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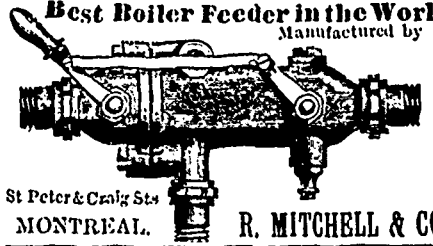
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A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE FINANCIAL, MERCANTILE AND MANUFACTURING INTERESTS OF THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

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

VOL. 4

WINNIPEG, SEPTEMBER 7, 1886.

NO. 50

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.

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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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JAS. E. STEEN,

Publisher.

WINNIPEG, SEPTEMBER 1, 1886.

SHOAL LAKE is longing for a shoemaker and a barber.

— FAULKNER, painter, Rat Portage, has moved to Manitou.

K. FREEMAN, dry goods, Winnipeg, has removed to Delorino.

G. MITCHELL, butcher, Edmonton, has gone out of that business.

F. F. KIRKPATRICK, grocer, Killarney, Man., has assigned in trust.

WM. WELLBAND, boots and shoes, Winnipeg, has assigned in trust.

C. MORLEY has started a soda water factory at New Westminster, B. C.

A. WARNER & Co., fruit dealer, Winnipeg, has sold out to F. Wishert & Co.

THE cheese factory at Rapid City will turn out about 55,000 pounds this season.

G. POWELL & Co., have purchased the crockery stock of T. Carrington, of Victoria, B. C.

BRITISH COLUMBIA fresh salmon is now a standard dish all along the line of the C.P.R'y.

CHALMER BROS., & BETHUNE, hardware dealers, Manitou, will add lumber to their business.

W. E. HOLMES and S. KIRKPATRICK, have purchased the store at High River Crossing, Alberta.

T. CAIRNS, of the Portage la Prairie brewery, proposes adding machinery for the manufacture of lager.

A FLOCK of 2,000 sheep are on the way from Montana to Maple Creek, to be shipped via the C. P. R. to Chicago.

ANDERSON & COLLINS, Brandon, shipped last week four car-loads of hogs to Montreal, all purchased in that vicinity.

AN agricultural society has been formed at Shoal Lake, and the first fair for that district will probably be held this fall.

ACCORDING to the Manitou Mercury, a tailor and a barber could do a profitable business in that town, those lines not being represented at present.

A FAIR was held at Broadview, on Saturday, September 4th, for the sale of live stock, produce, etc. It is proposed to hold a similar fair monthly.

THE machinery of the Carney & Watson saw mill at Emerson, has been purchased by Kabenagle & Scribner, of Pembina, and will be moved to that place.

GEO. MCKENIT, lessee of the Lake House, Moosomin, Assa., has retired from the business, and the house will hereafter be managed by the proprietor, T. J. Lake.

PARISH, HANBURY & Co., grain, provisions and grocery dealers, Brandon, have dissolved partnership. S. Parish & Son will continue in grain, and J. Hanbury will conduct the grocery and provision business.

THE Hudson's Bay Co. will establish a branch store at Macleod, Alberta Territory. E. F. Gigot, manager for the company in Southern Manitoba, will have charge, Mr. Holloway succeeding Mr. Gigot.

THE extreme western end of Portage la Prairie is now a thing of the past, the merchants in that quarter having moved toward the

centre. The Hudson's Bay Co.'s store is now being moved to a more central location.

AT the late annual meeting of the Manitoba & Northwestern R'y Co., it was reported that the company's land sales had greatly increased during the past year, and that the earnings of the road were more than double that of last year.

AN order-in-council has been published in the Canada Gazette proclaiming an inspection fee for sheep brought into Manitoba, the Territories and British Columbia. For over fifty sheep the fee will be two cents each; under fifty, from 2½ to 10c each, according to the number imported.

IT is reported that grading has commenced on the northern branch of the M. & N. W. R., which will run from near Birtle northwards through Russell. This is a very fine section of country, and this year has produced an excellent crop. The railway will be a great boon to the settlers.

A PARTY of British army officers have lately visited the ranching districts of the Northwest, for the purpose of examining the adaptability of Northwestern horses for British cavalry service. It is understood that these horses which are mostly of the broncho origin, were considered rather light for the purpose required.

THE Victoria Standard says: A carload of Manitoba butter has just been received direct from the celebrated creameries at Stonewall. This is the first shipment made to Victoria from that quarter, and reached here in four days by the C.P.R. The butter, which is of a good color and excellent quality, is put up in 20 to 40 pound packages.

WE have received the prospectus of the Regina Journal, a weekly liberal newspaper, which will make its appearance from the capital of the Territories early in October, to be published by C. J. Atkinson, of the Portage la Prairie Liberal. The publisher promises to "keep a watchful eye on questions affecting the Territories," and in this connection a more general name than Regina Journal would suggest itself as more appropriate for a paper issuing from the capital and claiming a Territorial oversight. Under the management of Mr. Atkinson, the journal will no doubt prove a valuable addition to the Northwestern press.

Business East. ONTARIO.

Jno. T. Young, grocer, Toronto, is dead.
N. W. Spellar, jeweler, Toronto, is dead.
A. Swartout, grocer, Park Hill, has sold out.
A. G. Scott, hotelkeeper, Dunnville, has sold out.
John Cook, shoes, Sarnia, has assigned in trust.
Guelph White Lime Co., Guelph, have dissolved.
Jas. Buckley, grocers, etc., Copeston, has sold out.
Donald Bethune, general store, Forest, has assigned.
D. W. Beadle, nursery, St. Catharines, has assigned.
G. B. Gordon, general store, Sunderlaud, has assigned.
Wm. Dougher, hotelkeeper, Dunnville, is selling out.
T. E. Elliott, general storekeeper, Comber, has sold out.
J. F. Bayley, general storekeeper, Bothwell, has assigned.
J. Coolidge, hats, etc., Toronto, has sold out to A. F. Shaw.
Kirkpatrick & Sterritt, general store, Forest, have dissolved.
Taylor & Haist, grocer, Whitby, have sold out to S. Fraser.
Geo. Grey, sash and door factory, Horiston, was burned out.
Wm. Harkness, jeweler, Meaford, has sold out to R. Agnew.
J. B. Murphy, groceries and provisions, London, has sold out.
Chas. Cochrane, physician, Brighton, is removing to Oremec.
R. H. Thompson, tailor, Mount Forest, stock sold by the trustee.
Wm. Watson, grocer, Toronto, has sold out to David S. Graham.
Standard Soap Works Co., St. Thomas, are removing to London.
T. H. Rolston, furniture, Chesley, has removed to Dobbington.
J Ramsay & Co., general store, Brampton, have assigned in trust.
Thos. Churcher & Co., soap manufacturers, London, have sold out.
C. W. Moore, dealer in wagons, Feversham, has sold to B. H. Weil.
Jas. Douglass, tailor, Owen Sound, has compromised at 55c in the \$.
Walter Coates, grocer, Teeswater, has compromised at 50c on the \$.
W. E. Paine, dry goods, Petrolia; stock advertised for sale by trustee.
Geo. A. Norris, drugs, etc., Oremec, estate sold out to Chas. Cochrane.
Mrs. Tripp, general store, Sundridge, has compromised at 60c on the \$.
Mrs. C. A. Taylor, general storekeeper, Arthur, has assigned in trust.
Mrs. Skene, general storekeeper, Dobbington, has sold out to T. H. Rolston.
Downing & Weddip, shoe dealers, Goderich, have dissolved and compromised.
Samuel Cull, dealer in shoes, Leamington; stock advertised for sale by trustee.

QUEBEC.

L. N. Pare, jeweler, Montreal, has assigned.
H. Lussier, grocer, Montreal, has assigned in trust.
D. E. Morin, general store, Cacouna, has assigned.
Jas. Smith, butcher, St. Sauveur, has assigned.
G. Rheaume & Co., saddlers, Louis, have dissolved.
Jules Dastous, cigars, Montreal, has assigned in trust.
Paul Blouin, trader, Gaspé Basin, has assigned in trust.
Bruno Beaulieu, general store, St. Ephemane, has assigned.
Jean B. G. Perrault, hardware merchants, have assigned.
Cadotte & de Longchamp, bakers, Montreal, have dissolved.
Gagnon Bros., dealers in leaf tobacco, Montreal, have assigned.
Perras & Marache, contractors, etc., Montreal, have dissolved.
Ben. Chenier & Co., gardeners, Coreau St. Pierre, have dissolved.
Laurent Audette, manufacturers of shoes, Montreal; meeting of creditors called.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Smith & Chisholm, tailors, Halifax, have dissolved.
Duncan D. McFarlane, general store, Margaree, has assigned.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

A. Copp, hotelkeeper, Albert, was burned out.
R. C. Atkinson, general store, Albert, was burned out.
H. V. Wilbur, general store, Albert, was burned out.
A. McQueen, general store, Point de Bute, has sold out to his son, J. A. McQueen.

