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# The Commercial

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

Published by James E. Steen—Every Monday—Subscription, \$2 per annum

VOL. 6.

WINNIPEG, OCTOBER 17TH, 1887.

No. 4.

## The Commercial

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

ISSUED EVERY MONDAY

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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JAMES E. STEEN,

Publisher

WINNIPEG, OCTOBER 17, 1887.

JERMYN & DARROCH are preparing to purchase grain at Minnedosa.

CALGARY has been classed "C" by the Manitoba Board of Underwriters.

F. C. PATTERSON, stationer, Brandon, has sold out to — Cliffe, of the place.

C. D. BUSH has sold out his stock exchange to May & Co. and removed to the Pacific coast.

FRANK LIGHTCAP, Winnipeg, has opened up at 32 Princess Street for the purchase of hides, pelts and furs.

THE Union Bank is erecting a new stone building at Lethbridge for the accommodation of their business.

THE Occidental Hotel at Moosejaw has been reopened after undergoing extensive repairs, by J. H. Dickinson.

J. B. MANX, accountant of the Bank of Ottawa, has been transferred to the new branch of the bank opened at Keewatin.

T. IRELAND, brewer, Medicine Hat, is out of business.

VANCE & Co., fruit dealers, Banff, are giving up business.

GRAHAM & HEWSON, livery, Winnipeg, have dissolved partnership.

MRS. HERSBERG, hotelkeeper, Vancouver, has sold out to Wm. Prout.

RANKIN & ALLEN, dry goods, Calgary, have sold out their branch at Banff.

R. R. Keith & Co., dealers in seeds and grain. Winnipeg—stock sold to A. Leith for 45c on the \$.

CLARK & SUTHERLAND, saw mill, Winnipeg, has sold out their St. Boniface branch to Fred Walker.

J. E. McCROSSAN, dry goods and grocer, Winnipeg, has sold out grocery business to J. R. Roberts.

WELLINGTON & MCKENZIE, general storekeepers, Calgary, are opening a branch at Athabasca, N.W.T.

F. FRASER TIMS, general storekeeper, Swift Current, offers his business for sale, intending to engage in the ranching business in future.

APPLICATION has been made to court to pay over to the plaintiff the sum of \$109,763.43, with interest, in the case of Wright vs. Winnipeg.

J. G. DOWNEY, of Minneapolis, is in Winnipeg, with the intention of locating in some of the grain centres to purchase Manitoba No. 1 hard.

THE stock of Woods & McBride, general storekeepers, Moosejaw, has been purchased by R. J. Whittle, Winnipeg, at sixty cents on the dollar.

A. J. SMALE has purchased the entire interest of the late firm of Smale & Somerville, boot and shoe dealers, Winnipeg, who continues the business.

MESSRS. F. A. FAIRCHILD & Co., wholesale dealers in agricultural implements, Winnipeg, are not contemplating a removal to the Gerrie Block, as was announced in the dailies in the early part of the week, their old premises being more adapted to their requirements.

F. H. BRAZER, merchant tailor, Winnipeg, is reported left for parts unknown.

THOS. MARKS & Co., merchants, Port Arthur, have sold out their retail grocery business to Wm. Bishop, who will continue under style of Bishop & Co.

W. J. CLOKER, representing the Mowat Manufacturing Company, Toronto, manufacturer of mowers, etc., is in town for the purpose of opening branches of that company through the Northwest.

JOSEPH WOLF held an auction sale of real estate last week with all the old time enthusiasm of the days of "boom" but failed to make a heavy sale, eight lots being disposed at \$1,072.50, the balance were then withdrawn.

SATURDAY morning at an early hour a disastrous conflagration occurred in Winnipeg, destroying property to the value of about \$30,000. The plant and building of the defunct Bishop Engraving and Printing Company, but latterly occupied by Messrs. Buckle & Sons, printers, and R. I. Boyd, bookbinder, being totally consumed. The high wind blowing at the time caused the flames to spread with marvellous rapidity, the efforts of the fire brigade being almost futile in their endeavors to check the fiery element. Burning fragments and sparks were carried blocks away, and in this manner the warehouse of Messrs. Tees & Perse, commission merchants, was also destroyed, the fiery cinders having been blown beneath their building, and igniting the lower timbers soon sealed its doom. By untiring efforts on the part of the firemen, a most serious conflagration was confined to these two buildings. The losses are as follows: The building was the property of the Ottawa Bank and was fully insured for \$4,000. Buckle & Sons estimate the value of their stock at about \$7,000, with an insurance of \$4,000. R. I. Boyd is insured for \$2,000, his loss estimated at \$4,000. Messrs Tees & Perse had a stock valued at \$10,000, insured for \$6,000. The building they occupied was owned by a Kingston gentleman whose agents are Messrs. Carruthers & Brock, who held insurance for \$3,000. John A. Tees loses about \$250, covered by insurance. The total loss is estimated at \$31,250; insurance about \$20,000.

In an article last week reference was made to the exports from this province during the year, a partial list of which were enumerated. Each succeeding year developments have been made, which, for a young country, are extraordinary, and it is to be hoped that before many more have passed a still greater number will be made, and any great stimulus to manufacture would soon place a ban upon the manufactured goods which now find such a lucrative market in the Northwest. There is, however, one branch of industry that successfully holds its own—that of lumber, being a premier import. The domestic supply of spruce is the scrub of the trade, although it fills a place which saves it from being a total outcast and materially reduces the cost of building where a rough article can be used to advantage. The bulk of the trade for some time back has been done with the Keewatin district; in fact, until this season there was no other competition available, and as it was the point of supply the readiest of access to Manitoba, a large business has been built up between that portion of Ontario. British Columbia now asserts its claims to the consideration of the Northwestern trade, and although the shipments made have had something of the tinge of experiment, the beautiful cedar and Douglas fir have made a market for themselves as a valuable finish and high-grade material, whose use will be more extensively made until it will occupy the place where the Rat Portage product stood in comparison with the Lake Winnipeg spruce. The house in Winnipeg who placed it on this market have supplied to the local trade 185,000 feet of lumber and 571,000 shingles, with about a similar amount scattered through the province and the territories. Had the requirements of the trade been more fully understood by the manufacturers or a larger amount properly seasoned, a far larger business would have been transacted, the demand having exceeded the amount available at the height of the season, although considerable business will yet be done in finishing material, doors, etc. Next season has promises of a large business being done, there now being a mill specially engaged in the manufacture of the article adapted to Northwestern trade, under the supervision of a Winnipeg firm, who are now cutting and preparing two million feet ready for the opening of the spring. The wood is also susceptible of being stained and polished, the specimens shown having a splendid finish, while the natural wood finished in oil also shows to advantage. This trade has a promising future.

The gigantic humbug of the country for some years past has been in the shape of the North-west Central, that assumed its form from the Souris and Rocky Mountain road. There are few roads on the continent whose construction has been burdened and hampered to such a great extent with the machinations of the political shyster and trickster, in whose workings and manipulations in the lobby of the House, the ominous name of "boodler" was perhaps heard for the first time. Yet through all a ray of light is appearing, and we welcome the start made on the construction of the twenty-four miles of road to Rapid City. True, the season has far advanced for a reasonable expectation

of the ironing or even grading of so much of the line, although the engineer expresses a great amount of sanguinity as to the amount they are going to complete before being checked by the fast approaching winter season; but the anomalous position of the creditors of the old road bed is something that calls for an immediate settlement. Time after time meetings have been held, with the object of arriving at some satisfactory financial basis, and as often adjourned without a definite action being taken. During the time the charter was being reconstructed in the House, while in the slippery hands of the Beatty syndicate and before finally being transferred to Clemow, we pointed out the urgent need for a full and satisfactory guarantee being made by the new company to the creditors of the old road bed, and which the Dominion Government made, but as yet it has failed to materialize. It was generally understood before the active prosecution of the present work, that something definite, in the shape of an offer of fifty cents on the dollar had been made and accepted, but up to this time it still remains in the same unsatisfactory state of indecision. We now hear that the creditors are to sign an agreement to take fifty cents on the dollar, provided it is paid within a certain limit; and as they have long since placed their accounts in the matter to the profit and loss side of their ledgers, the final receipt of even this amount will be a source of gratification.

"We had hoped that the kingdom of Israel would be restored" were words used many years ago, with a political significance which was a source of disappointment; and while not placing the two cases as parallels, yet we were hoping better things were in prospect preceding the trial of the Scarth petition. We cannot say someone has blundered, no matter to what extent we would wish to, it comes down to a thing somewhat more definite. "Who is the Judas?" is the question that each elector is pondering over, and who many place as the parties to whom the contesting of the petition was entrusted. If the substitution of a new petitioner is not allowed by the Courts, and there is strong probability that such will be the case, we will be in the somewhat unenviable position of having a man representing the city of Winnipeg in the Dominion House of Commons, who has not the confidence of a corporal's guard of the electors, to whom we can but look to as something worse than a machine, not having the mechanism to start himself, and by whom, for the next four years, we will be bartered away for the proverbial forty pieces of silver. Delusions rudely dispelled sometimes bring wisdom where nothing else will avail, and we trust that in this case it will be in some measure the means of restoring to this city an elevating influence to our politics that for a considerable time has been sadly lacking. In the counter petition Mr. Tupper admitted lack of evidence, which was the only thing needed to show clearly that there was an understood arrangement or collusion.

