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WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 6, 1893.

The Situation in Prunes.

All the indications point to a high market for prunes during the remainder of the crop year, the stock of all varieties being small, with primary sources advising very limited quantities available for market purposes. The year 1892 goes upon record with very poor crop results in all producing countries. Bosnia and Serbia, the heavy producing districts of previous years, comes to the front with a very small surplus, and packers there have elevated their ideas to such a point that the former common article that was sent out from that section of Europe is now looked upon in the light of a comparative luxury. Up to about three years ago, the bulk of this, the Turkish crop, was sent to the markets of the world in the unwieldy casks, but since that time the packers of that country, stimulated by competition from France and California, have used their best endeavors to raise the quality of their goods in the estimation of consumers, and in this they have proved very successful. In previous years there was little or no attention given to the size of fruit, the crop being collected and packed into casks regardless of quality. But ascertoring the various sizes has now been adopted, and in marketing the crop purchases and sales are made wholly upon this basis. Boxes are found to meet with most favor in the trade, and under the name of Sultana a very considerable portion of the crop is now packed, assorted in sizes running from 60 to 100 to the pound. Bags are also a popular package with many in the trade; but in putting the goods up in this way the importance of sizes is kept well in mind, as upon such depends the value of the fruit in the eye of importers. The old method of casks is, in fact, rapidly giving place to the smaller and more convenient packages, and in time the former will drop out entirely as a means of conveying the crop to this or any other market of the world. Going back to the visible supply of

this class of fruit we would say that the quantity upon spot and afloat, so far as the cables have advised, includes 14,000 boxes, 10,000 bags, and 500 casks, the latter including a line of 300 carried over from the previous season. - N. Y. Commercial Bulletin.

Winter Wheat.

Reports have been received from the correspondents in twelve states on the condition of winter wheat, and on the condition and movement of cattle. In Illinois winter wheat is in from fair to good condition generally. About 18 per cent of the correspondents, however, report that in their counties the stand was rather weak when winter set in, and in one or two instances it was feared the wheat had been injured by the severe cold weather before the blanket of snow came. Condition of cattle is everywhere good.

In Indiana about 70 per cent of the correspondents report the condition of wheat as good, 12 per cent report fair, and the rest poor.

In Michigan the winter wheat is in good condition in most of the counties reporting.

In Kentucky the wheat crop is not up in the condition reported in the preceding states.

In Missouri wheat is not in a desirable condition. In a number of counties the wheat is reported injured by the hard freezing and the lack of snow.

In Kansas the winter wheat is generally reported good, but some report only fair. The whole state has been under a good blanket of snow nearly all winter.

In Nebraska half of the counties report condition good, nearly half fair, and two report poor. The state is mostly covered with snow.

In Iowa the crop of winter wheat is in good condition. Cattle are also good. The same is true of the wheat in Wisconsin, and what little is grown in Minnesota and South Dakota. The cattle in all five states, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota and two Dakotas, are in generally good condition, but few are being sent to market. - *Farmers' Review.*

The Tea Situation.

The London *Grocer's Gazette* of January 14 says:

China Tea—The improved tone noticed in our last week's report has scarcely been maintained, and the week closes with a dull feeling all round. In black leaf, teas are offering at 43d, and large transactions have taken place at this price, showing slightly easier rates. Reds at the same price, and up to 7d, have been in large supply, and numerous sales were effected in the early part of the week by private contract. Souchongs at a less figure have been acquired for, but this class at present appears rather scarce. Fair kinds up to 7d and 7½d have exchanged hands, showing good value to the buyer. A large quantity of scented teas have been offering, and have mostly sold, few common kinds showing a slight rise on early purchases, but medium are in less demand, whilst finest, being scarce, realize full rates. There has been a better feeling in the green makes during the past week, and the prices are well maintained for all grades excepting low young Hysons and Hyson, which are easier.

Indian tea—At the large auctions for the week the bulk of the enquiry has again been for the commoner grades of tea. There was nothing selling under 81 per lb except one or two very inferior parcels, and of these nothing went below 7½d per lb. Broken Pekoes there is very little enquiry for, therefore they are very cheap. The weakest point seems to be for teas about 1s 1d per lb. Quality on the whole was very fair, but only one or two noted marks made anything like high prices. They are rather large sales advertised for next week.

Ceylon tea—The greater portion of the tea offered this week was sold on Tuesday, of which low-priced Pekoe; Souchongs and Pekoes were

the only class in demand; consequently, like last week, these teas realized high prices. There was very little enquiry for broken Pekoes, especially for teas about 1s per lb., therefore they went very much in favor of the buyers. On Thursday, although a large proportion of the broken Pekoes were withdrawn, there seemed to be a little more demand for them at slightly firmer rates than on Tuesday.

Butter Packages.

Speaking of the preferences of the British markets in the matter of butter and butter packages, and of cheese and cheese boxes, Mr. Robertson said: "The demand in different centres of large population calls for different qualities in color, body and flavor. All the markets want a butter with the bloom of fresh made flavor still on it. We need refrigerator accommodation on the steamship lines from Canada. The Manchester and Glasgow markets want a rather pale colored butter. The London and Glasgow markets are running on square packages, after the New Zealand and Australian style. We will have some of our winter-made creamy butter from the government experimental dairy stations packed in square packages this year. I found Canadian cheese still growing in favor with wholesale dealers and retailers. In Manchester district the fat cheese from Quebec has not met with particular favor, and the poor quality of the boxes in which the French cheese is shipped has caused many complaints. The unworkmanlike finish or want of finish, and the wretchedly bad boxes were the worst features of some cheese from that province. These defects could all be remedied in one season by a little more care about taste. The French race have the reputation of putting up goods of all sorts in the daintiest and most attractive form. The French dairymen of Quebec should try to maintain the good name of their people in that regard. The fact that it would pay them handsomely to do so should not be a deterrent."

Homestead Entries for 1892.

Reports to the department of the interior for last year show that a satisfactory increase in settlement has taken place in the West compared with the previous year. A preliminary estimate prepared by the department shows that during 1892 the homestead entries numbered 4,948 compared with 2,955 during 1891, an increase of 1,425 or 40 per cent., and showing compared with the entries during 1890 an increase of 2,013 or 68 per cent. Of the total number who took up homesteads in Manitoba and the Northwest and British Columbia last year, 2,781 entries were made by settlers from the older provinces of Canada as follows: Ontario, 1,621; Quebec, 214; Nova Scotia, 27; New Brunswick, 12; Prince Edward Island, 14; British Columbia, 38; Manitoba, 522; Northwest Territories, 65; provinces not given, 247; total, 2,781. Five hundred and thirteen entries were made by emigrants from the United States, 92 of whom were returned Canadians. The nationalities of other homesteaders were English 603, Irish 51, Scotch 175, French 107, Belgians 54, Italians 5, Germans 95, Austro-Hungarians 136, Russians 242, Mennonites 13, Swedes 70, Danes other than Icelanders 13, Icelanders 76, Poles 5, Roumanians 3, unknown 3, making the total number of homestead entries 4,948, representing in all 14,972 persons. From the Canadian Pacific railway 1,632 settlers purchased land during 1892. Of the purchasers 803 were from Ontario, 450 from the United States and 154 from England.

A homestead is 160 acres of land which is the amount of government land which each settler is entitled to take up free. Quite a number of new settlers, however, prefer to buy land in the older settled districts, rather than take up free land in more remote sections.

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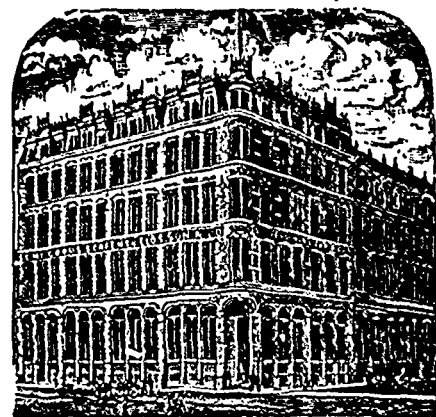
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Banquet and Piano Lamps,
Tables, etc.

Suitable for Christmas Trade.

Rice Lewis & Son

(LIMITED.)

TORONTO.

Standard OIL Company

(UNITED STATES)

Eldorado Castor, the best Oil in the world for Farm Machinery.

Eldorado Engine and Atlantic Red for Threshers.

ALL PRODUCTS OF PETROLEUM IN STOCK.

D. WEST, Agent, Office: Western Canada Loan Building.

Room 8, Corner Portage Avenue and Main Street,
WINNIPEG.

The Commercial

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 6, 1893.

HITS THE NAIL ON THE HEAD.

THE COMMERCIAL has several times attributed the troubles of Manitoba farmers mainly to the credit system, which is carried to such ridiculous extremes in this country. The very low price of cereals this year has made the return to the farmers much smaller than was expected, and many who had gone into debt freely have felt the pinch of close times. The papers have been full of letters setting forth the various grievances of the farmers, but the real cause of most of the difficulty is generally overlooked. One writer will endeavor to throw the sole cause of the trouble upon the implement men. Another sees nothing but the evil of high freight rates, as the cause of close times and low prices. A third writer is quite convinced that the high tariff policy of the country is the one factor which brings hard times upon the farmers. Other writers again blame the grain men and the grain handling system as the cause of low prices, and still others throw all the blame upon the high interest rates charged by the money lenders.

Some of these letters are amusingly absurd in their contentions, but a great many of them contain more or less truth. The high tariff is an evil and a tax upon the people of Manitoba, and in a number of important features it should be at once modified; the freight rates are high, and any reduction in the cost of transportation would be gladly welcomed; sales of agricultural implements annually are altogether too large in proportion to the production of the country, though whether the buyer or the seller is the more to blame for this we will leave our readers to judge; interest rates charged by private bankers and loan agents, who advance money on chattel security, are also too high, as a rule. We have learned of some scandalous transactions made by these shylocks. Each writer has his own particular grievance which he wants remedied, and these are grievances more or less acute; but there is something beneath all that, which is the one great evil of this country, and which vastly increases and makes possible some of the other grievances, which are merely the superficial indications of the root of the evil. This is credit.

If credit had not been so free, there would not be nearly as great an annual liability incurred for farm machinery, and the machine man would, therefore, not appear so frequently as the *bete noire* of the farmer. It is reckless buying on credit that often enables the shylock to get in his deadly work—for once in his clutches it takes a great effort to again gain freedom. The future always looks bright, and where credit is so free, there is a great tendency to discount the future. The allurements to get rich by buying on credit, when it is an easy matter to have payment deferred from one to three years, is more than many of our farmers can withstand; and to that cause may be traced the mainspring of all the difficulties of our people.

With all the letters appearing in the papers,

setting forth the various grievances of the farmers, it is pleasing to find one which hits the nail fairly on the head. A letter from a farmer which appeared in the *Free Press* on Tuesday last does this, and we cannot do better than quote from it. The writer says:—

"Much has been written lately regarding the depression among farmers, but no one so far as I have seen has suggested a remedy. I purpose proposing a complete remedy for one cause of the present distress. There are three inducing causes which militate to create the scarcity of money among farmers. I mean three causes which can be controlled, these are, (1) the protective tariff, (2) the high freight rates to the seaboard, (3) the credit system. The first two are not within the complete control of the Manitoba farmer, the third is, and I am of opinion that it is more injurious than the other two combined. Behind all the talk that is indulged in by the farmer in regard to implement men and to those who charge high rates of interest there is really the credit system, and the only way the terrible drain on the finances of the farmer can be stopped is by putting an end to the credit system. The farmer realizes this, but as long as he can get goods on credit he will get them and the result is disastrous. Buying and selling goods on credit is morally indefensible and commercially ruinous. The farmer who does pay for his implements or his other goods has to pay for the implements and goods of the farmer who does not pay; he has to pay the seller a profit on all such sales as well as on his own, and he has to pay for the risk the seller runs in selling on credit. The cash system would draw the fangs of the machine man and every other man who is now regarded by the farmer as a shark. They would be as meek as lambs before the cash paying farmer."

The above is quite refreshing to those who recognize the real source of most of the troubles of our farmers, and in fact our people in general who are not farmers. The writer goes on to enumerate the great sum lost in interest, law costs, etc., and then unfolds his plan of providing a remedy for the credit evil. His plan is simply to do away with the process of collecting by law for amounts under \$250, the idea being that where payment could not be enforced, credit business would not be transacted. He would have notes and chattel claims so hedged as to be made about worthless, and would have lien notes abolished. This remedy for credit business, we may say, is not a new idea. It is one which has a limited number of advocates, who go on the theory that those who give credit should take the full risk themselves, without looking to the assistance of law to secure payment.

THE COMMERCIAL will not comment upon the plan proposed of reducing credit business, but the evil we fully recognize and we further believe that it is altogether unnecessary that so much business should be done on credit. Hear what a farmer (Mr. Bedford of the Manitoba experimental farm) has to say on this latter point: "With fed cattle in the spring, wool, mutton, butter and eggs in summer, and pork and poultry in the early fall, the farmer is always ready to pay cash for supplies, and need not either run an account at the store, or borrow at a high rate of interest." Another reason why the farmer should be able to do less credit business is, that he receives cash for everything he has to sell. The farmer as a business man does exclusively a cash trade, but when it comes to buying, he leads all others in the long credit terms demanded.

LOSSES ON GRAIN SHIPMENTS.

The *Montreal Trade Bulletin*, in its last weekly issue, tells of a shipment of wheat made from Manitoba to that city, which was eaten up by transportation charges. The freight upon the shipment (700 bushels) amounted to \$200, which it was considered by the consignee was the full value of the wheat. The shipper here would therefore get nothing for the grain, in addition to the loss to him of handling the stuff. This shipment, no doubt, consisted of some of the very low grade wheat from the crop of 1891. THE COMMERCIAL has a number of times pointed out the folly of shipping this stuff. If fed at home, this low grade grain could be turned to good account. Considerable of this low grade stuff of 1891 has been shipped out of the country, which has scarcely paid transportation charges. Some has not paid these charges, and a good deal has done a very little better than cover freight. This is a great loss to the country, when it might have been turned to such good account at home. If turned into beef and pork, this grain would have brought the grower from 40 to 75 cents per bushel. At the present high price of pork, it would have paid well if marketed in pork. The loss from the shipment of this grain seems to indicate mismanagement somewhere, when by simply feeding it at home it could have been made to pay a good profit. It may be argued that it takes money to secure stock, and some farmers who had this class of grain may not have had the money to buy stock to feed the grain to. But it can be answered that it costs money to grow grain, and if some of the money required to grow the grain had been put into stock, the situation would have been balanced. At any rate, there is any quantity of beef, and even considerable pork marketed here which is only half fed, while at the same time tons of good fodder have been thrown away by shipping it to a market where it would barely sell for enough to pay transportation charges. The *Montreal* paper advises Manitoba farmers to use this low grade grain for fuel, rather than ship it east. This would be good advice if they could not do better with it. But when it has been proved by actual experiment that it will bring 40 to 75 cents per bushel, used as feed at home, it is a foolish thing to either burn or ship it. It would make very poor fuel and the only advantage in shipping is the profit made by the transportation companies in handling it. Mr. Bedford, of the Manitoba Experimental Farm, says: "After the farmer has spent over two years in building up the frame of a steer, and everything is ready for the feeding, which is the most profitable part of the work, many farmers sell their animals." This is true, and the fact that it is true represents a double loss, first: the loss from selling the steer in a lean or partially fed condition, which latter is the shape in which most cattle are marketed, and secondly, the loss in selling grain which would return a greater profit if fed to stock.

THE IMPLEMENT MEN.

Some exception has been taken to our article which appeared in THE COMMERCIAL of January 16, headed "Farmer vs. Implement Dealer." One point which has been disputed is the

statement that "we do not think that as a rule implement men have been unduly harsh in taking advantage of any security held by them." Upon further investigation we are fully convinced of the truth of this statement, and many farmers can be found who will bear out this testimony. In the first place, the number of cases in which extreme action has been taken to secure the payment of amounts due, is not nearly as great as one would be led to suppose, from the number of complaints which have been made about the implement men on this score. A case is occasionally occurring, where effects have been seized under mortgage, or where judgment has issued, but upon investigation it has been found that these are nearly all in instances where claims have been standing for many years, ranging from three to ten years, and where no effort has been made to reduce the liability. There are perhaps more of these actions taking place at present than usual, owing to the fact that the business of a number of implement companies is being wound up, through the failure or financial difficulties of some companies which formerly did business here, and the selling out of several other companies. The fact that quite a number of these companies are endeavoring to wind up their business, renders the pressure upon slow-pay debtors more severe than usual. But even in these cases greater leniency than might be looked for, is being shown. As regards the companies still doing business, any claims which they are closing may be regarded as in corrigible ones, and the number, as stated, is not great. Owing to times being close, on account of low prices of cereals, and the disposition which this creates to induce people to write to the papers, more is perhaps heard about these cases than usual. There are districts, however, tributary to some important towns in Manitoba, in which not a single claim has been forced to foreclosure by implement men.

The cause of much of the complaint from the country is no doubt due to the fact that the implement men as a rule demand security, upon the failure of a customer to meet notes. When a note becomes due, and the customer claims that he cannot pay it, security is generally demanded. This is not unreasonable. If the customer were to borrow money to pay the note, he would be obliged to give security, and when an implement dealer agrees to defer payment, it is simply equal to giving the customer a loan. It is not unreasonable, therefore, to ask for security. As for the rate of interest, country shylocks who advance money on chattel security, charge higher than the implement men, and the latter, it must be understood, are not in the loan business from choice, but only as an accommodation to their customers.

As regards the price of implements, figures have recently been published in Manitoba papers which show that prices south of the boundary are \$5 to \$10 lower than the price of Canadian binders in Manitoba. The implement men say that the duty which they have to pay upon raw material increases the cost here, as compared with United States machines. Only one thoroughly posted in the manufacture

of implements, would be able to enter into a discussion as to the actual cost of a binder at the factory. THE COMMERCIAL could not undertake to dispute the point with the manufacturer as to the cost of any implement or machine, as the manufacturer is the only one who knows what the cost actually is. Still, as the Canadian machines compete in foreign markets with United States makes, we think the manufacturers who are so fully protected at home, should strain a point to sell their machines here at the same prices as United States dealers sell in that country.

NOXIOUS WEEDS AGAIN.