The State of Trade.

Special telegrams to *Bradstreet's* report a continuance of the favorable trade features heretofore noted. The movement of general merchandise is fully equal to that in past weeks, while the total volume for August thus far is equal to and at many points in excess of like periods in preceding years. The total bank clearings at thirty cities, specially wired to *Bradstreet's* show a decline of \$93,965,448, or 10½ per cent., as compared with last week, and an increase of \$139,627,078, or 21½ per cent., against 1885. The total for the week ending August 27 is \$791,315,963, against \$884,381,411 last week and \$651,688,886 last year. The shipments of dead freight east from Chicago show a marked increase as compared with last week, and the receipts of grain at primary markets are heavy. The domestic money markets are fairly firm, and at the east the demand is noticeably in excess of the supply, owing to the special demand at that time for funds to pay for grain forwarded. It is noteworthy that the demand for funds for use in commercial and industrial enterprises at the west continues large. The New York stock market has been dull and heavy, owing to the stringency of the money

market here, the unsettled condition of the London market and the disturbed condition of politics in eastern Europe. The money market is firm. Call loans are 6@8 per cent. and time loans are 5@6 per cent., but are difficult to obtain. Foreign exchange is slightly firmer, owing to the advance in the Bank of England rate. New York Stock Exchange transactions this week aggregated 853,000 shares, against 1,402,000 shares, and bond sales \$5,000,000, against \$,000,000 a week ago. The dry goods trade with eastern jobbers is quite active; with agents moderate. Owing to the reclassification of railway freight rates on dry goods shipments from New York have increased materially. Sales of woolen dress goods, both American and foreign, have been heavy. Cotton flannels have also been in demand. Plain cottons have advanced in price since June 1 1@½c. per yard. The distribution of clothing is active. Print cloths are steady at unchanged prices. Pig iron is very firm, and any material gain in demand is likely to cause an increase in price. Southern iron is 50 cents higher per ton. Finished iron is higher, perhaps 5 per cent., owing to the improved request. Scotch irons are a shade higher—about 25c. per ton. Old rails are held higher and very firm. Steel rails are stiff at \$34.50 per ton, at which figure makers are receiving about \$7 profit. No advance is probable in the near future. The Kansas corn crop will be larger than expected, which has helped trade in that region. The spring wheat crop in Minnesota is also in excess of late anticipations. Prices of wheat have declined to some extent, owing to expectations of heavy deliveries, to the increased visible supply, and to freer selling by holders. Cotton reports are more favorable. Damage has been done by the storm in southwestern Texas. The total number of failures in the United States reported to *Bradstreet's* this week was 150 against 139 last week, 146 in 1885, 199 in 1884 126 in 1883 and 132 in 1882. Canada had 26 this week, against 17 last week and 8 in 1885. The total in the United States this year to date is 6,678, against 7,693 in 1885 (a decline of 1,015. In 1884 the total to August 27th was 7,009; in 1883, 6,483, and in 1882 it was 4,605. Improved demand for sugar has caused a small local advance, but the announcement that the estimate of the beet crop had been advanced to 2,500,000 tons caused a decline in London. Active speculation, both in this market and in Europe, put coffee up ½c. Free offerings of rice have induced concessions. —*Bradstreet's.*

G. E. CHADWICK, boots and shoes, Regina, Assa., has sold out.

THE Paisley House is the name of a new hotel opened in Winnipeg, by Paisley & Son.

GEO. H. ROGERS & Co., dry goods, Winnipeg, has opened a stock of boots and shoes at 467 Main St.

P. L. MITCHELL, manager for J. A. Christie, lumber dealer, Brandon, has opened a lumber yard on his own account in that place.

S. E. JOHNSTON, of Winnipeg, who has lately purchased the hardware stock and business of Smart & Co., Brandon, is in that place arranging for the transfer of the business.

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13 OWEN STREET, WINNIPEG, MAN.

The Commercial

WINNIPEG, SEPTEMBER 7, 1886.

THE CHIEFTAIN HATH SPOKEN.

When a statesman like Sir John A. Macdonald visits a city, and gets lionized, roaded after, deluged with addresses, and otherwise bored and annoyed, as he has been of late in Winnipeg, it takes considerable raking among the effervescent nonsense of the visit, to reach anything worthy of note, which has been said or done. Such was the case with the late Winnipeg pow-wow. There was any quantity of gush and enthusiasm on the part of the Right Honorable gentleman's followers, and he condescended to tickle our local vanity, bestow upon us a fair share of political taffy, while at the same time he did not fail to impress upon his hearers the magnitude of the undertakings he and his colleagues had successfully carried through, and in doing this latter, an unbiassed hearer must confess that the Right Honorable gentleman did not indulge in vain glorying, but showed clearly a wondrous work performed.

The gist of Sir John's remarks in his last speech here were directed to what had been accomplished for Canada as a Dominion, and he was careful to gloss over as lightly and smoothly as possible what had been done for Manitoba, and what the province had to bear in order to secure the benefits conferred upon other portions of the Dominion. In the most inoffensive manner possible he made known to his hearers, what is a bitter draught to any independent resident of this province and the Northwest Territories, namely that Canada had bought and owned our country, and from that as an axiom all considerations regarding us and ours must start, even to the denying of rights freely conceded and never withheld from any other portion of the Dominion. Our efforts to secure the construction of a railway to Hudson's Bay he passed over with the empty wish for its success, and without the most indefinite promise of any further effort on the part of himself and his colleagues to push its construction. For promises of direct aid to the Northwest he substituted cheap flattery, and even in the dealing out of that valueless commodity he generally scored one point for the people of the

Northwest and two for the Canadian Pacific Railway and its projectors.

But upon one point Sir John was clear and unmistakable in his utterances, and that was on the question of railway monopoly. This burden, which is by far the heaviest, and the greatest drag upon the progress of the Northwest, he characterized as one of the things we must bear with, and referred us to "the sweet by and by," when this blockade of our commercial progress would be removed. Taken altogether the speech of the Premier of Canada before leaving Manitoba was replete with kind little sayings, but destitute of hope for the Northwest.

Statesmen when successful are the subjects of hero worship, and if success is to be the test, Sir John A. Macdonald commands such worship in Canada. He has accomplished huge undertakings in the interests of its people, and has made a life long and successful effort to consolidate a great Dominion, and link it by rail from ocean to ocean. Like all other statesmen his success has necessitated many an unwilling compromise, many a disregard of the just claims of the weak, in order to secure and retain the support of the strong. Statesmen like he have to become more or less creatures of circumstances at times, and their greatest works are often at best the progeny of expediency and compromise. In this respect Sir John is no exception, if indeed his circumstances have not made his political career an aggravated example. Surrounded by representatives of different provinces, each of which were jealous of any concession made to another, and living in a political atmosphere, about the purity of which the less said the better, to hold confederation together he has been so to speak, throwing food to the wolves, to keep them at bay, and it is only natural that the strongest and most audacious wolf would fare best. The weak ones have had to suffer, and in their suffering they are to be pardoned, if they fail to admire the greatest of Canadian statesmen, from whose policy they are compelled to suffer.

In his great railway policy Sir John has been forced to the same anomalous course, and while the strong members of the family of confederation find scope for glory and profit in it, more than one of the weaker have been made to suffer. It is plain that he is bound hand and foot by the C.P.R. to the policy of monopoly in the Northwest, although this portion of

the Dominion is the struggling and youngest, and least able to bear the pressure of such a monopoly. But even with the will to do so, (and we have no evidence that he is possessed of such), Sir John is powerless to strike off the shackles of monopoly. To maintain the accomplished efforts of his life's work, he must maintain this arrangement, which in any country less patient than Manitoba would cause a revolution. To secure aims that were laudable he has woven a net around himself, to rend which would shiver and scatter the work of a lifetime. In this he has done no more and no worse than abler and greater statesmen than he have been compelled to do, and the fact does not in any way lessen his greatness. Even here he has those who are apologists if not advocates of the policy under which this province totters, for while the principles of old political partyism are dead here, its bigotry and prejudice have still a firm hold upon many, who are willing to be pleased with Sir John's vague and empty advice of wait, which means wait in patience, while the cords of railway monopoly are strengthened, until the only hope of liberation lies in a rebellion. These prejudices are fast dying, and in time, and after Canada's greatest statesman has left this mundane sphere for a brighter one we hope, the patriotism of Manitoban Canadians will reach that sensible level of enlightened self-interest. They will then see that while Canadians generally may revere the very name of Macdonald, in their minds it may wake up very different feelings. Englishmen may honor the memory of Pitt and Castlereagh, while many Irishmen may curse it from their hearts, and not without some reason for so doing. Causes have not been so great, nor is feeling ever likely to be so deep in Manitoba as in Ireland, but it is a mild estimate to say that thousands of Manitobans will in the future regret that the whole career of the greatest statesman Canada has produced, does not furnish one point tending to wake up a feeling even of gratitude in their hearts. This estimate may also be applied to all Canadian statesmen since confederation, for so far as a policy of anything approaching to justice is concerned, the people of the Northwest may say truly, the advocate of that has yet to come. When our deliverer will arise depends very much upon the action of the people here. If unity in a demand for just rights is reached, the politicians will

find a supply for the demand, for like all other classes, they cater for pressing demands. But we can look for nothing from the great chieftain of conservatism. He has spoken clearly, and his words sound little better than taunts to Manitoba.