The subject of utilizing the Assiniboine River as a motive power is a subject by no means new as a theory, and gradually efforts are being directed to carry it into practical effect. The

immense advantage to a city in having such cannot be overestimated, and the results experienced by other places we feel sure would follow in this particular. If there is any one thing lacking in the composition of Winnipeg as a metropolis, it is the one of manufacture, and until such time as manufacturing is more extensively engaged in, so long will we remain a secondary centre. The City Engineer placed before the Council at a recent meeting an interesting report as to the availability and extent of power that could be obtained, and not only would the proposed works give a mill power, but would be a great stride in the development of a great extent of inland navigation, the whole country tributary to the Saskatchewan River being brought into direct communication with Winnipeg. By constructing a dam at the St. James rapids, it is expected that at low water 5,000 horse power could be obtained, and at high water something in the neighborhood of 15,000, the water being conducted in flumes to the mills on either side of the river, and which could be extended as desired. The cost of this dam would be about \$200,000. A canal twelve miles in length would have to be constructed to connect the Assiniboine with Lake Manitoba, to furnish sufficient water power at Winnipeg of 10,000 horse, with the probability, in a closer examination being made, of this power being largely increased. The cost of the whole work would aggregate about \$1,900,000, which is a comparative trifle in comparison to the advantages which would accrue. The canal would be of a capacity ample for the largest steamers navigating the Saskatchewan River, and direct connection could be made with that river by canoes at Meadow Portage, three-quarters of a mile long, and Mossy Portage, about four miles in length. Of course, comparing the power that could be obtained with that available at the Lake of the Woods, the first cost appears somewhat large; but there is a reasonable amount of certainty that the water would be at least worth \$1,000 per day more than that of steam power, and this power would readily let at a price which would pay the interest on the cost of construction and leave a handsome surplus. It is probable that the Government will be asked to assist in an accurate survey, when a greater degree of certainty will make the project even more feasible.

Gladstone Aye: We would say to the mortgage companies or others don't worry your debtors too much, as a little thoughtfulness will do far more good than harshness. A recoil is sure to come where least expected, leaving an ugly mark for the world to notice and laugh at. Threshing is getting on slow here and plowing is being looked after till it freezes up, for upon it depends the farmers ability to rid himself from debt. So we say again don't cripple him by exacting too much. If he has had a big crop this year, it has cost him extra to take it off, as hire was dear and the price for grain is less than last year. If he has a full hand it will be quite in order not to allow grab to make a fool of it.

The Regina Journal celebrated its first birthday last week by publishing a twelve page number.

**Business East.**

**ONTARIO.**

Chas. Chapman, bookbinder, London, is dead. Clayton & Watson, grocers, Listowel, have dissolved.

W. F. Plaistow, plumber, London—sheriff in possession.

Wm. P. Lane, general storekeeper, Laues, has sold out.

W. C. West, general storekeeper, Merlin, has assigned.

J. B. Kitchen, photographer, Hamilton, is under seizure.

Butt & Co., stationery, etc., Hamilton, are out of business.

Jas. T. McGeary, wagon dealer, Bond Head, was burned out.

F. W. Jarvis, baker, etc., Stratford, is removing to Toronto.

John Crotty & Co., general storekeepers, Bothwell, have assigned.

Walter Holmwood, hotelkeeper, Stratford, has retired from business.

The estate of August Fuchs, jeweller, Berlin, was sold to his son, J. A. Fuchs.

**QUEBEC.**

Camille Gauthier, plumber, Montreal, has assigned.

Dolphin Sigouin, harness dealer, Montreal, has assigned.

Dumaine & Halpin, undertakers, Montreal, have dissolved.

Utieme & Chabassol, builders, Montreal, have dissolved.

L. Collin & Bro., dry goods, St. Sauveur, have assigned.

Hara O'Hara, general storekeeper, Chambly Canton, has assigned.

General Delivery Co., Montreal, have advertised business for sale by auction.

Ronayne Bros., boots and shoes, Montreal, have dissolved; E. P. Ronayne continues under same style.

**NOVA SCOTIA.**

F. Johnson, stationery, etc., Annapolis, has sold out.

E. Nichols & Co., tanners, etc., Berwick, have dissolved.

Robt. Hall, general storekeeper, Sheet Harbor, has assigned.

Jas. Parmiter, boots and shoes and dry goods, Halifax, is dead.

Moffat & Smith, general storekeepers, etc., Amherst, have dissolved.

Burgess & Wood, grocers, Windsor,—Joseph Burgess, of this firm, dead.

**Lumber Cuttings.**

The lumbermen of the Ottawa Valley are moving in the direction of creating a lumber board of trade.

T. Gibbons has taken out 45,000 fence posts for the R.R.V.R.R., the whole of which have been floated down to a point near Morris.

Messrs. Woods & Co., lumber dealers, Winnipeg, are taking out 2,000,000 feet of lumber in British Columbia, under the supervision of a member of the firm, for the Manitoba market.

The R.P.M. Mills Co., at Westminster has received heavy orders from the Northwest for

lumber, five car loads a day being an average of the shipments; doors and window frames are also in good demand.

The Vancouver shingle mill on Falso Creek, is shipping two or three car loads of cedar shingles every week to Calgary, Regina and other points as far east as Winnipeg. This important industry is growing rapidly and the mill is unable to fill all the large numbers of orders that come in. British Columbia cedar shingles beat the world.—*News-Advertiser.*

**Winnipeg Board of Trade.**

At the quarterly meeting held on Monday, October 11th, reports were presented to the Board re postal arrangement, disallowance, grain estimates and other subjects that had been given attention by the Council in the interval from the previous meeting. J. L. Blair, J. A. Mitchell, W. Grundy, T. C. Livingston and T. A. Anderson were elected members of the board. It was resolved to extend an invitation to the Hon. Mr. Butterworth and Erastus Wiman to address a meeting of citizens under the auspices of the board on the question of Commercial Union. After some further general business the meeting was adjourned.

A new post office has been opened at Millwood being located on sec. 2, tp. 20, r. 29 west.

Seven hundred head of cattle from the Northwest Cattle Co. passed through the city on their way to English markets.

One hundred head of cattle were shipped from Manitou to Montreal last week by Mr. Bell. Further shipments will be made from this point during the next few days.

The fisheries Department at Ottawa are contemplating a scheme for the transportation of a car load of live lobsters from the Maritime Provinces to the Pacific coast. It is expected that in this manner a successful propagation of the lobster in Pacific waters will be made, there being now none known to exist.

**A. RAMSAY AND SON,**

37 to 41 Reccollet St., Montreal,

Manufacturers of

Ready Mixed Paints, White and Colored Paints, Varnishes, etc. Importers of PLATE GLASS and Belgian Window Glass.

Wholesale Agents for the Dominion for Winsor and Newton's Artists' Materials.

**ROYAL HOTEL, CALGARY.**

REILLY & MARTIN, Props.

This new, commodious and comfortably furnished house is opened for the accommodation of the public on August 15th. The only first class house in Alberta and with special features for COMMERCIAL TRADE.

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**S. A. FERNEYHOUGH & CO.**

Steel Mill and Bag Brands of every description. Steel Stamps, Soap Stamps, Printing Brands, etc., etc. Ribbon Stamps, Wax, Notary, and Corporation Seals, etc. RUBBER HAND STAMPS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

Nickel Dating and Self-Inking stamps. Pocket and Pencil Stamps. Solid Rubber Type, etc., etc. Tabbox Patent Alphabet and Figures.

We employ experts and first-class hands, manufacturing on our own premises, with careful and constant supervision to give, thus being able to guarantee the BEST WORK and CONSTANT SATISFACTION. Sole Agents for the Dominion for

Reese's "New" Patent Adjustable Letters and Figures.

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and "GOLDEN PLUG," "GEM" and "EMPIRE" brands of

**SMOKING TOBACCOS**

**HENDERSON & BULL,**

Agents for Winnipeg.

ESTABLISHED, 1830.

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Sole Agents for the Johnson Type Foundry

and agents for George Bruce's Son & Co., James Connor's Sons, Farmer, Little & Co., Wm. H. Page Wood Type Manufacturing Co., Chas. Eno Johnson & Co's celebrated Book and Color Inks, W. D. Wilson's News Inks, and Messrs. R. Hoe & Co., C. Potter, Jr. & Co., the Gordon and the Peerless presses. Sole agents for the "RELIANCE" Warhaldale.

Peter A. Crosby, Manager.

**CROCKERY, &c.**

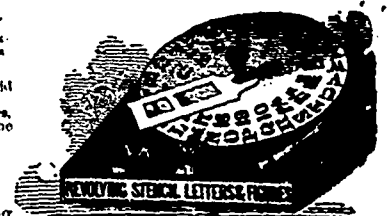
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Importers and Dealers in

China, Glass & Earthenware

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ASSORTED PACKAGES ON HAND FOR COUNTRY TRADE. ORDERS SOLICITED.



# The Commercial

WINNIPEG, OCTOBER 17, 1887.

## OUR EASTERN EXHIBITS.

Manitoba has been well represented at the fairs held in Eastern Canada this fall, and has acquitted herself nobly. A great many people have viewed the samples of grain, roots, vegetables, dairy products, etc., sent from this province to these exhibitions, and the result will certainly be beneficial to the country. The Manitoba exhibit was at a great disadvantage in many respects, in comparison with the exhibits from the older provinces. In the first place it was hastily collected, and the length of time which it had to be prepared before exhibited and the distance which it had to be carried all told against the exhibit. In roots and vegetables, for instance, the samples must have been greatly reduced in appearance, and at best they could not have been at all near maturity at the time they were taken from the soil. A few weeks later much superior samples could have been obtained. Still the showing was a very creditable one in comparison with the exhibits of the older provinces, and quite a number of prizes were captured by the Manitoba products.

The most astonishing result of the exhibit, however, has been the capture by Manitoba of the leading prizes for butter. This feat of taking the first and second prize for creamery butter is something of which the province may well feel proud. Among the great array of samples shown, Manitoba with a few tubs takes the two leading prizes. This has given the country an opportunity which should be turned to account. The great progress which has been made during the past few years in this country, in manufacture of cheese and butter, has demonstrated that dairying pursuits will be one of the great industries of the Northwest. A few years ago the first cheese factory was established in Manitoba. Now there are over a dozen, and several more will be established next season. The production of butter has increased in the same proportion, and from importing the products of the dairy, we now have a considerable surplus for export. These prizes taken for butter at the leading exhibitions of Eastern Canada, will bring the advantages of the Northwest as a dairy country forcibly to the

front, and will also assist in establishing a name for the Manitoba product abroad. Care should be taken by our producers and shippers to maintain this reputation, that the advantage arising therefrom should not be lost.