THE COMMERCIAL has been forwarded a copy of the provincial act providing for the destruction of weeds. This has been sent as a sort of answer to an article which appeared two weeks ago in this paper, calling for more stringent measures to prevent the spread of weeds. The party who forwarded the copy of this act, writes as follows upon the margin: "Don't you think this law is sufficiently stringent? Farmers must take some interest in their own safety. The government can't do everything." In regard to the first query we would say, that if the law is inoperative, its stringency on paper is of no avail. That the law to prevent the spread of noxious weeds is inoperative, THE COMMERCIAL clearly stated in the article of two weeks ago. There is no need to repeat this. Everybody knows it is inoperative in many municipalities, and so long as the matter is left with the local authorities in such municipalities, the law will be a dead letter. Farmers should certainly "take some interest in their own safety;" but the fact remains, that in many municipalities the most complete disregard is paid to the spread of weeds. The municipal authorities do not even cut the weeds upon the public highways, much less take any action to compel the occupants of private lands to cut the weeds. The government cannot of course do everything, but in this vital matter, a supreme effort should be made to frame a law which would not be completely a dead letter in many municipalities.

CUSTOMS REFORMS.

N. Clark Wallace, comptroller of customs, under the new arrangement of the departments at Ottawa, seems to be starting out in the right way. He has made a trip around to the principal cities, with the object of interviewing importers and getting their views upon matters relating to the customs. The troubles and annoyances which importers are constantly being subjected to, through red tape in the customs department, and other peculiar and unbusiness-like features in the administration of customs matter, is known only to those who have been so taught by experience. It is to be hoped that Mr. Wallace will follow up his good start, and reduce customs matters to a more business-like basis. The object should be to facilitate business as much as possible and provide every possible convenience for importers, while at the same time protecting the revenue, as well as the honest importer. Mr. Wallace has promised to do away with red tape, and we would like to see his influence used to reduce or abol-

ish the spoils system, which obtains in this country. The principle of allowing an agent to share in seizures is wrong, and one which has led so many abuses in the past, besides subjecting importers to harsh treatment.

REDUCING CREDIT.

"Our local merchants," says a Carberry paper, "have decided not to give credit in future to farmers who have given chattel mortgages on their stock to secure payment of implements." This is perhaps justified by past experiences, though it seems peculiar that the refusal to give credit should be confined to those who have given chattel mortgages to secure payment "for implements." A party whose property is covered by a mortgage, regardless of what it is given for, would be just as risky as a credit customer, as the one whose mortgage is given for implements. The reducing of credit business, however, in such cases is desirable, regardless of the reason for giving the mortgage.

Old Stock.

Some stores never have any. Their owners have found that it pays to keep clear of unsaleable or unseasonable goods. There is no money to be made in carrying goods from one season to another. Just now the columns of the daily papers are loaded with announcements of reductions in the price of winter goods. Clearing-out sales are the order of the day. The knife goes in regardless of cost, and prices are made that will be certain to draw purchasers. Fortunately, grocers are not so much troubled with goods getting out of style, as are dealers in articles of wear but many do have more or less stock of unseasonable goods.

It frequently happens that when certain articles are in season and selling briskly, the dealer forgets that the demand is limited, and so in the full flush of a brisk trade he orders largely, to find later that the demand has suddenly stopped and he has a liberal quantity of merchandise to carry for six months or a year. That means a loss unless they can be pushed into consumption at a reduced price. Look out that a stock of domestic dried fruits is not on hand when hot weather sets in. Have the canned goods well reduced by the time fresh vegetables and fruits are generally consumed. Avoid an overstock of farinaceous goods in summer. Look out that olive oil, sauces, pickles and other goods liable to injury from heat are not exposed to the direct rays of the sun, nor placed on high shelves subjected to a high temperature. Unsaleable stock is made in that way. Avoid selling goods at any figure, that are so damaged as to be worthless. For instance, yeast cakes. We recall a firm who thought it smart to place a pile of stale yeast cakes on the counter, labeled at half price. They sold quickly, but there went up a hue and cry from their customers, of spoiled batches of bread which made havoc with their flour trade.

In placing new purchases in stock see to it that they are not put in front of stock on hand. It frequently happens that goods on the back of a shelf stay there for months and become unsaleable, through the custom of not bringing the earlier purchase to the front and keeping the latter goods in the rear.

A constant supervision of the cellar, the storeroom, out-of-the-way shelves, underneath counters and out-of-the-way places is imperative if the quantity of unsaleable stock is to be kept at a low point. Interest adds to the cost of slow-selling stock without remorse, as it does to fresh goods. The moral is to keep the stock fresh and moving.—*American Grocer.*

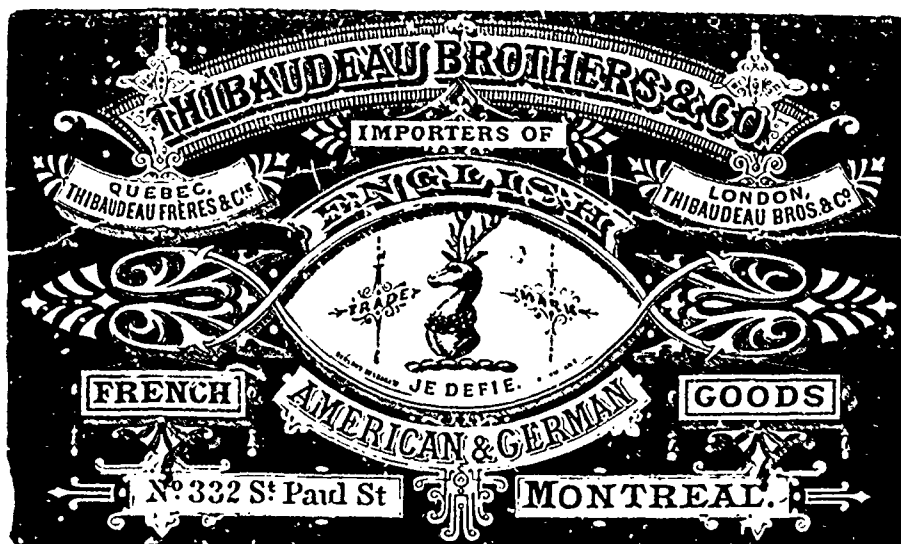
Redwood Brewery

Fine Ales, Extra Porter and Premium Lager.

Most Extensive Establishment of the kind in Western Canada.

ED. L. DREWRY,
PROPRIETOR,
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

Highest cash price paid for good Malting Barley



CAUTION.

EACH PLUG OF THE

Myrtle Navy!

IS MARKED

T. & B.

In Bronze Letters.

None Other Genuine.

W. R. Johnston and Co.

(Late Livingston, Johnston & Co.)

WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS

READY MADE

CLOTHING.

Cor. BAY & FRONT STS, TORONTO.

Samples at McIntyre Block, Winnipeg REPRESENTATIVES: A. W. Lasher & W. W. Armstrong

Those having **WHEAT** to Sell will consult their best interests by consigning it to

WILLIAM GREEN

GRAIN, FLOUR and FEED. Car Lots. 34 Yonge St., Toronto, Ontario. Opposite Board of Trade. I buy large quantities of flour from Ontario millers and have special advantages for selling them **WHEAT ADVANCES MADE ON CONSIGNMENTS.** Specialty of ungraded wheat. Send large samples and quotations.

CORNELL, SPERA & CO.,

— Importers and Manufacturers of —

Men's Furnishings,

Hats and Caps, Small Wares, etc.

Are showing the Largest range of Samples and best values,

FOR SPRING, 1893,

They have ever shown

See our Samples before you place your orders for these goods.

SANFORD BLOCK, PRINCESS ST.
WINNIPEG.

GALT BLEND

BLACK TEA.

½lb, 1lb and 2lb Metal Canisters, packed
48lb in case.

The best article in the market—No grocery stock is
complete without it. Prices mailed on application.

THE TRADE ONLY SUPPLIED.

Perfect Gem Vegetables and Fruits, California Evaporated Fruits,
New Turkish Prunes, hds, bbls and cases, English Malt Vinegar in
quarter casks, West India Molasses, New Cheese

G. F. & J. GALT,
Wholesale Grocers,
WINNIPEG, MAN.

WM. B. HAMILTON, SON & CO.

WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS OF AND DEALERS IN

BOOTS, SHOES AND RUBBERS,
15 and 17 Front St. East, **TORONTO.**

Represented in Manitoba, Northwest Territories and British Columbia by **ALBERT FRENCH.**

NEW CURING!

Sugar-cured Hams, Breakfast Bacon,
Spiced Rolls, Long Clear Barrel Pork
and Pure Lard now ready for ship-
ment.

Try Our Fresh Pork Sausage.

Ship us your DRESSED HOGS,
Poultry, Butter and Eggs.

Highest Market Prices.

ORDERS AND CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED.

J. Y. Griffin & Co.,
PORK PACKERS, WINNIPEG.

HOGS WANTED

Hams, Bacon, Rolls, Long Clear,
Pure Lard, Lard Compound
and Prime

PORK SAUSAGES

W. ALLEN, Pork Packer, Winnipeg.

SAMUEL HOOPER, DEALER IN MONUMENTS, HEAD
Stones, Mantle Pieces, Grates, Etc. Special designs fur-
nished on application. Corner Bannatyne and Albert
Streets, Winnipeg.

THE RATHBUN COMPANY

—MANUFACTURERS OF—

Doors, Sash, Blinds, Newel Posts, etc., etc.

ALSO PORTLAND and HYDRAULIC CEMENTS.

Cor. King and Alexander Sts., Winnipeg.

TELEPHONE 311.

HO! IMPROVED
Compressed Mince Meat.

Put up in neat paper packages and packed (3)
three doz in a case. Price per gross net \$12.
GUARANTEED STRICTLY PURE.

HORSERADISH--Put up in 16 oz. bottles,
2 doz. in a case. Price per doz. \$5. Patronize home in-
dustry.

J. S. Carveth & Co., Winnipeg,
Producers and Packers.

COMMERCIAL JOB DEPT'
Awarded First Prize for Job Printing
Winnipeg Industrial '91 and '92.

James Garruthers & Co.

GRAIN EXPORTERS,

BOARD OF TRADE.

CORN EXCHANGE.

TORONTO, MONTREAL.

C. H. MAHON & CO.

Wholesale Boots and Shoes.
Cauchon Block, - Winnipeg.

WINNIPEG WANTS.

PRODUCE!

We are always open for

BUTTER

EGGS.

AT HIGHEST MARKET VALUE.

Write for full Market Quotations to

PARSONS PRODUCE COMPANY

WINNIPEG, - MAN.

THE CANADA

SUGAR REFINING CO.

(Limited,) MONTREAL.

MANUFACTURERS OF REFINED SUGARS OF THE WELL-
KNOWN BRAND.

Redpath

OF THE HIGHEST QUALITY AND PURITY.
Made by the Latest Processes, and Newest and Best
Machinery, not surpassed anywhere.

LUMP SUGAR,

In 50 and 100 lb. boxes.

"CROWN" Granulated,

Special Brand, the finest which can be made.

EXTRA GRANULATED,

Very Superior Quality.

CREAM SUGARS,

(Not dried).

YELLOW SUGARS,

Of all Grades and Standards.

SYRUPS,

Of all Grades in Barrels and half Barrels

SOLE MAKERS,

Of high class Syrups in Tins, 2 lb. and 8 lb. each.

FURNITURE VARNISH!

EVERY DEALER SHOULD HANDLE

—THE—

"UNICORN,"

Furniture Varnish. It is put up in the handiest tin ever
invented, easily opened and resealed without waste or
loss from evaporation. The tins are handsomely labelled

Put up and sold in cases only. Beautiful show
card in each case.

MANUFACTURED ONLY BY

A. Ramsay & Son, - Montreal

Manitoba.

Hobbs & Reynolds, hotel, Brandon, have dissolved.

F. Stiver & Co., grocers, of Rapid City, has assigned.

Elias Bacon, blacksmith, Cartwright, sold out to A. Sutherland.

Thos. Adair, jewelery, etc., Winnipeg, has given up business.

Braut & Co., liquors, Winnipeg, recently burnt out, have assigned.

The *Gladstone Agr* has been resuscitated. F. Armstrong is the proprietor.

Waugh & Osborne, general and insurance agents, Winnipeg, have dissolved.

Wiso & Dalton, general store, Carberry, have dissolved. A. W. Dalton continues.

W. D. Lambert, furniture and undertaker, Boissovain, admitting H. Bunting as partner.

Pratt & Ferris, livery and feed stable, Portage la Prairie, sold out to Prout & McRobbie.

Bennetto & Co., photographers, Winnipeg, have sold their Portage la Prairie branch to Wm. McIntyre.

J. H. Ashdown, wholesale hardware, Winnipeg, contemplates the erection of a large warehouse next spring.

W. Eadicott, furniture, Pilot Mound, has sold out to Adam Curry. Eadicott will now deal in musical instruments, etc.

The appraisers of the losses by the fire in the dry goods establishment of Preston & Norris have completed their work. They place the total damage at \$4,113.

Mr. Cloutier, grocer, Winnipeg, who was burned out and his entire stock destroyed, as reported last week, has opened out with a new stock at 279 Main street, in the Wesley Hall block.

The Beaubier house, Brandon, was burned down last week. The storm was raging furiously at the time, and it was impossible to successfully fight the flames. The building was a large frame structure, and the flames spread rapidly. The loss will be heavy.

Transactions at the Dominion Government Savings Bank Winnipeg, for the month ending 31 Jan., 1893, were:—

Deposits.....	\$18,896.11
Withdrawals.....	15,366.44

Deposits exceed withdrawals \$ 3,529.67

Following are the inland revenue collections for January, 1893, at the port of Winnipeg:—

Spirits.....	\$14,490 34
Tobacco.....	10,065 63
Malt.....	1,755 84
Petroleum.....	32 40
Liquors.....	449 10
Licenses.....	50 00

Total..... \$26,873 31

Total for January, 1892..... \$25,174 51

Increase January, 1893..... \$ 1,691 30

Two fires occurred in Winnipeg on Monday night last. The first occurred in the large retail dry goods store of Preston & Norris. The fire broke out in the basement, and was subdued without much damage to the building, but the stock suffered severely. Loss covered by insurance. The second fire occurred in the Harris block, occupied by Walsh's clothing store and Braut & Radiger, liquors. The rear part of the building was badly gutted, and both stocks seriously damaged, the clothing stock being nearly destroyed. Losses and insurance are, Walsh's clothing stock valued at \$30,000; insured for \$13,000; Braut & Radiger, \$2000 insurance.

The brick block of two stores and frame storehouse of T. A. Newman & Bro., wholesale grocers, and the frame grocery store of R. J.

Gilliland, Portage la Prairie, were totally destroyed by fire last week. Mrs. T. A. Newman discovered smoke coming from the floor of their dwelling on the second flat of the building, and no sooner was the alarm given than a serious fire was noticed running along the joist of the second flat. The fire brigade were early at the attack, but the blinding snow storm, with a strong wind from the northwest, coupled with the fact that it was most difficult to get water on the flames, rendered futile their efforts; and although they battled with the fiery elements for two hours, it was evident that the whole structure was doomed to destruction. Newman's family escaped without saving anything.

Alberta.

The election of officers for the ensuing year for the Lethbridge Board of Trade has resulted as follows. President, C. F. P. Conybeare; vice-president, M. Freeman; secretary, T. C. West; treasurer, T. D. Kevin; executive committee, N. T. MacLeod, T. Curry, J. D. Higginbotham, L. N. McEwon, W. A. Galliher, J. H. Cavanah, H. Bentley (mayor), C. A. Magrath, M. L. A.

Assiniboia.

W. D. Bailey, shoemaker, Qu'Appelle, burned out.

Morris & Watson, livery, Red Deer, dissolved; Watson continues.

Saskatchewan.

F. Fraser Tims, general store, Fort Saskatchewan, is advertising stock for sale.

Northwest Ontario.

P. Labby & Co., groceries, liquors, &c., Port Arthur, have been closed out under chattel mortgage.

By-laws were carried in Fort William on Wednesday granting \$50,000 bonus to a blast furnace and \$15,000 for school purposes.

At a special meeting of the Rat Portage board of trade two resolutions were passed, one asking for the appointment of a local crown lands agent and the other for the issue without delay of local licenses to fish in the Lake of the Woods.

The committee of the Rat Portage town council have finally shipped the mineral exhibit from that district for the World's Columbian exhibition. Says the *Record*. "The exhibit is an extraordinarily fine one. There are large blocks of ore from the various mines now working. Mr. Fogg's collection comprises a large number of glass jars containing many specimens with nuggets of gold showing in great profusion. It is a thing of wonder and astonishment to all who have seen it, and we believe we are safe in saying there is no other new gold district in Canada that can show anything like it."

Grain and Milling.

A shipment of flour was made on Monday by the Ogilvie Milling company, Winnipeg, to the Royal Agricultural and Commercial Society of British Guiana, South America.

The Minneapolis *Northwest Miller* intimates that the New York produce exchange is secretly opposing the interests of shippers in their effort to secure an improved bill of lading.

375,000 bushels of grain have been delivered by farmers at Pilot Mound, Man., this season, and dealers expect that the quantity will be increased to 400,000 before the winter ends.

Macdonald & Cameron are the proprietors of the new flour mill at Baldur, Man., on the Morris-Brandon branch of the Northern Pacific. The mill has been bonused to the extent of \$3,000.

Stuart and Harper, mill machinery dealers,

Winnipeg, have received the contract for the machinery for the farmers' mill at Portage la Prairie. The cost of the plant will be about \$10,000.

Additional mills have been bought by the North Dakota Milling Association at Casselton, Cavalier and Melton, the combined capacity of which is 400 barrels per day. The association now has 22 mills under control, with a combined capacity of 3,500 bbls. per day.

A deputation from the grain exchange waited on Robert Kerr, of the Canadian Pacific railway, on Thursday, in reference to the free transportation of seed grain. Mr. Kerr promised to recommend to the authorities at Montreal to grant the wishes of the exchange, with some few restrictions as to the grades of grain for seed, etc.

Stuart and Harper, the Winnipeg agents of the North American Mill Co., have received a letter from the head offices that it is the intention of the company to establish a manufacturing branch of the concern in Manitoba during the present year. This company, which manufactures mill and elevator machinery, is one of the largest in Canada, with headquarters at Stratford. Mr. Harper has visited Portage la Prairie and Brandon during the past week, to find a suitable location for the business, and see what inducements these places would offer to have the factory erected in those towns; and returned on Saturday, strongly predisposed in favour of Winnipeg for the proposed enterprise. The branch works will employ about 60 or 70 men the twelve months of the year, and the necessary buildings will cost over \$100,000.

McCoy Clarke, mechanical superintendent of the Ogilvie system of mills, is on his annual trip, looking up new ideas in milling. During his visit to Winnipeg he arranged for a number of improvements in the Ogilvie mill here.

The Galt Road.

An important railway is reported by telegram from Ottawa. It is stated that the Canadian Pacific has acquired the Galt road, 109 miles long, from Danmore to Lethbridge. If this report is true, as it appears to be, it is no doubt the intention to make the Galt road a link in a line of railway through the Crow's Nest pass of the Rocky Mountains. In this case the road would be extended westward from Lethbridge to MacLeod, and continued westward beyond that point, through the mountains, tapping the rich Kootenay mineral territory of British Columbia. The Columbia and Kootenay railway would become a further link in the line.