SPEND YOUR MONEY AT HOME.

The above heading is a piece of good advice, which is of much more import in this new country of ours, than it is in an older one. Here we are all much more dependant upon one another than in older countries, and here we have more interest in seeing our neighbors prosper, and much less chance of building ourselves up upon their ruin, than in the older lands where most of us have come from. Here every wreck of a neighbor is only so much dead weight to drag along in our path of progress, while in an old settled community such a wreck often makes a more profitable field for those who still survive.

The principle contained in the advice can be applied with profit to the transactions between retail and wholesale traders, and practiced more than it is at present. But these two elements of the mercantile community are well able to adjust their own affairs, and as a rule they will do so upon sensible grounds, and in proportion as mutual interests dictate, and we may safely assume that any injury inflicted by one upon the other will in time bring its own cure.

But it is to the consumers in the Northwest that we would specially recommend the advice of "spend your money at home." In their hands lie a great share of the power to build up the prosperity of their neighbors, and at the same time of the town, city and province in which they live. Every dollar this class spend out of the country they live in, or even the town or village they live in or near, is so much taken away from the local prosperity in which they have a primary interest and must share. Such is the state of affairs reduced to a general principle, which should guide every resident of this country, possessed of a spark of local patriotism.

The different classes, who violate this sound principle of spending their money at home are many, and it would be impossible to do more than instance a few of them. First on the list comes the fastidious purchaser, made up in a large measure of a dudish crowd, who have a fixed idea, that any manufactured article

they make use of, is enhanced in value by its being imported direct by themselves. The hand of a local shoemaker on the special last on which their corn-torturing boots and shoes are made, is to them the touch of pollution, and a local tailor's inch tape around their bodies, they would no more tolerate than to be encircled by a hideous reptile. We have such people here, but fortunately the class includes nearly all the high toned dead beats of our community, and when their unpaid and uncollectible obligations are deducted, the loss of their patronage is no local calamity.

But there are a class doing business in the Northwest, and quite a few of them in mercantile life too, who out of pure and unadulterated stinginess purchase the bulk of their wants in the east. A suit of clothes, a pair of boots, an outfit of stationery, some jewelry and other wants for themselves their households and their offices can be purchased a shade cheaper in the east than here, and it is a simple matter to get such forwarded with a consignment of merchandise. It is just such supplies as are thus purchased in the east, which purchased here, give employment to our local mechanics and others of the local laboring class, and if there is anything which makes a city or town prosperous, it is the location therein of a laboring and especially a mechanic population. This class are therefore the most selfishly inconsistent of all who purchase from home, and are of all others least entitled to local patronage.

There are another class who live here on the sale as agents of eastern commodities, the publication of works the mechanical portion of which is all done in the east, and in other respects are mere parasites, who live by what they drag out of the country; and by the way, our Local Government, which during the past four years has had a large proportion of its printing and publishing work done in the east, belongs to this class. Men who wish to see their own country prosper should avoid all such people, and encourage them in no way.

We hear of boycotting, and trade ostracising on the part of labor organizations all over this continent. If we have any labor organizations here, they would find employment in which they are deeply interested, in marking out the last two classes of purchasers from home. The first class, namely the dudes, we would ask them to let alone. But in any effort they might make, to get at and repay the selfishness of those who in trade take every advantage which high prices give them, and share none of the disadvantages, they might depend upon the co-operation of

more liberal traders, and we might say of the whole community outside of the selfish ones themselves.

OUR CROPS.

THE COMMERCIAL has been blamed of late for taking a gloomy view of the results of this year's crop, although we fail too see where there is anything like gloom hanging around the statements we have made. We are beginning to see however, where a great share of evil has been done by the circulation of statements, many of which are true of themselves, but are placed in such a representative light, as to mislead outsiders as to the real state of affairs throughout the whole country. For instance a large section of our press is careful to circulate reports of an enormous yield of wheat on some farms on the Portage Plains and other favored spots in Manitoba, and people at a distance would imagine that the 40 bushels of No. 1 hard thus represented as the yield per acre, was general, whereas the instances are few and far between. We have reports from the Red River valley which show a yield of only eight bushels per acre, but we know that this is an exceptionally small one even in the driest parts of the valley, and we do not accept it as an average, but we remember that it must be taken into consideration along with the 40 bushel yield in striking an average. By so doing we have reached an average of 16 bushels of wheat an acre for the province, while we place the crop of the territories as a partial failure, and consider that statement a liberal as well as a wide one.

While thus limiting the quantity of the average Manitoba yield, there can be no limit except that of perfection in quality. There may be a few farmers who have raised soft wheat, but we believe that over half of our crop will grade No. 1 hard, and 95 per cent. of it will grade higher than 2 northern, there being practically no damaged wheat in the country. Even at present low prices farmers will sell their wheat from 50 to 65c a bushel, instead of from 15 to 60c as they did last year, so that with a lighter yield they will nett more money, and we will have four bushels of sound milling wheat to export for every one we had last year.

Strange to say we may suffer from frosted grain yet, although few people think so. During June lots of late oats and barley were sown, which lay in the ground without sprouting, until the rains came in the end of July. Since then there has been a marvellous growth of fields considered fit only to be plowed under. This crop now stands in danger of damage by frost, but even when so damaged, it will be so much feed not looked for in the calculations of a month ago. Should it come out safe, it will materially increase the average yield of rough grain. These statements make up THE COMMERCIAL's crop report,—gloomy you may call it, but it is a true one.

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Manufacturer of Granulated and Standard Brands of Oatmeal. Orders by mail promptly attended to.
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Delivered anywhere in the City at \$3.50 per keg
EQUAL TO ANY IMPORTED BEER.

Fine Stock Ales a Specialty
EXTRA PORTER AND STOUT
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PELTS, WOOL AND TALLOW.
LEATHER FOR SALE.
Either at place of shipment or delivered in Winnipeg. Correspondence solicited.
Sacks for Wool supplied.
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TEA & COFFEE IMPORTERS
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WHOLESALE GROCERS.

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Special attention given to
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Corner of William and Princess Streets
WINNIPEG.

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

Business at the banks during the past week has been principally of the usual straight commercial nature. Quite a volume of paper has found its way to the different institutions during the first week of the month, and the call for discounts has been fully up to the average. Maturing papers have not been any too well met and remittances from the country are now at about the lowest ebb. However this is just what is expected and causes no uneasiness, especially as the time is now so close at hand when a general awakening is expected. Already there is a visible rustling in preparation for a more active financial condition, which must come with the early movement of the grain crops. Discount rates still hold steady at about 8 per cent for ordinary commercial paper, with lower rates obtainable for large advances on first-class security. In the real estate mortgage loan business is about at a standstill, both in collections and new transactions. Some agents have recently been taking a run through the province for the purpose of inspecting risks, and have returned fully satisfied with securities offered in this province for advances on real property. Interest rates steady at about 8 per cent.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

As the summer advances the outlook for a good wholesale trade in fall and winter goods gradually improves. The past week has been most marked in the number of additional orders received from provincial points for fall stocks. In dry goods, clothing, boots and shoes, etc., the number of additional orders received would foot up a very respectable aggregate for the week. Quite a large number of retailers abstained from placing advance orders until the harvest had been assured, and these are now coming forward for their quota. Many retailers have shown caution in purchasing somewhat lightly for first orders, with the intention of stocking up later on as their requirements may demand. This conservative policy is one that can work no harm and is invariably a satisfactory course to follow. With markets close at hand and rapid transport, stocks can at all times be quickly replenished; and it is usually better to be run close than to take much risk of carrying over surplus goods, which too readily accumulate even with the most careful buying. In only the most remote portions of the Northwest is it now necessary to order stocks for six or twelve months ahead, whilst the greater portion of the country is within a few hours or days of this market. Wholesalers in the city therefore expect that whilst the fall trade in first orders will prove of fair proportion, the sorting trade for the balance of the fall and winter will be a very considerable item in the aggregate trade of the season. With the activity now going on in first orders and what is looked for later in sorting, dealers are counting on a good season, especially throughout Manitoba. The past week has been one of steady and sure improvement in commercial circles, and in nearly every branch of trade the movement in commodities has undergone gradual augmentation, especially in special lines of

fancy goods, stationery, crockery and glassware, etc. Staple lines of every day consumption have continued about as usual. The one thing most required now is a more easy circulation of cash, and with a general movement in grain so close at hand, it is not likely that a great time will elapse before money will be coming in more freely.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

Trade has settled down to a very quiet basis in this branch. A few plows have gone off during the week, but even the demand for these has been light and will remain so until threshing has been well completed. No attempt to push collections will be made until the grain movement has set in earnest.

