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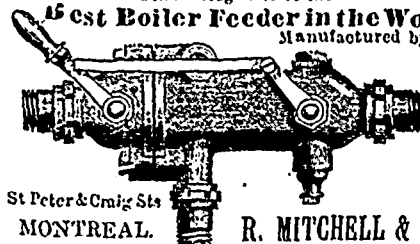
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A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE FINANCIAL, MERCANTILE AND MANUFACTURING INTERESTS OF THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

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

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WINNIPEG, NOVEMBER 16TH, 1886.

No. 8.

## The Commercial

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

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WINNIPEG, NOVEMBER 16, 1886.

PETER CHARTRAND, trader, St. Laurent, Man., is dead.

C. B. SLATER, agent, Wapella, Assa., has left that place.

T. G. AGNEW, hardware dealer, Battleford, Sask., has been burned out.

J. CONLEY, lumber dealer, Grenfell, Assa., has moved to Killarney Man.

A. JOHNSTON, general storekeeper, Cartwright, is moving to Holmfield.

HUTCHINSON & HAZELL have opened a harness shop at Lethbridge, Alberta.

G. E. CARTER, furniture dealer, Prince Albert, Sask., will retire from business.

APPLICATION has been made for the incorporation of the Manitoba Warehousing Company. Composed of D. McArthur, W. L. Boyle, W. R. Allan, F. S. Brown, of Winnipeg, and R. H. Baxton, of London, England.

Geo. S. STAMFORD & Co., gunsmiths and sporting goods, Macleod, Alberta, will give up business.

J. G. OLIVER'S saw mill at Battleford, together with some lumber near by, was burned last week.

G. F. ZUCKER & Co., traders, Cluny, Alberta contemplate transferring their business to McDonnell Bros.

ARNOLD & KNAPMAN, hotelkeepers, Griswold, Man., have dissolved partnership. Knapman, will continue the business.

A FIRE limit will be established at Calgary, whereby the erection of frame buildings will be prohibited within certain limits.

L. D. McPHERSON, merchant tailor, Winnipeg, has assigned. Liabilities will not be heavy as the stock carried was light.

A STONE and hotel with other buildings are going up at Binscarth station, on the Manitoba & Northwestern Railway extension. There appears to be a prospect of a good town growing at the junction of the Russell branch with the main line.

A NUMBER of the business firms burned out at Calgary will open out immediately. I. G. Baker & Co., had a large consignment of goods on the road at the time of the fire, and they will be ready for business in a few days in new premises.

THE Winnipeg Grocers' Association was formally organized last week, with a membership of nearly forty. The following are the officers selected for the first term: C. D. Anderson, president; J. W. Horne, vice-president; A. Frazer, secretary; J. B. Bell, treasurer. The directors are, W. Hunter, J. K. Wright, Geo. Adam, J. W. Winram, J. E. Weldon, W. E. Hodder and John Dysart. A meeting will be held this evening in the Harris' block.

A DESPATCH says that the C.P.Ry. have agreed to accept goods at Toronto and Hamilton for Winnipeg, at the same freight rates per mile as from Montreal. Heretofore rates have been the same from those points to Winnipeg as from Montreal, but the new arrangement will give them an advantage over their eastern rival.

ISAAC JOHNSTON will open a blacksmith shop at La Riviere.

HANCOCK & DONNELLY, butchers, Fort William, have been burned out.

TRADE is said to be better at Portage la Prairie than it has been for three years.

THE balance of the stock of the T. Garland estate, Portage la Prairie, will be sold by auction on the 17th instant.

J. & W. HENDERSON, hardware dealers, Portage la Prairie, who have been selling out for some time, will have their stock cleared out in about a week.

J. D. HIGGINBOTHAM & Co., druggists, Lethbridge, Alberta, have purchased the building and branch drug business of E. Walton, of the same place, who carries on his main business at Medicine Hat.

It is reported that the Chicago branch of the Bank of British North America, under the management of H. R. Breedon, will be closed, and a branch opened in Winnipeg in its stead, with the same manager in charge.

TRACK lying on the M. & N. W. railway has been completed for the present season. It is understood that next year a big push will be made to carry the road through to Prince Albert.

THE survey of the Red River between Winnipeg and the Lake, has been completed. From Selkirk to the mouth of the river the water is of good depth. Beginning at St. Andrews, for ten miles down the river the water is found to be very shallow. To run a proper channel through the rapids a considerable amount of blasting would have to be done. It is said that the cost would be very light to make it navigable for river crafts, but for the accommodation of lake steamers the work would cost half a million dollars.

APPLICATION will be made for a charter to construct a line of railway from some point on the Northwestern Coal & Navigation Co.'s railway, between Dunmore and Lethbridge, to the United States boundary, there to connect with a line from Fort Benton, Montana. A charter was refused for a similar line last year, owing to C.P.R. opposition. Application will also be made for a charter for a railway from Lethbridge to Macleod and thence through some pass in the Rocky Mountains to the United States boundary in British Columbia. Both applications will be made by the N. W. C. & N. Co.

WHILST so much interest has been taken in the fishery squabble which has its centre on our Atlantic coast, valuable new fields for the fishing industry have been discovered on our Pacific coast. An official inspection of the northern coast of British Columbia and the adjacent islands, has discovered the existence of valuable cod and other fishery fields in those latitudes. On the coast of Queen Charlotte's Island, cod of a superior quality to those taken on the Atlantic coast, are said to abound, besides halibut and other well known members of the family pisces. A great fishing industry promises to grow up in the immediate future on our Pacific coast, and thus another reason is furnished for protecting our fishery interests with firmness and decision.

THE C. P. R. Telegraph Co. is rapidly assuming gigantic proportions. Extensions of the system are constantly being made in all directions, and the telegraph department promises soon to become as great an institution proportionately as the railway itself. The line from Nanaimo to Victoria, in British Columbia, has lately been acquired, and through independent connection with San Francisco will be had in a short time. In the east the company is equally aggressive. In the Northwest a line is being constructed from Medicine Hat to Fort Benton, Montana, and it has also been rumored that the Government telegraph lines throughout the territory will be acquired by the C. P. R. Co. Among the possibilities of the future are direct cables connecting with Europe and Asia.

NOTWITHSTANDING the gloomy forecast of the British iron industry, given by the president of the British Iron and Steel Institute, in his address at the annual meeting of that body, it would seem that the present condition of the iron trade is now much more favorable than was at that time predicted. The month of October has shown the heaviest volume of business since September of 1885, and prices have also very materially improved. One large firm of pig-iron manufacturers are said to have booked orders ahead for fully three months' production. An example of the upward tendency of prices is shown in the statement, that a railway company had obtained offers for the manufacture of a supply of steel rails. After some delay one of the offers was accepted by the railway company, but would not then be taken by the manufacturers unless at an advance of 5s. per ton.

THE construction of the Victoria bridge over the St. Lawrence River at Montreal, which required six years for its completion was looked upon as a triumph of engineering skill. A late issue of the Montreal *Gazette* furnishes a description of the C. P. Ry. bridge, now nearly completed, which spans the same river at Lachine. The great point of comparison between the two bridges is, that what twenty-five years ago required years for completion, can now be accomplished in about as many months. There are thirteen piers in the bridge, built of stone and resting on the rock at the bottom of the river, and rising to a height of 30 feet above the water. There are eight spans of 240 feet in

length, one of 270 feet, and two spans of 408 feet, or a total of 3,006 feet. The mode of building the piers was to sink a coffer dam in the river, pump out the water and proceed with the work without molestation from moisture. This was successfully accomplished, though the water was nearly ten fathoms deep in places.

SCOTT, the forger, whose case came before the Assize Court, at Winnipeg, last week, has been found guilty, and sentenced to imprisonment for six years. Regret must always be felt for a culprit in the position of Scott. A man yet young in years, intelligent and attractive in disposition, and occupying a good position in society, his fall must be a cause of sorrow to all those by whom he was known. To poor Scott and his friends, his sentence will seem a severe penalty for his offence, and it is but human to sympathise with him in the judgment which has overtaken him. But justice must be satisfied, and though hard to be borne, the punishment is not greater than the nature of the offence warranted. Indeed a more severe sentence would have been returned in many instances of a similar nature, under other circumstances than those which tended to mitigate Scott's offence. Verily "the way of the transgressor is hard." Credit is due the Merchants' Bank for the manner in which the case has been followed up and the offender brought to justice. If all monied institutions would adopt the same course there would be fewer such crimes to chronicle.

THE fuel problem, which but a few years ago was such a great bugaboo to those who took a pessimistic view of the future of the Northwest, is being rapidly and practically solved. There are now four coal mines in different parts of the territory, being worked on a large scale, whilst in many other districts coal for local use is readily obtained, a lack of transportation facilities preventing the working of such mines for shipping. As the country is opened up by the construction of railways, many new mines will be put in operation, to supply the demands of an increasing population. The wide area over which these coal deposits are found, makes the question of the available supply of little moment, at least so far as any predictions of a shortage are concerned. The mines now being worked for other than local purposes are: The Galt mine at Lethbridge; the Saskatchewan mine, near Medicine Hat; the Bow River mine, west of Calgary in the Bow valley; and the Cascade mine, in the Rocky Mountains. This last mentioned mine has lately been put in operation, by a strong company formed for that purpose. The coal turned out of this mine is said to be genuine anthracite, of the best quality, but owing to the distance of the mine west of Winnipeg, it is not likely that it will make any difference in the price of hard coal here, if indeed the product reaches as far east as this city. However, the opening of this mine will prove a great boon to the western towns and communities. In soft coal the market here will probably be supplied this winter at lower prices than ever before ruled in Winnipeg. The competition thus established will keep down the prices of American imported coal and also wood to reasonable figures, so that evidently the days of dear fuel are numbered.

