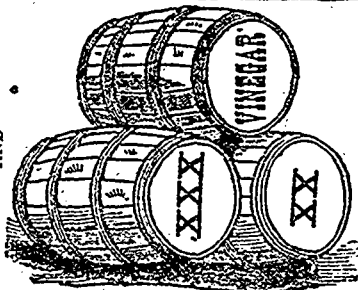
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A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE FINANCIAL, MERCANTILE AND MANUFACTURING INTERESTS OF THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

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

VOL. 1.

WINNIPEG, JULY 24, 1883.

NO. 43.

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.

ISSUED EVERY TUESDAY

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WINNIPEG, JULY 24, 1883.

T. H. MUNSON has given up the drug business in Regina.

J. B. CARR, jeweller, Winnipeg, is selling off his stock by auction.

CATTER & SMITH, of the Potter House, Winnipeg, have assigned in trust.

F. X. COLLIN, dry goods and groceries, St. Boniface, has assigned in trust.

THE name of the post office at Poplar Heights has been changed to Reaburn.

A. WALKER, confectioner, Winnipeg, is reported to have left the country.

PRESTON & McDONALD, produce dealers, Winnipeg, have gone out of business.

THE Sheriff is in possession of the jewellery business of R.-J. Butler, Winnipeg.

P. D. MCKINSON & Co., general store, Brad view, have disposed of their business.

A writ of attachment has been issued against Whiting & Co., general store, Virden.

T. & J. HUGILL, general store, Moosomin, are trying to dispose of their business.

T. B. GODFREY, hardware, &c., Nelson, has opened a branch of his business at Pilot Mound.

A SAMPLE lot of Chinese matting has been received direct from China by James Bisset & Son.

JUST as we go to press information reaches us that Wright & Wright, storekeepers, Brandon, have assigned.

WILLIAMS & HARRISON, whose saw mill at Wakopa was recently destroyed by fire, intend rebuilding at once.

THE bailiff is in possession of the business of Geo. Major, boots and shoes, Winnipeg, on a landlord's warrant.

GRANGE & Blackburn, dairymen, Winnipeg, have dissolved. The business will be continued by Andrew Blackburn.

THE effects of Mrs. Duperlowzer, hotel keeper, St. Boniface, have been sold by the bailiff under a landlord's warrant.

MR. BRYCE has retired from the firm of Alexander & Bryce, dry goods, Winnipeg. The business will be carried on by Mr. Alexander.

STONE & MEACHEN, general store, Rapid City, who had become temporarily embarrassed, have obtained an extension from their creditors.

PARKINSON & Miller are at present making arrangements to purchase the Shoal Lake branch of the business of Mowat Bros., general storekeepers.

HARRY J. PAINTER is retiring from the firm of Clementson & Painter, general store, Broadview. The business will be continued by Jos. Clementson, under the same firm style.

THE grocery and liquor business of A. D. McLean & Co., Winnipeg, which was sold by the sheriff last week, was purchased by Bate-man & Son, of this city, at 75c on the dollar.

DR. J. F. ROLLS, druggist, Winnipeg, has assigned in trust. His affairs show quite a wide margin of assets over liabilities, and an extension will enable him to pull out of the difficulty.

J. R. CAMERON & Co., merchant tailors, Winnipeg, have assigned in trust. It has been stated by the daily papers that the cause of failure was endorsing for M. A. Macican. This is not correct as Mr. Cameron was not on McLean's paper for more than \$1,000.

W. H. HIGGINS & Co., the well known wholesale boot and shoe firm, have removed their

business to the large new brick building, next door to their old warehouse. The building is 105 x 22, and the premises consist of a basement, street floor and two upper flats.

At a banquet recently given in London to Lord Dufferin, that gentleman said, that he believed before the close of another century the population of Canada would be forty millions.

MR. H. CALCUTT, whose brewery was destroyed some time ago, intends to resume business shortly. A new brewery, built on the most approved principles is to be erected in St. Boniface. Mr. Calcutt says he has too much faith in the great future of the North-west, and particularly Winnipeg, to abandon the splendid trade he had established here.

A MISTAKE occurred in our Brandon report of the 17th. The words "Assigned in trust" being interlined, got applied to Isaac C. Lewis instead of P. R. O'Neil, the actual report regarding the former being a trifling matter of a bill of sale of \$100. We regret the mistake, and take this earliest opportunity of correcting it. We believe Mr. Lewis is doing a profitable business, and has no necessity for, and even less intention of making an assignment.

A MONTREAL paper says:—"A saisie arret conservatoire for \$15,000 has been taken by John R. Wright against Henry G. Levetus and W. Sewob et al., mis en cause, under the following circumstances, as alleged in the declaration. On the second of June last a written agreement was entered into between plaintiff and defendant, by which the latter consented to settle all debts of the late firm of Levetus, Wright & Company, doing business in Winnipeg, and agreed to pay plaintiff \$15,000 in case any of the creditors should call upon him to pay any of the debts of the said late firm. At the beginning of July an action was taken by Sewob Bros. for \$1,000 due them by the late firm, and the defendant in this case refused to pay the same. A few days after, Levetus made an assignment to Mr. A. A. Murphy, who sold the estate to Sewob Brothers, the present mis en cause, for, it is alleged, much less than the sale would have produced had tenders been called for. The plaintiff further alleges that defendant is fraudulently secreting his goods, and has taken the present saisie arret conservatoire through his attorneys, Messrs. Church & Co."

Oat Meal Milling.

The acreage under oat crop throughout the country this year is large, and judging from present prospects the yield will be very great in amount. The home demand for purposes of feed, now that the C.P.R. is rapidly approaching completion, will not be nearly so great as it was this season or last, consequently it necessarily follows that a large proportion of the crops will have to be utilized in some other way, and there is no way open but that of converting it into oatmeal, a business which cannot fail to be rewarded by handsome profits. The local demand for oatmeal is considerable, as it has come to be an article of almost every day use in every family in the country. What surplus there is will find ready sale in Eastern or European markets, at profitable figures, for there it is in as general use as here. There have been several oatmeal mills projected at different points in the country, but none of them have as yet become realities. The expense of building and fitting up a mill for this purpose is very little as compared with that required for flour milling, and the market for the product is equally as well assured. It is time that some active steps were taken to handle the crop of this season in this way, and capitalists could not make a better investment both for their own and the country's benefit, than by seeing that this want is promptly supplied.

North-West Freight Routes.

The *Edmonton Bulletin* has the following in reference to freight routes in the far North-west. After noticing the arrival of the steamer *Northcote* at a point, forty miles this side of Fort Pitt, with a cargo of freight for the Indian department of the Fort Pitt section, and the Hudson Bay supplies for the Mackenzie River district, it says: For several years past these H. B. Co.'s supplies have been taken north from Carlton to Green lake by carts; thence by York boats via the Long portage to Fort McMurray on the Athabasca, the head of first-class steamboat navigation. The cart road from Carlton to Green lake was 100 miles long and unutterably bad; besides, expensive repairs had to be to it every year in order to keep it in a passable state. From the mouth of Frog creek to the navigation of Beaver river is only fifty miles, and the road, an old Indian one leading to Cold lake, north of the Beaver, is a passably good one. The Beaver appears to be by the map the head waters of the Churchill. It rises in the country between Victoria and Lac la Biche and flows due east until it reaches a point about one hundred and thirty miles north-west of Carlton. There it receives from the south the waters of Green lake, and turns abruptly to the north a distance of eighty or ninety miles, where it empties into a lake, out of which issues to the eastward the Churchill river. Into the same lake from the northwest comes the stream which flows southeast from the Long portage.

The old route was by cart or steamer to Carlton; by cart 100 miles northwest to Green lake, down Green lake and outlet due north thirty miles into Beaver river; down the due northern course of the Beaver eighty miles, up the north-western branch of the Churchill, say ninety

miles; over the Long portage nine miles; and down the Clearwater to Fort McMurray, say eighty miles; total from Carlton to Fort McMurray 339 miles.

The new route will be by cart or steamer to Frog creek, 180 miles west of Carlton; by cart road north to Beaver river, fifty miles; and down the Beaver river, due east, 120 miles, to the junction with the outlet of Green lake. From that point the old route is followed to Fort McMurray. By the latter route a distance of 350 miles is travelled to reach the mouth of Green lake outlet against 130 by the old route; but the 180 miles from Carlton to Frog creek is good steamboat navigation, there being no rapids for that distance, and the 120 miles on the Beaver is good downstream navigation for York boats. By making this detour fifty miles of cartage is saved altogether, and a better road for the remaining fifty miles is secured. The reason this route was not adopted sooner was, no doubt, because the navigation of the Saskatchewan was so uncertain, owing to their being but few boats on it, and it was much better to take the 100 miles of direct bad road to Green lake than the 230 of comparatively good road to the Cold lake crossing of the Beaver.