BOOTS AND SHOE

The work of shipping out fall orders has been going on steadily and is now well entered upon. A good many additional orders have been taken for fall stocks, from country merchants who delayed purchasing until the harvest had been assured. There is no sorting trade doing at present, the demand for summer goods being practically over for the season.

CLOTHING

In this branch also the summer sorting trade is practically over for this season, and dealers are now busy filling fall orders. Travellers are now on the road picking up orders from those who delayed making their purchases until after the result of the harvest had been fully known. A large number of country merchants were among this list, and consequently a good many additional orders have come in, which will greatly augment the season's aggregate trade. Dealers are confident of a good trade particularly from the province.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

There has been some improvement noticeable in this branch, which has been of a steady and gradually developing nature, which points to a healthy growth until a state of real activity has been reached. The trade to date has been mainly in staple lines of crockery, etc.

DRY GOODS.

Dealers have been kept busy receiving and shipping fall orders. A good list of orders were received during the week for fall stocks, from country merchants who had held off from purchasing earlier. These have not usually been for very large amounts, but have been in such number as to foot up a very respectable aggregate. A good many provincial merchants have purchased lightly for first orders, with the intention of duplicating later on, and on this account a large sorting trade is looked for during the latter part of the fall and winter. The demand for summer goods is now considered over for the season.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

Quotations are still unchanged as follows: Howard's quinine, 90c to \$1.00; German quinine, 80 to 90c; opium, \$4.50 to \$5.00; morphia, \$2 to \$2.50; iodine, \$4.25 to \$4.50; bromide potassium, 60 to 65c; American camphor, 40 to 45c; English camphor, 45 to 50c; glycerine, 25 to 35c; 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, 30 to 35c; alum, \$3 to \$3.75; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur, flour, \$4 to \$4.50; sulphur, roll, \$4 to \$4.25; American blue vitrol, 6 to 8c.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

This branch shows a steady and gradual improvement in the demand for all classes of goods, and it is expected that trade will go on steadily improving till the most active season in fancy lines has been reached.

FISH.

Salmon and Lake Winnipeg White are in good supply and are about the only fresh fish called for. Quotations are as follows: Salmon, 10c; Lake Winnipeg white, 6c; Lake Superior trout, 9c; pickerel, 3c.

FRUITS.

A fairly active trade has been doing in this line. Eastern Canada fruits, such as plums, pears, etc., have been received, but have come in bad condition and prices irregular. Quotations are: Apples, \$4.50 to \$5.00 a bbl; California pears, \$6 per box; N. T. Bartlette pears, \$7 per keg. Oranges nearly out of the market, Messinas, \$11 to \$12 per case; lemons, \$10.50 to \$11; California, Muskat and Tokay grapes, \$6 to \$7 per crate of 40 lbs; Concord grapes, 12½c per pound; California peaches, \$3.50 a box; watermelons, \$5.25 to \$6 a doz. Tomatoes \$2.75 to \$3 a bush. Golden dates, 10c a lb; peanuts, roasted, 17c; raw, 15c; walnuts 15 to 18c; almonds 15 to 20c; filberts 13 to 15c. Dried fruits are quoted as follows: Valencia raisins \$3.15 to \$3.25; London layers \$3.90 to \$4; black crown \$5 to \$5.25. Apple cider is worth \$10 a barrel.

FUEL.

No change to report as yet. Quotations are to some extent nominal as follows: tamarac on track in round lots \$3.25 to \$3.50; poplar \$2.25 to \$2.75. Anthracite coal is worth \$9 to \$9.50; bituminous \$6.85; and Lethbridge at \$6.50 on track.

FURNITURE.

There has been no appreciable change in this branch and only a light jobbing trade is doing in lots going to the country.

GROCERIES.

Business has moved along steadily and in about the usual proportion. Sugars have been held somewhat more firmly; other quotations steady. Prices current are: Yellow sugar 6½ to 7½c; granulated 8c to 8½c; lump sugar, 9c to 9½c; Coffees, Rio, 12 to 13½c; Government Java 28c, other Javas 22c; Mochas 31 to 34c. New season's teas are quoted as follows: Japans season 1886-7 28 to 45c; Congous 1886-7 50 to 85c; Indian teas 35 to 50c. Old range, Moyune gunpowder 25 to 70c; pan-fired Japan 23 to 45c, basket-fired 25 to 40c, Ping Suey young hyson 25 to 35c; Moyune young hyson 25 to 50c; Season's congous, 1885-86, 20 to 55c. Syrups, corn, \$2.00 to \$2.35; sugar, cane, \$1.85 to \$2; T. & B. tobacco \$10.

HIDES.

Prices have held up at the recent advance and are still unchanged as follows: Steers, Winnipeg inspection, No. 1 7c; No. 2, 6c; cows, No. 1, 7c. No. 2, 6c; balls, 5c. calf, fine

haired real veal, 7 to 13 pound skins, No. 1, 10; No. 2, 8c. Sheep pelts, 30 to 65c. Tallow 3½ per lb.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

Trade is reported to be looking up, and during the week a fair movement has been going on, the demand being proportionately good for shelf and heavy goods. The call for builder's hardware has been light. A good demand from the province is looked for during the next few weeks. Quotations still stand as follows: Cut nails, 10d and larger \$3.35 to \$3.75; I. 7. tin plates, \$5.50 to \$5.75; I. C. tin plates, double, \$11 to \$11.50; Canada-plates, \$3.50 to \$3.75; sheet iron, \$3 to \$4.50, according to grade; iron pipe, 50 to 55 per cent. off list prices; ingot tin, 26 to 30c per lb., according to quality, bar iron, \$2.50 to \$3 per 100 lb; shot, 6½ to 7c a lb; tarred felt, \$2.60 to 2.85 per 100 lbs; barbed wire 7 to 7½.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

Prices are not changed and are as follows: Spanish sole, 28 to 32c; slaughter sole, 33 to 35c; French calf, first choice, \$1.35 to \$1.50; Canada Calf 90 to \$1.00; French kip, \$1 to \$1.10; B Z kip, \$5 to 90c; slaughter kip, 55 to 75c; No. 1, wax upper, 45 to 50c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, 33 to 35c for plump stock American oak sole, 45 to 60c; buffe, 17 to 22c a foot; cordovan, 25 to 27c; pebble, 21 to 23c; colored linings 12c.

UMBER.

A fair call has come in from the city, though not as active as a few weeks ago. Country trade is rather quiet at present. A more active demand is looked for from the province shortly, as the season is drawing toward the time when the usual rush commences to complete contracts before cold weather sets in. Prices seem to be irregular and differ with each transaction.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS.

Dealers in these goods report the call still rather light. Prices are steady at quotations: Turpentine 75c; harness oil, \$1.10; Neatsfoot oil, \$1.50; linseed oil, raw 65c per gal., boiled 71c; seal oil sterilized refined, \$1.10; castor, 14c per lb; lard No 1, \$1.25 per gal; olive, \$1.00 to \$2, according to quality; machine oils, black 25 to 40c; oleine, 40c; fine qualities, 50 to 75c. Coal oils, headlight, 26c; water white, 30c. American oils: Eocene, 36c; water white; 33c; sunlight, 30c; Eldorado, machine, 56c. Calcined plaster, \$3.75 per bbl; Portland cement, \$4.75; white lead, genuine. 7.00; No 1 \$6.50; No 2 \$6.00 and window glass, first break, \$2.40.

SADDLERY AND HARNESS.

A few orders have been received from the province and western territorial points, but the aggregate movement for the week has been lighter than the previous week. Still dealers have no reason to be disappointed with the present state of trade in this branch.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

The improvement noted last week has kept up and gone on increasing in volume until a fairly active stage has been reached. Fancy lines will soon be in demand and already orders have been selected for the holiday trade.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

There has not been any appreciable change in

this line since our last report, and the volume of business has remained light. Prices are: Gooderham & Wort's 5 year old, \$2.40; 7 year old, \$3.00; old rye, \$1.75; Jules Robin brandy, \$4.50; Bisquet Deboncho & Co., \$4.75; Martell \$6.50 Hennessy, \$6.50; DeKuyper gin, \$3.50; Port wine, \$2.50 and upwards; Sherry \$2.50 and upwards; Jamaica rum, \$4.50; DeKuyper red gin, \$11 per case; DeKuyper green gin, \$6.50 per case; Tom Gin. \$9.00 to \$10.00; Martel and Hennessy's Grandy \$13.50 per case of 12 bottles.

