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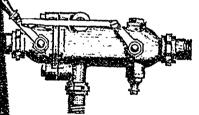
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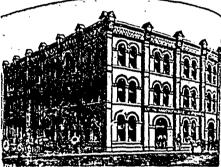
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VOL. 3

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 16, 1884.

The Commercial

ornal do etcd to keeping a comprehensive record of the transactions of the Monetary, Mercantile and Manufacturing interests of Manitobs and the Canadian Northwest.

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THE COMMERCIAL will be mailed to any address in Canada, United States or Great Britain at \$2.00 a year in advance.

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Rook Newspaper, Railroad, Commercial and Joh Printing specialties, 2-ruffice, 4 and 6 James St. East.

JAC. E. STEEN

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 16, 1884.

H J. Certis will open a furniture store at Emerson

Jons Braw's new hotel at Gretaa is about completed.

THE hotel of John McVicar, at Grand Valley, has been burned out.

It is the intention of the Hudson Bay Co. to 🔏 open a store at Manitou.

THE estate of D. H. Scott, of Meadow Lea, has been sold by the sheriff.

C B Dieny, dealer in flour and feed, Winnipee is reported absconded.

T A Lexist, builder and funeral undertakers Winnipeg, has assigned in trust.

W Giver, blacksmith, Nelson, has removed like har, thers from that place to Morden.

HAMBITON ARMSTRONG, of Portage la Prairie, has sold out his general store, to G. L. Lundy.

Arran a long attempt to pull through Bishop Suction, furniture dealers, Winnipeg, have een obliged to succumb, and their stock is now ffered for sale by tender.

H McVicars, Manitoba Hotel, Grand Valley, was partially burned out recently. Insured

The new elevator at Gretna, built by McBain Bros., will be ready to receive grain

IT is the intention of Messrs. Wesbrook & Fairchild to open an implement warehouse at

GILLESPIE, SNAREY & BLACKBURN, of the Northwest Dairy, Winnipeg, have sold out to A. D. Irish.

THE death is reported of William Stewart, of Stewart. Brothers, general storekeepers, Prince Albert.

THE government telegraph line will be extended from Edmonton to Clover Bar an 1 Fort Saskatchewan.

McINTYRE & DAVIDSON, jewellers, Portage la Prairie and Minnedosa, intend closing out their Minnedosa branch.

JACOB RIPSTEIN, grocer, Winnipeg, has admitted S. Dimmr as a partner. The firm name in future will be J. Ripstein & Co.

MESSRS, CARBERRY & NIXON, of Winnipeg, have gone into the werehousing and commission business, and will occupy the premises opposite the Cartage Co. office, and lately occupied by

REID & CLARK, fish and game dealers, have opened up a store in Catherine Block in which they will carry on their wholesale business independent of their retail concern on Main street.

B. F. Johnson, of the Marquette Pickle Works, has opened up a warehouse for the sale of his goods on Common street, Winnipeg, and contemplates moving his factory to this city. His is the first attempt at a pickle packing house in the Northwest, and we wish him success.

M SMITH, grocer, Winnipeg, has the sheriff keeping him company at present. Some of his creditors got alarmed at the quantities of goods being delivered to him from wholesale houses in town, and one house called in the assistance of the sheriff with a writ of attachment. His case is a fishy one, and has all the appearance on its surface of the worst kind of crookedness.

THE contract for supplying flour for the Indian Department for use in the Saskatchewan District has been awarded to Hatters & Baker, Prince Albert.

THE engineers of the M. & N. W. Railway report that they have located a good crossing of the Assiniboine at the mouth of Silver Creek or the Gamble Indian Reserve.

THE selection of Coal Harbor, B.C., as the terminus of the C P R, has been ratified, and a company has been formed to construct wharves, elevators and other terminal facilities.

NEXT spring a line of steamers is to be put on the South Saskatchewan, between Medicine Hat and Edmonton. This will do away with the delays which have been experienced on the North Branch.

RIGNEY BROS., family grocers, Main street, Winnipeg, have assigned in trust. A settlement on a composition of 30c on the dollar was almost reached, but the stubbornness of one creditor with a claim of about \$200, forced an assignment. There is some hope of an arrangement being reached yet. The firm was considerably mixed up in the affairs of Frank Rigney who recently absconded.

GRIFFIN & DOUGLASS have now their arrangements completed for carrying on pork packing in Winnipeg during the present winter. They are now in the market for the purchase of live hogs, and are offering good prices for them. They intend curing hams, bacon and other pork products, and are, no doubt, entering upon what will prove a successful undertaking, and one that will prove a great benefit to the city and province. Success to them is the wish of every person ir the country.

In compliance with instructions received at last meeting of the Council of the Winnipeg Board of Lade, the secretary communicated with the Department of Inland Revenue at Ottawa, with a view of getting a repeal of the new weights and measures order, which insists upon the weights of contents being marked upon every hermeticelly sealed package of merchandise. Last Wednesday a telegram was received from the Department, stating that officers have been instructed to refrain from enforcing the law, until Parliament had been consulted in the matter. Importers of these goods are, therefore, relieved from what would have been a very annoying law.

Business East.

Geo. Duncau, grocer, Duttan, has sold out.

- L. Dake, hotel keeper, St. Thomas, has sold out.
- G. H. Guest, grocer, Sarnia, nas been burned out.

James Skirving, physician, Tavistock, is dead,

- H. Buckle, tailors, Stratford, have assigned in trust.
- J. B. Marcau, clothier, Ottawa, has assigned in trust.

Jacob Holman, hotel keeper, Newbury, has sold out.

J. S. Holmes, grever, St Thomas, has assigned in trust.

Woodstock & Roberts, wools, etc., Stratford, have dissolved.

Loughrey & Tackabury, saddlers, London, bare dissolved.

Girville & Snively, blacksmiths, Duttar, have dissolved.

L. N. Johnston, dry goods, Dresden, has assigned in trust.

Jacob Dafoe, general store, Utica, has assigned in trust.

Joseph Gibb, blacksmith, Toronto, the bailiff is in possession.

The sheriff is in possession of daugs of John Wilson, Simcoc.

Tobias Hendrick & Sons, Tanners, Toronto, were burned out.

A. Neilson, general store, Dundas, has moved to Manitowaning.

O'Donnell & Co., grocers, Guelph, have removed to Toronto.

D. Richards' broom factory, Woodstock, has been burned down.

Joseph Mills, hotelkeeper, Attwood, has gone out of the business.

J. W. Devlin, books, etc., Toronto, has sold out to Alex. Brown.

T. G. Gardine:, general store keeper, Cayuga, has assigned in trust.

Berube & Fitzpatrick, general store, Essex Centre, have sold out.

The mill of Clayton Slater, Brantford, has been damaged by fire.

S. S. Kolfage, dry goods, Amherstburg, have sold out to E. Bernbe.

Stevenson & Graham, woollens, Orangeville, have assigned in trust.

G. J. Deppisch, general store, Milverton,

have assigned in trust.
W. H. Bowden, baker, New.narket, has sold

out to Pobertson Bros.

E. Clinton Brush & Bro, wholesale notions, Toronto, have suspended.

H. McDougall, general store keeper, Alleuford, has assigned in trust.

The sheriff is in possession of Bligh & Co, paint store, St. Catherines.

J. & C. Smith, wagons, Drayton, have sold out to Peacock & Mitchell.

G. A. Philips, grain merchant, St. Thomas, has removed to Hagersville.

E. Behan, grocer and liquor dealer, Pem broke, has assigned in trust.

J. B. Hambridge, confectioner, Alymer, has sold out to W. E. Van Epns,

Mrs. Alley, general store keeper, Frankford, has sold out to J. Johnston.

C. J. Stones, commission merchant, Hamilton, has removed to Becton.

Mrs. J. Bingham, hotelkeeper, Brantford, has sold out to W. H. Thanesson.

The bailiff is in possession of Mrs. Hills-fancy goods store, Hamilton.

Alex. Reid, general store keeper, Zimmerman, has moved to Shelburne.

James Johnston, general store keeper, Syden ham, has removed to Frankford.

J. & F. W. Shibley, general store keepers, Sharbot Lake, have assigned in trust.

E. S. Mitchell, books and stationery, Pembroke, has compromised at 75c in the \$.

Philip Hayward, wagon maker, Eastwood, will remove to Clinton on the 1st of Jan.

J. E. Jarvia, of the firm of Jarvis & Me-Dougall, dry goods, Fencion Falls, is dead.

Celeott & Bowlby, furniture, St. Thomas, nave dissolved; C. Calcott will continue alone.
W. T. Watson, books and stationery, Harris

ton, the estate is advertised for sale by the trustee.

R. Corroll's planing mill, Thorrbury, has been burned down, and also S. Friend's black-smith shop.

Walker & Creighton, general store keepers, Schomberg, have dissolved; G. S. Walker will continue alone.

Kerr & Depender, general store Merrickville, have dissolved; the new style will be Depender Bros.

H. Cantelon, wagon waker, Clinton, has sold out to Philip Hayward and will give up possession on the first of January.

Saunders & Edmonson, grist mil!, Oshawa, have dissolved, Saunders retiring; the new style will be T. M. & E. S. Edmonson.

On the first of January the partnership existing between Miller & Tedford, Clinton, will be dissolved, Jacob Miller continuing alone.