By the Green lake route it will be seen the distance from the Saskatchewan at Carlton to the Athabasca at Fort McMurray is 389 miles. Of this 109 miles between Carlton and Green lake and on the Long portage is execrable cart road; 190 miles is down stream navigation with many portages on the Beaver and Clearwater rivers, and 90 miles is broken up stream navigation on the northwest branch of the Churchill. By the new route the distance between the navigation of the two great rivers is forty miles more than by the old one, but with only fifty nine miles of cartage against 100, by the other.

From the Saskatchewan, at Edmonton, to Fort McMurray, below the rapids of the Athabasca, via the Athabasca landing, is only 270 miles, 119 miles less than by Carlton and Green lake route, and 159 miles less than by the Frog creek and Beaver river route. Of this distance ninety miles north-easterly to the Athabasca landing, is a cart road of which half the length is fairly good, and the rest is not so bad as either the Green lake or Cold lake roads; 100 miles almost due north is very fair down stream steamboat navigation; and the remaining eighty miles, although there are many rapids, can be run down stream by loaded York boats or large or small bateaux without difficulty or danger. Besides the shorter distance of the latter route, the fact that the navigable portion is down stream all the way, that boats of any size may be used and no portages are necessary on freight going in that direction, while by the other routes a considerable portion is upstream, many portages have to be made, and nothing larger than a York boat can be used throughout, shows that the Edmonton and Athabasca landing route is much superior to the others. This was proved conclusively last summer when the machinery of the Athabasca steamer was being shipped north. Although the Edmonton route had been abandoned for many years the boilers and more unwieldy portions of the machinery were taken in by it, and indeed it would have been next to an impossibility to have taken them in by any

other way. Another point in favor of the Edmonton route is that the season of navigation on it is much longer than on the others, owing to the fact that they pass through lakes which open late in the spring and close early in the fall, while the Athabasca opens early and closes late. The Saskatchewan is quite as navigable from Frog creek to Edmonton as it is from Carlton to Frog creek, so that the greater distance that Edmonton is west of that place would make very little difference in freight rates. However, as soon as the C.P.R. is finished to Calgary, and goods can be brought into Edmonton at all seasons of the year, there is very little doubt that the Edmonton and Athabasca route will be adopted in preference to any other. Indeed it is the only practicable route for large quantities of freight or heavy articles. If the Athabasca, Mackenzie and Peace river countries are ever opened up it must be by this route.

An Unmercantile Custom.

Of late years the increased number of brands and styles of various commodities which retail grocers are expected to keep in stock has added greatly to the labor of merchants in this line of trade. To fill the requirements of customers in these days, even in remote districts, is by no means an easy matter, while in growing and prosperous sections, where buyers demand each new novelty in food products, to keep up with the times and satisfy this demand taxes the judgment and ability of even the most enterprising trader. At a former period, not very long past, to successfully carry on business was comparatively easy; brands and trade marks were almost unknown, and if the quality of the staple article, which then comprised the bulk of a retail merchant's stock, was satisfactory, he experienced little difficulty in satisfying customers, and made few losses by the accumulation of undesirable or unsaleable goods. Perhaps one of the most serious annoyances arising from the changed condition of trade to which we have referred, is the practice that prevails among the wholesale trade when filling orders of substituting, or sending articles which though they may be represented and perhaps really are nearly identical in style and quality with the goods asked for, are nevertheless unsuited for the requirements of the dealer by whom others were ordered. It is to be presumed that country merchants—especially those of long experience and established reputation, as many are on this coast—understand their business and the wants of their customers much better than it is possible for the wholesale dealer, situated it may be a considerable distance off. For the latter to take the responsibility of experimenting, as it were, with the former's trade, is a proceeding as unwarranted as it is unmercantile. To be sure some interior traders, especially those at a long distance from the market, are inclined or are perhaps occasionally forced to acquiesce in this practice and accept goods not ordered. As a rule those who do this are the losers in the long run, as the condition of their shelves often evidences when the period for stock taking comes round.

There are some wholesale firms that carry out instructions faithfully, and never substitute goods different from those ordered, unless the

matter be left to their own discretion. Others who take such liberties at times do so with the view of accommodating customers; but we fear that in many instances that this practice is prompted rather by considerations of profit than of fair dealing. Whoever may be to blame for the prevalence of this custom, its remedy lies clearly with the retail merchants; and it might be checked, if not prevented altogether, if those who suffer from it would make their orders for goods plain and explicit, and insist that they be strictly carried out.—*San Francisco Grocer.*

An Important Decision.

A judgment of great importance to millers has just been settled in the Canadian Supreme Court; in the now celebrated appeal case of *Smith vs. Goldie*. The suit has been going on for a long time, and the plaintiff lost in every court before the recent judgment was obtained. The defendants set up two patents for middlings purifiers of earlier date in the Dominion than Smith's, and pleaded previous use of the devices claimed by the latter. The decree of the Supreme Court is of a very sweeping character, and millers have very lively times in store for them unless Mr. Smith tempers his judgment with mercy. It declares Mr. Smith to be the first inventor of brushes for use in middlings pulverizers, and that the prior patents granted to Lacroix and Sherman were invalid. It also declares Messrs. Goldie & McCulloch's machine to be an infringement, directs an injunction against them, and a sworn account of all machines made or sold by them during the past 10 years, and the names of all purchasers. All large flour mill owners in the country will be more or less affected by the decree, and it is said that Messrs. Goldie & McCulloch propose applying to the Privy Council for leave to appeal from the Supreme Court judgment, but even if they succeed the proceedings under this decree will not be stayed.

United States Balance Sheet.

The fiscal year has closed with a much more favorable exhibit of the financial condition of the United States Government than was anticipated, the reduction of the public debt in June exceeding \$18,000,000 and for the year reaching nearly \$138,000,000. The reduction last month was the largest ever made in a like period by the ordinary methods of business, and is attributable to a very large increase over May in Customs receipts and a large reduction in disbursements. The receipts from Customs for June were \$20,600,000, an increase over those for the preceding month of about \$7,000,000, while the disbursements for pensions were only \$1,000,000, against several millions during May. The reduction in the interest bearing debt for the year just closed was \$125,581,250, which secures a permanent annual reduction in the interest charged of \$5,943,401. The extent to which the annual interest charge has been reduced can only be appreciated by giving the actual figures. In August, 1865, when the bonded debt of the United States was at its highest point, the annual interest charge was nearly \$151,000,000, the actual liability on this account being \$169,978,000. The annual inter-

est charge is now \$51,430,700, a reduction of nearly \$100,000,000 in eighteen years, the reduction in principal for the same period being over \$1,000,000,000. When the refunding operations under the Act of 1870 were completed by Secretary Sherman, which occurred August 1st, 1870, the annual interest charge was nearly \$84,000,000. Since then a reduction of over \$32,000,000 has been made in this item, which represents an annual saving to that amount. The present interest bearing debt is \$1,338,229,150, and the debt bearing no interest \$538,111,162, against which the Treasury holds cash to the amount of \$345,389,002.

The total revenue of the United States in the past year reached \$398,338,520; a decrease of \$5,200,000 compared with the preceding year, the customs and internal revenue receipts falling off, while those from miscellaneous sources augmented. The expenditure was \$265,568,087, an increase of \$7,587,000 over that in 1882, of which fifteen millions was on account of ordinary charges, and nearly five millions on account of pensions, while the interest charge decreased twelve millions.

Canadian Securities in London.

The *Canadian Gazette* of the 28th ult., reports that want of business is being very much felt in all departments of the Stock Exchange, and in Canadian securities not less than in others. Speculation is not long sustained under such circumstances. Prices consequently tend downwards. Grand Trunk debenture stocks are firm because of their purely investment character, but the open stocks are weak and a little lower upon the renewed efforts of adverse operators, in addition to the general influence just referred to. The only actual event affecting Grand Trunk stocks is the retirement from the board of directors Mr. Henry Doughte Browne, but it is certain that there is nothing in this point to affect Trunk stocks. The gentleman joined the board to see the fusion with the Great Western through, and long since made it known that he should retire at the earliest opportunity. He now does so, and we believe that at the same time Mr. Browne is withdrawing from several other business engagements of a like character. As regards Canadian Pacific shares, they are being freely dealt in this market as well as in Canada and the States, and in contrast with the general tendency the price is higher than it was a week ago. Hudson's Bay shares remain under the influence of the belief that there are large accounts open for the rise, particularly amongst speculators in Liverpool, but, however that may be, the position and future of the Company are such as to merit greatly increased confidence on the part of the shareholders. Land Corporation of Canada shares are unchanged, and the only point of interest to mention in connection with this company is that Mr. A. R. Grenfell, who was already a director, has succeeded the Duke of Manchester as chairman. Canadian Mining shares are generally firmer, Lake Superior and Canadian Copper because of an advance in the value of copper, and General Mining shares have advanced $\frac{1}{2}$. The letters of allotment of the Quebec Province

loan of £500,000 have been sent out. The amount offered, we understand, was quite covered.

