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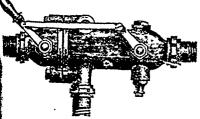
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VOL. 3

WINNIPEG, MARCH 24, 1885.

NO. 26.

The Commercial

urnel devot—to keeping a comprehensive record of the transactions of the Monctary, Mcreantik and Manufacturing Interests of Manifeba and the Canadian Northwest. Jeurnal devot

ISSUED EVERY TUESDAY.

The Commercial will be mailed to any address in Creda, United States or Great Britain at \$2.00 a year in advance.

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month, weekly insertion \$330 per line. 0 75 " 1 25 " 2 00 " 3 months, do

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270ffice, 4 and 6 James St. East.

JAS. E. STEEN, Publisher.

WINNIPEG, MARCH 24, 1885.

A CHEESE factory will be built at Plympton in the spring.

THE Rapid City Standard has been purchased ly Jares Weidman.

Jas. Weidman, photographer, Maniton, has removed to Rapid City.

D. McKercher, miller, Domirion City, has emoved to British Columbia.

Ir is rumored that a bakery will shortly be Gened at Mauiton by W. Paulin.

THE Halifax Ranch Company, Fort McLeod, we advertising the business for sale.

McDonald & McDougall, grist millers,

Gladstone, have dissolved partnership. THE population of the town of Necrawa ac-

Yading to a recent census is said to be 300. Jemyn & Bolton, saw mill owners, Minne-

loss, have gone into the grist mill business. R.J. & J. CHALMERS will shortly open a generel tinsmithing and hardware store at Maniton.

MISSES A. & C. JASPER have opened a militery and dressmaking establishment at Em-

As hotel to replace the ope recently burned down will shortly be built at Minnedosa by J. M. Dermott

Mr. Shaw has been appointed agent at Portage la Prairie for Harris, Son & Co. in place of Mr. Johnson.

S. FAIRBAIRN will shortly erect a carriage factory at Minnedosa in connection with his present business.

MILLS & BULLARD, stock breeders, Souris, have dissolved partnership; G. Mills will continue the business alone.

REID, CLARK & Co. wholesale and retail fish dealers, Winnipeg, have sold out their retail business to R. McCluskey.

CHIPMAN BROS. & Co., grocers and hardware merchants, Calgary, contemplate closing out their business at that place.

THE Ogilvie Milling Company will discontinue onying grain and operating their glevator at Minnedosa after the 31 inst.

GRAY & BLACKADAR, grocers, Morden, have dissolved partnership; the business will in future be conducted by T. C. Gray.

THE catmeal will at Portrge la Prairie, has been closed, except for chopping, until after seeding owing to the scarcity of oats.

Mack Howes, formerly of the Brunswick Hotel, who got into difficulties a little over a year ago, has settled with his eveditors paying 100c on the dollar in stock of Northwest Petroleum Co., caken at its present market value. Mack is now, commercially, a free man.

On Thursday last the Provincial Parliament was duly opened; the Lieutenant-Governor reading the opening Address, which contained little of any commercial bearing except it be a paragraph regarding land law amendment; which doubtless forshadows the introduction of the Torrens system of land transfer.

LETTERS patent of incorporation have been issued to David Johnson, of Portage la Prairie; J. A. Blackwridge, and Wm. Laidlaw, of Collingwood, and John Corbet, of Owen Sound, as The Owen Sound and Northwest Milling and Manufacturing Company with a capital stock of \$10,000. This company have now in operation

satmeal mill at Portage la Prairie and a flour nali at Qu'Appelle.

A. MESSMER, general store keeper, St Leon, having made atrangements with his creditors will resume business, taking his two sons into partnership.

The failures in the United Kingdom for the week ended February 21, is reported to Kemp's Mercantile Gazette, numbered 126, as compared with 102 and 259 in the corresponding weeks respectively of 1884 and 1883. England and Wales had 94 tailures, as compared with 75 and 228 in the weeks specified; Scotland had 26 failures, as against 18 and 25; and Ireland had 6, as against 9 in 1884 and 6 in 1883.

W. H. NAGLE, publisher of the defunct Winnipeg weekly named The Truth, has sold his plant to Mack Howes, who intends to commence the publication of a mining journal. Let us hope that his journal will not be like the last mining sheet published in this city, which was simply an advertising sheet for puffing speculative bubbles. A sheet devoted to advocating mining es an industry, would be of great value to this country; but to advocate mining as a speculation, would be a curse to it.

ANOTHER half-breed rebellion at Prince Albert is the latest North-western seasation. A party of half-breeds have seized the Government stores at Fort Carleton, and have cut the telegraph wires putting the whole Saskatchewan district out of communication with the east and south. It is to be hoped that the Gov ernment will crash the "tempest in a tea pot" with an iron hand, and not shrink from meteing out to its leaders the punishment they deserve, and which they may have evaded on former occasious, through political influence on their behalf.

THE feeling which has been gaining ground in the city of late against the high charges of the Bell Telephone Co. culminated on Wednesday evening in a meeting of the business men of the city in the Leland house at which a deputation was appointed to wait upon the company's manager here and ask a reduction of rates. The deputation ca'led apon Mr. Walsh on Friday, and that sentleman has since laid the matter before the heads of the company at Montreal. Should no concession be made a new company will no doubt be started. The company's rates are \$60 for each inscrement.

Business East.

ONTARIO.

J. Bond, drugs, Galt, is dead.

A. Brooks, hotel, Minden, has sold out.

John Redmond, shoes, Berlin, has sold out.

Ed. Manton, broker, etc., Toronto, is dead.

A. Meiner, foundry, Waterloo, has sold out.

James Ross, cheese, Wallacetown, has sold

James Ross, cheese, Wallacetown, has sold out.

The Sentinel Star, Cobourg, has been burned out.

James Christopher, hotel, Port Hope, is dead.

W. Normand, tobacco, Ottawa, has compromised.

H. A. McDonald, shoes, London, has assigned in trust.

Charles Napper, baker, e.e., Strathroy, has sold out.

Toronto Cement Roofing Co, Toronto, have dissolved.

James Sterns, grocer, Carelton Place, is compromising.

F. Graham, shoes, Cobourg, has been damaged by fire.

W. Y. Martin, hotel, Toronto Sheriff in

H. S. Huber, picture frames, Berlin. Bailiff

in possession. Lautenschlager & Weaver, buttons, Berlin,

have dissolved.

T. C. Gagnier, cigars, Toronto, has sold stock to P. Finnigan.

J. Powell, general store, Westwood, has assigned in trust.

Robert Reardov, groceries, Ottawa, has as-

signed in trust.

John Harding, hotel, London East, ous gone

out of business.
G. Lloyd, groceries, etc., Kingston, is gone

out of business.

D. Campbell & Co., bankers, Duart, are gone

out of business.

Sicotte & Gagnon, hotel, Fort William, Sheriff in possession.

Alex. Wyness, general store, Harriston, has assigned in trust.

Wm. Potter, general store, Tottenbam, has assigned in trust.

Miss Holland, fancy goods, Kingston, has been burned out.

Skvin & Mackin, clothing, Kingston, has been burned out.

C. B. Lowe, groceries, Toronto, advertises business for sale.

D. A. Brady, hotel, Port Rowan, has sold

out to H. H. Fick.
Richard Woodland, leather, Ottawa, is offer-

ing to compromise.

L. H. Timmons, general store, Mattawan,

has assigned in trust.
W. Clougher, saloon, Port Arthur, has sold

W. Clougher, saloon, Port Arthur, has sold out to W. G. Johnston.

S. W. Moore, physician, Dorchester, missing and reported murdered.

O. Pressprich, publisher, New Hamburg, has sold out to J. Ritz & Co.

George McGowan, cigars, etc., Kingston, bas sold out to R. Newlands.

Jervis & Hinkey, bricks, Stratford, have dissolved. Jervis continues.

J. K. McDonald, tins and hardware, Cornwall, has assigned in trust.

J. C. Grant, hotel, Smith's Falls and Perth, has sold out at Smith's Folls.

A. B. Flint, dry goods, Toronto, has been succeeded by Flint, Hunt & Co.

P. H. Chabet, clothing, etc., Ottawa. Style changed to P. H. Chabet & Co.

J. A. Hewitt, general store, Thornhill, has sold out to Lindsny, Francis & Co.

J. Gouinlock & Co., wholesale hats, London, have dissolved. Hastings retires.

W. E. Kent, shoes, etc., Notham, is offering to compromise at 50c in the dollar.

Telfer & Phelps, groceries, Point Edward, have dissolved. Phelps continues.

Simon Oberndoffer, manufacturer ciga.'s, etc., Kingston, has sold out retail store.

Estate of D. York, burber and fancy goods, Colourg, has been damaged by fire.

D. S. Baird, general store, Fitzioy Harbor. Stock advertised for sale by auction.

J G Chantler, general store, Newton Robinson, has sold out to McConnell Bros.

A. L. Bisnett, bending factory and store, Blenheim, has sold out store business.

John Zimmerman, of the Acme Silver Plating Co., wholesale jewellers, Toronto, is dead.

George Morgan, greenics and hardware, Blenheim, is clearing out stock and going farming.