Ancient Food.

"I have eaten apples that ripened more than 1,800 years ago, bread made from wheat grown before the Children of Israel passed through the Red sea, spread with butter that was made when Elizabeth was Queen of England, and washed down the repast with wine that was old when Columbus was playing barefoot with the boys of Genoa," said a gentleman of a Chicago club the other day. This remarkable "spread" was given by an antiquary named Gorbel, in the city of Brussels, in 1871. "The apples were from a jar taken from the ruins of Pompeii, that buried city to whose people we owe our knowledge of canning fruit. The wheat was taken from a chamber in one of the smaller pyramids, the butter from a stone shelf in an old well in Scotland, where it had lain in an earthenware crock in icy water, and the wine came from an old vault in the city of Corinth. There were six guests at the table, and each had a mouthful of the bread and a teaspoonful of the wine, but was permitted to help himself liberally to the butter, there being several pounds of it. The apple jar held about two-thirds of a gallon, and the fruit was as sweet and the flavor as fine as though put up yesterday."

Montreal Markets.

Flour—Despite the reported advance in prices, sales of straight roller flour have been made at \$3.50 to 3.55 here on track, although some dealers say their principals in the West will not sell under \$3.60 laid down here. Prices are very irregular owing to the ideas of different millers; still those who offer at the lowest prices are getting the business. On the whole, however, a firm feeling pervades the market, and the majority of the holders are stiff in their views, believing in higher prices later on. Buyers, however, are not as anxious as they were to anticipate their wants, believing that prices are not going to run up in a hurry. There is some export enquiry for low grades, but at the cable limits offered there is said to be no money in filling these export orders. Newfoundland agents here say they cannot work any new business in Ontario straight rollers, for the reason that United States straight rollers can be bought at lower rates. Sales have been made of City strong bakers in good sized lots at \$4.15. Prices are quoted as follows: Patent, spring, \$4.25 to \$4.35; patent, winter, \$4.10 to 4.25; straight roller, \$3.60 to 3.75; extra, \$3.10 to 3.25; superfine, \$2.70 to 2.90; fine, \$2.35 to 2.50; city strong bakers, \$4 to 4.15; Manitoba bakers, \$3.50 to 4.10; Ontario bags—extra, \$1.40 to 1.50; straight rollers, \$1.80 to 2.00; superfine, \$1.30 to \$1.45; fine, \$1.10 to 1.20.

Oatmeal—The market is quiet but steady; although prices are a little irregular, but this, dealers say, is owing to the different views of western millers. For instance, we are told that car lots of rolled oats have been offered and sold at \$3.80 on track here, which are fully equal to those of other mills which ask \$3.55 for car lots. One dealer states that he has been offered rolled oats at a shade under \$3.80. We quote prices here in jobbing lots as follows:—Rolled and granulated \$3.95 to \$4.05; Standard \$3.80 to 3.95. In bags, granulated \$1.95 to 2.00; and standard \$1.85 to 1.90.

Mill Feed—The market is quiet and steady at \$13.00 to 13.50, shorts at \$14.50 to 15.00, and moultrie \$19 to 23 as to grade.

Wheat—Here the market is quiet and prices are more or less nominal. No. 2 hard Manitoba has been offered for May delivery afloat at 85c; but buyers say they cannot pay anything near that price. Holders ask 77c, Port Arthur f.o.b. May; and buyers bid 72c to 73c. West of Toronto red and white winter can be bought at 66c, but shippers say they cannot pay that price for export.

Oats—Sales of mixed oats have been made at 32c to 33c; No. 2 white have changed hands at 33c. Sales have been made at 29c west of Toronto for export.

Barley—Barley continues a cheap article—too cheap in fact for the farmer. Malting barley is quoted here at 48 to 56c, and feed at 38 to 41c.

Cured Meats—The market for hog products is very strong all round, with an upward tendency in prices. Canada short cut mess pork has sold at \$22, and we quote \$21.50 to 22.50. The lard market is also very firm, with sales of compound at \$1.95 to 2.05, and a good sized lot is said to have changed hands at \$2.02 1/2 per pail of 20 lbs. Pure lard has been placed at \$2.30 to 2.50 as to lot. There is a good demand for smoked meats which are firm and advancing, sales of small selected hams being reported at 13 1/2 to 14c, and large do at 12 1/2 to 13c; breakfast bacon is scarce, and sales have transpired at 12 to 11c as to lot.

Dressed Hogs—The market has ruled firm, late sales of car lots having been made at \$8.90 to 9.00, but owing to continued scarcity in the West, holders at some points are asking equal to \$9.25 and 9.30 laid down here. We quote the market to-day \$8.90 to 9 in car lots; but as we go to press the edge of the market

seems to be a little off as holders cannot get a bid.

Butter—Exception has been taken to our remark of last week, to the effect that the United States market had taken a few lots of creamery, it being contended that the New York and Boston markets are not high enough to warrant shipments thither. A fair business is being done in creamery, in a jobbing way for local wants, but the demand is by no means large. Prices, however, are firm, with a few jobbing lots of creamery reported at 22 1/2 to 23c, but dealers say it is difficult to move round lots, now that the English demand has fallen off. Of course, single tubs of fancy selected would bring more money. A lot of eastern townships of good quality was sold at 20 1/2c, comprising about 30 tubs. Western dairy is in limited supply and a few jobbing lots have changed hands at 18 1/2 to 19c. We quote: Creamery choice fall, 22 to 23c; creamery, good to fine, 21 to 22c; eastern townships dairy, choice fall, 21 to 22c; eastern townships dairy, good, 20c; Morrisburg and Brockville, 20 to 22c; Western, 18 to 20c. About 1 to 2c may be added to above prices for choice selections of single tubs. There is a good demand for rolls, and as the supply is limited, receipts are absorbed pretty freely, sales being reported of Western at 18 to 19c, 10 tubs and 12 cases being reported at 18 and 18 1/2c. A lot of broken rolls and mottled but of sweet flavor selling at 17c. Morrisburg in baskets have been placed at 19 to 20c, the latter price being received for a lot of very prime prints. **Cheese**—The market is very firm and prices are gradually hardening, finest Western white being unobtainable at under 12c. Finest Western colored has sold at 11 1/2 to 11 3/4c. Considerable cheese has left this city recently, and it is now estimated that stocks here are not more than 10,000 or 12,000 boxes.

Eggs—Between the English and American demand of late, stocks of both limed and fresh have become quite limited. Sales of Montreal limed have been made at 22 to 23c, and Western limed, which are more in request, have changed hands at 20 to 21c. Held fresh are in slow demand, with a few sales at 22 to 24c. Good boiling stock has sold at 30c and upward.

Hides—Supplies of hides continue very limited, and all offerings are immediately absorbed at firm prices. A car load of No. 1 was sold at 5 1/2c for Quebec account, a few selected lots bringing 4c more. Dealers are paying 5c for No. 1. Steer hides are selling at 7c to tanners. Chicago packers' steers are quoted in car lots at 8c to 8 1/2c on track here. We quote:—Nos. 1, 2 and 3 at 5 1/2c, 4 1/2c, and 3 1/2c respectively to tanners, dealers paying 5c, 4c, and 3c. Calf-skins 6c to 7c, and lambskins 5 1/2c to \$1.00.

Pickled Fish—Lent will set in about the middle of next month, and dealers are beginning to look around for their supplies of fish. Green cod is firm, No. 1 selling at \$5.75 to \$6, and large is firmly held at \$7.00 to \$7.25. Dry cod is unchanged at \$1.50 to \$5.00. Labrador herring are quiet, and prices range from \$5.20 to \$5.25. Canso and Cap's are quoted at \$1.50 to \$4.75.

Smoked Fish—Yarmouth bleaters \$1.25 per box of 60; smoked herring 12c per box; boneless cod fish 5 1/2c to 7c, and fish 8 1/2c to 4 1/2c.—*Trade Bulletin*, Jan. 27.

Montreal Grocery Market.

There is no change in the sugar market, but with the raw sugar market firm, refiners will not book ahead very largely, as they hold that prices will advance. A fair movement is in progress, however, for near by delivery, at 4 1/2c for granulated and 3 1/2 to 3 3/4c for yellows.

Syrups are quiet, and there have been offerings of American goods at somewhat lower prices, but the quality is not exceptional. We quote domestic at 1 1/2 to 2 1/2c.

Stocks of Barbadoes molasses are in very small compass, and, with a good demand, they

are firmly held. No round lot would be parted with except for a very substantial consideration, as the regular consumptive demand between now and the spring is considered to be more than sufficient to absorb what supplies there are here. We quote prices firm in 25-barrel lots at 34c, and some predict an appreciation on this price in the near future.

There is a fair demand reported for low grade Japan teas, but stocks here are small and the volume of trade is small, not more than 500 packages changing hands during the week. The market is firm for all grades.

The rice market is quiet, business being purely of a local character, at unchanged prices. We quote standard \$3.55, choice \$4.25, and higher grades \$5 to 7.

The coffee market is kept well cleaned up and prices are firm as follows:—Jamaica, 18 1/2 to 20c. Maracaibo, 18 1/2 to 20c; Rio, 18 1/2 to 20c; Java, 25 to 27c; and Mocha, 25 to 30c.

There has been very little doing in dried fruit, but despite the free offerings of cheap trashy stock values of really good to prime Valencia raisins are steady. The former would no doubt be parted with for almost anything, and very low figures, in fact under 4c, have been named, but from the reception it is getting it looks as though the unlucky importers who were tempted by its ridiculously low value will not get out of their holdings at cost but have to take a loss. No sales of round lots of prime are to note, but we quote 4 1/2 to 5c for prime, and 4c for seconds.

A new York broker was on the market during the week trying to dispose of a line of stock now held in bond at that port, and it is understood offered it as low as 2 1/2c in bond there or a little better than 4c here, but was not successful in effecting a sale. This is suspected to be the same lot which was offered to a leading operator some time ago at a very tempting figure, but when he asked for samples none came along. He was informed subsequently that it had been taken on spec. by New York parties, and if this is correct he considers it queer that it should have gone a-begging so long under the market conditions that have ruled in New York.

Currants are quiet and mostly in the hands of one firm here. Sales have been reported at 5 to 5 1/2c as to quality.

Toronto Board of Trade.

Following are the new officers of the board: President—D. R. Wilkie (acclamation). First vice-president—Hugh Blain (acclamation).

Second vice-president—S. F. McKinnon.

Treasurer—J. J. Spink (acclamation).

Council—William Christie, John I. Davidson, W. R. Brock, D. W. Alexander, H. N. Baird, W. D. Matthews, G. M. Bosworth, Arthur White, Michael McLaughlin, George H. Bertram, A. A. Allan, Warring Kennedy, William Ince, Robert Jaffray, Barlow Cumberland.

Representatives on Harbor Commission—W. A. Geddes, J. T. Matthews.

Board of Arbitration—William Galbraith, J. H. G. Hagarty, J. D. Laidlaw, Thomas Flynn, R. J. Stark, R. S. Baird, R. C. Steele, John Earl, M. F. Brown, J. H. Sproule, Charles Pearson, S. Crane.

Representatives on Industrial Exhibition—James Carruthers, M. F. Brown, W. B. Hamilton.

Montreal Corn Exchange.

The annual meeting of the Montreal corn exchange was held on Wednesday last, when the following officers were elected: President, D. A. McPherson; treasurer, David Robertson; committee of management, John Baird, A. J. Brice, M. A. Hastings, A. G. Thomson, E. F. Craig and A. Peddie; board of review, G. M. Kinghorn (chairman), T. A. Crane, John Dillon, C. H. Gould, J. O. Lafreniere and Stewart Munn.

Ten years ago W. J. Shaw, wholesale grocer, of Toronto, now residing at Brantford, stored with a firm \$1,400 worth of silver plate and other goods. On withdrawing his property Shaw claimed that a plate had not been returned and brought suit for its value but lost, the firm's contention that it had been returned being sustained. In moving to other premises on Friday the plate was discovered by the firm and was restored to Shaw yesterday.

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MONTREAL.



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GRAIN and FEED.

MILLS:

	DAILY CAPACITY		DAILY CAPACITY
ROYAL—Montreal	1800 Barrels	POINT DOUGLAS—Winnipeg	1000 Barrels
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"EXTRA"
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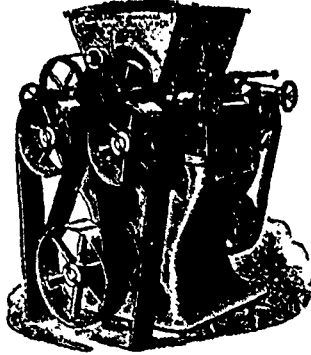
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WINNIPEG MARKETS.

[All quotations, unless otherwise specified, are wholesale for such quantities as are usually taken by retail dealers, and are subject to the usual reduction or large quantities and to cash discounts.]

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, February 4,

Business has been about prostrated by the severe weather which has prevailed all the week, and it is fortunate that this came at a dull season. Coming when it did, it has made little difference, as there has not been much pressing to handle traffic. Railway freight traffic was practically at a standstill on some days, and even passenger trains were with difficulty kept moving. However, as the grain movement is light, and what is moving is only going forward into store, a few days' delay of cars in transit will make little difference to dealers. To-day (Feb 4) is a heavy settling day in the dry goods and kindred trades, but we cannot say yet what the result will be.

DRIED FRUITS.—We quote: Dried apples 6 to 6½c; evaporated, 8½ to 9c; figs, layers, 10 to 15c; dates, 6½ to 9c. Valencia raisins, \$1.75 to \$1.85; London layers, \$2.75 to \$2.90 box; Sultanas 9½ to 10c lb. Currants, 6½ to 7c; prunes, 7 to 9c. Evaporated fruits are quoted: Apricots, 19 to 20c; peeled peaches, 17½ to 18c; unpeeled peaches, 12 to 12½c; pitted plums, 11 to 11½c; cherries, 13 to 13½c; pears, 12½ to 13c.

FISH.—The market is fairly well supplied with fresh fish. Prices for fresh fish are: Jackfish, 3c; pickerel, 4c; whitefish 5 to 6c; trout, 9c; Cod 8c; haddock, 8c; halibut, 15c; B.C. salmon, 16c; tommy cods, 8c; herring, 40c dozen; smelts, 12½c. Cured fish are quoted: smoked herrings, 20 to 25c box; smoked haddies 8c; Yarmouth bloomers \$1.60 per box; Labrador herring, \$1.50 to \$1.75 per half barrel; boneless cod fish 7½ to 8c pound; boneless fish, 6c lb; salmon, 10c lb; oysters \$2 per gallon for standards and \$2.25 for select; can oysters 50c each for standards and 55c select.

GREEN FRUITS.—Trade is quiet on account of cold weather. Apples hold at steady prices, fancy stock, selected varieties, selling at \$4 per barrel, and other varieties \$3.25 to \$3.75 as to quality. Florida oranges of good quality held at \$5.00 to \$5.50 and up to \$6.00 per box for desirable sizes. Lemons, now Messina, good, at \$6.50 to \$7; Malaga grapes, \$9 to \$10.50 per keg as to size of package; cranberries, \$10.00 per barrel; California winter pears \$1.50 per box; Apple cider, 35c per gal.

NUTS.—Prices range as follows: Almonds per pound, 16 to 18c; walnuts, per pound, 12 to 17c; pecans, 15c to 16c; filberts, 11 to 14c; Brazils 10 to 13c; peanuts, 14 to 15c; chestnuts, 14 to 15c; coconuts, \$9 to \$10 per 100.

SUGARS.—Sugars are quoted in the Winnipeg market: Yellow at 4½ to 4¾c; granulated at 5½ to 5¾c, the inside price is for barrels, and ¾c higher for bags. Lumps, 6c; icing, 6½ to 7c; sugar syrups, 2½ to 3¾c; maple sugar, 9 to 12c a lb.

GENERAL WHEAT SITUATION.—There has been no further change in the wheat situation of any importance. Prices have continued to rule at the same low range of values, and there has been little variation in prices either to advance or decline. On Monday there was very little change in United States markets, though some points were a little lower. The visible supply at statement on Monday showed a decrease for the first time on this crop, the decrease being 740,000 bushels, but this decline in the visible is owing to the damaging of 1,000,000 bushels of wheat by fire at St. Louis, rendering it unfit for milling. Were it not for the deduction of this 1,000,000 bushels from the visible, the statement would have still shown an increase. The total visible is now 81,437,000 bushels, as compared with 83,117,000 bushels a year ago. Cables were lower all around. On Tuesday United States markets were still

not materially changed, closing prices being about the same as on Monday. Cables were lower, both British and continental. The anti option bill before the senate created some uneasiness in United States Markets; but it is not likely that the bill, if passed, will have as much influence on the markets as many imagined it will. Wheat and flour on ocean passage exhibited a decrease equal to 610,000 bushels, as per the regular weekly statement. On Wednesday wheat was higher, owing to the severe weather, which it was believed would injure the winter wheat crop. The passage of the anti option bill by the senate to day had little influence upon the markets. Chicago was the strongest point, wheat advancing there, under the reported influence of a bull syndicate of New York parties. On Thursday wheat was very dull in United States markets and lower all around, but without important influences to change prices. On Friday prices were irregular and unsettled. The prospect of the anti-option bill passing the house at Washington was the general topic of discussion. Prices closed firmer, owing to the prevalence of extremely cold weather in winter wheat regions.

Local wheat. Severe weather which ruled all the week has greatly reduced the movement of wheat from farmers' hands and by rail. The weather has been excessively cold and stormy, blocking country roads delaying railway traffic, and preventing the movement of grain. However, there is no push to do business, and as matters have been of late, it makes little difference. There has been exceedingly little wheat selling for some time, and those who are buying wheat from farmers in country markets are simply letting it go into store. Shipments eastward, beyond what is going to Fort William for storage, have been exceedingly light for some time back. What has been marketed by farmers has been largely taken by millers. With light shipments stocks have been steadily increasing, and now aggregate well up to 6,000,000 bushels, including wheat in store at Lake Superior and interior points. On Jan. 29, there were 2,718,339 bushels of wheat in store at Fort William, this being an increase of 11,695 for the week. This small increase, however, was said to be owing to a break in the elevator machinery, which prevented the unloading of cars, consequently there were a large number of loaded cars on track. A large number of cars of wheat have also been gathered at Winnipeg, awaiting to be moved eastward for storage. Two of the elevators at Fort William were full and the break in machinery prevented discharging into the third elevator, though it is said that all the elevator space at the port is now full at any rate, cars now on track at Fort William and points west, destined for that place, will about fill up all available space there. The assumed capacity of the three Fort William elevators, including also the smaller one at Port Arthur, is about 4,000,000 bushels, but the actual capacity is considerably less. The outlook now begins to look serious for storage, should there be any considerable quantity of wheat to come out. There is considerable space in country elevators yet at some points, but it may not be where it is most needed. Prices in Manitoba markets have not materially changed, prices to farmers ranging from 50 to 54 cents per bushel for choice hard wheats, equal to No. 2 hard and better.