C.T. Brandon & Co., woodenware manufacturers, Toronto, have changed their style to The Brandon Manufacturing Co., limited.

John Whyte, Banker, Ridgetown, has admitted Somerville & McDonald into partner-ship; the style now is Whyte, Somerville & McDonald.

At the recent fire at Pert Dalhousie the following merchants were burned out: John Denton, tailor; E. F. Dwyer, stationer; John Mc Nulty, saloon; Edward Murphy, grocer; Alex. Reid, hotel.

QUEBEC.

C. E. Dion, dry goods, Quebec, has assigned in trust.

Lursier & Co., fancy goods, Montreal, have dissolved.

The pottery of E. Bowler, St. John, has been burned out.

Ewens & Hanson, tie etc., Barnston, have assiged in trust.

G. R. Bourcier, general store, St. Martin, has assigned in trust.

Michael McCloskey, grocer, Hull, has sold out to D. C. McLean.

McKay & Co., manufacturers roller skates, Maitland, have dissolved.

A. C. Hooper, of the firm of Wm. Dow & Co., brewers, Montreal, is dead.

Genest & Coutu, cabinet makers, Montreal, bailiff's sale advertised.

Antoine Lavoie, general storekeeper, St Timothe, has assigned in trust.

Aug. Sherman, of the firm of Sherman, Lord & Hurdman, Mmillers, Hull, is dead.

Frank Alexe & Co., tobacconists and sale n keepers, Montreal, has assigned in trust.

Dufresno & Gelinas, dry goods, Three Riverhave dissolved. Narcisse Gelinas will continue alone.

The stock of hats, caps and furs of J. Cedras & Co., Montreal, is advertised for sale by the bailiff.

C. D. Scaton & D. S. Smith, tea merchants, Montreal, deing business under the style of Black & White have dissolved.

Briere & Lefebvre, butchers, Montreal, have dissolved and a new firm formed composed of Jos. Briere and Edward Couture; the new style will be Briere, Couture & Co.

NOVA SCOTIA.

V. J. Gibson, tailor, Halifax, is dead.
Andrew King, livery keeper, Halifax, is

A Saunders, seeds, etc., Halifax, is giving up

D. J. McDonald, general store, Bridgeport, has assigned.

Frank Comsurdo, general store keeper, Sell arton, is reported away.

Mrs. W. B. Henderson, confectionery, Picton, is giving up business; and also Thos. Meigher, livery keeper.

The hotel owned by Chisholm & Meikle, New Glasgow, has been destroyed by fire; and also Graham & Wescott's hotel, insured.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

The Miromichi Foundry Co., Chatham, have dissolved. Wm Muirhead, jr, will continue alone.

The Maritime Steam Lith. Co., St. John, have dissolved; L. D. Clark will continue alone.

Fairley & Wilson, lumber, Blackville, have dissolved; Scott & Fairley will continue the business.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Scot! & Anderson, general store keepers, St. Peter's, have dissolved; W. E. Scott will continue.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Richard Horvey, general store keeper, & John's, has suspended.

Ohman & Lindstrom, jewelers, St. John's, have admitted J. C. A. Northfield.

The failures in the United Kingdom for the week ending November 15, reported to home Mercantile Gazette, numbered 106, as compared with 215 and 235 in the corresponding week respectively of 1883 and 1882. England and Wales had 77 failures as against 191 and 20 in the weeks specified, Scotland 27 as against 20 and 22, and Ireland had 2 as against 4 is 1883 and 7 in 1882.

It is reported that between two and that hundred settlers, chiefly from the provinced Quebec have entered for land between Shep Creek and High River, Alberta.

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Manufacturers, Mantle

32 to 40 Notre Dame Street West, 54 to 62 St. HENRY STREET, MONTREAL

No. 33 LOMBARD STREET,

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North-Western Planing

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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 16, 1884.

STINGY BANKS.

A letter, signed "Hard Up," will be found among our correspondence which sets forth pretty plainly the action of the banks doing business in Manitoba, and which is well worthy of a careful perusal, as it can be seen that it is written by one who has had practical knowledge of the subject written abo. ~

The system pursued by banks in insisting upon wholesale merchants carrying within the too restricted limits of their discounting facilities the little financial accommodations which the banks should grant directly to the retail dealer, is one which is oppressive to the wholesaler and ungenerous, if not unjust to the retailer, while it can be of little or no practical benefit to the banks themselves. stated by our correspondent bankers should now be able to judge as to what retail merchants are entitled to credit, and who among them are not, and when they discount the paper accepted by a retailer, whom they do not consider good, they are encouraging the wholesaler in taking a risk they consider to be outside of strictly safe buriness principles What they are encouraging when they are renewing such paper we leave themselves to judge. But they are daily handling the paper of retail men, whom they know to be perfectly good, and who, were they afforded the financial accommodation they from time to time require, would have much fewer of their acceptances passing through the hands of the who! saler. By aiding such people they would be greatly lightening the pressure upon the wholesale trade, while their present policy is similar to that of the incompetent mechanic who constructed the machine with the whole pressure bearing upon one point, and as a natural consequence that point gave way in time, and while others were unworn.

We hear a great deal of table talk now about what is proper banking, and what is not. There was none of that kind of talk three years ago, however, and there are a few more or less permanent investments in the shape of a million or so of funds locked up in non paying industrial concerns and non productive real estate,

now looked upon as lost, which are powerful proofs that even banks have not adhered strictly to what they now term proper banking. In those days they were at the one extreme of recklessness, and now they are at the other of financial cowardice, and they have only to persevere a little longer in the latter to accomplish the same results as the costermonger who over-fed his donkey first, and afterwards reduced gradually the rations until he brought him to literal Doctor Tannerism, but just as the poor quadruped was getting accustomed to the new order of diet he died.

MANITOBA CLAIMS.

The time is again drawing nigh, when the eyes of the people of this province will be turned wistfully towards Ottawa, and watching the progress of the Hon. Mr. Norquay in his endeavors to secure from the Dominion Government a portion of the privileges which belong to Manitoba, but which are held back from it. Whether the honorable gentleman will be successful in his mission or come back again as he did last winter, with a paltry increase of subsidy, thrown at the province, much the same as a bone is thrown at a hungry dog, remains to be seen.

What will be the nature and extent of Mr. Norquay's demands upon the Dominion Government, we have as yet no forecast, and probably he and his associates have not yet reached definite conclusions. We may be sure, however, that like Sir Pertinax MaeSycophant he will have an e'e on the siller, and that measures for the amelioration of the present unsatisfactory state, our agricultural classes are placed in will receive his attention. These points are well worthy of being pressed, and we have no fear that the allowance of funds for this province will ever be too liberal when measured by the Ottawa standard, or that our farmers are likely to get too liberal treatment from the same source.

But Mr. Norquay must bear in mind that the commercial affairs of Manitoba are now assuming such proportions as to require their claims being especially brought before the Dominion Cabinet. The province has now reached a point when its commerce can no longer be held in the degrading position of puppet to the trade interests of eastern provinces. The commercial structure of Manitoba is now not to mention an equally large amount of sufficient importance as to demand

that its individuality among similar inte ests in the Domi ion be recognized, . d that influences which have hithe a cramped and stunced its growth be a moved or at least relaxed. One of the first steps in this direction must be a h mand for a revision of the tariff la ... which will relieve the province from being merely a trade field for the wares of cast ern manufacturers. Its right to a foor system of trade intercourse with out-ale countries, is an absolute necessity for its commercial development, even if in so ar ing this eastern trading interests be deprived to some extent of a wide field. which they have insolently claimed as belonging to them to the exclusion of outsiders. The claim need not be enforced as a free trade ultimatum, and a direct interference with that protective doctrine which the present Dominion Government cling so tenaciously to, but merely as a readjustment of tariffs upon a basis that will relieve our young and growing trade system from at least some of the burdens which now bear heavily upon it.

Supplementary to this readjustme it of tariffs, and equally necessary for the commercial progress of this province, is the abolition of the railway monopoly engoyed by the C.P.R. The past two year have given ample proof that the great benefit promised and expected from this monopoly need no longer be looked for, and that they are in a great measure hallucnations. The commercial affairs of the province are in the iron grip of this monopoly, and if they are to enjoy health and have progress they must be relieved from the same. The plea that the term nation of the C.P.R. monopoly might seriously delay, if not entirely frustrate the completion of that road can no longer be urged. According to the arrangements of both the Company and the Government its completion will be accomplished before the closing of the coming year, a before any work of constructing compeing roads could be more than commenced The monopoly is simply a locked brakt upon the commercial progress of Matitoba, and as such should be quicky removed.

But there is another point in which! great step will be made towards placity Manitoba's commercial destiny in the hands of her own people, and that is is the extension of her boundarie north ward, so as to allow her a scaport a the Hudson's Bay. Even with a man

favorable arrangement of tariffs than we now have, and free competition in railways to the east, the commerce of the province must remain to a great extent under the manipulation of eastern middlemer, until we have an outlet of our own to the Old World through which our exports and imports can pass without paying commercial "Backsheesh" to eastern men. The construction of a railway to the shores of the Hudson's Bay may be nelayed by the shuflling of charter-mongers and scheming of political tricksters, but even Mr. Norquay will in the ordinary calculations of life live to see this same outlet the main gateway between the Northwest and the Oid World, and to have our leading seaports within our own boundaries is a necessity, if we as a province are ever to reach that commercial greatness which nature has placed within our reach.