Nickerson Wilson & Co., manufacturers of sody water, etc., Simcoe, have dissolved. Wilson retires.

Rale & Townsend, Merchants' hotel, Port Arthur. Rale, of this firm, reported away and landlord in possession.

QUEBEC.

O. E. Brunet, drugs, Quebec, is dead.

B. Brooks, hotel, Coatrook, has been barned out.

J. A. Prevost, physician, St. Valerien, is dead.

Etienne Guenette, grocer, Levis, has assigned in trust.

Theodore Laquerre, hotel, Batiscan, has compromised.

Convey & Hawkins, groceries, Quebec, have dissolved.

Hill & Roucke, groceries, Montreal, 'tave dissolved.

N. Fortin, groceries, Quebec, is offering to compromise.

Lavallee & Charbonneau, butchers, Montreal, have dissolved.

Lanouette & Lanouette, saddlers, St. Isidore, have dissolved

Benbam & Miller, livery, Montreal. Builiff's sale advertised.

H. H. Curtis, drugs, etc., Montical, has assigned in trust.

Robert Cove, general store, St. Hilarion, has assigned in trust.

Merizzie & Tremblay, general store, Granby, have assigned in trus...

Renaud, Duret & Co., tobaccos, Montreal, have assigned in trust.

Chartes Swenson, jeweller, Montreal, advertises closing out business.

Power & Dawson, engravers, etc., Montreal, bave dissolved. George W. Dawson continues alone.

J. P. Perreault, peddler, St. Anno do la Perade, has assigned in trust.

J. B. Dumesni', general store, Coteau Lending, have assigned in trust.

Howard & Rinter, general store, Sman's Mills. Partially burned out

Joseph Dion, jr., hardware, St. Sauvear, Quebec Co., has assigned in trust.

Colin MacDonald, manufacturers' ag nt, Montreel. Bailiff's sale advertised.

Pierre Pouliot, general store, St. Charles, Belleceasse Co., has assigned in trust.

James Bowen, sr., of the firm of Bowen & Fry, lumber, etc., Sillery Cove, is dead.

C. C. Ricard, general store and hotel, St. Barnabe, St. Morris Co., heve assigned in trust.

Berniet & Rheaume, saddlers, etc., Levis, have dissolved. Style now G. Rheaume & Co

E. & A. Eaves, importers watches, etc., Mortreal, have dissolved, and each continues alone

Rankin, Beattie & Co., commission and manufacturers' agents. John Beattie continues under same style.

Alphonse Picard, builder, St. Jean Baptiste, has admitted his son Alphonse Picard, jr., ω partner, under style Picard & Fils.

E. J. Wade & Co., commission, Montreal, have dissolved. Joseph O'Gorman rethes, atl E. J. Wade continuer under same style.

J. S. Nor. is & C., commission produce Montreal, have dissolved. New firm formed here and at Toronto, under style of Noris & Carrathers.

NOVA SCOTIA.

John Kilcup, hotel, Windsor, is dead.

P. McG. Archibald, woolens, Truto, has sail out.

George Bishop, general store, Digby, an assigned.

Ti omas Shea, boots and shoes, Halifax, is assigned.

Union Manufacturing Co., woolens, Translave been burned out. Insured.

McDonald & Tauton, publishers, etc., Picte, have dissolved. C. D. McDonald continues

Leonard & Co., bakers, Yermouth, have ds solved. H. K. Cradburne retires and W Leonard continues.

Black, Bros. & Co., hardware, Halifax, had dissolved. W. J. Lewis retires and M. C Grant & W. H. Troop are admitted. Styleuchanged.

NEW BRUNSWICK

St. John Cotton Co., St. John, in hquidates James Carnworth, general store, Riverita is dead.

J. Flewelling & Son, general store, Hampta-Senior partner dead.

Johnson & Co., agricultural implemental Fredericton, have sold out.

F. T. Stephens, of the firm of Stephen & Figures, groceries, St. John, is dead.

Ferguson & Watson, plumbers, Montes have dissolved. Watson continues.

M. Fenneran, boots and shoes, Fredericta is about moving to Portland, St. John.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

George Elmsley, groceries, etc., St John are selling off and trying to compromise.

Ayre & Marshall, general merchants, S John's, have dissolved. Style now Ayre & S

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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, MARCH 24, 1885.

THE WINNIPEG TELEPHONE.

It takes a time of depression to search out and lay bare the weak points in connection with either our business, social or political affairs, and the searching process has at last reached the telephone system of Winnipeg, the extortionate charges for the use of which THE COMMERCIAL called attention to several weeks since, movement of Winnipeg's business men, to secure telephone facilities for less than \$60. a year for each instrument cannot be classed among the unnecessary cries against imaginary grievances, nor is the movement likely to prove an abortive one on their part. In most public movements against extortion the people move with odds against them, either in the shape of unassailable monopolies or legal priveleges possessed by the party or parties moved against. In the present undertaking the people move with all the advantages on their side. The monopoly possessed under the privelege of patent right by the Dell Telephone Co., is now a thing of the past, and the efforts of the company to resurrect it by proceedings in the Supreme Court will be found futile. So far therefore, as the right to use telephone appliancies are concerned, the company and the people now start even from the scratch, while so far as public opinion is concerned, the people have that bodily in their favor, and should they decide to start a new company, competition would have to be carried on with decided odds against the Bell Co. That a new company would prove a financial success in this city, starting out with public opinion strongly in its favor, there cannot be a doubt. The Bell Co., here with over 400 subscribers and an annual allowance of \$3,000 for the working of the city fire alarm business, must have a gross income of somewhere in the neighborhood of \$27,000. who have a practical knowledge of such business inform us that the whole outfit of the company in Winnipeg can be furnished for a much less sum than the above, leaving quite a balance towards running expenses. The men who are now moving for cheaper rates would have no difficulty in securing subscribers for a much larger capital stock than \$27,000 so that the undertaking of floating a new company

and equipping it has no financial difficulties in its way.

But the quietest way is always the best way of reaching a desired end, and cheaper telephone facilities can be had in Winnipeg without a second institution stepping into the field, if the Bell Telephone Co. will only take a reasonable view of matters and face the inevitable In an honest manner. That this company have been making extortionate charges in the past is plain, from the fact that their figures, in smaller towns with a much less liberal patronage, have been about half what they are here. But in this respect they have been no worse than most other companies, who had command of the situation. simply bled their Winnipeg patrons so long as they knew, that their patrons had no means of resistance, and such is the treatment that may always be expected from a company possessing a monopoly, and able to make gain by abusing their power. The situation is changed now and the company's monopoly held under their patent right is no longer a warrant for extortion, and it is unreasonable to suppose that they will be stubborn enough to follow out a policy of extortion or ruin, when a moderate and profitable one is still open to them. The course of waiting upon the manager here, and stating the grievance, as adopted by the parties in the present movement, was a wise one, and may in the end save a lot of trouble, and tend to an agreeable arrangement of all difficulties. One telephone company is enough for Winnipeg, so long as that company's charges are reasonable, and the duties undertaken are properly attended to. In this latter respect the complaints against the Bell Telephone Co., in Winnipeg have not been numerous, and their patrons in the city have put forth no grievance on the score of inefficiency. The company's charges are the only point at issue, and it is questionable if they would loose much by reducing these, as there are scores, if not hundreds of parties in the city, who would use and pay for the telephone, were the yearly charge about one-half what it is now.

DOMINION ASSISTANCE FOR THE C.P.R.

In the beginning of the present session of the Dominion Parliament most people in Canada were astonished when Sir John A. Macdonald announced that he would introduce no measures this year regarding the C. P. R., and positive as the state

ment of the Right Honorable gentleman was, there were not a few who had care fully watched the difficulties under which the construction of the road was being carried on, who were incredulous as to the truth of what he said. In fact we have become so accustomed to the annual begging of this company, that a season's legislation without their receiving financial aid in some way would be a cause of astonishment to all Canada.

It seems after all that we are not going to be treated to the agreeable disappointment promised by the Dominion Premier, for assistance must be had for the C. P. R. or the whole scheme must coliapse and the Government take the road off the company's hands. The terms asked by the company are that thirtyfive millions of unissued stock now held by the Government be converted into bonds, twenty millions of which the company will negotiate as soon as possible. and with the proceeds complete the main line of the road through to the Pacific coast this year. The Government are to retain fifteen millions of the bonds, for which they are asked to cancel one-half of last year's loan, and take back ten million acres of the company's land grant for cancellation of the other half. In short, the company want the Government to release them from the \$22,500,000 grant of last year, and the only actual security offered is ten million acres of land which the company find it impossible now to sell, and which the Government may, in time, dispose of at homestead figures, namely, about seven cents an acre. In the meantime, and until the company get time to negotiate their bonds, the Govern ment is asked to advance \$5,000,000 cash to wipe off the company's floating debt. Such is the proposal of the C.P. R. Co., and, to use a Yankee phrase, I requires a good allowance of gall to make such a proposal.

