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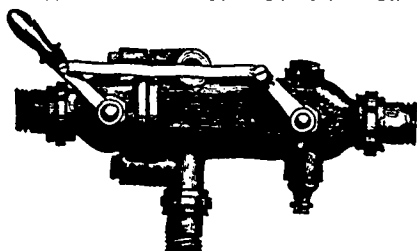
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It is the only Grenade that is imported into Canada
freight and duty paid. Indorsed by Chiefs of Fire De-
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ORDERS filled with Promptness and Despatch.

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Manufacturers of

ENGINES AND BOILERS

Of Every Description and Capacity.

Armington & Sims' celebrated Automatic

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Horizontal Plain Slide Valve Engines,

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Steamboat and Tug Boilers, Locomotive

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Horizontal Return Tubular Boilers,

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Upright Boilers, also Shafting, Hangers
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Wholesale Commission Merchants

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DIRECT IMPORTATIONSAll New Seasons Teas. SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS
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Stones, Mantle Pieces, Grates, etc. Special designs fur-
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Consignments solicited. Shipping Tags and
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GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTSConsignments of Fresh Fruits received regularly in
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Boxless Fish in 5 and 40 L. boxes

New Valencias, Elcme Raisins
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WINNIPEG.

The Commercial

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. 3

WINNIPEG, SEPTEMBER 1, 1885.

NO. 49

The Commercial

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

ISSUED EVERY TUESDAY.

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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 Northwest.

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Office, 4 and 6 James St. East

JAS. E. STEEN,
Publisher.

WINNIPEG, SEPTEMBER 1, 1885.

JOE REID is opening up a new butcher store at Brandon.

G. WIDMEYER, tinsmith, Clearwater, has given up his business.

GRANT & Co, painters, Winnipeg, are about to dissolve partnership.

ALEX. McLAREN, hotelkeeper, at Clearwater, has given up his business.

HODDER & Sons, grocers and general dealers, Winnipeg are about to sell off their whole stock.

WM. BRYDON'S interest in the firm of Brydon & McIntosh, piano dealers, Winnipeg, has been sold.

JAS. McNAMEE, boot and shoe dealer, Crystal City, has gone into the hotel business in that place.

The Galt Railway has been completed from Dunmore to Lethbridge, and the coal from this part of the Northwest Territory will probably be on the market here in the early part of September.

HENRY GEORGE HENDERSON, general storekeeper, Minnedosa, has made an assignment in trust.

GEORGE ROY, of Provencher, has been appointed registrar in the district of Edmonton N.W.T.

J. B. McLAREN, barrister, Nelson, is about to remove to Merden where he will continue his practice.

YOUNG & URQUHART have formed a co-partnership and started a blacksmith business at Portage la Prairie.

G. BLACKWELL is putting steam power into his flour mill at Rapid City, with the view of running it all winter.

P. D. McLARIN has commenced the erection of an elevator at Brandon, with a storage capacity of 40,000 bushels.

WM. WALLEY, watch dealer, Birtle, contemplates forming a partnership with his brother in the grocery business.

THE firm of Dean & Paynter carrying on business in Cladstone as hardware merchants, have made an assignment in trust.

— ROYSTON, contemplates opening a general store and lumber yard at the end of the Canadian Pacific Southwestern track.

THE Hudson's Bay Company have completed arrangements for opening up a branch establishment at Morden under the charge of Mr. Gigot.

THE partnership existing between Carter Bros, millowners, Prince Albert, has been dissolved and the business will in future be carried on by Gilbert E. Carter.

MR. SWEETMAN, Post Office Inspector, of Toronto, has been up as far as Port Arthur investigating the postal requirements of the north shore of Lake Superior with a view to establishment of regular mails on the opening up of the railway for the traffic.

FISHERY Inspector McQueen recently brought back from the northern portion of Lake Winnipeg a fish which when alive weighed over twenty pounds, and which is undoubtedly a species of a salmon trout, the same as found in Lake Superior. If these are plentiful in the lake we have a new source of wealth in our fisheries.

THE partnership of the firm of Prince & Co, carrying on business as flour and saw millers, Battleford, N.W.T., has been dissolved. A. McDonald retires, and the business will in future be carried on under the style and firm of Prince Brothers.

— NORTHWOOD, of Chatham, Ont, is building a large flour mill at Carberry. This is one of the finest grain districts in the Northwest, and the town although small, has a class of enterprising business men to whom the addition of this mill will prove of great value.

INCREASING traffic on the Manitoba and Northwestern Railway has necessitated an increase in passenger travel facilities on that road. Hereafter there will be a train from Portage la Prairie to Minnedosa and vice versa every day instead of every second day as formerly. Work on the westward extension is progressing rapidly, and in a few weeks trains will likely be running into the Birtle district.

THE Manitoba Telephone Co. has given notice of its intentions to apply for incorporation under the Manitoba Joint Stock Act. The amount of capital stock is placed at \$25,000. The shares shall number 500, and the amount of each shall be \$50. Following are the names of the applicants for incorporation: Duncan McArthur, J. H. Ashdown, Kenneth McKenzie, L. M. Jones, H. S. Westbrook, G. F. Cairuthers, G. R. Crowe and H. Miller. The above are to be first directors of the company.

ON Monday and Tuesday morning of last week a slight frost was experienced in different portions of the Northwest. Throughout Southern Manitoba it was not sufficiently strong to injure grain still standing, but at points it killed potato and other vines. Around Winnipeg and west to beyond Portage la Prairie its effects were even lighter, but from Brandon north and west to the provincial boundaries the temperature was much lower, and reports tell of some little damage to late grain in the lowest portions of the valleys. Luckily in the west crops were too far advanced to suffer from anything but a very severe freeze, except in such instances as stated. Altogether the damage to grain has been very trifling, but to some root crops it has been quite considerable.

Business East.

ONTARIO.

John Bedford, dentist, has left Picton.
 David Cassils, tailor, Stratford, is dead.
 C. Newman, grocer, Toronto, has assigned.
 Jas. Miller, fruit dealer, Stratford, closed up.
 A. G. Staley, tailor, Warton, has sold out.
 R. S. King, grocer, etc., Parkdale, has sold out.
 John Foster, fish dealer, Hamilton, has sold out.
 E. Lampman, baker, Ridgetown, has gone away.
 J. N. Wait, dealer in tinware, Picton, has sold out.
 John McClean, dealer in shoes, Hamilton, has sold out.
 John Lennox, dealer in tins, Harriston, has assigned.
 Crookall & Nurse, contractors, Toronto, have dissolved.
 A. P. Staley, tailor, Warton, has sold out to J. A. Cobb.
 A. F. Steel & Bro., furniture dealers, Forest, have dissolved.
 P. Hicks, livery keeper, Picton, has gone out of business.
 Jacob Hareus, cigar dealer, London, advertises to sell out.
 W. E. Boulton, general storekeeper, Wallaceburg, has sold out.
 John A. Mills, general storekeeper, Shelburne, has assigned.
 James Marshall, hotelkeeper, London East, has sold out to J. Ardill.
 Hay & Robinson, general storekeeper, Winterton, has dissolved.
 Hay & Robinson, general storekeepers, Wallaceburg, have dissolved.
 John Marr, wagon maker, Winterton, has sold out to A. Fisher.
 Odell & Therrien, slipper manufacturers, Hamilton, have dissolved.
 Andrew Fisher, wagon maker, Bloomingdale, has removed to Winterton.
 Frank West, fancy goods dealer, Simcoe, has sold out and gone to Brockville.
 T. Christie & Co., wholesale hatters, Toronto, have called meeting of creditors.
 Forbes, Convey & Co., wholesale gents' furnishings, Toronto, have assigned.
 A. M. Hendrie, general storekeeper, Lawrence Station, has been burned out.
 Shannon & Co., photographers, Stratford, have dissolved. John Douglas retires.

QUEBEC.

Pope & Co., contractors, Montreal, have dissolved.
 H. O. Lemieux, grocer, Montreal, has dissolved.
 J. R. Lippe, grocer, etc., St. Jean de Matha, has assigned.
 Geo. Lycombe, general storekeeper, St. Nere, has assigned.
 Mount, Martin & Co., plumbers, Montreal, have dissolved.
 Bell Telephone Co., Montreal, have had their factory burned.
 John Welsh, saw mill, Hadlow Cove, has been burned out.

J. McCarthy, saloon and bowling alley, Montreal, was damaged by fire.

J. P. Cardinal, hotelkeeper, St. Jerome (Terrobonne Co.) has assigned.

Odell & Therrien, manufacturers of boots and shoes, Montreal, have assigned.

J. M. Grothe, of the firm of J. M. Grothe & Co., jewelers, Montreal, is dead.

John McCoshen, of the firm of Fraser & McCoshee, lumber merchants, Bryson, is dead.

A meeting of creditors of Alex. Senez, general storekeeper, Roxton Falls, is called for the 18th inst.

Drysdale & Pallascio, hardware merchants, Montreal, have dissolved. Alphonse Pallascio continues.

Canada Bank Note Printing and Engraving Co., Montreal, have had their plant and stock damaged by fire.

D. B. Macpherson & Co., importers of iron and chemicals, Montreal, have sold out to Middleton & Meredith.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Jas. Clawson, liquor dealer, Halifax, has sold out.