Flour.—There is no change yet to note. Prices here are quoted at follows to the local trade in small lots per 100 pounds; Patents \$1.95; strong bakers' \$1.75; XXXX 75 to 90c; superfine 60 to 70c. Brands of some mills sell at 5 to 10c under these prices, even in small lots. Round lots at a discount under quotations.

MILLSTUFFS.—Somewhat firmer feeling in bran. We quote bran selling to local dealers at \$8 to \$9 per ton, as to quantity, and shorts \$10 to \$11 per ton.

OATS.—The blocking of country roads has made a temporary scarcity of oats in the city, and prices have advanced, 25c per bushel of 34

pounds having been paid for offerings on the market, which were exceedingly limited. Prices have also been a little firmer in the country. The shipping value, however, is not materially changed, though prices were a little firmer east at last report.

Barley.—No business reported and prices nominal in the market at 20 to 25c per bushel of 43 pounds, for local use in Winnipeg. Shipping value about the same as oats.

GROUND FEED.—There is the usual wide range in prices according to quality. Clear oat and barley feed bring \$12 to 14 per ton, as to quantity and quality. Mixed mill feed at \$9 per ton upward.

MEALS, ETC.—Rolled and granulated oatmeal held at \$1.80 to 1.90 per sack, according to brand, and standard meal 5c lower, these being prices to retail traders. Cornmeal \$1.65 to 1.70 per 100 lbs. Split peas \$2.60 to 2.65 per 100 lbs. Beans, \$1.75 to 1.90 per bushel. Pot barley, \$2.50 per 100 lbs. Pearl barley, \$1.00.

CURED MEATS.—Prices remain strong, at recent advances. Local prices are: Dry salt long clear, bacon, 10½ to 11c; smoked long clear, 12½ to 12¾c; spiced rolls, 11½ to 11¾c; breakfast bacon, 14½ to 14¾c; smoked hams, 13 to 13½c; mess pork, \$20 to 21 per barrel. Sausage quoted: Pork sausage, 8c; bologna sausage, 9c; German sausage, 9c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 9c per half lb pack.

LARD.—Compound held at \$2.00 to 2.10 per cask. Pure at \$2.40 to \$2.50 per 20 pound cask. In tins, 12½ to 13c per pound.

DRESSED MEATS.—Dressed hogs continue to show strength. We have heard of some sales at a shade over 8c per lb, and quote 7 to 8c as the general range, as to quality. Eastern frozen mutton is offering freely, further car lots having arrived, and jobbing at 7 to 8c per lb, being laid down here at a cost of 6 to 6½c, in car lots. Beef steady at 5 to 5½c for city dressed.

POULTRY.—Dall. Some stocks of frozen birds are held, but are in few hands and hold firm. It is said that 1½c was asked by one holder of turkeys. No new country lots are offering. Quoted at 9 to 10c for chickens; ducks, 10 to 11c; geese, 10 to 11c; turkeys, 10 to 12½c.

BUTTER.—Market very slow at prices of last week. We quote round lots of good to choice dairy at 15 to 16c. A selected lot might bring up to 17, and straight No. 1 at 18c. Add 1 to 2c per pound for small lots, dealers' selling prices.

CHEESE.—Jobbing at 10 to 11c per lb. Eggs—Single cases quoted at 29c per dozen, larger lots 18 to 20c as to quality. Fresh not quotable.

VEGETABLES.—Following are prices at which dealers buy on the street market: Potatoes 35 to 40c per bushel; turnips 25c bushel; cabbage 40 to 75c dozen; celery 30 to 50c dozen. Onions 2 to 2½c per lb. Carrots 30 to 40c a bushel; beets, 30 to 40c bushel; parsnips, 1½ to 2c lb. Spanish onions, \$1.50 per crate.

HIDES AND TALLOW.—Country frozen hides bring 3 to 3½c, unskipped as they run. The tendency is easier on frozen prices. We quote: No 1 cows, 3½c; No 2, 2½c; No. 1 heavy steers, 5c; No. 2 steers, 4c; No. 3, 2c lb. Real veal 8 to 13 lb skins, 4 to 5c per pound, or about 40c per skin. Kids about same as hides. Sheep and lamb skins 60 to 75c each for recent take-off. Tallow, 4½c rendered; 2½c rough.

WOOL.—Prices range from 9 to 10c for unwashed Manitoba fleece, as to quality.

HAY.—Prices are temporarily deranged and higher on account of the storms.

Davin has given notice of a bill to amend the customs act. The object is to secure the entire home market for Manitoba or territorial wheat, by preventing eastern millers from grinding United States wheat in bond. At present wheat can be brought in from the States and ground in bond, and the flour exported pays no duty. The bill repeals these clauses.

Chicago Board of Trade Prices.

[Quotations below are per bushel for regular No. 2 wheat, which grade serves as a basis for speculative business. Corn and oats are per bushel for No. 2 grade; mess pork quoted per barrel, lard and short ribs per 100 pounds.]

Wheat was firmer on Monday, opening 3/4 higher and advancing slightly. Later there was a decline of about 1/4, and the close was a shade lower than Saturday, except for January delivery, which was 1/4 higher. Corn, oats and provisions were all moderately higher. Closing prices were:—

	Jan.	Feb.	May.
Wheat	72 1/2	—	77
Corn	44	44 1/2	48 1/2
Oats	31 1/2	31 1/2	35
Pork	—	10 8 1/2	20 1/2
Lard	11 7/8	—	11 7/8
Ribs	10 4 1/2	—	10 4 1/2

On Tuesday wheat opened easier, then advanced 3/4, then declined 1/4 and closed about the same as Monday. Other commodities were lower. Closing prices were:—

	Jan.	Feb.	May.
Wheat	72 1/2	—	77
Corn	44 1/2	44	47 1/2
Oats	31 1/2	31 1/2	34 1/2
Pork	—	10 1/2	10 8 1/2
Lard	11 00	—	11 00
Short Ribs	—	10 1 1/2	10 20

On Wednesday cold weather and the report that a strong New York syndicate were operating on the bull side, had the effect of advancing prices. Closing prices were:—

	Feb.	May.	July.
Wheat	74	78 1/2	77 1/2
Corn	44 1/2	48	47 1/2
Oats	31 1/2	34 1/2	34 1/2-35
Pork	10 26	10 00	—
Lard	—	11 1/8	11 45
Short Ribs	10 10	—	10 1 1/2

On Thursday the market was very quiet and lower all around for about all commodities. The anti-option bill unsettles business. Closing prices were:—

	Feb.	May.	July.
Wheat	73 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2
Corn	44	47 1/2	47 1/2
Oats	31	34 1/2	—
Pork	—	10 25	—
Lard	—	11 00	11 0 1/2
Short Ribs	—	10 00	—

On Friday wheat was rather irregular, owing to the uncertain outcome of the anti option bill, which has passed the Senate, but has to be concurred in by the house. Toward the close prices were stronger, on the cold weather reports. Closing prices were:—

	Feb.	May.	July.
Wheat	74	77 1/2-78	77 1/2
Corn	44	47 1/2	47 1/2
Oats	31	34 1/2	—
Pork	—	10 70	—
Lard	—	11 70	11 4 1/2
Short Ribs	—	10 25	—

On Saturday May wheat opened at 77 1/2c, advanced and closed at 78 1/2c.

Minneapolis Markets.

Following were closing wheat quotations on Feb 2:—

Grades,	Jan.	May.	July	On tr'k
No. 1 hard.....	—	70 1/2	73	60 1/2
No. 1 northern.....	68	—	—	68
No. 2 northern.....	—	—	—	65 to 60

Flour—The demand was not especially active, but if the rise continues, it promises increased buying orders for the late natural consumption which would decrease stocks in the hand of retailers and larger dealers. It would likely enable more millers to reach foreign buyers with their productions. Quoted at \$3 65 to 3 95 for first patents; \$3.45 to 3 60 for second patents; \$2.50 to 2 45 for fancy and export bakers; \$1.15 to 1.40 for low grades, in bags, including red dog.

Bran and Shorts—Bran sold steadily at about \$11 in bulk this morning, and shorts at \$12. In a few cases there was a slight variation due to special causes. Buyers in some instances complained that prices were held above their ability to pay and ship. Still the price was quite well established. Fine shorts were held up to \$12.50 to 13 in bulk. Sacked shorts and bran were \$1.25 above bulk.

Oats—Oats were generally steady in values at all principal market places. Comparative receipts are as large as could be expected with the late storm. No. 3 white sold at 32c.

Barley—Barley continues to move pretty well at the prices. These are low, but they are higher than they were at one time on this crop, especially the medium grades, that bring from 35 to 40c. The inquiry is rather quiet with enough of it to take fair stock at 35 to 45c, according to quality.

Feed—Millers held at \$15.75 to 16.50; less than car lots \$16 to 17 with cornmeal at \$15 to 15.25; granulated meal \$20.—Market Record, February 1.

Wheat at Duluth,

This market ruled exceedingly dull to-day with buyers and sellers apart, with no disposition to force sales or let down on prices. The market closed very dull at a decline of 3/4 on cash wheats and an 1/4 off for May, as follows: Cash No. 1 hard closed nominally 3/4 lower for the day at 64 1/2c. Cash No. 1 northern dull, firmly held, 60c was freely bid for track wheat to arrive. Regular grade closed dull, nominally 3/4 lower at 67 1/2c. Cash No. 2 northern closed dull, nominally 3/4 lower at 61 1/2c. Cash No. 3 wheat closed nominally 3/4 off at 56 1/2c. Rejected wheat closed 3/4 down at 50 1/2c. May No. 1 hard closed firm and unchanged at 75c bid. May No. 1 Northern closed firm, nominally 3/4 off for the day at 72 1/2c bid, July wheats firm with buyers at 2 1/2c premium over May. No. 1 hard closed at 77c bid. No. 1 northern at 74 1/2c bid.—Market Report, Feb. 2.

Duluth Wheat Market.

No. 1 Northern wheat at Duluth closed as follows on each day of the week:

Monday—Cash, 66; May, 72.
Tuesday—Cash, 67c; May, 72c.
Wednesday—Cash, 67c; May, 72c.
Thursday—Cash 67 1/2c; May 72 1/2c.
Friday—Cash 67 1/2c; May 72c.
Saturday—Cash 67 1/2c; May 72 1/2c

A week ago cash wheat closed at 67 1/2c, and May delivery at 72 1/2c. A year ago February wheat closed at 81 1/2c, and May at 89 1/2c.

Winnipeg Wheat Inspection.

Below is shown the number of cars of wheat inspected at Winnipeg for five weeks:

Grade.	Dec. 31.	Jan. 7.	Jan. 14.	Jan. 21.	Jan. 28.
Extra Manitoba					
hard.....	0	1	1	1	0
No. 1 hard	25	12	31	20	18
No. 2 hard	10	04	108	73	82
No. 3 hard	41	23	30	21	32
No. 1 Northern	7	0	2	3	4
No. 2 Northern	1	2	3	1	2
No. 3 Northern	0	0	0	1	6
No. 1 White Eye	1	2	1	1	1
No. 2 White Eye	0	0	3	0	0
No. 1 Spring	4	1	0	1	1
No. 1 Frosted	16	7	12	9	9
No. 2 Frosted	7	5	2	3	10
No. 3 Frosted	0	0	0	0	1
Rejected	22	17	15	15	21
No Grade	10	13	8	24	11
Feed Wheat	0	0	0	0	0
Total	254	163	225	173	193
Same week last year	630	491	513	403	542

British Grain Trade.

The *Mark Lane Express* of Jan. 30 in its weekly review of the British grain trade says: English wheat in London has advanced 9d per qr. The sales have fallen off. The rise is assigned exclusively to the quality. Foreign wheat is weak. At Liverpool 1d per cwt less is accepted both for California and American red winter. Australian now wheat will be shipped this season on a guarantee of 500 lbs weight. The home deliveries of wheat and flour for the week amounted to 150,000 qrs. Russian is said to have 1,000,000 qrs of maize which will be for sale when the spring shipments are resumed.

Be Prompt.

"Do it to-day," says a writer in the *Merchant Sentinel*. "Meet the day's demands with promptness, regardless of their seeming insignificance, for there is no better way to place your name between the lips of undesirable business gossips than by showing this lack of promptness in small matters. This does not alone apply to the strictly financial part of your work. There are thousands of opportunities which present themselves, where it is possible for the business man to take advantage of the 'stitch in time saves nine' axiom. The 'stitch' is but an insignificant factor in the make up of the long, binding seam, but the neglect of the one broken thread, and procrastination's prevention of its prompt repair, is the ruination of the entire garment. So we find men in their business transactions constantly 'putting off' that which should be done to-day, until an accumulation of the little neglected details form an aggregate with a crushing weight, when the time comes that circumstances give the mandatory command. It must be done! How often do we hear the merchant who is his own book-keeper lamenting an unpardonable negligence in himself—in the matter of keeping his accounts entered up to date and his books in a condition of intelligent management. A negligence which he would not tolerate in any one in his employ. So easy is it to thoughtlessly 'put off' that which does not make a peremptory demand upon our time, that we are liable to fall into the habit of being behind the details. Better, by far, be ahead of time than constantly lagging. Do everything as it presents itself, for just as sure as you 'put off' until to-morrow, your time will be fully filled by the duty of the day, and you have lost the only opportunity of life open to the neglected work."

Boot and Shoe Trade in Newfoundland.

"Twenty years ago for instance, and even fifteen years ago, there were nearly, if not quite, twenty boot and shoe agents visiting St. John's semi-annually," says the *St. John's Trade Review*, "soliciting orders for factories in Canada and the United States, all doing enough business to induce them to continue in the trade. In addition to these, Messrs. Stacy and Messrs. Ely kept the market supplied with English boots and shoes. Then the local boot and shoe factory was started to try to capture some of the local trade. A. B. Morse was its first manager, but somehow he could not pull with the shareholders in the business, and he left. At that time, Charles H. Thompson was traveling for a Canadian boot and shoe firm, and he was induced to take charge of the factory. From the time of his entering, the business bounced, and its present success is largely due to his management. The Canadian and American boot and shoe men became less in number every year, till at present the veteran Joseph E. Hamilton, who represents Taylor Bros., of Halifax, is about the only Canadian boot and shoe man on the road."

The division of the general freight and passenger department of the Pacific division of the C. P. R. into two heads, one freight and the other passenger, has been confirmed. Wm. Brown, brother of D. E. Brown, 1st district freight and passenger agent, takes the freight department and G. M. S. Brown, recently local agent at Vancouver, takes the passenger department.

George Crabassa, manager of the Molsons Bank branch at St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, leaves for Winnipeg to become manager of the branch being opened in this city by the Banque Nationale. He will also be superintendent of a few branches which the Banque Nationale may open in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories.

Winnipeg Wholesale Prices Current.

PAINTS, OILS AND GLASS.		WOOD.		DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.		METALS AND HARDWARE.		IRON AND STEEL.	
White Lead, pure, ground in oil, Association guarantee, in 25 lb tins and 100 and 200 lb kegs.....	90.40 to 7.00	Mixed tamarac, or oak, per cord.....	\$1.00 to 4.00	Alum, per lb.....	.03 to .04	Tin, Lamb and Flag, 66 and 24 lb ingots, per lb.....	.20 to .28	Common Iron, per 100 lbs.....	\$3.00 to \$3.25
White Lead, No. 1, per 100 lbs.....	0.10 to 0.80	Poplar, per cord.....	\$2.50 to 3.25	Alcohol, per gal.....	4.75	Strip.....	.28 to .30	Band.....	3.50 to 3.75
" " No. 2.....	5.50 to 0.00	Prickly ash, per cord.....	1.00 to 1.50	Bleaching powder, per lb.....	.04 to .08	Tin Plates—Charcoal Plates, Bright.....	Per box.	Howard's quinine.....	20 to .25
" " assorted, 1 to 5 lb tins, per pound.....	1.00	Coal, Pennsylvania Anthracite, per ton.....	\$10.50	Blue vitrol.....	.06 to .10	Bradley M. L. S.....	Per box.	Sleigh Shoe Steel.....	3.75 to 4.50
PREPARED PAINTS, pure liquid color, per gallon.....	1.25 to 1.4	Pennsylvania, soft.....	8.00	Borax.....	.11 to .13	I. C., usual sizes.....	\$7.50 to \$7.75	Best Cast Steel, per lb.....	.13 to .15
" " second quality.....	1.10 to 1.20	Lethbridge coal.....	7.50	Formic acid.....	.44 to .65	I. X., ".....	8.25 to 8.50	Russian Sheet.....	.12 to .13
DRY COLORS, white lead, per lb.....	8	The above are retail prices for coal delivered; price at yard 50c less. The retail price for Estevan or Souris coal at present is \$5 or \$4 on track in car lots.		Camphor.....	.75 to .85	Rayen and P. D. Grades— I. C., usual sizes.....	5.75 to 6.00	Boiler Tubes—40 per cent. off list.	
Red lead, per pound.....	7			Castor oil.....	.11 to .15	I. X., ".....	7.00 to 7.50		
Yellow ochre, per lb.....	3			Chlorate potash.....	.25 to .30	Dean or J. G. Grade— I. C. 20 x 23, 112 sheets.....	\$10.00 to 11.50		
Golden ochre, per lb.....	5			Citric acid.....	.05 to .80				
Venetian red, French.....	3 1/2			Copperas.....	.04 to .04				
Venetian red, Eng.....	3 1/2			Cocaine, per oz.....	\$0.20 to \$0.75				
English purple oxide.....	4 1/2			Cream tartar, per lb.....	.28 to .35				
American oxide, per lb.....	4			Kpsom salts.....	.03 to .04				
These prices for dry colors are for broken lots. 3c per pound less when full kegs or barrels are taken.				Extract Logwood, bulk.....	.14 to .18				
Zanzibar vermilion, kegs.....	18			German quinine.....	.20 to .40				
Less than kegs, per pound.....	20			Glycerine, per lb.....	20 to .25				
English vermilion, in 30 lb bags.....	1.00			Howard's quinine, per oz.....	60 to .60				
Less than bags, per pound.....	1.10			Ibdlino.....	\$5.50 to \$6.00				
VERMILION, No. 1, furniture, gal.....	1.00			Insect powder.....	.37 to .40				
Extra furniture, per gal.....	1.35			Morphia sul.....	1.75 to \$1.90				
Elastic oak, per gal.....	2.00								
No. 1, carriage, per gal.....	2.00								
Hard oil finish, per gal.....	2.00								
Brown Japan, per gal.....	1.00								
Gold Size, Japan.....	1.50								
No. 1, orange shellac.....	2.00								
Pure orange shellac.....	2.50								
These prices are for less than barrels, and would be shaded for full barrel lots.									
LUBRICATING OILS, Raw, per gallon.....	0.10								
" " Boiled, per gallon.....	0.1								
These prices are in barrels, but would be shaded 2c for ten barrel lots.									
TORPENTINE, Pure spirits, in barrels, per gallon.....	0.50								
Less than barrels, per gallon.....	0.72								
GLUE, S. S., in sheets, per pound.....	15								
" " White, for kal-omining.....	20								
BURNING OILS, Eocene.....	34								
" " Sunlight.....	29								
" " Silver Star.....	26								
" " Water white.....	33								
" " Opalero.....	29								
Stove gasoline, per case.....	3.50								
Benzine, per case.....	3.50								
Benzine and gasoline, Per gallon.....	50								
LUBRICATING OILS, Capital cylinder.....	58								
" " Eldorado Engine.....	35								
" " Atlantic red.....	35								
" " Golden Star No 1.....	33								
" " Extra.....	35								
" " Eldorado Castor.....	38								
" " Golden.....	32								

