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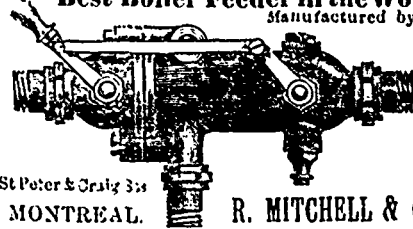
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A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE FINANCIAL, MERCANTILE AND MANUFACTURING INTERESTS OF THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

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

VOL. 5.

WINNIPEG, MAY 17TH, 1887.

No. 34.

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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JAMES E. STEEN,

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WINNIPEG, MAY 17, 1887.

H. KILLER, general storekeeper, Emerson, is dead.

THE Birtle tax sale has been stopped by an injunction.

A MONEY order office has been opened at Broadview, Assa.

DUNN & LINEHAM, of Calgary, have opened a butcher shop at Banff.

M. P. HOLMES, Rat Portage, has opened a branch store at Keowatin.

MRS. ANNOTT has opened a stock of fine fancy goods, etc., at 537 Main Street.

CHARLES FAWCETT, from Ontario, has opened a blacksmith shop near Carman, Man.

THE M. & N.W. railway depot at Minnedosa has been burned, from being struck by lightning.

THE prospects of Port Arthur getting a new postoffice and customs house at an early date appear to be good.

LEWIS SAMUEL, of the wholesale hardware house of M. & L. Samuel, Toronto, died in Victoria, B.C., last week.

A. E. SMITH, shoemaker, Winnipeg, late of Virden, has given up business here and returned to the latter place.

W. J. MITCHELT, druggist, Winnipeg, is moving his wholesale department to his new warehouse at 17 McDermott St., East.

THE partnership existing between Jefferson & Millie, storekeepers, South Battleford, has been dissolved and the business closed.

A BOARD of trade has been formed at Medicine Hat, with Mr. Tweed as president, T. B. Cochrane, vice-president and H. S. Scatcherd, secretary-treasurer.

A MEETING has been held at Morden in the interest of providing fire protection. The move is in the direction of procuring a steam fire engine and appliances.

THE directors of the Rockwood Dairy Co. have rented their cheese plant to Geo. A. Luno. The factory will be put in operation on the first of June. The terms for making and handling will be the same as last year, viz, 3c. per pound, patrons being allowed to take their cheese as soon as ready.

THE Calgary Herald says: It is believed that the Chinook Belt Railway Company will be granted a charter during the present session of Parliament on terms which insure the commencement of the road this year. It is impossible to exaggerate the amount of good this will do to the Calgary district, and especially the town.

A FIRE broke out on Saturday night of last week at Holland, Man., in the general store of Shaw & Higginson, and consumed the premises, with a loss of \$5,000; insured for \$3,000. Mawhinney & Buchard, hardware, adjoining, were also burned out. Loss placed at \$4,000; insurance \$1,500. A. & P. Sinclair's hotel was also burned. Loss \$3,000; no insurance. R. Adair, blacksmith, was also burned out.

AT the meeting of the Northwestern Stock Association at Macleod, on Wednesday, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year.—President, F. W. Godcal, 1st vice do., G. Fields; 2nd vice do., Geo. Emerson; secre-

tary-treasurer, C. E. D. Wood. Mr. Heron, who occupied the chair, declined to be re-nominated. The name of the Association was changed to "The Alberta Stock Growers' Association."

W. S. ROUGH, representing John McDonald & Co., wholesale dry goods, of Toronto, has received his winter samples complete and will do the Northwest in the interest of his house. The firm is one of the largest in Canada and is worked on the English style, each department being under distinct management. There are eight of these departments, as follows: staples, carpets, imported linens, fancy goods, woollens, dress goods and hosiery, gents' furnishings, haberdashery. Mr. Rough has secured permanent premises in the Clements Block, Winnipeg, from which the Northwestern business of the house will be directed.

IT seems that the dry goods trade of Winnipeg is bound to be kept in an unhealthy state through constant resort to ruinous slaughter sales. For the past four years business in this branch has been in a demoralized state, and no sooner would the slaughtering of one stock be completed than another would commence. Regular dealers have therefore had a hard time of it. For a little while back immunity has been had from these demoralizing sales, and it was fondly hoped that a season of legitimate competition might ensue, but it appears that such is not to be the case. Kenneth Murchison & Co., one of the largest dry goods firms of the city, are the latest to announce their intention of at once slaughtering their stock, with the intention of giving up business. The reason stated for commencing the sale is that a mortgage on the premises of some years' standing is about to be foreclosed, but private inquiry reveals the fact that the proprietors are disgusted with the trade and are anxious to get out of business as quickly as possible, which are the real reasons for slaughtering the goods. Coming at this season of the year, and just at the commencement of the summer trade, the result will be injurious to the entire dry goods business of the city. It is to be regretted that the stock could not have been disposed of in bulk, in some way to prevent such ruinous and illegitimate competition.

THE Eastern Canadian press, as a rule, has taken a very one-sided view of monopoly in Manitoba, and because these papers think their own selfish interests are secured they have done what they could to keep this country under the despotic heel of monopoly. The *Montreal Trade Bulletin*, however, forms an exception to the rule. Under the heading of "Disallowance" it recently discussed the question in the following vigorous language: "Disallowance, as understood by the settlers in Manitoba and the Northwestern Territories, is one of the most virulent types of monopoly that can possibly be conceived, as the Government not only stamps out the life of trade competition, but it hands over the commercial liberties of the people to a railway corporation, which has already demonstrated its aptitude for abusing the license with which it is invested by the exorbitant tariffs it imposes on the products of the prairie between points where it meets with no competition, as compared with points where competition begins. For instance, it cannot be disputed that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company charges 30c. per 100 pounds on grain over a distance of about 500 miles where no competition exists, whilst it carries the same grain 1,000 to 1,500 miles for 20c. to 22c. per 100 pounds where it has to compete with rival routes. These are stubborn facts which upset the spacious reasonings of the upholders of the worst form of monopoly that was ever fastened upon the settlers of a new country. A morning contemporary says:—

If there are any instances in which the charges of the Canadian Pacific are unfair, the remedy can be applied by other means than the introduction of an American line to replace the Canadian one. The Government has the regulation of the Canadian Pacific tariff, revising it every year, and can decline to sanction rates of an oppressive character, and it is by representations to the Government that the Manitobans ought rather to proceed to remedy any hardships they can establish in the matter of transportation charges.

Then why is not the remedy applied? Surely the paper making the above statement cannot be ignorant of the fact that the instances cited by us, were elicited under oath before the Royal Commission on Railways, a refutation of which has never been attempted. The policy of the Government in refusing to grant the Manitobans provincial charters to build lines south of the Canadian Pacific road in those sections which call loudly for more railway facilities in order to develop their resources more rapidly, is narrow-minded in the extreme, and the most arbitrary course that any government can pursue, in nursing a monopoly at the expense of the rights of a whole people. We know of nothing more calculated to check the stream of immigration into the Canadian Northwest, than the knowledge of the fact that the interests of the only railway now running through Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, are to be conserved at any cost, to the immense injury, oppression and persecution of the entire population of a new and rising empire. Disallowance says to the people of the Canadian Northwest: "The railway facilities you need in order to better your condition, must not be begun; you must be content with a stunted growth, and pay whatever exorbitant premiums the Canadian Pacific Railway Com-

pany may see fit to exact from you on whatever produce you require to ship." That is the plain and honest way of pushing disallowance down the throats of the Manitobans and the settlers in the provinces beyond."

A CIRCULAR received from the large coffee house of Chas & Sanborn gives valuable statistics to show that the recent advance in coffees is a legitimate one and due to shortage of supplies. The estimated production for 1887 shows a falling off in the crop of every coffee country, the total being 8,455,000 bags, against 10,106,000 bags last year. The firmness of the situation will be further appreciated when it is stated that "The consumption of coffee for 1886 and 1885 was 2,000,000 bags more than the production in the same time. The 1887 crop, liberally estimated, will fall short of the 1886 crop nearly 2,000,000 bags," thus making a deficit of say 4,000,000 bags in the production, as compared with the consumption of coffee for last year. Prices have advanced steadily, showing the following appreciation in the cost of green coffee in cargo quantities at Atlantic ports, as compared with this time last year:

	1887.	1886.
	Green.	Green.
Fair Rio.....	17½	9
Medium Java.....	22½	15½
Low Grade Java.....	19½	12½
High " ".....	26	20
Maracaibo (medium).....	18½	10½

It will therefore be seen that in order to obtain the same grades of coffees, a considerably higher price must be paid, as only inferior and adulterated coffees can be supplied at former prices. Coffees were very low in price in 1885. For instance, medium Java averaged for that year \$15.74 per 100 pounds, or the lowest price in ten years, the highest being \$24.36 per 100 pounds as the average price for 1879. Since April, 1886, however, prices have steadily advanced. In dealing with the question the *New England Grocer* says. "There seems to be a disposition on the part of many grocers to complain of the present market for coffee, and apparently are more inclined to buy at a set price, regardless of grade, than to pay the advance in value and maintain quality. They labor under a misapprehension of the true state of affairs, and look upon the recent rise as of a speculative nature, asserting their belief that the big jobbing houses are making money at the expense of the retailer. This is not a fact. The truth is that wholesale dealers would have made much more money had there been no advance. The rise was not caused by speculation, but by the statistical position of the market. The retailers complain that they cannot advance prices so as to obtain a profit, but are obliged to sell at cost, and that their customers grumble at the high rates. Grocers, that isn't the way to do business. Charge as large a per cent. of profit as you ever did. Let your customers understand that there has been an advance—that your coffee costs you much more than formerly, and that consequently it must cost them proportionately more."