In ordinary business transactions it is usual to view a request as to the justice contained in it, and if the one now made to the Government were judged upon such grounds a blank refusal would unquestionably be the reply to it. But unfortunately the Dominion and the people of Canada are not in a position to treat the financial requests of the C.P.R. upon grounds of strict justice. The company have the whole Dominion in such a position at present that to refuse their request or rather to refuse financial aid, would be

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to make a crash of the country's credit. Failure to finish the main line of the the road would be at present tivancial demoralization to the whole Dominion. The officers of the company know well how they have the Government in a corner at present, and are satisfied that their requests must be granted. Even in their request for \$5,000,000 to wine off floating liabilities, they know that the whole trade power of the Dominion will re-echo their request. They have scattered libererally, if not systematically, their liabilities over the Dominion from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and are aware that banks, merchants and manufactures who are their creditors will second their request, if only for selfish motives, for aid from the Government. We all know to what extent the credit of commercial Canada is strained at present, and another blow of four or five milhons of an aggregate loss would unquestionably bring a panic, such as few of us have seen, even in the terrible days of 1873 and '4. Canada with the C. P. R. is like Frankenstein with his monster. It is, a creature of our own creation, and haunts us with all the pertinacity with which the hideous monster he had made with his own hands haunted him, and, like Frankenstein, the requests made, unreasonable though they may be, we are better to accede to than delay. Unreasonable, therefore, as the demands of the C. P. R. are at present, the Dominion has little more than "Hobsen's choice" left to them. They may refase the request, and take over the road from the company, and, to avoid any mancial trouble in trade encles, agree to pay the company's floating debt. But it is questionable if in doing so they would not be pursuing a much less economical course than in granting the aid now asked. Besides, the taking over of the road by the Government would mean only its transfer to some other company who would embark on some new course of squandering and blundering. The finishing and operating of the line by the Govenment is a course not to be considered for a moment. The early history of C. P. R. construction, under Government apervision, furnishes a chapter of reckess blundering, extravagant squandering and helpless incompetency, which most Canadians would like to forget, and none ish to see repeated.

To carry through the proposed arrangebreats in the Dominion House, it will be seen what purchase money the Government will have to distribute to secure the united support of its followers. The hungry hordes of Quebec will have to be bought, and even discontented Nova Scotia may have to be coaxed a little. Manitoba will not share much in the matter. With her delegation of five members, and the majority of these prepared to trample her interest under foot, when their own converted to consideration. But she will have to bear the heaviest proportion of taxation all the same.

MANITOBA SECURITIES.

For the past three years there has been a combination of circumstances at work tending to depreciate the value of Mani. toba securities in eastern and European money markets, and the wonder to many is, that with all this bearish pressure at work, these securities have held so high in the estimation of capitalists. We had first of all the misrepresentations of those interested in immigration to and securing of financial resources for other new countries. Then we have had that spleeny jealousy and system of belittleing everything in the Northwest pursued by people in Eastern Canada, from whom better might be expected; and we have had that powerful influence of the Grand Trunk against us, the theory of which seems to have been that any injury to Manitoba and the Northwest was a blow struck at the C.P.R. Other influences have been at work against the province, and with the clearing up of the wreck left by boom recklesness, it must be acknowledged that there was too much scope left these to do serious injury to our credit.

If people in this province would only keep steadily in view that there are enemies ever on the watch to injure our credit, they would be very careful not to leave much in their power to make use of in their evil work But it is to be regretted that much evil is being done to Manitoban securities by parties here, and the most unpardonable feature about this is that ninety five per cent. of the evil thus inflicted is the result of pure and unadulterated negligence. Like all other new countries our work of development has to a great extent been carried on upon credit. Each municipality has issued its debentures and negotiated the same in distant money markets, while the

bonds of local school boards in blocks of from \$500 upward, have been floated in a similar manner. All this is good, were proper attention only paid to the meeting of obligations in connection with these issues, and it is in this that pure negligence has done an amount of injury to Manitoba secureties much greater than most people are aware of. In tifteen out of twenty cases, interest falling due upon such debentures or bonds has not been paid on the day it matured, and in quite a number of cases officials have written weeks afterwards to find out where such moneys were payable, although in each case the coupon signed distinctly stated when and where payment was to be made. All this delay taking place, while the funds are lying unemployed and ready to meet the obligation, is without excuse and seems to indicate that our municipal and other officials throughout the province have made up their minds to treat debentures and bonds much in the same manner as they would farm machinery notes. A few cases much worse have turned up of late. Some, where the present year's official of a municipality were in blissful ignorance of the obligations incurred by their immediate predecessors, and had not made the slightest preparation to meet them, although the means were at their disposal to do so, and one case where a municipality failed to meet a small obligation for want of funds, and at the same time \$17,000 of the past year's taxes These pictures of were uncollected. municipal management, or rather mismanagement, are by no means creditable to the province, and if they brought injury only to guilty parties, or even the constitutioncies they represented, there would not be so much reason for complaint. But they bring heavy injury to all Manitoba securities in eastern and foreign money markets, and must depreciate their value.

In our everyday transactions with one another in Manitoba, we may, and as a rule do, allow that latitude as to payments which is so common in new countries, and yet we may not suffer materially for our laxity. But in dealing with distant capitalists we must adopt a totally different course. Such men look upon punctuality as an indispensible element of business, and where it is not adhered to confidence is at once shaken; and with confidence shaken in one-half of our Manitoba secureties, it is not difficult to see how the value of all must depreciate. We want money in Manitoba, and still more we want cheap money, and to secure this we must prove to capitalists that every obligation we incur will be promptly as well as honorably met and as each matures that it will be honored with that promptitude which is accorded to a Bourse W. E. SANFORD & CO.

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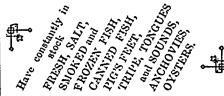
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WINNIPEG.

WINKIPEG MONEY MARKET.

Monetery affairs in the city during the past week have been moving in a steady but rather slow manner. In trade circles the demand for discounts has been a little below normal, and as the month nexts a close, business of this class falls off materially. The circulation of money through the city has not been free by any means, and banks although able to attend to the present volume of commercial discount wants, but with any rapid increase in the same they would probably be strained for a time. The want of funds from C. P. R. sources has so doubt much to do with the limited money circulation, and were the company to pay up all obligations to date, several hundred thousand dolla,s would soon be added to the circulating funds in the city. The prospects are that these obligations will soon be met, and money will undoubtedly be freer in trade circles immediately thereafter. At the banks rates of discount are unchanged, first class paper being handled at 8 per cent., ordinary, at 9 to 10, and promiseuos and one name at 10 to 12. Loans on real estate mortgage are still in moderate demand, but no heavy transactions have recently been reported, and companies are cortent to work with smal loans. Funds are plentiful for such investments, and the only difficalty is that the limits now put to amounts lorged are contracted when compared with boom ideas, and are sometimes not satisfactory to intending borrowers. Rates of interest are still from 8 to 10 per cent., the latter figure being exceptional, unless in cases of renewals.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

The general improvement in connection with wholesale business in the city, noted in our last report, has, so some extent, continued during last week, although in quite a few lines of teason goods the cold map with which the week opened had the effect of cleeking up a little, but the effect was only temporary, and the demand for spring stock is again as active as before. Season goods lines have been getting the heavy share of the sales, and now that the season has been allowed to advance so far, country retailers who have held back from buying, have now come forward with urgent demands requiring prompt attention. There basconsequently been a great activity during the week in filling both past and present orders of this class, and stooks have been considerably reduced in so doing. Lines dependent apon contracting and building have felt the effect of the cold snap most of any, but affairs are fast coming back again to the state of modente activity. Provisions and other staple lines of every day consumption have been least wtive, but in these also improvement more or less is noted. The report of collections is rather mixed. In quite a number of instances improvement is reported, while in others, and especially in farm machinery and branches where returns come more directly from the farmers, there has been a marked falling off in cain returns. As spring farming operations open up, slower collections are expected, and no great improvement is looked for until May is entered upon. Altogether the wholesale !

trade of the city is now in a rather active state, and is expected to remain so now for a few weeks.

AUDICULTURAL MACHINERY.

Notwithstanding the cold snap of last week, sales have been on the increase in this trade, and quite a quantity of spring implements have been sent out during the week. Seeders in particular have been in good demand, and inquiries for stirring plows are also being made. A falling oil in collections is reported, but this is not unexpected, as the season's payments are nearly at a close, and no great share of cash returns is now looked for until farmers are through with seeding.

BOOTS AND SHOES,

This trade is now at its most active point, and the past week has been a heavy one in shipping out goods. The spring netivity is at its height and quite a number of purchasers from the country have been in the city during the week and bought liberally. Collections are reported fairly are and as good as can be expected at this time.

CLOTHING.

This trade has felt badly the cold snap early in the week. Before that a good steady stream of sales were being made to country merchants visiting the city, which fell off rather suddenly and is only now waking up again. Collections are reported slow, but the aggregate falling due has been too small to judge fairly by.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

This trade seems to have waked up a little at last, and the past week has developed considerable activity. The country has been making liberal demands for staple goods, and some fancies are also being called for. The report of collections is also very satisfactory.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

This trade is now down to its regular pace of steady and moderate activity, the past week being if Laything above the average in sales. Collections are reported fairly satisfactory.

DRY GOODS.

