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\$10,000 Lake Winnipeg at \$5 per share.

\$5,000 Keewatin at \$7.50 for \$10 shares; larger blocks by special arrangement.

\$10,000 Argyle, upon private terms.

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L. McMEANS, BARRISTER, ATTORNEY, SOLICITOR, c. Office 515 Main Street, Harris Block, opposite City Hall, Winnipeg.

JOHN K. BRYDON, SOLICITOR, CONVEYANCER, Notary Public, Commissioner in B. R., c. Main Street, Rut Portage, Manitoba.

WADMORE & CO., ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, Topographical and Patent Draughtsmen. Sale maps made, plans enlarged, etc. Biggs Block, Main Street, Winnipeg.

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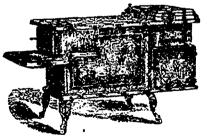
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Wholesale Agents for MOORE ROBINSON & CO., Hamilton, Ont., (late D Moore & Co.) manufacturers of

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We carry in stock a complete line of Cook, box and Parlor Stoves, Base Burners, Ranges, for Coal or wood; Stamped and Pieced Tinware.

We also represent the following leading manufacturers: Montreal Rolling Mills Co.-Nails, Shot, &c., &c. F. F. Dalley & Co., Hamilton-Patent Medicines and

Smart & Shepherd, Brockville, Hardware. Hamilton Industrial Works, Wringers and Washers. J. W. Paterson & Co., Montreal, Roofing Felt, &c.

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Ample experience as to the requirements of Manitoba and the North-west Territories; very best connections with Eastern manufacturers; large stock constantly on hand; reasonable prices and liberal terms should commend this firm to the favorable consideration of the present prospective Retail Merchants of Manitoba and our great North-west.

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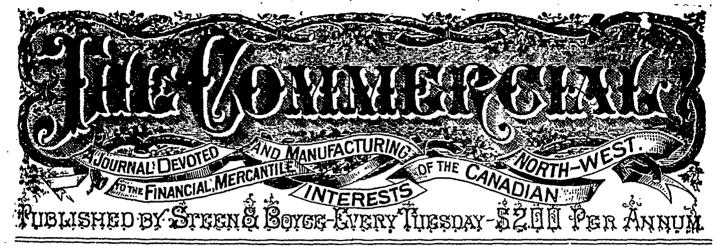
# Just Received Our Diret Importations of NEW SEASONS FRUITS.

Valentias in Half Boxes, Valentias in Quarter Boxes, Currents in Barrels, Currents in Half-Barrels.

MALAGA PRUIT EXPECTED DAILY.

Turner, MacKeand & Co.,

BANNATYNE STREET.



VOL. 1.

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 6, 1883.

NO 19.

# The Commercia

Journal devoted to keeping a comprehensive record of the transactions of the Monetary, Mercantile and Manufacturing interests of Manitoba and the Canadian North-West.

#### ISSUED EVERY TUESDAY

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

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Casual rates for all advertisements inserted for a less period than one month, or for all transient advertising, 10 cents per line each insertion.

Reading notices in news columns, 15 cents per line each insertion. Special location will be changed extra. The Commercial will be circulated extensively amongst wholesale and retail Merchants, Jobbers, Bankers, Brokers, Manufacturers, Hotel Keepers, Insurance and Loan Agencies throughout the entire Canadian North-West.

Book, Newspaper, Railroad, Commercial and Job Printing specialties

##TOffice, 16 James St. East.

STEEN & BOYCE.

Publishers.

#### W1NIPEG, FEB. 6, 1883.

SHIPMENTS of lumber from the United States have begun.

D. C. Gillespie, general storekeeper, Plympton, has assigned in trust.

M. CARLISS, butcher, St. Boniface, has sold out his busiress in that town.

During 1882 new buildings were creeted in Edmonton, valued at \$50,000.

THRESHING is still proceeding in the Edmonton and Saskatchewan districts.

THOMAS & SOMERSALT, general storekeepers, Millford, have assigned in trust.

Messrs, Copeland & Gibbons, customs brokers, report invoices of spring goods pouring in.

COUN PAGE, dealor in gent's furnishings Winnipeg, has cleared off his stock of goods by

August Bagaler, hotelkeeper, Rapid City, has gone out of business, and is succeeded by H. C. Clay.

This new City Hall is being rapidly erected, and in two months or so it will be ready for occuration.

Mr. FRED. T. STUART, a brother of Captain Stuart, of Deloraine, will shortly move there to practice law.

THE production of anthracite coal has been limited by the Philadelphia companies to three days a week.

T. O'GRADY, butcher, Winnipeg, is advertised to be sold out under chattel mortgage on Thursday first.

McCrae & Collum, hotelkeepers, Market sq., Winnipeg, have sold out their business to Mclutyre & Hay.

THE Princh Albert Times reports grain in that district turning out splendidly, no frozen grain being yet reported.

H. G. McMicken, of the omnibus and transfer company, has sold out his livery stable business to Squires & Madigan.

Business is dull at Rat Portage most of the parties having gone out to the woods and the mines. The small-pox seare is over.

THE estate of Toussaint, Ratte & Co., grocers and liquor merchants, Main street, Winnipeg, has been sold for 50c on the dollar of the firm's liabilities.

A CHINOOK wind which raised the temperature 86 degrees in 37 hours at Edmonton was followed by a cold snap registering 51 degrees

Mr. A. C. BEACH, Winnipeg, agent for Messrs. John L. Cassidy & Co., of Montreal, dealers in china, glass and earthenware; has opened up his sample room at No. 15 McDermott street.

The flour production of the Milwaukee mills during 1882 is by the U.S. Miller stated to have been 1,348,842 barrels. The total daily capacity of all the mills is 7400 barrels, or for a working year of 312 days, 2,308,800 barrels.

Work has been begun upon a new suspension bridge at Niagara Falls, and if the charter be granted at the forthcoming session of the Dominion Parliament, the Canada Southern trains will be running over it by the end of this year.

Toronto must be a fat place for plumbers. In thirteen years plumbing on the Government House has cost \$12,393.52, or somewhere in the neighborhood of \$950 a year. They evidently know what governments are made for in Toronto.

McLean & Bright are about opening up as dealers in groceries and liquors in Young's new Block, near the corner of Main and Logan streets, Winnipeg.

Mr. D. McARTHUR, formerly manager of the Merchant's Bank, Winnipeg, has been admitted into partnership with Boyle, Campbell & Co. bankers and financial agents, and the new firm will in future be known as McArthur, Boyle & Campbell.

It is expected that the trains will be running between Prince Arthur's Landing and Nepigon by Sept. 1, or within one year from the time of deciding to put the work under contract. Such rapid construction of a railway through rocks has never been dreamt of before.

THE yearly average of the number of patents granted in England during the reign of several monarchs is given in an ancient record as follows: Charles II, 5; James II, 4; William and Mary, 8; Anne, 2; George I, 7; George II, 8; George III, 61; George IV. 136.

By the 20th of this month the repairs on the Broadway Bridge will have been completed. The new piers look as if they would resist another such ice jam as was experienced last year. Meantime the Louise Bridge, the railway key to the North-west, is left to take care of itself.

Messrs. Eddy & Palmor have opened a Trades Protection and general enquiry agency, also for the collection of rents. debts, etc. They have the best of city references, and Mr. Eddy was chief detective inspector for large towns in the old country. Their office is in the Bank of Montreal Building.

THE telegraph will reach Prince Albert in the spring, the citizens being engaged in teaming the poles out along the route. Railway communication in the near future is also assur. ed. Land patents will shortly be issued, so the inhabitants of the old and presperous settlement have every reason to sing aloud for

Mr. Chas. R. Tuttle is about to open a stock exchange in the Queen's Hotel, where he will daily receive telegrams regarding the Montreal, Toronto, New York, Chicago and Minucapolis markets, and undertake transactions in bank, railway, telegraph, mining and other stocks, grain, etc. The Exchange will be a useful business institution, and backed by Mr. Tuttle's energy must prove successful.

### MINING NOTES.

The first gold brick will be produced inside of a month from this date, and thereafter greater activity in stocks may be anticipated.

The proprietors of the George Heenan claim have collected evidence sufficient to satisfy themselves of the soundness of their title, and gre actively at work,

Mr. Brown, of the Bourse, has, in reply to a request from American capitalists, despatched a number of specimens from selected locations, making offers for sale. Among the properties are the Ash Rapids and the Sultana.

The Keewatin Company's shaft is being slowly driven through the hard trap, and the superintendent writes that the paystreak is steadily widening and improving in quality. Bourse has received samples from 28 feet down. The footwall is the finest on the lake, and Mr. Nagle reports himself abundantly satisfied.