THE large amount of property exempt from taxation in some parts of Manitoba and the territories is a source of great inconvenience to some municipal corporations. There is first the Dominion Government property, which is, of

course, not liable to local taxation. Then comes the vast amount of real property held by the C. P. R. Co., and also the lands of the Northwest Land Co. In Manitoba the evil is not so severely felt as in the territories. In the province the greater portion of Government land has been taken up and thus rendered assessable. The C.P.R. land has also passed to a large extent into the hands of private parties, and is now subject to municipal taxation. Still, in some districts the amount of non-taxable land held by the C.P.R. Co. and the Northwest Land Co. is sufficient to render the burden of taxation to be borne by private owners considerably heavier. In the towns along the main line of the C.P.R., west of the boundary of Manitoba, this burden arising from non-taxable lands is most severely felt. These unsold town properties are mostly held by the Northwest Land Co. and usually form the greater bulk of the lands of such towns. A move is now being made against this state of things, and petitions have been sent to Ottawa with the object of endeavoring to secure a remedy for the evil. The Regina town plot is held by the Government and the C. P. R. and Northwest Land Companies, an arrangement existing between the different bodies as to the disposal of the properties. At a recent meeting of the council of that place, a resolution was drawn up to be forwarded to Ottawa, requesting that the arrangement between the companies and the Government be dissolved, and that the lands be put up for sale by tender or auction, so that they might become the property of private parties and be liable to taxation. The newly-formed board of trade at Medicine Hat has also taken up the matter and passed the following resolution: "Whereas, we, the Medicine Hat Board of Trade, consider that a great injustice is being done to those who have purchased lots in this town from the Northwest Land Company, by an arrangement which the Canadian Pacific Railway has made with said Northwest Land Company, so that their unsold lots are not liable to taxation, thereby throwing the whole burden of the taxes upon our citizens. Resolved, that our secretary, with the assistance of the executive committee of this board, communicate with Mr. Davin and ask him to use his influence to have this injustice remedied." In regard to the property held by the Northwest Land Company, some difference of opinion has existed as to whether or not the lands owned by the company should be liable to taxation. The C.P.R. lands are exempt from taxation by agreement with the Government, but as soon as the lands passed out of the hands of the latter company they were to become liable to assessment the same as other properties in the district where they might be situated. As is well known, the lands held by the Northwest Land Company were transferred from the C.P.R. to the former company; but so far the land company has managed to evade the payment of taxes by claiming some sort of a partnership arrangement with the railway company. In Manitoba an effort has been made to test the legality of the land company's claim to tax exemption, but so far without successful result. These tax exemptions form a portion of the bonus which the people of the Northwest have to pay directly to the C.P.R., though the people of Eastern Canada would fain have us believe that they only have assumed any obligations in connection with the building of the road.

Get Shoes Large Enough.

A wise shoe retailer will be very sure to instruct his salesmen to sell their customers shoes that are fully long enough. At first glance it might seem that the best thing to do will be to let the customer exercise his or her own choice, and if the customer is foolish enough to insist on a shoe that is too short, sell it to him or her, as the case may be. While that sometimes has to be done, because some people's vanity is to be done, because some people's vanity is to great that they will wear a shoe a size too short for them in spite of the pain, the shorter duration of the shoe and the permanent injury done to the foot; the majority of people are not so pig-headedly vain, and can be convinced that a shoe full long enough, lasts longer, is more comfortable, and even better looking. Like every, thing else, the retail shoe trade is one in which honesty is the best policy, and the truth in regard to the fit of a shoe, will be very apt to prevail and in the long run make permanent customers. It doesn't take much sense to cause a person to be convinced by aching corns and ugly bulged-out shoes, that a little more length would be more desirable in every respect. It will, of course take some policy and fineness to induce every one to take shoes of a larger size than they wish to, but in the case of children, the salesman ought to exercise especial care, and sell the shoes that fit both as to width and length. Parents often make very serious mistakes in selecting shoes for their children, and cause the children great suffering and themselves loss. It sometimes happens that a child with a long narrow foot is compelled to wear shoes too short and wide. They soon cause corns. Then, so long as a shoe that is too short is worn it will be impossible to get them wide enough, not to hurt the corns on the little toes. A child that has a foot which would be properly fitted by a No. 9 on an A or B width, will find that a No. 8 on D or E width, will be very painful to corns on the little toes. The impression is naturally produced that the shoe is too narrow, and not too short, and the parents will be apt to insist on a still wider shoe. If such is selected, the result will be continued trouble with corns, and the very rapid wearing out of the shoes at the toes. A shoe that is long enough and only wide enough, will cure both the difficulties and look very much better. All salesmen who have not learned this important lesson, need to learn it as soon as possible.—*Leather Gazette.*

The Drummer's Grip.

Its sides are all battered and broken and torn; With the hardships of travel its all scarred and worn, It has been my companion on many a trip, And I love it, I love it, my battered old grip.

When I first bought it new, it was yellow as gold; Its sides were strong and well able to hold All the shirts, cuffs and collars I'd need on a trip; Can you blame me for loving my battered old grip?

When I brought it home there were little hands kind, That filled it with nick-nacks that seemed to her mind To be useful to me when on a long trip; The thought of these things makes me love my old grip.

I've packed it myself as full as 'twould hold Of samples and clothing and sundries untold, But there was never a time when a bottle of "nip" Could not find some room in my battered old grip.

Its often been opened between seats or the cars, Surrounded by "drummers" as jolly as "tars," Who knew well how to enjoy a game of draw on a trip, With naught for a table but my battered old grip.

Its battered old sides many secrets have held, That when once enclosed in them all fears were expelled

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Of them ever being known, for it would not give me the
slip,
My old friend, my true friend, my battered old grip.

Travelling thousands of miles it has been at my side,
Sticking close as a brother—yes, close as a bride;
And now I can't think of making a trip
Without first joining hands with my battered old grip.

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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, MAY 17, 1887.

DISALLOWANCE IN THE EAST.

The virulent attacks which have been poured upon the people of Manitoba by all sections of the Eastern Canadian press during the past few weeks, and since the disallowance question came to the fore again at Ottawa, must surely make it clear that we cannot expect even a small measure of justice from that quarter. The East has nothing for the West but to keep this country in bondage and under the heel of monopoly, accordingly as its own blind selfishness directs it. It is useless to further attempt to show that the efforts being put forth to relieve the Northwest from oppression will if successful, redound to the benefit of the East as well as the West. Monopoly must be maintained in order that the East may continue to exact its pound of flesh from the West. All the old arguments that old Canada has purchased and developed this country at its own expense are raked over and over, and on this account this country must be kept in bondage and oppression, and all laws of commerce and development set at defiance, in order that Eastern people may be recouped for their alleged outlays. But a day of reckoning will surely, come and if this policy of oppression and bondage is persisted in, it may devolve upon the people of this country to take other steps to free themselves from the servile position which they now occupy. Justice from Ottawa is apparently not to be expected if the tone of the leaders of the Eastern press may be taken as indicating the feeling there. The Manitoba delegates who went to Ottawa to urge the justice of our cause have been slandered and insulted from every quarter, and by independent and political journals of both shades of politics. They have been called liars by the *Toronto Mail*, which journal alleges that the real motives of the people here in their agitation against monopoly is to transfer their trade to St. Paul and Minneapolis. In stating that the people here were mainly anxious for a competing line to the East, the delegates have according to the *Mail*, endeavored to hide "the simple truth," and that journal adds: "Until they state their case honestly they are not likely to obtain sympathy; nor, indeed,

will they deserve it. The *Mail*, by advocating Manitoba's cause in one direction, the better to enable it to oppose our interests in another, has probably done this country more harm and raised more prejudice against us in the East, than have any other half dozen papers. The business men of Winnipeg who composed the delegation have been called mercenary agitators, speculators in railway charters, wire pullers, lobbyists, impudent and preposterous schemers, and a host of other opprobrious epithets by the leading Liberal organ published at Montreal, and that paper—the *Herald*—has declared that this united move on the part of the people of Manitoba against monopoly is but the agitation of a few Winnipeg speculators, who have a railway charter which they wish to sell to a United States railway and pocket the proceeds. The delegates are further called "boodlers," and are classed with characters who have gained unenviable notoriety in that way. The *Montreal Gazette*, though a little more moderate in its tone than its local Liberal contemporary, nevertheless indulges in a column of sneering remarks at the expense of the people of Manitoba, and not at all in keeping with the statements of Hon. Thos. White, proprietor of the paper, when lately speaking before a Winnipeg audience. To the *Gazette* is a mystery, "why the people of Winnipeg should lash themselves into a paroxysm of excitement over the disallowance of local charters to the south." It then goes on to repeat the old C.P.R. arguments that disallowance is in the interests of this city, as it prevents railways crossing the boundary to the west, thus preventing the building up of towns which would be in a position to compete with Winnipeg. The C.P.R. Co. falls in for a column of laudation, and a vain attempt is made to prove that the freight rates charged by the company are exceedingly reasonable and advantageous to the country. Comparisons of freight rates charged on the C.P.R. are made with the Northern Pacific and the St. Paul Minneapolis and Manitoba railways, of course to the advantage of the former. Comparisons, however, are often odious, and can be made to prove almost anything. Only when the conditions are exactly similar can a just comparison be made. In the matter of rates, however, THE COMMERCIAL has lately shown that the C.P.R. freight charges on wheat from Manitoba points to Duluth are very much higher proportionately than the rates on

the St. Paul and Manitoba road to Duluth. But even should it appear that freight rates on the C.P.R. are not exorbitant as compared with one or two high price monopoly roads in the United States it would not in the least alter the position of this province in regard to disallowance. The question of rates, though an important one, is not the uppermost consideration in the agitation. A question of right and justice to this province of Manitoba is involved, and Manitobans must not rest until they are placed on an equal footing with the other provinces of the Dominion. If the people of Eastern Canada are wise, they will at once recognize fully our relationship to the Dominion, and allow simple justice to be done this part of Canada, otherwise a spirit of antagonism may be engendered here which it will take long years to eradicate. The Northwest can never be prosperous and contented whilst it is kept in a state of subjection and dependence upon Eastern opinions and interests. If the people of the East wish to profit by the development of the Northwest, they should at once cease to place artificial barriers to our progress, and seek to trade with us on legitimate and business-like principles. Enforced bondage will, if persisted in, in the end revert against those who seek to withhold from us our rights as a portion of the Canadian Dominion.