## ADVERTISING THE COUNTRY.

Manitoba has received more than the usual amount of advertising abroad this year, in several directions. The number of prominent personages who have visited the country during the present season has been greatly in excess of any former year. Many men of note from Eastern Canada and Britain, as well as from foreign countries, have inspected the Great Northwest during the past few months, and it may be safely said that about all have gone away thoroughly impressed with the advantages which the country offers as a field for immigration. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, which was held in Winnipeg a short time ago, was one cause for the visit to this country of a large number of prominent persons. These gentlemen took advantage of their visit to look into the capabilities of the country, and they were afforded every facility of studying its resources without bias. From the statements which they have since made they seem to have gone away with a greatly improved opinion of the Northwest. Being educated men, they would not fail to take note of what they saw, and use it to our advantage or disadvantage hereafter, according as they were pleased or displeased with the country. As they undoubtedly went away warm friends and admirers of the Northwest, we may safely conclude that they will use their influence in our favor, among the large, wealthy and intelligent class of which the Presbyterian Church of Canada is composed.

Later in the season came the excursion of farmers from Ontario, and from these we can certainly hope for great things. These practical men came just at the right time. They found the country at its best, and as they came specially to study the agricultural capabilities of Manitoba, they were given an opportunity of seeing what the soil and climate of this region could produce. They went out into the wheat fields and saw the wheat standing. They counted the stooks standing so thickly together as to hardly leave room to drive between them. They were not asked to accept any reports of big

yields of wheat, for they stood by and saw the grain threshed. When shown potatoes and roots which they could hardly believe grew in the country, they were invited to go to the fields and dig for themselves. To say that these men were astonished does not do justice to the actual fact. They were dumfounded. The writer conversed with several of them and they all told the same story, to the effect that they were unable to convey in words the great surprise they had received. The Ontario farmers are among the most successful agricultural people in the world, and they have a fertile and productive soil to work with, but Manitoba crops so far exceeded their expectations, that their most successful efforts at home seem to sink into insignificance. One of them was heard to express himself to the effect that he had often heard tall stories about the productiveness of Manitoba soil before he came up here, and always set them down as false, but now that he had seen the country with his own eyes, he was prepared to accept any statement. The Ontario farmers are by all odds the most desirable class of settlers for Manitoba, and the visit of such a large number of these people during the present season cannot but result to the benefit of the province.

Manitoba has been advertised very extensively in another direction during the past few months, and which has perhaps not been to the advantage of the country. Reference is made to the notoriety which the country has gained from the agitation growing out of the attempt to force monopoly upon the province. In connection with this agitation the whole Northwest has been greatly misrepresented. The country has been presented as in a state of rebellion, and therefore a dangerous place to reside in. The country has also been advertised to the world as a monopoly-ridden land, and a district or country under the heel of monopoly, is not generally considered a desirable place of residence. As to the danger of armed rebellion, the people here know that there has been no cause for alarm, neither do they expect that there will be. The reports have been manufactured by sensational correspondents and sensational newspapers. To the monopoly aspect of the case, however, we are obliged to plead guilty. The Northwest is suffering from monopoly. The progress which the country has made has been in spite of this drawback, and therefore speaks the

more strongly for the great natural wealth of the region. It is unfortunate that the Northwest has been advertised to the world as a land under a railway monopoly, but it could not be helped. At any rate, it is better to have the fact known by endeavoring to throw off the load, than to quietly submit to the imposition. But those who contemplate coming to this country need not be deterred on account of monopoly. Monopoly is boomed. Its days are numbered, and are fast nearing an end. It is now in its last great struggle to maintain itself, but before a united and determined people it will surely be compelled to go, and that quickly. In the very near future Manitoba will be in a position to offer a home to settlers, in a land free from the monopoly which it has endured in the past.

### A CONSERVATIVE VIEW.

It is to be feared that there is a disposition in some quarters to overestimate the effect upon the country of the bountiful crops of the present season. The advantages arising from the glorious harvest just gathered cannot be well overestimated, but still it is possible to expect too much in regard to the condition which the country will be in, as a result of the great harvest. It is well to consider carefully the condition of the country up to the present time, the drawbacks which have been suffered in the past, and the obstacles to be overcome in the future. Without therefore going the length of the pessimist, it is possible to discover that there has been a disposition to overrate the immediate results of the heavy crops and the large exports which the country will have this year. There has perhaps been too great a disposition to consider the matter from a "boom" standpoint.

Whilst therefore fully realizing the very great advantages which will accrue to the Northwest from the bountiful harvest of the past season, there would seem to be reason to issue a word of caution. A careful and conservative review of the situation would seem to indicate that the result in the immediate future will not be so apparent as has sometimes been supposed. There will be an improvement in the situation; but it will require more than one season of plenty, such as we have enjoyed this year, to bring the commercial and financial state of the country up to the flourishing condition some have predicted as a result of this year's crops. In a new country like this, where so

many are obliged to commence with very moderate means, liabilities to a greater or less extent have to be assumed all around. In the Northwest in times past there has been too much of a disposition to discount the future, and a great many settlers have assumed liabilities to a much greater extent than prudence would have dictated. In this way a heavy load of debt, in proportion to means, has been pressing upon many of our population. Last year, whilst the crops were generally of good quality, they were, taken altogether, considerably below an average, and the result of that year was not such as to return much profit to a great many of our agriculturists. Likewise in the two previous years, many suffered severely from damage to crops. Looking at the matter in this light, it is but reasonable to state, that in many instances the large profits which the farmers will make this season, will be required to raise obligations contracted in the past. The tightness of the financial situation for many months past is ample proof of the foregoing statement.

The returns of the present season will enable settlers to liquidate a good portion of their indebtedness but in many instances it will leave them little or nothing with which to pay cash for present and future requirements.

The railway monopoly which still rests as a blight over the land, will also have the effect of partially neutralizing the effect of the harvest. It will prevent that inflow of capital which is so greatly needed for the development of our resources, and which otherwise would naturally follow the exhibit which the Northwest has this year given to the world of richness and productiveness of her soil. The wretchedly inadequate facilities which we have for handling the crops and getting our exports to market, will also reduce the benefits which will be derived from the harvest.

It is therefore safe to utter a word of caution to our population. To the farmers, that they profit by past experience, and retains as much as possible the desire to discount the future by assuming liabilities which are not absolutely necessary. To the merchants, that they hold themselves within bounds in purchasing stocks and not buy too heavily with the hope of having a greatly increased trade in the immediate future. It is best to be on the safe side at any rate. If the result of the crops is underrated, it can do no harm, but the opposite might result seriously to many. Whilst therefore wishing that the most sanguine anticipations may be realized, THE COMMERCIAL would say: "go slow."

### THE MANITOBA BONDS.

Our Provincial Government having failed to dispose of the Red River Valley Railway bonds to eastern or foreign capitalists, the course now adopted by them, to secure funds to meet demands upon them, is one warranted by the circumstances in which they are at present placed. No doubt there are people both here and in the east who will object to the arrangement, and the objectors will not all look from the same standpoint.

We have first of all the extreme political opponents of the present Dominion administration, hissed on by such journals as the *Toronto Globe*, who view the struggles of our province for railway freedom only through party glasses, and in hopes that it may end in party gain. Of course nothing short of a Manitoba rebellion could satisfy such people, and even that would have to be so conducted as to work ruin or at least serious injury to Sir John A. Macdonald's Government to be satisfactory to such kickers. Much as they may desire such a rebellion, it can only take place in their imaginations, as is the last course the most hot-headed of Manitobans would dream of.

We have also the class who are very wise in their own estimation, and propound different other courses, which in their opinion could have been followed with success. Then we have the allies of the C.P.R. Co. and the Dominion Government, who are ever ready to sneer at the financial schemes of the Province, and who have stooped to the most contemptible subterfuges and treacherous falsehoods during the past three months, in order to crush Manitoba's credit. These, then, as well as other classes, may be included in the objectors to the present financial move of our Provincial Government. But all except the last-described class should remember that necessity at times compels curious resources, and our Provincial Government has not had a wide field outside of "Hobson's Choice." Whether they succeed or not in their aim, they have made a business-like effort in this move, and have furnished one of the best investments ever offered to Manitobans possessed of unemployed funds.

It may be thought that this move of the Manitoba Government is a novelty, but we question that. In 1847 Sir Francis Hinks found himself financing for a provincial Government, to which not a bank would loan a dollar. His government issued paper from one dollar upwards, bearing six per cent interest and maturing in one year. Before half of the year passed banks were eagerly collecting these notes at a small premium, as they were superceding their own currency. If our Government have made any mistake it is in fixing their lowest voucher at \$50. Something the masses of the people would handle might work better, and would certainly be more of a popular move.



**H. R. IVES & CO.**

Manufacturers of  
Hardware, Stoves, Iron Railing, &c.

**THE CANADA WIRE CO.**

H. R. IVES, - President.

MANUFACTURERS OF

MANITOBA **Brb Wire Fencing**  
4 POINT STEEL

**MONTREAL.****LYMAN BROS. & CO.,**

WHOLESALE

**CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS.**

Every requisite for the Drug Trade  
promptly supplied.

**TORONTO, ONT.****W. E. SANFORD & CO.**

**Manufacturers of Clothing.**

45 to 49 King St., 24 McDermott St.,

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**THOS. DAVIDSON & CO.,**

DOMINION STAMPING WORKS,

Stamped and Japanned Tinware,  
WIRE GOODS, Etc., Etc.

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SIONERS STREETS. - **MONTREAL**

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**STANDARD OIL COMPANY,**

(CLEVELAND, OHIO)

Manitoba &amp; Northwest Department, Winnipeg.

**ILLUMINATING OILS LUBRICATING**

GASOLINE AXLE GREASE, CANDLES and all  
PRODUCTS of AMERICAN PETROLEUM.

Our stock here embraces all the Manufactures of the  
Standard Oil Company. Correspondence solicited.

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CAPITOL ELBORADO CHALLENGE  
CYLINDER ENGINE. MACHINERY

**KIRKPATRICK & COOKSON**

Established 1860.

**MONTREAL,****Commission Merchants,**

FLOUR, GRAIN, BUTTER, &amp;c.