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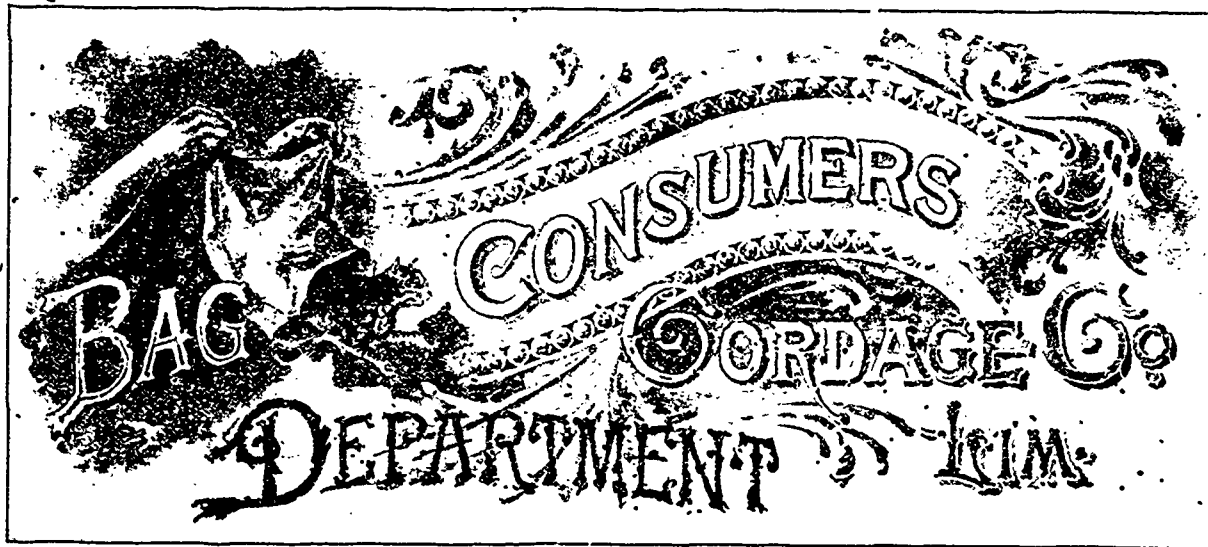
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Manitoba Legislature.

The provincial legislature of Manitoba was opened on Feb. 2. The governor's address refers to the necessity of a more stringent measure respecting sanitation, in view of the cholera epidemic in Europe last year, and its possible revival. Railway extension and immigration is referred to as having made good progress the past year. The following paragraphs also occur in the address:—

The increasing financial responsibilities of my government make it imperative that the province should avail itself of every possible source of revenue, and to that end you will be asked to consider a measure for the imposition of duties upon properties passing by succession, with the object of raising revenue for provincial purposes.

You will also be asked to provide a further sum to make provision for the proper representation of the products of the province at Chicago, during the progress of the World's Columbian exposition, so that people from all parts of the world may have an opportunity of securing the fullest information regarding Manitoba as an agricultural country.

You will be asked to consider an act to amend the public schools act, the lunacy act, the county courts act, the liquor license act, the surrogate courts act, the municipal boundaries act, the bills of sale act, and an act respecting the registration of lien notes, hire receipts and orders for chattels in registry and land titles offices.

Taxing Stocks.

At a meeting of the legislative committee of the Winnipeg city council, held last week, Alderman Bole moved the following resolutions:

"This committee recommended to the council that the legislature be petitioned to amend the municipal act, or pass a special act applicable to this city, abolishing the tax on personal property and establishing in lieu thereof a tax on rental values of not more than ten per cent, but when the rental value exceeds \$1 per square foot per annum of floor occupied, the tax shall not exceed ten per cent of said limit of \$1 per square foot; and when the rental value falls below twenty cents per square foot of floor occupied the tax levied shall not be less than ten per cent of said limit of twenty cents per square foot; properly defined basements and garrets not to be considered when assessments are made on maximum or minimum limits, properly defined outside or storage warehouses not to be subject to maximum or minimum limits, but to be taxed ten per cent on actual rental value. All properly defined places of amusement or entertainment to be exempt from rental value tax but to pay a license in lieu thereof."

A deputation of jobbers were present and were heard. Strong speeches were made by Messrs. Ashdown, Bathune, Galt, Riley and White, showing the great injustice of the present system of taxation, which threatens to drive the jobbers out of the city.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA.

[This department is in charge of R. E. Gosnell, who is permanently engaged as a regular member of THE COMMERCIAL staff, to represent this Journal in British Columbia. Parties in British Columbia who wish to communicate in any way with this paper, may apply directly to Mr. Gosnell at Vancouver.]

British Columbia Business Review.

January 30, 1893.

An immensely cold snap has brightened up business somewhat, the weather being clear and cold. A somewhat high wind has been accompanied by several shipping disasters, in which one or two steamers and several schooners have been badly damaged.

Trade generally remains dull and will for some weeks yet, there being nothing especial to warrant a revival just at present, and in a few weeks will reach its lowest ebb for the year.

The principal event of the week has been the opening of parliament, at which in the address from the Throne some important measures were outlined. The session is expected to be a lengthy one and characterized by a good deal of hard fighting. Another event of special note was the annual session of the B. C. Fruit Growers' Association held in Vancouver. The programme was purposely a long one and included a very comprehensive list of topics affecting the horticultural interests of the province. It is expected that a large number of these reports will be published for circulation at the World's Fair. In this way a good deal of practical information will be disseminated and will no doubt be eagerly sought after.

A report has been circulated, with or without malice it is impossible to say, that the Crofter scheme has collapsed and that the promoters in the old country have failed in floating the commercial scheme connected with it on the money market. This is entirely without foundation so far, because the promoters did not place their project on the money market at all, and consequently could not have failed. The brokers who had the matter in hand advised the promoters of the Commercial company not to do it owing to the bad state of the money market, and that advice has been followed. Everything indicates that the money market is recovering in England, and at the proper time the scheme will be floated. In the meantime all the necessary precautions have been taken to keep the Acts in force. The various rumors set on foot in regard to the Crofter scheme are largely political, on both sides of the water, and are done for the purpose of bringing about failure. If it does fail it will be owing to political machinations, and not to any defeat in the scheme itself, which if carried out, would prove to be one of the most important and beneficial commercial enterprises ever undertaken on the coast.

The president of the Ottawa Electric Street Railway has written to this province for a supply of the dog fish oil, which is manufactured at Skidegate, Queen Charlotte Islands. A year and a half ago samples of this oil were distributed from the British Columbia Court at the Eastern Exhibitions. Mr. McRue, the gentleman above referred to, was one who tested the oil, and has been so well pleased with the results of the tests that he has sent an order for the oil. This oil, which is everywhere acknowledged by machine men on this coast, and especially by steamboatmen, to be the best lubricant in the market, is manufactured out of the dog fish, so abundant on the northern coast, the finer quality out of the theliver and the second quality out of the body of fish. This is very likely to develop into a large and important industry, if it can be manufactured cheaply enough to compete with the eastern oils, but the freights eastward are very heavy and as yet the market in the province is limited. Another factory for its manufacture was started last season further north by R. A. Cunningham & Son, of Skeena. The rat fish

is also plentiful where the dog fish abound and as the oil in the liver of this fish is very valuable there is room here for a tributary enterprise of some value.

A gentleman from the Sound country representing lumber interests here, has been in the province buying up cedar logs. A Puget Sound Lumber Company is reported to have a contract to supply 10,000,000 feet of cedar lumber for finishing work in the United States. It is said 5,000,000 feet of cedar logs are wanted for this purpose in British Columbia. If so, it is a matter which might very well occupy the attention of our Boards of Trade in this province, and the Dominion Government. As has been frequently pointed out so far as British Columbia lumber is concerned there is a very one-sided arrangement with the United States, which is entirely in favor of the latter, and now when the Pacific Coast cedar is beginning to find a market in Eastern America and, as is well known, British Columbia having the largest and best supply, if the Puget Sound lumbermen are allowed to come into this Province, buy the logs, boom it to Seattle, saw it up there and sell it as Puget Sound lumber, the sooner an agitation for a readjustment of the whole lumber tariff for the better for British Columbia interests. The matter has been placed before the present head of the Department of Trade and Commerce, and no doubt a judicious presentment of the case again would be successful. Either an export duty should be re-imposed on logs, or our lumbermen should be placed on equal footing with those of the United States.

Brief Business Notes.

A number of sealing schooners have left for the sealing grounds.

The South Westminister Coal Mining Co. is winding up its affairs.

The business of Lorgen & Mansfield, Vancouver, has been sold to R. B. Dodds.

Simmons & Cohen, Vancouver bakery, Victoria, have purchased the business of Thomas Harding.

Fred Schofield, Vancouver, has been appointed Clerk of the municipality of North Vancouver.

Large exhibits of coal from the Vancouver Island mines are being shipped from Victoria to the World's Fair.

A new town site named Alexandria Park is being laid out in the Somenos district on the line of the E. & N. R.

British batque Assel arrived last week from London, Eng., with a general cargo of merchandise for R. P. Richey & Co., Victoria.

A petition to quash the by-law giving a by-law to the Burrard Inlet and Fraser Valley railway was argued in the Supreme Court, Vancouver, last week.

The train service on the Shuswah & Okanagan railway has been changed from every day to Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, during the winter months.

The stock and business of Carmichael & Patterson, Victoria, boots and shoes, sold to Gilmore & McCandless. Will be managed by James Patterson.

The Northern Shipping Company, Vancouver, has bought the steamer Mermid, and is refitting her as a freight and passenger boat. She will run from Vancouver to Aleut Bay.

The annual meeting of the B. C. Fruit Canning Co., Vancouver, was held last week. The report showed a good business for the year, with substantial extension of the same.

The California Giant Powder Co. have purchased 40 acres of land at Telegraph Bay for their new works. They will manufacture Judson powder and Giant powder and dynamite.

It is reported that a Puget Sound lumberman is in the province seeking to buy 5,000,000 feet of cedar logs. These will be cut in the Sound mills, and shipped to the East for house finishing.

The Origin of Tobacco.

There is no longer any doubt about the Spanish origin of the word tobacco, neither about the country where the Europeans saw it for the first time, says the *New York Sun*. Its discovery dates from that of America, and it was at Cuba on the 28th day of October, 1492, that the bold representatives of the Old World saw the fragrant smoke puffed out from the lips of the inhabitants of the New World. (Another reason, lovers of the weed will say, for celebrating worthily the forthcoming anniversary of the discovery of America) Tobacco was the name given to the plant by the Indians whom Columbus saw, but in Brazil and in Florida the natives called the tobacco plant petun, which word the Orientals have changed into lutum. However, the word tobacco prevailed everywhere as the generic term of the plant that the early Americans called the "cure all" and the "holy herb," probably because it seemed to them to be the consoling plant and one fruitful in happy inspirations. The plant also had its place marked in Indian mythology, and all the tribes of redskins who still hunt the buffalo have faithfully preserved for tobacco the cult transmitted to them by their ancestors.

It was in 1560 that Catherine de Medecis received from Jean Nicot, the French Ambassador, in Portugal, the first lot of tobacco seeds. But curiously enough, though the people of Lisbon took snuff and the inhabitants of Madrid smoked, of the new plant for its medicinal qualities, the English, on the contrary, became enthusiastic over the intoxicating odor of the fragrant smoke. As soon as its use spread to all classes the era of persecutions began.

Although the method of cultivation is the same in all countries, the differences that exist in the taste and perfume of tobacco come from the natural richness of the soil and the excellence of the temperature. The best tobacco is grown in Cuba, Mexico, Brazil and above all in the United States, where the soil is fertile and the sky is full of sun. After Cuba, the choicest tobacco comes from Virginia, Boraco, Ceylon, and the Phillipine Islands.

To Asia, and principally in Persia, the cultivation is carried on extensively. As for the Turkish tobacco it is extremely aromatic. The best brands come from Roumelia, Syria, Noman, Karamania, and the borders of the Persian Gulf. China furnishes a straw yellow tobacco, which is smoked a good deal in England, Japan, Cochin China, India and the Tonkin produce only mediocre varieties. Burmah is more favored. At Manila the cultivation is more and more important; Manila cigars are sent all over the Orient. Holland has valuable lands at Java and Sumatra. The products are sold at Amsterdam and are used as wrappers for costly cigars.

The United States is the most productive country in the world, and at least half of its production is exported. Mexico and Brazil furnished very aromatic tobaccos; that of Brazil being the most combustible in the world. A great variety of species is also cultivated throughout Europe, but these are generally of very ordinary quality and are consumed at home. England is the only country where tobacco is not grown. The German tobaccos are mostly cultivated on the banks of the Rhine, at Baden and at Myence. They are fresh and light, but of poor flavor.

In France, tobacco being a government monopoly, can be grown only by permission. The cultivators have the choice of selling their crops to the government or of exporting them. No Frenchman, other than that supplied by the government, can get permission to grow a stock of tobacco, and that stock cannot exceed twenty pounds. There exist in France nineteen tobacco factories, of which two are in Paris. The ordinary caporal, or, as it is officially called, scaferati tobacco, is sold at \$1.20 a pound, and the superior scaferati at \$1.60 a pound. This tobacco is put up in small packages of different colored paper. The monopoly yields the government nearly \$50,000,000 annually.

Blended Tea.

It is sometimes asked by those who are not acquainted with the trade why various sorts of tea should be mixed together before they are offered to the public, any more than it is found necessary to mix different wines together, such as ports with sherries or with clarets. The difference, however, is clear. The public require a distinctive flavor with wine, which can be readily maintained through the skill acquired in centuries of experience in the vineyards. The industry is also conducted on a large scale, so that in reality the ports, sherries or champagnes of commerce represent, as a rule, a number of blends made before the wines reached this country; but with tea, on the other hand, it is perfectly impossible from the novelty of the industry, and its small scale among the Indian or Ceylon planters who now mainly supply us, to ensure uniformity of quality from year to year. In fact, as is well known hardly two chests are alike in a parcel of Indian teas when they originally reach this country. As retailers cannot therefore secure continuity in any distinctive flavor from any special growth, they have to obtain it by blending. The remedy suggested by some, to the infinite amusement of those acquainted with the subject, is that the grocers should grow their own teas. The economical value of this suggestion would be only equalled by the grocer being advised to make his own boots or hat. But, putting that aside, such a remedy would only add tenfold to the existing necessity for blending, as the tea crop of any particular estate is, broadly speaking, never alike two years running.

Tea, indeed, varies almost infinitely in flavor, quality and strength, while on the other hand, the public demands almost absolute uniformity in these respects. The produce of any one estate or group of estates is rarely alike two years running, and even were this difficulty possible to remove, little would be gained. The public demand runs upon a sort of neutral flavor in tea, which can only be secured by mixing together the produce of various districts, or even of countries, so far apart as India, Ceylon, China and Java. Further, while the public objects to any pronounced or distinctive flavor in tea, it still more strongly objects to any alteration in the character of the flavor of the infusion supplied. Hence, before the consumer's cup is reached, the leaf must of necessity be very extensively mixed, and in the mixture lies the whole secret of success or failure in the tea trade. Nor is blending likely to decrease, but, on the contrary, it is likely to increase, when teas of such marked different characters are offered as the fine, delicate Coagous of China, the strong, flavory Darjeelings, the thick, pungent Assams, and all the varieties produced in Ceylon, in Java or in Japan. When teas came chiefly from China, there were not nearly the differences which now exist, when India and Ceylon supply the bulk of our consumption. If so, there is more than ever room for the skill of the blender. It must be remembered that the old "chops" of 300 or 600 chests of China tea, really represented an extensive and elaborate system of blending, carried out first in the interior, and then at the hong or warehouses at the shipping ports.

The old idea of tea mixing was to mix several kinds of China Coagou together, and to add Scented Orange Pekoe and Olongs in certain traditional proportions. That came the day of thick Indian tea, and of the infusion which its enemies call tannin. The charge is partly just, but whether it be so or not, if the public like that substance in their tea, those who cater for them must supply it. The result, at any rate of the new supply, is that the public have to a great degree turned from the old and more delicate flavors, and gone on to something much stronger. Those who have not been quick enough to swim with the stream, have suffered materially in their trade. There is also little doubt that a great many

retailers who undertake to blend teas, are, to put it gently, not successful in their mixtures, and thus give an opening to more skilled competitors. In these days when specialization is more and more essential in business, such openings are eagerly sought, and the amount of competition in the tea trade has been of late years increased a hundredfold.

In the old days of high duties and small supplies, when the leading retail price was 4s., 5s., or even 6s. per pound, tea was naturally the sheet anchor of the grocer, particularly as it was then the custom to sell sugar at a loss. Now that tea has fallen to a quarter of such prices, the old percentage of profit, even if it could have been maintained, would obviously have yielded only one quarter of what it used to do. But the old percentage of profit, far from being maintained, has probably been reduced by quite one half, so that the grocer probably does not on the average get more than a fourth, or even a fifth of what he used to get out of a pound of tea; the labor and many other expenses, be it noted, being still the same, or more.

The increased competition is not always of an unskilled nature. A tailor or a bookseller, or even a butter man might not make much of tea blending, but many of the wholesale dealers who have carefully studied the subject are beyond doubt masters in their art. It follows from the above that there is less inducement for the grocers to study the tea trade, and, on the other hand, an increasing necessity for them to do so, if they are to blend successfully the growing varieties of tea, so as to meet the newer forms of competition.