Now that the agitation against monopoly has reached its present stage of development, Manitobans should not tire in their efforts by the apparent failure to obtain justice from Ottawa. There are other courses of action open, and these must be exhausted before the vigor of our crusade against monopoly is allowed to relax.

RECIPROCITY.

Hon. Benjamin Butterworth's proposals for complete commercial reciprocity between Canada and the United States have provoked quite as much hostile as they have favorable comment in this country. It would appear from the manner in which the question has been discussed in this country, that the people here are not largely in favor of going in for any one-sided commercial arrangement with the United States. Whatever may be said for or against the National Policy now in force in this country, it would seem that protective principles have not lost by a fair trial, but on the other hand have gained in weight in the estimation of the

people. When the protective policy was first submitted to the people of Canada, it was claimed that it would have the effect of driving the United States into a reciprocal arrangement with this country, and this feature was largely urged as an excuse for introducing the measure. Now, however, that a movement has been made in the United States in favor of reciprocity, our people have received the proposals largely with unconcern, if not with manifest hostility. This certainly shows a growing feeling in favor of protection in this country, or at least of commercial independence of the United States. Perhaps, however, the fact that our duties would have to be increased under a reciprocal arrangement with the United States, has something to do with the apparent apathy with which the matter has been viewed in this country. Although Canadian customs duties are protective in their nature, yet they are considerably lower than those of the United States. Under a complete reciprocal arrangement between the two countries, the customs duties of each would have to be equalized, which would, of course, mean that Canadian duties would have to be increased to correspond with those of the United States.

At the late general meeting of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, the question of full reciprocity, or commercial union, was discussed fully, and as might have been expected from such a body, was vigorously condemned. Whatever sympathy there may be in favor of such a measure, it would not be expected to exist to any extent among the manufacturers. A resolution unanimously passed by the association read as follows :

"Resolved, that this meeting of Canadian manufacturers is unanimously opposed to any treaty between this country and the United States which would admit American manufactures into Canada free of duty, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Dominion Government with a request that our manufacturing interests be closely guarded in any negotiations which may take place between the two countries."

It was generally urged by the manufacturers that the opening to them of the market of the United States would not compensate for the competition which would result in the home markets with United States manufacturers. In some lines Canadian manufacturers might receive benefit from such an arrangement, but in a majority of instances it is evident that the older established and more wealthy corporations of the United States

would have the advantage over Canadian manufacturers. After the period of protection which has called into existence a large number of industries of one kind and another, it is more than probable that a sudden change to commercial union with the United States would for a time at least have a depressing effect upon Canada as a whole. It is urged that though some interests would be seriously affected, the loss would be more than counterbalanced by the flow of United States capital into the country for the development of our natural resources and other industries. Our great iron resources are among other things pointed to as an inviting field for development, were the markets of the United States to be thrown open for the product. However, it must be borne in mind that any reciprocal arrangement would be subject to termination at the instance of either Governments, and capitalists would not therefore be free to invest large sums of money merely upon the strength of a commercial policy which might be abrogated at any time. This makes it clear that Canada would be at a disadvantage, as compared with the United States, for capitalists would be certain, under similar conditions, to invest in the latter country, where they would continue to have the larger market, should the reciprocal relations be terminated.

LABOR LEGISLATION.

The persistency with which labor agitators have of late pressed their claims before the legislative bodies, is having the effect of arousing employers of labor to a sense of their position, and leading them to consider what effect some of these proposed measures in the interest of labor would have upon their interests. The Canadian manufacturers discussed the question of labor legislation at their last meeting, and they seemed to be of the opinion that labor was having too much its own way of late, and receiving too much attention from legislators. One manufacturer stated that "a few more measures such as the Employers' Liability Act would make it unhealthy to manufacture in this country at all." The petitions now before Parliament from the Knights of Labor were condemned, and a committee was appointed to oppose the demands of the Knights. The Knights ask Parliament for legislation prohibiting employers from asking employes to sign any agreement other than for the render-

ing of an equivalent for wages, and they ask that it be made a criminal offence, punishable by imprisonment for an employer to insist upon his employes signing any such document. They further ask that the importation of foreign workmen under contract be made an offence punishable by a fine of \$2,000. These are sweeping demands on the part of the Knights, and it is not to be wondered at that the manufacturers should be moved to oppose them. Labor certainly has rights, but employers likewise have rights which must not be usurped. To say that an employer shall be treated as a criminal because he asks his employes to sign some simple agreement, would seem to be going too far, and it is not at all likely that Parliament will adopt any such measure as that demanded by the Knights. The manner in which labor is organized and directed, however, enables it to press its claims to the best advantage upon Parliament. Votes count to better advantage with members of Parliament than any other mode of persuasion, and labor, by making its influence felt at the polls, has brought a force to bear upon the Government and legislators which must tell to its advantage. A Toronto labor journal takes this view of the case and remarks: "Never in the history of Canada has a legislature been so willing as the present to meet the view of labor organizations. We had not much apparent success at the general elections, but had we not made ourselves felt then, we would not now be getting the needed legislation we are getting."

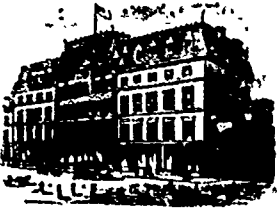
THE SITUATION.

Mr. Watson's disallowance resolutions have not yet come up for discussion in Parliament, but it has been made clear that there will be no change in the policy of the Government regarding this great question. In a discussion in the railway committee upon a bill to charter a British Columbian railway, which is projected to cross the boundary in that province, Sir Hector Langevin stated that the policy of the Government would not be changed. "Parliament had," he said—

"made an agreement with the Canadian Pacific and the Government was bound to carry it out. The same might be said of Manitoba, where the same principle must be maintained."

Does this mean that disallowance will be enforced in this Province for the balance of the twenty years which the O.P. R. Co. is given a monopoly in the Territories? Such is the only inference to be drawn from the statement. If so, are the people of Manitoba prepared to submit to monopoly for thirteen years longer? "The east must be recompensed," says Sir Hector, for the many millions expended in building the C.P.R.; therefore "the Government is of opinion that the policy of disallowance in Manitoba, the Territories and British Columbia must be maintained." We know now what to expect. What are we going to do about it?

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Manufacturer of Granulated and Standard Brands
Oatmeal. Orders by mail promptly attended to.

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Sparkling Lager Beer ! !

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REDWOOD BREWERY

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Fine Stock Ales a Specialty.

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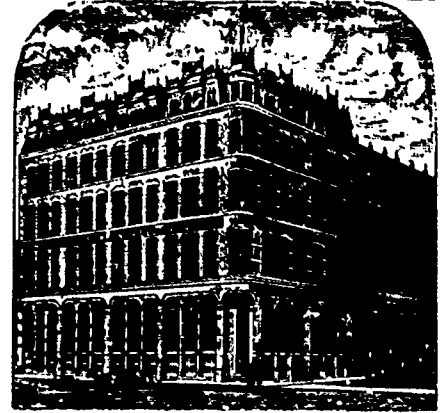
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DOORS AND SASH.

MILLS AT KEEWATIN. OFFICE: OPPOSITE C.P.R.
PASSENGER DEPOT, WINNIPEG.

SAMUEL HOOPER, DEALER IN MONUMENTS, HEAD
stones, Mantle Pieces, Grates, &c. Special designs for
finished on application. Cor. Bannatyne and Albert St.
Winnipeg.

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET

The money market has continued in about the same state as for the past month or more, and there would seem to be little indication of a change in the immediate future. Some dealers found remittances more free last week, but these were exceptions, and merely accidental. It could not be considered from such statements that matters had shown any decided improvement. There is still little doing outside of what building is going on to circulate money, and with the unsettled state of the country upon the disallowance question and the doubts surrounding the matter, capitalists are not showing a disposition to invest in either property or improvements. How long this state of things may continue it is difficult to foretell, but it is certain that the present state of things is working mischief and retarding the progress of the country. Without something extensive in the direction of railway building or other public undertakings, and the investment of outside capital in property and improvements, the money market must continue stringent until another crop is ready for the market.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE

Wholesale trade was decidedly quiet in most branches last week, and it cannot be said that any improvement had taken place in comparison with the previous week. Some lines were slightly better in the movement, but the general rule was quietness. The very warm weather prevailing during the week developed a considerable demand for summer goods, to the benefit of retail trade in the city. Travelers are on the road working for fall business, and a host of representatives from eastern houses are also doing the country. Were the trade of the country equally divided among all the houses working for business here, the amount falling to each would be infinitesimal, unless it be that the people of the Northwest have a very much greater consuming power per capita than those of any other country in the world.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE

The city trade continues quiet. In orders from the country a little is doing, and the week shows some improvement, after a long spell of decided dullness. The movement is mainly in staple goods. Now that some movement has set in, it is hoped that a steady improvement will go on.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS

Trade was active in this branch last week. Prices are as follows: Howard's quinine, 90c to \$1; German quinine, 70c to 80c; opium, \$4 to \$4.50; morphia, \$2 to \$2.50; i. d. i. n. e., \$4.25 to \$4.50; bromide potassium, 65 to 75c; American camphor, 40 to 45c; English camphor, 45 to 50c; glycerine, 30 to 40c; tartaric acid, 70 to 75c; cream of tartar 35 to 40c; bleaching powder, per keg, \$8 to \$10; bicarb soda, \$4.50 to \$5; sal soda, \$2.25 to \$2.50; soda ash, \$3 to \$3.25; chlorate potash, 25c to 30c; alum, \$3 to \$3.75; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur, flour, \$4 to \$4.50; sulphur, roll, \$4 to \$5.25; American blue vitrol, 6 to 8c.