WOOL.

Receipts have been light during the week, but several lots are on the way which will count considerably in next week's business. Quotations are as follows; Leicester and Cotswold, washed, 14c to 16c; cotted and broken, washed, 12c; unwashed 8c to 11c; unwashed and tags off, 10 to 12c; Montana sheep, unwashed, 11 to 12c.

THE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

During the past week the movement in new grain in the city has not been greatly augmented. Nothing in car lots has yet arrived here, and only a few sample loads were brought on the market by farmers. In southern Manitoba a few thousand bushels of wheat have been purchased, Greta and Morden markets having been the principal points of delivery. At some western points a few loads have been brought in, but these have been chiefly taken to the mills for custom grinding, or for storage. Samples so far received are invariably of good quality, and at last year's standard would grade No. 1 and No. 2 hard and No. 1 northern. In some districts where the soil is light the berry is not as plump as last year, but the condition in which the crop has been harvested will more than overcome any difference in this respect. The chief movement during the week has been in clearing out the balance of old wheat held at some of the elevators, to begin the new season's business. Several car lots of old wheat were shipped through to the east during the week, and this gave rise to the erroneous report that some new wheat had been shipped. Last year's wheat is now all out of the country, with the exception of some small quantities still held by millers, which will be ground up with a mixture of new wheat, and the small quantity which may still be held in first hands. The flour market has remained quiet and milling will be inactive till full supplies of new wheat are in store. Stocks of provisions remain light and prices firm.

WHEAT.

Prices have been irregular and will probably be so until standards for grading the crop have been fixed. Some loads have been taken at provincial points at 55c for hard, but the markets have not regularly opened yet, and there will be but little general movement until threshing has been further advanced. In the city prices current were about 65c for No. 1 hard, 61c for No. 2 hard, and 61c for No. 1 northern, which would cover about all the qualities marketed.

FLOUR.

The milling trade is at rather a low ebb at present so far as grinding is concerned. Most of the country mills have only been grinding one or two days per week to satisfy local demands. Millers are now generally engaged in renovating their machinery, putting in improvements, etc., preparatory to commencing on new wheat, and in a couple of weeks' time work will be generally resumed. In the city the movement has been quiet and steady, with quotations the same as last week, though it is understood there have been some irregularities in regard to the latter. Quotations are, patents \$2.60; strong bakers' \$1.90; XXX \$1.50 and superfine \$1.

BRAN AND SHORTS

Prices having got down to the old basis have held steady during the week. Bran is quoted at \$7 and shorts at \$8 per ton.

OATMEAL.

Prices hold steady at last quotations and no immediate change is apprehended.

OATS.

Trade in this grain is still confined to sales from stocks of old, and at the invariable price of 30c in car lots. No new grain has been received yet and no demand for the same, as stocks of old are liberal.

BARLEY.

No movement has been heard of in this grain.

POTATOES.

Purchases have been restricted to loads from farmers, which range about 50c per bushel. No car lot sales reported.

CHEESE.

Provincial manufacturers have found a lucrative market to the west for a portion of their product, and have not been inclined to sell the balance at lower prices. A number of factory men have sold to retailers direct, in western towns at from 9 to 10½c. In the city prime is held at 11c.

EGGS.

Receipts have been coming in not too freely. Commission dealers dispose of really fresh at 13 to 14c, while other lots sell as low as 10½c.

BUTTER.

There is some difficulty at present in arriving at exact quotations for butter, owing to differences among dealers. Prices, however, appear to have held firm at last week's values. Receipts are generally from medium to good qualities, and are held by dealers at not less than 11c, whilst extras have sold as high as 15c in small lots, though the latter price is exceptional, 12½ to 13c being about the range. Poor qualities are slow and not wanted.

BACON.

The demand has been steady and prices have held firm at last quotations as follows: Dry salt, 9½c; smoked, 11c; rolls, 12 to 12½c; breakfast bacon, 12½ to 13c.

HAMS.

Have held firm. Plain are quoted at 15 to 15½c and canvassed at 15½ to 16c.

DRESSED MEATS.

A few hogs have been received and taken at 5c. Beef sides are held at 6 to 6½c; mutton, 9c; veal, 7 to 8c.

LIVE STOCK.

Good butcher's stock cattle have come in freely and all up to the standard bring 3c. There has been a fair demand for hogs at \$3.25, light being preferred. Several cars of hogs have been shipped through from western points to Montreal during the week, for which \$3.00 were paid farmers at points of delivery. No regular quotations can be given for sheep.

MINNEAPOLIS

The decline in prices the past week has made the local market a dull one, but the beginning of business by the Millers' Union is generally expected to cause a steady and rapid improvement in the volume of transactions. Receipts are larger, indicating that farmers are marketing more freely, and the prospect of a rush of spring wheat to this market and to Duluth has had effect on prices, and the bears have had another picnic. They seem to be on top, and the outlook for higher prices very soon is far from reassuring. "We can export freely at present prices," but if we put them up 5 cents we shall have to fight for custom. I don't believe in letting the foreigners load up with our wheat at present prices, only to crow over us later on, but we ought to do it, for they are now getting increasing quantities of their own new crop, and can let us wait for offers. The foreign farmers are hard up, and will market freely, so that our wheat will not cut much of a figure abroad for some time. We must move our stuff rapidly or all our markets will be blockaded."

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

		August 31.		
		Highest.	Lowest.	Closing 1885.
No. 1 hard.	77	74½	74½	81
No. 1 north'n	75	72½	72½	78
" 2	72	70	70	74

In futures the decline was not so great, but they closed dull, with October 1 hard at 76c, November 77½c and December 79c. October 1 northern closed at 74c, November at 75½c and December at 77c. Coarse grains were easy, corn closing at 38 to 39c, oats at 25 to 28c and barley at 50 to 55c, all by sample.

MILLSTUFF—Has been quiet and weaker, bulk bran closing at \$7.25 to 8.25 and shorts at \$8.75 to 9.75 per ton.

FLOUR—The decline in wheat has had its usual effect on the flour market, which is dull and weak, buyers being indifferent and sellers not very enthusiastic in pushing trade. Export inquiry is quiet and domestic demand slow. Prices have declined 15 to 25c.

Quotations at the mills for car or round lots are: Patents, \$4.20 to \$4.45; straights, \$3.90 to \$4.15; first bakers', \$3.40 to \$3.65; second bakers' \$2.80 to \$3.00; best low grades, \$1.70 to \$1.90 in bags; red dog, \$1.30 to \$1.40, in bags.

These quotations are on flour in barrels, except as stated. The rule is to discount 30c per 50lb for 280 and 140 lb jute bags, 20c for 98lb cotton sacks, 15c for 40lb cotton sacks, 10c for 24½lb cotton sacks, and 20c for 40lb paper sacks.

Last week proved to be the banner one since last fall, so far as flour output is concerned. Notwithstanding the prevalence of hot weather and in a degree a shortage of power, the mills made an amount of flour several thousand barrels greater than at any time during the past summer. The total product was 152,110 bbls averaging 25,350 bbls daily—against 79,450 bbls the preceding week, and 70,615 for the corresponding time in 1885. While there is this week an equal desire shown to run heavy, it is very doubtful if the mills accomplish what they did last week. The weather is cool and

favorable for grinding, but the old trouble of shortage of power has again presented itself, and the mills are seriously retarded thereby. Up to yesterday the water, while not the best, was very fair; but in the afternoon it suddenly fell four or five feet, and compelled nearly all the mills to reduce their output materially. The same experience was had to-day, and millers are beginning to have anxiety about operations this fall, heavy rains being recognized as about the only thing that will keep them from sadly needing power. Several mills, of course, are equipped with steam, and this will be brought into requisition if the water becomes too low and the condition of milling warrants its use. Thirteen mills were running to-day, but it is difficult to say what the production of the week will be. With the increased output, the exports were pushed ahead to a point next to the highest in thirteen weeks. The flour market, under the influence of lower wheat, has become dull and quiet.