In this staple branch business has been moving along with steady but not rushing activity. The cold days early in the week made a check up so far as sales to calling purchasers was concerned, but the check was by no means very marked and recovery was rapid. Shipping of goods to the country has been going on lively, and the city also has been making liberal demands. Collections are reported a little slow, but by no means discouraging.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

There has been quite a little activity in this trade doving the week and sales have been heavier than for several preceding weeks. Sweral weeks of steady good business are now looked forward to. Collections are reported fair to good.

fish.

The bottom has fairly gone out of the fresh fish trade for the present. The close upproach of spring has at last put an end to the winter export business, and as if in sympathy with this the supply from the lakes has fallen off very much. Stocks in the city are light but are enough for the local demand which remains fairly active. Car lots are not quoted. Small

lots of white sell at 51 to 6c; jack-fish, 21 to 3c. Oysters are still in moderate demand, and sell: standards, 30 to 35c; selects, 40 to 45c.

FRUIT.

There has been very little improvement in this trade during the week, and matters are still slow. Prices are much the same as in our last report, and there are no new features to report in connection with the trade. Quotations are as follows: Apples, \$5 to 6 a bbl; Messina oranges, \$5 to 5 50 a ~2, lemons, \$4 50 to 5.50; Malaga grapes, \$7.50 to 8 a bbl; Eleme figs, in boxes, 16 to 20c per lb; Malaga figs, in 14lb boxes, 11 to 13c; prunes, in kegs \$7.50 to 8; and in 50lb boxes, 8 to 84c per lb; golden dates, in 50lb boxes, 10c; raisins and currants, vuchanged.

PUEL.

The fear of a break up of the road has caused many to rush in a supply of fuel, and there has in consequence been a little activity in wood, but prices have been no higher as holders have been as anxious as buyers to do business while good hauling lasts. Tannate of good quality is scarce, and in round lots would bring \$4 to \$4.25 on track. Good white poplar is offered at \$2.75, and inferior lots as low 28 \$2.25. Coal is unchanged in price and is quoted: anthracite, \$12, delivered; bituminous, \$9 to \$10.50; Saskatchewan, \$7.50.

FURNITURE.

There has been a slight livening up in this trade during the past week, and quite a few small orders from the country have been filled. The aggregate of sales is still small and ear lots are not yet beginning to move.

GROCERIES.

The general improvement which has been felt in most lines for two weeks or so, has not been felt so decidedly in this staple branch, still activity has been increasing during that time although there is as yet nothing like & cush. Collections are reported only fair. Prices of goods have not changed with the exception of teas which have stiffened up under we affuences and may soon chow a decided upware move. Quotations now are as follows: Sugars-Yellows, 64 to 7e; granulated, S to Sic; Paris lun ps 10c and a further advance is still looked for. Coffes and Teas are firm and unchanged quotations being as follows: Rios, 14 to 16c; Javas, 22 to 25c; Jamaiens, 17 to 20c; Mochas, 30 to 34c. Tez, still ranges as follows: Moyune gunpowder, 30 to 75c; new seasons, 65 to 85e; Japans, 25 to 50c, new seasons, 40 to 55c; Congous, 30 to 75c; new seasons, 55 to 90c. Syrups, single crown, \$2.50, and triple crown, \$2.75 per keg.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

Owing to the mild weather trade in this line has rather declined and the teeling that things were about to mend has been rather checked. Collections have not been at all satisfactory. There has been no change in prices nor is any looked for before the opening of navigation. Quotations are: Tin-plates, I.C., 14 x 20, \$6 to 6.25; 20 x 28, \$12 to 12.50; Canada plates, \$3.80 to 4; sheet-iron, 28 G, \$4.75 to 5.25 per 100 lb; iron-pipe, 40 to 50 per cent. cff list prices; ingot-tiu, 25 to 30c per lb; galvanized

iron, 28 gauge, 7½ to 8c per 1b, according to quality; bar-iron, \$2.75 to 3.25 per 100 lb; cut nails, \$3.50 to 3.75 per keg.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

The improved tone in these lines noted in our last, has been well sustained during the past week which has been a very satisfactory one to dealers. Collections are reported good and prices unchanged and are as follows: Spanish sole, 33c to 35c; slaughter sole, 35c; French caif, first choice, \$1.40 to 1.50; demestic, 85c; B Z calf, \$1 to 1.25; French kip, \$1.00 to 1.10; B Z kip, 85c to 90c; slaughter kip, 65c to 75c; No. 1 wax upper, 50c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, 33c to 36c for plumb stock; Euglish oak sole, 65c.

LUMBER.

The movement in this market noticed in our last has been rather checked by the cold weather of the past week, and all sales have been of a weal: character. It is expected, however, that a general movement for the better will make itself felt before the end of the present month.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS.

Trade in this line during the past week has been moderately steady, though it cannot be said to have been anything like heavy. From this out a steady increase is looked for. Quotations are unchangeed though a drop in oils is looked for. Prices are as follows: Linseed oil raw, 69c per gal; boiled, 72c; sea oil, steam refined, \$1.10; no pale or straw scal in the market; castor, 15c per lb; lard, No. 1 \$1.30 per gal.; olive, \$1.50 to \$2, according to quality; machine oils, black 30c; oleine 50c; fine qualities, 65c to \$1. Coal oils, headlight. 27c; water white 33c. Calcined plaster, \$4.00 per bbl.; l'ortland cement, \$6; white lead, genuine, \$8.00; No. 1, \$7.50; No 2, \$7. Window glass, first break, are quoted at \$2.50.

SADDLERY AND HARNESS.

Trade has been moderately steady in this line, but no improvement, of any greatness is expected before spring really sets in.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

The general tene of this market is still unchanged. Business has been moderately steady. Collections are reported from fair to good.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

This market has been very quiet during the past week and all sales, which have been very light in character, have been chiefly confined to staple goods. Prices are as follows:—Gcoderham & Wort's, in wood, \$1.55 to 2.25 per gallon; 65 o.p. rectified, in wood, \$2.50; W.F.L. five-year-old, \$2.50 per gallon; cases, quarts, \$7.50; flasks \$4.50.

THE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

The grain movement during the past week has been very light, and it is evident that receipts will remain so for a month or two, antil seeding operations are nearly completed. Light as they have been, they have filled the demand existing so far as wheat is concerned.

Millers have now in store about as much as they wish to carry at present, and they have been careless about purchasing car load lots offered, believing that street receipts will be sufficient for their demand until their stocks are materially lessened. As a natural corsequence, prices have been a shade easier during the week. With oats the situation is something similar. Several dealers are holding quite heavy stocks, while in the country a large proportion of the best of the crop has not left the hands of the farmers. Prices are a shade easier but very little lower, and the market has a feeling of being bolstered. With the opening of seeding operations, receipts will be almost entirely shut off and that may create a firmer teeling. In provisions the general feeling is fair, although butter is still in the same demoralized state. Meats, however, have shown a firm tendency, and general lines have been in fair demand.

WHEAT.

Millers are taking off their country buyers, and the season is fast drawing to a close. Prices have been decidedly easier during the week. No. 1 hard was scarce and quoted nominally at 70c; No. 2 was worth 65c; No. 1 regular, 65c; No. 2, 60; No. 3, 55c; rejected 40 to 48c.

OATS

A light demand has failed to make any mailed reduction in prices, and hethers still demand 37 to 38c. There can lots have sold at these figures.

BARLEY.

There has not been enough of this grain in the market to admit of reliable quotations.

FLOUR.

There is still no shipping to eastern markets going on, and the local demand during the week has not been very active. Mills are all running but stocks are not accuma ating. Prices are unchanged, quotations being: Patents, \$2.30; st ong beken, \$2; XXXX, \$1.65; superfine \$1.25.

BRAN AND SHORTS.

The output of the mills is wanted as fast as it is available, and more could be sold. Prices have been: bran, \$11 a ton; shorts, \$13.

POTATOES.

There has been an effort made to force prices which has only been partially successful. Small lots cold at 50c, but with a return of mild weather the old figures will soon be reached.

EGGS.

Packed eggs are now almost out of the market and fresh have been steadily falling in price. Early in the week they sold at 27c but near its close they could be bought at 23 to 24.

BUTTER.

There is still an over supply on the market, although prime lots are not so very plentiful. Some really good local has sold at 18 to 20c.

CHEESE,

Stocks are getting low in the city, and prices hold steady at 14 to 15c for good to choice.

BACON.

There has been an increasing demand during 'n week, and prices have been firm. Dry sait is worth 9½ to 10e; 10lls, 13 to 13½e; and breakfast, 13½ to 14c.

HAMS

have been firm all week, and tending upwards in price. Local smoked are now quoted at 14c.

MESS PORK.

Light as they have been, they have filled the demand eristing so far as wheat is concerned. I the demand has been slow during the week.

Local packed is quoted at \$19, while Chicago is held at \$19.50 to \$20.

MESS BEEF.

There has been scarcely any asked for during the week, and the quotation of \$17 may be considered purely nominal.

DRESSED HOGS.

The demand holds steady while receipts have been rather light. Prices are a shade finner, the range being from \$5.50 to \$6.

MINNEAPOLIS

The course of the wheat macket the past week has been marked by alight fluctuations, light trading and much firmness. Receipts were small and shipments fair. There has been a steady demand for hard grades, and holders have become very stiff in their views—so much so as to frighten buyers off, some days. The cold snap which has just closed stopped seeding in southern Dakota, but its effects are not at all serious, owing to its brevity. A rumor that France will not raise her grain duty caused firmness to-day.