DRY GOODS

The only change in this branch has been in the direction of a slightly better call from

the city trade for summer goods, induced by the very hot weather of last week. General sorting trade from the country is still quiet, and the season backward in comparison with former years.

CLOTHING

There was some call from the city trade for the lightest class of goods in the line of summer coats, etc., brought about by the sudden rise in the thermometer to the nineties in the shade. In this and other lines in which fall orders are now being taken, country merchants show a wise disposition to buy cautiously, and at this early date many are anxious to avoid placing their orders for heavy lines of fall and winter goods.

FURNITURE

The furniture trade in the wholesale departments has not enjoyed a very active movement at any time this season, and the past week formed no exception. Trade was quiet, with but few orders of consequence from outside sources. The local trade has also been of very moderate extent.

FRUITS—GREEN, VEGETABLES, ETC.

Apples were pretty well out of the market last week, but some were expected from Chicago which will probably sell at about \$3 per bbl. Oranges and lemons were firmer. Greenstuff is more plentiful at quotations. Quotations are as follows: Messina oranges, 200 count \$4.00 to \$6.50 per box; Sorrento oranges fine, \$6.00 per box; Messina lemons, \$6.50 box; bananas, \$4 to \$6 per bunch; pineapples, \$5 dozen; rhubarb, 7½c pound; cucumbers, \$1.50 doz.; Tomatoes, \$1.50 per box; Bermuda onions, \$4.50 per box of 50 lbs.; southern onions, 8c lb.; apple cider, \$10 per barrel.

FRUITS—DRIED, AND NUTS.

Prices are steady as follows: Figs, Turkey, in boxes, 10 to 11c, new Elme figs, in layers, 15 to 18c per lb, in one lb. to ten lb. boxes; Golden dates, 10c; Valencia raisins, \$2.40 to \$2.50; London layers, \$3.50; evaporated apples, 14½ to 15c; dried apples, 7½ to 8c; new Turkey prunes, 7½c to 9c. Nuts are quoted: Peanuts, roasted, 18c; peanuts, raw, 15c; walnuts, 20c; almonds, 20c; filberts, 15c; Texas pecans, 18c; coconuts, \$12.50 per 100; maple syrup, \$1.30 per gallon, in 5 gallon tins, or \$1.25 in 15 gallon kegs; maple sugar 10 to 14c per pound, according to quality.

FURS

A few lots are coming in, but it is yet too early for any large lots of northern furs to arrive. There are any number of buyers on hand, and with the keen competition and ruling prices here, it will be seen that Winnipeg is undoubtedly the best primary fur market for the seller on the continent. Carefully revised Prices are: Beaver, per pound, \$2.50 to \$4.00; per skin, \$2 to \$8; bear, \$5.00 to \$25; bear, cub per skin, \$1.00 to \$7.00; otter, per skin, \$5.00 to \$10.00; mink, per skin, 29 to 75c; marten, per skin, 60c to \$2.00 fisher, per skin, \$1.00 to \$6.00; lynx, per skin, \$100 to \$2.75; racoon, per kin, 40 to 60c; skunk, per skin, 40-60-80; muskrat, per skin, 1 to 8c; fox, red, 25c to \$1.40; fox, cross, \$1 to \$10; wolf, timber, \$1.00 to \$3.00; wolf, prairie, 75c to \$1.50.

FISH

Prices for cured are: boneless fish, 6½c; boneless cod, 8½c; prepared herrings, 7½c;

mackerel, 15-lb kits, No. 1, \$2.50; other qualities, \$1.75 upwards; smoked herrings, per box, 25c.

GROCERIES

The continued advance in coffee in eastern markets renders prices here firm at the late advance. Prices are now as follows: yellow; sugar 6½c to 7c; granulated 7½c; lump sugar, 8½c to 9c; Coffees, Rios, 21 to 22c; Government Java, 33 to 35c, other Javas, 25 to 30c, Mochas, 31 to 35c. New season's teas are now quoted as follows: Japan season 1886-7, £0 to 45c; Congous, 1886-7, 20 to 60c; Indian teas, 35 to 50c. Old range Moyunc gunpowder, 25 to 70c; pan-fired Japan 23 to 45c, basket-fired, 25 to 40c; Ping Suey young hysor 25 to 35c; Moyunc young hy n, 25 to 50c; Season's congous, 1885-6, 20 to 5c. Syrups, corn \$2.25 to \$2.60; sugar, cane, \$2.10 to \$2.35; T. and B. tobacco, 50c per pound.

CANNED GOODS

Prices steady as last reported, as follows, per dozen: Salmon, \$1.70, mackerel, \$1.50, lobsters \$1.87, sardines (French) ¼ tins, \$1.70, ¼ tins \$2.00, cove oysters, \$3; corn, \$1.65, peas 2.00, tomatoes \$2.00, baked beans \$2.75, corned beef \$3 to \$3.25, lunch tongues, 2 lbs. \$7.00; 1 lb, \$3.50. Fruit in 2 lb. tins. are quoted: pears, \$2.50 to \$2.75, strawberries, \$2.60 to \$2.75; plums, \$2.25 to \$2.50, peaches, \$3.75.

HIDES

A great many of the hides arriving—nearly 9 out of every ten—grade No. 2, many being injured by careless dressing. Shippers of hides should read the article in another column. Prices here are unchanged as follows: Winnipeg inspection, No. 1, 6c; No. 2, 5c; bulls, 4c; calf, fine-haired real veal, 7 to 13 pound skins, No. 1, 8c; No. 2, 5c; sheep pelts, 30 to 65c; tallow, 3½ to 4c.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS

Prices are: Spanish sole, 28 to 32c; slaughter-sole, 33 to 35c; French calf, first choice \$1.35 to \$1.50; Canadian calf, 90c to \$1.00; French kip, \$1 to \$1 10; B Z kip, 85 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; buff, 17 to 22c a foot; cordovan, 25 to 27c pebble, 21 to 23c; colored linings 12.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS

Prices are steady and remain unchanged as follows: Turpentine, 80c in five-gallon cans, or 75c in barrels; harness oil, \$1.25; neatsfoot oil, \$1.50; linseed oil, raw, 68c per gal.; boiled, 71c in barrels or 5c advance in five-gallon lots; seal oil, steam refined, \$1.60; castor, 12½c per lb; lard, No. 1, \$1.25 per gal; olive oil, pure, \$1.50; union salad, \$1.25; machine oils, black 25 to 40c; oleine, 40c; fine qualities, 50 to 75c. Coal oils, silver star, 26c; headlight, 28c; water white, 30c. American oils, Eocene, 35c; water white, 33c; sunlight, 29c. Calcined plaster, \$3.75 per bbl; Portland cement, \$5 to \$5.50; white lead, genuine, \$7.00; No. 1 \$6.50; No. 2 \$6.00; window glass, first break, \$2.25.

PAPER AND STATIONERY

The activity displayed earlier has commenced to abate, the trade apparently being now supplied with spring stocks. Only a moderate sorting business was doing last week.

THE MARKETS

WINNIPEG

The weather has been favorable for the growing crops throughout the Canadian northwest. Last week was very warm, the thermometer reaching 90° in the shade on the 11th of May. The soil was commencing to get dry again, though not to hinder vegetation, but warm showers toward the close of the week were reported from all parts of the country. Seeding was done under the most favorable conditions, and to date everything has gone on nicely, the young plants showing splendidly and making good progress. Showery weather is all that is required for the next two months or so to bring on a bountiful harvest.

FLOUR.

One of the city mills was closed down last week, but will resume operations this week. The situation in flour markets remains unchanged. Prices to the local trade are steady as follows: patents, \$2.25; strong bakers', \$1.80; XXXX, \$1.20 to \$1.30; superfine, \$1.

MILLSTUFFS

Prices continue at the recent decline. Outside mills were offering chop feed, etc., for delivery in the city, but the decline in prices will stop any considerable quantity from arriving. Bran is quoted at \$10 per ton; shorts at \$12 per ton.

OATS

Quiet and steady and worth about 43 to 44c on track.

OATMEAL

Prices hold steady at \$2.60 for standard and \$2.75 or granulated, in trade lots.

BARLEY

Worth about 55c on track here, but little moving.

POTATOES.

Several car lots of Minnesota potatoes were shipped to the west and billed at 90c from here. Prices seemed irregular, and were quoted at all the way from 90c in car lots, to \$1.15 for small lots to the trade. The higher prices have been for lots of Manitoba which were taken in the absence of other supplies, and these figures cannot be hoped to be obtained, as Minnesota can be laid down here at about or less than 90c. New potatoes are also in the market, at \$1.00 per bag of about 30 lbs, and as these will likely be obtained more cheaply in a short time, it will have a tendency to keep down the demand for old. The report in eastern trade par that potatoes were being shipped from N. Scotia to Manitoba is without foundation, and absurd on its face.

LARD

There is still some home-made lard to be had, held at \$2.25 for large pails. Chicago quoted at \$2.30. No small pails to be had.

HAY

Easier in price and quoted at from \$4 for poor to \$9 for choice upland, quotations being for pressed in car lots, f.o.c. here.

EGGS.

Prices started at 11c last week, but on Wednesday dropped to 10c. The supply has been plentiful, though not to say excessive, and the bulk of receipts have been taken for immediate consumption. Packers have now commenced to take quantities for curing for winter use.