The Winnipeg Consolidated Company has received an assay from Prof. Chapman, of Toronto, giving over \$110 to the ton. An assay from Prof. Pike is daily expected. Those who threw doubt upon the genuineness of the assay made in Winnipeg and New York will now have the pleasant task of retracting.

During the past week more mining shares changed hands than on any previous week, but the prices obtained were not as high as were generally asked. For Keewatin \$7.25 was asked, but the transactions were done considerably under that price, owing to the introduction of sundry small parcels by needy holders. Winnipeg Consolidated sold steadily at \$25, a few shares of proprietary stock being eagerly snap ped up at anything less. For Lake Winnipeg the quotation was \$4.50.

The Winnipeg Consolidated have bought the Boulder Island Mill which they will transport across Big Stone Bay to their shaft. With this mill a thorough milling test will be made of the rock, and thereafter an extensive plant will 'e erected. The latest specimens received in the city from the shaft show less decomposition and more free gold than was manifest when the shaft was fifty feet down. Carbonates of copper are now found in the ore, which is by old miners considered a good sign.

The Pine Portage Property, belonging to the Macdonald-Fraser party, has been purchased by a private association of capitalists from Ontario principally, the consideration being \$23, 000. Supt. Miller will have charge of the development. This property is a remarkable one, a vein of it, called "the Whale," being eighty feet wide. In the canyon there are huge detached masses of quartz lying on the surface, which can be broken up and teamed to the mill. The ore will require skilful treatment, as almost every known metal is found in it, platinum among the number. It is said that machinery has already been ordered for the location.

### The American Tariff Bill.

A Canadian who has the spare time and perseverance to wade through the reports of the American Houses of Congress during the present session, would certainly be amused at the wrangles over the tariff bill in the Senate, and

the subterfuges adopted to defeat the very moderate measures of reform set forth in that bill. There are the two parties in the house, The Western and Southern representing ane purely agricultural interests, and the Eastern and Northern representing the manufacturing interests. It is the growing hower of the former that admits of the possibility of a reduction of tariffs being scriously considered, and the schemes of the eastern senators to cripple if they cannot defat the bill, go to show how determined is the opposition to any modification of import duties. This nes been specially noticable in connection with tariffs on iron, the most petted and pampered of all American industries. In the matter of wire fencing, for instance a reduction had to be made to please some western senators, and all passed off agreeably. A few days later, however, the protectionists played a check mate game by trying to enforce an extra cent a pound on all galvanized iron goods, and were only prevented from so doing after a little debate and an exciting division.

Thus it has been with tariff reform in the United States so far, and the progress of the movement in the legislature this winter adds still stronger proof that the work of both houses of congress will be only to keep one class of protected parties from robbing the others too barefacedly. There is not a shadow of any policy being adopted which would have . 1y tendency towards free trade, but merely a changing around of tariff arrangements to try and please more parties who make demands to be protected.

#### The Electromotive.

Mr. George H. Bliss, a well-known writer on electricity, in a recent number of the Railway Age publishes the result of his investigation of Edison's electromotive, which 's designed by the use of electricity instead of steam as a motive power to supercede the locomotive on railways. It will be readily conceived that the initial difficulty to be overcome is the insulation of the rails, and this has been successfully done by japanning all but the surface where contact is made with the wheels of the electromotive. The rails on the truck are made electrally continuous from end to end of the ten mile sections by means of copper wires riveted into the lengths of the rails which there join. A bedding of japanned cloth is placed under the rails at each tie, and the spikes and clamps used for holding the rails are also japanned. The ends of the ties where the rails rest are also coated with an insultating compound. The wider the gauge the less is the loss of current. A speed of thirty miles an hour has already been attained on the experimental track which is only two miles and a half long, and has in one portion a grade of thirty feet to the mile. Mr. Bliss says:-"To any one familiar with electrical appliances it will readily be seen that there are difficulties to be overcome at frogs and switches, all of which have been successfully provided for. The operation of an electric railway is not without peculiar obstacles. An iron bar placed across the rails would be a sericus detriment and bring a train to a stand still. A sleigh passing over the track at a street crossing might have a similar effect if the centre of | make a determination of the amount. So far

the track was not filled so as to prevent the runners from resting on both rails at onco. In renowing rails unless a temporary wire connection was substituted trains on that section of track might be brought to a stand still. Possibly this would be an edvantage by preventing accidents. A broken rail where metallic contact was sundered could not be approached until repaired. An open drawbridge would break the electric contact and prevent the possibility of accident." The practicability of the electric railway is based upon the superior economy of the stationary steam engine as compared to the locomotive. The following state ment will give a rough idea of the factors in the problem: Two pounds of coal in the best form of the stationary [steam engine will generate one horse power, while from six to eight pounds are required on the locomotive. The latest style of dynamos convert 971 per cent. of the applied energy into electricity, and making a liberal allowance for loss by internal currents, resistance of dynamos and track, escape of current etc., the energy available for the electromotive would still be 721 per cent of what is applied, which leaves a profit on fuel of 1171 per cent., which profit would be still further enhanced by the fact that the energy absorbed by the locomotive in overcoming friction is three times as great as that consumed by the eletromotive. From this it may be inferred that the question of running railways by electricity is to all intents and purposes successfully solved.

# The Atmosphere of Flour Mills.

Messrs. Charles A. Pillsbury & Co., the great millers of Minneapolis recently had a chemical examination made of the atmosphere in one of their mills by Prof. Dodge of Minnesota State University. After alluding to the method of testing, the professor says:-"In the evening of December 22 I visited the Pillsbury A Mill about 9:13 o'cleck, and procured samples of the cir from the upper story of the mill near the centre, using simple ap paratus. Again on the evening of December 28. I procured sample from the second floor, near the pacing arrangements. These samples of air have been tested by me and I find them not to differ from the air of an ordinary, wellventilated building. A determination of the amount of carbonic acid gas in air serves as a standard test of the purity of the air and of the thoroughness of the ventilation. Now, in the air taken from the upper story, I found 3 8-10 parts carbonic acid gas in 10,000 parts of air by measure. In the air from the second story on another evening, I found 4 1-10 parts of carbonic acid gas in 10,000 parts of air. The air out of doors regularly contains between 3 and 4 parts in 10,000. In the house it is often 5 or more. The air of the mill is nearly as pure in this respect as the air out of doors This proves the satisfactory character of the ventilation. Further, the quantity of fine dust of flour etc., in the samples of air which I procured, representing the matter of that kind suspended in the air at that moment was extremely minute, so that it proved to be impossible to as I can learn about the subject, quite a large amount of flour dust must be suspended in the air ata given moment in order that an explosive or inflammable mixture may be formed. The quantity to be dangerous must, I am convinced greatly exceed that which was present in the air I procured. Whether some traces of inflammable gases may or may not be present in the air of the mill, it is as I have stated, impossible to learn by direct test; but all chemists would, I think, agree, that there is no cause or action in the regular working of the process carried on in the mill by which any inflammable gases should be generated. Some of the mill dust is so fine that it may behave like an inflammable gas, but inflammable gases themselves are, without doubt, absent."

#### The Board of Trade Meeting.

On Tuesday afternoon the Board of Trade met in the City Council Chamber, Mr. Joseph Mulholland, president, in the chair, present:—C.S. Maulson, Kenneth McKenzie, J.H. Brock. C. Sweeney, T.H. Carman, C.J. Brydges, J. H. Ashdown, Lowis Arnett, A.F. Eden, Ham. G. McMicken, John McDonald, H.S. Wesbrook G.F. Carruthers, E.P. Leacock and D.M. Lewis

The minutes having been read the president read his report which dealt with the progress of the city, citing facts with which the press has made the public familiar.

The Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$300, the whole receipts for the year having been \$450.60.

The President in a neat little speech followed the example of his predecessors and tendered his resignation, at the same time proposing Mr. C.J. Brydges as his successor.

Mr. McDonald seconded the nomination which was made unanimous and Mr. Brydges declared elected.

On motion of Messrs. Carruthers and Arnett, Mr. R.J. Whitla was unanimously chosen as Vice-President.

Mr. Brydges on taking his seat declared his intention to work with a will and advised every member to strive to increase the membership of the Board. He advised the Board to secure a regular place of meeting and also a place to store the valuable documents in possession of the Board.

On motion of Messrs. Eden and McDonald, Mr. A.M. Lewis was appointed Secretary at a salary of \$500, he to be paid \$300 for his services last year; carried unanimously.

The following gentlemen were then elected by ballot as the council:—Joseph Mulholland, Lewis Arnett, H.S. Wesbrook, A.F. Eden, Capt McKeand, G.F. Carruthers, John Macdonald, G. Gault, Thomas Howard and Hon. G. McMicken

It was an instruction to the new council to consider the by-laws and submit an amended 'raft at next meeing.