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

Wheat. Highest. Lowest. Closing 1883;
Mar. 19
No. 1 hard. \$2\frac{1}{2}\$... \$1 ... \$1\frac{1}{2}\$ \$1.01\frac{1}{2}\$
" 2 " ... \$0 ... 78 ... 79\frac{1}{2}\$ 97
" 1 70 ... 68 ... 70 93
" 2 65 ... 64 ... 65 \$6\frac{1}{2}\$

Futures were higher, No. 1 hard, May, opening at 85½ and closing at 85c; No. 2 hard, May, 82c.

MILISTUFF.—Has been strong and higher, bulk bran closing at \$9.50 to \$9.75 and shorts at \$9.75 to \$10.25 per ton.

FLOUR.—The flour market has not been an mated, but there has been a better demand for domestic consumption and millers who ten drys ago were seriously contemplating a shut down are now working on orders which will keep them going some weeks, and are confident that the market will give them a chance to mu steadily through the spring. The export demand is very light, and offers are a shilling lower than last week, but there is no anxiety about the foreign trade so long as domestic orders come in freely and production is limited by low water.

Quotations for car or round lots at the mills are as follows: Patonts, \$4.50 to 4.85; straights, \$4.15 to \$4.60; first bakers', \$3.40 to 3.65; second bakers', \$3 to 3.30; best low grades, \$1.90 to 2.10 in bags; red dog, \$1.50 to 1 60 in bags.

During the week ending Wednesday there was a very appreciable improvement in the Minneapolis water power, and as a result the flour production has become much heavier. The water averaged very good last week, as the last three days coming not far from mating the full demands of those mills running. The result has been a larger output than for some weeks. The production for the week (ending Saturday) was 92,140 hhls- averaging 13,167 bhis daily for seven days—against \$2,040 the preceding week, 22d 72,322 for the corresponding time in '884. On 5' inday and

Tuesday of the current week the water was excellent, but Wednesday morning it began to fall, and in the afternoon had become quite low but this condition was thought to be occasioned by temporary causes. More of the flour is now being made with water power, and less with steam. One mill of 3,000 bbls capacity, driven by steam, was shut down Wednesday night, and only two mills of 2,500 bbls, thus operated, are now running. The production the current week will probably reach or exceed 100,000 The inquiry for flour is som what better, as indicated last week. There was considemble foreign inquiry Wednesday. Mil'ers holding hard wheat in quantity seem quite confident that will be wanted in the near fature, though they do not look for any strong demand immediately prospective.

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

RECEIPTS.

Wheat, bush	Meb. 17.	Meh 10.	Meh. 3.
	385,300	394,850	427,700
	420	640	390
Milistuff, tons.	24	38	12

SHIPMESTS.

	Meh. 17.	Mch. 10.	Mch. 3.
Wheat, bush	74,000	51,380	104,400
Flour, bbls	93,274	76,744	75,201
Millstuff, tons	2,419	2,291	1,972

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

MINNEAPOLIS.

	311224	APOLIS.	
		Mch. 16.	Mch. 9.
No. 1 hard		1,242,408	1,252,967
No. 2 hard		102,101	97,769
No. 1		1,791,697	1,813,649
No. 2		11,923	8,408
No. 3		2,84,332	287,262
Rejected		16,260	13,454
Special bins	••	586,181	666,225
Total		. 4,034,905	4,139,734
	ST. P.	AUL.	
in elevators,	Mch. 18	3. Meh. 11.	Mcb. 4
bas	1,145,000	1,152,000	1,174,000
	บบน	JTH.	
	Mch 18	. Mch. 9.	Mch. 2.
la clevators,			
bus	5,887,000	5,823,079	1,747,170
-Northiceste	rn Miller.	• •	

CHICAGO.

On Monday a moderate degree of activity prevailed in the wheat market and prices changed frequently. The market, influenced by reports of cold weather, opened strong, but when the pressing demand was supplied the feding weakened somewhat and closed weak. Recipts of corn 261 cars. The speculative bainess was moderate though prices were rather firm early, but later declined in sympathy with wheat. Business in the oat market was lighter than usual with small speculations and large cash offerings. The day's business in pork on speculative account was quite fair. May and June being the leading futures. Lard declined 74c. Trading was quite fair with closing sales at unsettled figures.

Wheat		••			Mar. \$0.74	Apl. \$0.743
Com	••	••			375	38
Oats	••	• •			28	28
Pork			• •		12.324	12.371
LAID	••	••	. •	• •	G.873	6.97

On Tuesday the wheat market opened rather bullish with more or less disposition shown to realize; the market finally closed about ‡c lower than yesterday afternoon, owing to a further increase in the rvisible supply. Receipts of corn were 379 cars; a weaker feeling developed and prices inclined somewhat lower, influenced largely by the increase in the visible supply. Oats were dull; a liberal increase in the visible supply. Oats were dull; a liberal increase in the visible supply brought out freer offerings under which futures declined ¾ and ½c. Trading in pork was moderately active but the general feeling was one of weakness. In lard an easier feeling prevaited, the market closing steady at medium figures.

Wneat				- .,	Mar. 80 74	Apl. \$0.74}
Corn					374	374
Oats			• •		274	278
Pork					$12.32\frac{1}{2}$	12.35
Lard	• •	• •	. •		6.873	6.90

On Wednesday there was a fair degree of activity in the wheat market and prices changed quite frequently, but towards the close, as the English markets showed no improved prices, weakened somewhat and closed barely steady. Receipts of corn 213 cars; a moderately active speculative business prevailed. The market closed about to bester than last night. Oats were quiet and slow and hardly anything doing for the day, and at the close were about the same as yesterday. Pork quiet, but steady, with limited fluctuations and no quotable change in prices. The feeling in this market in lard was steady and prices unchanged.

					Mar.	Apl.
Wheat	t	• •	• •		\$0.74	\$0.743
Corn					37 2	373
Oats				·	27 <u>1</u>	273
Pork					12.32j	12.35
Lard		• •	• •		$6.87\frac{7}{5}$	6.90

On Thursday prices in the wheat market were generally stronger with a fairly active business doing and closed with seller April about to higher than it closed last night. Receipts of corn were 301 cars; a moderate business in the way of speculation was done and at the close seller April stood &c lower than last night. In the oat market a better feeling prevailed, but later a quieter state prevailed in the speculative market, and finally closed at an advance of the over yesterday's quotations. Pork, based on yesterday's quotations, dropped 35c. with active trading. Trading in laid was quite active, outside prices prevailed at the opening but later declined and finally closed 74c under under yesterday.

				Mar.	zipi.
Wheat	t			\$0.74}	\$0.747
Corn	••			375	375
Oats		 	٠.	273	279
Pork		 		11.95	12.00
Lard			٠.	8.75	6.50

On Friday cash wheat was rather quiet, but there was a good business doing in speculative grades. Seller March was in good demand at almost 5c below May, while April was rather quiet. May was in steady demand, and prices all round were a shade firmer than during the provious day. In corn receipts were liberal and prices in sympathy with wheat, although the business done was light. Oats were firm in price and in good demand. In both pork and lard the business done was light, and prices Soc.

were ra	r steady.	Clo	sing c	notations	were:	
		•			Mar.	Apl.
Wheat		••	٠.		\$0.751	\$0.757
Corn		• .			373	38
Oats		• •				283
Pork					$12.07\frac{1}{2}$	12.10
Lard					$6.82\frac{1}{2}$	6.85

On Saturday wheat opened at about the closing figures of the previous day, but was generally weak, and hung heavily during the session, speculation being inactive, and closed something lower than on Friday. Receipts were light, and no circumstance accounted for the weak feeling. Corn was quiet also, receipts being liberal and speculative demand light, and closed lower. Oats were dull and prices inclined to drop both in each and futures. Pork was very weak and closed fully 15c below Friday. Lard was in sympathy and rather weak. Closing quotations were:

Wheat			Mar. \$0.74‡	Apl. \$6.74#
Corn	 		373	371
Oats	 	 		27 Å
Pork	 	 	11.85	11.875
Lard	 	 	6.75	$6.77\frac{1}{2}$

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

The past week has been an uneventful one on the stock market, and the business done has been very light. Bank stocks generally have been lower than our last report, but there has been no very marked decline in any particular instance. Still there is a feeling that the bearish element are in the ascendancy, and further concessions are asked for by this element, but stoutly refused by holders. The consequence has been, that in several stocks no trading has been done for some days, and bids are not quoted. The closing hids of March 11th and March 18th are quoted below as an index to the state of the market.

			2	Mar. 11.	Mai	r. 18.
Montreal		• •		1943		1942
Ontario	• •	••		1103		109
Moison's					٠.	112
Toronto		, .		182		181
Merchants'		•••		1123		1113
Commerce	• .			1219	٠.	1201
Imperial				$123\bar{3}$		
Federal				46 <u>î</u>		45
Dominion				188		
Standard	• •			111		
Hamilton				1184		_
Northwest !	Land	••	••	36	•	393

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

While receipts of grain have been on the decrease, the demand has held quite steady, and with prices reasonably firm although in wheat slightly lower than reported in our last, and in barley the feeling has also been easier. Oats are still all wanted as they are offered and hold firm in price. In provisions the feeling has been better. Meats have been in moderate and steady demand, although not at any higher prices than we quoted last week. The batter market has improved considerably, medium lots being now moving a little, but at greatly reduced prices. Prime qualities are still in good demand.