F. A. Clark, saw mill, Berwick, has been burned out.

P. J. Chisholm, dry goods and clothing, Truro, has assigned.

Gallihar Gold Mining & Mining Co., Isaac's Harbor, have been attached.

Outhit, Eaton & Co., produce, Halifax, have dissolved. C. W. Outhit continues.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Alonzo Smith, cattle dealer, Harvey, A. C., has assigned.

B. Richards, general storekeeper, St. Louis, is offering a compromise.

Keeping of Furs.

It is well-known among furriers that skins are best kept in cold, dark places, as when in warm and light rooms they are liable to be injured by insects and the fur faded by the action of light. The N. Y. *Hatter and Furrier* notes that the plan of using refrigerators is now being largely adopted in the states. "Skins may be placed in refrigerators and kept for five years in good condition. They require, when so stored, but little care. They have the advantage of being in a temperature cold enough to keep them clear of bugs and moths, and they are free from dust and in a dark place, which prevent their fading. Several leading firms in the city have refrigerators in their establishments, and large quantities of skins are stored every summer in the mammoth refrigerators in cold storage warehouses."

The father of the raw fur trade of Canada is said to be Mr. Alexander Bresler, of Montreal, who still has a fur establishment in St. Paul street, and who, now in his 90th year, is plodding through Southern Russia personally gathering furs for the next season's trade. He has been in the fur trade in England and Canada since boyhood, and gave to Mr. C. M. Lampson, who afterwards became the leading fur-dealer in the land, his first lessons in sorting furs.—*Dominion Dry Goods Report.*

Commercial Summary.

The encouraging features of the general trade situation heretofore reported in this column have been repeated in special telegrams received by *Bradstreet's* this week. More specific advices from Boston state that while the feeling in trade circles is more encouraging, the gain in the volume of trade which has taken place is not large. Still it is of significance that at Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Memphis and Burlington, the leading jobbers record better sales and an improved feeling in trade circles. At Chicago there has been some depression owing to the decline in the price of wheat, but otherwise there is no change. At St. Louis the threatened strike of the Gould road operatives belonging to the Knights of Labor depressed trade by causing the withholding of orders at the interior. At Cleveland it is wired that trade is fair for the season only. At New York only a moderate average of the reports recorded above is true. Leading dealers in staple lines at New York regard the general improvement noticed here, mainly in cotton goods and wool, as pointing to the usual excess demand customary at the opening of autumn. The necessitated outlay in the fall is heavier than that in the spring. General inquiry fails to find an expectation of a continuing revival in trade in the existing improvement. The sales of wool at the east show no signs of a reaction from the activity of the past six weeks. Prices tend upward, and the volume of sales is heavier than at the like period last year. A clear advance of 1c. per pound since July 1 has been made on several varieties. In the east business in dry goods is fair. The most noteworthy advance is in bleached cottons, in which prices have advanced 2½ per cent. Brown sheetings are higher in one or two instances. Stocks of cottons are relatively small, and the restriction of output continues. The improvement in iron at Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, St. Louis and Chicago is mainly in pipes and plates, for which orders have increased. There has, however, been considerable enthusiasm respecting the gain. The improvement in prices for steel rails, reported general at \$1.70 @ \$2 per ton, has amounted to less than \$1 in reality. The intention of the Long Branch conference of steel rail makers is to put prices up to \$30 per ton, against nominally \$27.50. The Rensselaer Iron and Steel Works, New York State, having reorganized with new capital, will build furnaces and continue work. The wheat market has been quite depressed, and within two weeks has declined 10c. per bushel, from influences heretofore noted. Corn remains partly in sympathy, but relatively firmer. Provisions are low and weak. In grocery staples the distribution of sugar has slightly improved, while coffee and tea are behind same time last year. Dairy products irregular, with cheese depressed. There were 180 failures in the United States during the past week, as compared with 160 the preceding week, and with 176, 179 and 132 respectively, in the corresponding weeks of 1884, 1883 and 1882. About 80 per cent. were those of small traders whose capital was less than \$5,000. Canada had 19, an increase of 2.—*Bradstreet's.*

Cheese Factories!

We have always on hand a full line of
TRIMMINGS AND SUPPLIES
For such Factories, and are prepared to furnish tenders
at any time for the

Furnishing and Equipment
Of Cheese Factories or Creameries.

MERRICK, ANDERSON & CO.,
11 McWilliam St. East. WINNIPEG.

North-Western Planing Mills

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SASH, DOORS, BLINDS,
And General House Furnishing
Made to Order.

The Wholesale Trade supplied on the Best
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STORAGE FOR ALL KINDS OF GOODS

BONDED OR FREE.
Customs Government Bond in Building
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and Goods Insured. Charges moderate.

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WOODS & COMPANY,
Wholesale Agents,
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PRATT'S ASTRAL OIL

GRIFFIN & DOUGLASS,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

AND WHOLESALE DEALERS IN
PRODUCE AND PROVISIONS.
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Manufacturers and Dealers in

ROLLER PROCESS FLOUR,

In the following Grades:
Patents, Strong Bakers, and Spring Extra
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Wholesale Paper Dealers
—AND—
GENERAL STATIONERS.

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Alex. Pirie & Sons,
Manufacturers Fine Stationery, Aberdeen, Scotland.

M. Staunton & Co.,
Manufacturers Wall Papers, Toronto.

GERRIE BLOCK, PRINCESS STREET,
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MOORE'S CHINA HALL

Direct Importers of

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SILVER-PLATED WARE,
Lamps, Cutlery and General House Furnishings

MOORE & CO., Proprietors,
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THE PIONEER PAPER RULER,
AND
Blank Book Manufacturer,
Of Manitoba and the North-West.
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SHIP YOUR BLUEBERRIES, RASPBERRIES & EGGS

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SHAW & MASTERMAN,
PRODUCE COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
And Obtain Highest Market Prices.
Warehouse: 120 PRINCESS STREET, WINNIPEG.

FEILDE, HAFFNER & CO.,
Wholesale Produce & Commission Merchant.
SOLE AGENTS FOR THE CANADIAN NORTHWEST FOR THE
DOMINION ORGAN AND PIANO CO., OF BOWMANVILLE, ONT.
AGENTS WANTED THROUGHOUT THE WEST.
P.O. Box 359 Office: 302 Main Street. Winnipeg

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Wholesale Dealer & Importer of all kinds of

Shelf and Heavy Hardware,

STOVES AND TINWARE,
PAINTS, OILS AND GLASS,
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The Trade furnished with our ILLUSTRATED
CATALOGUE on application.

Corner Main and Bannatyne Streets,
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Dealer in

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Manufacturer of

Fur and Skin Rugs, Robes, Mats,
GARMENTS, Etc., Etc.

Furs and Skins Repaired, Cleaned Dressed and
Renovated. A full line of Native Skins and
Furs always on hand.

HIGHEST MARKET PRICE
PAID FOR FURS, SKINS, HIDES, PELTS, &c

WAREHOUSES AND OFFICES:
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The McClary Manufacturing Co.,

OF LONDON, TORONTO, MONTREAL & WINNIPEG,

Manufacturers of

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Pressed and Pieced Tinware, Japanned Ware,
Stove Boards, etc., and Dealers in Granite and Agate
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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, SEPTEMBER 1, 1885.

BRANCH RAILWAY MOVEMENT.

We have had so many disappointments in connection with the construction of branch railways in Manitoba and the Northwest that we can scarcely believe that this year relief has at last come, and that the want will be partially supplied before 1885 comes to a close. There has been a great quantity of talk about Northwestern investments for eastern and foreign capital, and we have no doubt but the money to be invested in the building of feeders to the C. P. R. will yield a return, which will soon bring more funds in search of similar investments.

The sudden start which has been given to branch railway building can be attributed to many causes, some having their origin in this country, and others in money centres. All have contributed towards the present movement more or less, but it is only justice to the Dominion Government to say that their policy of free land grants, ratified at last session of Parliament, has been the principal spur the good work has received. That they were so tardy in adopting this wise policy is a cause for wonder to all who understand Northwestern railway wants. But now that they have adopted it we must give them credit for a sincere desire to push on railway construction here, and charge up their tardiness to lack of former knowledge of our actual wants.

When we look at each piece of railway construction going on this year by itself, it looks small compared with what we deem the actual wants of the country. But when we take all together we are satisfied that a great step in the way of progress will be made this year. First we have the extension through Southern Manitoba, which we may roughly estimate at 100 miles, and which will open up the most thickly populated and best cultivated section of the Northwest. Then we have over 50 miles of the Manitoba and Northwestern, which will open up one of the richest valleys in the world, already fairly well settled and cultivated; and to this we may add the Regina and Long Lake branch, which runs into the garden part of Assiniboia, and will give convenient markets to hundreds of poor settlers who have been coaxed into for-

merly isolated homesteads by unscrupulous land grabbing corporations. We will thus have some 200 miles of new railway through the best farming sections of the Northwest, and if we are inclined to count chickens before they are hatched we might figure upon 50 miles of the Northwest Central. Such an aggregate justifies us in concluding that the period of rapid progress has again returned to the North-west, and that agricultural development will now go rapidly onward. To this we must add the construction of the road from Medicine Hat to the Galt mines, a distance of 110 miles, which is the first great move yet made towards the development of our great mineral resources. Taking this all into consideration, we should feel satisfied that another period of progress has set in, and that railway construction will be one portion of the movement which is not going to lag behind. If we will only produce the grain and other products, we will in time secure all the distant capital we want for our natural development. The time was when it was too abundant here, and as a natural consequence it got squandered. The reaction to a scarcity came, but it is about over, and we may soon expect to reach the happy medium of a sufficiency for legitimate wants, but none for reckless speculation.