There is one special reason, why Mr. Norquay should urge, and with determination insist upon these concessions in favor of Manitoba's commercial interests, and that is in securing them all other classes in the province would be greatly benefitted, as they conflict with no other interests, and as to the enlargement of our provincial boundaries, in so doing we would be acquiring territory which has hitherto been left in the peaceful posses son of the beaver and the otter, so that we would be robbing no party in securing it.

A SCATTERED SEASON.

During the late summer and early fall of the present year THE COMMERCIAL frequently called attention to the scattered characters of the season's business with wholesale merchants in this city. Retail-Ters all over the country refused to stock wipp in the beginning of the season, and bought for fall and winter trade only when demand upon themselves compelled purchases to be made. This cautions policy was dictated mainly by the bitter exper-Sence of last year's overstocking, and was no doubt a commendable policy under the Lircumstances. Results have since shown, hat this action of retailers was only an andex to the scattered nature of everyhing in connection with the present eason in the Northwest. There seems to Lave been a combination of circumstances n trade farming and weather which ave tend 1 to stretch everything out ver marche, which in past years was accomplished in a few weeks, or at least the bulk of it accomplished.

In the first place the weather in this country has been so unusually mild this winter so far, that retail merchanis are doing business in December, which they should have been doing early in November, and the probability is that the business of December will stretch away into January, instead of finishing up before Christmas as it has formerly done. This has been the case more or less in all lines of merchandise, white in season goods it has been remarkably so, and at present there is a great amount of grumbling, and not without reason, on the part of many of our retail merchants both in the city and country.

But we find that the scattered characteristics of the season are not confined to trading circles, but are very apparent in connection with the movement of farmers' grain to market, and even the clerk of the weather has shown such a share of lethargy, that our country stands in danger of losing its valuable reputation for cold winters and snow blinding blizzards. Usually during the latter part of November, and all of December, we have steady cold weather and good sleighing all over the Northwest, at least as far west as the Saskatchewan river. This season, however, a night with the thermometer down as low as zero has been somewhat of a novelty, and as for snow we have not had enough for our citizens to indulge in a comfortable cutter ride. The effect of thi can be well understood. Hauling of grain to market has been very much retarded. Farmers, who live near a market have been able to bring their grain the requisite short distances, but those who live long distances from railway facilities have as yet marketed but a fraction of their crop, and it so happens that by far the best crops and quality of wheat have ised in South-western Manitoba and other districts where farmers are, as a rule, long distances from railway towns. Of the crop of wheat variously estimated at from 7,000,000 to 9,000,000 bushels, less than 2,500,000 have yet come to market, so that two-thirds of the crop is yet in the hands of the farmers, and even the promised philanthropy in prices of the great Montreal syndicate are powerless to materially increase wheat receipts until we have some snow to make sleighing. Unfortunately this state of affairs has introduced the scattered characteristics

into financial affairs, and hundreds of thousands of dolars which should have been in circulation among merchants by this time are now represented by wheat held in the farmers' bins. We need not be astonished, therefore, if the circulation of money at present is rather limited, and that each which the trader should now have in his possession will be received in driblets during the next two months. On the principle of "All's well that ends well," a scattered season may be all right enough in the end, but it carries a pressure through its middle, the great bulk of which has to be borne by the trader, and during the present one that individual finds very little sympathy and less support from financial institutions which should stand by him during such a time.

PHILANTROPHY FLOWN.

The wheat buying operations of the great Montreal Syndicate are already beginning to show out in their true color, and Northwesterners who were simple enough to be captivated by the hope that their wheat would net them more than its actual market value are beginning to see, if not to feel, the folly of looking for philantrophy where value for value only might be expected. It is probably well that they have learned this lesson so soon, as it will cost less now than it might a few weeks hence. The most rabid farmers' unionist will now admit that wheat at present is lower in price_than it has been since the crop of 1884 began to come to market, and in his inner heart he will be prepared to admit that the policy of arraying the farmer against the whole mercantile interest of the country he lives in does not tend towards bettering his marketing facilities.

Many are the devices resorted to by the C.P.R. to secure the carrying of all grain via Port Arthur, and this philanthropic syndicate is one of the most questionable yet adopted. It may serve the company as an advertising dodge, but practical benefit it has failed to bring to our farmers, and eventually must react to the injury of the country. Farmers should remember that men who stake their money in grain elevators, are interested in the agricultural welfare of the country, and are more likely to do justly by them than any syndicate of men belonging to a distant province. All should remember that interests are mutual here, whether farmers, traders or manufacturers, and all things would work smoothly.

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WINNIPEG.

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

Monetary affairs in the city have changed very little during the past week. In commercial circles there has been a slight easing off in the demand for regular discounts, such as is usually the case once the month is partly gone. Banks have, therefore, no trouble in attending to all such demands. The scarcity of money in retail business circles still exists, although durmg the past week a little more freedom in circulation has been noticeable. Still there have been numerous cases of monetary searcity, and many have had hard squeezing to get through, who under a more liberal system of banking would experience no difficulty. Rates of discount are still the same. Sper cent. is quoted for first-class commercial paper and 9 to 10 for ordinary. Promisenous discounts are placed at 10 to 12, but the figures are almost Apocryphal and at best ornamental. In loans on real estate mortgage, the situation is much the same as reported in our last. There has been more talk about business than business done. Some good farm loans have been placed, and others are in course of arrangement, but there is a caution about meuring further liability during the present depressed state of affairs on the part of both city and country property owners, which acts like a clog on loan business. An advance of ten cents a boshel on wheat in eastern markets would soon make a lively demand for funds Companies profess to have abundance of funds, and to be eager to secure safe investments.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

The general report for the past week from the wholesale trade of the city has not been one of activity. In all lines of season goods the winter's business is over, and no charge for the better is expected until a movement in spring goods sets in. Still the week's sales show a slight improvement upon those of the previous one, and but for the fact that the municipal election somewhat demoralized the city trade, the improvement might have been more marked. From the country demands for small lots of sorts have been more numerous than during the first days of December, and in view of the approaching holiday time retailers have Theen discovering numerous little wants, the fillling of which has kept wholesalers from the state of duliness in which many of them were addring the week before last. In regular fancy lines the holiday trade has been quite brisk Quand is expected to hold so during the current week. In staple lines of every day consumption business has shown a slight inclination to improve but has been far from active, and is altogether much lower than night be expected at this lime In lines dependent apon out door contract work and building operations, matters are in a decidedly slow state, and winter arrangements are now general with houses of this class. The report of collections, when taken fall cound, shows somewhat of an improvement, but some uses still report cash matters in a yery ansatisfactory state. Others state that a every decided improvement has taken place very decided improvement has taken place ince our last report. There is no doubt, however, but there still exists plenty of room for improvement. Altogether the wholesale report

of the week gives no cause for anxiety or restlessness and not much for complaint when we consider that this is one of the dullest months of the year, and under the best circumstances it is never an active time.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

Sales are still as few as ever in this trade, and houses are getting plenty of leisure to attend to collections and preparations for spring trade. Cash matters are reported rather slow, but fairly satisfactory when the present prices of farm produce are taken into consideration.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

This trade is now down to a very quiet state, and the sales of the past week reach a very slim aggregate. The winter's onsiness is practically over and very little movement of any description is looked for until spring business opens. Stock taking will be the order for the balance of the year. Collections we reported fair to good.

CLOTHING.

There is still very little improvement to report in this branch of trade. There have been literally no sales of winter goods during the week, and orders from spring samples have been hard to secure by travellers who are still out. Wholesalers are not at all discouraged at this slowness to buy spring goods on the part of retailers, but are satisfied to wait until further on in the winter. Collections are reported not at all discouraging.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

Trade in this line has displayed a little heetic activity during the week, owing in a great measure to the domand for holiday goods. In staples the business done has been light. Collections are reported fair to good.

DRY GOODS.

In this staple line business has been exceedingly quict during the week. The only sales have been a few fancy sorte occasionally called for, and even these calls have not been numerous. Winter's business is over, stocks are almost all taken, and preparations for acceiving spring goods will be general during the next week or two. Collections are reported a little slow, but still quite as good as can be expected under the present state of trade generally.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

The improved tone in this trade noted in our last report still continues and activity is expected to last up to Christmas. Collections are reported moderately good.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

Business is reported rather active in this line during the past week. There has been quite a lively trade in holiday goods which has kept up a kind of activity. This has been principally in fancies, while in staples the aggregate of sales amounts to very little indeed. Collections are reported fairly satisfactory.

FISH AND POULTRY.

The fresh fish trade is once more in full swing for the winter, and in the course of current week there will doubtless be several car loads shipped to southern points. Car lot quotations are beginning to be heard, and a lively export business is looked for during the next two or three months. Jack fish in small lots

are quoted at 3c and in car lots at 24c. White fish are quoted at 6c in small and 5c in car lots. Oysters are still held at 50c for selects and 40c for standards.

PRUIT.