BUTTER

Receipts of new butter have not yet been sufficient to amount to much yet this season, and what did come in last week in the shape of rolls were in bad state, owing to the very warm weather. Henceforth it will be necessary to pack in tubs, etc., as box lots cannot be handled. Prices ruled steadily at 18c for new butter, and

now that a taste of this has been had, dealers find it increasingly difficult to dispose of stocks of old. Only when no new can be had, will a trader condescend to take a package of old, prices for the pick of which rule from 14 to 17c

CHEESE

Steady at 16c for Ontario makes, which is the only article in the market.

CURED MEATS

Pork packing will commence this week. Stocks of provisions are already low, and several large orders from British Columbia and far western and northern points received last week tended to still further reduce supplies. Prices are firm and may advance soon, as live hogs are now worth as much as dressed were when the bulk of the winters packing was done. Prices: Long-clear bacon, in lots of under 500 sides, 10c; over 500 sides 9½c; breakfast bacon, clear, 12c; breakfast bacon, unclear, 11c; spiced rolls, 11c; hams, 13½c; Chicago mess pork, \$29 per barrel; mess beef \$16 per barrel, in barrel lots.

DRESSED MEATS.

Hogs, killed for the city trade have been in fair supply and held at 8 to 8½c. Beef sides at 7 to 8½c, mutton easier at 13c; veal firmer at 10 to 11c.

LIVE STOCK.

Cattle were easier last week. No rail lots were offered, but a good number were on the market and sold but slowly, 4c being the highest bid on Thursday and Friday. Good beef cattle could not be expected to bring over 4 to 4½c off cars. Butchers seem well supplied, having bought ahead. Hogs were brought in by packers and butchers in rail lots, at a cost of about 5½c delivered here. No lots were sold on spot, but from 5½ to 5¾ would be top prices. There will be a good demand for any quantity of hogs from packers, who commence operations this week, if prices are reasonable and within quotations.

Grain and Milling News.

THE wheat and flour supply of the United Kingdom for the week ending April the 23rd was 775,000 bushels less than the estimated consumption for the same time.

SHIPMENTS of wheat from India for the week ending April 23rd, were 740,000 bushels, of which 260,000 went to the United Kingdom, and 480,000 bushels to the continent.

THE average price of wheat in the United Kingdom for last year is given as equal to 92½c per bushel, and is stated to be the lowest average of the last 131 years. The average price of barley also was the lowest on record.

OCCASIONAL bull manipulation serves a useful purpose in checking excessive short selling but a genuine, old fashioned corner does not benefit a farmer from the simple fact that it is invariably attempted to be run, after stocks have left farmers' hands, and the producers suffer because they have to sell their next crop while the markets are in a depressed state consequent upon the sudden release of abnormal accumulation of cornered grain.

THE following are the rates charged by the new mill at Rapid City, Man.: Gristing for residents within the Municipality of Saskatchewan, 10c per bushel, gristing for people residing outside the municipality 15c per bushel. For each bushel of clean wheat given to be ground the customer receives 40 lbs. of flour, 12 lbs. of bran and 8 lbs. of shorts, in all 60 lbs. the exact weight of the bushel of wheat. The charge for chopping is 10c per bag. The price of flour is, strong bakers, \$1.80; prairie lily,

\$2, patent process, \$2.30. Bran by the bag, 60c per hundred lbs. and shorts 70c. The first twenty bushels of wheat brought to the mill by ratepayers of the municipality were ground free of charge. The special favors to ratepayers is owing to the bonus of \$13,000 given the mill.

THE United Kingdom's wheat crop of 1886 is officially estimated at 63,347,885 bushels, against 79,635,769 bushels in 1885, and \$32,068,964 bu. in 1884. Deducting the customary English allowance of 6,000,000 bushels for seed, the quantity left for food and manufactures is shown to be, say 57,347,885 bushels, against an average annual consumption of about 208,000,000 bushels, indicating that imports of foreign wheat and flour to the extent of 150,652,115 bushels will be required to meet consumptive requirements for the whole of the current crop year. Of the quantity required from outside sources, equal to 90,780,763 bushels have been imported from September 1, 1886, to April 23, 1887, in addition to which 14,720,000 bushels are now on passage, which latter quantity 10 per cent. should be deducted for diversion to the continent, making a total of 104,028,763 bushels of foreign wheat already provided for, and leaving 46,623,352 bushels to be purchased and shipped in time for arrival and use during the current crop year, or a required average weekly import of 2,453,860 bushels for 19 weeks. The quantity still required is, however, likely to be somewhat increased by lateness of the harvest, which now seems inevitable.

ROLLER milling in this country is far from being in a satisfactory state. Many years of time and millions of money have been wasted in bungling, thoughtless tinkering. The recognized yields have become higher from year to year. The number of millers who have no ambition below 4.40 are becoming more prominent. There is sure to be a reaction from this thing, because the sad condition of things is more apparent from time to time. The knowledge of it is what will bring about different results. Very few millers take the precaution to see that all of the flour they slip is up to grade. The fact that it is in a certain packer is regarded as sufficient. The work of a night is shipped without anyone knowing anything about it, excepting that it went into a certain packer. This is not right. Someone should carefully inspect, by standard samples, all of the flour made. If it is not up to grade, it should be set aside and the reasons therefore investigated. Millers had such an easy time making money a few years ago that they have never since come to fully appreciate the necessity for great vigilance in regard to all of the details of milling. A great many of them merely sit down to hope that the good old times will come again. But they will not, in the sense anticipated. System and eternal vigilance is the price of a small success to-day—Northwest Miller.

The fisheries Department will send another exploratory expedition to the northern waters of British Columbia this year. It is expected to demonstrate the enormous fisheries wealth of the province. The black cod are superior food fish, about which little has heretofore been known. They abound from Cape Flattery to the Arctic ocean.

EASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO

May wheat opened at 83½c on Monday, which was the top price for the day. The close was at the bottom. Provisions were easier. Closing prices were:

	May.	June.
Wheat	83	85
Corn	37½	39½
Oats	20½	27½
Pork	22.25	22.25
Lard	6.82½	6.90
Short Ribs ..	7.37½	7.45

May wheat opened ½c higher on Tuesday and advanced ½c. The opening was the bottom price for the day, and the closing the top price. The visible supply showed a decrease for the previous week of 800,394 bushels. The Government crop report showed a depreciation of 2 points in the condition of the crops. Closing prices were:

	May.	June.
Wheat	83½	85½
Corn	38½	40
Oats	27	28
Pork	23.25	23.25
Lard	6.77½	6.85
Short Ribs	7.40	7.45

Cash and May wheat opened ½ to ¾c higher on Wednesday, and declined ½c to the close. There was a good deal of talk about quantities taken for export, but this market is 1½ to 3c above a shipping basis. Provisions were dull. June pork sold at \$22. Closing prices were:

	May.	June.
Wheat	84½	86
Corn	38½	40
Oats	27½	28
Pork	22.00	22.00
Lard	6.72½	6.80
Short Ribs ..	7.30	7.35

On Thursday wheat was very steady, only varying about ½c during the day, June opened at 86c being the lowest part reached. Pork was lower, also lard and ribs. Closing prices were:

	May.	June
Wheat	86½	86½
Corn	38½	39½
Oats	26½	27½
Pork	21.00	21.00
Lard	6.65	6.70
Short Ribs ..	7.15	7.17½

On Friday wheat opened higher, May starting 85c, and advancing to 85½c; 84½ was the lowest fluctuation. The clique were active buyers. Closing prices were:

	May.	June.
Wheat	85½	86½
Corn	38½	39½
Oats	26½	27½
Pork	21.00	21.00
Lard	6.67½	6.75
Short Ribs ..	7.15	7.17½

Wheat was irregular and active on Saturday, and the clique were large buyers. More deferred futures were weak, and declined whilst June advanced. June option ranged from 86½ to 87 at the close. July closed at 85½, and Aug at 85½. Provisions were easier. Closing prices were:

	May.	June.
Wheat	85½	87
Corn	38	39
Oats	26½	27½
Pork	21.00	21.00
Lard	6.60	6.65
Short Ribs ..	7.02½	7.05

MINNEAPOLIS.

The *Northwestern Miller*, of May 11th, says of the flour market: There has been a good export inquiry during the week, and sales have been fair on a little better basis of prices. There is an improved domestic demand, and prices are 5 to 15c higher than last week. Stocks are low and there is more disposition on the part of buyers to lay in larger supplies.

WHEAT.—On the local board there was not much doing in futures, with an occasional offer to sell June wheat at 80½c. Receipts of cash wheat were 181 cars and a fair amount of grain was offered on the sample tables.

Following were the closing quotations:

WHEAT.—No. 1 hard was quoted at 79½c for cash, or May, 80½ June and 81½c July, in store, and 80c on track.

No. 1 northern in store was quoted at 78½c for cash or May, 79½ June and 80½c July, and 79c on track.

No. 2 northern in store 75½c for cash or May, 76½c June and 79½c July, and 76½c on track.

Flour prices were:

Patent sacks to local dealers, \$4.20 to \$4.40; patent, to ship sacks, car lots, \$4.20 to \$4.30; in barrels, \$4.30 to \$4.50; bakers', \$3.50 to \$3.60; superfine, \$1.60 to \$2.40; red dog, sacks, \$1.15 to \$1.25; red dog, barrels, \$1.40 to \$1.50.—*Market Record*, May 13th.

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET

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

	Cash	June.	July.
Monday	80½	82½	83½
Tuesday	81½	82½	84
Wednesday	81½	83	84½
Thursday	—	82½	—
Friday	—	82½	83½
Saturday	—	82½	84½

TORONTO.

WHEAT

This market has been more active and somewhat irregular. Stocks of grain have shown a large decrease since navigation opened. Prices have ruled firm and higher. No. 2 fall sold at 90c f.o.c. and No. 2 spring at 89.

FLOUR

The demand was better at some advance. At close holders asked \$3.70 for superior extra and \$3.60 for extra.

OATMEAL.

Selling in small lots at \$3.75 to \$4.

OATS

Prices have ranged from 31 to 32c. in car lots.