MALICIOUS ALARMISTS.

If we are to pay any heed to the ominous hints of many persons who consider themselves wondrously wise on every subject but what is strictly their own business, the rebellion in the Northwest is still far from being crushed, and the sacrifice of blood and treasure made by Canada during the past spring and summer has been all in vain. We are told by these wise heads that all which has yet been accomplished is the deepening of the feeling of dislike, if not of hate, of the Metis to Canada and to the white invaders generally, and that the recent outbreak was only the introduction to a much greater and doubtless more sanguinary struggle which could not fail to break out in the very near future, and the certain coming of which the Government, and in fact everybody but these prophetic sages, are so blinded that they cannot see. Like Valentine Verdict, the bumptious grand jurymen in the old play of the "Charcoal Burner," these people have made up their minds upon scenting

out and investigating deeds of gore, and they rear and rear over every twaddling threat of some irresponsible and senseless half breed, as a bull would at a red rag. Some of them have got the craze so bad that they forcibly remind one of a lot of fanatically religious cranks smelling around for the "Great Battle of Armagaddon."

All this nonsense would be quite amusing, and indeed is so to those who understand the real state of affairs. But such blood-curdling predictions have anything but a good effect upon the reputation of the Northwest abroad, and we are in that unfortunate position that we require to be very jealous about what the outside world think of our country. The nonsense of such writers as J. Fenimore Cooper, and a host of dime novelists, have made a wonderful impression in older countries, and the forbodings of our senseless alarmists only supply food for vivid imaginations, and with all due deference to the good sense of the class of people who make good immigrants to a new country, the tales of romances have some effect upon their minds, and thus materially injure our immigration prospects.

There is no doubt but rancorous feelings will linger for a time in the minds of some of our lately rebellious half-breeds, and some of our Indians may feel anything but satisfied with the results of the late trouble. But as to their being any further rebellion, the chances are but small. With a half-breed and Indian population in all not exceeding 50,000, a white population of a quarter million have but little to fear, especially now when our Dominion Government has been put on the alert by the late rising. People at a distance do not understand how matters really stand in the North-west, but we can inform them, and truthfully too, that in and around the town of Calgary there are white men and arms sufficient to sweep the whole territory of Alberta as clean of Indians as St. Patrick is alleged to have swept Ireland of snakes and toads. Other territories are in a similar state, and there is force enough in them of white men and white pluck to quell any Indian or half-breed rising without aid from one of the eastern provinces, or for that matter Manitoba either. All our Dominion Government have to do is to deal justly with their settlers in the territories, and make their loyalty beyond question. That secured,

and the loyalty or disaffection of Metis or Indian matters but little, and need not be purchased at the expense of obstructing settlement, trade and general progress.

CROP REPORTS.

Like every field in which actual facts are wanted from a large area of country, there has been considerable trouble and not a little contradiction in securing reliable crop reports from the Northwest during the past week, and it was only towards its close that these could be reached. Now that we have them, we can see what an amount of unnecessary excitement and anxiety we have undergone, and how imaginary evils can be magnified to the injury of the interests of the Northwest. The fact that on the morning of the 24th of August frost had struck certain parts of the country was enough to cause consternation all over the Province, where the real effects of the same were indefinitely known, or perhaps not known at all. As a matter of course the first crop reports which reached Winnipeg thereafter were of a very discouraging character, and these were flashed by telegraph to the eastern provinces and the United States, where they were magnified or diminished before publication, just as the friendship or antipathy to the Northwest of the publisher dictated. In this city there were the hopeful and disconsolate classes, and it would not be far amiss to say that the crop opinions expressed here on Monday last were dictated more by the state of men's livers than the state of the growing grain. Contradiction and confusion was the natural result, which only disappeared slowly, and as reliable reports dispersed them.

We deem it fortunate that THE COMMERCIAL had during the early portion of the past week a representative driving through the finest wheat fields of Southern Manitoba, and it is satisfactory to know that his observations and tests made in company with, and by the guidance of grain experts, go to show that there has been practically no damage done to grain crops throughout that country, unless in a very few instances where a stray patch of late seeding stood like a temptation to Providence. These instances are so few that, allowing for total destruction in every case where they have occurred, there would still be left a much larger and better crop than was produced

altogether last year. From the Red River west for forty miles, where the frost was heaviest, grain was too far advanced to be affected, and around Morden nearly two-thirds of the crop was cut and in shock. Further west by Manitou, Pilot Mound, Crystal City and Clearwater, where cutting had only commenced and grain was much later, the frost was much lighter and by no means general, there being streaks where potato vines were left as green as they were a month ago. It is questionable if west of Morden a temperature of less than 30° was experienced, and in the distant Turtle Mountain district frost was scarcely noticed in a few places, and unheard of in many. It will thus be seen that in Southern Manitoba at least, and that includes a large share of our best wheat fields, the crop so far is still safe. From points along the main line of the C.P.R. and the Manitoba and Northwestern, the reports are also reassuring. In the valley of the Little Saskatchewan reports state that some late grain in the lowest parts of the valley is probably damaged, but that on high lands crops are uninjured, and are being cut rapidly. Crops were certainly much earlier here than in Southern Manitoba, and along the C. P. R. main line from Brandon west they were still earlier. Here again there is probable damage reported to late fields in low-lying localities, but it is a noteworthy fact that these reports of damage become less as time progresses, and with another week of bright warm weather they would doubtless shrink almost to nothing. We may congratulate ourselves upon having passed safely through this little scare without being injured, but we have our lessons to learn from it. We have discovered that even on the 24th of August we may have a visit from Jack Frost, a thing never experienced before, and we should make our calculations accordingly. We can see that if the same negligence about getting crops in early had been shown last spring as was shown in the spring of 1883, serious damage to crops might, and doubtless would, have occurred. As matters stand we are none too safe, and our farmers should know by this time that successful wheat raising can only be reached by wheat sowing being done immediately the snows of winter disappear from our prairies. Late sowing means late harvest, and late harvest means great risk of injury from frost.

But this frost scare suggests to us a system of organized information facilities, which we should possess in Manitoba at least. We have a Department of Agriculture in connection with our Provincial Government, and we have also a Provincial Board of Agriculture working in connection with the same. The expenditure of this Department every year is quite heavy, and we must and have on former occasions acknowledged that both Department and Board have rendered valuable services to the Province. They could, at a trifling expense, make themselves still more valuable by the establishment of a system of agencies which would furnish reliable information as to casualties or damage to crops. Already agents forward matter from which crop bulletins are compiled, giving average, probable yield, estimated export surplus, and other information which has in a great measure to be guessed at. It certainly would not be a difficult work to so reorganize these agencies that we could have actual facts when rumors of frosts, storms and such like evils are flying around. A sum of \$100 spent in telegraphing during the past week by such an organization would have furnished reliable information for an official report, which would have silenced all rumors of irresponsible parties, and saved a great deal of unnecessary anxiety. People could wait patiently rest satisfied for a day or two when they knew that such a report was forthcoming as soon as compiled. But during the past week there was no means of securing reliable information about the probable damage by frost, except the efforts put forth by private enterprise, and it is within the mark to say that in this way over \$1,000 was expended by people in Winnipeg alone. Such an expenditure is quite unnecessary if the Department of Agriculture will only do as we have stated. In connection with the trade affairs of the Northwest private enterprise has so organized matters that the slightest business casualty is speedily known by all the trading community of Canada, and the trade elements of the entire Northwest are far more scattered and difficult to organize than the agricultural affairs of Manitoba only. If private enterprise can accomplish this much, a Department of the Government, which is quite an expensive one to maintain, can surely accomplish what we have suggested.

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WINNIPEG.