Consignments and Orders Solicited.

**Redwood Brewery**

Fine Ales, Extra Porter  
and Premium Lager.

Most Extensive Establishment of  
the kind in Western Canada.

**Edward Drewry,**

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Highest cash price paid for good  
Malting Barley.

**McBEAN BROS.,**

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A. G. McBEAN, P.O. Box 1299 Montreal.

**Commission Merchants.**

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**GRAIN & PRODUCE.****John A. Tees,****TEA COFFEE IMPORTER**

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**WHOLESALE GROCER.**

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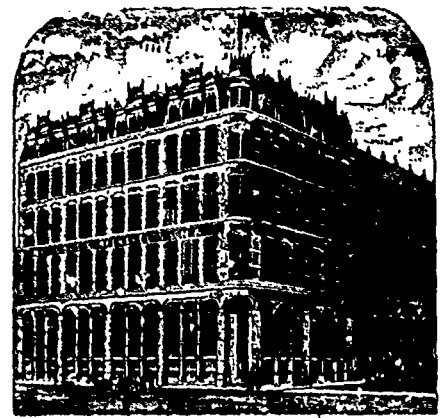
MANITOBA.

**MACKENZIE & MILLS,****WHOLESALE GROCERS**

Special attention given to

Teas, Coffees, Canned Goods,

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**CORNER KING AND ALEXANDER STREETS,****WINNIPEG, MAN**

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**DRY GOODS,**

17, 19 & 21 Victoria Square and 730,  
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Complete Set of Samples with

**Mr. W. B. McARTHUR**

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Boot and Shoe Manufacturers,  
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SAMPLE ROOMS, 496 MAIN ST. WINNIPEG  
W. WILLIAMS, AGENT.

**Crathern and Caverhill,**  
WHOLESALE HEAVY HARDWARE  
Metals, Window Glass, Paints & Oils, etc.

**CAVERHILL, LEARMONT & CO.**

Wholesale Shelf Hardware,

WAREHOUSES, SAMPLE ROOMS AND OFFICES:

Caverhill's Buildings, 89 St. Peter Street,  
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Complete Set of Samples with

**Merrick, Anderson & Co., Winnipeg**

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

**Campbell, Spera & Co.,**

WHOLESALE IMPORTERS OF

**GENTS' FURNISHINGS,**

Smallwares, etc.

Have removed to the commodious premi-  
ses recently occupied by MESSRS.  
THIBAUDEAU BROS & CO.

**27 PORTAGE AVENUE EAST,**

where they will be pleased to  
receive calls from all their old customers.

**WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.**

The report for the former week would be about the substance of the present condition of affairs, the slight improvement noted continuing, with perhaps a little impetus added in some lines, which opinion is not shared in very generally. Collections are still on the slow side. Bank discount rates are at the same old notch. With the loan companies there is nothing rushing, but the surety of better things ahead keep them in a buoyant humor.

**WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.**

Reports from the wholesale trade are somewhat mixed, some asserting a good business and others the reverse, the only unanimity of opinion being in the matter of collections which are of an unsatisfactory character. On the whole we would say that the volume of business was decidedly better than might be expected for this part of October, and the continued fine weather has enabled the farming community to make sure of the plowing a large acreage, and this matter will be pushed until severe weather sets in. Marketing of grain has commenced at a few points but not in sufficient quantity to make itself decidedly felt. Another week will give an improved tone from the whole country.

**BOOTS AND SHOES.**

Sorting orders have been about the only business done in this line, and was in fair proportion from the country, that of the city being quiet. The fall trade is not expected to move for a month or so yet.

**CLOTHING.**

The eastern travellers with spring samples have as yet made no report of their success, and will no doubt return to start a couple of months later. This may be a "chestnut" on our last report, but it needs to be impressed on the festive "drummer." A fair sorting trade has been done, but no active prosecution of orders have been engaged in by local houses.

**CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE**

Business has somewhat slackened up, but is still good, and orders are in fair volume. The holiday trade is being prepared for and a scattering amount of novelties are coming to hand.

**DRY GOODS.**

There is still no improvement to note in this line. Orders for sorts are fair but are good for this season of the year. Collections are the same as reported last week, with no improvement looked for for a month yet.

**DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.**

Business remains in the same condition as last week, being considered fair. Prices are unchanged as follows: Howard's quinine, 75 to 80c; German quinine, 65 to 75c; opium, \$6 to \$6.50; morphia, \$2.50 to \$3; iodine, \$4.25 to \$4.50; bromide potassium, 65 to 75c; American camphor, 40 to 45c; English camphor, 45 to 40c; glycerine, 30 to 40c; tartaric acid, 70 to 75c; cream of tartar, 35 to 40c; bleaching powder, per keg, \$8 to \$10; bicarb soda, \$4.50 to \$5; sal soda, \$2.25 to \$2.50; soda ash, \$3 to \$3.25; chlorate potash, 25 to 30c; alum, \$3 to \$3.75; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur, flour, \$4 to \$4.50; sulphur, roll, \$4 to \$5.25; American blue vitrol, 6 to 8c.

**FURNITURE**

Business may be described as fairly good, both in town and city of equal proportion, a decided improvement being noted in some particulars.

**FRUITS—GREEN, VEGETABLES, ETC.**

Winter apples are now being freely received. California peaches and Concord grapes are now out of the market, although others are in plentiful supply. New Florida and Jamaica oranges have arrived; otherwise business remains as last quoted, being as follows: Rodi oranges \$7 per box, 160 count; New Florida oranges, \$9.00 per box; Jamaica oranges, \$13.00 per barrel; Messina lemons, \$7.00 to \$8 per box; apples, \$3.00 to \$3.50 per barrel; California pears, \$4.50 to \$5.00 per box; Ontario grapes, from 7c to 8c per pound; Delaware and Rogers grapes, 10c per pound; and Niagara grapes, 12 to 14c; California muscat grapes, \$2.75 to \$3.00 per crate of 20 lbs.; California Tokay grapes, \$3.50 per crate of 20 pounds; Malaga grapes, \$8.50 keg; southern onions, \$3.00 per 100 lbs.; Egyptian onions, \$7 case of 100 pounds; apple cider, \$7.00 per keg of 15 gallons; cabbages, 30c to 60c per dozen; cauliflower, 60c to \$1.50 per dozen; celery, 35c per dozen bunches; sweet potatoes, \$8 per barrel; carrots, 40 to 45c bush; turnips, 25c bush; vegetable marrow squash, 50 to 75c per dozen; native onions, \$1.50 to \$1.75 per bush; beets, 40c per bush; green tomatoes, 75c. to \$1 bush; citrons, 3c pound.

**FRUITS—DRIED, AND NUTS.**

Foreign dried fruits are now in stock, the supply being scarce and values rising. Prices are: Figs, Turkey, in boxes, 10 to 11c, new Elme, figs, in layers, 15c per lb., or \$2 per dozen in 1 lb. boxes; golden dates 10c; Valencia raisins, \$3.25; London layers, \$3.50; Patras currants 8 cents per pound; evaporated apples, 14c; dried apples, 3 to 8½c; new Turkey prunes, 6½ to 7c. Nuts are quoted: Peanuts, roasted, 17 to 18c; peanuts, raw, 15c; walnuts 18c; almonds, 20c; filberts, 12½c; Texas pecans, 17c; cocoanut, \$12.50 per 100; maple syrup, \$15 per dozen cans of 1 gallon; maple sugar, 13c per pound, in cakes, new.

**GROCERIES.**

The eastern sugar combination has not been broken, as reported, although that article is easier. Green coffee is firmer, in sympathy with American markets. Prices are quoted as follows: Dark yellow sugar, 6½c; medium to bright, 6½ to 7½c; granulated, 8c to 8½c; lump sugar, 9½ to 9½c. Coffees—Rios, 25 to 29c; Government Java, 33 to 35c; other Javas, 25 to 30c; Mochas, 31 to 35c. New season's teas are now quoted as follows: Japan season 1886-7, 20 to 45c; Congous, 1886-7, 20 to 60c; Indian teas, 35 to 50c. Old range Moyune gunpowder, 25 to 70c; panfired Japan, 23 to 45c; basket-fired, 25 to 40c; Pingsuey young hyson, 25 to 35c; Moyune young hyson, 25 to 50c; Season's congous, 1885-6, 20 to 55c. Syrups, corn, \$2.25 to \$2.60; sugar cane, \$2.10 to \$2.35; T. and B. tobacco, 56c per pound; P. of W., butts 47c; P. of W. caddies, 48c; Honeysuckle, 7s, 55c; Brier, 7s, 55c; Laurel Bright Navy, 3s, 57c; Index d. thick Solace, 6s, 48c; Brunette Solace, 12s, 48c.

**CANNED GOODS.**

Business fair to good with unchanged prices.

Quotations are: Salmon, \$7.00; mackerel, \$6.00; lobsters, \$6.50 to \$7; sardines (French), ½ tins, 14c; ¼ tins, 24c; cove oysters, 25.25; corn, \$3.25, peas \$4, tomatoes \$3.75, baked beans \$2.75 per dozen, corned beef \$3, lunch tongues, 2 lbs. \$6.50 to \$7.00; 1 lb. \$3.25. Fruit in 2lb. tins, per doz: pears, \$2.50 to \$2.75, strawberries, \$2.50 to \$2.75; plums, \$2.25 to \$2.50, peaches, \$3.75, raspberries, \$2.50 to \$2.75.

**HARDWARE AND METALS.**

Business is good and movement steady. There are no changes to note, prices remain about as follows: Cut nails, 10d and larger, \$3.75 to \$4.00; I. C. tin plates, \$5.50 to \$5.75; I. C. tin plates, double, \$11 to \$11.50; Canada plates, \$3.75 to \$3.90; sheet iron, \$3.50 to \$5.00, according to grade; iron pipe, 35 to 40 per cent off list prices; ingot tin, 28 to 30c per lb., according to quality; bar iron, \$3.00 to \$3.50 per 100 lbs.; shot, 6 to 6½c per lb.; tarred felt, \$2.75 to \$2.95 per 100 lbs.; barbed wire, 6½ to 7c.

