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BANNATYNE ST. EAST, WINNIPEG.

VOL. 4

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 9, 1886.

NO. 20

The Commercial

Journal devoted to keeping a comprehensive record of the transactions of the Merc tary, Mercantile and Manufacturing interests of Manufacturing the Canadian Northwest.

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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THE COMMR. CHAL will be circulated extensively amongst wholesale and retail Merchants, Jobbers, Bankers, Brokers, Manufac urers, Hotel Keepers, Insurance and Loan Agencies throughout the entire Canadian Northwest.

Book, Newspaper, Railroad, Commercial and Job Printing specialties.

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JAS. E. STEEN, Publisher.

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 9, 1886.

Todo & McLeon are starting a bakery at Solsgirth.

D. TAYLOR will start a lumber yard at Crystal City.

W. A. Konk will open a hardware store at Crystal City.

JOHN SELKIRK, general storekeeper, Virden, has assigned.

A rost office has been opened at Dunmore Junction, Ass.

JOHN BUCHANAN has rented the Neepawa House at Neepawa.

J. L. KASTNER, hotelkeeper, Morris, has moved to Winnipeg.

W. D. DREW, hotelkeeper, Braudon, offers his business for sale

COAL will remain at the old price of \$10.25 per ton in Winnipeg.

ABOUT \$100,000 has been paid out for grain at Virden this season.

THE assessment of Fort William has increased \$90,000 during the year.

A New weekly paper will shortly commence publication at Shoal Lake.

H. C. BANNISTER, hotelkeeper, Winnipeg, offers his business for sale.

A CAR LOAD of pork has been shipped from Minnedosa to Port Arthur.

J. H. DOHERTY, sewing machines, Portage la Prairie, will move to Ontario.

W. W. IRELAND, of Emerson, has started a lumber yard at Cherry Creek.

D. A. DUFF will shortly open up in the furniture business at Crystal City.

THE M. & N. Railway will hereafter burn Galt mine coal, instead of wood.

A. J. LEITCH, general storekeeper, Griswold, has opened a branch at Oak Lake.

R. J. Bird, dealer in hardware, Emerson, will move his stock to Killarney

J. McKenzie will again assume management of the Commercial Hotel, Neepawa.

H. Porteous and T. Carlton are each erecting a ilvery and sale stable at Solsgirth.

A. T. McNab, of Winnipeg will shortly open out here with a stock of carriages.

F. T. GRAFFE has assumed the management of the Fort William, Ontaric, Echo.

M. SMITH, grocer, Winnipeg, has been succeeded in Lusiness by L. Strohkberb.

ABOUT 400,000 bushels of Manitoba wheat are stored in the C.P.R. elevator at Fort Will-

THE Saskatchewan Hotel, Minnedosa, has been purchased by R. Simpson, for the sum of \$3,100.

Wellington & Co., general storekeepers, Moose Jaw, are closing out their stock by auction.

JOHN McKenzie, of the Commercial Hotel, Neepawa, has leased the Hotel Brunswick at Minnedosa.

WM HUNTER &Co., grocers, Winnipeg, have dissolved partnership, Geo. Brown retiring from he business,

As attempt is being made at Emerson to form a joint stock company to re-open the brewery at that place.

T. O. Townley has joined the law firm of Morice & Allen, and the style is now Morice, Allen & Townley.

About 7,000,000 feet of lumber will be manufactured at the Lake Winnipeg mills during the coming summer.

THE lowest price yet paid in Minnedosa for pork was \$4.25 per hundred. Beef is in good demand at \$5.50 to \$6.

HUNT & POTTER, geoceties and liquors, Gretna, have dissolved partnership. John Hunt will continue the business.

SEVERAL building projects are already mapped out at Calgary. Among them are a hotel for Molton and a store for S. Trott.

A PAPER has been started at the new town of Van ouver, B. C., the Pacific terminus of the C.1.R. It is called the Vancouver Herald.

THE interest of A. D. McLean in the grocery susiness, conducted under the style of M. C. Clarke & Co, was sold by auction yesterday.

GEO. P. Dollo, of Jacob Dold & Son, wholesale meats and provisions, Kansas City, Mo., was in the city last week in the interest of his house.

COCHRANE mine coal is now offered for sale in Calgary. The mine is located about thirty miles west of that place, on the line of the C.P.R.

HUGH MCINTYRE has purchased a half interest in the Morden flour mill. The firm will hereafter be under the style of Ritchie & McIntyre.

An organization to be known as the Manitoba Land Association, has been formed at Winnipeg with the object of assisting in the settlement of the vacant lands of the province.

At a meeting of ratepayers held at Shoa Lake on Saturday evening last, it was decided to retition the municipal council for a bonus of \$3,000 towards the erection of a roller mill.

THE Calgary Hotel Co., (limited) is being formed at that place. A new hotel building will be commenced in March. Molton, former y of the Royal Hotel, is the chief mover in the cheme.

Business East. ONTARIO.

George Tanner, grocer, Lakefield, is dead. E. T. King, grocer, Woodstock, has sold out. Edmond Hill. grocer, Hamilton, has sold out. Alfred Dynes, baker, Springfield, has sold out.

John Gregg, hotelkeeper, Toronto, has sold out.

D. McDermod, hotelkeeper, Thamesford, has sold out.

R. M. Dickson, druggist Toronto; trying to sell out.

R. C. Wylie, builder. Toronto, has assigned in trust.

T. S. Culp, jeweler, Toronto, is giving up business.

Welch & Trowern, jewelers, Toronto; about dissolving.

Wn. Baillie, carpenter, Toronto, has assigned in trust.

J. Burbank, general storckeeper, Lynden, has sold out.

Alex. Ireland, liquor dealer, Toronto, has assigned in trust.

J. B. Armstrong, tailor, Toronto, has assigned in trust.

Toronto Lead & Color Co., Toronto; stock damaged by fire.

O. F. Baker, hotelkeeper, Hespeler, has removed to Dunville.

D. V. Morrison, hotelkeeper, Rat Portage, is giving up business.

w Wm. Bilton, eigar manufacturer, Hamilton; bailiff in possession.

Wm. Glascott, grocer, Woodstock; closed by landlord's warraut.

Crone & Munro, tanners, Carleton Place; stock damaged by fire.

Miss Rutherford, milliner, Toronto; advertises to sell by auction.

J. I. Alten, dealer in oil and coal, Galt, is offering to compromise.

Jno. Cook, hotelkeeper, Lambton Mills, has sold out to Isaac Scott.

Jenkins & Miller, general storekeepers, Centreville, have dissolved.

Edward Boyt, hotelkeeper, Amherstburgh, has gone out of business.

Arthur Laurence, general storekeeper, Bullocks Corners, has sold out.

Thos. Ellis, general storekeeper, Elmvale; stock sold under chattel mortgage.

Martin & McLean, shoe makers, Galt, have dissolved; J. S. Martin continues.

P. H. Finlay, general storekeeper, Shedden; selling off stock and giving up business.

Fleming & Ward, pawnbrokers, Toronto, bave dissolved; David Ward continues.

Fitzgerald & Ar astrong, dealers in confectionery, Toronto, wave dissolved; Wm. Fitzgerald continues.

Coulter & Vair, grocers, Bairie, have ad. mitted Robt. S. Booth as partner under style of Coulter, Vair & Booth; have opened out dry goods.

The following parties were burned out at Owen Sound: W. A. Grier, grocer; Mrs. Maione, milliner; W. Paulin, tinsmith; Wm. Wooton, butcher. The following were damaged by fire: B. Wilcox, sewing machines; Miss M. J. Hannah, fracy goods,

QUEBEC.

Jos. Perrier, grocer, Montreal, has assigned. E.l. Jette, dry goods dealer, Montreal, has assigned.

Alp Laurier, dry goods dealer, Montreal, has essigned.

Jos. Leduc, dry goods dealer, Montreal, bas assigned.

J. Gauthier & Co., traders, Montreal, have dissolved.

Z. Simard, general storekeeper, Rimouski, mas assigned.

Mulligan & Moore, general storekeepers, Quio, have assigned.

Robert & Pare, carriage makers, Montreal, have assigned.

Jos. Lafond, Sons & Co., grocers, Quebec, have dissolved.

A. St. Jean & Co., shoe mekers, Montreal, have compromised.

L. F. T. Buisson,, dry goods dealer, Three Rivers, has closed up.

Poirier & Co., dry goods dealers, Montreal, have assigned in trust.

Israel Dumais, general storekeeper, Roberval; meeting of creditors held.

Chas. Potvin, general storekeeper, Roberval; meeting of creditors held.

C. Valentine & Son, leather dealers, Three Rivers, are offering to compromise.

Hay & Larue, eigar manufacturers, Montreal; demand of assignment made on them.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Thos. A. Margeson, victualler, Waterville, has assigned.

J. A. Stewart, carriege maker, Lochabor, was burned out.—no insurance.

A. C. Meter & Co., dealer in agricultural implements, Traro, have dissolved.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

W. S. Torrie, flour merchant, Muncton, is

Finch & Andrews, bakers, Carleton, have assigned.