Business in the fruit trade is once more back to a state of genuine activity. The arrival of heavy consignments of new dried fruits has added materially to the activity. In fresh fruits there have been no additions to the variety reported last week. Quotations of goods are as follows Apples, \$3 to \$3.25 for fall, and \$3.25 to 3.50 for winter. Florida oranges, \$6.50 to 7.50 a case; Jamaica, \$8 a bbl; Almeria grapes \$8.50 to 9.50 a bbl.; Oregon pears, \$5 to 5.50 a box; Malaga lemons, \$7.50 a box ; Malaga figs, 13c per lb ; Eleme in kegs 13c, in boxes 16 to 20c; prunes, 74 to 8c a lb.; cranberries, \$15 a bbl.; cocoanuts, \$10 abbl.; filberts, 12 to 14c per lb; almonds, 20c; walnuts, 18c; peanuts raw, 15c; roasted, 20c; pecans, 16 to 17c; Brazil nuts, 14c; raisins are quoted: London layers, \$3.75 to \$4; ordinary layers, \$3.25 to 3.40; saltanas, 12c per lb; loose muscatels, \$3.40 to 3.50: black baskets, \$5. Double crown \$4. Tripio crown \$4.50 cartoons in 1 boxes, \$3.50; old valencias, \$2 to 2.25; old currants are quoted at 61 to 7c, and new 81 to 9c.

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Business still continues slow, both in wood and coal, owing mainly to the unusually long spell of mild weather. Coal is unchanged in price, quotations being anthracite, \$12 a ton delivered; bituminous, \$11; Saskatchewan lignite, \$7.50. Wood gives signs of breaking in price although no drop is yet reported. Poplar is quoted at \$3 to \$3.50 in round lots; tamarac, \$4 to \$4.50.

FURNITURE.

There is still a very discouraging report from this line of business, and it is not improved by the fact that a prominent house is likely to be forced out of business soon. Last week's wholesale business has been of the most trifling description, and no improvement is looked for during the balance of the year.

GROCERIES.

Business in this staple branch has shown very little improvement during the past week. One or two houses report matters a little better, and now state that they are worse. Still the general state of the trade is far from being active, and in some respects it is by no means satisfactory. Collections are reported not very encouraging. Prices of staple goods are not changed, and quotations are as follows: Sugars: yellows, 61 to 712; granulated, 8c; Paris lumps 91 to 94c Coffees still range : Rios. 14 to 17e · lavas, 21 to 24e; Jamaicas, 17 to 20e, and Mocha 30 to 34c. Tea, still range as follows: Moyune gunpowder, 30 to 75c; new seasons, 65 to 85c; J.pans, 25 to 50c, new seasons 40 to 55c; Congous 30 to 75c; new sessons 55 to 90c. Syrups, single crown \$2.10, and triple crown \$2.75 per keg.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

There has been practically uo change in this trade during the past week. Business has been very slow indeed, matters being about as low as they are likely to reach during the winter. The first signs of returning activity will

probably not be felt before the opening of spring trade. The report on collections is also a dull one. The quotations we give are almost nominal. Tin plate I.C., 14v20, \$6.25 to \$6.50 a box; I.C., 20x28, \$12.50 to \$13; Canada plates \$4 to \$4.25; sheet iron, 28 G, \$4.75 to \$5.25 per 100 lbs; iron pipe, 40 to 50 per cent. cff list price; ingot tin, 25 to 30 per lb; pig lead, 6 to 64c; galvanized iron, 7 to 77c per lb; bar iron, \$2.75 to 3.25 per 100 lbs; cut nails, \$3.25 to \$3,75.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

There is scarcely any change to report in this line of business, A light but steady trade has been done during the week, while collections have been fairly good. Prices have not changed and quotations are: Spanish sole, 33c to 35c; slaughter sole, 35c; French calf, first choice,\$1.40 to 1.50; demestic, S5c; B Zealf, \$1 to 1.10; French kip, \$1.00 to 1.25; BZ kip, Soc to 90c; slaughter kip, 65c to 75c; No. 1 wax upper, 50c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, 33c to 36c for plumb stock; English oak sole, 65c.

LUMBER.

There has been no improvement in the state of trade during the week. Business has been about as dead as it well could be. No sale of any consequence is reported, and yards present a deserted appearance. There is a growing tear that the absence of snow will materially lessen even the light cut which was intended in the woods this winter.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS.

Matters are still in a state of dalness. There have been no demands during the week, and wholesalers have now their winter arrangements in force. The following quotations may be considered nominal: Linseed oil raw, 72c per gal.; boiled, 75c; seal oil, steam refined, \$1.10; no pale or straw seal in the narket, castor, 15c per lb land, No 1 \$1,30 per gal., olive, \$1.50 to \$2, according to quality; machine oils, brack 30c; oleine 50c; fine qualities 65c to \$1. Coal oils, headlight 72c; water white 33c. Calci ed plaster, \$4 00 per bbl.; Portland cement, \$6, white lead, genume, \$5.00, No. 1, \$7.50; No 2, \$7 Window glass, first break, are quoted at \$2.50.

SADDLERY AND HARNESS.

Business has been falling-off a little in this line during the week although it cannot yet be termed dun. The absence of snow for sleighing has had a bad effect unon this trade, as had it been general, December would doubtless have been a lively month.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

Business is still rather slow in this trade, and but for the demand in Christmas cards and other holiday items would be actually dull. This season, altogether, has not been a very prosperous one. Collections are reported fair.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

There has been a little activity all week in this trade, and now that the election excitement is over, a steady, good demand for staple Quotations are as follows: lines exists. Hennesy's one star, \$13 to \$14; in wood, \$4.50 to 5.00 pergallon; Martel, in case, ore star, \$13 to \$14; Renault, 1-star, \$12, \$16 and \$20; Louis Freres, in cases, qts., \$9;

flasks, two dozen in a case, \$11; M. Dubois, in wood, \$3.50 per gallon; cases, quarts, flasks, \$8; Gin, \$9; Holland, in wood, \$3 per gallon; red cases. \$10.5 to 11.50; green \$5.50 to \$6.50; cases, Old Tom Lin, Bernhard's, in wood, \$3.25 per gelloa; Booth's, in wood, \$3.25; Booth's, in cases, quarts, \$5.50; Scotch whistly, Ramsay's, in wood, \$3.50 to \$4.00; Coal-Ila Islay, in wood, \$3.50; Stewart's, in cases, quarts, \$5.50; flasks, 10.50. Irish whisky, Joha Jameson & Sons, in wood, \$3.50 to \$4. Bernard's, in cases, quarts, \$8; flasks, \$9.50. Jamaica rum, \$3.75 to \$4.00 per gatlon. Champagne-Pomeroy, quarts, \$34; pints \$35 per case; Bollinger, quarts, \$33; pints \$31; Moet and Chandon, quarts, \$27; pints \$29; G. H. Mumm, quarts. \$28; pints, \$30; Carte Blanche, quarts, \$20; pints \$22. Sherry from \$2.50 to \$.00 per gallon, according to quality and braud; ports > .50 to 7.00, according to quality and brand; claret in cases \$5.00 to 7.00; Bass's ale in quarts \$3.50 per doz; pints \$2.25; Guiness' porter in quarts \$4.00, pints 2.50. Domestic whiskies, Gooderham & Wort's, in wood, \$1.55 to 2.25 per gallon; 65 o. p. rectified, in wood, \$2.52; W.F.L. five year old, \$2.50 per gallon cases, quarts, \$7.50; flasks

THE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

The past week has not been a very active one m gram circles, and the movement of all kinds of grain has been light. Millers are not very anxious to increase their stocks as the state of the flour markets of the east is not such as would warrant their so doing. Quite a number of cars have passed through the city en route fer Port Arthur, but as yet no grain has been shipped by all-rail route to the east or at best none of any magnitude. The street receipts in the city have held well up, and from this source the mills have been able to get a large proportion of their supply. Oats have been in very light demand and have fallen in price considerably. Altogether the grain business of the week has been much slower than during the last month or so. In provisions the business done has also been light and the weak feeling in prices still continues. The butter glut noted in our last report is in no way improved but has grown considerably worse. Meats although much firmer in the eastern markets have not improved much here and are very little changed in price.

WHEAT.

The prices of better grades have been a little firmer during the week, but lower ones are about the same. The great advance expected from the philanthropic movements of the great Montreal syndicate have not accomplished much in the way of better prices. No. 1 hard, is quoted at 63e; No. 2 at 58 to 59e; No. 1 regular, 58e; No. 2, 53 to 54e; No. 3, 47 to 48e; rejected, 40 to 42e.

OATS.

The demand having fallen off greatly, prices have dropped quite a little. Car lots are now offered at 33c, and are not ready sale at that.

BARLEY.

There are practically no fine lots to be had in the city, and the receipts so far have been used

as a rule for feed. Lots of that kind have sold at 25 to 35c.

PLOUR.

There has been a fair local and wester i demand during the week but no shipments to the eastern provinces have been made. Prices are unchanged and are: Patents, \$2.30; st ong bekers', \$2.00; XXXX, \$1.50, and superfine

BRAN AND SHORTS.

The local demand for these still holds good, but no heavy shipments are heard of. Bran is quoted on track at \$9 a ton and shorts \$11.

There has as yet been no weather cold enough to cut off receipts, and prices are consequently week yet. Street receipts after peddling around the city are sold to consumers at 400 and to dealers as low as 35c.

There is no change to report since our last. The supply holds up well owing to mild weath. er and even the farmers bring a few fresh lots to town which sell readily to retailers and con sumers at 30c. Cases are quoted at 26 to 27c.