Grocers having a large connection and sufficient capital find no difficulty at all in coping with the new conditions. They can buy at the right moment and hold their hundreds or thousands of pounds' worth of suitable stocks; they can blend tea successfully, keep it long enough in the bins to assimilate, study the tastes of their locality and defy external competition. But all this has to be done on a sufficient scale and presupposes a relatively large capital and much skill and personal attention.

At the present time the grocer is becoming more a general storekeeper, selling all non-perishable articles of food and drink. This tends to lock up an increasing amount of capital, and to be a severe drain upon a man's time and abilities. Hence, the increasing practice of delivering goods ready for use to the retailer, and no longer requiring preparation by him. The grocer does not now mix his yellow sugar or chop up his tilters, and the infinite variety of ready-packed or bottled goods in a shop would amaze the tradesman of a former generation.

For the reasons named above, the tea trade has begun to undergo a similar change with all but the larger buyers. The blending, and even the packing, are done for the grocer, and the tea is handed to him ready for sale.

We have more than once pointed out in these columns that it seems a serious error for grocers to sell tea in packets, and especially to act as agents for the sale for others. Tea fresh out of the chest must not only be cheaper and better than in packets, but it seems a short-sighted policy for the grocer to abandon his position as the direct caterer to the public and to become a servant to another. Besides, if packed tea at once becomes known by any special mark, it can just as well be sold by the draper, the bookseller or the chemist, or, indeed by any other retailer. Blended teas, however, stand in quite a different position. The grocer can buy and sell it while preserving his complete independence of action and of position, and his hold upon the public.

That portion of the trade who do not deal largely in tea, and a good many of those who do, but who do not find it worth their while to take much trouble, and to lock up much capital on this branch of their trade, have, therefore, of late, taken to the purchase of blended tea, and there seems every possibility of the prac-

tice rapidly growing. Indeed, the demand from even large buyers for teas ready for use has been so great for some time past that the leading London wholesale dealers have been unable to meet the enquiry. The saving of money is to many a material consideration, for a man can buy his three or six or more chests, when and as he wants them; instead of keeping in stock and incurring rent upon hundreds of pounds' worth of tea at a time. Further, the turning of some part of his premises at intervals into a dust-bin and his men into dust men, all comes to an end, if tea arrives ready blended. Again, done on a large scale, and by machinery, the blending process is necessarily cheaper, while the product is more even and better matured when dealt with and stored in greater masses. Above all, when the mixing is done by a dealer in a large way of business, with skilled tasters, large capital, and the command of the chief market in the world, the result is better than if a retailer, with much fewer opportunities, attempts the same thing.

As was natural, the new demand for blended teas from the grocer was at first met, not by the larger and older wholesale houses—for the trade is eminently a conservative one—but by smaller dealers, who, having less to lose from any new departure, were more venturesome. The older and larger houses have now entered the field also. In these days every new want has to be met, and while meeting as energetically as ever the old demand for original parcels by those who have the money, skill and time necessary to blend their own tea, there can be no reason why the large wholesale dealers should not sell blended tea to those who want it. The two classes of buyers are to a considerable degree, it is true, distinct, but that is no reason why the requirements of both should not be met from the same source. Some, no doubt, of the older houses may hesitate in publicly taking a new departure of this sort, but it is no secret in the trade that almost without exception, they are glad enough to do the same thing privately. For our part we see no reason whatever for any secrecy about it.—*Produce Markets Review*.

Toronto Dry Goods Trade.

The features that prevailed a week ago are still the same. Travellers are doing well. There are very few buyers coming in, but many of them are being heard from in the way of repeats. The weather has continued very favorable, and stocks of winter goods have been reduced to a much lower point than usual. In home goods there have been no changes to note. Everything is steady to firm in tone. The Canadian tweed manufacturers are showing samples and booking orders for fall tweed dress goods. They are showing in the carrels' hair effect tartans, knicker, diagonals, medium checks. It is yet early in the season, and all the new styles have not been shown. The newest effects are the shot, which have never been made here before. Tartans are also shown in greater number. Shots and Tartans promise to be among the most popular designs. The latter will no doubt receive a special impetus on account of the popularity of silk tartans in blouses. Jobbers have begun to make spring shipments of dress goods. A few went out a week or two ago, but all the houses are now in full swing.—*Empire*.

The actual result of the operations of the Canadian Pacific railway for 1892 are officially stated as follows: Net earnings, \$8,420,347; add interest earned on deposits and loan, \$293,603—\$8,623,950. Deducting the fixed charges occurred during the year, \$5,102,018, the surplus was \$3,521,932. From this two supplementary dividends of one per cent. each were made, \$1,300,000, leaving a surplus carried forward of \$2,221,932. Surplus of previous years \$4,701,599, total surplus carried forward \$6,923,531.

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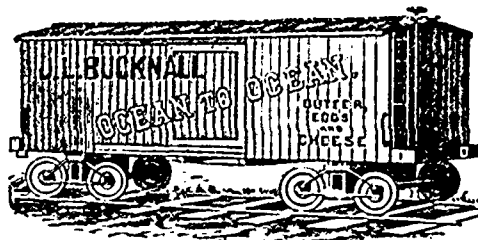
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A Partner's Death.

IN EVERY PARTNERSHIP there are two factors of great importance—the managing brain and the capital employed and if death removes either the business must suffer. It often happens that the brain belongs to one man and the capital to another. If the manager dies the capital is worth less than before, and if the capitalist dies and his capital is withdrawn, the manager is crippled. It is clear that each has an insurance interest in the life of the other because the profits of each depend in part upon the life of both. The firm should, therefore, insure for the benefit of the business on either the ten Twenty plan or the modified natural premium life plan of the **MANYLIFE**. The care the plans have adapted to suit the requirements of such cases. Let this statement be tested by comparison.

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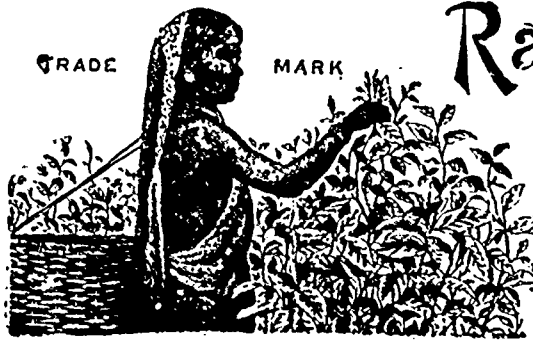
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A Mining Convention.

There is to be a great gathering of American and Canadian mining people in Montreal on Tuesday, February 21st, the convention to remain in session until Thursday evening, the 23rd inst. Apparently Friday is to be largely given over to holidaying, and Saturday reserved for a visit per special train to the works of the Canadian Iron Furnace Company, at Radnor Forges. This is supposed to be the oldest iron works in America, iron having been made there during the sixteenth century, and exported to France. Other visits will be paid by the delegates to the lumber camps and the ore deposits on the St. Maurice river. At first some 400 delegates were expected, but it is now said that 600 will more likely be the number, 200 from Ontario and Quebec, 100 or more from the Maritime provinces, a train load from Philadelphia, escorted by the well known expert, John Birkinbine; 169 gentlemen and 62 ladies under the auspices of the American Institute of Mining Engineers—see their secretary, Dr. Raymond, M.E. It is intended to hold two organizing sessions on Wednesday, 22nd, during which day the American Institute of Mining Engineers will hold their annual meeting. On the same day the General Mining Association of Quebec, the Mining Association of Ontario, and the Mining Society of Nova Scotia will also have their meetings in McGill College buildings and elect officers. Wednesday night is to be play night for the scientists, in the way of sleighing and tobogganing.

At the morning and afternoon sessions of Thursday, and the morning session of Friday the united convention of all the societies is intended to be held, when only subjects of Canadian interest will be debated. Between thirty and forty papers will be read, which cover almost every branch of the mining business. On Thursday evening the governors of McGill College will formally open the new engineering buildings by a conversation, at which Lord Stanley and a number of the Cabinet ministers are expected to assist.—*Monetary Times.*

Tinned Salmon Dangers.

Yesterday week the Birmingham City Coroner, Oliver Pemberton, held an inquest at the Victoria Courts, touching the death of Joseph Mason Robinson (43), who died at his residence in St. George street, St. George's, on December 30th. Mrs. Robinson, the widow, stated that on the 28th ult. she bought a tin of salmon, as several friends were to take tea with the family that afternoon. She paid sevenpence for the fish, which she purchased from Mrs. Butler, in Summer Lane. The shopkeeper opened the tin. When buying it she asked Mrs. Butler if the salmon was good. There was a white frothy substance at the top, and witness said, "I don't care for the looks of this." Mrs. Butler replied, "It's all right," and added that she sold a large quantity of the salmon every year. The deceased, witness and their friends all partook heartily of the salmon, and after tea witness and her husband went out together for a walk. They had three or four glasses of brandy and water, reached home again at half-past ten, and went to bed at midnight. On the next morning deceased complained of illness, and vomited excessively during that and the succeeding days. Medical assistance was procured, but deceased died on the 30th. Albert Slinn, a brother-in-law of the deceased, said he was present at the tea and partook of the tinned salmon. The Coroner: And was there bread and butter on the table? Witness: Yes. The Coroner: And did you eat some? Yes; twelve or fourteen lengths. (Laughter.) Witness added that he took the largest share of the salmon and felt no ill effects. The Coroner: No; you were wise enough to eat a quantity of other food with it. That probably saved your life. Witness: Well, I felt very hungry, sir. (Laughter.) When we were eating the salmon we all said it was very cold. After the salmon witness had five or six glasses of ale to drink. The wife of this witness gave

similar evidence. She said she felt none the worse for the salmon, of which she took two tablespoonfuls. Further evidence showed that the salmon was purchased by Mrs. Butler a fortnight previously from Thomas Hiram, 305, New John street, West. This gentleman was called and stated that he had kept tinned salmon for ten years in order to test it, and found the fish perfectly sound. The tin in question was part of a quantity of 200 dozen he bought from a Liverpool firm. It might have been in his warehouse a few months, or 2 years; it was impossible to say how long. He had another tin from the same case, and was prepared to open it, and eat part of it in court. The Coroner: No, thank you. The result might be unpleasant. Astley Prosser, surgeon, Brearley street, stated that he was called in to see the deceased on the evening of the 28th ult. The man was suffering from the effects of irritant poison, and died in spite of the remedies applied. A post mortem examination revealed the fact that deceased had only one kidney, and that very much diseased. The stomach was distended and ulcerated by a recent irritation. It contained four ounces of yellow thick fluid. No doubt the condition described was due to partaking of animal poison, such as decomposed salmon. Owing to the condition of his one kidney such a man as the deceased would be more seriously affected by unwholesome food. If his kidney organs had been in a natural condition he would most probably have got over the illness. Death was due to exhaustion following the vomiting and purging. The Coroner, in summing up the case, said that no doubt the process of sealing up tinned food was at times faulty, and hence occasionally we heard of people being poisoned as the deceased had been. High game was a great mistake, for it was a poison, a single mouthful of which might poison anyone. Of course, as with any other putrid food, if it was eaten with wholesome food the danger was less. The jury found a verdict that deceased "Died from eating tinned salmon in an unwholesome state, he suffering at the time from organic disease of one kidney."—*Manchester Grocers' Review.*

Sun-Dried and Evaporated Apples.

The course of the dried apple market has this year been peculiar. Though the supply was large it had the benefit of a demand of unusual capacity. This latter favorable condition was due to shortage in the crop of raw material in the United States, a shortage which occurred in spots, the spots coinciding with the districts convenient for the production of dried apples and always connected with that industry. United States exporters consequently had to cast about for supplies, and that brought them on this market. Of course the price in that country ever reached a point that the people of the United States could afford to consume our apples. The duty would prevent that. But there was an unusually large quantity of sun-dried fruit bought here by United States shippers, and carried through in bond for export. Though the demand was a roomy one it did not favor any price-nursing policy on the part of holders. If the fruit could not be got at a price that would leave the shipper a margin it would be left with the holder. The bulk of the purchases have been made from country holders at 12 to 5c. There is still a good market, but stock appears not to be offering freely. The very large quantities already handled by buyers would indicate that this backwardness is due to the want of stock, and not to any rise in the ideas of holders. Of course the supply can be replenished. There is undoubtedly a good deal of whole fruit in the country, for which, unless it is superior stock, there is not an inviting market. It will depreciate with holding, and can be sold at about \$1 a bushel if made into dried apples. This is the most profitable way of disposing of it, and this plan will almost certainly be followed. The buyers of green fruit last fall, who had such bright

visions of the future export market, often purchased at prices that could not be realized. Many of these, though they had paid their forfeit, allowed the contract to lapse, and left the apples with the growers. In this way it comes about that there are considerable quantities of raw material in the country that holders had expected to get rid of at high prices early in the season. The demand will widen in spring, and it is likely there will be a place found for every quarter that can be picked up.

The call for Canadian evaporated apples has likewise been strong and steady, and has swallowed up an unusually large pick, for this year's output has been a very large one and there is a very small remnant of it left unconsumed, or at least unshipped. Its speedy absorption is also owing to the shortage in the United States crop. The price has ranged from 7½ to 9c. But the demand has drawn a sharp distinction between old and new stock. Nobody wants old fruit, and it would be not trouble to collect five or six cars of it at easy prices, some of it being purchasable at 5½c. This old stock is reminiscent of the dreary failure to effect a corner in evaporated apples a year ago. Operators bought a good deal of stock, but found that their fiat could not make the price it was to be again sold at. Exaggerated ideas spoiled the market and spoiled some of the fruit, too, some of the residue now offering being rather sour smelling stock.

Dried apples have been a satisfactory line this year to the general merchant. He may not have realized a big margin of profit upon them, but they have been more readily convertible into money than most other lines of produce. Where he has taken them in trade or on account, this is no small consideration, as it enables him to bring a barter trade pretty closely to a cash basis. The fruit being marketed in the fresh state, and not held for high prices, its value was always obtained and the market was always receptive.—*Canadian Grocer.*

Trade Statistics.

Eighteen of the principal articles of export from Canada show a distribution as follows for the two years ended June 30, 1891, and June 30, 1892:

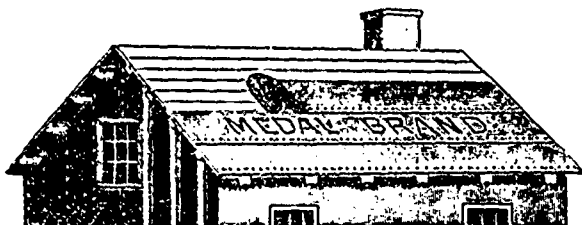
	1891		1892	
	Britain.	U.S.	Britain.	U.S.
Horses ..	\$ 160,254	\$ 1,215,022	\$ 214,785	\$1,034,461
Cattle ..	8,425,390	20,975	7,431,613	21,827
Sheep ..	344,405	759,081	288,145	1,078,200
Butter ..	440,000	10,034	877,455	6,038
Cheese ..	9,481,373	13,445	11,593,090	39,588
Eggs ...	83,589	1,074,247	692,218	404,409
Apples ..	1,245,247	14,153	1,405,537	27,661
Barley ..	73,225	2,841,769	1,233,844	1,354,485
Oats	5,054	931	1,075,485	51,620
Poas ...	1,439,747	853,207	2,332,307	461,354
Wheat ..	969,184	6,390	5,726,505	871,263
Flour ...	\$51,912	55,249	1,110,368	11,448
Hay ..	160,221	378,813	107,601	593,567
Potatoes.	1,400	1,478,032	1,810	41,886
Wool....	181	245,321	...	200,125
Beans	493,466	523	403,520
Bacon ...	689,609	118	1,039,060	309
Hides ..	13,455	472,501	650	470,718

\$24,761,222 \$10,188,760 \$36,001,689 \$7,235,012

The above shows that while exports to the states have fallen off, through the operations of the McKinley bill, exports to the United Kingdom has enormously increased in 1892.

An interesting and important point regarding the liability of banks for the action of their managers after banking hours had been settled at Toronto. Dr. Allan who resides near Lindsay, deposited a bond for several thousand dollars with the Manager of the branch of the Dominion bank for safe keeping. It was after hours when he called on the bank, but the manager to oblige him received it. Not long after the manager absconded and left no trace of Dr. Allan's deposit. The latter sued the bank, which claimed that as the deposit was made after regular banking hours they were not responsible. Justice Rose dismissed Dr. Allan's action.

O'LOUGHLIN BROS. & CO.,



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Medal Brand Wire Edge Ready Roofing!

Any intelligent man can apply. Can be painted any color.

It is adapted to either Steep or Flat Roofs. Buildings covered with Medal Brand Roofing are classed by all fire insurance companies the same as if covered with slate or metal.

SEND FOR SAMPLES AND PRICES.

Wholesale Paper, Stationery and General Jobbers,
AND STEAM PRINTERS.
134 and 136 Second Avenue North, WINNIPEG MAN.

Trade Depression and its Remedy.

It can hardly be contended that the trade of the year 1892 has justified the expectations of those who anticipated a revival of business activity. Prices of commodities have been generally depressed; wages on the whole have given way; restrictive tariffs have not been diminished, whilst the conclusion of international conventions throughout Europe, appears likely to delay rather than hasten, the epoch of tariff reductions; the difficulties connected with the silver question have not been solved, or even advanced, by the Brussels Conference; whilst neither the shipping nor our foreign or colonial trades show any immediate prospects of improvement.

The economic situation of each of the leading groups of states throughout the world, on which our trade depends for its development, is even less satisfactory than our own. The Australasian Colonies are still suffering from the combined effects of over drawing their credit, and from indulging in costly experiments of state socialism. The various Asiatic markets, India, Burmah, Persia, the Straits, China and Japan, are experiencing various disturbing, though not acutely serious, influences, and are scarcely likely to develop great improvements in the immediate future. Africa is, perhaps, on the whole, throughout its various elements of western, eastern and southern markets, together with Egypt, and possibly Morocco, likely to gain increased importance, both on the import and export accounts of the ledger. The Americas, North and South, indicate for various reasons, financial or political, but small prospect of producing an ascending volume of trade. Lastly, Europe presents on the whole, less favorable prospects even than the other countries, and the financial burden of the larger military and naval powers is unceasingly on the ascendant. Spain suffers from increasing difficulties to meet her engagements, which may at any moment lead to a climax. Austria Hungary encounters almost insurmountable obstacles in contracting further loans, while Russia seems, under present conditions, to have reached the limit of her credit, even in France. The economic outlook in Germany is far from satisfactory, and the Italian Government hesitates to attempt the solution of several economic problems of importance. Lastly, but not least, the commercial and political situation in France gives every cause for alarm.