BUTTER

Receipts have increased in box lots of rolls, and prices were easier. Quotations for such ranged from 12 to 15c, with the latter price hardly obtainable at the close. New tubs ranged about the same as rolls. Old butter almost unsaleable.

CHEESE

New casier at 11½ to 12, old at 12 to 12½c. At the factories Belleville sold at 10½c.

EGGS

Round lots usually held at 11½c.

CURED MEATS.

Bacon in good demand. Long clear sold at 3½ to 3½c; Cumberland, 9c; boneless pickled shoulders, 7½c; rolls, 8½ to 9c; bellies, 10 to 11c; hams, 12 to 12½c for smoked; mess pork \$18 per barrel.

LARD

Large pails steady at 9½c, or in lots under 25 to 9½ to 10c. Small pails, 10 to 10½c.

HOGS.

Easier and 50c lower, at \$7 to \$7.25.

HIDES AND SKINS

Following are quotations:—Hides, No. 1 inspected steers, \$7.00; No. 1 inspected cows, \$7.00; No. 2 inspected, \$6.00; No. 3 inspected, \$5.00; calfskins, green, 7 to 9c; cured 11 to 12c; sheepskins, green, 75c to \$1.40; wool, super, 22 to 24c; extra super, 28c; wool pickings, 9 to 10c; tallow, rough, 2c; rendered, 4 to 4½c.

Woolen Mills.

With a wool clip of 175,000 lbs., one would naturally think a woolen mill would be a profitable enterprise in this part of the country. Calgary offers every advantage for the establishment of such an industry. Situated in the centre of the wool growing country, with unlimited water supply and cheap coal, on the line of railway and with magnificent building sites. What more could be desired? The difference in the price of the raw material here and in the east would more than compensate for any increase in the expense of skilled labor, living is cheap, so is land and so will lumber be when our mills get running this summer. There is no reason why the mechanic cannot live as cheaply here as in the crowded cities of the east.

There are no mills in the territories and only one small one in Manitoba. Last year our wool crop was shipped east and sold in Hamilton and Toronto, the freight charges being exorbitant, \$3.17 per 100 lbs. Taking this years clip this means about \$5,550. Each year the clip will greatly increase, so why not have the wool manufactured here instead of in the east and shipped back in various shapes. Freight both ways would be saved and the manufacturer would be in a position to compete with eastern merchants. Not only is the home market open to him but also that of British Columbia. Capitalists and manufacturers think over this! —*Alberta Live Stock Journal*.

C. MIDWINTER, watchmaker, has commenced business at Birtle, Man.

Quite a number of settlers are said to be coming into Southern Alberta, from and by way of the state of Montana.

BREARY, of Calgary, is placing two brick-making machines at Anthracite and will commence operations in a short time.

It is estimated that there will be about 500 men employed in the construction of the C.P.R. hotel and on Government work at Banff, this summer.

THE financial statement of the municipality of Rat Portage shows assets of \$7,720 and liabilities of \$3,761. The assets include \$2,079 unpaid taxes. The total assessment for the current year, including real and personal property, income tax, etc., amounted to \$374,495,000.

THE Ryan Hotel, at Boissevain, Man., kept by T. Headley, was burned on Sunday morning. Loss, \$3,500—no insurance. D. G. McBean, grain buyer for McBean Bros., of Winnipeg, perished in the flames. McBean Bros. had expressed \$500 to the unfortunate man, who was a cousin, on Saturday, which they will lose.

THE *Macleod Gazette* says:—Stockmen will be gratified to learn that, at the last session of the Montana Legislature, a law was passed which will make it interesting for horse thieves operating in this country. The Montana law is now very similar to ours, which attaches as heavy a penalty to bringing stolen stock into the country as if the theft had been committed here. This applies not only to the ordinary horse thief, but to deserters from the Mounted Police who ride off government horses. The penalty under the Montana law is penitentiary.

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Business East.**ONTARIO.**

W. R. Kent, miller, Wendigo, has failed.
 Jas. Smith, mills, Ingersoll, was burned out.
 Wm. Bernard, hotelkeeper, London, has sold out.
 R. Drummond, shoe dealer, Blyth, was burned out.
 Jas. Farlow, tinsmith, Innerkip, has removed to Ayr.
 Thos. E. Miller, grocer, Toronto, has assigned in trust.
 Samuel S. Clutton, woollens, Watford, has sold out.
 Irving Findley, baker, etc., Watford, has sold out.
 M. E. Land, photographer, Leamington, has sold out.
 J. F. Harper, painter, etc., Chatham, has sold out.
 Geo. A. Johnson, hotelkeeper, Petrolia, has sold out.
 Duffeth & Michael, dry goods, Toronto, were burned out.
 Jas. Russell, harness, Fergus, has sold out to J. B. Bayne.
 W. Brown & Co., dry goods, Port Arthur, have sold out.
 Robert Keating, grocer, Ingersoll, is removing to London.
 R. C. Jamieson, tailor, Brockville, has assigned in trust.
 M. J. Sheppard, tinsmith, Dundas, has assigned in trust.
 John H. Kenny, dry goods, Toronto, has assigned in trust.
 Wm. Elliott, hardware, Wingham, has assigned in trust.
 Mrs. Drummond, general storekeeper, Blyth, was burned out.
 R. Helstrop, furniture, Beeton, has sold out to Wm. Beasley.
 A. Duncan, blacksmith, Bright, has sold out to F. Hanscomb.
 F. M. Farquharson, grocer, Barric, has sold out to A. Finlay.
 John Ironside, general storekeeper, Grand Bend, has sold out.
 Jas. Spence, hotelkeeper, Wiarton, has sold out to John Gibson.
 A. H. Hovey & Co., subscription books, Toronto, have sold out.
 R. Brownlee, hotelkeeper, Blyth, has sold out to J. E. Bennett.
 Wm. Cuthbertson, hotelkeeper, Bright, has sold out to E. Sauer.
 Wm. Henry, general storekeeper, Uxbridge, has assigned in trust.
 A. Martin, hotelkeeper, Meaford, is succeeded by B. Walkinshaw.
 John Gibson, general storekeeper, Oxenden, has moved to Wiarton.
 Fred Hauscomb, blacksmith, New Dundee, has removed to Bright.
 W. Y. Mickle, saloonkeeper, Belleville, has sold out to Fenn & Fleming.
 Whitt & Beasley, builders, Nobleton, have dissolved; R. White continues.
 Mrs. Glassford, hotelkeeper, Cookstown, has sold out to Leadley & McGowan.
 Anderson & Buck, grocers, London, are quitting the grocery business and will continue in teas, etc.

A. & J. Edgar, general storekeepers, Lefroy—A. Edgar dead.
 A. Grier, insurance agent, etc., Thornbury, has assigned in trust.
 Ridler & Henderson, wallpaper, etc., Toronto—stock sold by auction.
 Campbell & Gumble, dry goods, Rothsay, have moved to Fenelon Falls.
 G. W. Walley, shoes and crockery, Ingersoll, has sold out crockery business.
 Scott & Bell, furniture, Wingham, have dissolved; Thomas Bell continues.
 Thos. Lenton, general storekeeper, Shanty Bay, has sold out to Jas. Graham.
 O. E. Robinson, wholesale grocer, Ingersoll—style now Robinson, Walley & Co.
 Belcher & Co., wholesale woollens, Toronto, have sold out to M. Fisher, Sons & Co.
 Jackson Bros., ginger beer manufacturers, Stratford, are offering business for sale.
 Pyne & Finnegan, hotelkeepers, Stratford, have dissolved; Jas. Finnegan continues.
 Jas. McCracken, general storekeeper, Rat Portage, has compromised at 50c in the S.
 Ed. Adams & Co., wholesale grocers, London, have dissolved; Chas. Richardson retires.
 Susan Vance, general storekeeper, Hickson, has sold out and is removing to Hepworth.
 Kenyon & Hampton, general storekeepers, Melrose, have dissolved; H. C. Hampton continues.

QUEBEC.

Frank King, expressman, Montreal, is dead.
 L. O. Paradis, grocer, Sorel, has assigned in trust.
 The City Steam Laundry Co., Montreal, have dissolved.
 W. G. Martin, photographer, Montreal, was burned out.
 Robichaud & Monreuil, butchers, Montreal, have dissolved.
 Berrouard & Robitaille, curriers, Quebec, have dissolved.
 Chas. McCambridge, grocer, Montreal, has assigned in trust.
 Gauthier & Beauregard, restaurant, Valleyfield, have dissolved.
 F. X. Rinfret, general storekeeper, Matane, has assigned in trust.
 Brodeur, Turner, St. Pierre & Co., sewing machines, etc., have dissolved.
 M. R. Spinelli, manufacturer of vermicelli, Montreal, has assigned in trust.
 David Riour, general storekeeper, Trois Pistoles, is offering to compromise.
 Clement Berthiaume, general storekeeper, Contrecoeur, has assigned in trust.
 Mrs. F. N. A. Contu, general storekeeper, Louisville, has assigned in trust.
 Burnett & Co., stock brokers, Montreal—G. C. Dunlop and Geo. H. Smithers admitted partners.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Ira J. Etter, jeweller, Halifax, is dead.
 Caleb Feindal, saw mill, New Germany, is dead.
 C. C. Dodge, hotelkeeper, Middleton, has assigned.
 Parker & Daniels, Bridgetown, have dissolved.
 D. C. McIntosh, dry goods, etc., Liverpool, has assigned.

W. J. Egan, painter, etc., Halifax, has assigned in trust.

Andrew Gardiner, general storekeeper, Lunenburg, is giving up business.

F. X. Vantour, general storekeeper, Grosses Coques, has removed to Little Brook.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

G & R. Moffatt, mills, Dalhousie—Robert Moffatt dead.