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

There is scarcely any change to report in the money market in the city since our last issue, and financial affairs have been drifting along in a smooth although rather slow manner. In commercial circles the demand for discounts has been light, as it usually is towards the close of the month, and banks have felt matters rather quiet. This week, however, quite a livening up is looked for, as quite a share of the fall purchases go into paper from September 1st. Further than the stir which will be caused by this, no increased activity is looked for until harvest operations are about over. There are no changes in rates to report, first-class paper being still received at 8 per cent, ordinary at 9 to 10 and promiscuous at 10 to 11 and in rare instances 12. In real estate mortgage loans matters have been at a standstill during the week, so far as applications and even payments are concerned, and no movement can be expected until harvest is over, and threshing commences. The cool nights in the beginning of the week, and reports of frost in a few places, caused some uneasiness among loan circles, but as reports have come in, and the trifling nature of the damage known, fears have disappeared and confidence has returned. A good business in farm loans is still looked for during the coming winter, and there are hopes that there will be a revival in city loans very soon, although there is no business of that kind doing at present. Rates of interest still range 8 to 10 per cent, with very little doing at the latter figures.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

In the wholesale trade this week we cannot see that there is much if any change in the way of improvement on the one preceding it. On the contrary, there has not been so much general activity noticed, nor such a volume of business put through, owing no doubt to its being a broken week through the observance of the civic holiday, which was held on Thursday. In the city in some lines there has been a little spurt, but most others do not vary much from the dullness which has prevailed for some time back, but now as harvesting is fully under way all over the Province and Northwest Territories, and the crops are safe, though a few reports are spread that some damage was done by frost, there are indications that business will be better here. In agricultural implements and machinery there has been a slackening down, but this of course was not unexpected at this time of year, while there are prospects of an active demand setting in after harvesting is over for the machinery required then. Seasons and dry goods appear to be the only lines that show anything like real activity, and dealers are busy shipping their fall and winter goods. Some of these dealers state that the orders they have taken in this month are far ahead of the same month of last year. In provisions and lines of everyday consumption, business has been fairly active, and though no actual rush is observed, on the whole matters have been very satisfactory, while the tendency is to a further improvement. In heavy metals and other lines depending on building and construction, quite

a livening up is noticed, though in part of these they are not yet so far forward as to call for their supplies, but there are good prospects ahead of them. Collections on the whole may be considered as very fair and satisfactory, though this being the end of the month the amount of paper falling due is naturally very light, the bulk of which comes due on the 4th of the month, while in some lines no returns are expected till after harvesting is over, and the crops are assured, when there are expectations of a considerable amount of money being in circulation.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

In this branch business during the past week has been fairly good, although there is somewhat of a slackness to be noticed at present, but this could not be unexpected at the season we are now in. The demand for binding twine still continues, and there is also a call for threshers and stubble plows, but the demand for harvesters is now over for this season. In wagons, wagon material and other vehicles, matters seemed to have quietened down very much, there being little call for anything in these lines. Collections are very light, in fact dealers do not look for any returns until the harvesting is over, and the crops are assured, when there is no doubt but there will be a good circulation of money.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

In this branch business may be said to have been during the last week moving along in much the same way it has for some time back; there continues to be a fair business transacted without any great or particular activity being noticeable. The principal trading being done is still in orders from the country from samples for fall and winter goods, while in the city there is very little doing, the retail dealers being apparently pretty well stocked for the fall season. Collections are very light, this being the end of the month very little is falling due till the 4th of the month.

CLOTHING.

In this branch business during the past week cannot be said to have been over active, although there are still some orders coming in pretty freely from the country, but these as a rule are not of any very great extent, and are sorting orders. With some dealers in this line there is no fall trade doing at present, as they are not pushing it, but are hanging on until the new crops are assured, whilst others are quite satisfied with the amount of business they have turned over for this year. In the city there has been a better movement during the week, but matters are not very brisk as yet. Collections are stated to have been very good, but of course there is very little falling due this week.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

In this trade business during the last week is stated to have been very fair, and the volume of sales turned over in that time are considered up to a very fair average, although perhaps the retail trade has not shown up so well. The principal trading done was in staple lines, and some fair orders of these were filled, with an occasional sorting order thrown in. Collections are also stated to have been very good, and

quite satisfactory, taking the season of the year into consideration.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

In this branch of trade business during the past week was fairly good, the volume of sales turned over in that time being up to a fair average, and there are prospects of the improvement in the demand continuing.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

In this branch business during the past week is reported to have been exceedingly good, there having been quite an active demand from the surrounding towns and far western points, while in the city matters also show some improvement. The principal trading done was in fall orders for winter goods, which are being rapidly shipped to their various destinations, and there are good prospects that the activity now prevailing will continue for several months forward. On the whole, business in this line on the aggregate is far ahead of this month last year. Collections are also reported to have been very good, and quite satisfactory.

DRY GOODS.

In this staple branch the activity which set in the week before this has continued more or less during the past week, the receipts of orders from the country being still very encouraging. As harvesting is now fully under way all over the Province and the Northwest Territories, and the crops seem to be assured, there is no doubt but that considerable activity may be expected to continue in this line for some time to come, while dealers are looking forward to making up for the depression which has existed for some time back. Collections are also reported satisfactory, but the amount of paper falling due this week is light.

FISH.

The trade in fresh fish during the past week does not show much of any change from our report of the previous week. Business is stated to have been very fair, and on the whole satisfactory, though the supply is still rather limited, while prices generally are at their old figures. The supply of white fish, though not over heavy, is equal to the demand, and has been selling off at from 5 to 5½c. in round lots, and 5½ to 6c. in smaller quantities. There are also a few Lake Superior trout being received, and these usually bring about 8c, while a shipment of fresh salmon is now on the way from Portland, and will be in the market in a short time. As yet no shipping lots have been sent out, the trading being purely local and to the surrounding towns of the Province. In salt fish there is very little being done just now, the harvesting demand having slackened down some. Prices, however, have not changed any, quotations being as follows:—Smoked white fish, 8c, per lb.; Scotch herring, 35c, per 7-lb. box; Labrador herring, \$1.50 per case of 100 fish; salt fish—Labrador herring, per half bbl., \$6; round herring, \$4.25; salmon, \$10; shad, \$10; whitefish \$4.50.

FRUIT.

During the past week the business done in green fruits is stated to have continued very good, the amount of sales turned over being considered very satisfactory. The receipt of

varieties, such as grapes, plums, pears and blue berries, still continue coming on the market pretty freely, and generally find quite ready sales, but, as usual, reliable prices cannot be given for them owing to their perishable nature. Lemons have made a still further decline in price, due no doubt to the cooler weather we have been having in the city lately, and these are now selling off at from \$9 to \$9.50 per box. Oranges have stuck to their old figure, namely, \$3.50 to \$9 per box. Of new apples some good sales are reported; cooking and poor grades were sold in lots as low as \$3.50 per barrel, while the better stock are bringing \$4.50. A supply of Spanish onions have been received, are of a very fine quality, and have been selling off at \$7 a case. There is a large shipment of water melons on the way, and will be in the market shortly.

FUEL.

In this line the business of the past week has been moving along in much the same way it has for some time back. There is as yet but a light demand, the amount of fuel required not being naturally so heavy as it will be later on when the weather gets colder. The principal business doing is in taking orders for coal for fall delivery. Sales of this are made at \$9.50 for anthracite and \$7 for Mansfield, Reynoldsville and Pittsburg bituminous, while the price of lignite has not as yet been fixed. Round lots of poplar on track are held at \$2.25 to \$2.75 according to quality, and of tamarac at \$4.50 to \$4.75. It is reported that owing to the completion of the Galt Railway the coal from that part of the Northwest Territory will be on the market shortly, but we do not know as yet how it will affect prices here.

FURNITURE.

In this branch business during the past week cannot be said to have been very active, especially in the city, where matters apparently have been very quiet, although there are indications that things are on the improve, still it is not seen as yet. From the country to where the principal trading was done, the demand has been better, but as yet no single car lots have been shipped. Collections are reported to have been rather slow, but as this is the end of the month not much is falling due this week.

GROCERIES.

In this staple trade business is stated to be moving along in a fairly steady way and without any great activity being noticeable. Still the volume of sales are good and considered satisfactory for this time of year, so close on the harvesting period. Prices of goods have not changed any, though sugars are stiffer, owing to the refineries being up ½c a lb, but are selling here at the old figure, quotations are as follows: yellows 6½ to 7c, granulated 8 to 8½c, lumps 10 to 10½c. Coffees, are quoted slightly easier; Rios 13 to 15c, Government Java 32 to 33c, other Javas 22 to 27c, Mochas 31 to 34c; Teas are unchanged and range Moyunc gunpowder 30 to 75c, pan-fired Japan 26 to 50c, basket-fired 27 to 40c, Congous 23 to 50c.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

In this trade the business of the past week has kept up very well, the improvement in the heavy lines and metals having continued, ow-

ing to the good steady demand from the country. In the city there is also a better feeling in these lines, while there has also been a fair demand for general light hardware. Prices are anything but firm, there being evidently a considerable amount of cutting done by the dealers, but the following are the quotations given, being the same as in our last issue, and can be shaded: cut nails, 10d and larger \$3.10; J.C. tin plates, \$5.00 to \$5.25; I.C. tin plates, double, \$10 to \$10.50; Canada plates, \$3.50 to \$3.75; sheet iron, \$3.00 to \$4.50, according to grade; iron-pipe, 40 to 50 per cent. off list prices; pig-iron, 25 to 30c per lb.; galvanized iron, 26 gauge, 7 to 7½c per lb., according to quality, bar-iron, \$2.50 to \$3. per 100 lb.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

In this line business during the past week is stated to have been very good, there has been a pretty fair demand from the country though this was principally in sorting up orders. In the city affairs seem to be in a rather dull and quiet state. Collections are reported to have been very fair. Prices of goods have not made any change, quotations being as follows: Spanish sole, 31 to 33c; slaughter sole, 33 to 35c; French calf, first choice, \$1.40 to 1.50; domestic, 85c; B Z calf, \$1 to 1.10; French kip, \$1 to 1.10; B Z kip, 85 to 90c; slaughter kip, 65 to 75c; No. 1 wax upper, 50c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, 33 to 35c for plumb stock; English oak sole, 65c.

LUMBER.