Under such circumstances it is evident that this country can look for little assistance from outside, and if any improvement of the present position is to be attained, it must be from our own unaided efforts. This journal has been consistent in advocating, for years past, that such efforts on a systematic and continuous basis were desirable, and it is permissible at this juncture to contend, that had the necessary precautionary

measures been taken, as we maintain they should, years ago, the economic situation of to-day would not weigh as heavily as it does upon the British nation. These measures are to develop actively the resources of the British colonial empire as a producing and consuming entity. This would cover, in the colonies, the entire field of emigration, colonization, finance, public works, and communication; and, at home—the problems of pauperism, the movement of population from the country into the towns; codification and cheapening of the operation of the law, the defence problem, co-operation, and education. The distinct tendency of modern government in the direction of State socialism, and the resulting proscriptions may at any moment run counter to the economic interests of the trading community. This tendency, which is the expression of the desire to impose on some one else a responsibility which it is sought to evade, would, if carried to its logical conclusion, place one half of the nation in control over, at the expense of, the other half and make the remedy greater than the disease. Then again, existing political methods distinctly curtail that initiative which should be taken by the government of the day, to such an extent, that it is no longer the government which governs, it only administers, under the impulse and control of the majority. Governments thus, now, rarely initiate in any other than party questions, so that the great economic and social problems are either left to become acute, or are approached with a party bias, which often leads to delay in their consideration or solution. Even the modest, and otherwise praiseworthy attempt, to decentralize and the relieving of the central government in local matters, are dealt with so entirely on party lines, that the economic success of the experiment is open to considerable doubt. This initiative should now be assumed by the commercial classes, in alliance with the representatives of labor. These have each the advantage, in the collective capacities, of being non-political, and of possessing the power of approaching whichever party be in power with equal influence. Capital and labor, under the new regime, will have to unite in promoting the commercial legislation of the future and of initiating the national policy in regard to our Empire beyond the sea.

It has become our accepted trade principle in trade matters to submit, practically without protest, to any tariff limitations which other countries chose to apply. These limitations have been, for the last twenty years, continuously on the ascending scale, and are admittedly one factor, at least, in the present depression. Since it is our consistent policy not to retaliate against these exclusions, we should at least seek compensations, in the shape of new developments or new markets for our trade. This can most rapidly be effected by the opening up of those of our colonies which place the fewest tariff restrictions upon our wares, or legislate against immigration. Our self govern-

ing colonies have become, with our consent, as far as trade and colonization are concerned, foreign countries, so that the volume of our trade with them cannot be influenced from this side. But the lesson which results from this somewhat contradictory position, may enable us to deal more satisfactorily in the future with those colonies which remain integral portions of the United Kingdom. Profiting by the experience with the older colonies, and the unsatisfactory results of our financial dealings with new and foreign countries, such as some of the States of South America, we may be more disposed to invest capital under the British flag, where it will be subject to our own laws and assist in opening up markets which will be free to trade without tariff barriers. It may be advisable to stipulate, clearly, the condition that loans and investments in these new colonies are made subject to future freedom of trade, and to the right of British subjects to emigrate to, and settle under the British flag in, the new territories. We should also apply the same principle to any future concession of independent government to any of these States, and accord it only in exchange for freedom of trade. It is to be regretted that this was not done in the late instance of Western Australia.

By means of an active policy of annexation, colonial development, emigration, construction of roads, railways, and telegraphs and harbors, by careful and wise investments, subject to colonial free trade, we may build up a commercial development in the future which will be more free from fluctuation, and less under the economic influence of other States, than has been the case in the past.—*London, England, Chamber of Commerce Journal.*

Weather and Crops in Europe.

A thaw set in on Saturday last which caused the snow to disappear. Since then the weather has been cold and wet, with slight night frosts. No danger is apprehended with regard to the crops in this country, but in France the sudden return of sharp frost, after the thaw, has caused renewed anxiety for the safety of the young wheat plant now that it is unprotected by snow. In Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Roumania, a heavy snow covering has protected the young plant from injury from the severe frost, but in parts of South Russia there are still complaints of the unsatisfactory appearance of the crops. Our correspondent at Odessa states, however, that as far as moisture is concerned the crops this year have been unusually favored. From Italy and Spain the reports continue very satisfactory. In South Australia and Victoria, as well as in the Argentine, the progress of the harvest has so far not modified the previous excellent expectations. From India, too, the reports are favorable, but it is of course much too early to offer any definite opinion with regard to this crop.—*Berkehm, Jan. 13.*

CONSUMERS CORDAGE CO.,

(LIMITED.)

HEAD OFFICE, MONTREAL.

Incorporated by Letters Patent of the Dominion of Canada, under the "Companies Act."

CAPITAL, - \$3,000,000.

(in thirty thousand (30,000) Shares of one hundred dollars each.)

DIRECTORS.

JOHN F. STAIRS, M.P., Halifax, President.
A. W. MORRIS, M.P.P., Montreal, Vice-President.

EDWARD M. FULTON, Montreal
Treasurer.

GEORGE STAIRS, Halifax.
JAMES M. WATERBURY, New York.
CHAUNCEY MARSHALL, New York.
WILLARD P. WHITLOCK, Elizabeth,

SECRETARY.

CHARLES B. MORRIS, Montreal.

BANKERS,

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE.
THE UNION BANK OF HALIFAX.

SOLICITORS.

MACMASTER & MCGIBBON, Montreal.

The Directors, who are now the owners of the entire Capital stock, have decided, at the request of numerous friends of the Company throughout Canada, to enlarge the proprietorship of its stock, and to offer for sale, at par, ten thousand shares, of one hundred dollars each, fully paid and non-assessable.

Payments are to be made as follows:—Five per cent. on application; fifteen per cent. on allotment; twenty per cent. each in one, two, three and four months from the date of allotment. Applicants have the right to pay in full on allotment.

Applications for shares will be received until February 15th, 1893, at any of the offices of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, at the offices of the Union Bank of Halifax, and at the head office of the company, N. Y. Life Building, Montreal.

Forms of application for shares may be obtained at any of the above places, or they will be sent by mail on request.

Should no allotment of stock be made to any applicant for shares, the amount paid will be returned in full, and in the event of the Directors finding it impossible to allot the full number of shares applied for, the surplus of the deposit will be credited toward the amount payable on allotment.

The right is reserved of withdrawing the offer in whole or part at any time before allotment, and of allotting to any applicant any less number of shares than the number applied for.

As the dividends of the Company are payable quarterly, beginning with the first day of March next, allottees of stock will be entitled to receive a proportion of the quarterly dividend as declared, corresponding to the amount paid upon their subscription.

It is proposed to apply to the Stock Exchanges of Montreal and Toronto for official quotations of the shares of the Company.

The Consumers Cordage Company was organized in June, 1890, with a Capital of one million dollars, to operate several of the largest Cordage and Binder Twine Factories in Canada. It, at first, operated these under leases, but its operations having been successful, the Capital Stock was subsequently increased to three Million dollars, and the leased properties were purchased.

The Company has no mortgage indebtedness; and, according to the law under which it was incorporated, none can be created without the consent of two-thirds of the share

holders, represented at a meeting called for the purpose.

The Company has placed in the hands of its Bankers:—

(a) Full statements of its affairs, certified to by Messrs. Caldwell, Tait & Wilks, Chartered Accountants.

(b) The following letter from Messrs. Abbotts, Campbell & Meredith, advocates, Montreal, upon the legality of its incorporation, and the issue of its stock:—

MONTREAL, January 3, 1893.

Consumers Cordage Co., Ltd., Montreal:—

GENTLEMEN.—We have examined the books and documents connected with the organization of the Consumers Cordage Company, Limited, and are of opinion that it has been properly incorporated, and that its capital stock of \$3,000,000, as issued, is fully paid up and non-assessable, according to the provisions of the "Companies Act."

We are, yours truly,

(Signed), ABBOTTS, CAMPBELL & MEREDITH.

(c) A report from Messrs. Macmaster and McGibbon, Solicitors of the Company, that the titles to its Mills have been duly examined, and that no encumbrances exist.

Applicants for shares may examine these documents, copies of which may be seen at the Company's offices, and at the various offices of the Banks mentioned above.

The Consumers Cordage Company is probably the second largest Manufacturer of Cordage and Binder Twine in the world, and claims the following very material advantages over its competitors:—

1st. Ample capital to conduct its business which enables it:—

(a) To buy its raw material in larger quantities, and at lower prices.

(b) To use only the latest and most improved machinery, thus keeping its mills in the highest state of efficiency.

2nd. Economy in selling and distributing its manufactured product.

3rd. The business covers so wide a territory (its manufactured goods go to almost every civilized country in the world) that it cannot be seriously injured by local troubles; and its Manufacturing establishments are so scattered that the danger of severe loss by fire is very slight.

4th. Lower cost of production.

(a) By maintaining the sharpest competition between its several mills, it is enabled to introduce in all the best methods found in each.

(b) By spreading its commercial expenses over a larger output.

(c) By placing in one hand the purchasing of the Raw Materials and Manufacturing supplies for the several Mills, thus securing lowest prices.

(d) By manufacturing for themselves many of their supplies.

The Company has always found it in its interest to divide the economy effected in production and distribution with the consumer, and since its existence the consumer has, upon the average, had a better article at a lower price than previously.

The Company does not claim to have any monopoly, or to earn monopoly profits, in fact, it has not done so. Since its organization it has been able, owing to the advantages above referred to, to earn a net return on its present capital of not less than 10 per cent. per annum (as statements in their Bankers' hands will show), and the Directors believe that these profits will be maintained in the future, as the cost of production and distribution shows each year a marked decrease.

The Dividend for the year ending 31st October, 1892, was at the rate of 8½ percent per annum. The past record of the Company and its present position justify the Directors in believing that quarterly dividends of one and three-quarters per cent. can be paid (and should the profits for the present year be as large as the outlook promises, the final quarter's dividend might be increased).

Any farther information may be had at the head office of the Company at Montreal.

Pork Packing and Provisions.

The total packing in the West for the week has been 303,000 hogs, against 290,000 the preceding week and 455,000 for corresponding period last year, making a total of 3,675,000 since November 1, compared with 6,220,000 a year ago—a decrease of 2,545,000 hogs. There are some indications of a closer approach to corresponding time last year in the marketing of hogs in the near future than is shown in the past, this winter, but the difference between this season and last will undoubtedly be further widened before the end of February, although not likely to an important extent. The indications are that the winter season will show a deficiency of approximately 700,000,000 pounds in gross weight of hogs, representing about 500,000,000 pounds of products less than last year, or a decrease of 33 per cent.

The indications are that the winter packing in the West will be smaller than for corresponding months for a period of sixteen years, and that the decrease compared with the preceding year will be without precedent in the history of the industry.

Considering the moderate volume of packing operations the distribution of product is of good proportions, and the markets have shown much strength, but the outlook seems to justify maintenance of prices, although conditions are such as to make values sensitive to the capricious operations of influential speculators, and thus the sentiment of peculiar uncertainty as to the future is constantly present in the trade. The week's exports of product were fairly liberal, closely approaching the movement for corresponding time last year—*Cincinnati Price Current*, Jan. 26.

Athabasca Forests.

Dominion Surveyor W. Ogilvie's report contains the following regarding timber on the Athabasca river which is worthy of careful notice, both as to the quantity of timber and as to its destruction:

"On the Athabasca, from the mouth of the Pembina down to Fort McMurray, the valley is narrow and from two hundred to three hundred feet deep. In the bottom of the valley there is much spruce and some poplar that would make fair lumber. On the uplands, as far as I saw, there are many places where a similar quality can be obtained, but, as a rule, the trees are much smaller than the people in the eastern provinces are accustomed to see made into lumber, though they would compare favorably with those used in the other parts of the Territories. From McMurray down to the lake the banks are lower and the valley wider, until near the lake there are little or no perceptible banks. Here there is much fine merchantable spruce, but unfortunately it cannot be brought to market without the aid of a railway, the streams in the country flowing in a contrary way. This objection does not apply so forcibly to that part of this river above Athabasca Landing, as all the timber above this point and on Lesser Slave river and lake could readily be floated down to this point, and as it is only about 95 miles from thence to Edmonton by the cart trail, and it is probably the point where the first railway north of Edmonton will cross the Athabasca river, its timber resources stand a chance of being utilized much earlier than those on the lower river. I am sorry to say, however, that long before it will be necessary to resort to this, much of it may be burned, as such is the case along the trail between Edmonton and the Landing. In 1884 I passed over this trail twice and saw many groves of fine spruce, but last summer I saw that much of the best of this timber had been completely burned off. Then the country in the immediate vicinity of the Landing was all heavily timbered, much of it merchantable. Last summer, especially in the Tawassina valley and vicinity, the country resembled prairie nearly as much as the country in the immediate vicinity of Edmonton does."

National Board of Trade.

Considerable space is given below to a report of the annual meeting of the National Board of Trade of the United States. Many of the questions discussed are of interest to people here, besides which the resolutions will show our business people the trend of thought among the business people of the republic.

The twenty-third annual meeting of the National Board of Trade of the United States was held at the Shoreham Hotel, Washington, on January 17 to 20 inclusive. The attendance was not so large as on some former occasions, various delegations being short in numbers, but there was a liberal representation of business organizations in prominent cities of this country from the Atlantic to the Pacific coasts. The session was an interesting one, although not eliciting so much of influential discussion as in some other instances of these gatherings.

The National Board of Trade was organized at a meeting held in Philadelphia in June, 1863, at which thirty-two constituent bodies were represented. There have since been annual meetings, with one exception. The general purposes of the organization were set forth as intended to promote the efficiency and extend the usefulness of the various Boards of Trade, Chambers of Commerce, and other chartered bodies, organized for general commercial purposes, in the United States; to secure unity and harmony of action in reference to commercial usages, customs and laws; especially to secure the proper consideration of questions pertaining to the financial, commercial and industrial interests of the country at large.

President Fraley took the chair.

The secretary, Hamilton A. Hill, of Boston, submitted a report on behalf of the executive council.

In view of the position of the anti-option question in Congress, unanimous consent was granted for the introduction of the following, submitted by Mr. Craig, of Detroit, at the beginning of the regular proceedings:

"Resolved, that in the opinion of the National Board of Trade, the business interests of the country demand the defeat of the anti-option bill now pending before the Senate of the United States."

This was adopted without a dissenting vote, and its prompt transmission to the Senate was ordered.

The following, from the Scranton Board of Trade, in relation to uniform commercial law, was adopted:

"Resolved, that the National Board of Trade approves any effort calculated to remove the evils incident to the diverse and multifarious systems of legislation, as now existing in the several states, affecting commercial transactions."

The following, from the New York board of trade and transportation, in regard to trade marks, was adopted:

Resolved, That the growing importance of that species of property known as commercial trade marks, and the interest of the purchasing public therein, merit and demand protection by national legislation which the present registration laws are ineffectual to secure.

Resolved, That the bill entitled "A Bill to authorize the registration of trade marks and protect the same," Senate Bill No. 454, introduced by Mr. Hiscock, and H. R. Bill No. 7216, introduced by Mr. Fitch, in the opinion of the National Board of Trade, is a just, equitable, and deserving measure, which, if enacted, will accomplish a great and necessary reform in the protection of trade marks, of the owners thereof, and of the purchasing public, and Congress is hereby respectfully urged to give said bill an early and favorable consideration.

Propositions relating to a bankrupt law were referred to a committee, which reported favorably concerning the pending bill, and the report was approved.

A department of commerce and manufactures

was favored, in the adoption of the following, from the Philadelphia board of trade:

Resolved, That the commercial and manufacturing interests of the country deserve equally with those of agriculture to receive the attention of the Government; and that for this purpose, a department of commerce and manufactures should be created without further delay.

In view of the extension of public warehouses in the storage of staple products and the enlarging necessity for use of warehouse receipts as negotiable instruments the following, submitted by the Cincinnati chamber of commerce, was adopted:—

Resolved, That it is of particular commercial importance that State legislation governing the issuance of warehouse receipts and the delivery of goods represented by them should be as nearly uniform as practicable, and of such a nature as to furnish the most complete protection to the holder of such receipts.

Resolved, That the National Board of Trade favors the enactment of measures regulating the issuance of warehouse receipts and defining the responsibilities incident thereto, with reference to their application to warehouse receipts of a negotiable nature.

The various propositions on the official list of subjects which related to common carriers and the inter-state commerce law were referred to a committee, whose report, with some modification, was adopted as follows:—

Resolved, that the National Board of Trade hereby indorses and approves of the objects aimed at under the interstate commerce enactment, with the recommendation that it be maintained in the statutes of the United States, in the interest of the commerce of the entire country.

Resolved, That the National Board of Trade favors amendments to the law to regulate commerce between the States which will accomplish,

1st: The giving of prompt effect to the findings and orders of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

2d: Amendment of the Interstate Commerce law which will exempt in conformity with provisions of the Constitution witnesses from criminal penalties, to the end that information as to its violations may be made available in the courts.

3d: Such further amendment of the law as will make corporations indictable and subject to exemplary fines for all violations of the law committed by their officers or agents.

4th: Such definition of the terms of the act as may be necessary to bring within its terms of provisions and restrictions all common carriers engaged in interstate commerce, whether individuals, corporations or lines embracing a diversity of carriers.

5th: Enforcement upon common carriers of strict accountability to the owner or consignee for the prompt delivery of property entrusted to the care of such common carrier for transportation by the imposing of a proper demurrage charge for delay beyond a reasonable time in the transportation of such property.

6th: Freedom from unreasonable declarations of exemption in contracts for interstate carriage.

The Louisville Board of Trade introduced the following proposition:

Resolved, That the forced withdrawal from bond, by payment of tax or exportation of distilled spirits, is detrimental to the commercial, financial and manufacturing interests of the country.

Mr. Shirley, of Louisville, spoke at considerable length in support of the measure, introducing data concerning the workings and effect of the existing system, and pointing out the consequences to be reasonably looked for if the proposed relief should not be provided for, in view of the increased tax on spirits which is expected to be enacted, and its influence on production. Hon. John W. Mason, Commissioner of Internal Revenue was present, and explained various features of the system of collection.

Mr. Stinard, of St. Louis, did not agree with the idea that the bonded period should be extended. He recognized the demand for such relief as due to overproduction, and could not support a measure which proposed such relief by governmental action in the event of overproduction in one article not enjoyed by producers of others.

The merchant marine subsidy question was freely discussed, on a proposition from the New York Board of Trade and Transportation, resulting in the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That every legitimate means to foster our merchant marine engaged in foreign commerce should be adopted by Congress.

Propositions relating to immigration and quarantine matters were referred to a committee, and the following ultimately adopted:

Resolved, That the National Board of Trade hereby recommends the strict enforcement of the immigration laws of the United States, and further recommends that those laws be so amended as to require from every immigrant desiring to come to the United States a certificate from the authorities of the town or district where he or she resides, that he or she is a person of good moral character, has never been convicted of crime, has never been a public charge, and is of industrious habits and capable of taking care of himself or herself, such certificates to be countersigned by the nearest United States consul. Said consul shall also be required to ascertain and certify as to the illiteracy of the immigrant, and the purpose of the individual seeking residence in this country to become a good and loyal citizen of the United States.