Bookkeeping a Necessity.

Many fortunes have been lost to shrewd and hard working merchants, simply because they lacked a practical knowledge of book-keeping. To a large number of business men their ledger journal and cash book are unintelligible records, for want of a little knowledge of science. To others their business is a moving force with which they are imperfectly acquainted, because they keep no record of mercantile transactions. They cannot tell whether they are solvent or insolvent; where the leaks are that are eating up the profits; what the returns of the year's business; in fact the only thing they do know is that they worked hard, buy and sell, and imagine they make gain, whereas if they were familiar with the principles of record keeping, or book keeping they would be masters of detail, and, therefore, masters of their business. There is in this day of cheap simple text books, no excuse for any wide-awake man of business not knowing how to keep a thorough record of business transactions, either by single or double entry. There are a few simple and fixed principles once mastered that will give power to do it.

Dominion Immigration.

According to the report of the Department of Agriculture the arrival of immigrants in Canada during the month of June was as follows: At Halifax 317, Quebec 10,769, Montreal, via United States ports, 504, Montreal, from Antwerp, 16, Suspension Bridge 9,692, Emerson, from the United States, 1,106, Gretna 335, agencies 27, Customs' entries 5,245; total in June, 28,511. Previously reported to 31st May, 71,293. Total arrivals to date, 99,804. Total arrivals for first six months 1882, 92,514. Of these 99,804 there went to the United States during June: via Halifax 308, via Quebec 2,510, via Suspension Bridge 9,308; total 12,126. Those previously reported to 31st of May numbered 25,843, showing a total of 38,041 going to the States in the present year, as compared with 41,998 who went to the United States during the six months of 1882, out of the total of 92,413.

Timber Berths in the North-West.

In accordance with notifications issued by the Department of the Interior, tenders for timber berths of fifty square miles each, on Bow river and its tributaries, the Kanauskis and Spray rivers, have been received and opened. The successful tenderers are as follows: Limit A—J. G. Thorne, bonus paid per square mile, \$104.20. Limit B—J. G. Ross & Co., \$81. Limit C—O. H. Ingraham, \$124.80. Limit D—Alex. McLaren, \$44.20. Limit E—Vincent Boyless, \$104.20. Limit F—Alex. McFee, \$104.60. Limit G—John B. Kehl, \$104.40. Limit H—F. Holman, \$62.20. Limit I—Wm. A. Rust, \$124.60. Limit J—Isaac K. Kerr, \$124.40. In addition to this bonus, the successful tenderers have to pay a ground rent of \$5 per square mile, and a royalty of five per cent. on the product of the limit.

The Commercial

WINNIPEG, JULY 24 1883.

THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.

The energy which has been brought to bear upon the construction of the great iron track which is to connect the Atlantic with the Pacific ocean, and form a great national highway exclusively over Canadian soil, must be source of gratification and pride to every loyal subject in the Dominion. In two years from now it is promised that the traveller will be able to step on the cars at Montreal, and be carried swiftly across the continent without interruption until his eye rests upon the placid waters of the Pacific. Such an achievement in railroad construction is without a parallel in the world's history. Tremendous engineering difficulties lie in the way across the Rocky Mountain belt, and in the rough country along the north shore of Lake Superior. But these are fast being overcome by the scientific skill that has been employed to solve the knotty problems. In the course of three or four weeks Calgary, within a few miles of the foot of the Rockies, will be reached, and regular traffic will at once be established between there and Winnipeg. On the western slope of the Mountains satisfactory progress is being made, and on the eastern division the work is being rapidly pushed forward, both from the eastern and western ends.

When the road is completed Winnipeg will then be on the great highway over which the commerce of the East will find its way to the Atlantic ports, and thence to the old countries of Europe, and will, from its peculiar position at the junction of the great inland waterways of the North-west, be one of the most important commercial centers of America. With a country at its back the vastness of which is almost beyond the scope of imagination to realize, and whose soil has only to be tickled with the plow to make it yield up its latent treasures of golden grain, its onward progress cannot be checked. Those to whom was entrusted the construction of the highway, by which these products are to find their way to market have done their part well, and it only remains for the people of this city and country to display a like energy and enterprise in availing themselves of the benefits thus conferred to make Winnipeg the great

commercial center of North-western America, and our prairie provinces the richest and most prosperous agricultural country in the world.

WHAT SHALL WE DO TO BE SAVED?

This is, as the heading might lead some to believe is, not intended as a theological article. But the question as to now the people of the country are to be saved from the peculiar course being pursued by banks in Winnipeg at present is what we intend to deal with. The people of Winnipeg and the North-west are gradually having their eyes opened to the necessity that exists for some better monetary accommodation than is now supplied by the banking institutions that have their branches established here. While images were booming and money flowed freely into the country from outside sources, the banks were willing to accommodate and coined money out of the business done. But when a period of depression overtook the country—which was only natural as a relapse from the inflated condition that existed—they have been found to be almost the worst enemies of the country. They seem to have acted something upon the principle which inspires the ordinary hotel keeper, first to drain all the money he can out of his customer and then shove him out upon the street to do as best he may. And, what is strange to say, the banks which have had their agencies established here for the longest time, and have made the most money out of the country have been the very ones to go to the greatest extremes in refusing even ordinary accommodation to old time customers. That the policy pursued by the banking institutions has done much to aggravate the financial crisis through which this country is now passing is beyond a doubt. Had they pursued a liberal policy—at the same time exercising all discretion—business in Winnipeg would not have been in the depressed condition we find it to day. We know of many men in this city who, had the banks shown a little liberality at a critical period, would not have been compelled to adopt the course they have done, that is make an assignment. The banks may reap a temporary advantage by pursuing this line of procedure, but we can assure them that there is still pluck enough and energy enough, and money enough in the people of Winnipeg and the North-west to enable them to provide other means of

accommodation, than through the medium of banks controlled by Eastern capitalists, and whose only object in doing business here seems to have been to play a "grab" game; make all they can and then shut down.

It has been more than once pointed out in the columns of the COMMERCIAL that the establishment of a local chartered bank in this country was the only safeguard against the rapacity of outsiders. Circumstances that have transpired of late cannot but have served to impress that idea more strongly upon the minds of every one who has anything to do with commercial matters, and we are pleased to know that the public are becoming so much alive to the necessity that exists as to take active steps with that end in view. English capital can be easily obtained to carry on a banking institution, provided the people of Winnipeg themselves subscribe a sufficient proportion of the capital. This they are able to do, and the will is not far behind it. Let a local chartered bank be established as soon as possible, and then with the country's money in the hands of the people of the country, we will be freed from the thralldom of those who have, instead of helping business men in difficulty, only served by their course to hasten their ruin. In this, to a great extent, lies the financial salvation of the country, that is unless the banks here show something of a better spirit than they have of late.

MANUFACTURING PROSPECT.

While a rich agricultural country cannot but be a prosperous one, when settled by an enterprising class of people, its prosperity is incomplete until a considerable extent of manufactures develop therein. The people who only raise and export breadstuffs, and import the bulk of their manufactured goods may without injustice be accused of shiftlessness, especially when nature has provided a plentiful supply of the necessary raw material close at hand.

In the province of Manitoba and the adjoining North-western territories all the wealth of agricultural resources that could be desired is at the command of the inhabitants, while in mineral and other resources upon which manufactures are built up nature has also dealt bountifully. The prosperity of the North-west must, therefore, remain incomplete until both capital and enterprise are brought to bear

upon these undeveloped resources. No doubt the first duty of pioneers in a new country is, to secure a plentiful supply of bread from local resources, but in this respect the North-west has passed through its day of probation, and will during the next year export bread enough for a population almost as large as its own. The aim of its people, therefore, must in future be directed towards producing luxuries of life, or the products of the artisan. Many causes have combined during the past two years to prevent any successful efforts being put forth in this direction, and probably the most powerful check was the inflated state of affairs, and the ransom-like prices paid for mechanical labor. During the reign of "boom," when the wages of mechanics ranged from \$4 to \$7 a day there was no encouragement held out to men wishing to embark in manufactures, beyond the certain prospect of an ever increasing demand. The item of expensive fuel was another drawback, second only in potency to expensive labor. These objections are gradually dying away however, while the local demand for manufactured goods has kept steadily increasing. The opening of the Souris and South Saskatchewan coal fields has solved the question of cheap fuel, while the wages of mechanics are now only a little higher than those of older provinces. The speculative element with its head-quarters in Winnipeg still hangs to the ideas of inflation, and a hope of its return. But the hope is a vain one, and the day is close at hand when the Manitoba capital will be one of the cheapest cities of the American continent to live in. The cheapest bread in the world can be secured here. First, fish sells as low at certain seasons of the year as 3c a pound, while the extension of the C.P.R. has opened up the Bow, Belly and other valleys, near the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains, from which cheap beef and mutton can soon be secured. Only the suicidal greed of speculative property owners keeps house rents high; and the dozens of empty dwellings that are now seeking tenants at 20 per cent. less rent than was asked for them a year ago, proves that the question of reasonable rents will soon solve itself, notwithstanding the bolstering of greedy property owners. It is plain, therefore, that cheap living must be general in the North-west, within two years from the present date. With cheap living, cheap labor and a prosperous mechanic class can soon

be secured, and an era of real prosperity and rapid progress will set in if manufacturing enterprises are only started. The days of inflation are gone, and to insolvency must go all those who depend upon their return. The opportunity for productive investment is now open to capitalists wishing to invest, and in no field is the prospect better than in manufacturing channels. It remains to be seen if incoming capital is to be still directed into non-productive investment, or into channels where it will be linked with industry, and besides giving more certain returns, be employed for the benefit of the masses.