WHEAT.

Wheat in fair demand and prices moderately steady early in the week, but later the demand became less active and prices took a downward tendency with very light receipts, and closed at the following quotations: No. 1 apring, S2c; No. 2 fall, S2c; No. 2 spring, S0c; No. 3 fall, S0c.

OATS.

Have been in demand with all offerings freely taken at steady prices, which were as follows: On track, 30ic; on street, 50c, with more wanted at these figures.

BARLEY.

This market has shown noactivity during the week, and as to prices has shown some weakness, with street receipts light and selling at from 60 to 75c, other prices were as follows: No. 1, f.o.c. 67c and extra No. 3, 62c.

RYE.

This market still continues inactive and unchanged as to price, nor does there seem to be any immediate prospect of any improvement. Price on street 59c.

PEAS.

Street receipts still continue small but there has been some movement in lots lying outside. Had any car lots been offered on the spot they would have brought 60c. Prices on street have ranged from 58 to 60c.

POTATOES.

During the early part of the week a few car lots at 35c, but later were in poor demand. Receipts on street have been very light but firm at from 40 to 45c.

EGGS.

An easier feeling has prevailed in this market during the week and the demand for all sorts has been less active and prices unsettled. Quotations are as follows: Limed, 12 to 15c.; new laid, 20c, and in small lots 21 to 22c.

CHEESE.

Stocks in this market still continue to run lower, and all holders are in consequence still firm on all sorts. The market as to prices is however nominally unchanged. Small lots still selling at 11½ for medium to 12½ for from good to choice.

BUTTER.

This market is comparatively speaking unchanged, though there has been some little shipping demand. A few lets of medium changing hands at 9c, which butter would have brought 15c last fall. Really choice dairy still continues scarce and steady at from 17 to 18c. Rolls scarce at from 14 to 15c, and the same on street have brought 20 to 22c.

PORK.

No movement has as yet been reported in round lots, and small ones have been in slow demand at from \$15.50 to 16.00.

BACON.

Has been in poor demand with car lots nominal. Long clear easier at 84c. Cumberland inactive but firm at 74c in small lot. Rolls unchanged at 10 and 104c and bellies 11 to 114c in small lots and in poor demand.

HAMS.

Have been in fait demand with prices somewhat insettled. Prices have ranged as follows: Smoked 11½c in small lots and pickled 10c.

LARD

The demand in this market has been less active but unchanged as to prices which were as follows: Tinnets and pails 10 to 10½c and 9½c for Tierces.

POULTRY.

No box lots have been received and receipts small at steady and unchanged prices. Hen turkeys, \$1.00 to \$1.25; golblers, \$1.50 to \$2; geese, 80c to \$1.10; fowl, 65 to 75c per pair, and ducks, 80c to \$1.00.

APPLES.

The shipping demand for russets still continues good with sales at \$2. Street-receipts atill continue small at \$1.50 to \$1.75 for mediam and from \$2.00 to \$2.25 for choice.

Commercial Summary.

Telegrams from nearly all the larger cities to Bradstreet's announce an improved feeling as to the outlook for general trade. At most points, with the arrival of better weether, there has been an increased number of sales in dry goods and other staples, although interior purchasers do not appear to be taking goods in excess of immediate wants in any instance. Dry goods jobbers at eastern markets continue to find cause for some encoaragement, while commission agents report their trade relatively flat. The check put on the movement of merchandise by the striking employes of the Gould railways has disturbed trade the region tributary to those roads, particularly at St. Louis. In some lines of business, at larger western cities, renewed activity is apparent. The commercial demand for funds at Chicago and elsewhere west has increased, and for the above and other reasons traders have been inclined to look with more favor on the prospects for business during the latter portion of 1885. The industrial situation in the east is rather worse than better. The Pittsburgh region soft-coal miners, variously reported from 6,000 to 9,000 in number, have stopped work, demanding 3c. nstead of 2gc, yer beshel. The carpet weavers' strike near Philadelphia and at Yonkers, N. Y., are unrelieved, while, in addition to the former industrial troubles in New England, there is more talk than before of the necessity for shutting down the cotton mills, owing to the present unprofitableness of the business. One encouraging sign is a (very guardedly admitted) more hopeful feeling in the general eastern pig iron trade. No advance in prices is expected in the near future, and no "boom" in any event, but makers and their agents are inclined to look more favorably on the situation and outlook. The speculative markets have vibrated sharply under reports of impending war between Great Britain and Russia. Railway stocks, wheat, corn, petroleum, cotton and hog products have felt the influence. Increased speculative activity in breadstuffs, hog products, oil and cotton have been more conspicuous than enlarged transactions for export. Europe has not attempted to buy largely and distinctly depressed the price of cotton. Wheat has been exceptionally active during the week, and No. 2 red, spot, closes at 92c., against 91c. a week ago; Indian co.n, No. 2 mixed, at 51 kc., against 51 kc., and refined lard, 7.50c. per pound, and pork at \$13.50 per barvel, against 9.50c. and \$13.50 per barrel on the Corn has been less violent in its movement than wheat. The Produce Exchange Weekly of last night says of winter-killed wheat that "Illinois and Kansas, southern Onio and Indiana are the chief complaining states." Bradstreet's reported March 7 that the probable loss in Kansas was 15 per cent, and in southern Ohio from the cause named and reduced area half a crop, and that the loss in Indiana was serious but indeterminate. Renewed inquiries this week show nothing further. The Illinois State Agricultural Bureau has received no advices concerning the condition of wheat in that state. Raw cotton at New York has declined on the week from 113 to 11 3-16 for middling

uplands. The bulls had all they could carry at best, and under the circumstances rumors of foreign complications gave the advantage to the bears. Nearly all grocery staples are weak. Coffee, sugar and spices are lower, and distribution is no heavier. Dairy products are Wool prices are not improved, and though steady in some lines the tendency is now downward. There were 250 failures in the United States during the past week reported to Bradstreet's, as compared with 222 in the preceding week, and with 186, 233, and 140 re. spectively in the corresponding weeks of 1884. 1883, and 1882. About 90 per cent. were those of small traders, whose capital was less than \$5000. Canada had 36, a decrease of 2.

Underselling.

The evils of underselling by traders are dealt with by the Commercial Bulletin as follows:

Underselling is constantly practiced, some times by new aspirants for business, sometimes by unscrupulous traders, and sometimes even by houses which mean well but cannot resist the prevailing custom. Every merchant will find this lion in his path, and the descriptions of underselling vary. One man makes a cut on sugar, another on nails, a third by adroit mixing offers a forty-cent tea, a fourth sells kerosene at less than the wholesale price. In one store a prize of crockery is offered for every dollars worth of goods purchased. In anoth er, so many cents in every dollar's worth of goods bought are returned to the purchase Here, an additional cent per pound is effered for the farmer's butter-there an extra dime for his hundred weight of pork.

Too many merchants, dividing the trade, it one prolific cause of such demoralizing busiess methods. Every man is eager to eatch the stream of custom. But suppose he has caught it, is he advantaged thereby if he does not all at a profit? Goods sold habitually below their cost are not likely to be paid for in full, and a contemporary puts it: "The man who undersells runs in a crooked groove, at every turns which bankraptcy is written."

Selling below cost is a mode of appropristing the proceeds of goods without paying the purchase money; and when carried on was deliberate design is a form of fraud which a more serves to be condoned than shop-lifting a pocket-picking.

If we tell a storekeeper that he must not us dercut, that it is immoral, unbusinesslike, si cidal, he will very likely reply: "Very god, then I might as well put up my shutters The man next door is openly cutting, thefirmacas the street does the same thing on the sly, w between the two my occupation will be gox if I don't also lower my prices." Well, te truth is that if every general storekeeper is the country who don't understand his busines would put up his shutters and keep themth a Letter state of things would be possible But we need not look for this. Some mustk weeded out; let the wholesale dealers see wit that their places are not filled. Discriminitiz must be made in favor of the honest, comp tent, methodical country merchant; and is sooner the fools and the knaves are driver

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of the business, the better for the trade of the country. The trader who pays his way must sell at a profit, and cannot afford to cut below others in the same line.

Questionable Taxation in Manitoba,

Numerous enquiries with respect to the taxstion of unpatented lands in Manitoba having reached as since we quoted the most recent provincial statute in reply to our correspondent "J. R. M., Prince Albert," a research beyond the Manitoba Municipal Act, 1884, nas tended to establish the conviction, which seems largely to prevail in the province itself, that the legislature has exceeded its constitutional powers. The chief point of interest is whether the local assembly has the right to assess and collect taxes in respect of homesteaded or other lands for which not patent has been granted by the Grown. That it assumes to do so is clear from the following section of the Act, which we quote in its entirety :-

"288 .- Unpatented land vested in or held by Her Majesty, which may be reafter be sold or agreed to be sold to any person, or which may be located as a free grant, shall be liable to traction from the date of such homestead or pre-emption entry, location, sale, or grant; and any such land which has been already sold, or agreed to be sold to any person, or has been located as a free grant, prior to the first day of January, 1883, shall be held to have been liable January, 1883, snan or new common January, to taxation since the first day of January, be liable to taxation thenceforward under this Act, in the same way as other hand, whether any license or occupation, location ticket. certificate of sale, or receipt for money paid on such sale has or was not been, or is or is not issted; and in case of sale, or agreement for sale, by the Crown, whether any payment has or has not been made thereon, and whether any part of the parchase money is or is not overdue; but such taxation shall not in any way affect the rights of Her Majecty in such lands."