At a conference in connection with the Colonial Exhibition, London, England, held recently, a paper was read by Mr. E. B. Bigger, on the "flax-growing and linen manufacturing capabilities of Canada." Special reference was made to Manitoba as a field for the flax-growing industry. The paper stated that three species of indigenous flax grow luxuriantly in the Northwest, and could be utilized to advantage in the manufacture of twine, etc. Mr. Bigger claimed that flax could be made more profitable than wheat-growing. He estimated that eight acres of land would produce a ton of the dressed fibre, of which the average value would be £41. In commenting on the paper read by Mr. Bigger, the *Canadian Gazette* says, "that a gentleman engaged in the Irish flax trade, will visit Winnipeg, with a view to the introduction of machinery for the preparation and working of flax fibre." The adaptability of the soil and climate of Manitoba for the growth of flax are well known. Already in some districts of the province flax-growing has received considerable attention, but heretofore the product has been used only in the manufacture of linseed oils, meal and oil cake. In the manufacture of binding twine alone there should be a splendid field for investment and for the further utilizing of flax. Manitoba is now the chief source whence comes the demand for binding twine in Canada, and the demand is one which is constantly growing with every additional acre of land brought under cultivation. It is to be hoped that the gentleman referred to by the *Gazette* will arrive here in due time, when a personal inspection will undoubtedly convince him of the advisability of embarking in the enterprise of manufacturing the products of flax.

CALGARY, like nearly all new towns of rapid growth, has had its baptism of fire. Indeed, to those acquainted with the situation at Calgary, this event has been looked forward to for some time, and the only wonder is that it has been so long in coming, and that when it did come, it did not make a cleaner sweep than it has done. A street of hastily constructed frame shells, called buildings, such as all new western towns are composed of, form the very best material for a first-class conflagration, and when to this is added the entire absence of facilities for subduing a fire, the great danger is clearly seen. The unfortunate civic broil which occurred at Calgary last winter, and which resulted in the town being left for nearly a year without a legally qualified council board, has been directly responsible for the calamity which has befallen the place. The crying need of some system of protection from fire, was apparent to every citizen of the place, but owing to the civic muddle nothing could be done in the matter. These civic difficulties had been removed by special legislation, at the present session of the Northwest Council, and just a few days before the fire, the elections for a new council board took place at Calgary. It was understood that one of the first acts of the new council would be in the direction of establishing a system of fire protection, but in the meantime the damage was done. However, the result has not by any means been as disastrous as might have been expected. The main business portion of the town still remains. No doubt those who have suffered will go to work with that pluck and energy which characterizes western people, and soon again establish themselves in business. It is to be hoped that Calgary will be spared another visit from the destructive element of fire, until such time as the council can put their town in order for the proper reception of such an undesirable guest.

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# The Commercial

WINNIPEG, NOVEMBER 18, 1886.

## PRICES OF PRODUCE.

All sorts of theories have been advanced to explain the cause or causes for the low prices of produce. Wheat, the great staple product of agricultural energy in the temperate zone of the North American continent, has been the commodity which has received the greatest attention. Statisticians have puzzled their brains figuring up visible supplies and estimated invisible supplies, and they have compared their totals with the estimated consumptive demand of the world and predicted that wheat must advance. But wheat has not advanced; but on the contrary has kept getting down and down, until the present low basis was reached. These statisticians have depended entirely upon their figures as a guide to the probable advance or decline in the prices of breadstuffs and other agricultural products, when, as a matter of fact, there were other potent causes for the course of prices, aside from the supply or the estimated consumptive demand for the future. Of course if there is any great shortage in any single commodity of general consumption, prices will be enhanced in proportion to the shortage and the necessity for a supply of the commodity in question. But in such instances the prices are abnormal. All things being equal, prices for particular lines of agricultural products must rule in proportion to general values in other products. Therefore, whilst an excessive supply or a marked shortage in the supply will not be without influence upon prices, yet values are not to be depended upon from these sources alone, and due allowance must be made for values in other lines of goods. Thus high prices for wheat will be sympathetically affected upon the values of other grains, etc., and in the same way an era of low prices for manufactured goods will in time make itself felt in dragging down the prices of breadstuffs and produce.

For the past few years the world, or at least a large portion of it, has been largely under the influence of low values in manufactured goods. Breadstuffs held up for some time after the general decline, but gradually though reluctantly prices reached a proportionately low level. Statisticians figured up their supply statements and wondered why wheat kept steadily

going lower, when according to their predictions it should have advanced. They were so wrapped up in their statistical estimates that they took no cognizance of the fact that prices were universally low in all kinds of commercial commodities.

Now, however, the conditions are favorable to an advance in the prices of produce, aside from the question of supply and consumptive demand. In the great manufacturing industries there has of late been a healthy revival in trade. For some months back the wheels of industry have been revolving more freely, and prices for the leading lines of manufactured goods have been steadily advancing and hardening, until now as much as 25 and even 50 per cent of an advance has been attained. The great iron and steel manufactories, which industries alone exert a tremendous influence upon commerce, have been busier for the last month or so than for many a day, whilst prices for such products have materially improved. Woolen and cotton goods have also felt the influence of a revival in trade, and in the former especially prices have greatly improved.

This being the case, it would appear that the time is opportune for an advance in the price of agricultural products. In wheat the supply though plentiful, is not excessive, and prices are the lowest known for years, thus making the conditions favorable for an advance in keeping with the general improvement in prices. There is every indication that the upward tendency in the prices of manufactured goods will continue. We have had a long siege of low values, and in keeping with the experiences of the past, a period of prosperity and higher prices should be in order. Should this period of industrial prosperity, which appears to be now setting in, continue for a length of time, it would be but natural that agricultural products should feel the influence of better times and materially improve in prices. Speculation may do a good deal to check an advance in wheat, but with the present normal condition of the supply there should be an improvement in values at no distant date, unless industrial lines generally should take a relapse to the condition existing a few months ago.

## THE GROCERS' ASSOCIATION.

The retail grocers of Winnipeg have taken a wise move in organizing an association of those engaged in the grocery trade in this city. There are many ques-

tions of importance affecting this staple branch of business which may be taken into consideration collectively, and upon which a proper understanding among the dealers should prove of inestimable benefit to the trade. Nearly all towns and cities of any consequence now have their grocers' associations, as well as associations of business men in other branches of trade; and assuredly no other branch of trade stands so much in need of combination and united action as does the grocery business. The movement here toward united action has not been made a day too soon. In fact, the step could have been taken months and even years ago with advantage to those engaged in the grocery business here.

The tendency of the times seems to be to take united action to put a stop to the senseless cutting of prices by retail grocers, whereby the business has been brought to the verge of ruin. The promiscuous credit system is another matter which loudly calls for attention from the retail grocery trade especially. Hence we find that grocers doing business in the principal towns and cities all over the United States and Eastern Canada have been forming combinations for the purpose of dealing with these questions. Such united action has done a great deal toward restricting the evils complained of, and has very materially assisted in placing the retail grocery trade once more upon a healthy and sound basis.

At one time, and not a great while ago, there was little need of a grocers' association in this city. In those days, when the keen competition now existing had not yet been called forth, grocers had no difficulty in obtaining fair profits upon their sales. The supply of commodities was not in excess of the demand, and goods went off readily at prices which left good margins for the dealers. In some instances it may even have been the case that the percentage of profits was excessive. Money was also plentiful, and a good trade could be done without taking any great risks in the line of credits. These days have passed away. Grocery stores are now numerous on the main streets, and the corner grocery may be found at almost every crossing on the back streets. The city is heavily stocked with the commodities usually sold in such stores, and the keen competition which has existed for some time, has been the means of reducing profits to the lowest margins. In fact, in some lines of goods

the margin which should be left to the dealer, has entirely disappeared. Added to reduced profits has come the extension of the credit system to unlimited proportions.

With this state of things existing, it is indeed high time that action should be taken by the grocers toward ameliorating their condition. There is no reason why grocers should cut each other's throats and bring the whole trade to the verge of ruin, through a senseless system of reducing profits until it would require a microscope to detect the margin remaining to the dealer upon his sales. The practice is entirely without justification, and shows an utter disregard for the simplest business principles, as well as a lamentable absence of the commonest kind of sense. Competition, erroneously believed to be the life of trade, here proves clearly that it is the death of trade. Combination, and not competition, is what is required, to place the grocery trade upon a healthy foundation.