The table below gives the exports of flour from Minneapolis for a series of weeks:

Week ending—	Bbls	Week ending—	Bbls
Aug. 29	61,800	July 17	48,000
August 21	37,500	July 10	48,000
August 14	45,920	July 3	62,200
August 7	49,025	June 26	56,552
July 31	44,650	June 19	44,400
July 24	49,500	June 12	50,000

The following were the receipts at and shipments from Minneapolis for the weeks ending on the dates given:

	RECEIPTS.		
	Aug. 31.	Aug. 24.	September 1 to Aug. 24.
Wheat, bus	481,250	398,750	32,332,830
Flour, bbls	100	250	147,858
Millstuff, tons	60	55	18,480

	SHIPMENTS.		
	Aug. 31.	Aug. 24.	September 1 to Aug. 24.
Wheat, bus	31,900	46,750	6,021,630
Flour, bbls	145,660	83,695	5,302,421
Millstuff, tons	4,638	2,288	172,923

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

	MINNEAPOLIS.	
	Aug. 30.	Aug. 23.
No. 1 hard, bus.	1,238,768	1,220,504
No. 1 northern, bus	510,784	586,449
No. 2 northern, bus	200,598	216,549
No. 3, ..	1,246	14,088
Rejected	3,895	3,593
Special bins	240,956	228,027
	2,196,247	2,068,100

	ST. PAUL.	
	Sept. 1.	Aug. 25.
In elevators—	390,000	470,000
bush	442,000	483,000
Same date last year	442,000	550,000

*These figures do not include a considerable quantity of wheat in private elevators and sheds and annexes to regular elevators, nor that in mill bins.

	DULUTH.		
	Aug. 30.	Aug. 23.	Aug. 16.
In store, bus.	2,942,121	2,868,862	2,819,036
Same date last yr.	1,497,500	1,942,200	1,935,746

—Northwest Miller.

Grain and Milling News.

A 30,000 bushel elevator is talked of at Boisevain.

A by-law to bonus an elevator has been defeated in Wallace, Man.

The crops in the Battleford district are said to be far below the average.

The Morden market opened at 58c for No. 1 hard, 54c for No. 2 hard, and 54c for No. 1 northern.

Rutherford & Toombs, of Stonewall, Man., ask for a bonus of \$4,000 to assist them in establishing a roller flour mill.

The Ogilvie Milling Co. and the Portage Milling Co. have commenced buying wheat at the Portage. No. 1 hard started at 57c.

About thirty loads of new wheat have come into the market at Brandon so far this year, and the most of this would grade No. 1 hard.

Two cities have been leased from the C.P. Ry at Wapella for grain warehouses. J. Arsenault & Co. and T. J. Smith are the prospective builders.

The new elevator in connection with the Hudson's Bay Co's flour mill in this city, will be completed October 1st. The capacity will be 50,000.

Grain crops in the Saskatoon district, Assiniboia territory, have turned out rather poorly. About the only crop which has resulted satisfactorily is potatoes.

The crops in the Binscarth district, northwest of Birtle, are equal to any in the province this year. Wheat is expected to average over 30 bushels to the acre.

There are over twenty self binders in the far away Edmonton, Alberta Territory, district. Harvesting in that district has been completed under favorable circumstances.

Notwithstanding the dry season, reports of very large yields are coming in from some parts of the province now that the threshers have got to work. Forty bushels to the acre is not an uncommon return, whilst occasional reports come in of well up to fifty bushels to the acre.

Smith, who undertook to build a flour mill at Shoal Lake station, with the aid of a bonus, has, it is said, thrown up the undertaking. The municipality offer a bonus of \$5,000 to aid in the erection of a mill and elevator, and communications from parties who are willing to undertake the same are desired.

Grain buyers are repairing to their different stations throughout the province, and elevators and warehouses are being rapidly put in shape for active operations. Millers are also generally busy putting their mills in order and adding improvements before commencing the season's grinding. The hum of the threshing machine is heard throughout the land.

CONSIDERING that Great Britain has a population of 40 millions and that allowing each person there one pound of beef and half a pound of mutton a week, would consume yearly over three million cattle and sixteen million sheep, there does not seem much fear of glutting that market.

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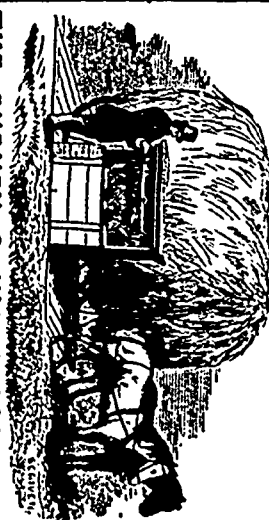
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ley.

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EASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO.

The wheat market here during the past week has again got down to the old range of prices. The prospect of trouble in eastern Europe has ceased to exert any influence upon the market, it being generally considered that an amicable arrangement will be arrived at. During the last few days the market seemed to be without any influence of importance whatever, though in some quarters the feeling was apparent that after the rush of spring wheat is over a permanent advance will take place. Large receipts at Duluth were not very reassuring, though this was partly overcome by the increase in the visible supply, which turned out to be only 1,467,494 bushels, or a much smaller amount than had been counted upon. Quite a little boom occurred in the corn market, owing to indications of frost, but the next day put a complete change on the prospect in this respect. The crop estimate of this crop issued by the McCormick Co. gives the general average in the principal corn states as 64 per cent. of last year's crop. In provisions Armour has been an active buyer of pork, and prices, in consequence, were higher. It is expected that stocks of pork and lard will show a heavy decrease with the next statement. News of an outbreak of yellow fever put a damper for a time on the upward tendency in provisions, but owing to the lateness of the season no serious trouble is apprehended from this source.

Trade opened fairly active in wheat on Monday, but the feeling was generally weak, owing to favorable weather abroad and increasing receipts at home. Heavy receipts of corn had a quieting effect on that cereal. Oats were dull and a shade lower. Pork was strong in a speculative way and advanced 20c, though the close was not at the top. Closing prices were:

	Aug.	Sept.
Wheat	\$0.75½	75½
Corn	40½	40½
Oats	25½	25½
Pork	9.57½	9.57½
Lard	7.25	7.25

The feeling on Tuesday was rather stronger in wheat at the start but prices fell away ½c later and closed easy. Speculative trading in corn was active and the market excited, with a wide range in prices. Closing prices were at the top. Oats were stronger in sympathy with corn. Several of the leading provision operators were out in force on the start, and bought up everything offered in their line. Under this influence pork advanced 40c and lard 10c. Buying continued active throughout the day. Closing prices were:

	Aug.	Sept.
Wheat	\$0.76½	76½
Corn	42	42½
Oats	25½	25½
Pork	9.87½	9.87½
Lard	7.32½	7.32½

On Wednesday there was a fairly active business in wheat, but the feeling was weak and prices fell away ½c. Later a partial recovery took place. Cables were quiet and receipts at all domestic points liberal. The corn pit was

the chief centre of attraction for a time. The advance for the previous day which was manipulated on the prospect of frost, proved to have been a broken reed. The weather came out warm and favorable and frost indications had entirely disappeared. This with liberal receipts caused a drop in prices. Oats were quiet and depressed. Provisions were excited and irregular, but last sales were higher. Closing prices were:

	Aug.	Sept.
Wheat	\$0.76	\$0.78
Corn	41½	43
Oats	25½	27½
Pork	10.10	10.25
Lard	7.37½	6.77½

Trading in wheat was more active on Thursday and the market was stronger. Strength was developed on reports of unfavorable weather abroad. The tendency seemed to be toward a higher range, but the feeling was steady at the close. Receipts were liberal. Corn was steady and firm. Oats were quiet and steady. The feeling in provisions was strong, and a circular lately issued by Armour & Co., predicting strong markets, was much talked of. Closing prices were:

	Sept.	Oct.
Wheat	76½-¾	78½-¾
Corn	41	42½
Oats	25½	27½
Pork	10.27	10.42½
Lard	7.55	6.85

On Friday wheat opened fairly strong, and continued so for the first half hour; but later on a weakness set in which influenced all speculative commodities. The trouble in Eastern Europe seemed to have lost its force on the market and other influences on the market were unimportant. Corn and oats were lower and heavy, closing at the bottom. Provisions ruled about the same as yesterday at the opening, but there seemed to be great uncertainty as to the outlook. Later prices receded considerably. Closing quotations were:

	Sept.	Oct.
Wheat	\$0.75½	\$0.77½
Corn	40	41½
Oats	25½	26½
Pork	10.10	10.20
Lard	7.52½	6.80

On Saturday wheat ruled dull and easy and prices were on a lower basis than yesterday, though the close was the same. May closed at 87c. Corn was fairly active and a shade higher. Oats quiet. Provisions firm and higher. Closing prices were:

	Sept.	Oct.
Wheat	\$0.75½	\$0.77½-¾
Corn	40½	42
Oats	25½	25½
Pork	10.52	10.40
Lard	7.52½	9.75

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

The stock market here has been very steady during the week, and where changes have been made to either a higher or lower quotation, such differences have been but fractional, no single bank stock showing any great variation

from previous values. Bids for Manitoba Loan 1 to 92, and were held at 95.