In order to form an opinion as to the power of the Legislature to tax the unpatented lands which the section above is designed to reacn, it is necessary to refer to the Imperial and Dominion statutes whence all its powers have been derived. Sec. 125 of the British North Ameriea Act, 1867, declares that "no lands or pro perty belonging to Canada or any province shall be liable to taxotion," while section 30 of "the Manitoba Act" (33 Vic. chap. 3), passed by the Dominion Parliament, expressly provides that all ungranted or waste lands in the province shall be, from and after the date of the transfer, vested in the Crown and administered by the Government of Canada for the parposes of the dominion. It has ever been the policy of the department of the interior, which is specially charged with the administration of the public lands in Manitoba and the Territories, to maintain its control of such hads until the actual issue of the patent. Thes we find, by referring to the clauses of the Dominion Lands Act; 1883, governing the issue of the parents, that the Minister of the Interior may exercise his discretion as the merits of conficting claims prior to issue of the patent for my lands, though the adjustment of any matter in dispute regarding lands which have been fateated is relegated to a court of competent jerdisdiction.

The attempt to impose taxation upon unpatented lands is doubtless made upon the assumpion that those who claim such lands in advance of the granting of a title in fee simple enjoy a certain degree of "right, title, and interest" which is a tangible subject for the tax gatherer. As regards the holder of a homestead ertry this is surely a misconception. Such a settler has prid no consideration for the land-only a fee for the recording of an entry, and this fee upon the distinct assertion of the Dominion Lands Act (sec. 27, sub-section 3), that "the title to the land shall not be liable to be taken in exccution before the issue of the patent." If the Provincial Act can, by one clause, lawfully impose taxation upon land which is clearly not the homesteader's, but the Crown's, it can with equal success over-ride the inferior law, in carrying out another clause of the same statute, by causing the land to be sold when taxes are two years in arrears. In such case the settler though relying upon the promise of protection given by the Dominion Government, might find his homestead sold from under him by the tax gatherer before he had had time to earn his patent by three years, residence and cultivation.

That lands which have been purchased enjoy immunity from taxation until the issue of the patent from the Crown is not so clear, as in this case a "right, title, and interest" of the purchaser is undoubtedly created when he pays into the hands of the proper agent of the Goverument the whole or a part of the purchase money. Still, it would be difficult for the assessor or collector to prove the existence of such a title, as no proper documentary evidence of the same would exist. The practice of the Department of the Interior allows its agents simply to give an "interim sales receipt" which declares that a certain sum has been received from a certain person "being payment in full for the undermentioned land purchased by him," after which follows a brief description. This is not an agreement for sale, and there is no covenant to convey. Numerous instances have occurred in which, in consequence of an error or for some other cause, such receipts have been cancelled by the Minister and the would-be purchasers have had their money refunded.

The assessors have, it seems, included in the tax listy lands purchased from the Canadian Pacific Railway Company under agreement, and here again it appears that the powers of the local authority have been sheltered, for a correspondent under the nom de plane of "Lex," writes 'o a Winnipeg paper, asserting that such taxes are unlawful, as the title to the lands in question is vested in the company, and they are exempt by the company's charter. But lands which the company has sold it cannot fairly be said to own; and if they are not taxable, a double burthen must fall on other lands.— Mondary Times.

The Boston rubber market is gradually strengthening up, and the reports from the English manufacturers have been free buyers. Buyers manifest no uneasiness and are not anticipating their wants.

Edison's Inventions.

More applications for patents have been filed by Thomas A. Edison than any living individual in this or foreign countries. Edison made his first application for a patent July 1, 1869. He was then barely 22 years old. It was a rather clever contrivance for registering automatically the votes of legislative bodies. Since that time he has filed 641 applications, out of which number 155 have already been granted. There has been a steady decline in the applications for several years past. The largest number for any one year was 132 in 1882. In 1883 the number dropped to 71 and last year it was only 23.

"How do you account for this decline?' asked a correspondent of the examiner in charge.

"Edison's contracts with the electric light syndicate keeps him so busily engaged that he has no time for outside matters. He receives a retaining fee of \$25,000 a year from the Western Union Telegraph Company. They agree to pay bim this sum for an indefinite number of years in return for which Edison assigns to them the full ownership in all patents relating to telegraph improvements. His royalty from the same company for the use of his quadrupiex instrument is probably \$50,000 per annum and he no doubt receives a like sum from the directors of the New York Electric Light Company. Fifteen years ago he was following his avocation as a telegraph operator and earning \$100 a month."

"Is Edison the most successful of the latter ady inventors?"

"Scientifically he is far in advance of all others. Brush his principal competitor in electric lights, has money. His income is \$2,000 a day. He is probably the richest of any living laventors. He has made every penny of it since 1879. Edison and Brush are very young men. Edison is thirty-eight and Brush thirty six.—Chicago Journal of Commerce.

Floating Saw-Mill.

One of the most interesting sights on the Lower Mississippi is the system of utilizing driftwood. A small saw-mill is erected on 2 steamboat, and this vessel goes up and down the river, and into each bayou, picking up the valuable logs and at once converting them into marketable lumber, which is sold at the river towns, or even delivered at a planter's wharf. Now and then one may see the black and brown saw-mill boat moored to the bank, with fifty or a hundred longs lashed alongside, with a stream of fragrant yellow saw-dust twirling into the turbid current. The red-shirted negroes slowly pull in a log, and start it up the inclined plane to the twirling steel teeth that rasp it into planks with one long sweep and sound; others pile up the lamber beside the engine till the deck is loaded. Then the boat is untied, and moves slowly down stream with its attendant raft of logs. It is said that the only danger to be apprehended is in finding spikes or nails in float-wood, which Lreak the saws and cause serious accidents; but all susnicious-looking logs are carefully scrutinized before use. - Cincinnati Enquirer.

The Northwest Territory and Its Trade.

Within the past ten years only has there been any general knowledge of the natural wealth and enormous productive capacity of the Northwest, enculated in the States Provinces of England. Since that time the struggle for the control of its vast future traffic has become more and more bitter, and intense among the railways this side of the lice, and also as between the Canadians and A. rericans, each of the latter determined not only to control the business originating within their own domain but to take a slice from the other side. The Americans were a little quicker in furnishing transportation facilities with which to control trade. but the rapacity of the Northwest lines so stimulated the Canadians and their English backers that they are now rapidly putting the finishing touches onto an independent system of railroads of their own, which if conducted on an economical plan and liberal principles will keep not only their carrying trade at home but draw a large part of the business along the border this side the line. When it is taken into account that the British provinces of the Northwest comprise a territory nearly a thousand miles square, and much of it a most fertile region, capable of supporting a much greater population than all New England; and that their natural outlet was or should be through Minnesota the nonsense and stupidity of railroad management in Minnesota becomes apparent. Never was the killing of the goose that laid the golden eggs better illustrated than in this case. But for the hoggishness and e..tortions of our lines the Canadian Pacific and its pendant branches to our line would not have been constructed at such enormous expense, especially the division between Winnipeg and Port Arthur. We may now look forward to a time when the territory north and west of Minneapolis will raise as much grain as the United States now produces, with all the dependent manufacture and commerce which would naturally go hand in hand with such productive wealth. Besides this the commerce between the two old worlds must for all time to come, pass through this territory, bringing with it the products of every clime, at reduced rates of transportation. It will devolve on the great manufacturing centers like Minneapolis, Duluth, St. Cloud, Rat Portage, etc., to put into portable shape much of the products of this vast country to be exported or consumed at home. The coming empire is now having its birth and while we stand in astonishment at the progress made it is but the faint beginning. Where is the timber to come from to supply the wants of tue coming multitude .- Miss. Valley Lumberman.

Restricting Speculation.

St. Louis elevator men are considerable excreised over a bill which has been introduced in the Missouri legislature making it a mi-demeanor for elevator men to mix different grades grain, and a misdemeanor for elevator men to deal in options or to be connected with commission firms. The first is a matter of importance in one way, for, as elevator men state, it absolutely necessary to mix grades there, so as to produce a grain that will conform to the standards of other markets. With reference to the other matter one of them said: "I for one, have no desire to buy grain, but it is often necessary for elevator men to purchase cash wheat or corn and sell futures when there is anything near carrying charges, for the purpose of drawing grain to this market and at the same time putting something in their bins to make storage. Unfortunately, we have had a very light stock of cash and futures being nearly the same and the demand for the east being so large it kept the price of cash up, so we received very little corn in the elevators."—Northwestern Miller.

Birmingham Novelties.