BUTTER.

Demoralization is the state of this trade. The stock in the city has been increased by consignments from the east to be sold on commission. The city is now prop by glatted, and after all the quantity of first-class quality is not so unusually heavy. Prime castern is still held at 25c, and first class Manitoia sells at 19 to 22c. Medium and lower grades are abundant but are very slow sale.

CHEESE.

There has been no charge in price since last report, the quotation for prime quality being 15c. The demand is steady but not heavy.

BACON.

There has been an effort to lift prices damp the week which has not succeeded very well Dry saltis now quoted at 101 to 11e; rolls 141 to 15e; English breakfast, 16c.

HAMS.

There is no change to report. Prime smoked are still held at 16e with an occasional quotation of 15½c for a jobbing lot.

MESS PORK.

Prices have not changed during the week although there is some curiosity manife to a to how home pork packing operations which are about to commence, will affect price are about to commence, will affect page Small lots are quoted at \$19.50 with \$19 to jobbing lots.

MESS BEEF.

A few sales are reported during the work # the steady figure of \$17.

MINNEAPOLIS.

During the first half of the week just closed the wheat market was strong and prices west higher, but a reaction followed and a net de cline of ic on high grades and of 1 to 3c online grade and sample grain was recorded. At the close, however, the market was quite stealy and had a slight upward tendency. Thereby been a sudden increase in the demand from outside shipments the past week having been its largest ever known here in the same tist This demand comes mainly from milliss is have heretofore been content to grind set spring wheat, but who find that their for gives better satisfaction and sells higherits mixture of our hard wheat is used. Littled the hard grades is shipped, the bolk being Na 1 or lower.

Farmers continue to "arket freely it " parts of Dakota and Minnesota, so that recip do not decline much, and the elevators are is

filling up. There is yet room for about 1,500, 2000 bus, and it will take some time to fill up the elevators if the mills continue their present denormous consumption, which is about 800,000 bus per week.

Following were the highest and lowest wheat prices by grade on 'change during the week ending to-day, together with to-day's closing prices and the prices one year ago:

	Wheat.	Highest. Lowest.			Closing 1883: Dec. 2.			
Νo.	1 hard	701		689		$69\frac{1}{2}$	1.001	
	2 "	65		64		647	933	
"	1	60		59		59	91	
	2	55		54		$54\frac{1}{2}$	87	

Futures have been active, No. 1 hard January, opening at 70 je and closing at 70 je; Feb-Vinary closing at 710 and Ma at 78c. May No. 2 hard Josed at 72:. Coarse grains have been neglected and weak.

MILLSTUFF-Has been stronger, bulk bran blosing at \$6.50 to \$6.75 and shorts at \$7.25 to 7.75 per tou.

There has been no improvement whatever in the flour market. Most mills complain of dullhess and lower offerings, but the enormous production indicates that there must be a slight margin, which makes it necessary to run strong. So long as there is a margin, millowners will keep bosy, not desiring to shut down and throw their men out of work at this season. The cheapness of our floor is fast extending its hatronage, and this makes it easier to sell the yast output This is particularly true of the Export trade of large mills. Quotations at the bills for car or round lots are as follows: Patents, \$4 10 to 4.40; straights, \$3.85 to 4; First bakers', \$3.15 to 3.40; second bakers', \$275 to 3: best low grades, \$1.70 to 1.90 in æåags; reddog, \$1 40 to 1 50, in bags.

Last week's operations on the Falls were the heaviest on record, falling only a few hundred Burels below 26,000 bbis per day. With a sterly and nearly full volume or water, the mills were able to accomplish most effective work, s eral of them making heavier outputs than eve before. The flour production is th wally official figures to have been 155,800 ble in average of 22,433 bbls per day-Igainst 94,710 bbls the preceding week. When the fact is taken into consideration that a numer of the mills lost time ranging from two or to two days, while a 500 bbl mill as shut down entirely, the showing is remarkble The mills as a cole are being run strong bis week, but with not quite as much power a few of them could use, the output of flour likely to fall-off to some extent. Although here is a tendency on the part of a few, in the ace of the present weak condition of the flour mark-t, to use off operations and make needed enairs in their mills, the majority are inclined o crowd out the last barrel possible.

The following were the receipts at annual sents from Minneapolis for the weeks ending

8	RESERVATE A	3.	
E.	Dec. 9.	Dec. 2.	Nov. 25.
Theat, bash dour, bbb fillstuff, tons.	887,700 1,203 154	797,000 1,350 110	\$35,880 1,215 55

	SHIPMENT	rs.	
	Dec. 9.	Dec. 2.	Nov. 25.
Wheat, bush	316,000	281,400	34,390
Flour, bbls	137,446	112,770	114,875
Millstuff, tons.	4,015	2,630	5,664

The wheat in store in Minneapolis elevators. as well as the stock at St. Paul and Duluth, is shown in the appended table:

MINNEAPOLIS.

			Dec. S.	Dec. 1.					
No. 1 hard		••	987,328	932,299					
No. 2 bard			46,993	43,695					
No. 1			1,418,435	1,346,581					
No. 2			182,034	163,879					
Rejected			9,447	8,194					
Special bins			\$11,231	795,125					
Total			.3,455,468	3,279,771					
ST. PAUL.									
		Dec. 1	10. Dec. 3.	Nov. 25.					

Dec. 10. Dec. 3. In elevators,

bus ... 1,180,000 1,120,000 785,000 DELUTH.

> Dec. 9. Dec. 2. Nov. 25.

In elevators, bus 3,312,235 2,447,000 2,085,900 -Northwestern Miller.

CHICAGO.

On Monday the wheat market was unsettled and weak, and the lowest pages on this crop were reached to day. Foreign advices quoted quiet and steady markets but continued free arrivals at western receiving points and anticipated heavy receipts at this point to-morrow, brought ou, rather few speculations, under which the market declined, finally closing 13e under Saturday. At New York the exports exceed the arrivals. The receipts of corn were 196 cars, against 165 on Saturday. There was but little outside speculation, and local trading was also light, the market ruling weat. Year delivery closed de lower than Saturday. In oats prices were again lower, ruling dull and weak, in consequence of the free arrivals and offerings exceeding the demand. In sympathy with wheat the hog market was weak and lower, opening tame and falling off heavily, railted, but became weak again, closing tame but firm-Demand for shapping nominal, Lard weaker but fairly active, decling loc on future.

Wheat			Dec. 80.71	Jan. \$0.713
Corn			361	343
Oats	 • •	 	23	239
Pork	 	 • •	10.073	
Lard	 	 	6.773	6.70

On Tuesday the feeling in wheat was unsettled, foreign advices being unfavorable, and with unusually large receipts brought cut few speculative offe.iugs. Receipts at New York small, and exports quite large. The visible supply showed an increase of 1,420,000 bushels which was smaller than operators had calculated upon. The market closed about 3c high er than yesterday. Receipts in corn stood 253 cars, against 196 yesterday. There was a good speculative demand for year delivery. visible supply showed a large decrease. The shorts manifested more disposition to cover and prices advanced 2c above opening figures,

oats the market was a shade firmer, trading being centered principalty in May delivery which was moderately active, but near futures were quiet. The enquiry for pork was moderately active, and the offerings were fair, prices ruling somewhat irregular. Reports from western markets showed no important change. A fair business was done in lard. Offerings were fair and inquiry moderately active.

 .					Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	•	• •	• •	• •	\$0.711	\$0.713
Corn	• •	• •	•	• •	378	318
Oats	••	• •	• •		231	234
Oats Pork Lard	••	• •	•	• •	11.10	11.124
Lara	• •	• •	• •		6.70	6.75

On Wednesday wheat was fairly active and the feeling generally steady and firm. Foreign advices quoted wheat quiet but steady. Receipts here smaller. The market opened at about yesterday's closing figures, fluctuated a good deal but finally closed about &c higher than yesterday. Receipts in co.n 181 cars, against 253 tor 48 hours. A good shipping demand existed for the lower grades, and the Liverpool advices quoted a strong feeling. The speculative market was on the whole rather quict. Oats a shade firmer but quiet. The improvement in wheat gave this market more strength, but trading was light and centered in May delivery. In pork a material reduction was submitted to on all sides, the receipts being in excess of general anticipations. The lard market was moderately active, but the feeling unsettled and prices weak.

				Dec.	Jan.
Wheat				\$0.712	\$0.72
Corn			• •	373	353
Oats	 			$23\frac{1}{2}$	25
Pork	 	• •		11,00	10.85
Lard				$6.67\frac{1}{3}$	6.65

On Thursday the wheat market was weak and lower, opening 1c lower than closing figures yesterday, closing about the same. Foreign advices quoted quiet and steady. Corn quiet but firmer. Opened higher but no new features were developed and closed nominally unchanged. Ort: opened higher and firmer. Smaller receipts gave a steadier tone to the cash. On sample market oats were a shade firmer The market closed about ic higher than yesterday's closing figures. Pork in fair demand; advanced but declined again, closing about the same as yesterday. There was a good demand for lard, and a fair speculative business was done, closing higher and firmer.