	Aug. 25.	Sept. 1.
Montreal	219	218½
Ontario	120	120
Toronto	204½	204
Merchants'	126½	127
Commerce	123½	122½
Imperial	133½	135½
Federal	110½	110½
Dominion	213½	213½
Standard	124	124½
Hamilton	136½	136½
Northwest Land	64½	64
C.P.R. Bonds	105	105
do Stocks	—	—

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

The grain markets have been dull and inactive all around, the little stir existing in barley during the previous week having given out through the exhaustion of available stocks. Wheat was very quiet and no sales were reported for several days at a time. Provisions have been steady at firm prices, with pork products active and scarce.

FLOUR.

A more active demand has arisen, and in the face of small offerings prices have held firmer. Patents sold at \$3.90, superior extra at \$3.70 to \$3.75, and extra at \$3.60.

WHEAT.

Red winter sold on Wednesday at equal to 80c here, with 78c bid for No. 2 fall on the spot, No. 2 spring was nominal at 79 to 80c. On the street fall and spring sold at from 76 to 78c. The feeling was easier and sales few even at concessions.

OATS.

Samples coming to this market represented a wide range in quality, and prices were therefore fixed to suit the diversity. One lot of very choice sold at 36c. Some light sold at 34, and medium at 35. The market closed quiet.

BARLEY.

About the only offering was in loads on the street, where sales were made by sample at 55c, 62c, and 66c, according to quality. One sample of No. 3, sold at 54c later on. One car said to be equal to No. 2, sold by sample at 55c.

PEAS.

Prices have been almost nominal and may be placed at about 57 to 58c.

POTATOES.

Cars on track sold readily at 80c per bag.

APPLES.

A good demand has existed for sound stock in car lots, for which \$1.75 was the ruling price.

EGGS.

Round lots seemed to be worth about 12½ to 13c, though values were unsettled and the range of prices wide.

BUTTER.

This market has been inactive throughout the week. Extra choice lots were an exception to the rule, and were in good demand, at 15 to 16c. Offerings which would come up to this standard, however, were light indeed. The bulk of good offered sold at 12 to 14c, and some pails at 10c. No demand was heard of for shipment. Street receipts in rolls sold at 20 to 22c.

CHEESE.

The market here has held firm in sympathy with the general feeling. Small lots sold at 10c and skims were offered at 7½ to 8½c.

PORK.

Large lots changed hands at \$13.00 with smaller offerings at \$13.50 to \$14.00.

BACON.

Stocks in the city are at a low ebb and are consequently held very firmly. New long clear

was offered for future delivery at 9c. Old sold at 8½c in tons and cases. New rolls were worth 10c and bellies at 11c.

HAMS.

Have been scarce and held very firmly at 14c to 15c for smoked and canvassed in small lots. Large lots not obtainable.

LARD.

Pails have sold freely in lots of 50 to 100 at 9½c, with small lots held at ¼ to ½c above these prices.

HOGS.

Have been offered in limited numbers but taken readily at \$7 to \$7.50.

The Far West.

Up to about three years ago the far western portion of the Canadian Northwest was accessible only to those who were prepared to undergo considerable hardship and inconvenience in reaching the country. For several years succeeding the arrival of that modern civilizer, the railroad, in the northern portion of the Red River country, there was a stoppage to farther advancement. For a time the northern and western terminus of railway connection lingered at Winnipeg—then one of the advance posts of civilization—as though loathe to disturb the Great Lone Land from its dream of centuries, and make it echo to the wild screech of the locomotive. To invade this far-western country was to undergo the privations and tribulations of many weeks and months of wearisome travelling by ox-cart, or with the more rapid but less sure horse and buckboard, and through a country inhabited only by the nomadic aborigines, save a few white and half-breed traders, at intervals of a few hundred miles. A trip to the far west implied the entire abandonment for the time being, of all the comforts of civilization; and thus it was that only the most adventurous spirits undertook to explore its more remote portions. No wonder, then, that the travel through the country was confined principally to the hardy traders, who sought and obtained rich returns in barter with the natives for furs, in recompense for their daring and enterprise.

But what a change has come over the scene within the last three or four years. The railway has invaded the country, and Calgary can now be reached in not many more hours than it formerly required weeks. And this can be accomplished in luxuriant Pullman coaches, whilst the traveller can feast upon the luxuries of the season in elegant dining cars. We will board one of these cars and run out to Calgary, which we shall make our first point of observation.

And why Calgary first? Calgary has long been a familiar name in the older portions of the Northwest, from the fact that for many years it has been the chief trading point of the Hudson's Bay Co. in that portion of the Territories. As old Fort Garry was the headquarters in the eastern portion of the Northwest, so Calgary was a chief centre in the west. Later on Calgary was made one of the principal points in the distribution of the Northwest Mounted Police, on the establishment of that force. The modern Calgary still resembles the modern outgrowth of old Fort Garry. It is now more than ever the chief distributing point for the

far west; and as Winnipeg is the eastern gateway to the great prairie country, so Calgary stands sentry at the western entrance to the future home of millions of the human race. The extension of the railway to the Pacific coast has rendered this gateway an actual one and a practical one, and already through its portals have passed many herds of cattle and horses, for distribution over the ranches of Alberta. Looking at these facts it will be admitted that the citizens of Calgary have good reason for their assertion that their town is and will remain the Winnipeg of the far west.

The location of Calgary and scenic features of the country surrounding the town have been so frequently described of late that but a very brief reference to either is necessary here, by way of introduction. Calgary is located on the C. P. R'y, 538 miles west of Winnipeg, and at the entrance of that road into the beautiful Bow River valley. The Elbow river borrows its bright waters with the equally pure Bow, and on both rivers valuable water powers could be obtained. To the south and east lie the great ranching country of the Northwest, and to the north Calgary is the distributing point for the settlements on the North Saskatchewan, in the Edmonton district. The agricultural resources of the country between Calgary and Edmonton have not been greatly tested up to the present time, though almost fabulous reports have come from the Red Deer country, in regard to the success attained in the growth of vegetables and roots. A few settlers have already found their way into this district, and the capabilities of the country will soon be better known. Westward from Calgary there is considerable country adapted to ranching, especially for sheep, and beyond this the great timber and mineral resources of the Rocky Mountains and bordering foothills. Anthracite coal of the best quality has been found in the Bow valley and will be put on the market this fall. In the immediate vicinity of Calgary, principally to the south, considerable grain was sown this season and the result has been most successful. The harvest was somewhat later than Manitoba, but the grain has matured nicely and will yield heavily. There was no drouth to injure the crops, as in the eastern and central portions of the Northwest. Farming for the two years previous did not result very successfully, owing to the fact that the grain matured slowly and was caught by the frost. However, the settlers seem to have unbounded confidence in the capabilities of the district for grain-growing, as well as ranching, as will be seen by the fact that about 730 homesteads have been taken up. There has also been a good trade done during the season in agricultural implements, etc., one firm having disposed of six cars of goods of this class. The first agricultural exhibition for the district will be held this fall.

Commercially Calgary has made great progress since the advent of the railway, and there are now many trading institutions carrying heavy stocks and doing large retail and even jobbing trade. From recent statistics it was shown that twenty houses do an aggregate trade of nearly \$1,500,000 annually. A considerable jobbing trade has been done in the

mountains and also with traders and dealers in the Saskatchewan country to the north. A considerable fur trade is also done by several of the merchants, principally in exchanging goods with traders for the furs. One firm reports a fur trade of over \$150,000, and some other houses probably did more in this way. A considerable trade is also done in furnishing supplies to the Indians and the Mounted Police. Calgary has not suffered from anything like a "boom," its progress having been steady and substantial, and improvements are still going on. Several substantial brick and stone buildings are being erected this season. Brick is now manufactured in the town, whilst a beautiful building stone is found in abundance within the corporation limits. This stone is a gray sandstone, easily quarried and dressed and producing a very handsome building. Dunn & Liveham, butchers, are erecting a handsome block from this stone. I. G. Baker & Co. are also building a large store from the same material. It is understood that this stone will be used for Government Buildings at Regina. S. Trott, druggist, is erecting a solid brick store for his increasing business. The Royal Hotel, another large new building, has just been completed and occupied. It is 50x107 in size, three stories, and is very comfortably furnished throughout, making it one of the finest hotel buildings in the Northwest. In addition to these business blocks, a large number of private residences will be completed this season. There is also a large lumber mill being erected by the Eau Claire Lumber Co. This Company have timber limits west of Calgary and will float their logs down the Bow River. In the lumber line Calgary promises to become quite a centre. James Walker & Co. have had a mill in operation for some time, and the Calgary Lumber Co. have been operating their mill at Cochrane, 25 miles west, for about a year. F. Dick also carries on a lumber yard. A new industry of a similar nature is the sash and door factory, put in operation last spring by Messrs. Jarrett & Cushing, and now doing a large trade. Other industries of more recent establishment are a machine shop, by R. A. Cockle, and the Bow River Brewery, by S. Christian. Mr. Geo. Murdoch does an extensive harness and saddlery business, and claims to be the first to manufacture stock saddles in Canada. J. Patterson, grocer, has admitted his son as partner, and the style is now Patterson & Son. A. Ferland, general dealer, has opened a branch in the mountains at Rogers Pass. Financially, the corporation is in a healthy condition, there being no outstanding debenture or floating debt. This is a favorable feature in considering the place as a point for investment, though some outlay in the way of providing fire protection is badly needed.