The practice of making leaders of certain lines of goods, whereby such commodities are sold at or near cost, and in some instances even under cost, for the purpose of drawing custom, is an unbusinesslike proceeding. A fair, legitimate profit, no more nor no less, should be made upon all lines of goods handled. In the smaller towns, where there are general stores, such dealers sometimes reduce the profits upon their groceries to very small margins, to the exclusion of men who would engage in groceries alone, relying upon the dry goods and other lines for their profits. In Winnipeg grocers have had no such disadvantage to contend with, but they have themselves, by senseless competition, reduced the prices of sugars and some other staples to about cost. It should be the first work of the Winnipeg Grocers' Association to restore prices of such commodities, so that a fair return can be had from all sales. A grocer cannot legitimately afford to handle sugar for nothing, any more than he could adopt the same course with tea. In regard to the credit system, customers who have refused to pay bills should be made known to the association, with the understanding that such parties should not thereafter receive credit from any member of the association. A fine for disregarding such provision might be attached. A regular time might be arranged for presenting accounts, and a limit fixed wherein the payment of the same would be expected,

though in some special cases grocers would be compelled to allow deviations from the latter rule.

Winnipeg retail grocers have claimed as one of the reasons for forming an association, that some wholesale grocers and produce dealers in the city have been in the habit of selling at retail. If this claim can be substantiated, it is a just ground for complaint, and one which the retailers would be warranted in taking decisive action to prevent. So far as the wholesale grocers are concerned, it is not likely that there is any very great ground for complaint on this score, but should such be the case, measures should be taken to prevent it.

It is to be desired that all the retail grocers in the city will see it to be their duty to unite with the Grocers' Association. By united action a great deal can be accomplished toward bettering the condition of the trade. No doubt some dealers will hold aloof from the association, and some may even continue in the unbusinesslike practices previously referred to, but this should not discourage those who have undertaken the formation of the association. Perseverance should be the motto, and if conducted properly, the Winnipeg Grocers' Association will undoubtedly prove of great benefit to the retail grocery trade of the city.

### THE LOCAL ELECTIONS.

It has at last been announced that the date of the elections for the Local Legislature of Manitoba has been definitely fixed, and that they will take place on December the 9th. The nominations for the same will accordingly take place one week previous to the date named, on December the 2nd. The House has been called for December the 16th. The verdict of the province will therefore soon be rendered upon the doings of our Provincial Parliament for the past four years. What that verdict will be it is exceedingly difficult to foretell. It is said that by constantly repeating a story, though at first knowing it to be fictitious, a person will finally believe that such and such things did actually occur. On the same principle, if one were to read the opposition papers only, he would long ago have been forced to the conclusion, no matter how reluctantly, that the Norquay Government was irretrievably lost, and is now only awaiting the result of the election day to unceremoniously resign. On the other hand a perusal of the Government organs


alone would lead to quite the opposite conclusion, and the reader would be carried away with the belief that the opposition was to be swept away root and branch. But all these predictions are the merest conjecture and will carry but little weight with the experienced reader. The fact of the matter is, that until the election returns have been summed up, the general public cannot have the faintest idea as to the probable result. One thing, however, is certain, and that is, that both sides have been working for months back with a vigor scarcely ever outrivalled in an election contest, and whatever the result may be, a single constituency will not be allowed to go by default. The Government on their side have the favorable influence which naturally pertains to the party in power, and which especially in Manitoba, with a small population and a proportionately large public patronage, will amount to no insignificant factor in deciding the result. Added to this is a solid French vote, which in a closely contested election is quite large enough to turn the scales decidedly in favor of the Government. On the other hand the opposition have the opportunity of making as much capital as possible from the mistakes of the party in power; and that discontent and natural desire for a change which must arise, will undoubtedly be worked to the best advantage of those desiring to come into power.

One cause for regret in connection with the present campaign, and which cannot but be deplored by all right-thinking people, is found in the frequent charges of corruption preferred against their opponents by both parties. It appears to be a case of pot calling kettle black, for one party is as deep in the mud as the other in the mire. "Forgery," "perjury" and "criminality" are the pleasing epithets which have been applied by each side to the opposing party, and what is most to be deplored, these charges appear to have been substantiated by undeniable evidence. Party politics in Manitoba appear to have sunk to a low state indeed, when such practices have been so freely resorted to, and no stone left unturned to gain a point, either by fair means or foul means. It is to be hoped that candidates who have been detected in corrupt practices to secure their election, no matter to which party they belong, will be forced to retire from the contest; or in the event of their remaining in the field that they will be relegated to obscurity by the electors. The cause of either party is not so pressing that fiscal and corruption should be condoned, for the sake of returning a candidate who will vote for or against the Government.



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TOBACCONISTS & DRUGGISTS SUPPLIES.  
MONTREAL HOUSE: TORONTO HOUSE:  
59 to 63 St. Peter St. | 56 & 58 Front St. west  
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**Manufacturers of Clothing.**

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**HARLESWORTH & CO.,**  
Manufacturers of  Maltese Cross Brand  
**BOOTS & SHOES,**  
Noted for their Excellence of Fit and  
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Samples with **Feddle & Co.,** 9 McDermott-st west,  
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Manufacturers of White Dress Shirts, Colored  
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Corner of William and Princess Streets  
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**D. D. DOYLE,**  
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Is prepared to receive consignments of  
Hogs, in large or small lots, for which the  
Highest Market Prices will be paid.

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D. JOHNSON, PROPRIETOR.  
Manufacturer of Granulated and Standard Brands  
Oatmeal. Orders by mail promptly attended to.  
Henderson & Bull, Wholesale Agts. Winnipeg

**Sparkling Lager Beer !!**

Is now ready for the Market at the  
**REDWOOD BREWERY**  
Delivered anywhere in the City at \$3.50 per keg  
EQUAL TO ANY IMPORTED BEER.




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In Wood and Bottle always on hand.

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The Largest Institution of its class in Western Canada.  
ED. L. DREWERY, Proprietor,  
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I am prepared to pay the Highest Market  
Price for

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PELTS, WOOL AND TALLOW.  
 LEATHER FOR SALE.   
Either at place of shipment or delivered in  
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 Sacks for Wool supplied.  
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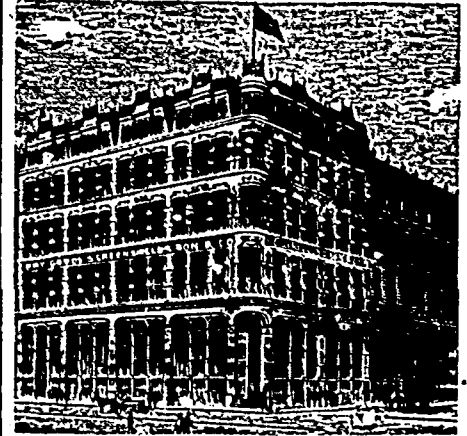
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MILLS AT KEKWATIN. OFFICE: OPPOSITE C.P.E.  
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**S. GREENSHIELDS, SON & CO.,**  
GENERAL DRY GOODS,  
17, 19 & 21 Victoria Square and 730,  
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Complete Set of Samples with  
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UPHOLSTERING DEPARTMENT:  
Special value in Ramie Cloths for coverings, Raw Silk  
Curtains, Raw Silk Table Covers, also Embroidered  
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JULY TO HAND, Ex. S.S. SARDINIAN  
another lot of  
**FEATHER TRIMMINGS** in all the leading  
colors.

**CARSLEY & CO.,**  
93 St. Peter St., MONTREAL,  
and 18 Bartholomew Close, London, Eng.

**KIRKPATRICK & COOKSON,**  
Established 1860,  
MONTREAL,  
Commission Merchants,  
FLOUR, GRAIN, PROVISIONS, PRODUCE, &c.  
Consignments and Orders Solicited.

**Crathern and Caverhill,**  
WHOLESALE HEAVY HARDWARE.  
Metals, Window Glass, Paints & Oils, etc.

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WHOLESALE SHELF HARDWARE,  
WAREHOUSES, SAMPLE ROOMS AND OFFICES:  
Caverhill's Buildings, 89 St. Peter Street,  
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Complete Set of Samples with  
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**The McClary Manufacturing Co.,**  
OF LONDON, TORONTO, MONTREAL & WINNIPEG  
Manufacturers of

**McClary's 'Famous' Stoves**  
Pressed and Pierced Tinware, Japanned Ware,  
Stove Boards, etc., and Dealers in Granite and Agate  
Ironware, and  
**Tinsmiths' Metals and Supplies.**  
WHOLESALE ONLY.

Warerooms: Cor. Rachel St. and Point Douglas Avenue.  
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J. W. BRISCOLL, Manager. **WINNIPEG**

## WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET

There has been a decided improvement noticeable during the past week in the manner in which remittances have been coming forward from the country. The movement in grain, which had assumed considerable proportion a few weeks ago, has at last commenced to noticeably affect the money market in a desirable direction, and payments have been made in a very satisfactory way. From far western points remittances have also come in freely. At the banks the call for funds from grain circles has been the leading feature, and discount rates hold steady at the old quotations of 7 per cent. for large loans on first-class security, and from that up to 10 per cent. Payments of interest on mortgage loans upon farm properties have been coming in more freely, but there is not a great deal of new business doing.

## WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE

The threatened cold snap has not yet amounted to much, and we have not yet had enough cold weather to visibly affect the wholesale trade. Retail trade in the city has felt the influence of the fall weather to some extent. The indications of approaching winter at the time of our last writing were sufficiently marked to cause quite a little activity in buying winter goods, and the last two or three days of the week before last were the busiest in the retail clothing and dry goods trade for many a day. However, last week the weather, though cool enough at night, was not sufficiently severe to induce heavy buying, and though a fair trade was doing, yet there was not such a rush as might be expected at the commencement of winter, and it would appear that many will delay purchasing as long as possible. In the wholesale branches there have been a few orders coming in, but only for small amounts, and the regular sorting trade would appear to be light. The main feature of last week was the departure of travellers on Monday with spring samples, though some had been on the road earlier. It would seem that the date is too early to go on the road with spring samples, but as the Eastern men are already in the field, there is nothing left for our dealers but to follow suit and to send out travellers. Many look upon this procedure as an unnecessary expense, and would gladly hold samples for a few weeks longer, but they are reluctantly compelled to do as others do in the matter. They claim that really little business can be done, and that it only entails the expense of an additional trip, with but slight recompense.

## BOOTS AND SHOES

There is scarcely anything doing in this branch, the season being remarkably quiet. Travellers have gone out with samples for spring orders.

## CLOTHING

The sorting trade has hardly started yet, though orders are commencing to come in with more frequency. Orders from the Province have been for very small amounts, but some of fair proportion have been received from the far west and north-west. Advices from country points in the Province report that farmers have not yet commenced buying freely. Travellers are all on the road with spring samples, though

returns from the trips are not expected to amount to much at such an early date. Stocks of fur coats have been well cleaned out, notwithstanding that the weather has not yet been cold enough to cause an active demand upon retailers for such goods. Prices in woolen goods remain pretty much as they were, but all new goods coming in have to be marked up a few notches, especially for finer qualities of woolen goods, in which grades the advance has been considerable, and would amount to well up to 25 per cent. to date, though 15 per cent. would be about the average advance. Spring stocks will therefore show a considerable appreciation in values. Collections are said to be very good.

## CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE

In this line there is some improvement noted, and a better demand for fancies for the holiday trade. In such goods stocks are now complete, and dealers are showing some very handsome novelties, suitable for the Xmas trade.

## - DRY GOODS

There has been some improvement in the sorting trade, and orders have been coming in more freely, though not for very large amounts. An advance of 10 to 15 per cent was reported from Montreal last week on woolen goods, tweeds, etc. A report from the same place says: "Orders for grey cottons have recently come in with a rush, and a number of mills have already received sufficient orders to last them till April; in fact, one mill refused to promise delivery of a large order before June next. So great has been the demand for grey cottons, that merchants are begging for their delivery in order to satisfy the requirements of their customers. There can be no doubt that the late advance from 17c. to 22c. has stimulated the demand, especially as a further rise in values is expected later on. The mills are also booked considerably ahead for white cottons as well, standard grades of which are now selling at 30c."

## DRUGS AND CHEMICALS

In this branch trade continues steady and fairly active. Quotations are as follows: Howard's quinine, 90c to \$1; German quinine, 80 to 90c; opium, \$4 to \$4.50; morphia, \$2 to \$2.50; iodine, \$4.25 to \$4.50; bromide potassium, 60 to 65c; American camphor, 40 to 45c; English camphor, 45 to 50c; glycerine, 25 to 35c; tartaric acid, 70 to 75c; cream of tartar, 35 to 40c; bleaching powder, per keg \$8 to \$10; bicarb soda, \$4.50 to \$5; sal soda, \$2.25 to \$2.50; soda ash, \$3 to \$3.25; chlorate potash, 30 to 35c; alum, \$3 to \$3.75; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur, flour, \$4 to \$4.50; sulphur, oil, \$4 to \$4.25; American blue vitrol, 6 to 8c.

## FANCY GOODS AND SMALL WARES

A more active movement is commencing to set in in this branch, especially in the fancy department, Xmas goods having commenced to move freely.

## FURNITURE

The fall trade in this branch is reported to have been rather below expectations, and a quiet feeling still prevails. Some orders have been received from the country, and collections from this source are fair, but the city trade remains quiet.

## FURS

There has not yet been much movement in the fur line, but dealers are preparing for the

season's trade and are sending out price circulars, etc., which do not differ materially from those given below. Foreign advices point to firm values for beaver and otter, with a good demand for coon, skunk, bear, etc. Mink is also expected to maintain a firm and perhaps higher price. Marten, fox, and fisher will not likely be in good demand, and prices may be lower. Quotations are: Beaver, per lb, \$2.50 to \$4.00; bear, per skin, \$5.00 to \$20.00; bear, cub, per skin, \$1.00 to \$6.00; otter, per skin, \$5.00 to \$10.00; mink, per skin, 30 to 90c; martin, per skin, 60c to \$2.00; fisher, per skin, \$1.00 to \$6.00; lynx, per skin, \$1.00 to \$3.00; racoon, per skin, 40 to 60c; skunk, per skin, 40-60-80; muskrat, per skin, 1 to 5c.

## FISH AND GAME

Game has commenced to come in more freely. Fish quotations are: Lake Winnipeg white, 6c; Lake Superior trout, 9c; pickerel, 3c; salmon, 18c; cod, 10c; Haddock, 10c; Halibut, 17c; Flounders, 15. Oysters, standards, 45c per can; selects, 55c per can; bulk oysters, \$2.35 to \$2.65 per gal. Cured fish are quoted; Labrador herrings, \$1.30 per pair; mackerel, \$1.30 kit; finnan haddids, 12½c per pound; codfish, 6c per pound; bloaters, \$3.00 per box; salt white, 10c per pound.

## FRUITS

Business has been brisk in some lines, owing to the approach of winter. Ontario fruit, except apples, is now nearly out of the market. Quotations are as follows: Ontario pears, \$1.50 per basket of 20 lbs. Florida oranges \$8 to \$8.50; Jamaica oranges, \$7.50 to \$8.00 per box. Winter apples, \$3.75 to \$4.50 per bbl, for good stock. Lemons, \$8.00 to \$8.50 per box; California pears, \$5.00 per box; Malaga grapes, \$8 to \$8.50 per keg; Ontario grapes 10 to 12½c; Cranberries, \$10.50 to \$11 per bbl; Citron, \$1.50 to \$2 per dozen; Figs, 50lb sacks, 12½c; Golden dates, 12c; peanuts, roasted, 18c; raw, 15c; walnuts, 15 to 20c; almonds 15 to 20c; filberts 13 to 15c. Dried fruits are quoted as follows: Valencia raisins \$3.15 to \$3.25; London layers \$3.75 to \$3.90; black crown \$5 to \$5.25; black baskets, ¼ boxes, \$1.20. Apple cider is worth \$10 a barrel; sweet potatoes, \$8.25 per barrel.

## FUEL

Quotations are as follows; Best tamarac wood, \$4.75, with some poor selling at \$4.25; sound poplar, \$3.50; poor, \$3.25. Prices for car lots on track. Coal on track sells at \$9.75 for anthracite, \$10.75 for smithy, and \$7.25 for American soft. Lethbridge coal is quoted at \$6.50 on track, or \$7.25 delivered in the city; Saskatchewan coal, \$6.25 on track.

## GROCERIES

About the usual steady trade doing and with the quotations unaltered, with the exception of Rio coffees, which are a fraction higher. New dried fruits are now in the market. Prices are: Canned tomatoes, at \$3.50; corn \$3.25 to \$3.50; peas, \$3.75; yellow sugar 6½ to 7c; g mulat 7½ to 8c; lump sugar, 9 to 9½c; Coffees, Rios, 13 to 13½c; Government Java, 28c, other Javas, 22c; Mochas, 31 to 34c. New season's teas are now quoted as follows: Japan season 1886-7, 25 to 45c; Congous, 1886-7, 20 to 60c; Indian teas, 35 to 50c. Old range, Moyine gunpowder, 25

to 70c; painted Japan 23 to 45c, basket-fired, 25 to 40c; Ping Suey young hyson, 25 to 35c; Moyune young hyson, 25 to 50c; Season's congous, 1885-6, 20 to 55c. Syrups, corn \$2.00 to \$2.35; sugar, cane, \$1.85 to \$2.00; T. & B. tobacco, \$10.

HIDES

Some lots have been coming in from the far west. Prices are unchanged and are as follows: Steers, Winnipeg inspection, No. 1 7c; No. 2, 6c; cows, No. 1, 7c; No. 2, 6c; bulls, 5c; calf, fine haired real veal, 7 to 13 pound skins, No. 1, 10c; No. 2, 8c. Sheep pelts, 30 to 65c. Tallow, 3 1/2 per lb.

HARDWARE AND METALS

The recent advances in iron, etc., have not been felt here yet, and prices remain steady. Later on an appreciation in values may be looked for. Trade remains quiet. Collections are good. Quotations are as follows: Cut nails, 10d and larger \$3.35 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; rosin pipe, 50 to 55 per cent. off list prices; ingot tin, 25 to 30c per lb., according to quality; bar iron \$2.50 to \$3 per 100 lb; shot, 6 1/2 to 7c a lb; tarred felt, \$2.60 to \$2.85 per 100 lbs; barbed wire 7 to 7 1/2c.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS

Trade continues steady and in fair volume and prices are unchanged and as follows: Spanish sole, 28 to 32c; slaughtered sole, 33 to 35c; French calf, first choice, \$1.35 to \$1.50; Canada Calf 90 to \$1.00; French kip \$1 to \$1.10; B Z kip, 85 to 90c; slaughter kip, 55 to 75c; No 1, wax upper, 45 to 50c; gram upper, 55c; harness leather, 33 to 35c for plump stock. American oak sole, 45 to 60c. butte, 17 to 22c. a foot; cor-lova, 25 to 27c; pebble, 21 to 23c; colored linings 12c.