The following gentlemen were then elected by ballot as members;—Col Scoble, W. W. Ogilvie, John Ogilvie, E.H. Taylor, F. Matheson, Thomas Renwick, M.A. McLean, John A. Moore, Geo. D. McYicar, A.W. Ross, R. D. Bathgate, James Tees, John Haliday, J. Steen, L.M. Jones, F. W. Stobart, J. Thompson, W.

L. Boyle. J. H. Housser, F.A. Fairchild, Clark Alexander, Mossat and William F. Henderson.

A unanimous vote of thanks was awarded to the retiring officers.

A plan showing a proposed fire limit, with a recommendation that only brick or stone buildings be erected on Main Street, and that brick veneered buildings be built only two stories high with metal roofs, was submitted and referred to the council.

Consideration of the improving of St. Andrew's rapids and the dredging of the mouth of the Red river was referred to the council.

Notice was given of the introduction at next meeting of a by-law making the weighing of coal compulsory.

A committee was appointed to secure suitable rooms in the proposed stock exchange building and the Board adjourned.

### Export of Breadstuffs.

From the report of the U. S. Bureau of Statistics the Miller's Jourdal compiles the following table of the exports of breadstuffs from all United States ports for the six months ended December 31, 1882, and for the corresponding six months in 1881, and for the calendar years 1882 and 1881:

#### SIX MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER 31

	1882.	1881.
Barley, bush	256,545	152,292
Indian corn, bush	5,209,765	32,968,996
Indian corn meal, bbls.	126,772	176,468
Oats, bush	164,626	394,816
Rye, bush	799,507	352,764
Wheat, bush 78	5,700,076	59,959,004
Wheat flour lible	1 031 975	404 255

TWELVE MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER 31.

	1882	1881.
Barley, bush	305,563	233,004
Indian corn, bush	15,389,659	72,483,401
Indian corn meal, bbls	s 238,544	404,135
Oats, bush	281,690	519,885
Rye, bush	1,420,640	985,007
Wheat, bush1	08,563,804	118,203,990
Wheat flour, bbls	7,423,934	6,716,014

In value, the exports for the six months ended December 31, 1882, amounted to \$117,826,493, against \$112,143,915 for the corresponding six months in 1881, and for the calendar year 1882 they footed \$182,682,734 in comparison with \$224,124,832 in 1881. The export of provisions likewise show a large falling off as will be seen from the following statistics:

EXPORTS, TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31.

	1892	1881	Decrease.
Beet, fresh, los.	63,083,739	96,784,881	42,801,142
Beef, salted	40,517,648	42,537,126	2,019,478
Bacon	314,488,728	550,920,033	238,440,310
Hams	31,346,435	57,010,572	25.661,137
Lard	232,536,658	310,195,218	77,658,560
Pork	06,029,915	94,431,880	28,401,965
Tallow	39,383,825	69,183,993	20,800,168
Butter	7,637,249	21,220,341	13,683,002
Cheese	103,730,207	140,358,894	36,618,887
Total	CV0 C62 ID1	1 900 651 140	100 003 200

A decline of nearly four hundred millions of pounds avoirdupois, valued at \$36,400,000 is a startling reduction in the volume of trade of the United States for one year. The principal cause of this reduction was the drought of the summer of 1880.

### The New Government Buildings

The government having decided to erect a new Post Office and Customs House in Winnipeg, the sites chosen should be centrally located For the Post office no better site can be obtained than that whereon the present building is located; for the Custom House no worse site could be selected than that whereon it is at present located. While there is no necessity for the two being located contiguous to each other, if it be possible to have them in the same block it will be a boon to the commercial public. Mr. Arnett introduced a resolution in the Board of Trade meeting urging the government to purchase the adjacent twenty-five or fifty feet of Main Street, and to crect thereon the new Custom House. This is an excellent idea and should be advocated with earnestness and despatch. Besides being able to obtain the site practically in exchange for the old site, a great economy would be effected in building the two new departments on a uniform design and in reality as one piece of work. The City Council ought to join with the Board of Trade in urging upon the government this desirable change in their plans. We are perfectly satisfied that if time be not lost the boon will be obtained, for the government besides being anxious to promote the commercial facilities of the city are in a good humor over the result of the elections. Strike while the iron is hot.

### Systematic Depreciation.

The Toronto World seems to conceive its mission to be to run lown the North-west. Not only is it persistent in attacking the Canada North-west Land Company and the Canadian Pacific railway's financial negotiations, but it cites with grim satisfaction the fact that several traders in the North-west have got into difficul-tics. If the World is anxious to puzzle itself over statistics it will find occupation in determining how many hundred times greater, during the past year, were the failures in the city of Toronto alone than in the whole length and breadth of the North-west. Were Toronto to be put suddenly on the same short financial rations as Winnipeg has been lately, ten per cent. of its industial concerns would be embarrassed, and five per cent of them would come down with a crash. In this city to-day a large business is being done on smaller bank accommodation than is enjoyed by any other city of half the size in Eastern Canada, simply because there has been over trading and stock gambling The worst enemies of the North-west there. could not have devised a more exacting trial than that to which we have been subjected during the past two months, and yet the danger has been averted and the tide has turned. Were two millions of money to be withdrawn from Toronto in one day, the World would have some queer news to record next day; yet two millions is the sum that was withdrawn from one Winnipeg bank alone without a moment's warning, and not one failure was the consequence. The World might be better engaged than in decrying the promised land for young Ontarioans. Manitoka is very far from seeking to appropriate what the London Advertiser called the Provincial motto: "twenty cents on the dollar." Manitoba has paid one hundred centa so far with something over, and with common justice will continue to do so; but common justice is not systematic depreciation.

EARLY in January the snow had disappeared from the Bew river country, and the base of the foot hills was bare.

# The Commercial

WINNIPEG, FEB. 6, 1893.

#### USBFUL INVESTMENTS.

The visitors from Eastern Canadian cities to the North west have as a rule a fixed idea in their minds that they have come to a country where a little reckless speculation is all that is necessary to "make or break," as gamblers say, and the youth who arrives in Winnipeg with fifty dollars in his pocket, in many cases makes it his first business to discover on what object of speculation he can place a few dollars of margins. The real estate oom of a year ago was largely conducted upon margins, and the countless thousands that were supposed to be realized, but which soon vanished with the return of commercial reason, were almost wholly on paper, and were represented in cash by margins of the slimmest description. Such wild speculation naturally ended in a reaction, which cleaned the pockets of the speculative small fry of the east, who came to the North-west with aims very similar to those of three-card monte men, and who have left behind enough of unpaid small debts, and jumped board bills, to show that they were not possessed of. the usual honor even of the three manipulating fraternity. What befell the real estate affairs of the country is liable to befall any enterprise of a kindred nature wherever men rely upon facility with the pen to take the place of that useful commodity, known in the venacular as "elbow grease." There is no royal road to wealth any more than there is a royal road to learning. Genius on the one hand may have its counterpart on the other in good luck: but in most cases perseverance in well-doing is the keynote of success. Men who are willing to take off their coats roll up their sleeves and pitch in will come out at the big end of the horn; but men who mope round professing to be looking for work with an umbrella under their arm on a cloudless day are likely to finish up by living on charity or, or what is the same thing, upon remittances, the only remarkable thing about which, as a distinguished graduate of Coboconk University said is the regularity with which they do not come. Such men would be far better employed in making useful imvestments and the most useful invest-

his pocket can make is to pay his board in advance and put his brain and muscle into manual labor. This advice will go against the grain of blue bloods, but blood in the North-west may be all right in cattle and horses, but in human beings as Uncle Josh says, "somehow it don't seem to amount to much." People here who have gone through the mill have the Tenny sonian couplet constantly in mind:

"When Adam delved and Eve span, Who was then the gentleman?"

To all those with a very limited capital who are seeking useful investments we would say: invest in hard work. It pays. But there is a class of people who have sufficient funds to invest, and who since the collapse of the paper town boom have been industriously searching for some other bubble investment which promises to yield the wealth of a bonanza. It is astonishing what wild schemes have found favor with this class, and how little attention they pay to useful and practical and investments. While the stock of several manufacturing companies in Manitoba can be purchased much below par, even when the dividends are as certain as the returns from wheat raising, the wildest and most impracticable schemes are eagerly sought after, and on the margin principle invested in by the speculative class. It seems to be impossible for such people to recognize the fact that only patient labor and plodding industry can develop the treasures of the Northwest, and capital employed in the great work can only be expected to give steady though liberal returns.

A noted traveler once said of the illiterate Celts of Ireland. "Tell thom that seven and five make twelve and they will doubt you, though you prove it with all the precision of a problem of Euclid; but tell them some marvelous and impossible story, and they drink it in greedily." So it is with many North-western capitalists. The ordinary fields of commerce and industry have no charms for them, but their car is ever ready for the music of the wild and improbable scheme, and some will follow after its allurements with as much superstitious per inacity as ever did Spanish voyager after the shadow of the El Dorado.

