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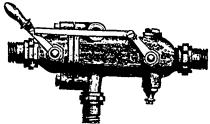
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FRANK BOISSEAU, Proprietor. LATE OF THE RUSSELL HOUSE, OTTAWA. Strictly first-class in every respect. Commercial Sample Rooms Attached.

Prepared specially for the ALKALINE waters of the NORTHWEST, the

ONLY RELIABLE

preparation of its class made.

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Choice assortment of Japans, Oolongs, India Teas Hysons, Gunpowders, Scented Pel.ocs, Assams and Caper Teas in chests, half chests, caddies and 11b fancy papers.

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EVERYTHING IN THE SADDLERY LINE.

I have the largest assortment of goods now ready for SPRING TRADE there are West of Chicago. Mexican, Californian and Cheyenno Saddles of they own manufacture on improved principles. Also a large line of English Sad-dlery at English Invoice Prices.

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Fine

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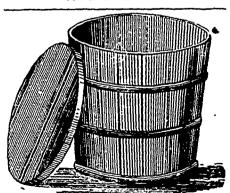
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VOL. 4

WINNIPEG, APRIL 6, 1886.

NO. 28

The Commercial

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

ISSUED EVERY TUESDAY.

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

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THE COMME. CIAL will be circulated extensively amongst wholesale and retail Merchants, Jobbers, Bankers, Brokers, Manufac urers, Hotel Keepers, Insurance and Loan Agencies throughout the entire Canadian North-

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

23 Office, 4 and 6 ames St. Eas

JAS, E. STEEN, Publisher.

WINNIPEG, APRIL 6, 1886.

THE C.P.R. telegraph line to Montreal is now open.

CONWELL & COMBER, Selkirk, offer their grist mill for sale.

J. HEWER, of Rapid City, has started a livery stable at Neepawa.

LOGAN & ROWELL have opened a lumber yard at Wapella, N W.T.

EDWARD McDonald has leased the Marquetce mills at Portage la Prairie.

THOS. PERKINS, dealer in feed, Winnipeg, has been closed by landlord.

R. STEWART, of Wapells, has leased the Queen's hotel at Moosomin.

THE Manitoba Dairy Association has been formed and will apply for incorporation.

F. R. JAKES & Co., hardware dealers, Winnipeg. advertise that they are selling out.

MARSHALLSAY & KNOWLES, general store keepers, Whitewood, N.W T., have assigned in trust.

THE wheat market at Neepawa is about over for the season; 70c is the highest paid, and oats 18c.

SINCLAIR & Co., produce and grain commission merchants, Winnipeg, have dissolved partnership.

THE C.P.R. will replace their depot at Winnipeg, lately destroyed by fire, by a more handsome and commodious structure.

STONE & MURDOCK, millinery and fancy goods, Troy station, have dissolved partnership. Mrs. Stone will continue the business.

ALEX. MAY, of Minnedosa, has been appointed agent for Elliott & Son, agricultural implements, with headquarters at Neepawa.

D. BAWLF, grain commission merchant, Winnipeg, has purchased the business and stock of N. Bawlf, in the same line, at Winnipeg.

THE general stock of R. B. Boddy & Co., of Emerson, will be sold at a rate on the \$, on Saturday uext, at Wolf's auction rooms, Winnipeg.

R. F. LYONS, general storekeeper, Carberry, has sold out at 75c on the S, to Henderson, formerly of Strome & Henderson, of Portage la Prairie.

McFarlane & Walterhouse, grain and commission merchants, Winnipeg, have dissolved partnership. The business will be continued by D. C. Walterhouse.

THE dry goods and clothing dealers of Win nipeg have, with one or two exceptions, ugned an agreement to close their stores at 8 o'c'ock in the evening, during the summer reason.

FOLLOWING is a statement of deposits and withdrawals at the Winnipeg office of the Dominion Savings Bunk for March:

Excess of deposits...... \$ \$90

J. L. Wells. hardware dealer, Port Arthur, has taken into partnership A. Dawson, under the firm name of Wells & Dawson. The business will be continued at Port Arthur as usual, and not moved to Winnipeg as was pre-

viously stated. The mistake occurred from the fact that J. L. Wells will open a hardware store in this city, in addition to his connection with the Port Arthur house.