Wheat	t		Dec. \$0.721	Jan. \$0.721
Corn	• •	 • •	 373	363
Oats		 	 24	24 j
Pork			10.925	
Laid			6.55	6.721

On Friday a failure at Vienna and one at New York caused a weaker feeling in the wheat market. Foreign advices were quoted steady. The market was subject to frequent fluctuations and prices were generally weak and lower, closing to under yesterday. There was a marked improvement in the corn market, the feeling being stronger all through. There was a good speculative demand for year delivery, the most deferred futures ruled higher in sympathy with the advance in year. Oats dull and easy with prices again lower. The cash demand from all sources was very light. Pork closing about 14c higher than yesterday. In | opened active but weak, advanced and then

declined, closing steady but lower. Lard in good demand but tower owing to the weak feeling in pork.

					1700.	oan.
Waeat		• •			\$7714	\$0.713
Corn				• •	37 g	30
Oats					24	241
Pork	• •		• •		10.90	10.771
Lard		••			6.65	$6.71\frac{1}{2}$

On Saturday there was a fair demand for wheat. Receipts still continue large and in consequence the market opened easier ruling weak, lower and heavy, caused by a good deal of Long wheat in the marker. The greatest weakness was shown in May. The market closed 14 under yesterday. There was but little demand for corn and the market closed dull and weak. There was a fair speculative business done in oats, but the market ruled dull and weaker than yesterday. In pork the market opened at yesterday's closing figures, but soon showed signs of weakness and declined towards the close from 20 to 25c, closing easy. Lard was in full demand but lower, easied by the dull feeling in pork.

Whea	t				\$0.71	\$0.713
Corn	••	• •		• •	377	35 ह
Oats Pork		• •	• •		24 10.85	24 10.573
Lard	••	••	••	••	6.473	6.50

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

Last week's stock market has failed to hold the advances in stock generally, which were made during the opening week of December, and there has been an easing-off in quite a number of leading stocks. The decline in any case has not been very marked, and in the case of Federal, Standard and Hamilton the figures of a week ago have been maintained. There is no particular reason that can be assigned for the weaker feeling, only that a slight reaction has followed the sharp advance of the two previous weeks. The subjoined table of closing bids on Wednesday, Dec. 3rd and 10th, indicates the tendency of the market.

Carca one oc						
				Dec. 3.	Dec.	10.
Montreal		• •		189	• •	1873
Ontario	••	••	• •	107	••	105
Molsons	• •	• •			• •	
Toronto				175		1731
Merchants	••			1103	• •	109
Commerce				121		120
Imperial	••	••		129		129
Federal	• •			493		481
Dominion		•		186		185
Standard				112	• •	1141
Hamilton				117		1174
Northwest	Land	••		43		413

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

In grain affairs matiers have been very slow during the past week, and the movement has been exceedingly light. This is attributable in some measure to closed natigation, but is due more to the fact that buyers know there is plenty of supply behind and no fear of any material advance in prices, so that they need not assume the burden of carrying any stock for future use. Prices tave held up to about our last quotations, and are so low that further decline seems impossible. There is a disposition on the part of farmers, who are able to hold for better prices, and that of itself helps to keep prices from reaching even a lower depth than they are now in. Provisions have also shown great weakness, and even dairy products, which usually advance as winter pro-

gresses, have eased-off in price a little, and are very slow in sale. Meats seem not to be wanted at any price, and nearly all transactions during the week were sales of small lots. Altogether grain and provision markets have been in a discouraging state.

WHEAT.

No larger lots have changed hands, and the small lots that have changed hands have sold as follows: No. 2 Fall, 74e; No. 3, 71e; No. 1 Spring, 74c; No. 2, 71e; Goose, 57c.

OATS.

The demand has been light but prices have held steady all week. Mixed cars have sold at 31 to 32e, and white at 32½c.

BARLEY.

The movement has not been heavy during the week, but sales of small lots were numerons enough to keep matters a little lively. Prices have eased-off a little. No. 1 sold at 66c; No. 2, 62c; No. 3 extra, 54 to 55c; No. 3. 50c.

111762

No demand, and prices lower. Car lots are quoted at 56c.

PFAS.

Prices are weaker and the demand is slow. No. 2 lots have been quoted at 59c.

POTATOES.

There have been no sales of any consequence during the week, and quotations have been nominal at 40 to 45c.

There has been a liberal supply of all grades offered, and the demand has been very slow indeed. Prime dairy has been slow sale at 18 to 19c, and rolls have been offered in abundance at 15 to 16c. Laferior grades were searcely called for.

EGGS.

The offerings have been sufficient for all demands during the week. Round lots of fresh have sold at 20 to 21c, and pickled at 18 to 19c.

PORK.

There has been very little business done in tris product during the week, and sales have all been of small lots. Prices have ranged from \$15.50 to \$16.

LARD.

There has been an increasing demand during the week, and new pails have sold at 11c.

BACON.

Affairs have been rather quiet during the week, and prices have been easy. Long clear has sold in small lots at \$\frac{1}{2}c\text{, and Cumberland in round lots at 7 to 7\frac{1}{2}c\text{.}} Rolls were quoted at 10c.

HAMS.

No sales of any magnitude to report, and prices have been steady although a little easy. Round lots were offered at 10 c, and small lots sold at 11 c.

POULTRY.

Box lots of dressed tunkeys have sold up to 10c per lb, and geese from 5 to 6c. Ducks sold at 40 to 60c per pair, and fowl in boxes at 25 to 40c.

APPLES.

No sales of car lots reported, and small lots have sold at \$1 to \$1.50 for inferior, and \$2 for choice. Prime winter were offered at \$2.25.

The State of Trade.

Reports from many places all over Canada are in the main in the same tenor, namely, that business is quiet, at some points (and especially in the Maritime Provinces) dull, manufacturing slack, shipping lifeless and unremunerative; the farmers disposed to hold on to their grain, prices ruling so low.

The month of November was nearly very where a dull one. From St. Catharines, for example, we hear that the dullness in stripping has been extreme. Both Norris and Neelea have a number of their floating craft tied up to the wharves all summer for lack of freight to carry. Manufacturing dull at that point, too, but proprietors hopeful.

About London, the Fawcett private base failure and the troubles of the Federal Real proved a serious check to various manufacturing concerns; besides which the failure of two wholesale houses have created a sense of un easiness that is fatal to briskness of trade.

At Brockville and thereabout, a correspondent writes, "not a pound of grain moved during October," and but little this mouth, white from Napanee comes the same story of dullness in grain transport in October but November showed an improvement. A banker, writing thence, says:—

"Trade in this section is fairly good Barley, which is the chief grain, is being shipped rapidly to Oswego; about one half of the engis gone, and, at a respectable figure, average 52c. per bush. Farmers got fair prices for all they had to sell, and most of them are in good circumstances. Merchants keep well to the cash sale rule, which farmers are finding the best. The outlook is favorable."

From the rear of Hastings County, Banca: P.O., we are favored with the following, a date 24th Nov.:

"Business in this section of the province a rather dull, the continued fine weather sencely tetarding the sale of almost all winter good Farmers are unwilling to leave their work, and their purchases are being limited to mandate wants. White crops are fair but prices my low."

"Trade is very quiet throughout New Brewick," writes Messrs. Manchester, Robinsont Allison, wholesale dry goods dealers in a John. "there is every prospect of a very delimiter."

The experience of Messrs. II. Shorey & Communicaturers of clothing in Montreal, is seemed up in the following words, concerning last month, "Business, almost none doing, to payments good."

We are favored by Messrs. G. P. Mitchell to., West India merchants of Halifax, wind the following comprehensive statement of the situation:

"Respecting business during the past same we may say that in the West India trade it is been most unprofitable. Our exports of the lumber, &c., have, with few exceptions, to sulted very poorly, owing to the continue heavy receipts and consequent low prices mit various West India markets; add to this & heavy losses on return cargoes of auga, & caused by the constant depreciation in value and it it can well be imagined that this impos ant branch of trade has been in a most & pressed condition We are sorry to sight the outlook for the future is gloomy, as with prospect of any improvement in the prize sugar, a very serious state of affair all or the West Indies seems unavoidable "-1'2 tary Times.

Bradstreet's Commercial Summary.

The general commercial situation throughout the United States during the past week, as reported by telegraph to Bradstreet's, shows no material evidence of improvement. In the face of the continued depression, the somewhat surprising fact is noted that at several important points the general feeling in trade circles is more buoyant and that greater confidence exists in the outlook for business in the new year. Tangible data for this view are not fur-The noteworthy exceptions to the hished continued depression in business are at Sau Francisco, where "trade has been greatly improved, owing to more liberal purchases by farmers, and at a few smaller cities, such as Savannah, Ga., and Evansville, Ind. At the last named, however, the Christmas holiday frade is reckoned as a factor. In retail circles this has produced a greater degree of briskness generally than has been experienced for some time past, though, per present advices, the folume is almost uniformly smaller than at like periods in previous years. The slight improvement in the tone of the dry goods trade noted at Boston last week is sustained, and there are reports that country dealers' stocks are not accumulating. The decline in the purchasing power of the residents of manufacturing communities, however, is making itself felt in the dry goods trade and sales to jobbers have fallen away. Cotton futures at New York have been excited and higher, due mostly to manipulation, and have been followed by mots. The November cotton trade reports to Bradstreet , shows nearly the entire crop gathered all in remarkably fine condition. The returns indicate a probable crop of 5.418,000 hiles, or 295,000 bales less than last year. There has been a good demand for staple wools and a slight improvement in general inquiry from manufacturers, but no important enange in prices. The advance in the price of wheat was due largely to manipulation at the west aided by the late falling off in receipts of winter wheat and better cable advices. The gain Enrice was ic., No. 2 red closing yesterday ar 84c. Indian corn was higher also, owing to declining receipts, a squeeze of a reckless short interest and light stocks. It gained 61c on the week, No. 2 mixed closing at 497c last night. Flour has been dull and dragging at practically nachanged quotations. From the west come reports of much heavier receipts of wheat than hid been expected, which explains the decline from the early advance in prices. The reportedcat of \$1 per ton in Lehigh pig iron has not pene into effect except for the benefit of such 28 may buy for 1885 delivery. Eastern pig iron is weaker and prospective lower figures are coing to the full exposition which has been mide of the extent to which southern pig iron bescome cast during 1884. The total given week week of 76,000 tons has been increased by advices to 91,000 tons direct and indirect simpments from the south to the east in 1884 to Recember 15 last. Anthracite coal is being miked on tall time in December, owing to manding satsregard of the combination agree wat. Stocks of steam sizes are increasing the outlook is for lower prices in future.