G. H. Martin & Son, jewelers, St. John, have suspended.

M. E. Agar, rickel plater, St. John, was burned out.—insured.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Stephen Parsons, trader, Burego, has failed. Wm. English, general storekeeper, St. John's, has failed.

Competition.

Old saws and wise sayings pass from generation to generation, and unthinkingly are received as truth admitting of no contradiction. One of these—and the most mischievous one of the lot is "Competition is the life of trade." A truer saying would be competition, the death of trade. Competition has become so fierce in all lines of industry that it requires the utmost ingenuity and energy of business men to avoid insolvency. This is as true in the lumber trade as any other, and many are forced to the wall by competition carried on to the injury of all parties. A point beyond which no concern can go without danger of dissolution is that which is marked by fair prices, protected by fair sup-

ply; to exceed the latter is to destroy the former. In this lies successful prosecution of all business, none more so than the lumber trade. Forced sales and continual grasping after every chance for a sale that appears, marks the career of many lumber dealers by which they are injured and other firms have to bear a portion of a burden they had no part in creating. Let those who boast of their ability and willingness to undersell all other parties pause and study the maxim, competition the death of trade.—Mississippi Valley Lumberman.

Cotton.

It is understood that all the mills will be prepared to meet their shareholders in about a month's time, to give an account of their stewardship. It is anticipated that some will show a small surplus of carnings over expenses, whilst if others do more than clear expenses for the past year some of their stockholders will be well satisfied. In any event, it is the opinion of a director of one of the largest cotton mills in the city, that whatever surplus earnings have been made, had far better be placed to rest account, than paid out in dividends, until such time when it becomes more of an absolute certainty, that cotton manufacturers are fairly out of the woods.—Trade Bulletin.

Clean Bank-Notes Wanted.

The quantity of dirty bills in circulation is much complained of in business circles. Not to say anything of the question of taste for cleanliness which characterizes people of good business habits, it is wellknown that a good deal of disease is propagated by means of dirty bills. Fear of this is so great with some persons that not a few are in the habit of having them washed before handling then. The government and banks ought to call in and destroy all paper money as soon as they become passe as clear. bills. The cost of printing enough to keep only such in use would be but a trifling addition to the expense of issuing paper money. By all means let there be a healthy circulation.-Journal of Fabrics.

THE milk crop in England is of more value than the wheat crop, being worth £30,000,000, or about \$150,000,000.

New York City imports of lumber from the British Provinces in 1885 amounted to 58,305,-420 feet. Of shingles 1,050,000 were imported.

The value of the hardware produced in the United States per annum at the present time is over \$60,000,000, and half of it is made in Connecticut. This total of \$60, J00 000 does not include a large number of articles like fire-arms, agricultural implements, etc., which are often sold by hardwave dealers. Neither does it include cut nails, ornamental iron work and a great variety of other articles, which would swell the total far above \$100,000,000 per annum. The trade in cutlery and edge tools is often classed as a seperate interest, distinct fro.n the hardware trade. The amount of these goods now produced in the United States is about \$15,000,000 per annum, but is included in the totals above given,

BOYD & CROWE,

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MAPLE STREET,

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North-Western Planing Mills

Main St., Opposite C. P. R. Station.

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For terms apply to Winnipeg Elevator Co., 5 Owen St.

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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 9, 1886.

THE HUDSON'S BAY ROUTE.

Our patronizing contemporary the Monetary Times of Toronto has been tak ing another fling at the Hudson's Bay route, and seems determined that every obstacle within its reach shall be placed in the way of its being opened up. The fact now made plain that the construction of a railway from this city to Fort Nelson would be a matter of little difficulty in an engineering sense has evidently disap pointed our contemporary, and its efforts to belittle that fact are now put forth, and besides them others to magnify other obstacles which can only be seen by those who like the Monetary Times have a deep interest in seeing the opening of the route frustrated, or at least delayed for many years to come. To avoid any change of mutilation we quote in full an article published in its issue of January 29th:

"That a railway can be built from Winnipeg to Hudson's Bay without difficulty the result of the exploration is reported to show. The road, it is said, would be neither difficult nor expensive to construct. Fort Nelson is proposed as the terminus; and it cannot be denied that its situation is more favorable than that of Churchill. But the approach to Fort Nelson is blocked by shallows which would prevent the entry of large vessels. At great cost, the obstruction might be removeable; but the force of the current from the North would have a tendency to fill up the channel after it was dredged out. Nor has the commercial value of the navigation of the Bay yet been satisfactorily settled. The experience of the two years of special tests, has not been very favorable, perhaps it has been exceptionally unfavorable, but the point is one which can be settled only by further observations, during which impatient promoters find it difficult to wait for the facts; in the absence of these the construction of a railway would be worse than a leap in the dark: it would be a leap with a prospect of a fatal fall as the result."

It is remarkable the ingeunity an interested obstruction t can display at any time, and on this occasion the Monetary Times displays an inordinate share of that commodity. It starts out upon its list of objections, by endeavoring to lead its readers to believe that it is possessed of an intimate knowledge of all the obstacles supposed to exist at the mouth of the Nelson river, and of the tides and currents

of the Hudson's Bay itself, which of course flow exactly in the direction that will effectually block the approach of vessels of heavy draught to Fort Nelson. Our contemporary is usually well informed, and its knowledge on these two points might not be doubted but for the concluding parts of the article which assert that the knowledge of the whole affair is as yet too limited to base an opinion upon. In short our contemporary pleads ignorance upon all points favorable to the projeet, but professes in a self-satisfied and even flippant manner to have a complete knowledge of all the points which can be brought forward as objections. But we will allow to the Monetary Times only a knowledge equal to what it displays, and if that is based only upon the reports of the past two year's tests made by authority of the Dominion Government, then its knowledge upon the whole subject is very limited indeed, and includes nothing which has not been known for a quarter of a century, while its source does not furnish the unfavorable results our contemporary would have us believe.

The projectors of the route in their endeavors to interest European capitalists in it have been astonished at how little value that class place upon the reports of the Nepture and the Alert. With them the expense and difficulties in constructing the railway were the primary matters of consideration, and for the scafaring roints they could find all the information they required without depending upon the useless investigations of the Dominion Government. That they are wise in their estimate of these is plain when we consider that these investigations have furnished no information not read by the school boy of the past decade.

"Nor has the commercial value of the navigation yet been satisfactorily settled" says the Monetary Times. Nor will it be we say until it be tested for many years or so. But we know of what incalculable value it will be in the development of the Northwest, and we have no doubt but our contemporary has an equally clear idea of how much commercial loss its opening will be to Eastern Canada, and measures its obstruction in accordance therewith.

The Monetary Times and other eastern journals who are opposed to this route being opened may as well cease their opposition as its early construction is now a matter beyond their control. If the route

is commercially of so little value as they wish people to believe, then the loss to Eastern Canada will be all the less. If however, as we deem it is, the obstruction is only the display of that desire to keep the Northwest tributary to the east commercially, then we are pleased to know that our case is beyond their power, and that in a few years our commercial destiny will be left to ourselves to work out.

DISCRIMINATING FREIGHT RATES.

The discriminating freight rates on the C. P. R. against the city of Winnipeg and in favor of eastern cities, was up for consideration at the last meeting of the Winnipeg Board of Trade, and many people outside of that organization were disappointed that the subject received so little seeming attention, and passed so quietly. Such people cannot have looked carefully at the action of the Board, or they would see in it a calm and quiet determination which will ere long produce results, that may give cause for astonishment.

The importers of Winnipeg have come to the conclusion, that is useless to make any further appeals to the C. P. R. authorities for the justice they are entitled to receive. They have been long enough caioled with the delays and insincere promiscs of the general manager. They have submitted long enough to his overbearing and egotistical bluster, and now they set their minds upon tinding relief through another source, and it may astonish the self-sufficient general manager, how soon they may secure this relief. Hitherto the political prejudices of people in Winnipeg, the greatest centre of populatio i in Manitoba, has made the preservation of the C. P. R. railway monopoly possible in the province. Now that political prejudices are giving away to a sense of personal interest, if not of self-protection, the bulwark around railway monopoly is tottering, and its fall is certain. That a resolution strongly advocating and calling for pecuniary assistance in breaking the monopoly of the C. P. R. should pass unanimously at a meeting of the Winnipeg Board of Trade, is quite a contrast to what would have been looked for three years ago. But it is such matters as these that show which way public feeling is drifting, and assuredly it is now drifting in the direction of a united demand from the people of Manitoba, for freedom from the railway bondage in which they are

How long the Dominion now held. Government are prepared to resist such a demand we leave those most interested to judge. It is safe to say that they will not long resist it, and even from the point of keeping faith with the C. P. R. company, they cannot be expected to long extend the time. The monopoly guaranteed was to enable the company to act for the benefit of Canada at large. If however, that company allow the whims of a foreign adventurer, whom they have made their dictator, to raise the voice of a whole province in protest, the Government would be pliable indeed, that would support them in their course of foily. The closer union of the different provinces of Canada was the principal aim of the C. P. R. undertaking, but next to that came the development of this great prairie land. Seemingly the C. P. R. general manager intends that trade development shall not be included in this work. It remains to be seen, if the Dominion Government hold to a similar belief. Before the pres ent year has half rolled over, Sir John A. Macdonald and his colleagues will have an opportunity of supplying information on that point, aud it is well that the matter will be thus brought to a test before an election comes around. The action of the Ottawa Government should furnish a guide to undecided electors at the polling places, and we hope they will be guided by the same. We have a lingering behef that this action will be in the right direction, for we cannot believe that any Government of Canada can be perpecually guided by the whims of an imported montebank, who for four years has shrowded blunders in bluster and incapability in insolence and impudence, and whose erratic and incomprehensible wriggling and twisting has made the construction of the C. P R. a national burden far heavier then it might have been, if carried out under the supervision of more sensible men, or men with Canadian patriotism reaching beyond the mere desire to make as much money as possible out of the work.