THE INSIDE TRACK.

It is a trait inherent in human nature to secure every advantage over an antagonist, and in carrying out the principle, every one is not over scrupulous in the measures adopted. In short, to use the turf phrase, there are few who do not like and will not obtain a point, to secure the inside track.

In the distribution of the assets of the insolvents in this country during the past few months this disposition has been shown prominently in many instances, and in not a few principle and honor have been sacrificed in its pursuance. In almost every case of insolvency there have been one or more preferred creditors, who were secured beyond ultimate loss, while the balance have been left to bear the burden of the insolvent's misfortune, recklessness or rascality, as the case might be. The fact of such claims being secured by a preference could not be complained of, when the preference was given as part of the terms of credit allowed. But nearly all of the preferred claims of insolvents during the last three months have been secured when ultimate assignment was beyond doubt, or at least when the debtor was in difficulties, while a large proportion were secured by judgment and attachment prior to assignment. In almost every case there was no argument based upon commercial justice or fair play which would allow of any preference, and in some only the unnecessary crowding of the debtor secured one. In the greedy rush for who could pick up most pieces in a business crash, not a few honest but unfortunate men have been forced to commercial ruin, when an absence of jealousy among creditors would have made a lenient policy practicable, and more profitable

for all concerned, and saved such debtors from insolvency. The hardship is aggravated by the fact that in such cases it is the greedy creditor and oppressor of the debtor who usually profits, and his real friends who generally suffer.

But the power is also in the hands of the debtor to give to any of his creditors an unjust preference over others. He has only to confess judgment to any favored one or more, and before others can secure a judgment by regular course of law the favored creditor or creditors can have realized from the assets. This has been rather forcibly illustrated in Winnipeg during the past ten days, much to the discomfiture of a bank which has been pressing rather heavily upon numerous struggling trades of late. It is, therefore, plain from the experience of the past few months, that as matters at present stand, the lenient creditor who wishes to give every solvent man a chance, and to lessen as much as possible the number of insolvents, is at the mercy of his greedy and unscrupulous fellow creditor, or the dishonest debtor.

The absence of a bankrupt law in Canada has been discussed quite freely of late, and the passing of one as freely advocated. If facts and actual occurrences serve as any argument in favor of such a law, they are numerous in connection with the trade experience of the North-west during the past three months. The impression with many is that a bankrupt law must necessarily free men from the debts they have incurred, when they are unable to pay the same; and many right-minded men naturally oppose every attempt at a law which will legalize dishonesty. There is no necessity for a bankrupt law embracing any such provisions, and none for its aims being for more than the equal distribution of assets among creditors. Call the law by what name you please some one is necessary to accomplish this latter object, and the sooner a move is made in that direction the better for trade all over the Dominion. It may be that the idea of whitewashing an insolvent from his debts is inseparable from a bankrupt law in the minds of Canadian statesmen and legislators, and if such is the case, even a law that would under certain circumstances admit of such a process, would be preferable to the present state of chaos, in which the unscrupulous and unrelenting knave has so much the advantage over the honest and generous business man.

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

In the Winnipeg Money market there is little change to report for the week. The banks have made no change from the policy of conservatism they have been pursuing for the past few weeks. Nor is it likely that there will be any particular loosening of the bonds which have made money so tight of late, until the harvest is gathered in. That there is an increasing feeling of confidence cannot be doubted, but at the same time there has yet been very little departure from the straight and narrow lines laid down some time ago, in regard to granting accommodation. Some of the banks show more of a disposition to deal liberally than others, and those which just now temper their judgment with the greatest degree of mercy will be well repaid for it in the future, when business again resumes its wonted form. Rates of discount have not changed. For gilt edged commercial paper from 8 to 10 per cent has to be paid; ordinary paper 10 to 12 per cent. Money for purposes of real estate speculation is still hard to get, and in some cases fabulous prices are paid to private parties for accommodation. We hear of as high as 10 per cent. per month being paid for the use of money for short periods. Money for investment on good landed mortgage security is easily obtained, and at reasonable rates. The ruling figures are from 9 to 10 per cent.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

The condition of the wholesale trade in this city has not changed materially from that indicated in our last week's issue. Business still continues in the same dull stereotyped way that was reported then, and there is very little prospect of an immediate revival. In fact it is scarcely possible that there can be any change until the crop now on the ground is brought to market and converted into money. The excellent crop prospects, however, inspire dealers with confidence in the future, and should nothing unforeseen occur to prevent the proper harvesting and curing of the grain, there will no doubt be an excellent fall business done. Country dealers are acting very cautiously, and do not care to place any orders beyond what actual necessity demands, until the safety of the crops is assured. Wholesalers also do not care to press sales until later in the season, and the leading houses will not send out travellers with fall samples until about the middle of August. By that time the situation can be pretty well ascertained, and both buyers and sellers will be in a position to guide themselves thereby. These two circumstances together combine to make wholesale business quieter than it would have been at this season of the year. But the policy being adopted is a wise one, and will result in much greater and more lasting benefit than if the reckless system that has characterized the conduct of business in the past had been continued. It will place business on a good sound basis, and that is what is wanted. Collections have not shown any signs of improvement, in fact generally speaking they are slower than they have been for some time. This is accounted for by the fact that the supply

of ready money in the hands of the farming community has been pretty well exhausted in the purchase of agricultural machinery, and storekeepers' accounts are left to be paid out of the proceeds of the crops now on the ground. So much so is this the case that during the past month many country merchants who expected to be able to meet their accounts pretty fairly have failed to do so, and have had to arrange with their wholesale creditors for longer time, and say they cannot promise to do much until after harvest. The leading houses are doing all in their power to accommodate in this way, and any good reliable business man will be carried over the present crisis. The banks are not inclined to be as liberal with country dealers as they might be, or, to put it stronger, as they ought to be, and this throws a heavier burden upon the shoulders of the wholesale men than they should have to bear.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

The agricultural implement men have their hands full just now in attending to the wants of customers. This is their busy season in delivering and setting up machinery. Haying operations are in full blast all over the country and an immense number of mowers and rakes have been sold. There will scarcely be an article in this line left unsold in the country, and some of the houses have been unable to supply demands. Reapers are selling well; it is thought that in this line the supply will just about be equal to the demand, and there will be very few machines left in the warehouses over winter. The only line which has been at all overdone is that of wagons, of which the supply will be considerably beyond what is wanted. Threshing machinery finds ready sale, and a great deal will be required to handle the crop after it has been stacked. For lighter implements, such as plows, &c., there is a light demand at present, but a good many will be wanted as soon as fall plowing begins. Reports from agencies in the country are very favorable as regards the crop prospect, the recent rains having done an immense amount of good. Collections are somewhat slow, but not more so than was expected at this season of the year. On the whole the leading houses consider the outlook a very favorable one.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

There is very little being done in the boot and shoe line at present, and no general revival is expected until the middle of next month when fall trade will begin to open up. A few sorting orders are being sent out to the country. City trade is very dull. Collections are inclined to be slower than they have been during the season.

CLOTHING.

Business in the clothing line continues in the same stand still condition that was reported last week. Some travellers have been out on the road, and brought in a few sorting up orders. They report the prospect for fall trade as very favorable. Collections are on the quiet side.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

There has been a more steady run of trade during the past week. A considerable number of small orders are being regularly received

from the west and south, but city trade is still exceedingly quiet. Collections although not so good as they were some time ago, cannot yet be said to be unsatisfactory taking all things into consideration.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

Trade in the crockery and glassware line is quiet, but at the same time not by any means in a stand still condition. Orders received are chiefly for the commoner class of staple ware. Collections are still slow, the principal difficulty being with accounts of long standing which have become somewhat rusty.