Recent Legal Decisions.

MORTGAGES OF FUTURE CROPS—VALIDITY—MINNESOTA LAW.—The Minnesota statute relating to the filing of chattel mortgages is applicable to mortgages of future crops, the seed of which had not been sown at the time the mortgage was executed, and which were, therefore, not literally in esse. So held by the Minnesota Supreme Court in the case of Miller

vs. Chapel. The court says that the theory upon which chattel mortgages of crops to be grown are supported is that they are property having a potential existence, and that the mortgagor being in possession of the land upon which they are to be grown has a present vested right to have the crops when they come into actual existence.

COMMON CARRIER—RESPONSIBILITY FOR DELAY BY STRIKES.—Where delay in delivering freight is caused, not by the refusal of the striking employees of a railroad company to return to work, but by the unlawful and violent conduct of the strikers after having abandoned the service of the company, the latter is not liable, according to the decision of the New York Court of Appeals in the case of Geisner vs. Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad Company, reported in the *Albany Law Journal*. The court said: It is true that these men (the strikers) have been in the employment of the defendant. But they left and abandoned that employment. They ceased to be in its service or in any sense its agents for whose conduct it was responsible. They not only refused to obey its orders or to render it any service, but they wilfully array themselves in positive hostility against it, and intimidated and defeated the efforts of employees who were willing to serve it. They became a mob of vicious law-breakers, to be dealt with by the government, whose duty it was, by the use of adequate force, to restore order, enforce proper respect for private property and private rights and obedience to law. If they had burned down bridges, torn up tracks, or gone into passenger cars and assaulted passengers, upon what principle could it be held that as to such acts they were the employees of the defendant for whom it was responsible? If they had sued the defendant for wages for the eleven days when they were thus engaged in blocking its business, no one will claim that they could have recovered.

LIBEL—PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATION—INJUNCTION.—An important decision involving the doctrine of privileged communications in the law of libel was rendered lately by the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice (England), upon the application of Sir W. Armstrong & Company for an injunction to restrain the *Admiralty and Horse Guards Gazette* from publishing certain alleged defamatory matter regarding the dealings of that company with the government in relation to certain ordnance contracts. The court, through Lord Chief Justice Coleridge, dismissed the application for an injunction, holding that the publication was a privileged communication, and that the burden of proving malice rested on the plaintiff, who had his remedy by suit. Lord Coleridge said: This is, no doubt, an extremely important application on the part of Sir William Armstrong & Company to restrain the publication of libelous matter in the defendant's newspaper, such defamatory matter being, in substance, that members of that company, either now or just recently, have been interested in the Ordnance Committee, and have by their position in the government, and by their connection with the War Office departments, influenced the determination of a select committee with regard to the purchase of ordnance from the plaintiff com-

pany. I may observe that the contracts for ordnance are admitted to have been of an enormous character, and no suggestions as to the largeness and importance of those contracts has been in the least overstated. These contracts may be said to be about the most important element in the defences of the country which exists as they relate to the ordnance, and particularly the naval ordnance, of the country; and therefore this is a matter, if there be any in the world, of public interest. If anything like that stated in the alleged libel be true, the person who exposes such a system and such a mischief does a great public service, and I cannot be a moment hesitate in saying that the subject-matter which constitutes the writing about it is a privileged communication. It is to the interest of the whole country that the selection of our chief weapon of defence should be made by indifferent and disinterested persons. The defendants say that the selection was not so made. Of course, the right and privilege of comment ought not to be used as any cloak whatever for private malice, and if it should turn out at the trial of the action that these allegations publicly made were made unjustifiably upon honorable and independent men, and that the articles, so far from being written in the public interest of some rival contractor for the purpose of bringing discredit upon a body of honorable gentlemen, then, so far from the man writing them having done something for the public service which deserves reward, he deserves being mulcted, as a jury would undoubtedly mulct him, of the heaviest possible damages which he might reasonably be expected able to pay. Anything more wicked than the libel if not true it would be difficult to conceive, because it is calculated to excite terror in the country, and to do a great deal of mischief both public and private. Whether it was written with a view to the public service or from private malice, I, sitting here, who, of course, have no means of knowing, give no opinion; but it is quite plain that the subject and the occasion being privileged—and whatever doubts have recently been thrown on the law of libel on this point I do not share—it is quite clear that the onus of proving malice rests on the plaintiff, and once it is granted that the occasion is privileged, the onus is on the plaintiff to show that the privilege has been exceeded, and that it was made a cloak for private malice. This is the reason why I think we ought to refuse to interfere in this case.—*Bradstreet's*.

Wheat as a staple article of consumption and commerce has been subject to wonderful variations in market value during the past sixty years. Beginning in 1825, a period of low prices, when wheat sold at 75 cents in New York, there was a rise for four years to the first maximum of \$1.75 in 1829. Then came a fall of only seven months to \$1.00, late in the same year, and afterwards a rise to the second maximum, \$2.12 in 1836. From that point the decline continued until 1846, when the price was only 80 cents, but in the very next year it advanced to \$2.95. The next decline culminated in 1851 to 93 cents, but from that point there was an advance in four years to \$2.80 in 1855. The price then declined not lower than \$1.20 in 1859, but afterwards rose to \$3.45 in 1866. A

decline followed to \$1.50 in 1870, and another advance to \$2.25 in 1873. The price then declined to 84c in 1876, but advanced to \$1.85 in 1877, and again declined to 83c in 1878. Another advance to \$1.69 in 1880 was followed by a decline to about 80c in 1884, and prices still lower have been recorded already this year.—*Milling World*.

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Southwestern Manitoba Mail Service.

To the Editor of The Commercial:

SIR,—I yesterday had an opportunity of reading your able and interesting editorial on the above subject, in your issue of the 24th inst.

My main object in troubling you again is to remove any idea that can possibly have arisen, that anyone in these parts blames any of the Manitoba postal authorities for the disgraceful way in which our correspondence is treated; it is well known here as elsewhere through the province that we have an excellent official in the Manitoba postal Inspector. I made that gentleman's acquaintance in the matter of a complaint I had to make in Winnipeg last year; immediate and courteous attention was paid to my representations and the matter was not only redressed but done in such a way that all went right afterwards. If the proper conduct of our mail service was under Mr. McLeod's control, we should doubtless have had different arrangements long ago, but we fear the fault lies at Ottawa, at any rate no one has yet condescended, so far as I am aware, to give any explanation whatever.

Is the Postmaster-General of Canada an executive or an administrative officer? if the former and he spends his time in office work at Ottawa, then the sooner the conduct of our local postal service is taken away from him the better; if on the other hand he is supposed to be an administrator, why does he neglect his duty by not coming to Manitoba to re-adjust postal lines as railways open and the country advances? We have had well-timed useful visits from the Governor-General, the Premier, Ministers of the Interior, Customs, Fisheries, Public Works, Militia, etc., but none from one who is certainly second to none in importance to us, viz. the Postmaster-General.

Confederated Canada is an enormous territory, and the Postal department is doubtless a hard-worked one; but if it is too much for one officer, let other arrangements, that will entail no additional expense, be made; let Manitoba be allowed on a proper business budget, estimate the money that is now spent on her stage mail service, and let this be laid out on that, and that only, by the Local Government under the advice of the local Inspector, and then all real cause of complaint should soon cease; the annual grant to be enlarged as Postal Revenue increases.

This appears to me to meet the case and to be an improvement, which should be promptly and determinedly taken up by the Manitoba Government, the local Postal authorities, the Winnipeg Board of Trade, the district municipalities, and all "the Press," irrespective of party feeling or politics.

Yours obediently,
Maringhurst, Aug. 31, 1886. W. WALTON.

[Our correspondent, we fear, is sadly astray in his estimate of the competency of our Local Government to handle our Postal arrangements in Manitoba, especially with the present apology for a Cabinet in power. It might furnish means to purchase more political support, or make a job for another incompetent Minister at a salary of \$3,000 a year. But slow and pig-headed as they are in Ottawa, we believe we will fare better than we would with our Postal affairs in the hands of Norquay & Co.]—EDITOR COMMERCIAL.

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