MANITOBA IMMIGRATION.

Times are getting better is the general expression among business people in this province at present, and there can be no doubt but the trade feeling is one of a satisfactory nature, while the outlook is encouraging. With the same number of people now in business in this province

there is a living for all in the future so far as can be judged, but at the same time there is no prospect of a remunerative field for many more new business ventures. To be plain upon the matter the number of mercantile concerns in the province is already quite large enough compared with the population of other classes, and we have reached a point at which we must have more immigration or our trade progress must come to a standstill, if indeed a movement in an opposite direction does not set in.

In a former article THE COMMERCIAL drew attention to the fact that Manitoba as a province had never spend one dollar in the direction of securing immigrants, and all that had heretofore been done in this respect was accomplished by the Dominion Government, the C.P.R., the Northwest Land Co. and other landed corporations all of which are interested in carrying immigrants away west of the boundaries of our province. Immigration of that kind is of very little value to Manitoba, especially when we have still millions of acres of our finest lands still unsettled and open for settlement. That some effort must be made by Manitoba for the settlement of her own lands is evident, and the address delivered by Mr. J. H. Ashdown at the last meeting of the Winnipeg Board of Trade outlines the manner in which that effort can be put forth, and points to the Local Government as the power which should head such a movement. The meaness and cantankerous action of a few greedy speculators can frustrate any effort an association of land owners may make. City and town councils can only expend their efforts within the limits they preside over, and Boards of Trade and other such self supporting institutions are powerless to grapple with such a work. A Government only can wield the necessary power to carry out equitably and for the benefit of all under it a system of immigration and settlement, and if the Government of Mr. Norquay will only undertake and carry out such a work, it would wipe out all their blunders of the past few years, and give them a renewed lease of power, which would be signed by the votes of the electors all over the prairie. On the other hand the opposition which will adopt such a policy need not be long in opposition to the Government that will be foolish enough to oppose it.

In following out such a policy a Govern-

ment should aim to secure settlers who must live by the products of the soil on which they settle, and if necessary let the speculative land grabber know that his unoccupied and untilled lands are required for such a purpose. Of course the cry of vested rights may be raised and echoed. But our present collection of legislators will not be troubled with conscientious scruples on that point, and if they are, a look over the legislation of last session should quiet their scruples. There is no kind of property in the disposal of which a Government has more right to interfere than lands, and if lands which have passed from public control, are made a barrier to settlement and progress, it might be justifigble as well as expedient that they should again be put under a similar control. Existing rights to the extent of fair values could be easily looked after in so doing, but there is neither justice nor reason in respecting the greed or whims of speculative cranks. Lands are granted by the Crown to be made of value to the public as well as their owner, and ownership should depend upon their being made so.

There is another point in which the disposing of our vacant lands requires special attention, and that is in the selection of the class of settlers or purchasers. In most other matters we are crying for capitalists to take a hand, but in this work they are not what we most want. Our speculative land owners have waited long enough for the monied class become purchasers, and when they were fortunate enough to secure such, lands passed merely from the hands of one speculative obstructionist to another. Some of our land holders are still fastidious in the class they wish to sell to, and perfer the man with a spare thousand pounds or two and ambitious to become a land owner to the poor but industrious immigrant with the knowledge and will to cultivate the soil. We think we have had enough of this patronizing class, and are now convined that twenty poor but industrious farmers can do more for a country than one wealthy one on whom industry is not compulsory. We want producing farmers even if they are poor and have to receive financial aid for a time. Poverty is no crime in Manitobe. nor even a chronic disease with the industrious, and a Government should aim to make it as a temporary ailment as light as possible upon the agricultura! settler.

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Either at place of shipment or delivered in Winnipeg. Correspondence invited.

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EXTRA PORTER AND STOUT
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North Main Street, - WINNIPEG.

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TEAS.

CANNED GOODS

DRIED FRUITS,

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Manufacturer of White Dress Shirts, Coloved Shirts, Woolen Shirts and Drawers, Overalls, Ect., Etc.

Corner of William and Princess Streets

WINNIPEG.

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

The principal feature at the banks last week was the amount of commercial paper which fell due on the 4th of February, that day being one of the heaviest of the year. However, this paper was fairly well met, and attracted very little more than passing attention. Aside from this monetary affinirs have been quiet. The call for funds for grain handling has been very light, consequent upon the cessation of eastern shipments, and this has made a very considerable difference in the demand for money. From this quarter nothing can be expected until the embargo on our shipping trade is removed. There have been but few calls for promiscuous discounts, but in this direction there will probably be considerable activity later on, when a return of milder weather will permit of the carrying on of building and miscellaneous operations. Rates of discount remain steady and first-class commercial paper may be quoted at 7 per cent; ordinary from 8 to 10; and promiscuous about 10. Only a moderate business is doing in loans on real estate security, and that confined to farm properties, nothing coming from the city or provincial towns. In city securities a great deal depends upon the developments which spring may bring forth, prominent among these being the Hudson's Bay railway. Once this undertaking takes share there will be a general stiffening in real estate securities in the city, and loans which would not now be taken would probably be considered safe investments. Altogether the field for this business appears safer than it has been for years back. Interest rates are still quoted at 8 to 10 per cent, but heavy loans on first-class rent producing property could be made at 7 or 71.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

The wholesale trade of the city has expe. ienced another comparatively quiet week. The total cessation of grain spipments through a shortage of cars on the C.P.R. has probably reduced the demand from provincial and territorial points. The weather has also continued unfavorable to an increase in the movement of mercantile con.modities. The present season is about the slowest time of the year for a number of the leading staple branches, being just between the time for receiving second orders and the commencement of apring delivery. In such lines as clothing, dry goods, boots and shoes, very little movement may be expected. Lines depending on building such as, hardware and lumber may also be expected to undergo a quiet time. Then there are some branches which a vnot be moved to any extent during cold weather on account of the risk of damage from frost. So that taken altogether although the past week has been a quiet one, it has been only reasonable slow. Quite a number of the merchants complein of the delay in receiving their goods. Many shipments are now long overdue, and no word of their arrival has yet been received. Some fears are entertained that serious inconvenience may result. It is now approaching the time when orders should be made up for country dealers, especially for points away to the r. rth of the railway, and consequently wholesalers are beginning to become anxious about the non arrival of their overdue goods. The past week has been an important one mainly from the fact that the amount of paper falling due on the 4th of February is very large, in fact one of the heaviest days of the yes: in this respect. However, the day passed over without any unusual strain, and paper was fairly well met on the whole. This is perhaps the most pleasing experience of the week, and augurs well for the future.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

There is simply nothing new to say of this line, nor has there been for that matter for some weeks back. There is nothing doing in the line of sales, either from the warehouses or by agents, and no attempt will be made to push business for at least three weeks to come. The work of making collections is just now receiving special attention, and results are fairly satisfactory in this respect.

BOOTS AND MORS.

There is still a very quet feeling existing in this branch, and this state of things has increased if anything, during the past week. Very few sales of any description are now being made, and only for small lots of sorts, the season being too far advanced to expect much demand for winter goods, and too early for any movement in spring delivery. Orders for the latter are now nearly all in, and indicate a good trade. The 4th of February was a very neavy day financially in this line, in fact one of the heaviest in the year, and the result was not at all satisfactory. A large amount of peper falling due was not met. However, it would appear that there are extenuating circumstances, and that retail dealers in boots and shoes have had to contend against a very unfavorable season, the weather during the fall and winter having been very unfavorable to the sole of their goods. Consequently they are still carrying .. considerable portion of their stocks, which should now be represented in cash, and this will in a great measure account for bad returns on the 4th.

CLOTHING.

As might be expected, the clothing trade is now about at its quietest season. Very little business of a sorting nature is doing, and for very small lots of odds and ends. The hopes entertained by manufacturers that the season now shortly to open, will be a satisfacto. y one, are very general. First orders are about all in, and show a considerable increase over last year. The dimension to which the coming season's trade will reach will depend to a considerable extent on the size and frequency of sorting orders later on. There are no very striking changes in the styles of goods for the spring and summer of 1886, but it is said that the workmanship of Canadian manufactuled goods has been considerably improved, for which there is ample room in many lines. Collections have been very good.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

Still a very quiet trade doing, and with very little change since our last report. No new feature worty of special reference. Collections are reported good.