**HIDES.**

Market is easier with prospects of prices going lower, ruling figures now being as follows: Winnipeg inspection, No. 1, 6c; No. 2, 5c; bulls, 4½c; calf, fine-haired red veal, 7 to 13 pound skins, No. 1, 8c; No. 2, 6c; sheep pelts, 30 to 65c; tallow, 3½ to 4c.

**LEATHER AND FINDINGS.**

Prices are: Spanish sole, 28 to 31c; slaughter sole, 33 to 35c; French calf, first choice \$1.25 to \$1.50; Canadian calf, 90c to \$1.00; French kip, \$1 to \$1.10; B Z kip, 85 to 90c; Bourdon kip, 75c; slaughter kip, 55 to 65c; No. 1, wax upper, 45 to 50c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, 31 to 34c for plump stock. American oak sole, 45 to 60c; buffe, 17 to 22c a foot; cordovan, 23 to 25c; pebble, 21 to 23c; colored linings, 12c.

**PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS.**

Business is fair to good the latter applying to the movement in glass. Prices, however, are unchanged as follows: Turpentine, 80c in five-gallon cans, or 75c in barrels; harness oil \$1.25; neatsfoot oil, \$1.50; linseed oil, raw, 70c per gallon; boiled, 73c in barrels or 5c advance in five-gallon lots; sea oil, steam refined, \$1; castor, 12½c per lb.; lard, No. 1, \$1.25 per gal.; olive oil, pure, \$1.50; union salad, \$1.25; machine oils, black 25 to 40c; oleine, 40c; fine qualities, 50 to 75c. Coal oils, silver star, 25c; water white, 28c. American oils, Eocene, 34c; water white, 31c; sunlight, 27c. Calcined plaster, \$4.25 per barrel; Portland cement, \$5 to \$5.50; white lead, genuine, \$7.00; No. 1 \$6.50; No. 2 \$6.00; window glass, first break, \$2.25.

**STATIONERY AND PAPER.**

Business in this line is of fair volume, and trade in holiday lines commencing to come in. Christmas cards and a sprinkling of the novelties are to hand and a heavy business is looked for.

**WINES AND SPIRITS.**

Prices do not give any sign of change. Quotations are: Goderham & Wort's five year old, \$2.40; seven year old, \$3; old rye, \$1.75; Jules Robin brandy, \$4.50; Bisquet Debouche & Co., 4.50; Martell, vintage 1885, \$6.50, vintage, 1880, \$7.50; Hennessy, \$6.50 to \$7.50 for vintage 1885 to 1880; DeKuyper gin, \$3.50; Por

wine, \$2.50 and upwards; Sherry \$2.50 and upwards; Jamaica rum, \$1.00 to \$1.50; DeKuyper red gin, \$11.50 per case; DeKuyper green gin, \$6.50 per case; Tom Gin, \$9.00 to \$10.00; Martel and Hennessy's brandy, one star, \$14 per case of 12 bottles; v. o., \$19; v. s. o. p., \$22.

#### WOOL.

Prices are: Cotswold and Leicester, washed and in merchantable condition, 12 to 15c; do. unquality. Pure Southdown and Shropshire, washed and in good condition, 15 to 18c; do. unwashed, 10 to 12c. Montana and Oregon fine wools, unwashed, 13 to 15c, when in good condition.

## THE MARKETS.

### WINNIPEG.

#### GENERAL WHEAT REVIEW.

The past week has not given any stimulus to the condition of the markets in any feature, and the dullness is very marked for this period of the year. The opening of the Chicago board was strong and higher on expectation of the supply statement showing a less increase than was estimated, which was fulfilled, and with the strengthening influences of early cables, made an advance of  $\frac{1}{2}$ c in November and  $\frac{1}{2}$ c in May. The October government report then came in and caused a general desire to sell; some long wheat also coming out accelerated the movement and a decline was made of  $\frac{1}{2}$ c to  $\frac{3}{4}$ c from opening figures and of  $\frac{1}{2}$ c from those of Saturday. Reports from Minneapolis are to the effect that mills are sold a long way ahead, which is about the only hopeful feature of the week. The visible supply now stands at 30,982,730 bushels, against 52,787,293 bushels one year ago, or in round numbers, 21,604,552 bushels less than one year ago. Receipts of wheat at the four principal spring wheat markets of Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Duluth and Chicago, since the beginning of the crop year on July 1st last to date, amount to 15,557,000 bushels, against 22,532,000 bushels up to this date last year. At the four principal winter wheat markets of Toledo, St. Louis, Detroit and Kansas City the total receipts since the commencement of the crop year, on August 1st last, to date amount to 19,922,000 bushels, against 23,899,000 bushels up to the same date last year.

#### LOCAL WHEAT.

The past week has developed a larger movement in the deliveries at provincial points than the previous week particularly at points between this city and Brandon with a slightly increased bulge in the southwestern district. Dealers report a continuance of the receipt of good orders and the car blockade being in a measure removed, prospects are now brighter for a good trade. Every available point of storage throughout the Northwest is being put into condition for the receipt of grain so that if requirements for transportation become limited storage arrangements may not be lacking. Prices at the close of the week were about the same as the previous. No. 1 hard being quoted at 59c at Winnipeg, and at 51 to 54c at provincial points, No. 2 hard and No. 1 northern quoted 3c under No. 1 hard. No. 2 northern quoted 3c under No. 1 northern.

#### FLOUR

New wheat now keeps all the mills running and is of excellent milling quality. Exports

continue to be large and are more favorable as the quality becomes known. Local prices have firmed up some and are now quoted: Patents, \$2.15; strong bakers, \$1.90; XXXX, \$1.40; superfine, \$1.25.

#### MILLSTUFFS

Continue as last reported, being steady at 10 to 12 for bran and \$12 for shorts, per ton; Ground feed, \$25 to \$30 per ton.

#### OATS.

On the market loads bring about 24c, but prices generally have been at a decline. Car lots at outside points range from 18 to 19c with no considerable interest being taken even yet by buyers, except for present local requirements. The export basis is not yet been touched, and prices will not be established for a week or so yet.

#### OATMEAL.

There is no change to report from the previous week, the eastern combination of millers will not affect this market. Figures now quoted are: \$2.40 for granulated, and \$2.25 for standard.

#### BARLEY

About as slow as previous week and quotations would be about 25 to 28c at provincial points.

#### POTATOES.

On the market are somewhat higher and are quoted at 30c, with 27 to 28 for quantities for export. Shipments are being made rapidly as the advent of frost would effectually check further exports.

#### EGGS.

The old price for case lots has moved up a shade from 15 to 17c, the quality being as poor, and receipts about the same as formerly.

#### BUTTER.

Export business has about ceased, higher prices and a really good article not being obtainable being the present condition of affairs. C's trade prices for extra have been at 20c, with almost no receipts, the medium qualities have ranged at 16 to 18c and is in fair supply.

#### CHEESE.

Quotations are not readily obtainable and the inability of manufacturers to make a price is the reason for the unsatisfactory state of quotations. S' all lots to the retail trade are quoted at about 14c.

#### LARD.

Unchanged at \$2.25 to \$2.30 per 20-pound pail.

#### PROVISIONS.

The Chicago product has again asserted its place in this market and will probably take the control for a year at least. Hogs are unobtainable in this market and home curers are trying the U.S. for a supply. As yet prices are unchanged being quoted as follows: Long clear 11c; smoked breakfast bacon, 14c; hams, 15c. Prices for the plain, and canvassed subject to an advance of  $\frac{1}{2}$ c. Eastern Canada provisions are quoted in this market at 15c for hams; long clear, 11c to 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; Chicago hams, 15 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 16c, etc. Long clear 11 to 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

#### DRESSED MEAT.

Beef continues in abundant supply at 4 to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ c for sides; pork still scarce at 9 to 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; mutton 10c; veal 7c.

#### LIVE STOCK.

Beef cattle unchanged at 2 to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ c laid down, the latter price being for choice. Shipments continue to be made to the East. In hogs there is little or nothing doing, receipts being nil.

## Flax Growing.

Regarding the culture of flax the United States agriculture department say: "It is essentially a pioneer crop and has never been long popular in any one locality. For new land, brought under the plow for the first time,

it is almost unequalled as a crop for subduing the natural wildness of the land, and being like wheat, a ready money crop, it is for a time in high favor with pioneer settlers. In the older areas there is a decided prejudice toward it on account of injury to fertility of the soil. Were it desired, American farmers would easily devise means to renew the elements withdrawn, so a further reason for its comparative abandonment in the older sections must be sought. Under present conditions it is not a paying crop, except on the fertile virgin soils of the trans-Mississippi states. In a few localities in the more eastern states the fibre is used in rough bagging and rope making, and there are a few establishments where it is converted into tow for upholstering, while many correspondents in Minnesota, Iowa and Kansas speak of the straw as being fed to cattle to a considerable extent as a substitute for straw and corn fodder, and others of its use as a material for thatching houses and cattle shelter, but as a general rule the straw and fibre are burned or returned to the soil as a dressing.

## A Good Rule to Follow in Trade.

Cæsar made it the rule of his life to be always in advance of his enemies, so as to meet them in battle when they least expected him. This had much to do with his success. He led the age by always being in advance of it. This rule should be applied to trade as well. Be the leader in your line; keep ahead, instead of being behind. Do the thinking yourself, and not leave it to others. Exercise your own judgment in all things. The man who lays his plans carefully, and considers well everything that relates to or concerns his business, and relies upon himself to give directions, always succeeds. The one who puts off time for another that which should be done to-day, who depends upon others for suggestions and advice, rarely, if ever, succeeds.

Strong individually, self-reliance, and promptitude of decision mark the pathway of the successful merchant. When united with a clear head, quick eye to look ahead before making a move, they achieve success, create wealth, honor, and quicken the life of trade and commerce.—Toronto Merchant.