### POLITICAL AFTERMATH.

far better employed in making useful imvestments and the most useful investment any young man with fifty dollars in nothing. Patriotism is a secondary con-

sideration when office is the goal of their ambition. If only they can feed at the public crib, the imperilling of the commercial welfare of the country is a small matter with them. Their petriotism is of that stamp which Artemus Ward satirized when he said he was willing to sacrifice all his wife's relatives for the Union. In the late political agitation none of the contestants martyrized themselves, but they were only too willing to sacrifice the Province. The Conservatives, by magnifying the financial uneasiness which the Syndicate felt, owing to the machinations of the Grand Trunk, has provided the London Money Market Review with an argument against the North-west, which being produced in in the country itself, saves the writer from displaying his customary ignorance, and relieves him from being accredited The Reformers, on the with malice. other hand, by representing that the Provincial Rights Agitation was a step in the direction of secession, still furtherstrengthened the case, which the pretentiously ignorant journal in question was hired to present for the purpose of deterring British capitalists from embarking a portion of their resources in an enterprise, which, if it lack the oriental glamour of Turkish or Egyptian bonds, nevertheless is likely to possess what used to be considered the magnetic attraction of a dividend paying power. "Oh that mine enemy would write a book," was the ejaculation of the pious man of old. If he lived nowa-days his aspiration would take the shape of wishing that his enemy edited a political newspaper. Manitoba is reaping, and will continue to reap, an aftermath from the recent political agitation, that may more than counteract any possible benefit that may accrue to the province from the labor of its legislators. whole campaign was one to make commercial men heartily ashamed of public life, exposing as it did on the one hand, a professed willingness to advocate commercial dishonesty, and on the other, to coquette with dishonesty, and to profess sincerity while evidently insincere. From sv . a sowing the first fruits can hardly be good, and the aftermath is al ready known to be bad. It is never too late to repent, but repentance unfortunately does not ensure reparation, and is equally far from meaning reformation. There is one thing to be satisfied with, and that is, that one of the parties has secured such a large majority, that except

through their malfeasance, the province will have four years freedom from political agitation, so damaging to its commercial welfare.

### THE NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

In circles which should be well informed it is reported that the Portage Westborne and North-western railway has now obtained command of capital sufficient not only to construct its own trunk line, as projected to and beyond Prince Albert but also to lend the Syndicate a helping hand in the construction of feeders to the main line of the Canadian Pacific, should Mr. Stephen and his associates desire to take advantage of its aid. The Allan influence which is very powerful in the money market is now said to be cast in support of the North-western and as it is or will shortly be, no longer necessary for this company to take advantage of every mile of railway already constructed, it may well be worth their consideration if it could not be better, while still maintain ing the junction at Portage la Prairie to run a line right into Winnipeg. quite evident that the C.P.R. line between Winnipeg and the Portage has afready traffic sufficient to keep it employed and if the settlement of the Saskatchewan country proceed as rapidly as there is every reason to believe it will, the traffic upon the Portage section of the C.P.R. will speedily become congested. does not seem to be any good reason why the two companies should not dwell together in amity and the making of the North-western terminus in Winnipeg will not materially injure the Syndicate, which indeed has no power to prevent the Northwestern coming into the capital if the directorate are so minded. The Syndicate will have the handling of all the traffic after it reaches Winripeg for about nineteen years yet, for the North-western would never attempt to cut a way through to Lake Superior and they are debarred from seeking a southern outlet, except by the Manitoba South-western, the route of which is too circuitous to be profitable in competition with the lines wholly owned by the Syndicate. THE COMMER-CIAL hopes that the North-western directorate will earnestly consider the propricty of running directly into Winnipeg. Their decision to do so would be received by the business men of the city as a movement which would be beneficial all round.

### THE UNSEASONABLE SEASON.

The telegraph, by bridging space and annihilating time, enables data to be gathered such as warrant, without the possession of scientific knowledge, the assertion that, the world over, the season is most unseasonable. In Europe floods have been premature in their arrival and have lingered late or begun too early. The winter has been almost as different from the average season as that season is by all accounts different from the old fashioned winter. On this continent cold and snow are as phenomenally severe as wind and water across the Atlantic. The cold spell has undoubtedly been the longest severe spell on record and its area has been far greater than any hitherto remarkable In Manitoba we have had continuous cold for a longer period than can be recollected by people far advanced in years, who were born in the early days of settlement here. There have been colder days than any registered this winter, but nothing to approach the continued severity of the month of January. A peculiarity of the winter is the light snowfall, there having been no interruption beyond a few hours from this cause to railway traffic in the North-West this winter. If their thermometers be reliable the States of Minnesota and Dakota have had not only cold as severe as we have had in Manitoba, but a fall of snow almost unprecedented. While railways have been open in the Canadian North-West, in Minnesota the railways have all been more or less blocked, and the same holds true of Dakota. In Iowa the trunk lines east and west have been blocked for two and three days at a time, while on some of the lines west of the Mississipi, running north and south, there has been no mail for nine days. Even Chicago, for forty-eight hours, maintained connection with New York only by one telegraphic wire. In Ontario the cold has registered 30° below; at Montreal, 35 ° below; Quebec, 39 ° below, and in the New England States 35 below has been registered. With such incontrovertible facts as these before us, and comparing their experience with ours we must come to the conclusion that cold and all as the season has been, the people of Manitoba have reason to be thankful for having, under all the circumstances, the decidedly preferable share of the unsessionable season.

### TRICKS IN GRADING.

The Chicago Tribunc says:

"A great deal of talk was heard yesterday about the present grading of oats and corn, and bitter talk at that. Some receivers estimated that our receipts of corn during the last month have been at least 1,000,000 bushels less than they would have been with a 'fair' inspection, and asserted that either the inspection of a month ago was unjust or that of to-day was rotten. They said that the corn received in the middle of December was in much poorer condi. tion than that now coming in. yet did not grade any worse. Some experts who were conversed with said that fully half of the corn now inspecting as now mixed, ought to be graded No. 2, being sound and hard and up to every reasonable requirement for the speculative grade. It is notorious that two parties are buying these low grades with the intent of holding them in elevator till spring, when they expect all will grade as No. 2, and another is loading the new mixed into vessels to lie in the harbor till navigation opens, while large quantities of the new mixed have been bought for export in full con-fidence that it will bear the journey across the Atlantic without heating."

If instead of "corn" the Winnipeg dealer reads "wheat" he will understand why it is that THE COMMERCIAL insists upon the grading of Manitoban grain being done in this city instead of in Minneapolis, Chicago, Toronto, or Montreal. The grading of grain in the Chicago market is more regular than in any of the others mentioned, and if such flagrant injustice may be done in what is generally considered a regular market, what is to be expected from others which are usually flexible? Winnipeg, and no outside market, Canadian or American, is the market wherein Manitoban grain must be graded, if the whole trade is not to be made a football by outside speculators, and if our own people are to administer justice to themselves. The necessity and urgency of something being done is apparent. Who will take the initiative? Has the Board of Trade nothing to say? Is the City Council prepared to acquiesce in a place in Ontario being built up at the expense of Winnipeg and the whole North-west?

There are numerous commercial alarmists in the United States as well as in Canada, and as a rule there are much firmer believers in the doctrines of the balance of trade. That the latter months of 1882 did develope a dulness in many branches of business in the United States cannot be denied, and with the opening of 1883 there seems to be no movement towards improvement. The fact mat the export of provisions in 1881 were valued at \$133,332,417, and in 1882 for only \$06,924,428, accounts for the increase in sprese exports to some extent, and gives the alarmists quite a lever to bear down upon.

#### PROMOTING NEW BUSINESS.

While a lack of business capacity or enterprise cannot truthfully be attributed to Canadian commercial men, one would be straying far from the truth were he to say that they display auything like the aptitude of their brethern across the line in promoting now business. With Canadian commercial men there is far too much of that insular feeling of self-containment which forbids the Englishman to hold converse with anyone to whom he has not been formally introduced. As a rule Canadian commercial men neglect to reply promptly to communications from parties whom they do not know, and in this act upon the old Jew's advice to his son to believe every man a rogue until he found him to be honest. Were the conduct of commercial men in this respect at all times consistent there would be something to admire if it were nothing else than a consistency in being unbusinesslike. But commercial men are not consistent in their conservatism, for they readily execute orders received from travellers and given by unknown men. As an example of what we hold to be a lack of commercial promptness in promoting new business we mention a circumstance related to us by a responsible party in this city. He wrote to an eastern Canadian firm asking for the price of a certain outfit of machinery but received no answer. Then he telegraphed to the Canadian firm and also to three American firms. From the Canadian firm he received no reply, but from each of the three Americans he received telegraphic answers and cetailed offers by mail. After delaying for several days, awaiting a reply by mail from the Canadian firm, the order was placed with one of the American firms, and though the order only amounted to five thousand dollars, it will carry with it further orders aggregating twenty times that amount. After the American firm had actually begun to manufacture the machinery, the Canadian firm woke up and wrote saying they hoped to be able to send estimates and specifica-The chances are that the tions soon. American machinery will be erected and in operation before the estimates arrive. Another firm report that they have recent ly sent out a large number of letters, enclosing in sch a stamped envelope for a reply, and etthey have hardly received an answer-This spirit of conservatism is not the way to promote business and extend trade.