In this line business during the past week has been moving along in much the same manner as during the previous one, the improvement in the demand noticed then having continued, while in the city trade has kept quite brisk, but prices cannot be said to be firm, in fact they are anything but that, as there is a keen competition going on just now with heavy cutting of prices. Though mills are apparently working to their full capacity, the country trade still remains in the same condition, owing to harvesting operations being attended to.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS.

In this branch business during the past week has continued fairly active, although no great rush can be said to exist, still there seems to be some improvement in the demand from the country, and the same may be said of affairs in the city. As several building operations are going on here, there are prospects of active trading setting in soon. Prices of goods have not changed, quotations being as follows: Linseed oil, raw 70c per gal., boiled 73c; seal oil, steam refined, \$1.10; castor, 15c per lb; lard, No. 1 \$1.25 per gal.; olive, \$1.50 to \$2, according to quality; machine oils, black 25c; oleine 40c; fine qualities, 50 to 75c. Coal oils, headlight, 27c; water white, 33c. Calcined plaster, \$4 per bbl.; Portland cement, \$6; white lead, genuine, \$7.75; No. 1 \$6.75; No. 2, \$6.25 and window glass, first break, \$2.40.

SADDLERY AND HARNESS.

In this trade business during the past week has continued to be very brisk, especially from the country, from which there was a good steady demand, while in the city affairs are stated to have been quite fair though not over

active. Collections are also reported to have been good.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

In this branch business during the last week is reported as having remained in rather a quiet state, there being very little demand from either country or city. Collections however are reported to have been very good.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

In this branch business during the past week is stated to have been very good, the demand from the country was very active and the aggregate of sales made were up to a fair average, while in the city matters were also quite active. Prices have not changed any quotations given being as follows: Gooderham & Wort's, 5 year old, \$2.75; 7 year old, \$3.25; old rye, \$1.80; Jules Robin brandy, \$4.50; Bisquet, Deboncho & Co., \$4.75; Martell, \$6; Hennessy, \$6.50; DeKuyper gin, \$2.75; Port Wine \$2.25 and upwards; Sherry, \$2.25 and upwards; Jamaica rum, \$3.50; DeKuyper red gin \$11 per case; DeKuyper green gin \$6 per case; Martell and Hennessy's brandy \$13.50 per case of 12 bottles.

THE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

In the wheat market business at present may be said to remain just at about a standstill, there being nothing doing and no prospects of any until the crops are put on the market here. Already enquiries are being made for the new season's wheat, but as this will not be in stock for another two weeks or so, we need not expect to hear of any business being done till then while there is no doubt some lively trading may be expected, as matters have been very quiet here for some time back. In oats affairs cannot be said to be very much better, although a few sales are made now and again, but these are not of any very great extent, the last sale heard of being for railway construction purposes in the Northwest Territories. The first load of the new season's oats have been received in the market and are considered to be of a very good quality but these have not found a sale yet. In flour, business cannot be said to have been over active, although some shipments are being made to western points and in the city also there is a little briskness noticeable, but eastward affairs appears to be very dull and a shipment to these parts is a rare thing. In provisions business on the whole has been fairly good during the week. There is a somewhat better feeling abroad and the prospects are that matters will improve, while in some cases prices are firm. In butter no great activity is noticed there has been perhaps a little better demand but the supply is good especially of the higher grades, and the prices have remained at their old figures.

WHEAT.

In this market, at present business may be said to be just at a standstill, there being nothing doing and no prospects of anything being done till the new crops are received here. There has been some enquiry made already for new wheat, but there is no probability of any transactions

being done until the grain is on the market, which is expected will be in about two weeks. Quotations for the old surplus stock on hands are nominally as follows: No. 1 hard, 75c.; No. 2, 70c.; No. 1 regular 65c., No. 2, 60c.; No. 3, 52c.; and rejected 36 to 44c.

OATS.

In this market business during the past week was exceedingly dull and slow. The only transaction which we could hear of being the sales of a few car lots for railway construction purposes in the Northwest Territories, and at a price which is a considerable reduction on the quotations of the previous week, the sales having been made at 40c, while the prospects are anything but bright at the present time of an improvement setting in unless something turns up when the new crops are on the market. A spare load of new oats has been received, which is the first of this season's crop, and these are considered to be of a good quality and are being held at 45c.

BARLEY.

There is nothing doing and we hear of no demand, while there are no prospects of any active trading being heard of till the new crops are received. The quotations given are purely nominally as follows: No. 2, 65c, extra No. 3, 60c, and No. 3, 55c.

FLOUR.

In this market the business of the past week cannot be said to have shown any marked improvement on the previous one, the real state of affairs evidently being that things are moving along in a fairly steady way, and without any great activity being noticeable. In the city business is reported to have been fairly good, and the same may be said of the trading to western points, while eastward there is little or nothing doing just now. Prices of the higher brands have made a slight decline, the following being now the ruling quotations: patents, \$2.25; strong bakers, \$2.; XXXX \$1.70; and superfine, \$1.30.

BRAN AND SHORTS

During the past week business in this market has continued to be very good. There has been quite a fair demand, and the aggregate of sales are reported as having been satisfactory. Prices have not made any change, the quotations given being the same as in our last issue, as follows: for bran \$9 per ton on track, and for shorts \$10 per ton.

POTATOES.

In this market there has continued to be a pretty fair business done during the past week. Sales of native potatoes are made at 40c a bushel, a price which has not varied any, for fully more than a week ago, and the demand for them appears to be very fair. There are no imported here at present and all the old surplus has been cleared off by this time or if there be any left it will be useless.

EGGS.

In this market the business of the past week has continued to be very good while prices have made a decline, due to the increasing supply combined with an improvement in the demand. Quotations are now from 15 to 16c, and these figures may be considered as tending to a weakness.

CHEESE.

The business in this market is stated as having been very good during the past week, taking the aggregate of sales into consideration. The supply of new Manitoba cheese still continues quite fair while there is also a good demand for it, and though there appears to be a firmness in eastern markets, jobbing prices are the same here, quotations being from 10 to 11c. The price of new Ontario in stock here has made a decline, these being now offering at 10 1/2c.

BUTTER.

In this market the business of the past week has been very good. There seems to have been an improvement in the feeling of traders as a rule, and though there has been perhaps a little less supply coming in, and the demand has continued very fair, prices remain at about their old figures, the following being the ruling quotations: gilt edge, 11 to 15c; medium, 6 to 8c; and for old 4 to 6c. Retail dealers are not receiving so much butter direct from the farmers now, as they are busy looking after their harvesting at present.

BACON.

In this market business during the past week has continued to be very fair the supply has been quite good and equal to the demand, while there are prospects of an improvement keeping up. Prices have not changed any, the following being the ruling quotations, dry salt 9 to 9 1/2c rolls from 12 to 12 1/2c and breakfast bacon 12 to 12 1/2c.

HAMS.

The business of the market during the past week has continued very good. There is a good supply in stock just now and prices are somewhat firmer, due to the usual summer increase of demand during the hot season. The following figures are now the ruling quotations; viz, 14 1/2 to 15c for trade lots while some are held at 14c. There are no green in stock and we do not hear of any demand for them.

MESS PORK.

In this market business during the past week has continued to be very good, while no great activity is noticeable at present, the demand at this season of the year being usually quiet. The following are the quotations given, being the same as in our last issue; namely, \$15 to \$16 per barrel.

MESS BEEF.

In this market the business of the past week is stated to have been very good. The supply has continued to keep well and is quite equal to the demand. Prices have not changed, the following being the ruling quotations, viz, \$15 to \$16 per barrel.

LARD.

In this market business has been much the same as last reported. The demand has kept up fairly well, while prices, have not changed any, the following being the ruling quotations, for 20 lb pails from \$2.40 to \$2.50.

DRESSED HOGS.

In this market business during the past week was not over active, the demand having remained rather light and but few sales could be heard of. Prices are the same as in our last issue, at \$5.

MINNEAPOLIS.

The first three days of the past week on 'change were marked by firmness in wheat, but a decline set in afterwards, and the closing was rather weak at a loss of 3 to 4 1/2c on all grades, as compared with the close last Wednesday. Trading was quite active, as a rule, though on some days the firmness of holders prevented business. Receipts were quite large, indicating a free movement as a result of fears of a further decline. New wheat is beginning to move and will soon become an important factor in price making. Shipments were quite large, and there are reports of a goodly movement from country points direct to consumptive points.

The thresher is demonstrating that the damage to the crop has been overrated. Along the Northern Pacific, where reliable reports previously placed it at 22 per cent is the limit,

with a better percentage in some localities. E. B. Andrews reports receipts of fine samples of hard grades from the country around Neche, near the boundary, accompanied by favorable reports. The cool weather of the past three weeks has been of vast benefit to the spring wheat crop as a whole.

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

Wheat.	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.	Aug. 26, 1884
No. 1 hard	85	82	82	92
" 2 "	83 1/2	79 1/2	80 1/2	89
" 1 "	80	77	77	75
" 2 "	77	73	73	72

No. 1 hard, October, sold down from 86 to 82 1/2c; No. 1 northern, October, from 80 to 75 1/2c. A sale of No. 2 northern, new, was at 71c. Coarse grains were quiet, corn closing at 42 to 43 1/2c and No. 2 oats at 31 to 34c.

MILLS—Held firm, owing to scarcity and good demand, bulk bran closing at \$8.75 to 9 and shorts at \$10.40 to 11 per ton.