LUMBER

There is still a fair movement for the season, but trade appears to be quieting up, for the usual winter's dullness.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS

Trade has been keeping up very fairly during the past week, and there has been an active call for window glass. Prices are: Turpentine 75c; harness oil, \$1.10; Neatsfoot oil, \$1.50; linseed oil, raw 65c per gal., boiled 71c; seal oil steam refined, \$1 10; castor, 14c per lb.; lard No 1, \$1 25 per gal.; olive, \$1.00 to \$2.00, according to quality; machine oils, black 25 to 47c; oleine, 47c; fine qualities, 50 to 75c. Coal oils, silver star, 20c; heullight, 23c; water white, 30c. American oils, Eocene, 30c; water white, 33c; sunlight, 30c; Eldorado, machine, 50c. Calcined plaster, \$3.75 per bbl; Portland cement, \$4.75; white lead, genuine, \$7.00; No. 1 \$6.50; No. 2 \$6.00; window glass, first break, \$2.25.

STATIONERY AND PAPER

Trade is moving along very nicely in this branch, with orders for fancy and holiday goods going out freely. Collections good.

SADDLERY AND HARNESS

This branch continues seasonably active and satisfactory to dealers.

WINES AND SPIRITS

A moderate business continues to be done, with prices steady as follows: Gooderham & Wort's five year old, \$2.40; 7 year old, \$3; old rye, \$1.75; Jules Robin brandy, \$4.50; Bisquet Debouche & Co., \$4.75; Martell, \$6.50; Hennessy, \$6.50; DeKuyper gin, \$3.50; Port wine, \$2.50 and upwards; Sherry \$2.50 and upwards; Jamaica rum, \$4.00 to \$4.50; DeKuyper red gin, \$11 per case; DeKuyper green gin, \$6.50 per case; Tom Gin, \$9.00 to \$10.00; Martel and Hennessy's brandy, \$13.50 per case of 12 bottles.

WOOL

There is now only an odd lot occasionally coming in. Prices have not been altered and are as follows: Leicester and Cotswold, washed, 14c to 16c; cotted and broken, washed,

12c; unwashed 8c. to 11c; unwashed and tags off, 10 to 12c; Montana sheep, unwashed, 11 to 12c.

THE MARKETS

WINNIPEG

WHEAT

There was a continuation of the easy feeling in the wheat market, owing to outside influences, and to the close of navigation. Buyers appeared indifferent about taking hold, and the situation did not seem encouraging. Last week would about wind up shipments by the lake route, and prices had therefore to come down to an all-rail export basis. On Tuesday a reduction of about 2c was made in prices paid to farmers at provincial points, and in the city, where prices were higher proportionately than outside, a reduction of 3c was made. No. 1 hard delivered at the mills here now brings 59c, and No. 2 hard and No. 1 northern, 56c. With the close of navigation, exportation will likely slacken up for a little, though there will be more or less going through by the all-rail route.

FLOUR

Prices of the higher grades have suffered a decline of 5c per patents and 10c for strong bakers. Low grades hold quiet and steady. Prices for broken lots delivered in the city or f.o.b., are: Patents, \$2.35; strong bakers', \$1.80; XXXX, \$1.20 to \$1.30; superfine, 90c to \$1.00.

BRAN AND SHORTS

Hold at the advance of \$12 for bran and \$14 for shorts, per ton.

BARLEY

No transactions have been heard of in this grain.

OATS

Prices still hold up to about last quotations, though the feeling would appear to be easier. Cars on tra last week brought 42c to 43c, and 49c was paid freely for loads on the market. Stocks seem ample for present requirements.

OATMEAL

Prices remain at last weeks quotations of \$2.50 for standard and \$2 75 for granulated, in small lots.

POTATOES

Were not offered freely last week, and prices were 10 to 20c higher. Loads on the market brought from 50 to 60c, and car lots could not be laid down for any less amount.

CHEESE

Still holds steady at from 13 to 14c for imported. The home product seems to have been about all exhausted.

EGGS

There is no change to note in prices since last week. All the fresh arriving bring 22c, and more would be taken. Lined have sold at from 20 to 22c, the latter price for a few single case lots.

BUTTER

There is still a plentiful supply of fair medium butter in the market. The demand, however, is for choice qualities almost exclusively, and of such grades there is no danger of a surplus at present. Selections from receipts sell at 20c, and lots of good all around at 18 to 19c. Medium qualities are to be had at prices considerably under these quotations, and may be quoted at 10c for poor to 17c for fair medium. Some buyers were in the market last week looking after large lots for shipment, but prices did not seem to suit them.

BACON

Prices have held steady for all grades. Prices are: Long clear, 8 1/2 to 9c; breakfast bacon, 12c; spiced roll, 11c.

HAMS

A decline of 1/2c is noted in plain, for the home product the regular quotation being 14 1/2c.

LARD

Has sold in 20 lb pails at \$2.15 to \$2.25; 3 lb

pails have sold at 43c each, and 5 lb pails at 65c each.

POULTRY

Have commenced to come in freely; on the market. Choice dressed bring 10c per pound for chickens, 15c for turkeys, and 12c for ducks and geese. These prices are for well dressed lots. Some poor lots have sold at considerable reductions on quotations.

DRESSED MEATS

There has been a good demand for hogs from packers and butchers, and the competition for lots arriving has been keen. Country dressed have brought 5 1/2c, whilst city dressed have gone above these figures, and some as high as 6c. There has not been much country dressed beef in the market yet, the weather being too warm. Prices for beef are steady at last quotations. Country sides bring 4 1/2c to 5 1/2c; with butchers selling city dressed at 5 1/2c to 6 1/2c; mutton 9c.

LIVE STOCK

The demand for hogs is keen, and prices have held firm and quotable higher. Good lots would bring 4 1/2c all around, and some choice have gone 4c above these figures. The packing houses are now operating more extensively, and require a good daily supply to keep working. Medium-sized hogs are in best demand, weighing from 200 to 250 pounds, and fat. Cattle are easy at 3c off cars, and 5 per cent. off for good stock; cows and heifers 2 1/2c.

MINNEAPOLIS

The slight fluctuations recorded during the past week caused extreme dullness in speculative circles and the general tone of the market though firm, was heavy, with a half cent decline to-day to further discourage the bulls. The heavy movement continues and this month's deliveries will put the total up to the highest point ever reached. While this will not change the size of the wheat surplus, it will have the usual bearish effect at home and abroad. The export movement continues heavy and the flour market has been firmer than for some time, but there is no sand on the bull side of the market, and each day brings nearer the holidays, with accompanying dullness, though the present situation could hardly be made worse save by a complete cessation of exports.

Receipts here for the week were very close to the highest figures ever known in the same time, while shipments were far above the average. The amount on track keeps within bounds, being less than 400,000 bus, which is the more remarkable when we consider the delay and trouble caused by the recent switchmen's strike.

The highest and lowest wheat prices by grade on change during the week ending Nov. 11 closing prices, and the prices one year ago were:

WHEAT—	Nov. 11, 1885	Nov. 11, 1884
No. 1 hard	72	71
" 1 northern 70 1/2	70	71
" 2 " 68 1/2	68	68 1/2

Futures showed about the same range, December 1 hard closing at 73c, January at 74c and May at 80c; December 1 northern closed at 70 1/2c, January at 72c and May at 78c. Coarse grains were quiet, corn closing at 36 to 37c, oats at 24 to 26c, rye at 42 to 45c, and barley at 45c to 52c, all by sample.