Courtesy is never thrown away in business, and yet in some commercial establishments courtesy is the highest priced goods on the shelves. Every unknown man who comes along may not be a merchant prince in disguise, but every man, be his appearance what it may, is entitled to have a c'vil answer to a civil question. By treating respectfully a common looking fiveeight American, who came in to ask a question, we know of one firm in this city who will this summer, obtain the investment of a quarter of a million dollars. The American had been coolly shunted ly two or three firms, who evidently took exception to his failure to liberally parconise the tailor, and he was just on the point of shaking the dust off his mennonites, when he was civilly treated, and disclosed what was his mission to Winnipeg That, geneerally speaking, Winnipeg commercial men are urbane and enterprising, is beyond a doubt, but all are not so, and we fain would see no exception to the rule. Courtesy costs little and is always a paying investment.

### Winnipeg Wholesale Trade.

In the wholesale trade of Winnipeg during the last week a substantial advance was made on the slow recovery hitherto recorded from the stagnation of the holidays. In only two lines of trade was the volume of business reported as showing no improvement, and collections as inclined to be slow. A survey of the whole trade results in the conclusion that the wholesale trade generally was much better during the week than had been anticipated and was really on a far better basis than could reasonably be expected at this season of the year. The break in the cold spell, abnormally long and severe, caused quiet a quickening up and had it not been interrupted by another sharp spell very considerable activity would have been manifested all over. The slightly easier feeling in the Eastern Money Market combined with the partial revival of business in the Provinces has resulted in a marked improvement in collections, in most of the lines of business. Spring orders generally have been good, though travellers on the road report their movements much hampered by heavy and slow travel. The week's business has shown the first signs of buoyancy to be recorded since the new year began and should the weather henceforth in what remains of the winter be what is usually the average range of temperature in Manitoba, there is little doubt that business all round would pick up and the first quarter of the year show a hetter result than has yet been obtained in that quarter of a nermal year's business. The prospects for spring trade re very much improved and while not at all inclined to relax the conservative policy which they have followed for months back merchants are more cheerful, hopeful and confident.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY SLEIGHS ETC.

Sales during the week were not worth recording and deliveries were light owing to the blockade of the Manitoba railways by snow. Receipts were five cars principally seeders and harrows. A few cars were shipped to agencies and on the way there are over a dozen cars of wagens, mowers, binders, seeders and harrows. Collections are reported fairly satisfactory.

#### BOOTS AND SHOES.

Spring goods are being received and orders from the country are good for such goods. Small orders for serting are also being received. Collections have hardly maintained a satisfactory basis during the week, but they are yet far from being positively bad.

#### CLOTHING

In the clothing trade a decidedly healthy tone prevails, business done being good and spring orders better than was expected. Spring goods are being placed in stock and collections are reported to be satisfactory.

#### CROCKERY & GLASSWARE.

A small but steady business was done in crockery and glassware during the week, business being divided between supplying city and provincial demands. Collections are fair, though leaving something to be desired. The tone is healthy and hopeful.

#### DRY GOODS.

The trade during the past yeek was by no means a marked improvement then the preceding week, and this is the trade above all others which has been slowest to experience the improved feeling all round. The country orders have been fairly good, but c lections have not improved and must be con rably better be, fore they can be called quite satisfactory. A slight improvement was noticed during the brief open spell, but a relapse occurred immediately the hard weather again set in. The outlook for the spring trade is considered satisfactory, but that trade can hardly be said to have opened yet.

#### DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

The business done in drugs and chemicals last week was again a marked improvement on that of last week, a steady improvement having to be recorded from the beginning of the year. The country trade has shewn more vitality than that of the city, and the collections in both are also improving, being now on a fairly satisfactory basis.

#### FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES. \*

In the fancy goods and smallware trade a steady improvement was experienced during the week, quite a few country orders having come in. The wholesale houses are doing a conservative business and report collections fully up to their expectations.

#### PISH, POULTRY AND GAME.

The market for fish, poultry and game was inactive during the just week, supplies of the better quality being very scarce. Whitefish are held firm at 8c; the stock being small. River jackfish can be bought easily at 4c, the supply being large. Dried fish, poultry and game are so scarce that quotations, which are not liable to daily fluctuations, cannot be given.

#### FRUIT.

Trade has been improving rapidly in this line during the past week, and the different dealers are feeling more hopeful. There has been few changes in prices, and the most noticeable has been in oranges, which are quoted at from \$13 to \$14. Apples have sold from \$6 to \$7, and lemons at \$5.50. Cranberries are now-very scarce, and held from \$18 to \$19 a barrel. Grapes, figs, raisins and other fruits are unchanged from the previous week.

#### FUEL.

The supply of fuel during the week was abundant, and the business transacted was upon the same basis as last week. For coal the current prices were: Anthracite \$13.75 on track. and \$15 delivered; bituminous \$13.50 for grate and \$12.50 for steam. The supply of wood during the week was abundant, the open market being large, and prices varied according to the quality. Good sound poplar found ready sale in car loads at five dollars a cord, and tamarac was bought at six dollars. A noticeable feature on the open market is the hauling in of fence rails by farmers, who are substituting wire fences. There is no prospect of a higher market for wood, and if a change take place it will be in the other direction.

#### FURS AND SKINS.

There is a good enquiry for furs, but deliveries are very light. In hides during the past week there have been few purchases made, but five cars were shipped south ex-warehouse. Prices have suffered a decline, the quotations now being: Raw 5e; salted 5½c to 6e; November pelts up to 60c still offered.

#### GROCERIES.

In the grocery trade, the volume of business transacted during the week showed a decided improvement over the preceding week, the record since the holidays having been one of a steady recovery. Though there has been no advance in prices, the advance reported last week has been maintained and the tendency is still that way. In canned meats there has been no advance, simply because in this line there has been no demand for the goods. The wholesale houses are asking firmer prices all round, and the market has a far better tone than has been reported this year. Collections, which have been fair, are, if anything, a little better.

#### HARDWARE AND METALS

In the hardware business during the week a great improvement was manifest over any week this year. Quite a number of new accounts were opened, and more busine of this class could have been done had the wholesale houses been inclined to incur risks. Business is now opening up satisfactorily and the prospects for the spring trade are good. Collections are reported satisfactory.

#### LUMBER.

In lumber a quiet demand was experienced during the week at the prices before reported, which seem to be fixed until building is actively resumed: sheeting \$25; common dimensions \$30 to \$32; fencing \$28 to \$34; stock \$33 to \$40; flooring \$35 to \$45; graded clear \$50 to \$70; shingles \$4.50 to \$6; laths \$5.

#### STATIONERY AND PAPER.

The stationery and paper trade during the past week was neither active nor inactive, a fair demand being reported from the country and city. Some orders have been received from the far west for shipment at the earliest moment that traffic is possible. Collections were reported up to the average.

#### WINES AND SPIRITS.

In wines and spirits a fairly good week's business was done, the improvement upon any week since the helidays being marked. Satisfaction is felt with the weeding out going on in the hotel business. Collections during the week we're good, and the wholesale houses were well satisfied with the v. ...k's business.

#### WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

The past week has been one of great activity in the demand for money. A great many payments on real estate have been falling due, and there has been considerable close scraping to meet these especially as the banks have been refusing to advance for real estate business even at short rates, except in cases of last payment on saleable property. There has consequently been quite a tight feeling, which is strengthened by the fact, although money matters in the east are easier, no addition to the resources of local banks has as yet reached here. In commercial circles there has been rather more renewals than were expected which is attributed to the fact that so little produce has been marketed during the past month owing to the extreme cold, and country retailers have been compelled to fall back upon wholesalers. There is no want of confidence, however, and a week or two of mild weather will bring some relief in this respect. have not changed and held at 10 per cent. for mortgage loans or improved lands, and for commercial paper 8 to 10 for gilt edge, and 10 to 12 for ordinary.