H. Braithwaite, general storekeeper, etc., Stanley, has assigned.

J. R. Woodburn & Co., manufacturers of confectionery, St. John, have dissolved.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Coombs & Landrigan, coal dealers, Charlottetown, have dissolved.

Thos. H. Pope, lumber, etc., Northam, has removed to Pictou, N. S., and style now Pope Bros. there.

A Dangerous Bill.

Senator Forman's fool bill for the suppression of trade in grain and other produce was advanced to a second reading in the State Senate yesterday afternoon. The text of the bill is as follows:

It shall be unlawful for any corporation, association, copartnership, or person, by themselves or their agents, to buy or sell any grain, provisions, or other farm produce, or to keep, or cause to be kept, within this State, any office, store, or other place wherein is conducted or permitted the buying or selling of grains, provisions, or other farm produce, either on margin or otherwise, where an intention of receiving and paying for the property so bought or of delivering the property so sold is not made then and there apparent as a part of said transaction, or wherein is conducted the pretended buying or selling of grain on margins, or selling or buying on margins or otherwise. When the party selling the same, or offering to sell the same, does not have, then and there, a duly executed warehouse receipt calling for and describing the grain to be sold, or offered to be sold, or a written contract with the producers or owners having then and there possession of the same, and in case of the pretended sale of provisions or other farm produce does not have the ownership or possession of the property sought to be sold or bought, or where the party buying any of such property or offering to buy the same does not intend actually to receive the same if purchased or deliver the same if sold, and all such sales, and the keeping of all such places for making such pretended sales is hereby prohibited, and all pretended sales of grain not accompanied by a duly executed warehouse or storage receipt as aforesaid, and all pretended sales for provision or farm produce without ownership or possession by the party offering to sell, is hereby declared unlawful and void, whether the said pretended sales are made through a regular Board of Trade or through places known as bucket-shops.

This bill is ostensibly backed by the millers who hope by its passage to be put in absolute control of the grain markets, but it is understood to be quietly pushed by the bucket-shop crew as a retaliatory measure should the Riddle bill become a law. If the Forman bill should become a law and the courts uphold its constitutionality there could be no more trading for future delivery. A similar bill is pending before the New York Legislature where the war against bucket-shops become unpleasantly hot. *Chicago Daily Business.*

To Shippers of Hides.

The following item, dated from a western territorial point, lately appeared in the columns of a city paper:

"Shippers of hides here complain bitterly of Winnipeg inspection, both as to quality and weight. The low classification and docking on weights, reduce the values 25 to 35 per cent., and makes the hide business a very profitable monopoly in favor of Winnipeg dealers."

The sender of the paragraph shows an entire lack of information on the subject at issue. So far as the grading of the hides is concerned, it is impossible for dealers to make anything by the inspection. The inspection is done by a Government official, who is responsible to shippers as well as purchasers of hides for any mistakes he may make. Dealers have nothing to do with the inspection, but merely take the hides as they are graded by the inspector. If a hide is graded No. 2 (or any other number for that matter) by the inspector, the dealer takes it as a No. 2, and he is bound to sell it as a No. 2, for the hide bears the inspector's stamp, which dare not be removed and could not be removed without cutting the hide, which of course could be detected. If a No. 1 hide was graded No. 2, it could in no possible way be an advantage to the dealer, for it would only sell as a No. 2. The inspector is moreover sworn to do his duty between the producer and tanner, which means that he must grade hides as he finds them. An inspector may occasionally make a mistake, but the dealer cannot in any way benefit by such error. A hide to grade No. 1 must be perfect, and if Winnipeg hides are not kept up to the standard in grading, the market for them would soon be ruined. The inspector here is a man who thoroughly understands his business, having had a lifetime experience. As to prices paid here Winnipeg has been proportionately higher than eastern markets, for whilst freight charges to the east were \$1.19 per 100 pounds, the price of hides was only 1c under eastern markets, thus making the markets here 19c higher on each 100 pounds than eastern prices. Prices here are also only 3c under Minneapolis for No. 1 hides, where tanneries are right at hand. Besides Minneapolis prices are 2c lower for No. 2 than No. 1, whereas here only one cent difference is made between No. 1 and No. 2. This makes a very great difference when it is stated that this season nine out of ten hides have graded lower than No. 1, and this often due to carelessness in dressing, cutting hides, etc. The hides received this season have been unusually bad. Shippers are very careless about leaving horns, legs, etc., attached to hides, which only make a loss to themselves in extra freight charges, as these appendages are removed by the inspector. All hides should be free from salt, dirt, meat, horns, tail bones and sinews; and before being weighed all such substances are removed, or a proper deduction made from the weight. All bull, stag, tainted, grubby, badly scarred, cut, scored hides, both green and dry, are classed as damaged. In dry hides, moth-eaten, sunburnt or weather beaten, are classed as damaged. All kip and calf, both green and dry, should be trimmed the same as hides, with the exception that the tail bone may be left in calfskins.

Handlers of hides should also remember that during warm weather it is necessary to have green hides salted promptly, or they will spoil, but hides can be shipped green in the winter season in a frozen state without salting. To cure a hide properly it is first necessary to trim it by cutting off what does not belong to the hide, such as horns, tails, bones and sinews, then spread the hide on the floor and sprinkle salt evenly and freely over the flesh side. In this way pile one hide on the other, flesh side up, head on head, tail on tail. Stretch out the flanks and the legs so as to give the hides a chance to drain. It will take a week or more to cure hides thoroughly. When hides have lain over a week in salt, they will then do to tie up and ship, after having shaken of the surplus salt. For a large heavy hide it will take about a pail of salt, and a less quantity for a smaller hide or calf skin in proportion to size. Green butcher hides shrink in salting from 10 to 15 per cent., consequently salted or cured are worth from 1 to 2c more than green.

Seeding in the Northwest.

Except in a very few localities where there is a great deal of lowland, the ground was in splendid condition and the bright sunny weather will cause a speedy growth. The returns will undoubtedly show a large increase in acreage, especially in Dakota and some sections in Minnesota. Some few reports speak of an increased acreage of barley and considerably less of flax. The late rains, while they interrupted seeding operations for a few days, are of great benefit to the land and the grain already in the ground. The cool weather lasted just long enough to give the seed time to swell and germinate slowly, an important factor in a large field. The slower the growth at the start the better able is the grain to withstand a hot, dry period later on. Old settlers claim that in this section a heavy fall of snow in winter followed by a backward spring are almost invariably the forerunners of a good wheat crop. And as these conditions exist in the Northwest the present season, the predictions for a bountiful crop are plentiful. While these forecasts are slightly premature, it is certain however, than not for many years have the "signs" been so favorable at seeding time.—*Duluth Daily Trade.*

The Breadstuffs Situation.

The California wheat crop of 1887 is an unknown quantity. There was in the first half of April about 1½ inches of rain in the California wheat belt, which helped the summer fall-sown wheat; but it was too late and not enough for the winter-sown. The rain-fall at San Francisco from July 1, 1886, to April 20, 1887, has been 18.86 inches, against 32.67 inches the corresponding period in 1885-86. The estimated output of the California 1887 crop on April 25 is 1,500,000 short tons, equal to 50,000,000 bushels. In 1886 California reported a probable crop that year of 70,000,000 bushels but the actual output was, as per the Washington report, only 36,163,000 bushels from 3,104,690 acres. The area under wheat in that State for 1887 is less than for 1886, and the rain-fall to April 20 has been 13.81 inches less than for the corresponding period in 1885-86.

Signal service reports from the Rocky mountains to the Atlantic, since the storm of two weeks ago, note generally light rainfalls, with few exceptions; comparatively few stations reported rain, the number ranging from six to fifteen daily in all the wheat belt, winter and spring, north of the Ohio rivers. Iowa, central Illinois and some other States have suffered from drought. Damage has been done in New Jersey, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Maryland and Michigan from water-kill. New Jersey may not raise more than one-half as much wheat as last year. It is probable that the Government report of May 10, prox., on the condition of the winter wheat crop (which was 88 on April 10) will show a decline of 10 points, or perhaps more. Spring wheat seeding has made good progress, and, under generally favorable conditions, with the area somewhat increased. That of winter is somewhat diminished. The winter wheat harvest in the United States and in Europe will probably be later than usual, requiring additional supplies of old wheat to meet consumptive wants. The spring wheat crop of the United States does not move in much volume in the latter half of September and in the first half of October, farmers usually reaping, threshing and marketing their barley crop before commencing on the spring wheat crop.—*Bradstreet's*

SOURIS CITY wants a blacksmith.

H. ADAMS will open a hotel at Portage la Prairie.

Jos. BUCHANAN, shoemaker, Rapid City, has gone to Dakota.

THE Bell Telephone Co will establish a system at Calgary.

THE Calgary *Tribune* urges the testing of fall wheat in that district.

G. BALKWELL offers his stone grist mill at Rapid City for sale, with water power.

R. L. ALEXANDER, late of Broadview, will open a livery business at Banff, Alberta.

ARMSTRONG & Co., general storekeepers, Portage la Prairie, have assigned in trust to D. S. McDonald.

C. A. LOUDON, of the Queen's Hotel Broadview, Assa, has disposed of his chattels by auction. The Queens will be closed.

W. H. FORD, Calgary, has been appointed agent for Alberta for Webbrock & Fairchild, wholesale implements, etc., of Winnipeg.

A MEETING has been held at Portage la Prairie to consider the proposed legislation regarding embarrassed municipalities. Another meeting will be held.

SAULTS & KIRKLAND, publishers of the Winnipeg *Siftings*, have dissolved partnership. The paper will now be published by the Winnipeg Publishing Co, under the management of F. W. Kirkland.

MR. LESLIE, of Scott & Leslie, furniture dealers, Winnipeg, has returned from a business trip east, where he has purchased heavily with a special view to developing the wholesale trade of the firm.

LANSLOWNE College is the name of an educational institution lately established at Portage la Prairie, by Dr. Franklin. The old Hudson's Bay Co's. hotel will be used for the college. It will be non-denominational.