DRY GOODS.

There is still only a light trade doing in this staple branch, confined to [small sorting orders

for such goods as are in every day use more or less et all seasons. For winter goods there is now very little demand, although quite as much 48 could be expected at this time of the year. Travellers are vigorously prosecuting the work of taking orders for spring delivery, and reports for the week were fairly satisfactory, though returns were not received from all the men on the road. Dealers still hope for a good spring and sammer's trade, though much depends on sorting orders distributed over the season, many retailers showing a conservative disposition to order in advance as lightly as possible. A very large amount of paper fell due on the 4th of February and was most satisfactorily mes. This feature is the most pleas ing and meouraging of the week, and gives a hopeful wine to the situation.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS,

The usual steady trade is doing in this line, without any special features. Collections are coming forward in a satisfactory manner.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

There is no change to report in this branch, and nothing 'ike a renewal of activity has yet set in. Business is still at a very low ebb, and is expected to maintain a quiet attitude for some few weeks yet. Paper falling due on the 4th was not very well met, though collections could hardly be called bad.

FISH.

A steady trade has been doing in fresh Lake Winnipeg fish during the week. The demand for local use has been good, and also a fairly active export trade. The supply coming to this market has fallen off considerably and is now comparatively light, cold weather having interfered with fishing operations at the lake. In salt fish there is only a moderate trade. Prices are unchanged all around, quotations being whitefish, 5c; pickerel 4c; jackfish 2c. Salt white, \$4 per bbl; Labrador herrings, \$8 per bbl; salmon, \$17 per bbi; markerel \$1 to \$1.75 per kit; smoked haddocks, 11c per pound.

FRUITS

The continuation of cold weather has prevented any activity in shipping to country points, and in this direction there is literally nothing doing. In the city there has been a slight improvement in the demand, though hardly reaching what might be calk an active movement, but fair for the season. Messina oranges are the only new article in the market, and these have helped to reduce the tendency to an addance in prices, consequent upon the damage done by frosts in Florida. Quotations are now as follows: Messina oranges, \$6.50; Floridas \$7.00 to \$7.50 per box. California pears are worth \$4 50 per box; Apples are in fair supply and are worth about \$4 to \$4.50 per bbl for good qualities. Messina lemors, \$6.50 to \$7 perbox; cranberrries, \$8.50 to \$10.50; valencia raisins, \$3.75; London layer rasins, \$4 to \$4.-25; black crewn, \$5 to \$5.25 walnuts, 15c a lb; almonds, 20c; filberts, 121c; pecans, 16c; peanuts, 15c for roasted and 121c for raw; fige 18c to 20c. and dates 10c a lb. Apple cider, \$10 per bbl.

FURNITURE.

There is still a very quiet feeling in this branch, and no immediate improvement is

looked for. Not before an appearance of warm weather sets in is there likely to be much change in the situation. Country declers will not order until they are in a better position to know what prospect there will be for the spring movement. Collections are rather backward.

TURE

Steady cold weather has been instrumental in keeping up a rather active demand for wood and coal. There was some talk of an advance in the price of bard coal, but it did not take place. Quotations are unchanged all around, quotations being as follows: poplar \$3.50; oak \$5.75; tamarac \$4.75. Prices are for car lots, divered. On track, 75c per cord less than above. Hard coal is worth \$10.25, and soft \$8. Galt coal sells at \$7.50 on track.

GROCERIES

In this branch there has been rather a slow movement during the past week, although there has been very little change in this respect for a month back. However, business is not flat and there is always more or less doing. Collections are fairly satisfactory. In values there are no changes to note in local prices. Sugare are reported very quiet and lower at castern markets. Teas and coffees are firm. Quotations as follows . Sugars, raw 61c, ye'low 61 to 7c; granulated 84c; lumr 94 to 97c. Coffees, Rios, 13 to 15c; Government Java 32 to 33c, other Javas 22 to 27c; Mochas 31 to 34c. Teas range, Moyune guupowder 25 to 70c; pan-fired Japan 23 to 45c, backet-fired 25 to 40c, Ping Sucy y ung hyson 20 to 30c Moyune young hysoa 25 to 50c; Season's congous, 1885-86, 20 to 55c.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

There is still a quiet feeling in this branch, and actual business is confined to small lots. which are required for present wants. These are principally for light shelf sundries. In heavy hardware and metals there is very little call, and for building hardware no present demand. Collections are fair. Prices are as follows: Cut nails, 10d and larger \$3.50 to \$3.75; I. C. tin plates, \$5.50 to \$5.75; I. C. tin plates, double, #11 to \$11.50; Canada-plates, \$3.50 to \$3.75; sheet iron, \$3 to \$4.50, according to grade; iron ripe, 40 to 50 per cent. off list prices; ingot tin, 25 to 30c per th., according to quality, bar iron, \$2.50 to \$3 pec 100 lb; shot, 6 to 6 ca lb; tarred felt, \$2.50 to \$2.75 per 100 lbs.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

Only a moderate trade doing. Prices are unchanged, quotations being as follows: Spanish sole, 31 to 33c; slaughtersole, 33 to 35c; French calf, first choice, \$1.40 to \$1.50; domstic, \$5c; B Z kip, \$1 to \$1.10; French kip, \$1 to \$1.10; B Z kip, \$5 to 90c; slaughter kip, 65 to 75c; No. 1, wax upper, 50c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, 33 to 35c for plumb stock; American oak sole, 50c.

LUMBER.

In actual sales there has been very little doing, and only a ... we calls for small quantities of odds and eads. Considerable speculation is now being indulged in among dealers as to the probable demand in the spring, and the general conclusion arrived at is that building will be carried on more extensively both in the city and country than last year, thereby causing an

increased call for lumber. Work in the woods is being prosecuted vigorously in getting out logs for the coming season's cut.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLURS

Trade continues dead, and will remain so until milder weather sets in. Turpenline has advanced in price on account of a partial failure of the crop in the Southern States; and has now to be imported from England. The new crop will not be in the market before April. White leads are firm and higher at the factories. Prices are as follows: turpentine 71c; linseed oil, raw 75c per gal., boiled 78c; 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, 25c; water white, 30c. Calcined plaster, \$4.25 per bbl; Portland cement, \$5; white lead, genuin 7.75; No 1 \$6.75; No 2, \$5.25 and v. dow g.as first break, \$2.50.

SADDLEDY AND HARNESS.

There has been no special movement during the week, and only a fair trade doing in city and country orders. Dealers still hope for a large spring trade. Collections slow.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

A moderately fair trade is doing for the season, which seems to be of sufficient dimension to meet the anticipations of dealers. Collections are fairly satisfactory.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

A very quiet week has been experienced, and orders have been slow in coming forward both from the city and country. It is not expected that there will be much activity before the first of March. Collections are slow. It is are unchanged, quotations being as follows: Gooderman & Wort's five year old, \$2.75; 7 year old, \$3.25; old rye, \$1.80; Jules Robin brandy, \$4.50; Bisquet Debouche & Co., \$4.75; Martell, \$6 Hennesy, \$6.50; DeKuyper gin, \$2.75; Port wine, \$2.25 and upwards; Sherry, \$2.25 and upwards; Januaica rum, \$3.50; DeKuyper red gin, \$11 per case; DeKuyper green gin, \$6 per case; Martell and Hennesy's brandy \$13.50 per case of 12 bottles.

THE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

Another very quiet week has been experienced in local grain circles, no improvement having taken place since our last report, and if anything, the movement has probably been of smaller dimensions than last week. This, of course, is owing almost entirely to the embargo placed upon the shipping trade of the Northwest by the action of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company in refuuing to receive grain for shipment to points east of Port Arthur, owing as it is alleged by the Company to a acarcity of cars. The officials of the railway here claim that the demand for cars for local traffic is much greater than the ability of the Company to supply at present, but they hope to be in a position to resume shipping in a very few days. The weather has also continued unfavorable to the delivery of grain by farmers at country points, and altogether the past week has been a slow one as regards the movement of cereals. The feeling is somewhat stronger and promises a good movement as soon as shipping can be resumed. Milling products have been in better demand with a considerable movement. Dairy products have also been more active. In provisions there has been only a moderate amount of business and no change or improvement to note.

WHEAT.

There has been quite an improvement in the tone of this market, and prices have held firm throughout the week. Of course the shipping trade his been practically dead on account of the C.P.R. order referred to above; but there has been a good local demand for milling purposes, especially for the higher grades. This demand has extended to points throughout the province, as well as to deliveries in the city by farmers. As soon as eastern shipments can be resumed an active season is expected, although the weather has been partry responsible for the slowness with which grain has been coming forward. A strenger feeling now pervaides the market, partly in sympathy with outside prices. Quotations may be considered about 5c higher all round for grade wheat, as follows: No. 1 hard \$0°; No. 2.75c; No. 1 northern 75c; No. 2.70c; No. 3 60c. Frosted lots are worth from 30 to 50c, according to quality. At provincial points a good sample is now quoted at from 70 to 75c.