### THE MARKETS.

#### WINNIPEG

#### GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

The past week has been one of the dullest in the grain trade in the city since the marketing of the crops of 1852 commenced, and receipts of grain bave been so limited as to prevent mills from running full. The long spell of cold weather has made street receipts grow every day less, while by rail they have been decreasing also. Reports from points in the country show considerable grain stored and waiting transit to the city, but the scarcity of rolling stock on the C.P.R. hinders greatly, and keeps the receipts light.

#### WHEAT.

has held at the prices of the previous week with a firmer tendency. The range was from 70c to 78c, but as one miller remarked, a few days more of this extreme cold weather, and 80c or perhaps more must be paid. Shipping to the east has completly stepped, and a sufficiency for the mills cannot be had. It is very likely that the current week will develop an advance in prices.

#### OATS

The receipts of this grain have also been light, but the demand has been correspondingly so. It is well known that a good supply of these are stored at points within easy reach of

the city, and this knowledge has prevented any advance in prices, and indeed there has been an easier feeling than during the previous week. The range has been from 40c to 45c, but very few lots brought the latter figures. The advent of a mild spell of weather would in all probability bring about a decline.

#### BARLEY

The receipts of this grain during the week have been limited to a few loads on the street. No car lots arrived during the week, and none so far as could be learned were in course of transit. What few loads came to town sold from 45c to 47c, but the range offered is from 40c to 50c. No other classes of grain were on the market.

#### FLOUR.

The mills have not been pushed during the week owing to the scarcity of wheat receipts, and the stock on hand has not increased. The home demand has fallen off somewhat, but near the close showed a livelier feeling. Shipping to eastern markets has fallen off very much, and during the entire week amounted to only a few cars. Prices remain the same as the week previous: Patents, \$3.10 te \$3.20; 4x or Strong Baker's, \$2.50 to \$2.55; Baker's \$2 to \$2.10; Traders, \$1.50.

#### BRAN

The demand for this product has fa'len off considerably during the week, and stocks have increased. There has been a slight tumble in prices, quotations being \$1 less than the week previous, or \$11 a ton on track and \$12 delivered.

#### SHORTS

have also eased off and dropped \$1 a ton, quotations during the week being \$13 on track and \$14 delivered. The demand has been very light.

#### CHOPPED FEED.

No change in price has taken place during the week, and the few sales made have been at \$30 a ton.

#### POTATOES.

The stock in sight in this city is gradually growing less, and should the extreme cold weather continue for any length of time, more or less of a scarcity would be unavoidable. Prices have been firm during the entire week, \$1 a bushel being the unvarying quotation during the early days, while near the close \$1.10 was asked. There are plenty of potatoes ready to come to town, but milder weather is necessary before hauling can be carried on with safety.

#### RUTTER.

There have been almost no changes in the prices of different grades of butter during the week, although a stiffer feeling has been gradually gaining ground. The receipts from the east and south have been very light, owing to the interruptions in railroad travel south of here. Choice dairy is still scarce, and there has been little more demand during the past few days for lower grades. Creamery has sold from 30c to 34c, Choice Dairy 25c to 28c, and lower grades from 19c to 23c. The stock in the city has diminished considerably during the week, but a turn of mild weather and open railway transit would soon replenish it.

#### EGGS.

The receipts during the week have been nil, and only the fact that the demand has been very light has prevented an advance of prices. There is no trade with the country, and the unsafety of shipping west, confines the supply to the city. Prices have not changed, and quotations still remain 35c to 38c.

#### HAMS.

The demand during the week for hams was good and though stocks were still ample, higher

prices were asked. The quotations from 17% to 18% for first class smoked. The quotations ranged

A good business was done during the week, which was an improve ment on the preceeding week. The of quotations was from \$\frac{1}{2}\$ to \$\frac{1}{2}\$ higher. Dry sait sold from \$15\frac{1}{2}\$ to \$15\frac{3}{2}\$; long clear from \$15\frac{3}{2}\$ to \$15\frac{3}{2}\$; American and Canadian breakfest 181c to 19c.

#### MESS PORK.

A fair demand was reported for mess pork but the quotations remained unaltered at \$25. There is no aign of an advance.

An advancing stendy demand was reported during the week at the ruling price of \$15 which sellers fixed.

#### MINNEAPOLIS.

The market for the week opened with the firm tone of the previous week fully maintained, supplies being short owing to railway blockades and the opinion gaining ground that stocks in the country have been overestimated.

On Tuesday the market was stiff owing to e storm. Quotations based on the day's the storm.

WHEAT: No. 1 hard, \$1.11 to \$1 12. \$1.07 to \$1.08. No. 2 hard, \$1.07 to 1.08.

Cons., No. 2 new, 49c to 50c. Rejected new, 44c to 49c.

OATS, No. 2 white, 37c to 38c. No. 2 mixed, 36c to 37c. Rejected, 34c to 35c. Samples 34c to 38c.

FLOUR. Patents, \$6 to \$6.75. Straights, \$5.50 to \$6.25. Clears, \$5 to \$5.55; low grades \$2,25 to 3,25.

On Wednesday the market for wheat was inactive, and prices were a shade easier in all grains, business being merely nominal. Quotations based on the day's sales were:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.00 to \$1.11\frac{1}{2}. No. 1 \$1.07 to \$1.08. No. 2 hard \$1.07 to 1.08.

CORN, No. 2 49c: May option, 54c.

OATS, No. 2 white, 37c to 38c. No. 2 mixed, 36c to 37c. Rejected 33c to 35c. Samiles, 33c to 38c.

FLOUR, Patents, \$6 to \$6.75, Straights, \$5.50 Clears, \$5 to \$5.50; low grades \$2.to \$6.25. 25 to \$3.25.

On Thursday there were no arrivals; oats firmer with a tendency to advance; wheat firm-Quotations based on the day's operations

WHEAT, No. 1 hard \$1.11 to \$1.12; No. 1, \$1.07 to \$1.08; No. 2 hard \$1.06 to \$1.07.

CORN, No. 2, 48c to 49c; May 56c.

OATS, No. 2 white 37c to 3Sc; No. 2 mixed 3Sc to arrive; spot 374.

FLOUR, Patents \$6 to \$6.75; Straights \$5.50 to \$6.25; Clears \$5.00 to \$5.50; low grades \$2. 25 to \$3.25.

On Friday prices held firm all round, and quotations ranged as follows:

WHEAT, No. 1 hard, \$1.11 to \$1.12. No. \$1.03½ to \$1.08. No. 2 hard, \$1.07 to \$1.08. No. 1,

Conn, No. 2, 49c or cash, May 531c. Rejected, nominal.

OATS, No. 2 white, 3Sc to 39c. No. 2 mixed, 37c to 3Sc. Rejected, 34c to 3Sc. Samples, 32c to 38c.

FLOUR, Patents, \$6.00 to \$6.75. Straights, \$5.50 to \$6.25. Clears, \$5.00 to \$5.75; low grades \$2.25 to \$3.

Saturday's market was a quiet one, although.

there was a fair demand for wheat by millers. The following were the ranges of quotations.

WHEAT ranged : No. 1 hard, 1.11 to \$1.124. No. 1, 1.04 to 1.071. No. 2 hard, 1.06c to 1.08.

CORN was quoted: No. 2 new, 49c to 50c. May 54c. Rejected cash 45c to 46c.

OATS ranged, No. 2 white, 374c to 38c4. No. 2 mixed, 36c to 374c. Rejected, 34c to 35c. Samples 32c to 38c.

FLOUR quotations were: Patents, \$6.00 to \$6. 75. Straights, \$5.50 to \$6.25. Clears, \$5 to \$5.75. Low grades \$2 to \$3.

#### CHICAGO.

The market opened firm and strong in everything but corn the clique upsetting the market by closing out their corner at an enormous profit and beginning a strong bear movement.

On Tuesday wheat was quietly active and stronger. Corn was active and uncertain; other grains, fair trading; provisions strong, and ac-Quotations near the close were:

Wheat,	February,	\$1.023	March	\$1.02
Corn.	44	54e,	14	53¥c
Oats,	"	367c.	"	361c
Pork,	44	17.50.	**	17.521.
Lard	"	10.75,	44	10.751

On Wednesday the markets were again active and stronger; wheat advanced; oats higher; provisions active and strong. Quotations near the close were:

Wheat,	, February	, \$1.04}c,	March,	\$1.04c.
Corn,	44	56c,	44	551c.
Oats,	4.6	363c.	.4	37c.
Pork,	"	£17.75,	44	\$17.75c
Lard,	" \$	10.95,	**	\$10.971c

On Thursday the market was unsettled for wheat, an advance taking place; corn unsettled; cats firmer; lard active and advancing; pork in good demand. Quotations near the close were:

Whea.,	February,	\$1.04gc,	March,	\$ 1.054
Corn,	44	54 lc.	"	552c
Oats,	44	373c.	44	37£c
Pork,	**	17.80	44	17.971
Lard,	"	11.10	44	11.20c

On Friday, prices were higher as a rule, but there was a nervousness in the market. tations near the close were-

Wheat,	February,	\$1.063c.	March,	\$1.0740
Corn,	**	<b>5</b> 6	44	564c.
Oats.	**	371	44	37.jc.
Pork,	4.6	\$18.00.	64	\$18.15
Lard,	44	\$11.20.	44	\$11.35.