FLOUR—Has been dull and prices declined 15 to 25c. Export inquiries are scarce with heavy concessions demanded, while the domestic demand is moderate, with a very inactive market and a downward tendency.

Quotations for car or round lots at the mills are as follows: Patents, \$4.60 to 4.85; straight, \$4.55 to 4.50; first bakers', \$3.60 to 3.80; second bakers', \$3.10 to 3.40; best low grades, \$2. to \$2.25, in bags; red dog, \$1.50 to 1.70 in bags.

These quotations are on flour in barrels, except as stated. The rule is to discount 25c per bbl for 140lb sacks, 20c for 98lb cotton sacks, 16c for 40lb cotton sacks, 10c for 24lb cotton sacks, and 20c for 49lb paper sacks.

Our mills moved their output up a notch last week, and made a pretty good showing considering the number in operation. One made the heaviest run on record, either for a single day or on an average for six days. The flour production of the week was 68,592 bbls—averaging 11,432 bbls daily—against 60,858 bbls the preceding week, and 86,700 bbls for the corresponding time in 1884. The same number of mills are in operation now as a week ago, there being six, and their output is unchanged from about 12,000 bbls daily. The improvements on the canal are fast approaching a completed state, and many confidently look for the water to be let into the canal on the 7th prox. There is, however, quite a large amount of work yet to do, a few of the mills, too, just beginning rather extensive repairs in the same line, and it is easy to find well posted men who think it will be a week later before the mills can do anything if they want to. With the flour market demoralized as it is, there is a question if many of the mills will see enough inducement to run after they get power. Those firms that have carried the largest local stock of flour, have withdrawn and shipped it.

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

	RECEIPTS.	Aug. 26.	Aug. 19	Aug 12.
Wheat, bus	..	267,780	176,640	210,000
Flour, bbls	..	281	195	150
Mills' stuff, tons		114	—	48

SHIPMENTS.

	Aug. 26.	Aug. 19.	Aug. 12.
Wheat, bus ..	84,560	70,000	60,480
Flour, bbls ..	71,361	55,173	31,244
Millstuff, tons ..	1,779	1,781	1,307

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

MINNEAPOLIS.

	Aug. 24.	Aug. 17.
No. 1 hard	1,022,715	1,068,799
No. 2 hard	108,235	128,925
No. 1	892,356	963,440
No. 2	142,661	161,349
No. 3		
Rejected	12,930	16,689
Special bins	483,277	550,958
Total	2,662,174	2,875,717

ST. PAUL.

	Aug. 26.	Aug. 19.	Aug. 12.
In elevators, bush ..	483,000	453,000	503,000

DULUTH.

	Aug. 26.	Aug. 17.	Aug. 12.
In store, bush	1,942,200	2,048,200	2,301,300

—Northwestern Miller.

CHICAGO.

The wheat market opened on the first day of this week with a very nervous and unsettled feeling, the tremendous drop which has been made in wheat lately has not received any relief, and the weakness from which the market has been suffering so long continues to be its most noticeable feature. Foreign advices and home markets were all weak and lower, and there being large orders to sell, a panicky feeling was caused, though a slight reaction was noticed as "shorts" started in to buy. Next day prices opened somewhat higher, on wet weather news, and the unexpected smallness of the visible supply, there were also rumors that the next Government report would show a much smaller crop than the last report, but the strength gained was soon lost. Cables were depressing in their purport, and both public and private reports from the other side were of the same nature. During the most of the week, no improvement in any way was noticed, but on the other hand the decline was steady and without any reaction of consequence. Towards the end, however, matters seemed to be on the improve the tone of the foreign despatches were better, and private cables were to the effect that English markets were recovering from the late nervousness, though the reported failure of an extensive flour house was confirmed. Corn opened active, but the feeling was considerably unsettled, influenced by the decline in wheat, but "shorts" commenced to cover and with reports of cool weather and frost in the north, the feeling became stronger again. Oats were quite active under a brisk demand, and in pork at times a comparatively strong feeling prevailed, but prices were irregular and not very firm.

On Monday the wheat market, which was rather late in opening this morning, was active, with a very nervous and unsettled feeling

which developed into a state of panic, and prices immediately declined. Foreign advices were weaker, and home markets all opened weak and lower, but as "shorts" however started in buying there was a reaction. Later on under free selling and less demand, "shorts" having covered considerably, prices again started on the decline, finally closing lower than the end of the closing week. Corn was active and considerably unsettled, the opening being weak, influenced by the decline in wheat, but "shorts" also commenced to cover in this market, and with reports of cool weather and frost in the north, the feeling became strong. Oats were quite active, and in pork prices were gradually advanced, but later in the day the feeling became weaker, and prices receded. Closing quotations were as follows:

	Aug.	Sept.
Wheat	\$0.78	\$0.78½
Corn	44½	44½
Oats	26½	24½
Pork	8.75	8.75
Lard	6.20	6.20

On Tuesday the wheat market was spasmodically active and the feeling nervous and feverish. At times there was very little wheat for sale, and orders coming in at such times caused a rapid advance and considerable strength was developed, which was partially due to the visible supply showing a much smaller increase than had been calculated on. Foreign advices were dull and easy, and home markets unsettled. Corn was active and lower and the feeling very unsettled, the absence of frost predicted the previous day and very large receipts influenced considerable pressure to sell, which caused a weakness and a decline. Oats were weak and easier, and in pork there was a fair trading but prices ruled somewhat irregular, though at the close there was a firmer feeling. Closing quotations were as follows:

	Aug.	Sept.
Wheat	\$0.79½	\$0.79½
Corn	44	44½
Oats	26½	24½
Pork	8.80	8.80
Lard	6.25	6.25

On Wednesday the wheat market was less active and the feeling weaker. Outside orders were light and trading was mainly local, prices declined from the opening, due to fair offerings and to a rumored failure in the grain trade abroad. No confirmation of this rumor was received, but it had however the effect of bringing out more offerings, and these coming on a quiet market the decline was steady and without any reaction of consequences. Export clearings from the seaboard were moderate and foreign and domestic markets were dull and weaker. Corn early in the day was quiet and weak, but later ruled stronger, owing to a rather active enquiry for freight room, and rumors of frost in the Northwest. Oats were at an advance due to a continued demand from "shorts." In pork there was a fair trade with a strong feeling, and the close was steady. Closing quotations were as follows:

	Aug.	Sept.
Wheat	\$0.78½	\$0.79½
Corn	44	44½
Oats	26½	25
Pork	8.87½	8.90
Lard	6.22½	6.25

On Thursday the wheat market opened lower but quickly advanced owing to a strong demand which started "shorts" to covering. A good speculative business was transacted and the feeling developed was strong. The influences creating the firmness were chiefly reports of wet weather abroad and firmer private cables, assisted by a falling off in the receipts. Towards the end prices eased down a little, but closed higher than on the previous day. In corn there was a fair demand and prices ruled stronger influenced by smaller receipts and the firmness in wheat, while some large freight engagements also had a strengthening effect. Oats were firm, and pork with fair offerings and a moderately active demand was steady. The quotations were as follows:

	Aug.	Sept.
Wheat	\$0.80½	\$0.80½
Corn	44½	44½
Oats	27½	25½
Pork	8.85	8.85
Lard	6.22½	6.25

On Friday the wheat market was quiet and steady, but shortly before noon became weak. Foreign markets were quoted a shade firmer and home advices at the opening were firmer. There was no outside news to effect prices particularly, though the fine weather prevailing may have had a weakening influence. Corn was quiet and steady, there was a fair shipping demand but speculative trading was rather slow. Oats opened firm but trading was very slow, and pork opened rather tame but was stronger later and at an advance. Closing quotations were as follows:

	Aug.	Sept.
Wheat	\$0.79½	\$0.80½
Corn	44½	44½
Oats	25½	24½
Pork	8.92½	8.95
Lard	6.22½	6.25

On Saturday the wheat market opened quiet and all through the day there was nothing of an exciting character noticed. Foreign advices were unfavorable to a maintenance of values, and home markets were decidedly weak. Corn was only moderately active, and the tendency of prices were upwards at the opening, but the advance gained was not large. Pork also was firmer, though no actual gain was made. Closing quotations were as follows:

	Aug.	Sept.
Wheat	\$0.79½	\$0.80
Corn	44	44½
Oats	25½	24½
Pork	8.96	8.95
Lard	6.25	6.25

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

A steady upward movement, seems to be progressing in the local stock market, the closing quotations of the past week, being at considerably higher figures than for some time back. Bank stocks generally were steady with a somewhat firmer tendency, and though some dullness was noticeable during part of the week, the close was active. Loan and savings stocks were also steady and miscellaneous stocks were

at an advance. The following table of the closing bids of Aug. 19th and Aug. 26th will indicate the tone of the market.