## The Railroads Have Gained by It.

The extent to which the inter-state commerce law has benefitted the railroads of the country has been great. While the public has been permitted to know that railroads have been in a general way benefitted, the figures have been generally withheld, and will only come out in the reports at the end of the year. Probably in no direction has the advantage been so great as in the cutting off of free passes. The inter-state law operated as an excuse for cutting off great numbers of "dead-heads," and on some of the leading lines of railroad it is said that the difference will amount to from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 a year. An officer of the Denver & Rio Grande railroad remarked the other day that their former daily reports from conductors would average about 275 passes a day. One result of the off of free passes has been to diminish the revenues of the palace car service. Men who ride on free passes almost invariably indulge in palace cars, but on being compelled to pay their fare many of them ride in the ordinary passenger coaches.—Daily Investigator.

**EASTERN MARKETS.**

**CHICAGO**

The market opened Monday with a considerable amount of anticipation and some uneasiness, this being the day when the figures on the crops of the country are published, and in consequence wheat was unsettled, with trading very active at times, although prices were irregular and fluctuated within a range of  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, finally closing at Saturday's prevailing figures. The opening was strong and higher, and being influenced by firm European advices and liberal receipts in the Northwest, speculative offerings were heavy and prices receded  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, then rallied to  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, when it was known that the visible supply would not show as large an increase as had been calculated upon. Corn was weak and declined  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ on prices of Saturday, with only a moderate market. Closing prices were:

	Oct.	Dec.
Wheat	69 $\frac{1}{2}$	72 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn	42 $\frac{1}{2}$	41 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats	—	—
Pork	—	—
Lard	0.45	0.37 $\frac{1}{2}$
Short Ribs	—	—

Pork—Year, \$12.00; January, \$12.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

On Tuesday trading was steady at the opening, and gaining strength, made a fractional advance towards noon, the highest point being reached at 2 o'clock; free selling then brought prices down, which rallied somewhat and closed at about yesterday's figure. October lard suffered a decline of  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, as did also short ribs of  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. Closing prices were:

	Oct.	Dec.
Wheat	69 $\frac{1}{2}$	72 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn	42 $\frac{1}{2}$	41 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats	25 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Pork	—	—
Lard	0.37 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.30
Short Ribs	0.20	—

Pork—Year, \$12.00; January, \$12.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
Lard—January, \$0.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

The market opened with free offerings on Wednesday but held up well, excepting a short time after the opening and just preceding the close. Prices had an upward tendency and advanced  $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. Corn suffered a decline as also did provisions, short ribs and lard for October, declining 20¢ and 10¢ respectively. The afternoon session created greater interest, provisions being steadier and wheat and corn firmer, though no decided change in prices occurred. At the close quotations were as follows:

	Oct.	Dec.
Wheat	69 $\frac{1}{2}$	72 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn	41 $\frac{1}{2}$	41 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats	25 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
Pork	—	—
Lard	0.27	0.27
Short Ribs	7.17	—

Pork—Year, \$12.20; January, \$12.22 $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
Lard—January, \$0.32 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

The market on Thursday was dull and uninteresting and throughout the day there was but slight fluctuations and finally closed steady at yesterday's figures. Provisions were slow and the downward tendency in pork products still maintained. Prices were as follows:

	Oct.	Dec.
Wheat	69 $\frac{1}{2}$	72 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn	41 $\frac{1}{2}$	41 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats	26	—
Pork	—	—
Lard	0.30	0.27 $\frac{1}{2}$
Short Ribs	7.10	—

Pork—January, \$12.25 to \$12.27 $\frac{1}{2}$ .  
Ribs, \$6.50. Lard, \$0.52 $\frac{1}{2}$  to \$0.55.

Friday's market developed nothing new and the decline was maintained. Speculation was dead and traders were scarce. Everything seemed to partake of the downward movement, the opening price being the highest of the session. Closing figures were as follows:

	Oct.	Dec.
Wheat	69 $\frac{1}{2}$	72
Corn	41 $\frac{1}{2}$	41
Oats	—	—
Pork	—	—
Lard	0.27 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.25
Short Ribs	—	—

Pork—January, \$12.25.

The uninteresting condition of the market was maintained on Saturday. At 11 o'clock November wheat was dull at 70 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 70 $\frac{3}{4}$ .

**MINNEAPOLIS.**

The market has made no improvement on that of the previous week, the government crop report showing that previous estimates have been too low and the total crop is placed now at 450,000,000 bushels. Inadequate transportation facilities still exist. Prices are weak and have shown fluctuation within a slight range. Low grades suffered a decline. The report of the *Northwestern Miller* on the flour market is to the effect of a healthy tone being maintained, a large movement, but quieter feeling. Export demand good at recent prices and domestic inquiry steady. Millers do not complain of slow movement of any particular grades, a good indication that the movement generally is fair. The milling quality of the new crop being so satisfactory, there is now an absence of anxiety about the old wheat running out. Quotations for wheat are:

	Cash.	Dec.	On track.
No. 1 hard	70	71 $\frac{1}{2}$	71 $\frac{1}{2}$ -71 $\frac{3}{4}$
No. 1 northern	67	68 $\frac{1}{2}$	68 $\frac{1}{2}$ -68 $\frac{3}{4}$
No. 2 "	63	64 $\frac{1}{2}$	64 $\frac{1}{2}$ -64 $\frac{3}{4}$

Flour quotations were: Patent sacks to local dealers, \$4.15 to \$4.30; straights, \$3.80 to \$4; first bakers', \$3.60 to \$3.75; second bakers', \$2.85 to \$3.00; best low grades, \$1.80 to \$2.00 in bags; red dog, \$1.50 to \$1.60 in bags.

**DULUTH WHEAT MARKET.**

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

	Cash	Dec.	May.
Monday	71 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	78 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tuesday	71	72 $\frac{1}{2}$	78 $\frac{1}{2}$
Wednesday	72	72 $\frac{1}{2}$	78 $\frac{1}{2}$
Thursday	72	72 $\frac{1}{2}$	78 $\frac{1}{2}$
Friday	72 $\frac{1}{2}$	72 $\frac{1}{2}$	78 $\frac{1}{2}$

On Saturday at 11 o'clock prices were: Cash, 72 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; December, 72 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢, and May, 78 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. Markets quiet and weak.

**MONTREAL MARKETS.**

**GRAIN.**

The wheat market has been quiet and generally steady, wheat being also rather slow. Quotations given for grain were as follows: Manitoba No. 1 hard, \$4 to \$5¢; Manitoba 2 hard, \$2 to \$3¢; Manitoba 1 northern, \$2 to \$3¢; Canada red winter wheat, \$3¢ to \$5¢; white winter, \$3¢ to \$5¢; Canada spring, \$3 to \$5¢; peas, 72 to 73¢ per 66 lbs.; oats, 31 to 32¢ per 32 lbs.; rye, 50¢; barley, 48 to 55¢.

**FLOUR.**

Was quiet but a fair trade appears to have been done at nominally steady prices, although a few concessions have been made.

**BUTTER.**

Has not changed to any extent and the export demand is small, with local fair. Prices are as follows: Creamery, 21 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; townships, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; western, 15 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; low grades, 9 to 12¢.

**CHEESE**

Nothing of a definite character has been done the market being principally done in talk. Finest Aug., 11 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; fine, September, 12¢; medium to fine 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢.

**LIVE STOCK.**

Fair demand for export cattle at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 4¢; butchers 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢. Hogs in fair demand at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  to 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢ per lb. live weight.

R. RIGBY, photographer, has opened a gallery at Regina.

BROOK & ALFREY, stock raisers, Macleod, have dissolved partnership.

A BARREL mill will be erected in connection with the Keewatin grist mill.

THOMAS BOTTERILL, general storekeeper, Lethbridge, has made an assignment to Geo. D. Wood.

NORTH NORFOLK tax sale has been postponed until Nov. 1st, sale taking place in Portage la Prairie on that date.

McBEAN's elevator at Morden, had a narrow escape from destruction by fire on Friday last, the engine room being totally wrecked.

THERE are six buyers on the Portage la Prairie market and one day last week fifteen thousand bushels of wheat were purchased.

THE Prince Albert Milling Co. have their prospectus in circulation. Shares are placed at \$25 each, and are limited to 504. One half of this amount has been taken up.

A CIRCULAR has been received by a commission merchant of this city from Chicago intimating that potatoes in car lots can find ready sale in that city, also stating Manitoba potatoes to be the best in the market.

THE Rapid City cheese factory has been closed down for the season, the output being about 30,000 pounds. Mr. Patterson has had offers of 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ for stock on hand but has not decided to accept that figure.

MESSRS. McDONALD & PRESTON, contractors on the old Souris & Rocky Mountain Railway, have been in Rapid City for some time last week endeavoring to effect a settlement with creditors of the old road bed.

**Some Points About Notes.**

When a note is payable it is said to be "at maturity." In calculating when this will be the following rules are to be observed:

A month is a calendar, and not a lunar month.

Exclude the day of the date of the note.

Allow for three days' grace.

If the third day of grace fall on a Sunday or a legal holiday, the note is due the day before, or on the second day of grace.

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 variety of Trimmings. Undertaking a specialty. Under-  
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**RICHARD & CO,**

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WINNIPEG.

## What They Say of the Crops.

Some outsiders are so skeptical in regard to the heavy crop yields in Manitoba this season, that it is hardly safe to venture an opinion upon the subject. The following paragraphs have therefore been compiled from exchanges and the sayings of correspondents, and each one will have to be credited to the source whence it came:

A correspondent writes: E. Anderson, Wm. Anderson and Mr. Rodway, of Millbrook municipality, have finished threshing on their respective farms and the result shows a yield of fifty bushels of wheat per acre. Throughout the whole municipality the wheat is turning out fifteen bushels per acre more than estimated before threshed.

Rapid City *Indicator*: T. Bell has threshed his wheat. He has 2,000 bushels from 50 acres.

Portage *Tribune*: John Ingram threshed 4,693 bushels of wheat the products of a field containing 108 acres. This is an average yield of 43 bushels to the acre.

Gladstone *Age*: The grain is turning out well. D. Kerr had 50 bushels and a peck to the acre on 11 acres of new land, while all his wheat averaged 40 bushels and two thirds to the acre.