DRY GOODS.

No active phase of business has as yet developed in the dry goods line, and to go into detail as to the state of trade would only be to give a repetition of what has appeared under this heading in the COMMERCIAL for the past month. One or two of the leading houses report a slightly improved business during the week, which they look upon as only temporary, and not any indication of a revival from the inactivity of the past. The majority of the houses report no improvement whatever, and do not anticipate any for a few weeks yet. About the middle of August travellers will start out with fall samples, and a good trade is looked for. Money is still very tight, and shows no signs of improvement, and it is not expected there will be any until after harvest.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALL WARES.

There is very little activity to report for the week. A few small sorting up orders make up the volume of trade. What orders are received come chiefly from outside points, city trade being still abnormally dull.

FISH AND POULTRY.

The fish market is very quiet, and as regards poultry there is nothing doing. White fish and trout are worth 8c per lb, and pike sells at 3c. There will not be any particular supply or demand until the weather becomes colder.

FRUIT.

There has been an active demand for fruit during the week, especially for lemons and oranges. Lemons are not in very large supply, but a couple of car loads are expected in a day or two. They are quoted at \$10 to 10.50. California oranges, with which the market is well supplied, are now sold at \$8. There are very few box apples in the market; new barrelled apples are expected in a few days. Tomatoes are in fair supply, but the price fluctuates so much, according to the condition in which they are received, that they cannot be quoted. There has been a brisk demand from the west of late. Collections are reported good.

FUEL.

The demand is very light, both for coal and wood. Prices have not changed, but there will no doubt be a considerable drop before winter sets in. The following are the quotations. Anthracite coal \$15 delivered, bituminous \$13.50 to 14.50; tamarac wood in lots of ten cars or over sells at \$6.50, smaller lots \$6.75, poplar \$5 in large lots, \$7.50 in smaller quantities.

FURNITURE.

There is very little demand for furniture at

present, country dealers holding off till nearer fall before laying in their stocks. It is not expected that there will be any particular change in the state of trade for a month or six weeks yet. The prospects for a good business then are considered good.

GROCERIES.

There is always a demand for groceries. Business for the week has been up to about the standard of the past month or two. Dealers are only buying in quantities to supply immediate wants, preferring to purchase smaller quantities and oftener than to lay in a heavy stock at one time. Teas are firm. The direct importing house in this city have been advised by cable from Yokohama that a large shipment of new season teas, consigned to them had left there on the 20th ult. It will reach here in about a month. Prices generally remain as they were, viz.:—Sugars — Yellow 9½ to 10c; granulated 10½ to 11c; Paris lumps 12½ to 12¾c; Coffees 15 to 18c for Rios, 22 to 27c for Javas; teas — Japan 25 to 45c, Moyune gunpowders 35 to 75c; Young Hyson 26 to 55c; new season Congous 30 to 40c.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

Business this week has been a little brisker than for some time past, but still there is no general revival. The ordinary run of trade in light hardware is being done. Quotations remain unchanged as follows: Tin plate 14 x 20, \$3 to 8.25; 20x28, \$15 to 15.25; bar iron \$3.74 to 4; sheet iron 5½ to 6c; iron piping, 25 per cent off price list; ingot tin, 32 to 35c; piglead, 6½ to 7c; galvanised iron, No. 28, 8½ to 9c according to quality.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

Trade in this line is very quiet at present, both in city and country. Quotations are: Sole slaughter, 70 to 75c; B. Z., 85 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 particular change to note in connection with the lumber trade. Large quantities of logs are being brought into the mills, which are getting actively to work. The lumber cut for the season will be very large, and there is sure to be a surplus stock. Quotations are as follows, but they are not strictly adhered to; when a customer appears with cash a considerable reduction can be had: Pine lumber 1st, common boards, dressed \$26.50; 2nd, dressed, \$25.50; 1st do. rough, \$26.50; 2nd do. \$25.50; sheathing, rough, \$25; timber 16 feet and under, \$24; do. over 16 feet, for each additional 2 feet, \$1; dimension and joists 16 feet and under, \$24; do. over 16 feet for each, \$1; fencing, \$25; 2 and 3 inch battens, \$30; A. stock boards, all widths, \$50; B do., \$45; C do., \$40, D do., \$35; 1st clear, 1, 1½, 1½, and 2 inch, \$60; 2nd do., \$56; window and door casings, \$50; base boards, dressed, \$50; 1st pine flooring, siding and ceiling, \$40; 2nd do. \$35; 3rd do. \$32; ½ inch split siding, dressed, \$30. Spruce lumber—timber 16 feet and under, \$23; do. over 16 feet for each additional 2 feet, \$1; dimensions and joists, 16 feet and under, \$23; do., over 16

feet, for each additional 2 feet, \$1; boards, \$23; 1st flooring, siding and ceiling, \$32; XX shingles, \$5.50; Star A shingles, \$5.50; X shingles, \$5.50; A do, \$5; lath, \$4.50

BOOKS AND STATIONERY.

At this season of the year there is very little business expected in this line, and quietness will prevail for a month yet. Collections are fairly satisfactory, but not nearly so good as they might be.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

The business of the week has been up to about the ordinary standard. Collections slow. Quotations to jobbers and purchasers of heavy quantities are: Hennessy' 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; Boleyn, in wood, \$4 to \$5.50; Ronet, in cases, quarts, \$8.50; 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, \$8.50; Scotch whisky, Ramsay's in wood, \$4.00; Caol-Ila Islay, in wood, \$3.50; Stewart's, in cases, quarts, \$8.50; 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; 55 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.

Business is very quiet. The receipts of grain for the week amount to a few loads brought in by farmers in the adjoining country, and this state of affairs is likely to continue for some time, as farmers from this out will be too busily engaged in haying and harvesting operations to bring out any produce they may have on hand.

WHEAT.

Receipts for the week amount to scarcely anything. There is no doubt that the country has been pretty well cleared of good wheat fit for milling purposes. Damaged grain is almost unsaleable at any price. A first-class sample of hard wheat is worth 80c here, and any amount of it would be taken at that price.

OATS.

Receipts have not been so liberal during the past ten days as they were a couple of weeks previous. A few loads have been brought into the market by farmers, for which from 35c to 38c has been paid, the latter being the more common figure. The demand is light. Receipts will likely be light until the new crop comes in, and prices will decline. Dealers are not willing to contract for quantities at a higher figure than 25c, but it is as yet rather early to say what the established price will be, as that will be largely regulated by the condition in which the crop is secured.

BARLEY.

There has not been even a load on the market

this week. A good bright sample is worth 40c, but this quotation is nominal.

FLOUR.

The demand still continues lighter than was expected for this season of the year. The mills are only running to supply local wants, there being no inducement to ship east. Quotations are:—Patents \$3 to 3.10; xxxx or strong baker's \$2.45 to 2.55; baker's \$1.95 to 2.05; trader's or xx \$1.05.

HRAN

The demand is lighter than it was a few weeks ago, and the supply is sufficient to supply all inquiry. The price remains the same as last week, viz., \$10 per ton on track.

SHORTS.

There has not been much inquiry for the past ten days. Prices, however, hold firm at the old quotations of \$12 per ton on track.

POTATOES

There is a considerable quantity of old potatoes still in the market, which are quoted at 40c. New potatoes are held at \$6 per barrel. This quotation will soon be reduced, as the home product will soon be marketable.

BUTTER.

The market is well supplied with butter, and the quality brought in is generally very good. Choice dairy is worth 22c to 24c, and for creamery 25c is asked. A small consignment of crock butter is on the way which will be a little higher. Inferior qualities of butter are very hard of sale at any price.

EGGS.

There have been liberal receipts by rail, and a good many coming in from the country during the week, but not more than necessary to supply the demand which is good, and will continue to be so while the warm weather lasts. The ruling figure is 23c.

CHEESE

Is hardly so firm as it was last week, prices in the east having declined considerably. A good article is quoted at from 14c to 15c.

HAMS.

The demand is very fair, and prices are inclined to be a little firmer than a week ago. Canned are now held at from 16 to 16½; plain 15 to 15½.

BACON.

As in the case of hams there is a tendency to firmness. Quotations, however, have not changed and are as follows: Long clear 12½ to 13½c; Cumberland 13c; spiced roll 15½c to 16c; breakfast 15 to 16c.

MESS PORK

Is not much inquired for, but holds firm at \$24.50 to \$25.

MESS BEEF

At this season of the year there is very little demand for mess beef, and the quotation of \$18 is only nominal.

WHITE BEANS.

Which are in fair supply, are quoted at \$2.75.

BALED HAY.

The market is overstocked, and buyers can get all they want at almost their own figures.

MINNEAPOLIS.