	Aug 19.	Aug 26.
Montreal	200½	202
Ontario	108	108½
Molson's	120	—
Toronto	185	186
Merchants'	115	114½
Commerco	127	127½
Imperial	125	125
Federal	95½	96
Dominion	199	201
Standard	115	115
Hamilton	—	124
Northwest Land	41	40

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

In the grain markets this week the condition of affairs is about the same as it was the week previous. Business is very dull, there being almost nothing doing, and buyers and sellers appear to be so far apart that it is impossible to give anything like correct quotations. Wheat has continued dull and inactive, there being very little demand and very little offering. Oats were quiet but steady. In provisions the business of the past week was just fair, and at generally steady prices. The butter market does not show much if any change from our last report; the better grades appear to be scarce and in good demand, and seemingly not enough offering to supply the wants, while on the other hand medium and low grades are accumulating. Altogether, meats have been rather quiet during the week, except in the case of both bacon and hams, for which there was a rather more active demand than for others, all offered being readily taken as a rule.

WHEAT.

In this market business continues dull and inactive; there is very little demand and very little offering. Sales of No. 2 fall for future delivery were made at 82c. during the week.

OATS.

In this market business was quiet but steady, with prices easier. Sales were made during the week at 32½ and 33c. for car lots, while more was offered at 33½c., with only a bid of 32½c. obtainable

BARLEY.

Very dull, and little if any is wanted, there being a fair amount of old rye still on hand. Quotations are nominal.

RYE.

In this market there is nothing doing, and prices are only nominal at 55c.

PEAS.

There was none offered during the week, nor was any required for. Prices are nominal at 60c.

POTATOES.

In this market the feeling is reported to be somewhat firmer, but there is not much doing. Large lots are quoted at 50 to 60c. per bag.

EGGS.

The supply seems to be very plentiful, if anything there is more offering than wanted. Prices are weak at 10½ to 11c. for round lots.

BUTTER.

In this market the business of the past week does not show much change. Gilt edge is scarce and in good demand, and seemingly not enough offering to supply the wants, while on the other hand medium and low grades are

accumulating. Choice dairy has been selling freely at 14 to 15c., best store packed at 12 to 13c., and inferior is nominal at 7 to 8c.

CHEESE.

Quiet and unchanged at 8 to 8½c. for good to choice, and 7½c. for inferior in small lots.

PORK.

In this market business during the last week has been quiet, with prices easier, quotations being from \$13 to \$13.50.

BACON.

In this market the demand has continued quite as active as during the previous week. Long clear has been in steady demand at 6½ to 7c., and Cumberland at 6½c. Cars of long clear usually held at 6½c., but no further sales were reported. There are no rolls in the market, and bellies are scarce at 11c.

HAMS.

These have been in good demand, all offering being readily taken at firm prices, or at 11½ to 12c. for smoked, and 12½c. for canvassed.

LARD.

In this market business continues quiet and easy. Stocks are not heavy, but there is so much bad butter in the market that the demand for lard is light. Timmets are quoted at 8½ to 9c., and pails at 9½c. in small lots.

APPLES.

These have continued to be very plentiful during the past week, and have been selling off at from \$1.00 to \$2.50 per barrel, according to quality.

The Customer we Like.

The "Jolly Customer" we all like to call upon. Good nature and good-will is written upon his smiling face. Business generally is usually a very sobering affair, but with the J. C. it is simply one of his aids to cheerfulness. He never seems in a bad temper, no matter whether you disturb him at his meals or when engaged with one of his best customers. He will very likely ask you in to take a cup of tea, and while you are discussing it with him and his brisk little wife, will manifest a friendly interest in the business you have done lately, the state of trade over the ground you cover, and will even go so far as to enquire after the welfare of your wife and family. When you look at him and his cozy better-half, your mind runs back to the dear ones at home, and the knowledge that you cannot have their company is very frequently not at all cheering. However, our jolly friend soon banishes all melancholy.

There is no dawdling about him—in a great many cases he has had a short term "ON THE ROAD" himself, and flatters himself he knows "what's what." He is ready for business whenever you are. He orders at once, or declines promptly. Your order is booked, and the account paid quickly and without question, and you mentally wish that your list of customers included many more like him. At night he will step over to your hotel and spend an hour or two, enjoy himself, and contribute to the pleasures of others; and if you start even by the earliest train in the morning, you will find him at work, encouraging his assistants, and preparing for the day's duties. With all its sordid, heart-sickening and competing influences, money has not chased away the spirit of kindness and affection from the good man's heart.—*On the Road.*

Cure for Hard Times.

To those who are helping to make hard times harder by their yielding to a feeling of depression and waiting till things brighten up before displaying much energy themselves, a lesson has been given by the *St. Louis Republican*. In that city times are dull—very dull, as they are everywhere. Everybody is feeling the effect of the depression of trade, from the merchant to the office boy. Clerks in particular are suffering severely. A vast number are out of work, and declare pitifully that it is no use trying, there is no work to be had, struggle as they may to get it. To ascertain just how things really were, a reporter was detailed by the *Republican* to go round the city in the character of an unemployed clerk and seek work. He started out with no introductions or recommendations beyond his own statement that he wanted work, any kind of work connected with an office or store, and was able to do it. He went with dogged determination from one place of business to another, and met with a great deal of courtesy—and at most places a great deal of discouragement. He found that work was very hard to get, and his chances seemed dismal indeed. But he persevered, and plodded on steadily. The result of a long day's weary canvass, while not fully successful in procuring him what he wanted, there and then, gave him reasonable hopes, as the following comments from the *Republican* will show, of getting employment of some kind:

"He was given every encouragement to keep on his quest. At Meyer Bros., at Shapleigh & Cantwell's and at S. C. Cupples he was advised to call again. While he did not get any very substantial encouragement, it is more than probable that at one of these three places he would have got work before the end of the week. In each case the employer seemed more anxious about it than the employed. He saw enough to convince him that a careful canvass of Second street alone, gone about in the right way, by a man absolutely without references or friends, would, in a few days, result in his finding work. It would only depend upon how thoroughly his canvass was made. Certainly he would not have received the little encouragement which he did had he passed the day dreaming with the others disemployed at Washington park."

We think the journal from which we quote is right in his conclusions. A large percentage of the unemployed would not belong to that much to be pitied class were they only to set about looking for work in the resolute dogged way adopted by the enterprising reporter. Unfortunately they are rather too prone to wait like Mr. Micawber, for "something to turn up." And so it is too often with business men of all kinds. They had rather wait for business than make it. It is no use waiting for times to improve. The thing to do is to put one's shoulder to the wheel, and help to improve them. What is wanted among business men is a little more "grit."—*Commercial Bulletin.*

The Barbed-Wire Combination.

The committee appointed by the barbed-wire manufacturers at their recent meeting at Chi-

ago, Ill., to arrange the details of a proposed pool, has submitted its report. It recommended the organization of a national barbed-wire fence company, with a capital stock of \$2,000,000, divided into 20,000 shares of \$100 each, the organization to be accomplished under a charter issued to a similar committee of manufacturers on December 27, 1883. The proposed company will lease the works of the several members, and its officers and directors will have complete charge of the output as well as prices, the members being stockholders. The committee reported that it would be necessary to draught an agreement to be signed by the manufacturers before perfecting the proposed organization. It is expected that all manufacturers of barbed-wire in the United States will sign the agreement. The new company will probably be in operation by September 1.—*The American Mail*.

The Hudson's Bay Route.

This is the second year of the observations by the Canadian Government of the conditions which control the navigation of Hudson's Straits and Bay. The "Alert," sent out with a relief party to take the place of the men put on the different stations in the Straits and Bay last year, met a serious deteation in the ice which ended in an injury rendering it necessary for her to return to Newfoundland for repairs. When she came within sight of Resolution Island, at the entrance of Hudson Strait, she found the way blocked by a barrier of ice, in the grasp of which she remained for three weeks. During this time she does not appear to have drifted much, a fact which would seem to show that the ice current running from the north to the south was inactive during this time at this point. It does not follow, however, that the main body of the ice was not moving; the ice near shore in the embrace of which she was caught may have been stationary while the main body was moving. That the general stream of ice was running seems to be proved by the presence of icebergs south-east of this point. If this be so it is probable that a barrier of ice is liable to block the entrance of Hudson Strait every spring and early summer, in the neighborhood of Resolution Island. On the way up the "Alert" found the ice pack on the Labrador coast to vary in width from thirty five to one hundred miles. This gives us some idea of the ice stream, which drops into the ocean current, on the Labrador side of Davis Strait. To run against this current is a great waste of power. Vessels which go northward along the Greenland coast are favored by the ocean current which here runs north. The easiest way of getting up Davis Strait is to take advantage of this current. If the "Alert" had kept out further from the Labrador shore and struck the month of Hudson Strait farther north, she might have found a clear passage. It is possible that the jam of ice near Resolution Island may have stopped the entire ice-stream across the mouth of the Strait; but the chance of an open passage higher up Davis Strait into Hudson Strait may be counted among the possibilities, and on a future occasion it ought to be tested.

It is at least possible that a barrier of ice exists at the entrance of Hudson Strait every year, in the earlier summer months. It is a remarkable fact that the Dutch fishing vessels, hundreds of which visited Davis Strait every year in succession for a century, never appear to have entered Hudson Strait. Some of them went nearly as far north as any modern exploring vessel has gone. How can we account for the fact of their not entering Hudson Strait, if it be not a barrier of ice in the ocean current in which immeasurable masses pass down? It is true that on going up they kept near to the Greenland coast; but in coming down they must often have fallen into the ocean current on the other side of the Strait. When they went so far north as they did, it is natural to suppose that they left no reasonably accessible fishing ground unexplored.