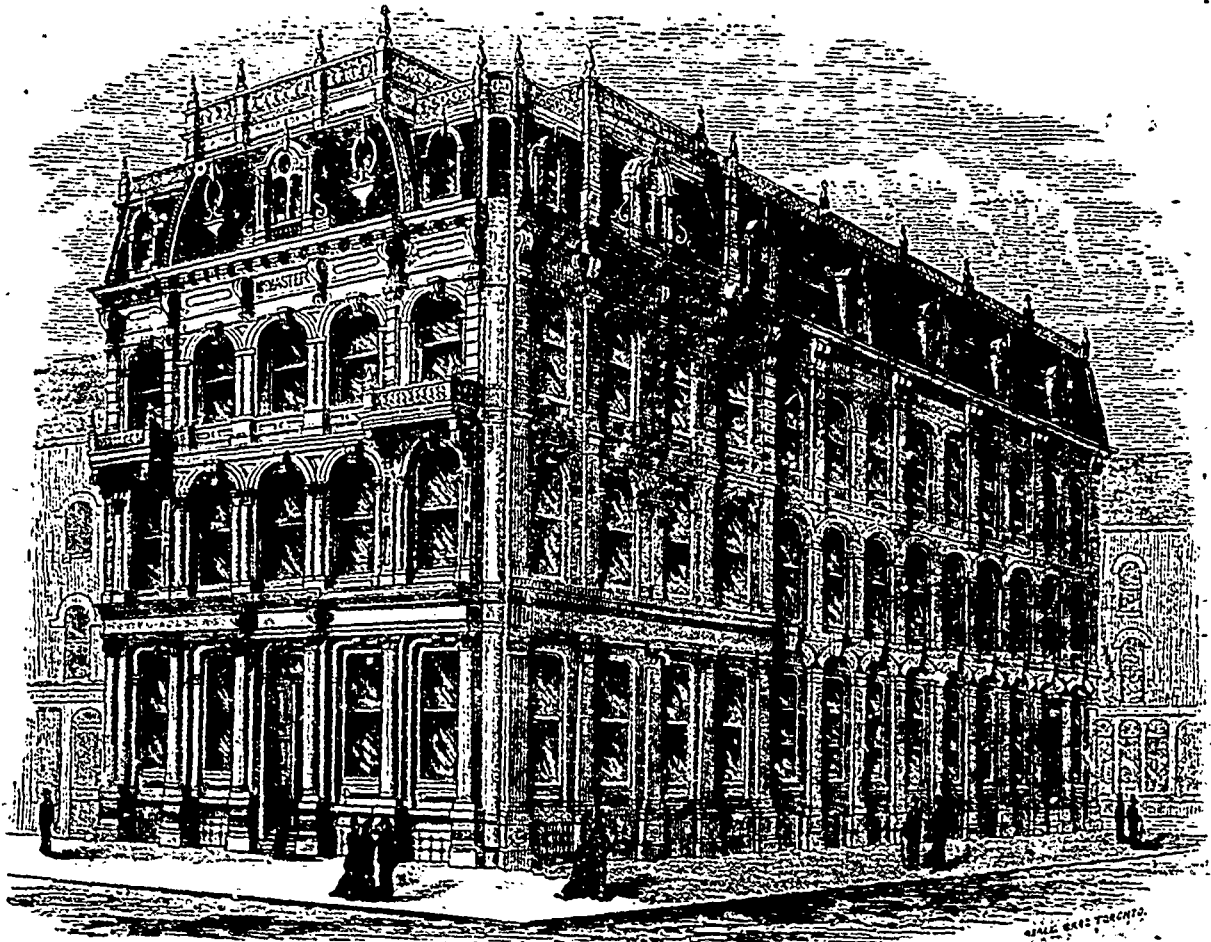
MILLSTUFF—Has been fairly active, bulk bran closing at \$8.25 to \$8.50 and shorts at \$9.25 to \$10 per ton, with an extra charge for sacking of \$1.50 per ton.

FLOUR—The market has a better tone, although sales are not free. Export inquiry is good and there is some at full prices. With the water falling, freights rising, or about to do so, and wheat stagnant, millers find the outlook rather unpleasant, but are holding prices firm. Holders are believed to be lightly stocked, especially throughout this country, so that any show of improvement in the general outlook would cause a good demand for flour.

Quotations at the mills for car or round lots are: Patents, \$4.15 to \$4.30; straights, \$3.95 to \$4.15; first bakers', \$3.40 to \$3.60; second bakers', \$2.80 to \$3.00; low grades, \$1.70 to \$1.90, in bags; red dog, \$1.30 to \$1.40, in bags.

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Wheat buyers at all C.P.R. Shipping Stations.

**EASTERN MARKETS.**

**CHICAGO**

Wheat opened dull and slightly lower on Monday. The visible supply statement posted to-day showed a smaller increase than was expected, but not enough smaller to favorably affect the market. The table of exports showed 2,500,000 bushels of wheat (including flour) as leaving the Atlantic seaboard. However, both these favorable features fell flat upon the market, which continued dull to the close. Provisions opened higher, but closed nearly the same as Saturday. Packers were doing nothing, owing to the strikes. Closing prices were:

	Nov.	Dec.
Wheat .....	73½	74½
Corn .....	35½	36½
Oats .....	25½	26½
Pork .....	9.25	9.25
Lard .....	5.87½	5.87½

Wheat was quiet and steady on Tuesday, and the range of prices did not differ over ½c for the day. The close was a little firmer. Corn and oats were also quiet. Provisions neglected. Closing prices were:

	Nov.	Dec.
Wheat .....	74½	75½
Corn .....	35½	36½
Oats .....	26	26½
Pork .....	9.20	9.20
Lard .....	5.90	5.90

On Wednesday the feeling was decidedly bearish, in spite of better foreign advices, and prices sold down ½ to ¾c. The Government crop report issued to-day showed an increase in the estimated corn crop of 18,000,000 above the last report, and this had a weakening effect upon the wheat market, even more so than upon corn, owing to the heavy condition of the former. Provisions were dull and lower, with the exception of lard. Closing prices were:

	Nov.	Dec.
Wheat .....	75½	74½
Corn .....	35½	36½
Oats .....	26	26½
Pork .....	9.25	9.15
Lard .....	5.92½	5.90

Trading in wheat on Thursday was more active. Shorts were covering freely, and a considerable quantity of long wheat was unloaded. The buying by the shorts strengthened the market somewhat. There were several slight fluctuations during the day, closing prices being about ½c better. Provisions were featureless. Closing prices were:

	Nov.	Dec.
Wheat .....	75½	74½
Corn .....	35½	36½
Oats .....	25½	26½
Pork .....	9.30	9.30
Lard .....	5.90	5.90

On Friday wheat opened strong on export demand and advanced ½c. Later, northwestern receipts had a weakening effect and prices dropped ½c about the start. Clearances from New York yesterday were 200,000 bushels. Provisions were firmer, but until the strike is settled there will be an unsettled market in such products. Closing prices were:

	Nov.	Dec.
Wheat .....	75½	74½
Corn .....	35½	36
Oats .....	25½	26½
Pork .....	9.35	9.35
Lard .....	5.92½	5.90

On Saturday the market was quiet and the feeling weak. There were no new features, the large receipts being the principal factor and the main cause of weakness, prices closing lower. Provisions continued unsettled. Closing prices were:

	Nov.	Dec.
Wheat .....	75½	74½
Corn .....	35½	35½
Oats .....	—	20½
Pork .....	9.50	9.45
Lard .....	6.05	5.90

**TORONTO.**

**STOCKS**

The stock market appears to have been somewhat irregular. The board was quiet and transactions in bank and miscellaneous stocks not heavy. The following comparison of quotations on the dates named will show the course of values.

	Nov. 3.		Nov. 10.	
	ASKED.	BID.	ASKED.	BID.
Montreal .....	234½	222½	234	232
Ontario .....	113½	112	119½	118
Toronto .....	2.04	2.09½	2.10½	2.07
Merchants .....	131½	130½	124½	124½
Commerce .....	120½	120	130	137
Imperial .....	—	137½	109½	109
Federal .....	109	109½	109½	109
Dominion .....	216½	215½	216½	216
Standard .....	120½	120½	126½	125½
Hamilton .....	—	136	—	136
Northwest Land ..	67	66	65	64
C.P.R. Bonds .....	106	104½	103	104½

**WHEAT**

Stocks of wheat amount only to about one quarter of what they were last year, which shows that there cannot be any very active trading going on until more grain comes into the market. Stocks of wheat are: Fall, 26,745 bush; spring, 26,118 bush; mixed, 3,910 bush. Prices have held steady. No 2 fall sold at 74 to 75c on track, and No 2 spring about 75c. The close was quiet with an easy feeling prevailing.

**FLOUR**

Quiet and with buyer and sellers apart on prices. Superior extra held at \$3.50 and extra at \$3.40, with buyers offering 5c less.

**OATMEAL**

Selling slowly at \$3.60 to \$3.70 in car lots, and small lots \$3.80 to \$4.00.

**OATS**

White sold at 32 to 32½c on track, and mixed at 30½ to 31c.

**BARLEY**

Barley has been the only grain inquired for. Stocks are not heavy, amounting to 165,310 bushels. There was a steady demand for high grades during the week, though the feeling at the close seemed easier. No. 1 sold at 61c, f.o.b.; No. 2 at 56c and 56½c extra No. 3 at 53c.

**POTATOES**

Selling in car lots at 50 to 55c, with 70 to 75c paid on the market.

**APPLES**

No cars moving. On the street prices hold firm at \$1.75 to \$2.25 for good to choice winter fruit.

**BUTTER**

A good demand has continued for best grades, round lots of dairy having been taken at 15c to 17c, with selections at 18 to 19c. Good store, with white thrown out has sold at 12½ to 13c. Common brought 8 to 9c. Rolls brought 16c to 17c for choice.

**CHEESE**

Small lots of choice have sold at 12 to 12½c. At provincial factories, 3,180 boxes sold at London at 12c and 12½c; at Ingersoll, 1,622 boxes at 12½c. Here 31 factories sold 4,000 boxes at from 12 to 12½c.

**EGGS**

Fresh bring 18c, and limed 17c.

**PORK**

Unchanged, with sales of small lots at \$14.

**BACON**

Prices rather easy at 7½ to 8c for old long clear, the former for a lot of about 75 sides and the latter for cases, with now at 8 to 8½c; Cumberland quiet at 7½ to 7¾c; rolls 9c and backs and bollies 10 to 10½c.