FLOUR.

There has been quite an improvement in this market which has amounted to quite an active demand, more especially for the higher grades. The movement has been general and extended to both the local and export demand. All the mills are now running and the output is considerably increased. Prices are unchanged as follows: patents \$2.45; strong bakers, \$2.15; XXXX \$1.70, and superfine \$1.30 to \$1.40.

BRAN AND SHORTS

There has been no change in prices for these products. A good local demand prevails for both bran and shorts. Prices are, \$8 per ton for bran and \$9 for sports.

OATMFAL

The local demand continues satisfactory, and some improvement is noted. Another shipment has also been made to eastern markets. Prices are quoted at the same figures of \$2.25 for standard and \$2.50 for granulated.

POTATOES.

The cold weater has prevented any movement in these. Prices are therefore merely nominal, the quotations being from 35 to 40.

ECGS.

These have experienced an easier feeling and prices are slightly lower. Choice lots of fresh are now quoted at from 25 to 26c.

CHEESE

In this products there has been a moderate demand, principally for the home product. Prime is quoted at the unchanged price of 10½ to 11c, and medium at 9½ to 10c. Ontario manufacture now in the market is worth 11c.

BUTTER.

Quite an active movement has taken place during the week in the higher grades, and there has also been some movement in medium. Stocks are not large, but considered ample. Prime is now quoted at from 20 to 22c, and medium from 12½ to 18c. Inferior lots could probably be obtained at from Sc upwards.

CATS

Receipts of these have been even more limited than during last week, and as a consequence of this the tone has been firm and prices well maintained. Samples of white have been wanted for milling purposes, and an active demand has also existed for feeding qualities. Quotations are from 1 to 2c higher at outside points, and about the same advance in the city. From

27 to 28c is now offered for car lots on track, and 30c for wagon loads from farmers.

BARLKY.

There has been practically nothing doing in this grain. Receipts are very light and shipments of course impossible at present. Pirces are quoted as follows: No. 3 30c; No. 3 extra 36 to 37c; No. 2 45c; rejected 23 to 25c. Malt manufactured from Manitoba barley was offered on the corn exchange at Toronto, and has met with high commendation notwithstanding the attempt to "boycott" barley from this province in the Toronto market. It was claimed that the grain had been greatly injured for malting from the number of kernels found to be hulled, caused it was alleged, by too close threshing. Notwithstanding this injury it has turned out equal to Ontario malt, which has always stood as the best on the continent. It is hoped that row our barley will take its proper place in competition with other samples.

BACON

The has been some domaind for dry salt from the city. Old dry salt is now about out of the market. Prices are unchanged and are as follows: dry salt \$ \(\omega \) \$\Sigma_{\text{c}}\$; smoked \$\Sigma_{\text{c}}\$ to \$\gamma_{\text{c}}\$c; old dry salt 7c; rolls 11 to 11\(\gamma_{\text{c}}\$.

HAMS

There is no change to note in this product, the invariable quotation still being 13c.

MESS PORK.

Still quiet and unchanged. Prices range from \$15 to \$15.50 per bbl.

MESS BEEF.

Light demand at the unchanged quotation of \$15 per bbl.

LARD.

No change to note in prices. Quotations are: \$2.25 per pail; or 10c per lb for tierces.

DRESSED HOGS,

The supply still keeps fairly up to the demand, though not as liberal as during the early part of last month. Prices are quotable the same at from \$4.50 to \$4.75.

DRESSED POULTRY.

Are decidedly quiet and easier. Prices have again dropped, turkeys now being quoted at 12½c. Chickens are also lower at from 6 to Sc; the former price for off-color. Geese and ducks are worth from 11 to 12c.

OYSTERS

Rather slow of sale and unchanged, cans are worth 40c for plain select, and 50c for extra. Bulk sell at \$2 to \$3 per gallon.

MINNEAPOLIS.

It has been a rather active week on change with millers prominent in the buying crowd, but the demand for wheat was, on the whole, more for consumptive wants than to stock up to any great extent. Each day of dullness and light fluctuations elsewhere strengthened the bear crowd, and the decline of the past two days has again put the bulls to flight and given a decidedly bearish tone to the local feeling, although prices here continued quite firm, giving way but little. Receipts at country elevators as well as here, continue light, but there are then who claim that a large increase in the visible will occur as soon as the weather moderates and country roads become passable.

In the midse of the lead talk about heavy shipments of wheat to southern and eastern millers comes a queer letter from a Columbus, Ohio, man, who is said to represent ainety mills in central Ohio, and who writes that "the prospects of using much spring wheat at present are alim"; that "our millers do not want it appar-

ently except as a last resort;" that, "as long as they can get winter wheat they will use it;" that "we are greatly disappointed in this matter, for we thought last fall that by this time the millers would have to use it, but it seems that so far there has been winter wheat enough, and to spare." Such talk as this apparently justifies the recent assertion of King, of Toledo, who says that "southern mills will be able to grind only to supply local requirements, and northern flour will compete strongly for that trade; that is, mills in northern Ohio, Michigan, northern Indiana and the northwest, where wheat is more plentiful, witl get supplies easier and be able to furnish trade south cheaper than their home mills." It must be confessed, however, that the demand thus indicated has not yet shown itself to any great extent, though we have always maintained that the mills nearest the granaries are the ones which can gridd and sell cheapest, hence trey should be enabled, in the present emergency, to supply the wheat famine district with flour on more advantageous terms than can the local mills which must get their wheat supply from afar.

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

Wheat, Highest, Lowest, Closing 1886, No. 1 hard, 88 . . 86½ . . 86½ 81

No. 1 hard. SS ... S6½ ... S6½ S1 ... S1 ... S1 78 ... S3½ ... S3½ 78 ... S2 ... 78 ... 77 ... 77 72

Futures were relatively weaker than cash, April 1 hard selling down from 90te to SSe, and May from 93te to 92c, closing at the lowest figures. May 1 norturen sold down from 87te to 86te. Coarse grains were quiet, though corn was in better demand, closing firm at 33 to 35c; No. 2 oats, 29 to 29te; rye, 49 to 51c, and harley, by sample, at 45 to 75c.

MILLETT FF - Bran is still rather scarce and in active demand at \$9.25 for bulk, while shorts is dull and weak at \$8.95 to 9.50 per top.

FLOUR.—The flour market can not be termed active. Boston reports patents selling freely at fan prices, but no demand for other grades. This is a total change from the con ions prevailing the past three mouths, an will even matters up in a satisfactory manner, slow sale of patents having caused heavy accum-

tions. There was sufficient increase in demand last week to cause millers to increase production as much as possible, but the weakness in wheat yesterday and to day has discouraged buyers and concessions are necessary in order to secure even the attention of buyers. The slightly improved export demand the last week in January was sufficient to make the export of a dull month foot up a very respectable total, but the promise for February in this line is now rather discouraging.

Quotations for car or round lots at the mil's are as follows: Patents, \$4.70 to \$4.90; straights, \$4.40 to \$4.60; first bakers', \$3.70 to \$3.90; second bakers' \$3.20 to \$3.30; best low grades, \$2.10 to \$2.25, in bags, red dog, \$1.50 to \$1.60, in bags.

These quotations are on flour in barrels, except as stated. The rule is to discount 30c per abl tor 200 and 140 b jute large, the for 30lb cotton sacks, 15c for 40lb cotton sacks, 10c for 24jb cotton sacks, and 20c for 40jb paper sacks.

Although one-half of the milling capacity of the city has [theoretically been stopped to give the other half water to run with, the power continues very poor, and those mills running do so with not the most satisfactory results. As indicated in our last review, a pool was formed and put into effect on Thursday week, and up to the present time operations have been conducted under its provisions, by which no cognizance is taken of the mills using steam. With a part of the mil's idle, those running during the closing half of the week were able to do more work, yet there was much soom for improvement. The flour production of the week reached 85,480 bbls-averaging 12,640 bbls daily for seven days -against 90,648 bbls the preceding week, and \$3,300 bbls for the corresponding period in 1885. There were 17 mills that contributed to this result. On Monday the wills conniged off under the pool, and at noon to-day there were 13 running whose maximum capacity is over 23,000 bbls, producing in the neighborhood of 14,000 bbls per 24 hours. The power since Monday has been rather poorer than last week, few of the operative mills being able to cun to more than twothirds full capacity, while one of the smaller class was forced to shut down entirely. One steam mill of 1,200 bbls was closed down Tuesday, leaving about 3,500 bbls that are being produced by means of that power. Patents are moving freely, but other grades are dull.

The exports of flour by Minneapolis mills for January were 113,240 bbls, against 98,000 for December.

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

RECEIPTS.

 Wheat, bus
 Feb 2.
 Jan. 26.
 Jan. 19.