Last year's experience of the navigation of Hudson Strait and Bay did not fulfil the predictions which enthusiasts had so confidently made. The explanation, by way of excuse, was that it was an unusual season. But the vessel without difficulty got into Hudson Strait from which the "Alert" has this year been barred for three weeks. The beginning of this season is worse than the beginning of last season. What is to be the end we must wait to learn. In this matter our hopes or desires go for nothing. If the commercial value of this navigation were once assured, an immense impetus would be given to the development of the Northwest. But it is folly to assume that what is desirable is possible without sufficient experience to guide us. We know that the vessels of the Hudson Bay Company do manage to make one voyage a year between Liverpool and Port Nelson or Port Churchill; but a navigation that would suit the experiences of the fur trade proves little where bulky articles of raw agricultural produce have to be dealt with. If the proceeds of the harvest went by this route, and had to be kept over nearly a whole year, they would be subject to fluctuations of price which would make the handling of them a perilous thing.

Railway communication between Hudson Bay and Winnipeg would become a necessity in case the question of navigation were settled. But till this question is decided the building of a railway would have nothing to justify it; the route is a through route or nothing. Land grants have been made for a railway, and the commencement of construction may be said to hang on the possibilities of the navigation. We do not believe that for the Northwest this is a matter of life and death, but it is undoubtedly one of supreme importance. The interests that depend on the issue can hardly be overstated. In the meantime there is nothing to do but wait patiently the accumulation of the facts which are to determine the issue. The process will not be a rapid one. The seasons are not all alike, and one or two favorable or unfavorable years would prove but little where the average of years has to determine. Here, as elsewhere, there may be cycles in the seasons which several years are necessary to complete. The condition of the Northwest is eminently unfavorable to the development of patience, a virtue without which the fruit of the observa-

tion of years cannot be gathered. This accounts for the fact that we have had pronounced so many snap judgments before there was a sufficient body of reliable facts to base any judgment at all upon.—*Monetary Times*.

Recent Legal Decisions.

MECHANICS' LIEN—EXEMPTION OF PUBLIC PROPERTY.—Public property cannot be the subject of a mechanics' lien, unless it is expressly provided by statute; such property is by implication excepted from lien statutes as much as from general tax laws, and for the same reasons. So held by the Supreme Court of Michigan in the case of *Knapp vs. Swaney*.

LIABILITY OF SURETIES—TREASURER'S BOND.—The undertaking of sureties on a treasurer's official bond is that he shall faithfully perform his duties; this involves the obligation of making correct reports, conforming to statutory requirements, as well as the payment of funds in his custody; and a false report by the treasurer constitutes a violation of official duty and a breach of this bond, rendering the sureties liable to the parties injured for such damages as are the legitimate consequences of the wrongful act. *Supervisors of Tompkins vs. Bristol*, decided by the New York Court of Appeals.

MUNICIPAL BONDS—VALIDITY—RAILROAD.—Bonds issued by a town for the construction of a railroad under an act authorizing the same, upon consent being obtained of a majority of the taxpayers, are void unless such consent has actually been given. The town is, however, remediless in case the assessors, contrary to the fact, certify that the requisite consent has been obtained, or in case the commissioners, acting upon the certificate, issue the bonds, but may have the proceedings reviewed on certiorari. *Town of Ontario vs. Hill*, decided by the New York Court of Appeals and noted in *Albany Law Journal*.

NOTE PAID DUE—LIABILITY OF MAKERS.—The case of *Coykerdall vs. Constable*, decided by the New York Court of Appeals, was one in which the owner of a past due note payable to bearer placed it in a bank for collection. The plaintiff, at the request of the principal debtor, paid the note to the bank, and the bank remitted the proceeds thereof to the owner and delivered the note to the plaintiff. The court held that the plaintiff obtained a good title to the note, and could maintain an action thereon against the makers as sureties, and that notwithstanding the bank had no authority to sell the note, yet the owner by receiving and retaining the money had ratified the act of his agent and was bound by it.—*Bradstreet's*.

THE V. P. Mining Co. are sending Mr. Greir, of Morely, to the fifteen Mile Creek, Spilluminchene River, 30 miles south of Golden City, B. C., to get 1,000 lbs of ore for shipment to New York, where it will be milled. In the event of the assay being favorable the company intends to erect a stamping mill at once. The company consists of Dan Mann, R. J. Whitla, D. K. Elliot, G. C. Elliot, of Winnipeg; L. Lukes, A. Ferlaud, and Dr. Coleman. This company had Dr. Coleman out prospecting all last summer.

General Notes.

A BROOKLYN mechanic has invented a wonderful sewing machine, which, it is claimed, will do 80 per cent. more work than any machine now in the market. An experiment with steam power moved it with a speed of 2,200 stitches a minute, and it was started and stopped instantly. It is simple in construction, is easily operated, and sews all kinds of fabrics, from leather to fine linen.

On Saturday last a statement of the assets and liabilities of John Rosch, the great American ship-builder, who suspended some weeks ago, was filed in the Court of Common Pleas, New York. The liabilities are \$2,262,877.81; nominal assets, \$5,258,098.87; actual assets, \$4,631,478.25. The preferred creditors are five in number, and the amount they claim \$122,217.19. The assignee gives a bond of \$200,000.

The Northern Pacific Railway's first shipment of beef cattle was made a few days ago. Ten car loads left Sprague, Washington Territory, consigned to Rosenbaum Bros. & Co., Chicago. We observe, by the way, that this railway has issued a circular giving notice that the rates quoted by it from Tacoma to New Westminster, B.C., are withdrawn, the Oregon Navigation Company having given notice that it has discontinued sending boats regularly to that point.

The Grand Trunk Railway Company project an extension of their system to Sault Ste Marie, where connection is made with the Detroit, Mackinac and Marquette road, which is now completed to Humboldt, leaves but the short gap from Humboldt to Ashland. This will form a through line from eastern Canada to the American northwest south of Lake Superior. The difference in distance by this route as against the present routes by way of Chicago will bring Montreal about four hundred miles nearer the Northwestern States.

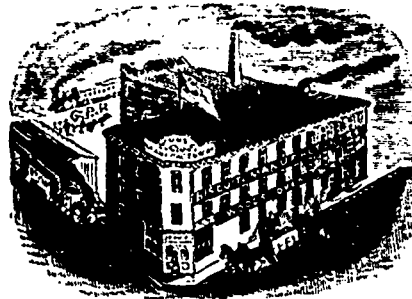
SPECULATORS make the following figures: In 1880, with a crop of 499,000,000 bushels of wheat, the latter sold at \$1.10; in 1881, with a crop of 380,000,000 bushels, wheat sold from \$1.10 up to \$1.50, and even up to \$1.60; in 1882, with a crop of 502,000,000 bushels, wheat sold from \$1.33 down to \$1.20; while in 1883, with a crop of 420,000,000 bushels, it sold from \$1.25 down to \$1.00 per bushel; in 1884, with 513,000,000 bushels, it went off to 78½ cents; and this year, with a possible 400,000,000 bushels, the expectation is that the price will go from \$1.90 to \$1.25 per bushel.

The shipments of cinchona bark to this country have practically ceased. A large number of men have been employed in gathering this bark, and some very large and valuable shipments have been made, but at the present time it is useless to chip any at all. The main cause of the decline has been the wonderful development of the cultivated bark in Sierra Leone and the East Indies. While the best genuine bark that is shipped from South America has seldom been over 2½ to 3 per cent. of sulphate of quinine, under cultivation in India they increase it as high in some cases as 10 per cent.

STEEL canal boats are pronounced practicable, and their construction is recommended by

an old shipbuilder as a measure of economy. Steel is said to be free from objections as compared with iron. Some plates of steels have just been tested in Pittsburg which were made for a new steamer for the Detroit and Cleveland Steam Navigation Company. In other tests made by the Detroit Dry-Dock Company a ball of rope weighing 950 pounds was dropped from a height of 55 feet on a plate three-sixteenths of an inch thick. The blow made a bulge in the plate that extended 20 inches into the ground, but the plate was not broken. The plate was then turned over and the ball dropped on the bulge. This was repeated five times, and then the plate was not broken, but when the ball was dropped on an iron plate one-half inch thick the plate was broken at the first blow. These tests show plainly that thin steel plates are not only sufficiently strong, but that their elasticity would make them far superior to wood for building even the roughest barge.

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Canadian Pacific Railway. (WESTERN DIVISION)

SUMMER TIME TABLE.

In effect May 31st, 1885.

Table with columns: READ DOWN, STATIONS, READ UP. Includes routes for Winnipeg, Portage la Prairie, Brandon, and other stations with departure and arrival times.

Trains west of Canmore subject to cancellation at any time without notice. Dining stations: 1 Daily, 2 Daily except Sunday, 3 Daily except Monday, 4 Daily except Saturday, 5 Sundays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 6 Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays, 7 Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 8 Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 10 Mondays and Wednesdays, 11 Thursdays, 12 Fridays.

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Express trains leave Minneapolis at 1:15 p.m. and 8:15 p.m.; and St. Paul, 2:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.; arriving in Chicago at 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Express train leave Chicago at 11:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., arriving at St. Paul at 6:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., and Minneapolis at 6:45 a.m. and 1:15 p.m.

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