A West Lynne, Man., correspondent writes: Allan Dillabough threshed a field of 21 acres of wheat which yielded him something over 900 bushels.

A correspondent at Killarney, Man., writes: As far as heard from, the average wheat crop will be thirty five bushels per acre. All kinds of grain are turning out beyond expectations.

Portage la Prairie *Tribune*: The elevators are kept busy as a large amount of grain is coming in. Threshing is in full swing and the average yield is quite as looked for, the average being from 30 to 40 bushels to the acre.

An Oak Lake, Man., correspondent writes: The following are a few names, with the quantity yielded to the acre placed after each as far as they have threshed: Peter Sutherland, wheat, 36 bushels; Thomas Young, wheat, 40 bushels; U. Cameron, oats, 65 bushels; barley, 65 bushels; Wm. Thompson, oats, 65 bushels.

A Stonewall, Man., correspondent writes: The reports of the yield of grain are very encouraging, 25 bushels of wheat per acre being the lowest we have heard of, and a number say they have as high as 35 bushels per acre. The yield of oats vary from 40 to 70 bushels.

A correspondent writes: R. A. Cowan threshed from one acre 88 bushels of oats weighing 44 pounds to the bushel, and it is estimated that his total crop will yield over 80 bushels per acre, and there are many the same.

Rapid City *Indicator*: Thirty-five bushels of wheat per acre is not an unusual average in this district.

Portage la Prairie *Liberal*: Brown & Carruthers threshed the wheat of three acres and found the yield to be 48 bushels to the acre by weight and by measurement 45 bushels. Their whole crop averaged 36 bushels to the acre.

Brandon *Sun*: Reports continue to come in concerning the yield of wheat, that in ordinary years would be looked upon as incredulous. It

is, though, in order this season to believe almost any crop story that is told you. Several cases have been brought to our notice where the yield will be 40 bushels to the acre.

Winnipeg *Sun*: John McViear, who has just returned from a trip through the country, has some facts to report which should set the agricultural world to thinking. He says the wheat crop in the province will average 35 bushels to the acre at least, and that he saw wheat in several places that went 50 bushels and over to the acre. This result was so common that he took no note of it, but when he wandered on to the farm of F. Woods, sec. 27, tp. 12, range 25, northeast of Virden, and found five acres of land yield 315 bushels of Red Fyfe wheat, he pulled out his book and marked it down. He says his statement can be easily verified should any person doubt it.

Brandon *Times*: Mr. Little, of the Brandon district, boasts of having the largest yield of oats reported. He threshed 745 bushels of good sound grain from 7 acres of land.

Neepawa *Register*: R. Kerr, of Bridge Creek, threshed 24 acres of wheat a few days ago and the average yield throughout was 48 bushels per acre. C. Stewart had an average of 44 bushels per acre. All through the county the yield is ranging about five bushels per acre more than was expected.

Minnedosa *Tribune*: Threshing returns are coming in and they exceed the most sanguine expectations. A. Malcolm reports 40 bushels per acre, John Souster 540 bushels from 15 acres. Souster says he threshed sixty-five bushels of wheat from an acre and a half. Geo. Kerr threshed the wheat off 24 acres and it yielded a fraction over 48 bushels to the acre; H. McDonald had 35 bushels per acre, and R. C. Boyd 38 bushels per acre.

Rapid City *Spectator*: A farmer from the Huron settlement has a yield of 60 bushels of Red Fyfe wheat to the acre.

Brandon *Sun*: Thos. Tapp, of 27, 11, 26, Dennis county, makes oath that his brother William on the same section grew this year 770 bushels of wheat on 15 acres, or 51 bushels to the acre of grain weighing weighing over 60 pounds to the bushel, that the quantity of seed sown was one and three-quarter bushels to the acre.

Manitou *Mercury*: John Atleck, who resides in 2-12, near Crystal City, threshed his wheat crop of thirty-three acres on the 3rd inst., the yield being 1200 bushels, or an average of thirty-six and a third bushels per acre. Eight acres of the crop was White Russian, which yielded over forty two bushels to the acre.

Neepawa *Register*: On Friday last Joseph Little threshed seven acres of oats and the yield was 600 bushels or almost 86 bushels to the acre. By weight the number of bushels would have been considerably greater. Upon a test being made it was found a measured bushel weighed 41½ pounds, or 3½ pound more than a bushel by measure.

Manitou *Monitor*: S. Umphrey, treasurer of Carlton, was in town yesterday. He says it is a fact that he threshed 57 bushels of wheat per acre off a ten acre field. Two parties in the

same neighborhood, S. Stevenson and H. Dundas had yields equally good.

A correspondent writes: Mr. Wait, of Morris, reports all the wheat harvested. He recently threshed the yield of wheat off 19½ acres of land, which resulted in the immense return of 800 bushels of grain. Mr. Wait says there are many farmers in his neighborhood with equally as heavy, and all the farmers are jubilant as a result thereof.

Brandon *Times*: Seaton and McKellar, of the southern part of Daly, have had their machine running now for over two weeks and have only found one piece of wheat that went less than 40 bushels to the acre.

A correspondent writes: Geo. Simpson, of our Portage Plains, threshed 1,700 bushels of wheat off 40 acres, which is an average of nearly 43 bushels per acre. Off one field of 18 acres he threshed 900 bushels of No. 1 hard, being an exact average for the field of 50 bushels per acre.

Manitou *Mercury*: A correspondent writes us from Mowbray as follows: Mr. Frank Beattie threshed four-and-a-half acres. By threshing machine measure there were 120 bags, or 53 bushels to the acre; by weight about 60 bushels. Off this 4½ acres he fed twelve stooks to his pigs before threshing. He sowed two bushels to the acre, Red Fyfe. Threshers say that in no case has the average yield of wheat in this district been less than thirty bushels per acre, and in many instances the average is forty bushels. The crops are turning out even better than was anticipated.

### BEATS THEM ALL.

Councillor Pooock, of West Lynne, who is running a threshing machine in the Mennonite reserve, has made the following statement, which he is further willing to endorse by his solemn declaration, and also to produce the declaration of Mr. Jacob Loappke and others. Mr. Jacob Loappke, a Mennonite farmer, living on section 3, township 2, range 3 west, near the village of Krongard, sowed on the 28th April last a field 193 yards by 230 yards, containing a little over 9 acres, with 12 bushels of seed wheat. The field was cut on the 16th August following, by a self-binder reaping machine, with four horses attached, and for binding purposes 4½ pounds twine were used per acre. Heavy stubble was left on the field. On the 5th October last Mr. Pooock threshed from this same field 604 bushels of wheat, machine measurement, which will easily grade as No. 1 hard. This gives a grand yield, of the full average you may say (taking machine measurement), of fully 67 bushels to the acre. The seed wheat was red fyfe, and the land it was sown upon was new breaking of the season of 1886, which was again plowed deep in the fall.

The Fort Qu'Appelle *Fidette* came out in enlarged and improved form last week.

Some of our country exchanges, which are in the habit of sending us spoiled or badly printed sheets, are in danger of being cut off THE COMMERCIAL exchange list. No damaged copies of this paper are knowingly sent out, either to exchanges or subscribers, and we request a like favor from our exchanges.

### Northwest Trade and General News.

The Commercial Bank of Manitoba has declared a dividend of 3½ per cent. for the current half year.

Fifty new coal cars for the N. W. C. & N. Co's Railway have arrived at Dunmore and are now being set up there.

J. C. De Gayne & Co., merchants, Rat Portage, are building a large store at Keewatin, near the Ottawa Bank block.

Inglis & Smith, of Moosomin, Assa., have lately shipped to Calgary a car load of stock for Lewin & Scott, and a car load of cattle and hogs to Winnipeg.

The steamer Glendevon came to Selkirk lately, bringing with her the largest cargo of fish ever brought into Selkirk, there being three hundred thousand pounds on board.

A board of trade has been organized at Minnedosa with the following office-bearers: J. D. Gillies, M.P., president; T. A. Cuddy, vice-president; F. Boyd, secretary treasurer.

The excavation for the basement of the new Union Bank building at Lethbridge, Alberta, is completed. The building is to be of stone, two stories with basement, and will be the finest in the town.

J. E. Thomas, general merchant, Portage la Prairie, has rented another store in the Lafferty block, and is now making the necessary alterations to convert both stores into one, which will then make a fine store.

Calgary Tribune: The first train load of western cattle have been shipped by the Northwest Cattle Co. to the old country markets. The cattle which have just come off the range, are in magnificent condition, and range from 3 to 5 years of age, and will weigh at the present time about 1,500 pounds each. Of course cattle that have never eaten anything but prairie grass, will feed but poorly at the different feeding places along the line, thus with loading and unloading of cattle that have scarcely had a man near them will likely be 150 or 200 pounds lighter, but looking at them to-day they are as fine a bunch of bees as any one might wish to look at. There was some difficulty getting the first carload or so loaded, but under the superintendence of Geo. Lane and John Ware, the boys soon got into the 'hang of it', and rushed them in. The rest of the shipment (about 700 head in all), will follow as quickly as the C.P.R. can provide cars to take them.

At a public meeting held at Lethbridge, Alberta, to consider the liquor question, the following resolutions were passed: That the present system in regard to the liquor traffic in the Territories is one that has been shown, by year's of experience, to be impossible to carry out, and which, in its present condition, is injurious to both the morals and finances of the Territories; therefore, it is the opinion of this meeting that it would be advisable for our representative in the Northwest Council to lay the matter before the Council at its next session, and to take such steps to have the matter laid before the Dominion Government as will lead to its early abolishment. That the issue of the Lieut.-Governor's permit to responsible parties

in Lethbridge for the importation, manufacture and sale of beer in the district is greatly to be desired, both as leading to the establishment of a large industry and a consequent market for barley and other products; and as also leading to the diminution of the huge proportions of the present illicit trade in liquor.

### Personal.

Mr. B. Johnson, of Kilgour Bros., wholesale papers, etc., Toronto, was in the city last week en route home from as far west as the Pacific coast.