 Wheat, bus
 34,160
 26,880
 73,360

 Flour, bbls
 85,194
 77,875
 64,74C

 Millstuff,tons...
 2,844
 2,625
 1,802

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

MINNEAPOLIS

			Feb. 1.	Jan. 25.
No. 1 hard			1,738,429	1,807,421
No. 1 northern			1,735,871	1,756,967
No. 2 northern		••	858,588	\$49,406
No. 3			10,252	8,558
Rejected			44,012	63,369
Special bins	••		1,467,180	1,465,764
			 ,	

5,854,362 5,951,485

In elevators—Feb. 3. Jan. 27. Jan. 20. bush ... 1,156,000 1,172,000 1,186,000 overth.

Feb. 1. Jan. 25. Jan. 18.

In store, bus. . . 5,497,590 5,442,046 5,387,600 Afloat, bus. . . 124,521 124,525 124,521

Total, bus. . 5,622,411 5,567,571 5,512,121 -Northwest Miller.

CHICAGO.

As compared with the previous week the range of prices in the wheat market here last week was on a slightly lower basis, but with the exception of one or two days, the difference was only about ic, and at the close of the week prices stood about & to &c under the close of the previous week. The feeling during the past week has been easier, and the markets of a more irritable disposition, as is evidenced by the range of fluctuations which have been numerous and wider. The lowest point reached was on Wednesday, and since then a gradual recovery has taken place, though the market seemed feverish and without solid basis, the changes being purely speculative. On Monday it was predicted that the visible supply would snow a decrease of about 1,000,000 bushels, which gave a bullish turn to the market, and a large number of the smaller speculators loaded up to hold for higher prices, but heavy buyers appeared to be out of the market. On Wednesday favorable reports of the winter wheat crop had a depressing effect on the market, but the following day more favorable cables came to hand which helped to sustain prices. On Friday cables were conflicting and unsatisfactory. Corn and oats were quiet and steady throughout the week, and without speculative interest. Provisions ruled stronger and higher. Pork gained 374c but at the close of the week this gain was nearly lost.

On Monday wheat opened firm at about Saturday's closing figures. Receipts were large reaching in the neighborhood of 1,500.000 bushels. However this did not weaken the market. May advanced &c. Buying was fairly active, and the feeling on fatures generally bullish. Before the close a reaction set in and May dropped back to 861c, but this was only temporary, and at the close prices were a fraction above the opening. Corn was quiet and firm, with free deliveries. Oats dull and unchanged. Provisions strong and active, pork opening 10c higher than Saturday. Closing prices were:

			Feb.	Mer.
Wheat	t	 	 \$0.S03	\$0.803
Com		 	 361	362
Outs		 	 283	281
Pork		 	 11.10	11.125
Lard		 ••	 $6.12\frac{1}{2}$	6.173

Tuesday was something of an off-day in the wheat market, and the feeling was weak and aluggish, with a disposition to lower prices. Everybody wanted to sell, and with light buying the market was soon glutted. However, prices were not allowed to decline materially, and a reaction immediately followed any drop in values, and closing figures were only a fraction under vesterday. Corn was very quiet and weak, owing to an increase in the visible supply. Ir provisions the firm feeling was maintained. May pork closing at \$11.50, or 20c higher than yesterday. Closing prices were:

			Feb.	Mar.
Wheat	:	 	 SO1	SOl
Corn			 361	363
Oats		 	 25}	283
Pork		 	 10.30	10.30
Lard	••	 ••	 6.123	6.173

Wednesday was another weak day in the wheat market, and prices were slumpy. The bulls put forth every effort to stay prices, and insisted that the situation was improving; that the export movement was increasing, and that stocks in the Northwest were rapidly diminishing. But this did not prevent the downward movement which continued steadily from the opening and closing at the lowest points, May standing at 837c. Corn was about iclower and more active. Oats dull and unchanged. Pork again held firm and active, opening 10c higher, and gaining another 10c, but fell off toward the close. Closing quotations were:

				Feb.	Mar.
Wheat	 	• •	• •	\$0.783	\$0.78
Corn	 		• •	35 <u>Z</u>	36
Oats	 			281	282
Pork	 • •	••	• •	11.371	11.37
Laid	 • •	• •		6.123	6.171

On Thursday the market opened at about Wednesdays closing figures, and soon advanced about ic. Then the reaction came and prices again receded &c. Several heavy "long" operators dropped on the down turn, under the bc. lief that a general smash would follow. But such was not the result, and under the influence of heavy outside buying orders, the feeling became firmer, and prices again advanced. At the close May stood at 847c. Corn was a shade higher. Oats dull and steady Pork was lower, and lard unchanged. Closing prices were: Eal.

						madt.
Wheat		• •	• •		\$0.79 }	\$0.798
Corn	••	•	• •		361	361
Oats	• •	• •	• •	••	2S‡	281
Pork	• •	• •			11.15	11. 15
Lard	••		••		6.123	6.173

Mar

The wheat market opened & to &c lower on Friday with a weak feeling at the start. Active buying set in on May option later on, and prices showed a gain of about ic. Then followed a series of ups and downs until a report of heavier export from New York gave the bulls nerve, and prices climbed up higher, May closing 851c, the highest point reached. Corn and oats were without interest, but advanced slightly toward the close in sympathy with wheat. Provisions were quiet and steady. At the close quotations stood:

				Feb.	Mar.
Wheat	••	• •		 \$0.79	\$0.50
Corn		• •		 361	363
Oats	••	• •	• •	 287	283
Pork	••		• •	 11.20	11.20
Lard	••	••	••	 $6.12\frac{1}{2}$	6.171

On Saturday wheat opened to lower, but soon a firmer feeling set in and the price went up å to dc. This change was of short duration, however, and again the price receded of to je. It the close quotations were about the same as Friday. May closed 85g. Corn and oats were steady and unchanged. Pork was dull and easier and lard ruled dull in sympathy with pork. Closing prices were;

					Feb.	Mar.
Wheat		••		••	\$9.791	\$0.801
Córn	••	••		• •	361	361
Oats		••	• •		281	281
Pork.	••	••			11.10	11.10
Lard	••	••	••	••	6.10	6.124

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

The lexding bank stocks have maintained a steady and firm tone during the week, and although changes have been slight, yet nearly all were higher. Toronto closed a fraction lower and Standard and Hamilton are unchanged. All others are a fraction or so higher. Transactions were light and business generally quiet. Loan and savings were generally quiet and higher. Northwest Land was offered at 80c, or 33c lower than the highest point reached. Manitoba Loan was offered at 85c. C.P.R. bonds were offered at 101 with 100 bid. Closing bids on Wednesday, Feb. 3, as compared with Wednesday, Jan. 27, were as follows:

			Jav. 19.	F	eb. 3.
Montreal		• •	 2043		205}
Ontario			1091		1095
Toronto	••		1881		188
Merchants'			 117		1173
Commerce			 120		121
Imperial			 132		1323
Federal	• •		1021		103
Dominion		••	 204		204
Standard			 121		121
Hamilton			 126		126
Northwest	Land		 821		79

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

Another inactive week has characterized the grain market. Buyers and holders have generally differed as regards the value of the different cereals, and as a result very little business has been transacted. Receipts have gone into store and stocks have gone on increasing. With the light business little change in prices could be expected, and quotations have held nearly stationary, and in some instances little more than nominal. The general feeling seems to be to awrit the course of outside markets before moving in either direction. Provisions have been more active and firmer. Dairy products quiet and unchanged.

WHEAT

The wheat market has been increasingly quiet throughout the week, and there has been little disposition to do buisness on the part of buyers. Holders seemed to take a hopeful view of the situation and stoutly refused to make any concession toward a lower range of prices, in order to induce shippers to buy, consequently prices have been fairly we'll maintained. Prices are almost nominal for some grades. Red winter was offered at 83c, with 82 bid. No. 2 fall sold at Slc en track, and No. 2 spring was probably both about the same, without cales.

Has been inactive, and with few buyers or sellers in the market. Superior extra sold at \$3.60, and extra at \$3.50.

OATS.

Have been firmer, with a good local demard. All offered were readily taken. Mixed sold at 33jc, and white for milling at 35c.

BARLEY.

Very little business has been transacted in this market. The higher grades were most wanted, but of these offeriogs were next to nothing. No 2 sold at SIc; extra choice No. 3 at 72 c; No. 3 choice at 64c; and northern No. 3 at 59c. No 3 has been offered at 58c, without sales.

Quiet and steady, with small offerings. No. 2 sold at 58 to 59c.

POTATUES.

These have sold fairly well in car lots at 50c. Receipts are light. Street prices 10 to 20c higher, per hag.

EGGS.

Have been easier and unsettled in price. Offerings of fresh have been ample, and no more are wanted at over 19 to 20c. Pickled are slow of sale, with prices at 14½ to 15c.

BUTTER.