Petroleum is lower owing to rumors about a new "mystery" well in the Thorn Creek district being probably a heavy producer. Ocean freights have weakened fractionally. Exports are lighter. There were 296 failures in the United States reported to Bradstreet's during the past week, as compared with 237 in the preceding week, and with 246, 147 and 169 respectively in the corresponding weeks of 1883, 1882 and 1881. About 84 per cent, were those of small traders whose capital was less than \$5,000. Canada had 34, an increase of 9.

Recent Legal Decisions.

SLEEPING-CAR COMPANY — THEFT — NEGLI-GENCE.—In the absence of proof of negligence a sleeping-car company is not liable for the loss of a diamond pin stolen from the berth of a passenger, according to the decision of the Kentucky Superior Court in the care of the Pullman Palace Car Company vs. Gaylord.

STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS—GOVERNMENT.—
The United States government is not barred by any statute of limitations un'ess it is expressly named in the statute or is included within its provisions by manifest and necessary intendment, according to the decision of the United States District Court of Indiana in the case of the United States vs. Hind et al., decided November 20.

MUNICIPAL BONDS—LIABILITY FOR.—A municipality cannot escape liability for its bonds by changes in charter or organization, and the fact that one of the number of corporations was declared void by quo warranto proceedings does not relieve the existing corporation comprising the same territory and people from its obligation to pay the bonds as successor to the organization which issued the bonds. So held by the United States Circuit Court for the Eastern District of Missouri in the case of Laird vs. The City of De Soto.

DISCHARGE IN BANKRUPTEY.—According to the decision of the Kentucky Court of Appeals in the case of Moson et al. vs. The Commonwealth, decided on Nov. 21, a discharge in bankruptcy does not release the debtor from liability for a debt due the commonwealth. In this case the court held that by reason of the relation of the counties to the state the smety in a county levy bond against whom judgment had been rendered in the name of the commonwealth for the use of the county was not released from liability therefor by a discharge in bankruptcy.

CHATTEL MORTGAGE-FRAUD ON CREDITORS. - In the case of Lesser et al. vs. Glaser et al., decided recently by the Supreme Court of Kansas, it appeared that by the terms of a chattel mortgage the mortgagor was permitted to retain the possession of the mortgaged property and to sell the same "in the regular course of trade at retail;" that the mortgage did not contain any stipulation or provision with reference to what should be done with the proceeds of such sales; that there was no agreement or understanding outside of the mortgage as to what shou'd be done with such proceeds; that the mortgagor was a near relative of the mortgagee; that the mortgaged property was worth much more than the mort-

gage debt, and there being other circumstances tending to show that the mortgage was executed for the purpose of hindering, delaying and defrauding the creditors of the mortgager. The court held that the mortgage was void as against such creditors, and that it would sustain an attachment issued at the instance of one of such creditors against the mortgager upon the ground of the fraudulent disposition of the mortgagor's property.

When the plaintiff seeks to remove the bar of the statute of limitation by proof of a new promise by implication from an acknowledgement of the debt, the evidence should show an admission of a previous subsisting debt, which the defendant is liable for and willing to pay. So held by the Supreme Court of New Hampshire in the case of Holl vs. Gage. In this case the court held that the taking of security from the principal by a surety upon a promissory note was not of itself an admission to the holder of an indebtedness which the surety was liable and willing to pay sufficient to remove the bar of the statute of limitations.

STATUTE OF FRAUDS-MEMORANDUM.-The case of Goodall vs. Harding, decided by the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice (England) on the 1st ult., was an action by a vendor for the specific performance of a contract for the sale of property. It appeared that the purchasor's solicitor signed and sent a telegram to the vendor's solicitor saying: "H. (the parchaser) will purchase S. (the property) at the sum named to me. Will write to-night." The vendor's solicitor telegraphed back: "Telegram with offer received, which I accept." The narchaser's solicitor wrote to the vendor's solicitor: "I am in receipt of your telgeram accepting II.'s offer. If I recollect rightly the amount was some £1,568. Send me the contract and I will get it signed." The purchaser admitted that his solicitor was his agent, duly authorized on his Lehalf to send the telegram, but further than this there was no distinct evidence of agency. The court, per Kay, J., in dismissing the action, held that there was no sufficient memorandum in writing to satisfy the statute of frauds; that it could not be inferred that the purchaser's solicitor was his agent to write the letter, and that even if this could be inferred the words "send me the contract" showed that it was not the intention of the parties that the letter should constitute a contract between them.

COMMON CARRIER-LIMITATION OF LIABILITY -The question of the liability of a common carrier for the full amount of the actual loss of property in its hands by accident where the bill of lading for such property, signed by the shipper, limits the company's liability to a sum much below the real value, was involved in the case of Hart vs. The Pennsylvania Railroad Company, decided by the Supreme Court of the United States on the 24th inst. In this case it appeared that the plaintiff in error, Hart, shipped five horses and other property in one car by the Pennsylvania Railroad, under a bill of lading signed by him, which stated that the horses were to be transported "upon the following terms and conditions, which are ad-

mitted and accepted by me as just and reasonable: First, to pay freight thereon (at a rate specified), on the condition that the carrier assames a liability on the stock to the extent of the following agreed valuation: If horses or mules, not exceeding \$200 each. * * * If a chartered car, on the stock and contents in the same, \$1,200 for the carload. But no carrier shall be liable for the acts of the animals themselves, * * * nor for loss or damage arising from the condition of the animals themselves, which risks, being beyond the control of the company, are hereby assumed by the owner and the carrier released therefrom " By the neligence of the railway company or its servants one of the horses was killed and the others were injured and the other property was lost. In a suit to recover damages it appeared hat the horses were race-borses, and the plaintiff offered to snow damages based on their value amounting to over \$25,000. The court below excluded this evidence, and the plaintiff recovered a verdict for only \$1,200. The Supreme Court, in affirming the judgment of the lower court, held, first, that the evidence was rightly excluded, and that the valuation and limitation of liability in the bill of lading were just and reasonable and binding on the plaintiff; second, that the terms of the limitation covered a loss through neligence; and third, that where a contract of this kind, signed by the shipper, was fairly made, agreeing on a valuation of the property carried, with the rate of freight based on the condition that the carrier assumed liability only to the extent of the agreed valuation-even in cases of loss or damage by the neligence of the carrier-the contract should be upheld as a proper and lawful mode of securing a due proportion between the amount for which the carrier might be responsible and the freight he received, and of protecting himself against extravagant and fanciful valuations .- Bradstreet's.

The Future Timber Supply.

A letter from Dr. Lyons in the London Timber Trades Journal gives an estimate of the timber lands in Europe and America, besides other valuable information We cull the following:

WOODS AND FORESTS IN EUROPE AND AMERICA

11000011 111111111111111111111111111111	1 1 1 1 10 1 1 1	III A GERRI A.
	Area in stat-	Woods and
	ute acres.	Forest acres.
Russia	1,244,367,316	527,426,510
Norway	76,716,965	18,920,509
Sweden	100,514,956	42,364,938
Denmark	8,563,395	385,877
Germany	133,075,923	34,181,984
Holland	\$,009,328	532,714
Belgiam	7,280,352	1,073,452
France .	30,557,281	22,687,716
Italy	73,191,882	30,031,310
Russia Proper	69,388,482	23,280,412
Hungary	83,205,120	22,514,450
WOODS AND FORE	STS IN ENGLAN	v, 1881.

The summary of the forest area of the different counties of Europe is somewhat variously estimated. It probably reaches a total area of between 700,000,000 and \$00,000,000 acres of

which Russic alone presents some 500,000,000 acres. No absolute summary statements, as large areas of forests remain to be ascertained by close survey. It is also to be borne in mind that innatural forests, which have not been at any time brought into regular cultivation and carefully tended for a series of years, much of the timber is usually found to be worthless for commercial and industrial purposes. Forests left to nature, has a tendency to be invaded by swamp; the undergrowth and interlacing of trees injure their form, dwarf their growth, and in many instances reduce them to the condition of scrub or brushwood, and thus they become of comparatively little value, except as materials for firing. A large percentage of reduction must therefore be taken into account in estimating the probable value of forests which have not yet been submitted to the regular system of conservancy. This has been especially noticed in our wide experience of Indian forests, where prior to the period of survey and demarcation and the forest conservators' care, extended over many years, large tracts of woodlands have been found to give but imperfect supplies of timber for commercial and industrial purposes.