The past week has been a fairly average one as regards the amount of business transacted on 'change. Prices have held steadier than for some time past, and business generally seems to be getting down to something like a proper basis. The excitement caused by the big breaks on 'change is dying out, and it is not likely there will be any such strong attempts made

to run corners for some time to come, the lesson taught having been a pretty severe one. On Tuesday there was a fair amount of trading done in wheat, and the feeling was more like business than for some time past. Corn was dull and oats steady. The business of the day was represented by the following quotations;—

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.10 to \$1.10½; No. 1, \$1.01 to \$1.06; No. 2 hard \$1.03 to 1.06

CORN, No. 2, 45 to 46c; no grade, 42 to 44c.

OATS, No. 2 white, 35½ to 36c; No. 2, 33 to 34c; rejected, 31 to 33c.

FLOUR, Patents, \$6.25 to \$6.75; straights, \$5.35 to \$5.75; clears, \$5.00 to \$5.35.

On Wednesday the market remained about the same as the day previous. Very little wheat offered, and corn and oats were dull, the former being about lifeless. The business of the day is represented by the following quotations:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.10 to \$1.10½; No. 1 \$1.01 to \$1.05½; No. 2 hard, \$1.04 to \$1.05½.

CORN, No. 2 45 to 46c; rejected, 42 to 44c.

OATS, No. 2 white, 35 to 35½c; No. 2, 33½c to 34c; rejected, 31 to 32c.

FLOUR, patents, \$6.25 to \$6.75; straights, \$5.35 to \$5.75; clears, \$5.00 to \$5.35.

On Thursday business was quiet in all lines. The business of the day is represented by the following quotations:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.10 to 1.10½; No. 1, \$1.01 to \$1.05; No. 2 hard \$1.03 to \$1.05.

CORN, No. 2, 45 to 46c; no grade, 42 to 44c.

OATS, No. 2 white, 34 to 35½c; No. 2, 33½ to 34c; rejected, 31 to 33c.

FLOUR, patents, \$6.25 to \$6.75; straights, \$5.35 to \$5.75; clears, \$5.00 to \$5.35.

On Friday, owing to the entire want of outside information, because of the telegrapher's strike, business was light, dealers being completely at sea as to how to operate. What business there was is represented by the following quotations:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.10 to 1.10½; No. 1, \$1.01 to 1.05; No. 2 hard, \$1.04 to \$1.05½.

CORN, No. 2, 47c to 47½c; rejected, 42 to 45c.

OATS, No. 2 white, 35 to 35½c; No. 2, 33c to 34c; rejected, 30 to 33c.

FLOUR, patents, \$6.25 to \$6.75; straights, \$5.35 to \$5.75; clears, \$5.00 to \$5.35.

On Saturday there was very little doing, owing to the demoralized state of the telegraph lines, and the consequent lack of information from outside markets. The business of the day is represented by the following quotations:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.10 to 1.10½; No. 1 \$1.01 to 1.05; No. 2 hard \$1.04 to 1.05½.

CORN, No. 2, 46½c to 47c, no grade 42c to 45c.

OATS, No. 2 white, 35c to 35½c; No. 2, 33c to 34c; rejected 30 to 33c.

FLOUR, Patents, \$6.25 to 6.75; straights, \$5.35 to 5.75; clear \$5.00 to 5.35.

CHICAGO.

There has been considerable activity in the market during the week. Prices have, however, fluctuated very irregularly within the established range, but on the whole prices ruled higher than the week previous. "Shorts" have been anxious to cover their future deliveries, the demand being chiefly from parties who until lately had been persistent bears. On Tuesday the wheat market was strong and a good specu-

lative business was transacted. Corn was active and steady, oats strong and in good demand. A good business was also done in provisions, and the feeling as regards the market for hog products was more settled than for some time. Towards the close quotations were:

Wheat.....	July, \$1.03½	Aug., \$1.04½
Corn.....	" 52½	" 52½
Oats.....	" 33½	" 29
Pork.....	" 14.60	" 14.60
Lard.....	" 8.92½	" 8.92½

On Wednesday a large business was done in wheat, but the market was rather unsettled and closed lower, "shorts" having covered pretty freely the day before. Corn was lower; oats were in good demand and firmer. Provisions were unsettled and although in good demand, prices declined slightly. Towards the close quotations were:

Wheat.....	July, \$1.02½	Aug., \$1.03½
Corn.....	" 50½	" 50½
Oats.....	" 34½	" 28½
Pork.....	" 14.30	" 14.32½
Lard.....	" 8.85	" 8.85

On Thursday the market was weaker for wheat, Corn was firm; oats weak. Provisions lower and unsettled. Quotations towards the close were:

Wheat.....	July, \$1.01½	Aug., \$1.02½
Corn.....	" 51	" 51
Oats.....	" 33½	" 28½
Pork.....	" 14.05	" 14.05
Lard.....	" 8.75	" 8.75

On Friday, owing to the telegraphers strike, the market was uncertain, and trading was light. Quotations towards the close were:

Wheat.....	June, \$1.01	July, \$1.02½
Corn.....	" 50½	" 50½
Oats.....	" 33½	" 28½
Pork.....	" 14.00	" 14.05
Lard.....	" 8.70	" 8.75

On Saturday the feeling in wheat was unsettled and trade fair. Corn was fairly active, but oats were dull. Trading in provisions was moderately active. Quotations towards the close were:

Wheat.....	June, \$1.01½	July, \$1.02½
Corn.....	" 51	" 51
Oats.....	" 33½	" 28½
Pork.....	" 14.15	" 14.15
Lard.....	" 8.95	" 8.97½

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

The stock market is still in an unsatisfactory condition. What little strength accrued during the week before last has been lost and weakness and uncertainty are the prevailing characteristics. It is feared that a good many of the bears are "short," and the bulls wishing to take any advantage there may be, throws the market into disorder. As compared with last week's quotations closing bids on Wednesday were:

	July 11.	July 18.
Montreal	195½	197½
Ontario	112½	115½
Toronto	186	185½
Merchants	123	122½
Commerce.....	132	132½
Imperial.....	142	142
Federal.....	158	158½
Dominion.....	196½	197
Standard.....	115	114½
Hamilton.....	118½	117½
North-west Land.....	62	63½

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

The only important feature in the markets during the week has been a firmer feeling in

wheat and flour, which have been in good demand, with holders not anxious to sell. Other grains have been neglected to a considerable extent. The general tone of crop reports is not encouraging, the wet weather having interfered with them to a serious extent, especially in low lands

WHEAT.

There has been a good demand during the week, and prices have improved. Offerings have been light, and sellers not inclined to part with stocks on hand unless at a still further advance. Quotations are, f.o.c.: Fall wheat No. 1 1.03; No. 2, \$1.06 to 1.07; No. 3, \$1.02 to 1.04; Spring No. 1, \$1.09 to 1.10; No. 2, \$1.07; No. 3, \$1.04 to 1.05.

OATS.

There has been very little demand, and prices have declined. Western sold as high as 42c, but on Wednesday even this figure was not bid. No eastern are offered. Street prices are 45c to 47c.

BARLEY.

There has been no change in the situation as regards barley. Very little is inquired for, and there is very little offering. This state of affairs is likely to continue until the new crop begins to come on the market. Quotations are: No. 1, 73c; No. 2, 68c; extra No. 3, 59c; No. 3, 48c.

RYE

None offering, prices nominal at 61c per bush. There has been a little inquiry during the week.

POTATOES

Old potatoes are nearly out of the market. Car lots cannot be had, and street receipts are small with prices steady at 80 to 85c per bag. New are selling at \$3.25 per barrel.

FLOUR.

The demand for flour has been fairly active, and prices are firm. Several round lots changed hands during the week, at from \$4.70 to 4.80 for guaranteed Superior extra; extra is worth \$4.60 to 4.65; bag flour is quoted \$2.27½ to 2.30 for extra.

BUTTER.

The market has been unsettled. Early in the week there was considerable demand for shipment, principally to the North-west. Receipts were liberal during the week, and the demand having been supplied prices declined. There is no demand for English markets, and so long as this continues prices will be weak. Selected is worth 15c to 16c; commoner qualities 13 to 14c. Street prices are: pound rolls 18c to 19c; tubs and crocks 16c to 17c for extra fine.

CHEESE

The market has been quiet but steady at 11 to 11½c for choice, and as low as 9c for inferior qualities.

EGGS

Of late receipts have been liberal. Round lots are quoted at 15c. On the street 17c to 18c is paid for really fresh.

PORK

There has been very little demand, and the market is quiet and easier at \$20.50 to 21.00 for small lots. Round lots could have been obtained at \$20.

BACON

The feeling has been firmer than last week, but transactions have been light. Long clear is offered in round lots at 10½c; tons and cases at 11 to 11½c; Cumberland in round lots 10c; tons and cases 10½ to 10¾; rolls and bellies 13c to 14½c.

HAMS.