Choice grades have been scarce, and other qualities are not wanted. Prices for selected dairy have been steady at 15 to 17c, with more wanted. Stocks of medium and inferior are still large, and receipts of these continue to come in against the will of dealers. Good medium for shipping could be bought at 9 to 10c, but inquiries are for lower prices. Good rolls sell at 12 to 14c and inferior slow at 8c.

LARD.

Has been in good request. One car lot of 50 lb pails sold at 84c. Smaller lots brought 9 to 94c. Tinnets are worth 84 to 9; according to quantity taken.

APPLES.

Steady and unchanged. Prices in car lots range from \$1.50 to \$2.25 per bbl.

HAMS.

Have been in steady demand at firm prices. Smoked sold at from 191 to 11c according to quantity taken.

BACON.

Has improved somewhat in the demand. A car lot of long clear sold at 6½c with 6½c asked later on. Tons and caser have sold at 6½ to 7c and closed firm. Cumberland quiet at 6½c. Rolls steady at 8½ to 9c. Bellies worth 10 to 11c with a good demand.

CHEESE.

In fair and steady demand, at firm prices. Medium sold at 7c in round lots. Choice is worth 9 to 9 c.

rork.

More active and firmer. Small lots sold at \$13.50, with \$14 asked for in some instances.

POULTRY.

Has been quiet and easy, with abundant receipts. Turkeys sold fairly well at 10c, and geese at 6 to 6½c per lb. Chickens worth about 45 to 50c, and ducks 65 to 75c per pair.

Commercial Summary.

Special telegrams to Bradstreet's from a more extended number of distributing centers indicate that general husiness has not been so active. The snow blockade of the larger northwestern railways centering in Iowa, which has checked the movement of trains there for the greater portion of two weeks has just been raised. At Des Moines goods have been held two weeks for shipment. The wide prevalence of stormy weather has served to check trading, and the condition of the country roads has himdered interior merchants in replenishing stocks. At New York city there has been some activity among dry goods commission merchants, as at Boston, most notably in bleached cottons and print cloths. In other lines, at those cities, trade may be classed as fairly satisfactory, but without special activity, with the exception of the raw wool market. Dry goods generally are favorably affected by the renewed brying, and there are larger purchases of woolen and worsted goods at an advance of from 5 to 10 per cent. in price. Print cloths in first hands are quite firm and advancing. Prices yesterday were 3 6-16c. per yard for 64s, against 3 5-16c. a week ago. Some makers are holding out

for 3 7-16c., and 31c. is freely predicted. A small advance has been obtained for medium sorts wool at the scaboard, though not quotable. The strength of the London spring sales encourages expectations of a brisk demand for materials. Scaboard sales for January exceed those of January last year. At Philadelphia there is no general activity, and complaint is made that Lusiness has not met expectations. The ice embargo at the port of Baltimore has been raised. The distribution of general merchandise from that city has been light, but country stocks are reported low and orders are accumulating. Advices from Cleveland, Cincinnatti, Louisville, Memphis, Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, Burlington, St. Louis and Kansas City report a quiet movement in trade circles, or a smaller volume than in the preceding week. At Pittsburgh business has been satisfactory, and at San Francisco prospects are said to be good. Iron shows no change in price or demand. Steel rails are weaker. Cotton is 1,16 c. off on spots and 9 or 10 points lower on futures. Larger receipts and lack of speculative interest has had sometning to do with it. Grocery staples move slowly. Sugar is dull and lower; coffee is firmer and tea quiet. Dairy products are dull, but with a slightly improved export demand. Wheat has been somewhat firmer and the temper of the speculative market is more bullish. Corp and oacs are steady. Flour is relatively firm. Hog products are irregular, pork being the leading speculative product. The total number of business failures in the United States reported to Bradstreet's this week number 337, against 394 last week, and 349 in the fourth week of January, 1885, 365 in 1884, 276 in 1883 and 205 in 1882. The total of failures in the United States this year to date is 1,364, against 1,628 in a like portion of 1885, 1,341 in 1884, 1,224 in 1883 and 770 in 1882. Canada had 30 failures this week, against 30 last week, 41 in the like week of 1885, 37 in 1884, 46 in 1893 and 8 in 1882. Canadian totals for four weeks of the years named have been respectively 100 (this year), 130, 146, 116 and 23 .- Bradstreet's.

Sumac Gathering in Virginia.

Sumae gathering has grown into an industry of considerable magnitude in the Virginia mountains of late years. The bush is most abundant on the rocky and uncultivated mountain side, where no crop of grain could be grown. Providence, it would seem, has especially designed that the mountaineer should not be forgotten in the universal economy of nature, and that he should find subsistence ready at his cabin door. The season for picking the leaf lasts three months in the year, beginning in the latter part of June. The first frost renders the leaves unfic for use.

The product is hauled menetimes us far as fifty miles, often over rough and stony roads, in the ancient vehicles of the mountaineers, to some mill or convenient shipping point. For the dry and cured leaf they receive \$1 a hundred weight. At this rate, although it is smaller, the pickers allege, than the mill men could with justice give, the gathering of this wild leaf is much more profitable than raising grain in the rich valleys, where drouth afflicts

the farmers. The wife and children of the mountaineer assist him in gathering the leaves, and a little girl of 10 becomes as dexterous in stripping the bushes as a grown man of 25. Each can carn \$3 a day. Expert gatherers have been known to strip off leaves, which when cured have weighed 500 pounds. One man living at the top of the Blue Ridge, near Manasses Gap, has picked this season twenty tons and realized \$400. Is is impossible to estimate the amount of comfort given these poor people by this source of revenue Their fathers, in ignorance of the wealth at their doors, lived a precacious existence, chiefly by hunting and fishing, and partly by raising on the thin soil little patches of buckwheat.

Most of the sumae gathered in Virginia finds a market in the morocco factories of Wilmington, Del. It is used to retain the rich coloring of the leather imported from Sicilly. The American article is richer in tannic acid than the Sicillian, but the imported leaf commands the highest price for the reason that, as yet, the Virginia mountaineers have not learned the importance of keeping their leaves as free from sand and grits as do the careful Italians. The Italian leaf is used by the print cloths factories of New England.

The bush in the Virginia mountains is known as the "staghorn sumac." It grows in great laxuriance until the leaves have been stripped off for several seasons, when the bush will die if let alone. In this emergency the moun tainest hitenes his horse to a long uarrow-pointed shovel plow called a "bull-tongue," and plows about the roots, breaking and tearing them apart. From the torn roots fresh bushes spring up, and the next season a crop of leaves thicker and darker than ever amply rewards his homely toil.—Independent Journal.

Great Britain not a Pree Trade Country.

It can not be said that the British fiscal system is wholly based upon free trade principles. If we are absolute free traders, how comes it about that we levy somewhere about twenty million pounds annually in customs duties? We are certainly more of a free trade nation than the United States, as the revenue derived by that country from customs' duties amounted in 1883 84 to nearly forty million pounds sterling. Still we are only relative free traders, and therefore we must not lay too much stress upon that matter. We pay ourselves a much greater compliment-and let us hope that this is a truthful compliment--when we assert that we are a persevering, energetic, ard conscientious people; that we pride ourselves upon turning out good work; and that our perfection in machinery, or unequaled mercantile marine, and our commercial genius enable us to produce and deliver with remarkable cheapness. These are, or should be, our distinguishing characteristics as a manufacturing nation. If 'hey are, we shall continue to enjoy a large and prepondering share of the world's trade. If they are not, probably all the fiscal legislation which can be devised will not prevent our becoming a second-rate commercial community. - Ex.

General Notes.

THE ranchmen of the far west propose forming a stock-raisers association.

Moosomin residents talk of giving a bonus for the erection of a flour mill at that place.

Wilson & Carrick are erecting a new building for their wagon and blocksmithing business at Brandon.

ALLAN McLEAN, of the Rossin House, Calgary, has fallen heir to an estate in Scotland, valued at \$100,000.

The poles for the new telegraph line between Edmonton and Fort Saskatchewan, will cost \$1.50 per pole, delivered.

MAYOR MURDOCH, of Calgary, has had a levy of distress placed upon goods in his store, in default of the payment of a fine.

Mr. Reidle, of Regina, intends bringing with him from Russia some black sheep, from whose hides are made almost the very best coats and hats.

THE total amount of the claim of the Bell Farming Company against the Government for transport services during the recent rebellion was about \$34,000.

THE Dominion Government has decided to supply the needy settlers of Prince Albert and vicinity with seed grain, and are calling for tenders to supply the same.

A Lor of goods intended to have been delivered in Battleford for the holidays only arrived last week, much to the disappointment of both importers and intending buyers.

A BILL has been introduced in the New York legislature forbidding telephone companies to charge over \$18 a mouth in cities of over 800,000 inhalitants, or \$7 in cities of less population

REHORT says it has been definitely decided by the M. & N. W. Railway company to build the road to the Assinaboine next summer, a distance of forty miles. It is more than likely too that fifty miles will be completed.

MR W. F. Wilson has purchased 250 feet of frontage on Rosser Avenue, Brandon, between 8th and 9th sts., paying about \$2,000 the efor. He intends putting up a building in the spring to better accommodate his furniture business.