Among the latest novelties in Birmingham goods are a bracelet to retail at one penny, a "safety" opener for bottles in which the stopper must be pressed downwards, a combination of an opener for such bottles and a corkserew, and a billiard chalk holder, all of which are being brought out by Messrs. Concy & Co., Lionel street, Birmingbam. A valuable feature in the bottle openers is that the compressed air of the bottle is allowed to escape through the opener immediately the stopper falls. The contents are also saved, as the glass is used to press down the stopper. The protection of the hand by the opener, should such bottles break, is also an improvement. The chalk-holder for billiard-players has the advantage that it enables the chalk to be kept clean, to be carried convenioniently in the pocket, and that it obviates the unpleasantness which many people experience when touching chalk. In this respect Messis. Coney's invertion would be hailed by school-teachers, lecturers, and others, who have occasion to handle pieces of chalk, the effects of which on the fingers are extremely objectionable, - British Trade Journal.

General Notes.

The Italian glove industry has been so much affected by the industrial depression that the production of last year fell off 20 per cent.

The steamer Beaver, which was launched in 1835, and was the first steam vessel ever in the Pacific, was pronounced perfectly sound by the inspector at Victoria, British Columbia, Tuesday, February 24.

Shipping is in so extremely a depressed coadition in Liverpool that, as a remedy for it, some ship-owners will carry goods from Liverpool to London, ria New York, at several shillings per ton less than if they were sent direct, although wharf and trans-shipment dues have frequently to be paid in America.

A paper-mill, it is reported, will be established at an early date in Matauzas, Cuba, for the manufacture of wrapping-paper. Cane megass, which has been lately discovered to be a very good stock, will, no doubt, be used to a great extent; and, as it is nearly valueless in Cuba on account of its great abundance, and the protective tariff, there is every reason to believe that the enterprise will prove a profitable one.

South African ostriches are laying eggs so abundantly that only a small proportion can be

hatched. One gentleman says "that he had 300 eggs lying in his camp last week. Several have been sold on the Graaff Reinet market for culinary proposes at 9s. per dozen. This ought to bring paneakes, puddings, and omelettes within the reach of all, for one ostrich egg is, on the average, equal to two dozen hen's eggs. The incubator may be considered exploded. It is known to have filled the camps with Cape chicks of impaired constitutions or deformed bodies; and, now that the rage for buying ostrich chicks at high prices, irrespective of 'antecedents,' is past, the incubator is stowed away with the old lumber."

The cable system for running street cars is said to be a complete success in Philadelphia. The cable, as it runs on the pulleys in the tun nel beneath the street, makes a buzzing kind of noise which can only be heard on the street when everything else is quiet. The grips work well, and also the brakes. When the Sauson street station, now in course of erection on San som street, below Ninth, is completed, its cable will carry the ears at this point as far south as McKean street, and the station at Twentieth and Market streets will complete the system and furnish sufficient power to run all the passenger cars of the Traction Company's lines, and many more if necessary All of these branches will probably be completed by April 1. The only matter now in the way of the immediate regular running of the cars on the completed section is the want of sufficient drilled brakemen.

Recent Legal Decisions.

NATIONAL BANK -- POWER TO PURCHASE LAND.—A national bank has the power to purchase such real estate as shall be mortgaged to it in good faith by way of security for debt previously contracted, and if in order to secure the same debt it purchases other real estatent mortgaged to it that does not affect the title to the layd it was authorised to purchase. So held by the Supreme Court of the United State in the case of Reynolds vs. First National Back of Crawfordsville.

DERT — CONVEYANCE — MORTGAGE.—When the owner in fee of seal estate conveyed its same to a trustee to secure a debt to a third person, and where after the granting classes the trustee in fee there was a condition that it the debt was paid at matarity the conveyage was to be void, otherwise the trustee was and orised to sell the land at public sale to pay the same, the Supreme Court of Ohio held that the conveyance was a deed of trust in the natur of a mortgage, and not an absolute conveyance in trust to secure the debt. Martin is, Alka

FEDERAL COURTS—SUITS BY ASSIGNEE.—The clause in section 1 of the Judiciary Actof 1874 prohibiting the assignee of a non-negotiable contract from maintaining a suit thereon in the national courts, unless his assignor's right a maintain such suit on account of his citizenally and not to the amount of the claim or demail arising out of such contract. So held by the United States Circuit Court for the District of Oregon in the case of Hammond vs. Clevelar, decided on the 25th ult.

TELEPHONE MESSAGE - EVIDENCE.-Where A, desiring to talk over the telephone with B, asked the operator to call him, and the operator thereupon had a conversation with B, reporting to A, who was stending by, what B said as it came over the wire, the Kentucky Court of Appeals held that in a subsequent action between A and B the former might prove by himself and others what the operator reported to him as coming from B, the operator being called and not remembering the conversation. Sullivan et at. vs. Kuykendall, decided January 22.

PRINCIPAL AND AGENT-LIEN.-Where a principal consigns goods to an agent to sell under an agreement that the latter will accept bills drawn upon him by the former to the amount of goods so consigned on hand, it is a necessary inference that the drafts are to be drawn on the credit of the goods, and to the amount of acceptances outstanding the agent has a lien on the goods in his hands as security and is entitled to retain the same until the accentances are paid. The law implies or infers the lien from the relation between the parties. So held by the New York Court of Appeals in the case of Nagle vs. McFeeters.

SALE - DELIVERY -- ADVANCES. - Where money was advanced by a firm under an agreement that it was in purchasing tobacco, which was to be shipped to them and by them sold, and after the deduction of the expenses the proceeds were to be applied to the repayment of the advance, the Kentucky Superior Court held that the contract was completed by the defivery of the possession of the tobacco to a common carrier to be delivered to the firm advancing the money, and that the purchase then had no interest in it which could be subjected to the payment of his debts. Hobson et al. vs. Broach, decided February 11.

RAILROAD - RIGHT OF WAY - DAMAGES .-When the question whether the right of way has ever been acquired by a railroad company over land arises in a case such evidence is admissable in a condemnation by statutory proceeding, and injuries to crops, orchards, pastures and fences, resulting from the tearing down of fences of plaintiff at the time the railroad entered the land, and from the failure to 30 fence and guard its way where it entered and left the land that animals could not enter and destroy plaintiff's property, are proper elements of damage. Houston East & West Railroad Company vs. Adams et al., decided by the Supreme Court of Texas. — Bradstreet.

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Notice is hereby given that the partnership heretolore existing between us, the undersigned, as

WOODS OVENS 🔊 CO..

in the city of Winnipeg, has this day been dissolved by

in the city of manages, one continuous consent.

All debts owing to the said partnership are to be paid to Messrs Woods & Co., of the said city of Winhipeg, merchants, who will pay all debts due by said firm.

Instead at Winnipeg this seventh day of February, a.p.

Witness-J. W. Wilson.

A. WOODS. JESSIE OVENS, W. J. OVENS, ELIZABETH WOODS.

The above mentioned business heretofore carried on under the name of Woods, Ovens, & Co will be continued by the undersigned, WOODS & CO.

Winnipeg, 7th February, 1885.

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WINTER TIME TABLE.

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

Going west.		Going East
8.30 a.m.	leave Winnipeg arr	ive 6.30 'i.m.
11 05 "	Portage la Pigirie	4.00
3 00 p.m.	Braudon	12.30
11 00 "	Eroadview	2.00 a. a.,
5 25 a.m.	Regina	
8.00 "	Moose Jaw	5.30
3.40 p.m.	Swift Current	3.35 a.m.
9.40 "	Maple Creek	1.25 "
2.15 a.m.	Medicine Hat	9.00 p m.
4,30 p.m.		6.40 a.m.
	rrive Laggan lea	

1.10 a.m. arrive Laggan leave 8.60 p.m.
Trains between Winnipeg and Brandon daily, except
Sundays. Three trains a week between Winnipeg and
Moosejaw, leaving Winnipeg Tuesdays, Thursdays and
Saturdays, returning leave Moose jaw Sandays, Wednes
days and Fridays. Once a week between Winnipeg and
Laggan, leaving Winnipeg Tuesday; returning leave
Laggan Fridays. Train between Calgary raturning subject to cancellation at any time without notice

Gonig East		Going West
7 30 a.m.	Peace Winnipe, arriv	e 7 20 a m
3.05 p m.	Rat Portage	10 45 a m
2.00 à m	Barclay	12 3) a m
1.00 p.m. :	arri e Port Athor - le	a.e 1 30 u m

Train for Port Arthur leaves Womepeg Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, returning leaves "ort Arthur Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays

Gome South.		Going North.	
12.05 p.m. les	ive Winnipes	arrive 7.03 a.m.	
10.50 p.m.	Emerson	†4.15 a.m.	
8.40, 9 15 c.m.,	leate Wrompig.	a-ri-c 4 (4), 7 00 p m t	
10.30, 11.55 a.m.,	Morris	1.20, 5 05 p m	
11.40 a.m.,	Gretua	4.00 p m.	
5.00 p.m.	Manitou	£.30 a m.	

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

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

Train leaves Winnipeg for West Selkirk Tuesdays Thursdays and Saturdays at 4 p.m., arriving at Wes Selkirk 6 p.m. and Returning leaves West Selkirk Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 7 a m., arriving at Winnipeg 3 a.m.

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