There have been several small transactions, but no movement of round lots is reported. Canned are quoted at 14c to 14½c; smoked 13½c to 14c in small lots; round lots are obtainable at from ½ to ¾c lower; pickled are worth 12½c.

SUNDRIES.

Dried apples 10 to 10½, evaporated do 16c., white beans \$1 70 to 1 80; oatmeal per 136 lbs \$5.20 to 5.25; cornmeal \$3 75 to 3 90.

Markets by Telegraph.

Special Dispatch to The Commercial.

STOCKS.

TORONTO, Ont., July 23.

Stocks have been dull all week, generally closing easy. Closing bids—Montreal 196½; Ontario 114½; Toronto 184½; Commerce 131½; Imperial 142½; Federal 157½; Dominion 196½; Standard 114½; Hamilton 116½; North-west Land 58½.

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

TORONTO, July 23.

Produce is paralysed by the telegraph strike, and is also checked by small offerings. Flour is scarce and firm at \$4.75 for Superior, and \$4.65 for extra. Wheat is scarce; No. 2 fall is quoted at \$1.07; No. 2 spring \$1.06 to 1.08; oats are easy and sold at 42c; barley and peas are nominal. In butter there has been large receipts; buyers for shipment offer 14c, but it is held higher; no sales; selections 16c. Eggs 15½c in round lots. Meat is quiet and firmly held; round lots of long clear 10½c; Cumberland 10c; tons and cases a quarter to half a cent more. Hams are very scarce and firm. Wool is quiet, small sales; coarse at 16c. to 17c; fine and selected 19c to 20c.

Bradstreet's Weekly Report.

NEW YORK, July 21, 1883.

Special despatches to Bradstreet's this week give evidence of a distinct improvement in general trade, particularly in the east, while prices have not advanced. The demand for leading commercial staples has increased. Fall buyers are appearing in mercantile circles at Boston, New York and Philadelphia. Business has been obstructed at New York, owing to the inability of the Telegraph companies to forward the bulk of private commercial despatches. Commercial and financial quotations have, however, been forwarded with a moderate degree of dispatch. The strike of the telegraphers has not caused as much disturbance as was anticipated. Iron continues firm, and best grades are held at \$23, or \$1 above the nominal rate. Coal continues in fair demand. Petroleum advanced on Friday, after a decline during the preceding portion of the week. Wheat has advanced slightly during the week. Corn has been firmer but has experienced less change in price. The weather has been reported unfavorable to the growing corn crop. Provisions have advanced somewhat. Purchases of new wool for Eastern Markets have been noticeably large. Ocean freights are firmer and higher for grain. There were 162 failures in the United States reported during the week, 22 more than the preceding week, 3 more than the corresponding week of 1882 and 80 more than the same week of 1881.

The members of the firm of Merlin & Latham, late in the dry goods business in Emerson, have both been arrested on a capias issued at the instance of E. W. Riley, manager for Sargent, Vail & Co., Winnipeg, and who is acting for eastern creditors. Some time ago this firm obtained an extension. Very shortly afterwards they began sacrificing their goods and

devoting the proceeds to their own personal benefit, one of the firm having traded off part of the goods for a farm in Dakota, which he had decided in his wife's name. The other also took up land and paid for it out of the business. They are now out on bail and will be brought up for trial shortly.

Winnipeg Labor Market.

The labor market has not undergone any particular change since last we wrote concerning it. The supply of skilled labor is fully equal to the demand, and there is also no difficulty in obtaining plenty of ordinary laboring hands. A considerable number are being continually sent out to work on the Canadian Pacific Railway, and now that active operations have commenced on the Manitoba and North-western, quite a number will be absorbed there. In the city there is a fair demand for mechanics, carpenters especially. A considerable number of bricklayers are also employed. The ordinary run of wages for mechanics is from \$2.25 to \$2.75, but it is only very good men who can obtain the latter figure. Laborers' wages in the city are from \$1.50 to \$1.75 per day. The corporation have not yet got to work on city improvements, which makes the demand less than it would be. Farmers are making inquiry for haying and harvest hands, and offer from \$25 to \$30 per month and board. Domestic servants are still scarce, and have no difficulty in obtaining employment at from \$15 to \$25 per month.

Crop Prospects.

The refreshing showers and moderately warm weather of the past ten days have been of unusual benefit to the growing crops. The growth has been something remarkable even for Manitoba. At some points west where it was feared there might be a shortage, and would have been had the dry weather continued, there is now every promise of plenty of straw and an abundant yield of grain. An occasional shower between now and harvest is all that is wanted to bring the crop to perfect maturity. Barley harvest in some districts of Southern Manitoba will commence in a few days, and the crop will be beyond the average. Wheat and oat fields could not present a better appearance, and with good harvest weather a splendid return is assured. Haying operations are now in full blast. In many districts the crop will be light, the rain not having come in time to help it much, but there will be plenty to supply the wants of the country.

Curiosities of the Dead-Letter Office.

One of the rooms of the Post-Office Department Building, Washington, has recently been transformed into a museum for the exhibition of curiosities that have accumulated in the Dead-Letter Office. The articles exhibited number several thousands, and embrace every thing imaginable, from a postage stamp of the Confederate States to snakes and horned toads. A correspondent of the *Evening Post* has been rummaging around in this department, and he finds that among the relics is a record of all the valuable letters received during the early days

of the postal service in the colonies of North America. This record is in the handwriting of Benjamin Franklin, and shows that during a period of eleven years only 365 letters containing valuables were sent to the Dead-Letter Office. The records of the Department to-day exhibit at a glance the enormous difference between the postal service of the present and of the early days of the country's history.

The number of letters received at the Dead-Letter Office during the last year was 4,207,496, or more than 13,600 each working day. Of this vast number nearly 20,000 contained money to the aggregate value of upward of \$44,000; 25,000 contained checks, drafts, money orders, and other papers to the total value of about \$2,000,000; while 52,000 had inclosures of postage stamps. This vast amount of mail matter was sent to the Dead-Letter Office because three-fourths of the addresses could not be found; one-eighth were addressed to guests in hotels who had departed without leaving addresses; nearly 300,000 were insufficiently prepaid, and as many more were either erroneously or improperly addressed. Eleven thousand bore no superscription whatever.

Wherever practicable, letters are forwarded to the parties addressed, if they can be reached in any manner. If they contain valuables, and the sender is known, they are returned; otherwise the valuables are sold, and the proceeds deposited in the United States Treasury. If letter-writers would exercise an ordinary amount of care, the majority of the work of the Dead-Letter Division would be dispensed with, and all the trouble and annoyance of losses by mail would be avoided. But the business of this branch of the Post-Office Department increases from year to year.

A North-Western Bank.

Mr. A. W. Ross has returned from his trip to Britain. He reports having met with very gratifying success in interesting English capitalists in a scheme for establishing a bank with headquarters in Winnipeg. This was one of the principal objects of his mission across the Atlantic. British speculators are prepared to invest \$5,000,000 for the purpose mentioned, and the only object now in the way is a defect in the Banking Laws of the Dominion which will be overcome by special legislation as soon as Parliament again meets. So that we may expect before many months to have a chartered bank of our own in the country.

BRANDON.

The late rains have greatly increased the crop prospects, and farmers feel confident of a good yield this season.

During the week business has greatly improved. Merchants are in good spirits, and sales have been large and cash more plentiful.

Wright & Wright have applied for an extension of time. The chances are the creditors will give it to them. Had they acted a little more straightforward with the bank this trouble would have been prevented.

The citizens also have another important matter under their attention, that of defeating the

by law furnishing money for the purchase of the bridges. A strong meeting was held against purchasing these miserable structures which are admitted by all not to be worth the price of the wood in them. The cost of repairing will be greater in four years than the cost of the bridges. The feeling of the public is that a good iron bridge should be erected in the centre of the city.

Considerable excitement is caused over the selection of the Court House site, which is at least a mile and a quarter outside of the city proper. The citizens are enraged at the action of the Government in this matter, and a number of our most interested men waited on Mr. Norquay when he visited Brandon last week. Since Mr. Norquay's return to Winnipeg a telegram has been received ordering the work to be ceased. It is thus hoped that the evil intentions of estate owners and high civic authorities will be frustrated, as the circumstances certainly have cast reflections on them.

EMERSON.

The nomination for mayor and aldermen under the new city charter takes place on the 28th instant.

Work on the first pier of the new railway bridge is progressing favorably. Mayor Bowles has the contract for this part of the work.

Under the new city charter the corporation has power to issue debentures to the amount of \$386,500, for purposes specified in the act of incorporation.

Cordwood will be much cheaper this winter than last. A considerable quantity has already been received. Good dry oak can now be bought at \$6 per cord delivered.

Shultz & Marsden have shipped five cars of horses and their whole outfit, to commence operations on their contract on the Manitoba and Northwestern Railway.