Mr. W. H. Smith, resident representative at Winnipeg for Smith & Fudger, wholesale fancy goods, etc., Toronto, returned from British Columbia and the west last week. Mr. Smith goes east in a day or so.

### Alberta's Fitness for Live Stock.

The summer has been the most favorable to the "stock" interests yet known, since the establishment of ranches in the district. The rain during May and June caused the growth of abundance of grass. It would be impossible to imagine finer or more abundant pasturage than that which covers the foot hills of the Rocky Mountains in the district of Alberta. The stock are in the prime condition, and the calves and foals, if not numerous, are certainly more vigorous and promising than I have ever seen them in that country; and while the ranchers may this year, on account of the severity of the winter, find their profits lessened, and their expectations, to a certain extent, unrealized, yet I am satisfied that in the end good will result, and those intending to stock range will have learned from the past winter's experiences that un-acclimated cattle, and inexperienced cattlemen, no matter what their eastern experiences as stockmen may have been are not calculated to stand the vicissitudes of which stock cattle are exposed, even in the comparatively mild winter of that country, when left to forage for themselves, as range cattle must necessarily be left to do. The past winter has demonstrated that while the district is capable of feeding in summer several millions of cattle, the area in which cattle can be safely wintered is comparatively limited so far as has yet been ascertained. The attention of stockmen of Alberta is very largely directed to horse breeding. Bands of breeding stock have been imported from British Columbia, Oregon, Montana and other territories, besides large numbers of mares sent from Ontario and Quebec. During the present year a large number of thoroughbred stallions and mares have been imported from England and Ireland, as well as from Kentucky and the Canadian provinces. These include thoroughbred, draft, Clyde, Percheron, English hackney horses and trotting sires. Severe as last winter was on cattle, mortality in horses was nothing and the whole results were such as would satisfy the most sanguine expectations. It will, therefore, be seen, that in a few years the district will not only supply the local demand, which, as emigration increases, must necessarily be large; but horses of all kinds will be sent to our eastern markets, and before many years the surplus stock will find its way for the remounting of not only the English but continental armies, as well as for carriage, tramway, saddle and other horse markets. In fact Alberta may be considered of the best, if not the very best, horse-breeding country in the world. Its capabilities in this direction are unlimited, as horses can be bred satisfactorily if judiciously managed, extending as it does north of the boundary line, 600 miles square.

FACTS, NOT ARGUMENTS.—Men who are always talking about what they are going to do, or mean to accomplish, rarely, if ever, do it. Such men do a lot of talking, but very little acting or working. Were they to practice what they preach, they would very likely be successful. The world judges men by their acts, not by their talk or promises. Arguments are good but facts are better—they convince. Deeds and acts alone count in life; not bluster or swagger. The merchant who makes a fortune in trade is a factor, while the one who intends to, is only a figure. It is what is accomplished that satisfies the world. The man who wins or is successful, whether in trade or in battle, invariably carries off the honors. —E.L.

It is understood that the Comptroller of Currency will in his next report to Congress suggest an important amendment to the national bank act with a view of preventing, under severe penalties, the compromising by any bank of any case of misappropriation, embezzlement, misapplication of funds or any other offence which renders officers or employees of national banks liable to criminal prosecution under the acts now in force. Such an amendment would be an entirely proper one. It would only be in the direction of a further recognition of the public nature of such offences against the community. Crimes of this nature are public wrongs which affect the whole community, and it ought not to be in the power of offenders guilty of them to secure immunity from public prosecution, whether by the favor of bank officials or otherwise. Bankers are particularly interested in the maintenance of a high standard of commercial morality; which acts such as those against which legislation is sought cannot but affect unfavorably, and they will doubtless be glad to see the suggestion of the Comptroller embodied in legislation. —*Business Street.*

As we have already pointed out, the question of the establishment of a decimal system of coinage is again attracting attention in England. Not long ago a deputation representing several of the chambers of commerce waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer to urge upon him the desirability of making the change and both before and since the matter has been the subject of many articles in the daily press and in periodicals. One of the most recent of these, which appears in *Longman's Magazine*, goes beyond the question of decimalizing itself, and finds in the establishment of the decimal system the basis for an approximation to a uniform monetary system. The writer, Mr. W. W. Hardwicke, points out that this system forms the best basis for the reason that most of the nations of the world have a decimal coinage, the exception being confined to Great Britain, India, the Ottoman Empire and Egypt. He would not erect a decimal system in England on the existing penny as a basis with the view of furnishing approximate equivalents in the English coinage to the most important foreign coins, the dollar, the franc and the marc. When treated in this way the proposition has an interest which is not limited to the financial and commercial relations of Great Britain, extensive and important as these are, and the idea at the basis should attract attention abroad. —*Business Street.*

# WHAT ARE WE DRINKING ?

IT IS A FACT that there is an enormous quantity of **something** being sold at the present time under the name of **Coffee** which is an insult to the name and an imposition upon the public. In view of this fact it is the **duty** of every dealer to purchase his **Coffee** of a reliable house and to protect his own interests by giving his customers **pure** Goods. We have established a reputation for **Pure Coffee** which is equalled by no firm in the Dominion, and we intend to hold fast to a reputation so justly earned.

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**British Columbia.**

T. A. Fisk's livery stable, at Vancouver was destroyed by fire.

Mrs. Hersberg, hotelkeeper, Vancouver, has sold out to Mr. Prout.

Esquimault has been located as the winter port of the C.P.R. steamers.

Vancouver customs receipt for September, were \$6,473; Nanaimo, \$5,000.07.

Cents have made their appearance in Yale, the postmaster being the recipient.

The bridge across the South Thompson river at Kamloops will be commenced at once.

A party of English capitalists are about to operate the anthracite coal mine at Canmore.

The salmon catch is progressing satisfactorily and the prospects of a remunerative season are assured.

The Vancouver Omnibus & Transfer Co., intend starting a line of Herdic coaches to run to different parts of the city.

The barque Sarah J. Ridgway cleared Oct. 8th for San Francisco with 1,200 tons of anthracite coal from the Banff mines.

There are now 2,860,000 salmon eggs in the Government hatchery. Max Mowatt expects to have 10,000,000 this season, which will be an increase of 3,000,000 over last year.

Mr. Hayes of Golden City, has been in Winnipeg, negotiating for the building of a steamer to run on the upper waters of the Columbia, the keel of which will be laid during the winter.

There were only five failures in the province for the quarter ending Sept. 30th with a liability of \$14,900. Victoria contributed to the list three; Vancouver, one and Golden City, one.

A disastrous fire took place at Vancouver on Thursday, the 6th inst. in which the following parties were burned out: C. Symons, tailor; Geo. J. Jones & Co., boots and shoes; C. Stewart, fruits; Mrs. Farr, milliner; besides a law and real estate office. Geo. J. Jones stock was valued at \$6,000, insurance \$1,500; Mrs. Farr \$6,000, insurance \$3,500; Stewart stock of \$500 was a total loss; Symons stock was removed and loss will not exceed \$100.

The SS. George W. Elder, Captain H. S. Ackley, arrived at Vancouver from San Francisco at an early hour yesterday morning. She brought a large quantity of freight for local consignees and the following for transshipment via the C.P.R.: Chicago, 1,000 cases canned goods, 176 boxes dried pears, 847 sacks dried fruit; New York, 329 sacks dried fruit and 50 boxes ditto; Boston, 80 barrels of salmon. The Elder sailed again yesterday afternoon about 4 o'clock with 200 tons of freight for San Francisco.

**Grain and Milling News.**

An elevator is about to be erected at Dominion City.

Greenwood's elevator at Douglas is nearly completed.

The farmers' elevator at Portage la Prairie is now in operation.

The mill at Balmoral is expected to be ready for operation on the 20th.

The Moosomin, Assa., mill is about completed. Five thousand bushels of wheat are being marketed daily at Carberry.

Messrs. Logan & Crowe, of Carberry, are about to erect a grain warehouse at McGregor.

The Virden mill has shipped its first consignment of flour to England, consisting of two cars.

Jermyn's mill at Minnedosa is now being overhauled and will be completed in about two months.

Robert Nelson will build a grain warehouse at Solsgrith and purchase wheat and other produce.

The elevator men at Portage la Prairie say that the quality of wheat shipped thus far has been superior to that of last year.

David Manson, of Portage la Prairie, has purchased the Crystal City grist mill and its operation will be resumed in about a week.

Cochrane & Manson, have bought the Crystal City, Man, grist mill, and are fitting it up and expect to have it running by the 15th of October.

A. Waddell, miller and grain dealer of Dominion City, Man., has about completed arrangements to put up an elevator of 25,000 bushels capacity.

The grist mill at McGregor is now under way the foundation being laid and a large staff of workmen at work on the building. It is expected to be completed by the month of December.

Ogilvie's consignment of flour to China has arrived at its destination, although no opinion has as yet been received as to its reception on the celestial market. The demand for this brand of flour on the Pacific coast is steadily increasing.

The Keewatin mill is being rapidly pushed to completion and the mason work is expected to be finished in three weeks, that of the elevator is completed and a large portion of the mill race excavated, three hundred men are engaged on the various works.

Duluth Daily Trade: There has been some talk that Duluth would this year get a considerable quantity of the Manitoba wheat crop, of which about 6,000,000 bushels will be exported. A well posted shipper and exporter said this morning that there was no chance of such receipts, as the Canadian Pacific would carry the wheat for nothing before it would allow it to come this way.

Edward Stanley, merchant, Arrow River, Man., writes THE COMMERCIAL as follows: I can assert positively that if the Northwest Central pushes through to within a short distance of this place this fall so as to tap this district they will get at least two-thirds or three-quarters of the finest wheat crop we have yet had, and secure the carriage of many thousands of bushels of grain. We are 22 miles each way from the railway.

Mrs. MULLIGAN—"And so you have no mother now?" Motherless Boy—"No, mum." Mrs. Mulligan—"Well, me boy, whenever you feel the want of a good kicking come to me and I'll be a mother to you."

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Excelsior and Watertown.....	a 8 10 a.m.	a 8 45 a.m.
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