A Commercial Upheaval,

There are namerous indications of great commercial changes pending, some in quarters where least anticipated. The modification of tariff in the direction of reciprocity between the United States and Spain as affecting the West Indian colonial possessions of the latter is one of the most important and suggestive of these. The international agreement has already reached such a stage as only to require the assent of the Senate at Washington to allow it to go into effect. That event is likely to follow in due course notwithstanding a possible hostility from two or three of the Southern States, growers of sugar, tobacco, rice, etc., whose interests are thus more or less menaced. At the same time Spain herself is considering a project of largely widening trade relations, by the medium of trade relaxations, between herself and the United Kingdom. The whole of the interior of Africa seems likely, .oo, to be thrown open to the enterprise of the world on a basis more nearly approaching that of absolute free trade than has yet anywhere been seen. In the midst of this tendency, so wide as to threaten soon to be nearly universal, it is not sucprising to the vigilant locker on to be able to detect signs on this side of the Atlantic too, of a desire to shake off some of the more objectionable of commercial fetters. Mexico and the United States have just made a notable stride in that direction, and there is a wide spread expectation, viewed by some with ap prehension and by others the hope, that the most galling features of the American tariff will not long remain so stringent as they are found to-day. The British West Indies, also, are petitioning for some radical commercial reforms as a matter indispensible to their very existence. In Boston and other large American centers a cry for reciprocity with Canada is revived, and it has found echoes on this side. One of the latter Lasnet been without its comic side in the shape of a threat of a dissolution of |

the British Empire made by two or this $|\psi_{0,4}\rangle$ rate traders and first-class noodles at 8 Job N. B. These utterly and for ever-normal tinguishing the new historical triums ate at tailors of Tooley Street, present an assemble; and gaping world with the alternative of the tection to their own two special counting house or imperial dismemberment and general above To some shallow thinkers it might have tries ed a more easy solution, one likely tol . . 102 followed by fewer disturbing elements, for the annexationists to have taken themselves and their chattels to a land which in there open, is so much better governed and with the chances of substantial prosperity are and greater than here. But, like good Mrs Mrs awber, they will never desert their that be Year it should be the misfortune of the contact to have to part at all with these dariag sus sionists, whose loyalty and patrioticm has yielded to so very slight a strain, the way hope for the country that their self-expatrites would not necessarily be permane to Fr. there are already indications from Lor longs: the Home Government is sensible of the me importance of the treaty engaged in between Spain and the United States and its seams on the commercial interests both of Canada and her own West Indian possessions. 10 the z terests of all these the Imperial Comment is not likely to allow herself, or them, until or indirectly to remain at any permanent & advantage. It will therefore be safe : 1.46 some such modifications of trade relations was the United States as will be satisfactory: Canada and at the same time weet the meet ties of the British West Indies, and if & change should take the direction of untail tariff modifications it should cause surprise. - Shareholder.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Commercial.

Sin, - I notice in your money market repetively (which to judge from its regular reports other papers has come to be of the returned standing authority) that at Canadian market centres money is plentiful. Looking atvalue of bank shares for the past toward this would seem to be the case, but it the past toward the would seem to be the case, but it the past toward to force the life-blood to the extremuties of the force that the life blood to the extremuties of the force of the life blood to the extremuties of the community.

There is one feature in the present sum which demands notice, viz., the factorial wholesale houses of first-class starting the facilities they may require, so who, pro rata, are just as safe, do not strain advantages extended to to these may be perfectly able to carry all the ligations they are under, the fact that the retailers seems to limit the condensation they are held, and the positional tailer in the eyes of the bank does not leave or deports himself in daily life, as that amount of endorsation he can be that wholesale man who supplies to with stock in trade.

J. H. BROCK.

This may be a convenient and safe way of discounting from the banker's view point, but it is manifestly unfair to the wholosale man who has to take the responsibility without the profit, leaving the bank to secure all the bene fits without the risk. The system practically turns wholesale merchants into private bankers standing between retailers and the chartered banks as middlemen without being able to get a fraction of the middlen an's profit. In banking in the abstract there must be risk, more or less, and there is no reason why the agencies here should not take the paper of good retailers on their own responsibility. Matters in trade have now reached such a point that bankers here can without much trouble find out those who may be faily trusted, and the paper of such should be taken to amounts reasonably based on the business done, and wholesale men should be entirely freed from the necessity of having their own legitimate facilities cramped and entailed by responsibilities which banks should themselves assume. Were this done many a wholesale merchant's bank account would immediately improve in appearance and the two lines of business, wholesale and retail, would go on with greater sotisfaction to mer chants and we are convinced with better profits to the bank.

Recent events in Civic matters have shown that our citizens are alive to the credit of the City. The Council recently elected is the outcome of the determination of the mercantile commonity that honesty, economy and effici-comy shall be the rule ir the management of the public affairs of Winnipeg. What traders desire for the public good may be taken as in-dicating the line they will follow in their own affairs, there need therefore be little fear but that our city shall from now onwards grow steadily in solidity and prosperity.

It may after all be too much to expect that hanks with headquarters 1,500 miles away will be able to appreciate the situation. If their agents are placed here to act on cut and dried hales framed without knowledge and without consideration for our legitimate rights we can neitner blame them nor expect fair play.

The seeming impossibility of getting the banking institutions of older Canada to under-Island the requirements of our western heritage has resulted in the chartering of a bank whose headquarters will be in Winnipeg. The Commercial Bank appears on the stage at a time when the trading public will most readily see the advantages of dealing direct with a head bother, and with a general manager thoroughly conversant with every department of business. conversant with a general manager thoroughly conversant with every department of business in our malst and fully alive to the future in store for both city and country. Possibly other banks may change their tactics when the Commercial get faith under when here their Americal gets fairly under way, but it is safe to assume that should they continue to pursue the policy of the nast, the manner of the last the manner. policy of the past, the mercantile support ac-porded to the Commercial will leave their agents here saying, with a slight alteration on the old song, "We're all the way from 'Down Below as a jot no work to do."

HARD UP.

N. BAWLF.

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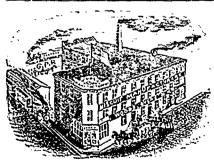
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Canadian Pacific Railway. (WESTERN DIVISION)

NTER TIME

Commencing Sunday, December 7, and until further notice. Trains will run as follows:

Going west.			Golo	g Eas
8.30 a.m.	leave Winniper	z arrive	6.30	Ţ.m.
11.05 "	Portage la l'i	rairio	4.00	- 11
3.0) p.m.	Brandon	1	12.30	•
11.00 **	Broadyley			a.ir.,
5.25 a.m.	Regina		8.00	p.m.
8.00 "	Moose Jan	r.	5.30	. "
3.40 p.m.	Swift Curre		8.35	a.m.
9.40 "	Maple Cree		1.25	**
2.15 a.m.	Medicine H	at	9.00	p.m.
4.30 p.m.	Calgary			à.m.
1.10 a.m. a	rrive Loggan	leavo	8.45	p.m.

Trains between Winnipeg and Brandon daily, except Sundays. Three trains a week between Winnipeg and Moosejaw, leaving Winnipeg Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, returning leave Moosejaw Sundays, Wedinsdays and Fridays Once a week between Winnipeg and Laggan, leaving Winnipeg Tuesday; returning leave Laggan Friday. Train between Calgary and Laggan subject to cancellation at any time without notice.

Coing East		Going West
7,30 a.m.	leave Winnipeg arri	ivo 7 20 a m
3.05 p.m.	Rat Portage	10 45 a m
2.00 a.m.	Barclay."	12 30 a.m
1.00 p.m. a	arrice Port Athur 1	cave 1 30 p m

Train for Port Arthur leaves Wannipeg Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, returning leaves Port Arthur Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays,

Going South.		Going North.
*8.05 p.m. le	ave Winnipeg	arrive 7.03 a.m.
19.50 p.m.	Emerson	†4.15 a.m.
8.40, 9.15 c.m.,	leave Winniprg	arrive 4.00, 7.00 p.m.
10.30, 11.55 a.m.,	Morris -	1.20, 5 05 p m
11.40 a.m.,	Gretna	4.00 p.m.
5.00 p.m.	Manitou	£.30 a m.

*Daily, except Saturday
*Daily, except Mondays.
Trains run daily between Winnipeg and Gretna For
Maniton, leave Winnipeg Mondays, Wednesdays and Fri
days; returning leave Maniton Tuesdays, Thursdays and
Saturday

Train leaves Winnipeg for Stonewall, Tuesdays, Thurs days and Saturdays at 9.30 a.m., arriving at Stony Mountain 10.30 a.m. and Stonewall at 10.55 a.m. Return same days, leaving stonewall at 1.30 p.m. and Stony Mountain at 2 p.m., arriving at Winnipeg 3 p.m.

Train leaves Winn peg for West Selkirk Tuesdays Thursdays and Saturdays at 4 p.m., arriving at West Selkirk b p.m. and Returning leaves West Selkirk Mon-days, Wednesdays and Fridays at 7 a.m., arriving at Winnipeg 3 a.m.

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