Following is a statement snowing the value of goods imported, entered for consumption and exported; also showing duty collected during the month of March, 1886, compared with same month in 1885, at Winnipeg:

	vame	vaine
	1885	1886
Goods in ported, dut- iable	\$77,685.00	8 118,226.00
Goods imported tree,.	10,482.00	18,808.00
Total imported	\$88,167.00	\$137,034.00
Goods entered for consumption, duti-		
able and free		\$157,015.00
Duty collected	27,008.10	46,026.78
Goods exported.	13,579.00	13,253.00
The collections of in 1886, were	land revenue	for March,
Tobacco and cigars.		. \$9,738.00
Spirits		40,154.77
Malt		79.25
Petroleum		8755.4
Titte same of Naslan	was and I also	

THE case of Neelands vs. Jackson came up in the Assize Court, at Winnipeg, on Tuesday last. The plaintiff purchased from the defendant a stock of medicines and the contents of a drug store, the agreement being that the purchase money was to be paid in weekly instalments. A chattle mortgage was given in which it was provided that the stock was to be kept up to a certain amount, and it was provided that Jackson was to be at liberty to take stock at intervals. He did this, and then seized the stock, taking possession of the premises, claiming that the stock had not been kept up to the stipulated amount provided for; plaintiff asserts the stock was kept up to the required amount, and now claims damages for the loss and injury to business. At the conclusion of the plaintiff's case Hagel Q.C., for the defendant, moved for a non-suit on the ground that there being no demise classin the chattel mortgage the defendant had the right to take possession at any time. His Lordship directed the case should go to the jury, reserving leave to move in term. The jury found a verdict for he defendant.

Business East. ONTARIO.

Toronto Tea Co., London, have sold out. W. O. Butler, grocer, Picton, was burned out.

U. Tobey, harness maker, Picton, was burned out.

James Ryder, carriage maker, Petrolia, is dead.

M. B. McGaw, hotelkeeper, Bowmanville, is dead.

J. J. Vrooman, grocer, Longwood, has assigned.

Ellis Brown, hotelkeeper, Amherstburgh, is dead.

Timothy Sullivan, saloon keeper, Kingston, is dead.

R. R. Ashbaugh, hotel/ecper, Hamilton, has sold out.

C. Caiger, dealer in hats, Toronto, is about to sell out.

W. J. McLean, foundryman, Lucan, was burned out.

Geo. Williams, tailor, Sarnia; stock advertised for sale.

Summers & Co., dealers in cement, London, have assigned.

N. Smith, jeweler, Tilbury Centre, has assigned in trust.

C. A. Parker, restaurant keeper, Windsor, his gone away.

Robt. Livesly, dry goods dealer, London, has assigned in trust.

J.J. Dutton, dealer in bankrupt stocks, Park Hili, has sold out.

Geo, Cummings, general storckeeper, Rosemont, has sold out.

Wm. Campbell, general storekeeper, Middlemiss, was burned out.

Geo. Russell, tinsmith, Wingham, has sold out to Wait & Walsh.

Mrs. S. Walsh, dealer in shoes, Windsor, has gone out of business.

P. L. Potter, harness makey, Carleton Place, is offering to compromise.

Scott & Co., dry goods dealers, Chatham; stock advertised for sale.

P. D. Learn, dealer in stationery, St. Thomus, has assigned in trust.

J. W. Borrowman, furniture dealer, Amberstburgh, is quitting business.

A. McFall, dealer in shoes, Lucan & Blyth, has sold out Blyth business.

P. Garland, general storekeeper, Huatley, has sold out to W. F. Fenton.

F. J. Gribbin, general storekeeper, Orillia; succeeded by Wm. McMaster.

Alex. Mitchell, of the Lindsay Marble Works, Lindsay, has assigned in trust.

Taylor & Lates, brewers, St. Catharines; Jas. Taylor of this firm is dead.

Hanrahan Bros., bakers, Wingham, have sold out to Alexander Simpson.

Maloney & Fox, bettlers, Amberstburgh, have dissolved; Samuel Fox continues.

G. A. Neveux, hardware dealer, Windsor; style now G. A. & E. B. Neveux.

Smith & Co., dry goods dealers, Toronto; stock advertised for sale by trustee.