On Saturday the market was quiet owing to the want of outside information. the storms having cut off all telegraph communication with the east. Prices near the close were:

Wheat	February,	\$1.07c,	March	\$1.07gc
Corn,	"	561c,	"	56 <u>}</u> c
Oats,	**	377c,	**	3Šc
Pork,	44	18.25	**	18.35
Lard,	"	11.30,		11.35

#### TORONTO.

The slight case off with which the Stock Market opened on the beginning of last week was but a temporary weakness, and on Tuesday and soveral succeeding days the firm and healthy state of the market continued. The closing bids on Tuesday afternoon were Montreal 20S, Ontario 113, Molsons 132½, Toronto 187½, Merchants 127½, Commerce 136½, Federal 158?, Dominion 250?, Standard 116, Hamilton 1573, North week Level Co. 411 1157, North-west Land Co. 414.

#### GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

The grain trade during the past week has been rather inactive, which has been due in a great measure to the light offerings, as in most cases the prices have been firm, barley being about the only exeception.

#### FLOUR.

Has been inactive during the week, but has changed very little in price. The highest sales of Superior extra were reported at \$4.40, but bitten in land speculations.

\$4.35 has been the general figure quoted. Some very choice extra reached \$4.35, but \$4.25 to \$4.30 was the usual range.

#### WHEAT

was inactive, and the offerings were very light. No. 1 spring was not to be lad, and No. 2 sold freely at \$1.00. No. 1 fall was very scarce. No. 2 sold at from 97c to 98c, and No. 3 94c to

#### OATS.

held firm all through the week, 42c being asked for good western, and anything below that re-fused. The sales were rather light, however.

#### BARLFY.

Showed some weakness, especially in the the fine grades, and the amount of trading was altogether light. No. 2 was to be had at 73c, and some offers were made at 72c. Extra No. 3 sold from 64c to 65c, and No. 3 was firmest of any and ranged from 54c to 55c.

There has been some activity in butter circles during the week, but the scarcity of better goods has kept matters a little quiet. Choice dairy ranged from 19c to 21c; medium 16c to 1Sc, and inferior goods were quoted as low as

Have been very scarce, and have held firm at 25c to 26c for fresh.

There has been a slight tendency to an advance in all grades of bacon, but no actual rise has taken place. Mess Pork remained the same as the previous week, and Hams were quoted 13c to . \_ for smoked.

# Markets by Telegraph.

Special Dispatch to The Commercial.

Tononto, Feb. 5.—Stock market closed with casier feeling to day, rise of earlier part last week all lost, and generally something more. Closing bids were—Montreal. 2061, sale, 2061; Closing bids were—Montreal. 2063; sale, 2063; Ontario, 1124; sale, 1124; Molsons, 1314; Toronto, 1864, sale, 1863; Merchants, 1257; Commerce, 1354; sales, 1353 and 4; Imperial, 143, sale, 1434; Federal, 157, sales, 155; Dominion, 199, sale, 200; Standard, 116, sale, 1164; Hamilton, offered 114; North-Vest Land, 41, sales, 414 fourth call paid. Monteby Loan, 193 411, fourth call paid; Manitoba Loan, 123.

Special Despatch to the Commercial:

TORONTO, Feb. 5 .- Produce firm but quiet, for the last few days from small offerings. Flour advanced superior extra has sold to-day, \$4.42\frac{1}{2}, closing with \$4.45\$ freely bid. Wheat scarce, No. 1 fall sold \$1.00, No. 2 at 9Sc; No. 1 spring \$1.04; No. 2 spring \$1.01, closing with more variety. wanted. Oats scarce, sold at 41c, which was freely bid. Barley, rather easy, No. 1 sold at 76c; No. 2 at 71c, No. 3 extra steady at 64c to 65c; No. 3 hanging 52c to 55c. Peas nominal, Larde quiet, clover down to \$8.00 to \$8.25. Larde quiet and unchanged. Hogs easy \$8.00 to \$8.50. Butter steady at 19c to 21c; choice dairy. 17c to 20c, good to choice rolls: other sorts nominal. Eggs steady at 25c to 26.

THE Montreal Star has given currency to a yarn concerning a lucky speculator in Winnipeg who hailed from the commercial metropolis. The speculator in question held a firm grip of his savings until he got drunk. and while intoxicated made the two lucky speculations. The number of speculators who got drunk and "left" at the same time has not been estimated; but they must have been numerous or there would not be such constant "kicking" about land swindles. No man in his soher senses had anybody else than himself to blame for light

### Commercial Travellers Meeting.

On Saturday evening a meeting of the Northwest Commercial Travellers Association of Canada was held in the McCaskill Pouse, for the purpose of electing directors for the ensuing year. Mr. Joseph Mulholland, president of the association, occupied the chair, and after the preliminaries of reading the minutes of last meeting and approving the same, the election was proceeded with. Messrs. Langridge and Walker were appointed scrutineers, and a ballot resulted in the election of Messrs. R. J. Whitta, A. F. Eden, J. Payne Dier, Fred. Chilleot and W. J. Georgeson. No other business of great importance was transacted at the meeting.

By the partial bursting of a boiler at the Silver Islet mine, Samuel McEachren, fireman, was scalded to death, and William Beatty, engineer, seriously injured. The works contain four boilers and are being rebuilt.

Capt. Mullet, Morris, has bought the bakery outfit of Mr. G. Cassens, including building in that town. Mr. Cassens retains a half interest in the bakery business and Capt. Mullet adds a flour and feed business on his own account.

The Trade and Navigation tables to be presented to the forthcoming parliament will show that during the past year the export trade of the Dominion increased, and the import trade decreased, leaving the balance of trade in favor of the Dominion, a most unusual experience. In the United States and Great Britain last year the balance of trade was the other way.

Mr. William MacDonnell of Messrs. MacDonnell & Bro., merchants, Winnipeg, recently left with a well assorted stock of goods for Fort Calgarry, where it is the intention of the firm to open up a branch of their establishment. This is the first Winnipeg firm to spread its operations so far afield and it is to be hoped that the reward which it merits will reward such enterprise.

The Mark Lane Express says:-"There are large surpluses existing in such important sources of supply as India and Russia. They must either sell or hold over, and so far as appearances go, the United States is the only country which can afford to hold its surplus. With regard to the United States, the question is not so much whether it can afford to hold two or more. This is a matter which affects Wall Street rather than Mark Lane, inasmuch as the experience of the past year, taken in con. nection with the present statistical position goes to show that Wall Street has not yet obtained 'the key,' of Mark Lane Beyond all doubt No. 2 American red winter is the standard of value in the world's wheat market for the cereal year 1882-83, but the one fact not so clearly understood is that this standard rules almost as effectively in loco as in transitu. While supply is in such present and prospective proportions as it is now, American wheats may be scarce without being comparatively dear, and we might even get on comfortably without them."

In Great Britain and Ireland there were in 1871, 37,073 persons employed in flong mills.

#### EMERSON.

Trail Maulson & Clark have temporarily stopped buying wheat.

There is very little grain offering. Prices remain unaltered; for wheat 75c is paid.

Walton & Bird have taken the contract to supply nuts and bolts for the new bridge.

Mr. Rutledge of Pembina Croising is here closing out the business of Rutledge & McKay who have been succeeded by W. G. Evans & Co-

Messrs. Gco. W. Baker and Peter Kennedy, formerly with Ashdown & Co., are going into the commission business in Winnipeg.

#### INDIAN HEAD.

Owing to the mild days we have had this week, business in our town has been unusually brisk

Mr. A. J. Osment is having a large building erected in which he will start a furniture store at an early date.

Mess. Crawford & Robertson have just received another large stock of dry goods, groceries and provisions, which they are rapidly disposing of.

Mr. S. Inglis, who has contracted to freight a lot of machinery from here to Prince Albert, has just arrived with two carloads of horses for the purpose, and is now making preparations for the trip. He is also talking very strongly of running a stage line between here and Prince Albert early in spring.

#### BRANDON.

Mr. W. J. Craig, late of Portage, has opened a general store on Rosser Avenue.

Thos. H. Munson, druggist, of this city has gone west to Regina under very shady circumstances.

Fraser Bros. will erect a large brick store on the corner of Rosser Avenue and Tenth Street, this spring.