**HAMS**

Moving slowly and at rather unsettled prices, but the great bulk at 11½ to 12c for smoked.

**DRESSED HOGS**

No rail lots as yet, and all street receipts wanted at firm prices, closing at \$5.75 to \$6.00.

**LIVE STOCK**

Hogs steady, with good demand for medium fat, 160 to 210 lbs. Prices are: Heavy fat, off cars, \$3.50 to \$3.75; medium fat, \$4.00 to \$4.30; light fat, \$3.75 to \$4.00; stores, \$3.50 to \$3.75; stags and sows, \$2.00 to \$3.00. Cattle unchanged at last quotations of from 2½c for common to 3½c for choice picked butchers' stock.

**HIDES AND WOOL**

Hides, No. 1 inspected steers, \$9; No. 1 inspected cows, \$8.50; No. 2 inspected, \$7.50; No. 3 inspected, \$5; calfskins, green, 11 to 13c; calfskins, cured, 13 to 14c; calfskins, dry, 11 to 13c; sheepskins, green, 65 to 75c; wool, super, 22 to 23c; extra super, 27 to 28c; wool pickings, 9 to 10c; tallow, rough, 2c; rendered, 4½ to 4¾c.

**DULUTH WHEAT MARKET**

The market opened decidedly dull on the first of last week. The increase in stocks here for the previous week was about 100,000 bushels less than was expected. On Tuesday receipts were again large, amounting to 349 cars; and making a total of about 1,000 cars on track awaiting elevation. Lake freights advanced on Wednesday to 7½c bid. On Thursday the number of cars on track increased to 1,200, which shows an increase in the daily arrivals, though this is partly owing to the crowded state of the elevators. On Friday a statement published showed 2,000,000 bushels of elevator capacity running. Toward the close of the week it appeared that the bulk of the grain had turned toward Minneapolis, where there is more room, and hardly owing to the near close of navigation. It is thought a good many large vessels will winter here and be utilized for storage. Receipts on Friday were 282 cars, shipments 42,000 bushels. Closing prices for No. 1 hard for the week were:

	Cash	Dec.	May.
Monday .....	75½	78	85
Tuesday .....	78½	75½	82½
Wednesday .....	78	75	82½
Thursday .....	72½	74½	82
Friday .....	72½	74½	81½
Saturday .....	—	74½	81½

**The Visible Supply.**

The amount of wheat in store at the principal points of accumulation in the United States and Canada, east of the Rocky Mountains, on Nov. 6, was:

Total in store .....	54,832,195
Afloat—	
New York .....	216,000
Total in store and afloat .....	55,048,195
In Transit—	
On lakes .....	719,157
On canal .....	1,792,000

Grand Totals .....

Corresponding week last year 52,323,886  
By this statement it will be seen that the visible supply of wheat increased 1,405,071 bushels over the previous week.



## Business East. ONTARIO.

Geo. W. Guest, grocer, Sarnia, is dead;  
S. H. Irvine, tea dealer, Ottawa, has sold out.  
R. Matters, grocer, St. Thomas, has sold out.  
D. M. Kinsey, grocer, Berlin, has assigned in trust.

James McDonald, hotelkeeper, Toronto, has sold out.

W. H. Sanborn, grocer, London, advertises to sell out.

J. Herring & Son, foundry, Napanee, suspend rating.

Henry Rowe, general storekeeper, Ridley, has sold out.

Thomas Rose, grocer, Forest, has sold out to Thomas Cope.

Laidley & Waugh, grain dealers, Omemece, were burned out.

A. R. Kerr & Co., dry goods, Hamilton, have assigned in trust.

John S. Wilson, cigar dealer, London, is moving to Toronto.

John Ewing, grocer, Arthur; stock sold to Collier & Carberry.

Jas. Dyer, general store and mills, Garden Hill, was burned out.

H. M. Holtorf, clothing, Orangeville, has sold out to Thomas Essery.

S. C. Hersey, grocer, Exeter, is offering to compromise at 25c in the \$.

M. C. Hamilton, general storekeeper, Blantyre, has moved to Deseronto.

Summers, Smith & Summers, lumber dealers, Toronto, have assigned in trust.

McKay Bros., printers, Toronto, have dissolved—A. C. McKay continues.

Jackson & McDougall, general storekeepers, Dutton, advertise business for sale.

C. B. Goulding, general storekeeper, Tilsonburg, has sold out to Richard Tindal.

Harton & Hustwit, wholesale grocers, Toronto, have dissolved—James Harton continues.

Charlesworth & Co., wholesale boots and shoes, Toronto, have called a meeting of creditors.

A. Ross, wholesale dry goods, Toronto, has admitted A. H. Hilyard, and style now is Ross, Hilyard & Co.

R. R. Martin & Co., druggists, Toronto, have admitted S. W. S. Toins, and style now is Martin, Toins & Co.

Baldwin Bros., lumber dealer and livery stable, Toronto, has sold out livery business to Robson & Nixon.

McKechnie & Bertram, manufacturers of tools, Dundas, have dissolved—John Bertram & Sons continue.

J. C. Shook, general storekeeper and lumber dealer, Corbetton, has sold out general store business to S. Carey.

J. B. Henderson & Co., commission dry goods, Toronto, have dissolved and a new firm formed—style Henderson, Peard & Co.

Toins & Co., manufacturers of trusses, Toronto, have amalgamated with R. R. Martin & Co., and style now Martin, Toins & Co.

The following were burned out at Southampton: B. A. Belyea, grocer, etc.; Bushby & Co., hotel; J. Rusk, hardware; D. Teahan, hotel; John Woods, general store.

## QUEBEC.

R. Wiseman & Co., saloon, Outremont, have dissolved.

Charles Nelson, hardware dealer, Montreal, has assigned.

A. Goyer & Co., leather dealers, Montreal, have assigned.

Rossi & Douglass, cattle feed dealers, Montreal, have dissolved.

Hart, Prevost & Co., lump manufacturers, Montreal, were partially burned out.

Cusson, Belanger & Co., foundry, Montreal; stock partially damaged by fire and water.

## NOVA SCOTIA.

Albert E. Croucher, physician, Bridgewater, is dead.

L. A. Petrie, jeweller, Spring Hill, has assigned.

E. L. Graves, general storekeeper, Aylesford, has sold out.

J. A. Cochran, general storekeeper, Maitland, has sold out.

Petrie Bros., general storekeepers, Spring Hill, have assigned.

C. & A. Gillis, grocers, New Glasgow, are away and their property attached.

## Grain and Milling Notes.

The Ogilvie Milling Co. will erect an elevator at Griswold.

P. Barclay, of the Birtle stone flour mill, is giving up business.

Carson & McLatosh, millers, Pilot Mound, contemplate giving up business.

J. Stewart is now at work on the grist mill at Fort Ellice, Man. The municipality gives a bonus of \$2,500.

The Morden mill which was closed down for want of water, has resumed work, a deep well having been put down.

The grain elevators in northern Minnesota and Dakota are overflowing, and thousands of cars of wheat billed to Minneapolis cannot be brought into the city because the transfer roads cannot handle it.

That indefatigable investigator, M. Balland, has excited some interest in France and Germany by the announcement that sacked flour, stored for a lengthy period, acquires poisonous properties from the action of the grain ferment on the gluten.

John Walley has been elected president of Birtle Grain Warehouse Co.; A. Doig and F. G. Lewis, are directors; and G. S. Hallen is secretary. The work of building will be commenced immediately and the warehouse pushed on to completion.

The Canadian agricultural bureau reports the yield of winter wheat for 1886 at 10,056,000 bus and of spring wheat at 17,528,000 bus, making a total of 27,584,000 bus or nearly 4,500,000 bus less than the average for the last flour years. The barley crop is represented by 19,656,000 bus, or rather more than the past four year's average.

The total shipments of wheat from India from Jan. 1 to Oct. 16, 1885, amounted, in round numbers, to 30,484,000 bush, including 16,732,000 bush, or 45.86 per cent to Great Britain, and 19,752,000 bush or 54.14 per cent to the Continent. Of this total quantity, 30,312,000 bush are reported to have been shipped since April 1, or during the present crop year, leaving still available for export a quantity apparently not exceeding 9,688,000 bush, if the cable advices and the official estimates of the late crop are approximately correct.

The fourth annual holiday number of the *Northwestern Miller*, published at Minneapolis, is now in course of preparation. In past years these special issues of the *Miller* have been perfect marvels of the printing art, whilst from a literary standpoint they have been most excellent. When therefore the publisher promises to exceed all previous efforts, the holiday number for the present year will be awaited with keen interest. The publisher of the *Miller* well deserves the assistance which he is bound to receive from the progressive community of Minneapolis.

An idea of the wheat crop of Minnesota and Dakota may be learned from the following report of wheat in store, given by the *Minneapolis Market Record*: Minneapolis, 3,578,089 bushels; in Duluth, 7,405,305 bushels, and in St. Paul, 223,000 bushels, altogether 11,207,324 bushels at the three terminal stations, making with the 21,746,000 bushels in country elevators a total of 32,953,324 bushels of wheat now in store in Minnesota and Dakota. The country storage capacity is near 34,000,000 bushels, of which a little less than 21,000,000 bushels, is occupied, but the 12,000,000 bushels, or near it, unoccupied is so situated that it affords no relief to the overflowing houses where the wheat is moving. All through the middle and northern sections the trouble is so great that in many places farmers' deliveries are very materially lessened.