Resolved, That the National Board of Trade recommends the establishment by law of national quarantine regulations.

The following from the New York Board of Trade and Transportation was adopted:

Resolved, That Congress be memorialized to provide for commercial relations with the neighboring countries upon broad and comprehensive principles of reciprocity.

The Nicaragua Canal received consideration. The regular list presented several propositions, which were referred to the officers of the Board, with instructions to prepare a memorial to Congress embodying the views indicated in the propositions.

The following, relating to an American ship canal, offered by the Albany Chamber of Commerce, was adopted.

Resolved, That the National Board of Trade heartily endorses the bill now before Congress appropriating the sum of \$100,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary, to defray the expense of such surveys and estimates of the cost of construction of a ship canal wholly within the territory of the United States, from the great lakes to the navigable waters of the Hudson river, and urges its passage by Congress.

A proposition from the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce relative to a ship canal from Lake Erie to the Ohio river was submitted, as follows:—

Resolved, That the plan of effecting water communication from Lake Erie to the Ohio river, along a line from Conneaut Harbor, Ohio, to Davis Island Dam, near Pittsburgh, as surveyed by a commission of the State of Pennsylvania, and reported to the State legislature of Pennsylvania in 1891, is deserving favorable consideration, and Congress is hereby requested to provide for a survey and report upon the feasibility of such a plan, inasmuch as the accomplishment of the project would be of the highest importance to the commerce of the Ohio valley and its connecting interests.

An interesting paper, bearing upon the above proposition, was read, from Col. Thomas P. Roberts, of Pittsburgh, an eminent engineer. Reference was made to the origin and condition of the various canals of Western Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana, with much of data pertaining to the line above proposed, and the extent of commerce between the North-

west and the Ohio Valley region. The measure, however, failed to secure a two-thirds vote, and thus was lost. There had been so much of discussion of matters which contemplated appeals for Congressional appropriation that many members were averse to going further in such direction, regardless of merit in the proposition.

Concerning public highways the following from the Scranton Board of Trade was adopted:

Resolved, That the National Board of Trade recognizes the exceeding poverty of the country, even amid riches, in the universally deplorable condition of its public highways, considers the same a positive obstruction to progress and an exhaustive extravagance, and favors every measure, far and near, that will tend to remedy this evil.

The several propositions relating to monetary and silver coinage questions were referred to a committee, which reported the following, covering such portions as the committee approved of the different measures submitted:

Whereas, The enforced coinage of silver until its volume has reached over \$400,000,000, and the enforced purchase at the rate of 54,000,000 ounces a year, under existing law, have failed either to change the attitude of other nations or to raise the price of the silver metal, therefore,

Resolved, That the National Board of Trade recommends the repeal of so much of the act of July 14th, 1890, as requires the purchase of 4,500,000 ounces of silver monthly, to take effect immediately.

Resolved, By the National Board of Trade that Congress be respectfully memorialized to take steps to revise the monetary system of the country, with a view to securing greater simplicity and greater stability in its character, as well also more complete adaptability to the want of commerce.

Resolved, That the National Board of Trade do urge upon Congress the creation of a commission which shall consider the banking system of the country as now represented by national and state institutions, and report such plan as shall seem to them the basis for a continued supply of currency sufficient in volume and sure of prompt redemption in specie.

After considerable discussion it was decided to postpone action on the question.

The enactment of laws for prevention of adulteration and misbranding food articles was approved.

A proposition from the Scranton Board of Trade favoring the establishment of a permanent census office and statistical department of Government was freely discussed, incident to which Hon. Carroll D. Wright addressed the meeting, advocating that the National Board of Trade, as the representative body of leading commercial organizations of the country, undertake to establish a bureau for the collection and discrimination of commercial and industrial data.

Toronto Hardware Market.

An enlargement of the demand for metals is manifesting itself. Pig iron is arriving quite freely from the United States on last fall contracts. Southern foundry is the chief variety consumed, and is laid down at about \$18.10. A fair-sized sale of Cambria—100 tons—at about \$19.75 is reported this week. Large specifications calling for this iron and other British brands, notably Summerhill, are being looked after by local agents, and are expected to be submitted about the first of next month. Canadian pig is in increasing request, New Glasgow iron finding good sale here, and C. T. F. charcoal retaining the hold that experiments of it as a mixer showed it to be deserving of. Bar iron is steady at \$2.05. Steel is active at 10 to 12c for cast, and 4c for open-heart Bessemer. Copper is quiet at 14 to 14½c. Ingot tin is on the reaction from another advance in London and New York, where the speculative interest has revived on the prospect of the 4c duty be-

ing imposed next July, despite the change in administration.

Hardware is very dull. Travelers report business on future account to be fairly good, but sorting up trade is small.

Quotations are:

Antimony—Cookson's, per lb, 13½ to 14c; other makes per lb, 13 to 13½c.

Tin—Lamb and flag, 56 and 58 lb ingots, per lb 23c; straits, 100 lb ingots, 23½c; strip, 24 to 25c.

Copper—Ingot, 14 to 14½c; sheet, 16 to 18c.

Lead—Bar, 4½ to 5c; pig, 3½ to 3¾c; sheet, per roll, \$1.75 to \$5.25; shot, Can. dis. 12½ per cent.

Zinc—Sheet, 6½ to 6¾c; zinc, spelter, 4½ domestic; imported, 5½c; solder, hf and hf, 18 to 19c.

Brass—Sheet, 21 to 28c.

Iron—Bar, ordinary, \$2.05 to 2.10; bar, refined, \$2.60; Swedes, 1 in. or over, \$4 to 4.25; Lowmoor, 5½ to 6c; hoops, coopers, \$2.60 to 2.65; do, band, \$2.50 to 2.60; tank plates, \$2 to \$2.25; boiler rivets, best, \$4.50; sheet, 10 to 20 gauge, \$2.75 to 3; 22 to 24 do, \$2.75 to 3; 26 do, \$3 to 3.25; 28 do, \$3.50 to 3.75; Russia, sheet, per lb, 10 to 12c.

Galvanized iron—16 to 24 gauge, 5 to 5½c; 26 do, 5½ to 5¾c; 28 do, 5½ to 5¾c.

Iron wire—Market bright and annealed, Nos. 1 to 16 net list, from stock, 15 per cent. discount from Montreal; for Hamilton or Toronto add 10c per 100 lbs.; market tinned, per lb, 4½ to 5c; galvanized fence, same discount as bright and annealed; barbed wire, 4½ to 4¾c; coiled chain, ½ in, 5½ to 5¾c; ¾ in, 4½ to 4¾c; 1 in, 4 1-5 to 4¾c; 1 1-4 in, 3½ to 3¾c; 1 1-2 in, 3 1-5 to 3¾c; iron pipe, off list, 60 to 62½ per cent. discount; galv., off list, 35 to 37½ per cent. discount; boiler tubes, 2 in, 13c; do, 3 in, 18½c.

Steel—Cast, 13 to 14c; boiler plate, 1 1-4 in., \$2.30; 5 16 do, \$2.25; 3 do, \$2.25; sleigh shoe, \$2.50 to \$2.75.

Nails—American list basis, \$2.30 f.o.b. Toronto and Hamilton; brads, mouldings and wire, 75 per cent. off the new list.

Horse Nails—Can. dis. 60 and 10 off for C. and 60 and 10 and 5 off for P.R. and M.

Horse shoes—Per keg, \$3.65 f.o.b. Toronto and Hamilton; \$3.70 f.o.b. London.

Canada plates—Blaine, \$2.75 to 2.90; other, \$2.90 to 3.10.

Tin plates—IC coke, \$3.65 to 3.75; IC charcoal, \$4.25 to 4.50; IX charcoal, \$5.25 to 5.50; IXX charcoal, \$6.25 to 6.50; DC charcoal, \$4 to 4.25.

Gunpowder—Can blasting, per keg, \$2.50 to 2.75; can sporting, FF, \$5; can sporting, FFF, \$3.25; can rifle, \$7.25.

Rope—Manilla, 10½c basis; sisal, 9½c basis. Axes—Per box, \$7 to 12.

Glass—Fourth quality star, 1st, break, \$1.30 to 1.40; 2nd do, \$1.50; 3rd do, \$3.30; 4th do, \$3.60; 5th do, \$3.90.

For old material we quote dealers paying prices as follows: No. 1 heavy scrap, 65 to 70c per 100 lbs.; stove cast scrap, 40 to 45c; burnt cast scrap, 15 to 20c; No. 1 wrought iron, 60 to 65c; No. 2, including sheet iron, hoop iron and mixed steel, 20 to 30c; new scrap copper, 8½c; heavy scrap copper, 9½c; old copper bottoms, 5c; light scrap brass, 5½c; heavy yellow scrap brass, 7½c; heavy red scrap brass, 8½ to 8¾c; scrap lead, 2c; scrap zinc, 2½ to 2¾c; scrap rubber, 2½ to 2¾c; country mixed rags, 30 to 35c per 100 lbs; clean, dry bones, 50 to 60c per 100 lbs; ploughshares, 60 to 65c; railroad iron, 65 to 75c; malleable scrap, 25c.—*Empire.*

Toronto Grocery Market.

Sugars—Granulated, 4½ to 4¾c; Paris lump, boxes, 5½c; extra ground, barrels, 5½ to 6½c; barrels, 5 to 5½c; refined, dark to bright, 3½ to powdered, 4½c; Demerara, 4½c; Trinidad, 3½ to 3¾c; Barbadoes, 3½ to 3¾c.

Syrups—D, 1½ to 2½c; M, 2½ to 2¾c; B, 2½ to 2¾c; V.B, 2½ to 2¾c; E.V.B, 2½ to 2¾c; ex-sup, 2½ to 2¾c; XX, 2½ to 3c; XXX and special, 3 to 3½c.

Molasses—West Indian, barrels, 26 to 33c; New Orleans, open kettle, 45 to 55c; centrifugals, 30 to 40c; inferior low grades, 25 to 28c.

Teas and Coffees.—The talk on teas to day was firmer; on low grades it was strong; on low and medium Japans it was decidedly stronger with some houses asking 1 to 2c advance, on the strength of some good bids from Chicago. It is more than likely we will have slightly higher prices in the near future.

Coffees quiet, at 32 to 34c for East India, 33 to 35c for fine Mocha, and 20 to 22c for Rio.

Dried Fruits.—Raisins and currants are quiet at unchanged prices, but prunes are in demand at the former prices. Stocks of the latter are light here, and there are not many on the way; dealers, therefore, anticipate higher prices. Currants—Barrels, 5½c; half barrels, 5½ to 6½c; cases, 6 to 7c; Vostizza, cases, 7½ to 9½c; Patria, bbls, 6½c; cases, 6½ to 7½c. Raisins—Valencias, 4½ to 5½c; layers, 6½ to 7½c; Sultanas, 6 to 11c; loose Muscatels, \$2.25 to 2.40; London layers, \$2.25; black baskets, \$3.50; blue baskets, \$4.50.

Figs—Elemes, 10 lbs and up, 9½ to 13c; white Malaga figs, 6½ to 7c in 25 lb boxes; natural do in bags, 4½c; mats do, 4½c; 14oz, 9 to 9½c. Dates—Hallowee, 5½ to 6c.

Prunes—Cases, 7½ to 9½c. Nuts—Almonds Tarragona, 15½ to 17c; Ivica, 14 to 15c; do, shelled Valencia, 29 to 33c; filberts, Sicily, 9½ to 10c; walnuts, Grenoble, 14½ to 15c; Marbots, 12c.

Canned Goods. There is no new feature in the market. There is a moderate demand, and sales are being made at former prices. The talk of the street to day was the reported failure of one of the new canning companies, which came on the market for the first time this year. Their pack was not heavy, and, though it may be sacrificed, it will not have any material effect on the market. The destruction by fire of another of the new factories will take a few goods out of the way.

Fish—Salmon, 1's flat, \$1.60 to 1.80; salmon, 1's tall, \$1.45 to 1.55; lobster, clover leaf, \$2.95; lobster, other 1's, \$1.75 to 2.25; mackerel, \$1 to 1.25; finnan haddie, \$1.40 to 1.50; sardines, French 1's, 40c; sardines, French 1's, 17c; sardines, American 1's, 6 to 8c; sardines, American 1's, 9c. Fruits and vegetables—Tomatoes, 3's, 80c to \$1; corn, 2's, 55c to \$1.05; peas, 2's, 90c to \$1; beans, 90 to 95c; pumpkins, 75 to 90c; strawberries and raspberries, 2's, \$2; apples, gals, \$1.75 to 2.00; 3's, 35c to \$1; peaches, 2's, \$2 to 2.75; peaches, 3's, \$3.25 to 3.75; plums, 2's, \$1.40 to 1.75; 3's, \$2.65; pears, 2's, \$1.60 to 1.75; 3's, \$1.75 to 2.10.

Spices, Rice, etc.—Rice, bags, 3½ to 4; do, off grades, 3½ to 3¾c; do, patna, 4½ to 5½c; do, Japan, 4½ to 5½c; sago, 4½ to 5c, tapioca, 4½ to 5c; pepper, black, 11½ to 12c; do, white 18 to 25c; ginger, Jamaica, 18 to 20c; cloves, 10 to 15c; all-pice, 10 to 13c; nutmeg, 90c to \$1.10 cream tartar, 25 to 35c.

Peels.—Prices are firm to stronger. Lemon is going at 15 to 16c; orange at 17½ to 18c, and citron, 25 to 30c.—*Empire*, Jan. 28.

Sheep Supply.

According to reports received by the *Drovers' Journal* from sheep men whose opinions are considered reliable, the visible supply of sheep at the principal feeding points are conservatively estimated as follows. In Nebraska, 350,000; Kansas, 150,000; Iowa, 100,000; Illinois, 100,000; Dakota and Minnesota, 100,000; making a total of 800,000, the majority of which will be marketed by the first of June. This will make about 200,000 per month, which will be a marked increase over last year. The chances are, however, that not all this number will be sent to Chicago though nine-tenths of it will, so that there is not likely to be a sheep famine for a while yet.

Province of the Country Elevator Man.

The true province of the country elevator man is generally accepted as being that of buying, storing and shipping grain for himself, and until within the last two years the majority of elevator men have done naught else. In some states many have cleaned their grain before shipping it, and some have shelled corn, not only for themselves but for any that desire that service. In the Middle states of the Mississippi Valley a few have handled lumber and in the Northwest many elevator men handle salt and coal and some store grain for all comers. In the Dakotas more are doing a storage business than in any state.

The large operators buying principally in states with a large surplus who have houses at many stations, often open but six months of the year, and the irregular buyer who seeks only to secure the cream of the business, buying only when the farmer is rushing his grain to market, have greatly encroached upon the business of the regular country elevator man. This fierce competition and the resulting loss of business has caused the regular buyers some uneasiness. Some have tried to meet the competition by increasing their facilities for improving the quality of grain. Many have accepted the situation as inevitable, and have broadened their field of business to give employment to their help and capital a greater portion of the year than is possible where only a regular elevator business is done.

Ten years ago nearly every country town had one or more flour mills and others were located at points convenient for farmers outside the town. At these mills the farmer procured in addition to flour, his corn meal, Graham and feed. The rise of the big mills and fierce competition among themselves has compelled the proprietors of many of these small mills to suspend operations. After the mills were closed these products were shipped in, until the enterprising elevator man resolved to make an effort to supply the demand for the coarser products and added a feed mill to his elevator equipment. The demand for rye flour as well as feed has been increasing at a remarkable rate in many districts. A large number of elevator men now manufacture these products and some also make buckwheat flour, pearl barley, Graham and corn meal. We do not know of one elevator man who has gone into the grinding business and made a failure of it. Failure is hardly possible, except in a small town where a custom mill has already secured this business. In some places grain dealers handle tile, cement, lime and plaster but this belongs more properly to the province of the lumber dealer.

A large number have taken another step to ward broadening their field of business and have added a baling press. The poor crop of forage products in the United Kingdom and the reported short crop of hay at home has probably caused more elevator men to go into the business of baling and shipping hay during the past six months than during any preceding year. This business properly belongs to the elevator man and no doubt the number engaged in it will be greatly increased. With good facilities for improving grain, shelling corn, grinding feed, buckwheat, rye, corn and Graham and baling and storing hay the country elevator man ought to do a good business every year regardless of poor crops and the competition of large operators and irregular buyers.—*American Elevator and Grain Trade.*

The brass manufacturers of the Dominion have decided to unite under the name of the Brass Manufacturers' Association of Canada for the purpose of promoting a better and more friendly feeling and adopting a uniform schedule of prices on all brass goods manufactured by them. Negotiations are also going on for the formation of a combine among the manufacturers of the finer grades of paper. It is proposed to form a joint stock company similar to the Consumer's Cordage company to buy up all the mills in Canada.



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1.50p	3.19p	23 6	12.41p	1.55p
1.50p	3.04p	27 4	12.49p	2.02p
1.39p	2.51p	32 6	1.01p	2.13p
1.20p	2.33p	40 4	1.20p	2.36p
	2.18p	46 8	1.33p	
	1.57p	50 0	1.57p	
	1.25p	65 0	2.16p	
	1.15p	68 1	2.26p	
	9.35a	165	6.00p	
	5.35a	223	9.55p	
	8.35p	470	0 33a	
	8.00p	481	7.05a	
	9 00a	889	9 35a	

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7.30p	1.15p	0	2.30p	7.30a
6 40p	12.50p	10 0	3.03p	8 15a
5.40p	12.27p	21 2	3.31p	9 03a
5.24p	12.15p	25 9	3.43p	9.25a
4.40p	11.55a	33 5	4.02p	9.58a
4.10p	11.43a	38 0	4.15p	10.25a
3.20p	11 20a	49 0	4.38p	11.15a
2.58p	11 08a	54 1	4.50p	11.48a
2.18p	10 49a	62 1	5.10p	12.23p
1.43p	10 33a	68 4	5.24p	1.00p
1.17p	10 19a	74 0	5.39p	1.30p
12.5 p	10.07a	74 4	5.50p	1.55p
12.22p	9.10a	89 1	6.06p	2.28p
11.51a	8.35a	92 2	6.21p	3 00p
11 01a	9.12a	102 0	6.45p	3.50p
10 20a	8.55a	107 7	7.21p	4.29p
9 49a	8.40a	117 1	7 3 p	5.03p
9 35a	8.30a	120 0	7.47p	5.16p
8 43a	8.06a	129 6	8 14p	6.02p
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10.40a	21.0	White Plains	5.00p	
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