WM. SHOULTS, T. Richardson, J. G. Crombie, Alexander Calder and Thomas A. Gamble, contractor, of Winnipeg, apply for incorporation under the name of the Manitoba Construction Co, for the purpose of undertaking contracts of various kinds. The capital stock is \$100,000.

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Chicago Fast Ex.	10.30 p.m.	11.15 p.m.
Des Moines Passenger	6.30 p.m.	7.15 p.m.
Excelsior and Watertown	8.15 a.m.	8.55 a.m.
Arlington and Excelsior	8.15 p.m.	8.50 p.m.
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British Columbia.

The Bank of B.C. have subscribed \$1,000 toward the Jubilee Hospital in Victoria.

The Vancouver News says:—The advance guard of the Newfoundland fishermen who are coming to this coast, arrived and are taking observations and inquiring into the prospects for going into the business in all its branches. They are all practical men with a thorough knowledge of their calling, and if their expect-

ations are realized will add another extensive industry to the business of the province.

The Victoria Colonist says that the duties collected at that port for April, 1887, amounted to \$93,158, being an increase of \$34,110 over the corresponding month of last year, and concludes: "The above proves that as soon as the railway placed a prohibitive tariff on goods, this city was compelled to go to San Francisco for supplies, those from the east being practically cut off, and thus making a rapid increase in duties paid. Also that the importation from the east since the opening of the C.P.R., and when rates were reasonable, superseded those from American sources. This province will not purchase goods on sentimental principles—its merchants will follow the wise rule so long in vogue—that of purchasing supplies in the cheapest available market."

Personal.

Mr. Parsons, of Parsons & Ferguson, wholesale papers and stationery, has returned from a month's absence in the east.

W. H. Lyon, of Denver, a former resident and member of the wholesale grocery house of Lyon, Mackenzie & Powis, arrived in the city last week.

MR. CARAETH, of Carveth & Co., wholesale provision packers, etc., returned from a western trip last week, where he had been looking for porkers. He states that the supply of these will be limited this summer, owing to the manner in which swine of all sizes were cleared out last winter.

Iowa Millers Complain.

John S. Lord, proprietor of a mill at Ogden, Ia., and secretary of the Iowa Millers' association, has written a long letter to the interstate commission, setting forth the difficulties under which the millers of that state labor. He says:

There are over 250 mills in Iowa, and about \$2,000,000 tied up in the business. These millers have to purchase all their wheat outside the state, as Iowa is no longer a wheat-growing state, and much of it comes from Minnesota. He doesn't know what rates the Minneapolis millers get from the roads from that city to Iowa, but he does know they get a rate of 7½¢ per 100 from Minneapolis to Chicago, while he has to pay a rate of from 10 to 25¢ per 100 from Des Moines to Ogden, a distance of 50 miles, on wheat, and a return rate of 10¢ per 100. The Des Moines trade belongs to the Iowa millers, but outside of that city a stock of Iowa flour cannot be found in Iowa. It has been said that the Minneapolis millers would kill off the Iowa millers, and wanted to get control of Iowa. He thinks that it looks very much as if they would do it. They are getting a 7½¢ rate to Chicago, and that keeps them all O. K. "We are trying to buy wheat in Southern Minnesota, distant 146 miles. We have to buy on the Minneapolis market and then pay 15¢ to the mill. Then if the product goes to Chicago the rate is 22¢, making a total of 40¢ per hundred against a 7½¢ rate to Chicago for the pet lambs. My mill ought to make 700 bbls of flour per week, but is making only 100, and I get no profit out of it. The Iowa millers are making no money, while the big pet millers of the north are the pride of the world." Mr. Lord suggests that when the commission is asked to suspend parts of the new law, it remember the \$2,000,000 capital in the milling business in Iowa.—*Northwestern Miller*.

Montana Coal.

Chief Engineer Knowlton, of the Rocky Forks and Cooke City Railroad, has arrived at Billings, Montana, having completed the location of the road to the coal banks on Rock Creek. The contract for the grading will be let in St. Paul next week, and the work commenced as soon as possible. The Rock Creek Mining Company have ordered the construction of fifty double houses for the coal miners, and saw mills are being erected in Rock Creek canyon to furnish the lumber. The coal seams exposed by recent work aggregate 110 feet thick, ranging from 4 to 22 feet for each seam. Two seams tested furnish first-class coke. The Northern Pacific is now shipping coal from the Cascade mountains to Helena—700 miles—and making arrangements to ship to Glendive—1,110 miles. Fuel Agent Schaling says the establishment of rail communication with Rock Creek will result in the Rock Creek coal being used all over the line from Missoula to St. Paul. Government and other experts pronounce it the best coal yet discovered west of Pennsylvania. The supply is unlimited, and it lies in so favorable a position that it can be mined at a very small expense and run on a down grade to Billings without the use of steam. The immediate result of the developments is a boom in real estate here.—*Coal Trade Journal*.

The San Francisco *Merchant* thinks the temporary suspension of section 4 of the Interstate Commerce Law will be practically useless so far as California products are concerned, because the fruit season will only be begun at the expiration of the suspension. It says: "The crop will be the largest ever produced in California, and growers fear prices will be forced so low that it will be less loss to allow the fruit to rot on the trees than to gather it."

ABOUT 600,000 tons of cotton-seed are used annually in the manufacture of cotton-seed oil, and the production aggregates between 400,000 and 500,000 barrels of crude oil, of which nearly one-half goes to Chicago and other Western hog-packing points. But the oil is by no means the only product of the seed that is sold by the companies. The meal, after the oil has been expressed, is sold either loose or compressed into cake for feeding to animals and for fertilizing purposes, and even the hull with shreds of cotton clinging to it can be marketed at a low price for fodder. Cattle take kindly to the cotton plant.

In some of the States the taxes on insurance companies is enormous. In Virginia, for instance it is calculated that the tax on the different fire insurance companies is not less than 6 per cent. of the gross premium receipts, the State and local taxes being added together. In one city—Norfolk, Va.—the local tax is \$200. At Montgomery, Ala., the local tax is \$100 for each company. There is a vast amount of talent expended in this council devising new ways and means for taxing insurance companies. Putting a tax on the insurance companies is the first idea of municipal corporations and fire departments when they find themselves on the verge of impecuniosity.—*Price Current*.

THE Dominion of Canada began business for itself in 1867, and though its revenue has increased from \$13,000,000 to \$33,000,000 it has managed to pile up a debt of nearly \$223,000,000. Last year there was a deficit of nearly \$6,000,000. The bulk of the debt has been incurred in aiding the construction of railways and other public works. In so far as these enterprises have been judiciously planned no doubt the country at large has gained by the expenditure; but a great deal of money has been squandered and it will take many years longer to get out of debt than it has to pile it up. What Canada needs is to make and produce more for herself and import less. Canada should have her own woolen, silk, cotton and linen mills, her own leather and shoe making, hats, coats, etc.—*Chicago Journal of Commerce*.

DURING the week we were shown a telegram to a house doing considerable trade with British Columbia, cancelling, for the present, at least, certain orders which were in process of completion. The reason given for this was that, in connection with their arrangements necessitated by the passage of the Interstate Commerce Bill upon the other side the lines, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company had so fixed their rates as almost to prohibit trade with Montreal, whose Pacific Coast trade bids fair to be diverted to San Francisco. The rate per 100 pounds from Montreal ex-warehouse has been put at \$4.80, while ex-ship at the Montreal wharves it is only \$2.10. Thus goods can be brought

from Britain and Europe to British Columbia at far cheaper rates than from this city. We direct the attention of the Railway Company and our merchants to this injurious anomaly.—*Canadian Trade Review*.

A PROMINENT grain merchant of San Francisco writes: "Our crop prospects are not at all bright, and have improved but very little since our last rains, which came too late to benefit the winter sown wheat, comprising about three-fourths of our whole crop, to any extent. It is true that earlier sown grain was benefited by these rains in the estimation of some people; in fact so much so that they considered that part of the standing crop fully assured. Since then, however, we have had some strong, damaging "northers," which have done serious injury, especially in the Sacramento valley. Taking that with even the finest kind of weather from now on, California will not have more than a very small amount of wheat for export."

Bright Prospects for Farmers.

The crop question is one that will soon figure prominently in the councils of investors and operators on the value of securities. Nature now seems to be doing her best to aid the bulls in the stock market, for she is turning out weather such as will gladden the heart of the wheat-grower. From all points in the wheat-growing district come the most gratifying reports concerning wheat prospects; and with the prospect of a big yield the wheat-grower has the additional satisfaction of anticipating good prices for his product. Notwithstanding our big crop last year, we will finish this crop year with greatly reduced stocks of wheat in the country. We have increased our exports of wheat to an extent sufficient to wipe out the increase in yield of 1886 over 1885, and with an increase of a couple of millions or more people in the country over last year to consume our wheat, we have of necessity cut down the surplus. There is every prospect that the foreign demand for wheat next year will be large. The export movement has increased, notwithstanding an advance in prices, and the American producer is beginning to discover that Indian competition is not so important as some people tried to lead him to believe. The ability of India to supply wheat for export is limited. Two years ago we urged this point. For a while wheat can be raised from soil without any attempt of cultivation or fertilization, but the richest land will get tired under the forcing process.

Never was the outlook for the wheat-grower more hopeful than now, and we expect to see the American farmer make a handsome profit out of his wheat this year, and at the same time have enough of it to sell, so that good prices will mean something to him. The effect of a good crop and good prices on railroad securities is easy to foresee. The effect was shown in 1879 and 1880, and history may repeat itself in 1887 and 1888.—*New York Indicator*.

The Bank of British Columbia will open a branch at Kamloops.

The Vancouver council has signed an agreement with the Coquitlam Waterworks Co., to supply that place with water. The city will guarantee the bonds of the company.