THE Portage la Prairie Farmers' Mutual Insurance Co. has 393 policies in force, representing an amount of \$427,441. The losses during the year numbered two, one of which was caused by lightning, the total amounting to \$159.

A rublic meeting has been held in Wappela to discuss the advisability of erecting a grist mill. A scheme for forming a joint stock company with a capital of \$15,000 in shares of \$50 each was unanimously adopted. Shares to the amount of \$2,350 were subscribed for in the town

The Ontario and Manitoba railway give notice of an amendment to treir application to Parliament as to enable them to change the name of the company to the Ontario, Minnesota and Manitoba Railway with power to cross Rainy River by means of a bridge into the United States.

The distance from the present end of the M. N. track at Solsgirth to the western boundary of the provinces is 40 miles. The Engineers of the Company are expected to begin immediately to permanently locate the road westward. Two new town sites with station grounds have been secured; one at Balmerino, at Silver Creek crossing, the other at the crossing of the Assinaboine.

Ten years ago a standard car load on all first class railroads was 20,000 lbs, the weight of cars being 20,500 lbs. In 1881, the load on most roads had increased to 40,000 lbs, but the weight of the ear had increased to only 22,000 lbs. The master car-builders of the Pennsylvania railroad have now adopted cars to carry 60,000 lbs, while the weight of the cars will be very little increased. Instead of hauling more than 1 lb of car to 1 lb of freight, nearly 3 lbs of freight can now be hauled for 1 lb of car. The substitution of steel for iron rails has made the change possible.

The Annual Report of the Committee of the Scotch Iron Trade Association of the production, consumption, exports and stocks of Scotch Pig-Iron for the past year is not so encouraging as anticipated, the increase of stocks in Scotland being larger than ever, the actual increase being 163,329 tone, which brings out a discrepancy of 66,354 tons, but this showing is partly owing to complete returns of the production and stocks having this year been received from the iron masters whereas for four years previously these were only estimated. This revelation was a general surprise and caused a fall of about 10d, per ton in the price of warrants.

The grain trade of Montrea during 1885 compared favorably with that of 1884, the total receipts of all kinds amounting to 12,214,070 bus, against 12,066,004 for the corresponding period in 1884, showing an increase of 147,066 bus. The total shipments of grain of all kinds were 10,718,891 bus, against 9,729,770 bus for 1884, being an increase of 1,019,121 bus. The receipts of flour, however, show quite a falling off, the aggregate for the past year being 800.788 bbls, against 1,152,789 bbls for 1884, showing a decrease of 352,001 bbls. The shipments have also decreased 164,593 bbls, from 844,019 bbls in 1884 to 679,426 bbls during the year just closed.

A Toronte report says that the 1885 barley crop of Canada was short fully 3,000,000 bus. in yield and 2,500,000 bus of that raised was supposed to be an approaching war with Russia, the Canadian farmer put his fields largely into wheat, which accounts for their short barley crop. Their wheat, however, turned out poorly, the price was low, and had it not been for the barley crop they would have done badly enough. The prices they have received have been satisfactory and they have marketed freely, so much so, in fact, that their supplies now on hand are small. Canada had an unusually large trade with St. Louis this season, selling large amounts to the brewers.

THERE are probably few people who have a very correct idea as to the exact size of the Blood and Peigan reserves, or the numbers of the Indians. The area of the Blood Reserve is

417,000 acres, and that of the Peigaa Reserve 180,000 acres. The total number of Indians in Treaty number 7, which includes the Bloods, Peigans, Blackfeet, Sarcees and Stonies, is 6,417. The Bloods are from twelve to twentyfive miles south of McLeod; the Peigans about ten miles west; the Blackfeet about ninety miles north; the Sarcees ninety-five miles northwest, and the Stonies about 130 miles northwest. In the event of an outhreak, sup pose that all these Indians took part, there would be something like \$00 warriors. When it came to equipment, the number who would be fully armed would probably only amount to half of the above 800. This number might again be doubled by recruits from the other side of the line. We doubt if an outbreak among the southern Indians would put mach more than 1,000 warriors in the field, exclusive, of course, of any northern Indians who might join in the uprising.

New Inventions.

While any business is liable to be benefited, no trade is safe from the revolutions brought about by new inventions. Theoretically, the invention and use of the bicycle is a direct slap at the saddle and harness trade, although it may not have practically done much damage, because the use of the bicycle takes the place of both horseback riding and driving, and the saddle of the bicycle_is too insignificant to cut any figure in trade. Now comes a man and invents an artificial horse, not one that will snort and rip around, and kick and buck like the living animal; in fact, he does not move out of his tracks, except a sort of straight up and down, "marking time" motion, but still something that can allow a saddle and be ridden. The object of the invention is to furnish a movement to the body of the rider, similar to the healthful exercise imparted by riding a horse, for those who are physically incapaciatcd from indulging in the regular method of riding Inc exercise is highly recommended by physicians, and as the saddle used is the regulation kind, it ought to receive the endorse. ment of the saddlery men.

Tremendous Stock of Apples.

Latest advices from Chicago are to the effect that she stocks in that city are unprecedentedly large, as holders there estimate that the accumulations aggregate between 150,000 and 200,000 bbls, for which there is comparatively no demand. Dealers state that their disposal is a conundrum very difficult to solve, as holders claim they have only 60 days more to sell them in. One Chicago firm sent men through the country last week to see if a few could not be placed, but at the end of six days not a sale had been effected. Another firm shipped small quantities to outside towns on commission, but very little of the fruit can be got rid of even in that way. Another difficulty with holders is that a large portion of the supply will not be keen over two months. Prices in Chicago are quoted at \$1.50 to \$2.25 for choice Northern Spies, and peddlers stock at 75 to \$1.10 per

Recent Legal Decisions.

PARTNERSHIP-POWER TO SELL FIRM PROP-RRTY .- According to the decision of the Supreme Court of Iowa in the case of Hunter vs. Wayneck, one partner has no power to sell the whole firm property without consultation without consent of his absent copartner, where the latter can be easily communicated with by mail or telegraph.

RATERDAD FREIGHT RATES-Excess WAIVER .- In a late case where it appeared that a shipper of goods by railroad had for thirteen years paid excessive raics of freight without objection the New York Court of Appeals held (Kilmer vs. New Yo.k Central and Hudson River Railway Company) that the shipper could not recover the excess. The court said : "The common law duty [or the part of railroad companies] does not preclude special contracts between railroad corporations and shippers regulating the freight charges; and where, as in this care, freight has been carried for a long course of years at the schedule price, the shipper making no objection and no inquiry as to the reasonableness of the charge and where it was his interest to object if the charge was unreasonable, he must, we think, be deemed to have assented to the charge as reasonable and to have voluntarily waived any objection thereto. At least the receipt by the company of the freight at the tariff rate under such circumstances has no element of extortion."

CONTRACT -- STIPULATION -- WARRANTY. --Where one party agreed to put into a building owned by another an elevator "warranted satisfactory in every respect," the Supreme Court of Penusylvania held (Singerly vs. Thaver) that the stipulation meant satisfactory to the purchaser, and that unless it was satisfactory to him he need not accept it. The court said : "The proposition was made to induce him (the purchaser) to purchase a kind of elevator not in general use. The fair inference is that he desired to procure one that would be satisfactory to himself. The manifest import and meaning of the language used is that it should be satisfactory to him. This then was the agreement. To him alone was the proposition made. It would not have been any clearer had it read warranted satisfactory to you in every respect. He, therefore, was the person to decide and to declare whether it was satisfactory. He did not agree to accept what might be satisfactory to others, but what was satisfactory to himself. This was a fact which the contract gave him the right to decide. He was the person negotiating for its purchase. He was the person to test it and to use it. No other persons could intelligently determine whether in every respect he was satisfied therewith. - Bradstreet's

THE Rapid City cheese factory, according to the report of the secretary treasurer, did a satisfactory business last year. In was in opera-tion 92 days from June 6th to September 21. Number of patrons. 32; milk received, 176,131 lbs.; cheese made, 17,825 lbs.; average amount of milk required to make one pound of cheese, 9.88; the September average was 9 lbs.; amount realized from sate of cheese, \$1,841.01, or 107 cents per lb; expenses, exclusive of drawing milk, \$472.24. The cost of drawing the milk was 14.3 cents per 190 pounds in town, n d 15.8 cents in the country.

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Canadian Pacific Railway (WESTERN DIVISION)

WINTER TIME TABLE.

In effect Dec. 13th 1885.

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DOWN.	ימונחוועוי	CP.
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Trains west of Cammore subject to cancellation at any t me without no..ce.

† Dining stations

J Daily, 2 Daily except Sunday, 3 Daily except Mon-ay, 4 Daily except Saturdry, 5 Sundays, Wednesdays, nd Thursdays, 6 Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturday, 7 Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 5 Mon-days, Wednesdays and Fridays, 7 Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, 10 Mondays, and Wednesdays, 11, Thursdays, 12, Fridays

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