## Selections.

Paying teller: "I don't know that you're the man whose name is on this check. You'll have to be identified before I can give you the money."

Pat: "Oidentifoyed, is it? Sure thin cast ye oye on this bit av a fotygraff an' y'll see it's me self entirely."

The *Budget* says: "We are glad to announce that sure and fairly rapid progress is being made towards the formation of a live stock insurance company."

The musical critic who wrote in his account of a local concert that "Music had charms to soothe the savage breast," was surprised to read in the paper: "Music had the charm to soothe the savage beasts."

The *Times* Albert *Times* says that a Winnipeg drummer who recently arrived at Macleod, wearing a very high stand-up collar, was taken out on the prairie by a band of cow boys, and relieved of this part of his wardrobe. The drummer referred to by the *Times* will not likely collaround Macleod again.

The tonnage of the merchant navy of the British Empire, which amounted in 1820 to 2,648,593 tons, had increased in 1885 to 9,314,496 tons. The mercantile navy next in importance to that of England is the Norwegian, which in 1830 registered 169,197 tons, and in 1884 had increased to 1,583,434. After Norway follows the United States with 576,475 tons in 1830, and 1,304,221 tons in 1884. The total German Empire shows 982,355 tons in 1870 and 1,294,288 tons in 1884. For France the return in 1840 was 662,500 tons and 1,033,829 tons in 1884. The returns for Russia are very incomplete. In 1876, the first year for which a return is given, Russia merchant vessels registered 375,760 tons, the figures for 1883, the



## Communication. PRAIRIE FIRES.

To the Editor of the Commercial.

SIR—Your endeavors, added to the action taken by the Winnipeg Board of Trade, have been so successful in the matter of getting the Southwestern Manitoba mail service improved, that I venture to address you on the very serious subject of prairie and bush fires.

I trust that it is the intention of the Government to take the matter up, but if not the public should not let the question rest until something practical and effective is introduced; the Government doubtless might say, and the statement would be true, that an excellent law for the prevention of fires is already on the Statute Book; unfortunately I have no copy of the prairie fire law to refer to, but from all I can learn the enactment is good, excepting for the fatal flaw regarding the way in which it is expected to be carried out; this flaw is so serious as to be entirely fatal to any chance of success, in effectiveness it might otherwise possess; so far as I can learn there have been scores of cases in which the law should have been put in force, but I cannot learn of a single instance throughout Southern Manitoba, in which an offender has been prosecuted; it is the old proverb over again, "what is everybody's business, is nobody's business," and besides this fire prevention law requires that a man should go and inform against his neighbors I trust there are very few that would care to be "informers," and consequently so long as the execution of law is left to the chance of an "informers" turning up, the probabilities are that it will remain a dead letter.

I have seen lately two practical suggestions for the prevention or rather mitigation of these fires; both are excellent, but I fear impracticable; the first is from Mr. Keith Turner. That gentleman suggests a number of fire guardians at a good salary. The country cannot afford this; besides if a number of men are appointed they are sure in their zeal, to get at loggerheads with the farmers, and no steps can possibly be successful unless the farmers themselves are favorable to agree with and help in the arrangement; the second plan I have observed is that from Sheriff Inkster, and it also is excellent, but much of it is unfortunately impracticable. I need only instance my own place; all the municipalities and settlers of Manitoba and this Northwest combined could not have stopped the fire that swept over my land a month ago, and kept us anxiously fighting with it night and day, here, and in the neighborhood, for over a week. There is a moral certainly that this fire was wilfully set going only a short distance outside my land, and if there had been a public officer entrusted with the duty of taking up such cases, the offender would, I think, have been brought to justice before now. I go farther and say that if there had been such an official, the probabilities are that this most serious fire, (it has swept over millions of acres and done incalculable damage) would never have been lighted. The country has got special "game guardians and timber inspectors," but these combined are nothing in comparison to the importance of these much needed "fire guardians."

Each municipality should have a "fire guardian" and the appointment might be combined

with that of "game guardian," the remuneration he should receive is best determined by the Government and the municipality concerned, only it should be remembered that the better they can pay a man within reason the better the quality of officer they are likely to get. His duty would be to see the prevention-of-fire laws strictly enforced, and also to take up and prosecute all cases which called for legal action. No right minded farmer would withhold his evidence or assistance in this way, as there could be no stigma or "informers" attached to such proceedings.

It is probable that the law would need extending to make these arrangements effective and applicable, for instance each municipality should be required to grade out all its roads; these would act as the main fire breaks through the different townships. Then each farmer should be required to make breaks round his house, barns, stables, granaries, hay and straw stacks, etc.; these breaks should be made by plowing double rings around each place, or stack, each plowing to be at least, say ten feet wide, with twenty feet between, and the space between the plowings to be burned. Each settler should be compelled by law to annually renew these breaks, and the municipalities should likewise be compelled to see that their man breaks are also annually put in order. It is a question if the law should not be so framed as to insist that each settler (under penalties for non compliance) should be compelled within a certain date each year, to send a certificate to the Reeve and Council, signed by the "fire guardian," that he had fully complied with the law. The way in which the space between the plowed breaks should be burned, should be properly defined by law, in fact the whole arrangement should be clear and concise, and each settler should be annually provided a copy, together with the name and address of his "fire guardian," not later than the 1st of July of each year.

This sketch is necessarily incomplete and very crude, but if the Government will take the opinions of the municipalities, and assist the latter so far as lies in their power, I think that these prairie fires may be most materially lessened, and the damage done by them be brought down to a low minimum, though nothing but the gradual filling up of the country can possibly altogether stop them. If officers are appointed as sketched above they should have no duties that can possibly take them away from the districts to which they are appointed.

This question is one that very seriously affects either directly or indirectly, every individual in the country. Every resident in Winnipeg is affected by it, and it behoves every one to support some well-concerted measure to grapple with this most serious annual evil.

I hope that the Board of Trade may give their powerful support and aid towards getting some effectual measure introduced without delay: if nothing is done the fires will go on, and get more serious each season, as both careless and evil minded people will continue to set fire to the prairie so long as they know that they are not likely to incur any personal risk by so doing. For instance, if nothing is done the man who is credited with setting the fire going in this locality last month, is sure to do it again next year.

Maringhurst, Man.  
November 30th, 1886.

W. WALTON.

## British Columbia.

The European Hotel has been opened at Vancouver.

The Vancouver Advertiser has resumed publication.

The Vancouver Daily News has been considerably enlarged.

Van Horne's brick and stone block, to be built at Vancouver, will cost \$45,000.

The collections of customs at Victoria last month were: Duties, \$68,372.17. Miscellaneous, \$1271.96, Chinese Act, \$368.50 Total, \$70,012.63.

The ship Pacific Slope has arrived at Port Moody with a cargo of Australian coal in ballast. She will subsequently proceed to Moodyville Saw Mill to load lumber.

The ship Carrie Delap, with a cargo consisting of 813 tons of tea from Kiobe, Yokohama arrived in Royal Roads on Nov 2nd having made the voyage in 40 days. She proceeded to Port Moody to discharge her cargo.

It is stated that the Canadian Pacific Railway have purchased the telegraph line of the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Co., giving the latter company the right to run a wire for private convenience on the poles already erected.

Arrangements have been affected between the Shuswap and Okanagan railway company, and Larkin, Connolly, & Patterson, the well known contractors, whereby the latter will survey the line and prepare estimates as a preliminary towards construction.

A by-law has been adopted by public vote at Vancouver, to appropriate \$22,000 for public improvements. The amount will be expended in purchasing a steam fire engine; the erection of fire hall and construction of water tank; erecting a city hall and lock-up, and laying out a cemetery and street improvements.

## General Notes.

Paris, Ont., is to have a needle factory.

A meat packing establishment will be started in Montreal, by a company with \$500,000 capital.

A sale of between 20,000 and 25,000 boxes of Wisconsin cheese was made in Chicago recently at 9c to 10c per pound. The cheese was July make, held in cold storage.

The first shipments of Canadian honey have recently been made to Liverpool, put up in 10 pound and 60 pound cans. There is a large and growing consumption of this article in Great Britain.

The Ontario Car Works, at London, Ontario, have received another contract from the C.P.R. for 100 flat cars. The company has just finished a large consignment of passenger cars for the Manitoba & Northwestern Railway. It employs now some 200 hands.

The railway mileage in the United States exceeds that of the whole of Europe, and is greater by two-fifths than that of the whole world. While at the beginning of 1865 there were only 34,000 miles of railway in operation in the United States, there are at present 130,000 miles.

The flour and meal examiners met at Montreal last week to select standards for the coming year. They resolved to recommend that the inspection act be so amended as to allow roller flour to be graded and that the grades be Patent Winter Wheat, Spring Wheat, Patent and Straight Roller. It was also resolved to ask the Government to make the designations of the different qualities of flour, Patent Winter Wheat, Patent Spring Wheat, Straight Roller, Strong Baker's, and Extra Superfine.