The custom house here has been considerably improved. An addition has been made to it in which the collector will have on exhibition a display of Manitoba products.

Crops in this district have been greatly benefited by the recent rains, and the prospects for an abundant yield is excellent. Business men are correspondingly elated over the prospect of a good fall trade, in which they can hardly be disappointed.

EDMONTON.

From the Bulletin:

The H.B. Co. saw mill began work on June 18th, and has been busy ever since.

Edmonton mills are sawing every day and grinding every second night, or more frequently if grain comes in.

J. A. McDougall & Co. have removed to their new premises, on the corner of Fraser avenue and Main street. The building is fitted up in city style and is both roomy and elegant.

The machinery is being fitted on Ferbert's mining scow, and active operations will probably be commenced next week. The engine is a twelve horse portable, Waterous make, with up-right sectional boiler. The scow has been lengthened considerably to support the weight of the engine.

The post office and telegraph office are to be removed from their present location in the H. B. Co.'s fort to a building to be erected by Mr. R. Hardisty on lot 31, block 5, sixth street, on the H.B. Co. reserve, near the public school house. The building is to be 29x26, a story and a half high, sheeted outside with rustic siding and lathed and plastered inside. It will be ready for occupation next month.

Very little imported flour for sale, and no demand for it, as the native article is good enough for all purposes this season. Farmers have sufficient on hand to supply themselves. Prices are: Wheat flour \$8, \$9 and \$10, per sack; barley flour \$5 to 6.50 per sack. Chopped feed 3c; shorts 3c, and wheat or barley bran 1c a pound. Lumber is on hand in unlimited quantities, and is being made as fast as possible. Prices: common \$25 per M; first class \$35 per M; rustic siding and flooring \$47 per M; dressed half-inch siding \$40 per M; shingles \$6 per M. Very little wheat offering for sale. Worth \$2 to 2.50 per bushel, cash. Barley offering in small quantities at \$1 a bushel. Beef is 20c per lb.

PRINCE ALBERT.

Building operations are brisk this season.

A. L. Ashdown has opened a branch store at St. Albert's, near Edmonton.

The crop prospect in this district is excellent, and the prairie now looks its best.

On account of the want of logs, Moore & Macdowall's saw mill had to stop running for a few days.

Business of late has been fairly brisk and our merchants are looking forward to a splendid fall trade.

The steamer North-west, on its last trip, brought up a large quantity of freight for merchants here.

Gorman & Bain, from Winnipeg, have arrived with a large stock of dry goods, and will open up business here shortly.

The H.B. Co.'s grist mill is now in charge of Mr. Dixon, Mr. John McKenzie having resigned the position to go farming.

Seymour & Nolan have established a new ferry across the South Branch about twenty miles from Batoche's, which it is claimed shortens the trail from Humboldt to Prince Albert about twenty miles.

A large number of men have arrived to put together and operate the barges and dredging machinery to be used in removing the boulders from the channel of the Saskatchewan, which now obstruct navigation. Mr. E. Burbank is in charge.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE.

R. Roxburg has been elected captain of the fire brigade, and H. J. Woodside, sec.-treas.

There is still some wheat coming in from the country, which brings from 65c to 73c per bush.

Agricultural implement men are doing a rushing business, and their stocks will not more than supply the demand.

The paper factory here is still running full blast, notwithstanding Mr. McIlvaine's difficulties, which it is hoped will be only temporary. Large quantities of paper are shipped daily to different points.

At a meeting of the fire brigade last week the chief and secretary were instructed to forward to the chief of the Winnipeg brigade a letter, conveying their sympathy for those who were injured by the Ashdown explosion.

Crops in the vicinity of the Portage never looked better than they do this summer. With favorable harvest weather an immense amount of grain will be marketed here next fall. An excellent fall trade is on that account looked forward to by merchants and business men generally.

The following arrangements have been made between the agricultural society and the executive council of the Board of Agriculture in connection with the Provincial Exhibition:—Sheds to be built the entire length of each side of the ground. The old school building is to be removed at once and placed on the ground with suitable tables erected in it. Twenty box stalls to be built for entire horses, rings for cattle, rings for horses and extra gate for admission of herdsman, as it was expected the display would be large. It was also suggested that the Town hall should be secured for display of fine arts.

EDWARD TERKY,
PORTLAND, KEENS' and THORALD CEMENTS,
PLASTER PARIS,
Fire Brick and Clay, Sewer Pipes, Hair, Lime, White and Grey, Land Plaster, Salt, &c.,
23 and 25 GEORGE STREET, TORONTO.



Notice to Contractors.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Post Office, Winnipeg, Man.," will be received at this office until WEDNESDAY, the 15th day of August next, inclusively, for the erection of

POST OFFICE,

AT
WINNIPEG, MAN.

Plans and specifications can be seen at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, and at the Public Works office, Winnipeg, on and after SATURDAY, the 14th July next.

Persons tendering are notified that tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed forms supplied and signed with their actual signatures.

Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted bank cheque, made payable to the order of the Honorable the Minister of Public Works, equal to five per cent. of the amount of the tender, which will be forfeited if the party declines to enter into a contract when called on to do so, or if he fails to complete the work contracted for. If the tender is not accepted the cheque will be returned.

The Department will not be bound to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,

F. H. ENNIS,
Secretary.

Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, 4th July, 1883.

HENRY PELLATT. HENRY MILL PELLATT.
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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	8.30 p.m.	
10.35 "	Moose Jaw	4.15 "	
9.00 p.m.	av Swift Current	lv 7.00 a.m.	

9.40 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.		Going North.	
Leave	Winnipeg	Arrive	
7.35 a.m.	7.35 p.m.	10.35 a.m.	7.00 p.m.
Otterburn.			
8.50 a.m.	8.50 p.m.	6.20 a.m.	5.50 p.m.
Emerson.			
10.25 a.m.	10.13 p.m.	4.05 a.m.	4.40 p.m.
Arrive.		St. Vincent.	
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.		Going North.	
Lv 7.30 a.m.	Winnipeg	8.50 p.m.	4.30 p.m. Av.
" 11.40 "	Morris	4.45 "	12.25 "
Ar 1.57 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.

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 WM. HARDER,
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- THE HARTE & SMITH MFG. CO., Toronto and Belleville.
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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 8.15 a.m. and 12.45 p.m., and Minneapolis at 7.00 a.m. and 1.30 p.m.

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

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The Chicago 5 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 11.30 a.m., arriving at St. Paul at 6.20 p.m. and 8.10 a.m., the day following, making close connections with trains 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.

Chicago and Grand Trunk Railway.

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Leave Chicago 9.10 a.m., 5.30 p.m., 9.00 p.m., 12.00 noon, 4.35 p.m.; arrive at Port Huron 10.30 p.m., 5.30 a.m., 10.35 a.m., 10.10 a.m., 5.15 p.m.

Leave Port Huron 6.10 a.m., 7.55 p.m., 8.00 p.m., 4.15 p.m., 11.00 a.m.; arrive at Chicago 6.50 p.m., 7.45 p.m., 8.00 a.m., 6.40 a.m., 9.00 a.m.

Pullman palace sleeping coaches are run through without change, between Chicago, and Bay City, Toronto, Montreal, Boston, Niagara Falls, Buffalo, and New York. via Port Huron, as follows:

GOING WEST.

Train leaving New York 6.45 p.m., Buffalo 12.10 p.m., Suspension Bridge 1.00 p.m., and Port Huron 8.00 p.m., has through Pullman palace sleeping coach from New York, Buffalo, Suspension Bridge and Bay City to Chicago.

Train leaving Boston 7.00 p.m., Montreal 9.30 a.m., Toronto 11.45 p.m., and Port Huron 7.45 a.m., has through Pullman palace sleeping coach from Boston to Chicago.

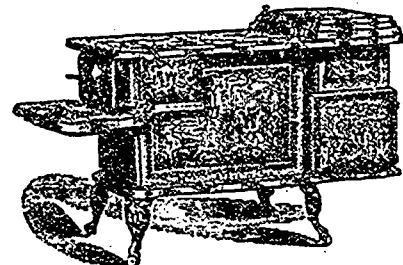
Train leaving Montreal 10.00 p.m., Toronto 12.15 p.m., Port Huron 8.00 p.m., has through Pullman palace sleeping coach from Montreal to Chicago.

GOING EAST.

Train No. 3 leaving Chicago 5.30 p.m., has through Pullman palace sleeping coaches from Chicago to Bay City, Niagara Falls, Buffalo, and New York.

Train No. 5 leaving Chicago 9.00 p.m., has through Pullman palace sleeping coach from Chicago to Montreal and Boston.

Train No. 1 leaving Chicago 9.10 a.m., has through Pullman palace coach from Chicago to Toronto and Montreal.



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