The city succeeded in raising \$30,000 through the Bank of Nova Scotia, and have paid off the contractor and laborers and now start with a clean sheet.

Messrs. Biglow & Cussick, of Virden have assigned to Robert T. Riley—manager for Sanford, Vail & Co., Hamilton—for the benefit of their creditors.

Wheat is still being held back on account of the low price; farmers expect a decided advance when spring opens. Wheat brings 60c to 65c. Oats 35c to 40c, and for pure white oats 60c is being offered.

Thomas & Somersall, of Millford, have assigned to J. H. Ashdown, and W. H. Pass, of Minnedosa, has also assigned to J.H. Ashdown. Some of the creditors of these parties will not agree to a compromise and there is a prospect of trouble.

Business has improved slightly since last week but is still quiet. Very littleimprovement is expected until immigration begins. A number of travellers have visited the city but they have not been over successful in making sales as the stores are overstocked with goods bought for the fall trade which was lighter than was expected.

#### REGINA.

The C.P.R. has imported another carge of hard coal which is now selling at the station for \$16.25 per ton.

Mr. McQuarrie has sold out his general store to Finney & Lytle. The business will be carried on under the name of W. J. Finney & Co.

Messrs. Clankson & Tolhurst, of Winnipeg shortly open the Pioneer Tailoring Establishment. The branch here will be under the management of Mr. Chatwin, and will be carried on under the name of Clankson, Tolhurst & Chatwin.

Messrs. Baldwin & Shaffner, of Emerson are opening an extensive lumber yard here. They are daily expecting the arrival of their stock of lumber which was shipped some time ago but has been detained by the snow blockade on the C.P.R.

The incipient fire at the Criterion has been the means of reviving public interest in the fire protection schemes. A Fire Brigade is in process of formation and a large fund has been subscribed for the purpose of procuring the necessary equipment, and the C.P.R. authorities have granted permission to use the station tank for fire purposes.

### RAT PORTAGE.

The all important question is the necessity of a bank. Will no bank take pity and establish a branch?

Work will also shortly be commenced on the mining location known as the Bonanza King, Lake of the Woods.

Any speculator that would build houses and stores in Rat Portage would find it to his advantage. Houses of three rooms command \$20 per month rent.

Business is brisk at present, and the town is all business in men supplying themselves with provisions from the different stores, leaving for the woods and mines.

The Mayor and Council of Rat Portage are now engaging their attention to the berefits and comforts of Rat Portage, as large numbers of people are expected to reside here during the next summer.

Messrs. Snow & Codd, Dominion Land Surveyors, have several locations in the vicinity of Hay Island to survey so soon as the weather will permit. They are at present engaged in preparing plans of the Rideont addition to the town of Rat Portage.

Mining and real estate boom is the general subject of conversation. Large numbers of men are daily arriving for the mines, and when the spring opens up Rat Portage will be largely increased in population. Main street lots are selling for \$3,000 and \$4,000. E. M. Ridoout and others propose shortly to develop the White Feather and Pitsburg location. It is well known that these locations are rich in minerals.

The Prince Arthur's Landing Herald devotes four columns to a description of the Huronian mining company's property at Jack-fish Lake. Extraordinary reports are current regarding the reliness of a silver nume called the Rabbit Mountain, now being developed in the Paince Arthur's Landing district.

#### PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE.

Mr. Hay is asking a bonus or a loan of \$2,500, so as to increase his foundry business, which now employs six men.

The country is threatening to sue the town of Portage La Prairie regarding its share of maintaining the registry office.

The only change worthy of notice in business circles during the week was the dissolution of the firm of J, B. Pewtrees & Co., stationers. J. B. Pewtrees, will continue the business in his own name.

The arrangements between the Town Council and the P. W. & N. W. R. Company regarding the site for the depot round house and shops of the latter are not yet concluded. The company require S0 acres altogether.

There has been considerable irregularity in trains and mails during the past week owing to snow, and on Fuesday and Wednesday the Portage, Westbourne and North-western was blocked about ten miles from this place.

The license committee of the town council have recommended the granting of fourteen licenses for the sale of liquors, while they have refused only one applicant. This is in marked contrast with the fruitless attempt to enforce the provisions of the Scott' Act a year ago, but it is not expected that drunkenness will increase in consequence.

The past week has been a very dull one in mercantile circles, and trade has been at a very low ebb. The cold weather has kept farmers from coming to town, and grain receipts have been correspondingly light. Not more than half a dozen cars have been shipped during the week. Wheat still sells at from 65c to 70c, and cats at 35c to 37c. Potatoes have sold during the week from 80c to 90c.

#### PRINCE ALBERT.

We expect shortly to have a weekly mail which will be a great boon to our citizens.

E. Waldo & Co., are making extensive preparations for the manufacture of bricks.

Prince Albert has now two banks for the accommodation of merchants and other business men.

T. McKay & Co's., new grist mill is running night and day, throwing out a splendid quality of flour.

E. Flood & Co., bankers, have opened a bank in the new building occupied by McLean & Watson.

Matters have been satisfactorily arranged for the building of the Saskatchewan Valley Railway, work to commence in the spring.

Kerr & Familton have sold out their general stock and have gone east. They intend returning shortly with a large stock of farniture.

Macarthur & Knowles, bankers, have removed into their new and commodious building, the office of which has been handsomely fitted up.

Real estate is on the boom. Several lots were sold this week by auction, bringing good prices. Twenty lots were sold by private sale at \$150 cach.

McHaffey & Clinkskill have purchased a lot for \$1,600 on River Street next to T. N. Campbell's book store, and intend building in the spring. T. O. Davis & Co., have opened out in their new premises, River Street, and are doing a good business. They have also opened a branch store near Prichard's Crossin.

Gold mining will be vigorously prosecuted in this vicinity in the spring. The river opposite here has been examined by experts and found to contain gold in paying quantities.

One of the firm of Goodfellow & Bros. has gone east to Qu'Appelle to bring an engine and additional wood working machinery for their factory. They have got into their new premises.

The poles are now being got out for the construction of a branch telegraph line from Clark's Crossing, the point at which the Government line crosses the south branch of the Saskatchewan and thence along the river to Prince Albert

Shipments of goods, etc., from the cast on the opening of navigation will be sent to Leopold on the C.P.R. and thence by flat boats down the Saskatchewan to a point ten miles north of here. Parties left here by last mail to construct these boats at Leopold.

The trail from Qu'Appelle to here so far has been kept open, and freighters are coming in constantly.

J.D.M.

Although America possesses the largest mill furnishing establishment in the world, Germany boasts the largest iron works, as evidenced by the following: Krupp's works, at Essen now employ some 449 steam boilers; 456 steam engines, with an aggregate horse-power of 18,500; 80 steam hammers, varying in weight from 200 pounds to 50 tons; 21 rolling mills; machines for making tools, 1,622; furnaces, 1,556 of which 64 are high furnaces; 25 locomotives, and 5 propellers, with a tonage of about 8,000 Annual production, 300,000 tons of steel and 25,000 tons of iron.

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A-Nature of ground and size of lot. Best to make a Trough draught of lot, with points of compass and direction in which building is to face and where it is to be placed.

be placed.

B.—Materials to be used in construction—wood, brick veneer, or stone.

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## CHANGE OF

tollows:	ę.	October	186, 10	302, Ita	ins w	111 11101	c as
Going west	t.				- (	Going E	ast
8.15	a.m.	Icave W	innipeg	arrivo	6.15	p.m.	
10.35	••	Porta:	go la Pr	alrie	3.65	"	
1.55	p.m.	13	randon		12.5	,,	
4.15	•••	O:	ik Lake		10.20	a.m	
11.30	••		oadview	•	3.30	**	
. 5.55	a,m	arrive 1	tegina	leave	8.30	p.m.	

9.40 a.m. leave Rat Portago arrive 4.03 p.m.
1.45 p.m. Whitemouth 12.20 ...
Sclkirk 9.50 a.m.
4.65 ,, arrive Winnipeg leave 8.45 ,,

leave Winnipeg arrive 5.15 p.m arrive Stonewall leave 3.40 ,, 8.25 am. 9.45 ... Daily except Sundays.

Going South.

Leave Winnipeg Att...
7.35 a.m. \*7.35 p.m. 7.05 p.m. §6.50 a.m.

Otterburn.

\*\*G p.m. 5.50 p.m. 5.20 a.m. Going North.

Otterburn.

9.00 a.m. 8.50 p.m. 5.50 p.m. 5.20 a.m.
Emerson.

10.25 a.m. 10.18 p.m. 4.40 p.m. 4.05 a.m.
Arrive. St. Vincent. Leave.
10.40 a.m. 10.28 p.m. 4.20 p.m. 3.45 a.m.

5 Daily except Mondays.

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