Britton & Campton, butchers, Toronto, have dis olved: James Britton continues,

Dixon & Morton, fruit dealers, Hamilton, have dissolved: Wm. Morton continues

John Swinburn, general storekeeper, Stratford; stock advertised for sale by auction.

Geo. McHardy, general storckeeper, Sunderland; stock advertised for sale by auction.

Dixon & Morton, fruit dealers, Hamilton, have dissolved; William Morton continues.

Maybee & Weir, general storekeepers, Gnysboro, have dissolved; Geo. Maybee continues.

Summers, Smith & Summers, lumber merchants, Toronto; Thomas Summers of this firm is dead.

R. Oaten & Son, general storekeeper, Bracebridge; stock advertised for sale by auction April 1st.

QUEBEC.

Geingras & Desrosiers, furniture dealers, have dissolved.

Jos. James & Co., rooters, Montreal, have dissolved.

F. Laplante, barber, Windsor, is offering to compromise.

R. M. Pettes, general storekeeper, Knowlton, has assigned

Phileas Picher, general storekeeper, Lapatrie, has assigned.

Brazeau & Demers, dealers in Iudian goods, have dissolved.

Jos., Bilodeau, general storekeeper, Victoriaville, has assigned.

L. E. Guay & Son, clock manufacturers, Quebec, have dissolved.

J. L. St. Jean, general storekeepe.; Upton, has assigned in trust.

Pierre Lachamber & Co., machinists, Poucherville, have dissolved.

G. H. Bray, general storekeeper, Granby, is offering to compromise.

Chas. R. T. Drummond, commission merchant, Montreal, is dead.

Arthur Renaud & Co., dry goods dealers, Montreal, ha e dissolved.

M. Paquette & Co., general storckceper, Pointe Claire, have assigned.

A. Joseph & Sons, wholesale grocers, Quebec, have dissolved; business continued by Montesiore & Andrew C. Joseph, under some style.

NOVA SCOTIA.

T. J. Eagleson, grocer, Bridgetown, hat assigned.

Wm. D. Killam, dry goods dealer, Yarmouth, bas assigned.

Hancock Bros., dealers in soap and oil, Halifax, were burned out.

Miss Kate Comoy, dealer in dry goods, Halifax; stock damaged by fire.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND,

S. W. McMurray, dry goods dealer, Charlotte-town, has assigned.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

C. O. Rowe, plumber, Moncton, has sold out to Chas. Rowe.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Edward Walsh, grocer, St. John's, has failed. Jas. W. Thompson, manufacturer of oil clot.'s, St. John's, is dead.

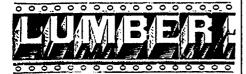
Commercial Summary.

The movement of general merchandise throughout the United States, as reported by wire to Bradstreet's, shows a decline as compared with the preceding week. This is in large part due to the continuation of the strike on the southwestern railways. The unsettling of confidence generally in industrial and transportation lines owing to continued striking to enforce the demands of organized labor is also responsible for the noticeable decline in purchases by interior werehants and others. A report by Bradstreet's on the total number of striking industrial and transportation operatives in the country shows a total of 52,500, against 52,100 (revised) on March 13. The decline in the number striking is about 9,500 within two weeks, but 10,000 striking dress and suitmakers at New York have raised the aggregate. The Gould road striking employes do not exceed 5,000, with 4,500 others thrown out of work. The demand for money at the interior has fallen off, but rates are upheld. Mercantile collections at commercial centres are generally backward. Country roads throughout the west, with few exceptions, are heavy, and trading is restricted in consequence. At most points spring trade is only moderately active, though Pittsburgh, Detroit and Omaha report improvement. In general, operations are mainly for actual requirements. The dry goods movement is not quite as active as last week, but prices are held firmly on small stocks. Deliveries are mostly on old contracts. Prints are lower in price. Wool sales are light and quotations weak. The new clip promises well. The new anthracite coal pool threatens to effect the pig-iron industry unfavorably, through higher prices asked. Its binding effect depends entirely on the word of the presidents of the Bituminous coal is companies interested. higher, owing to scarcity. English coal is bound hither to fill tidewater contracts. Raw and refined sugars are lower on account of heavy stocks. Coffee is barely steady on a light demand. Fancy butter is higher, owing to light supplies. Wheat has been lower on fice speculative options, in the face of the first notable decline in stocks and receipts at the Northwest. Flour has not been so strong, in sympathy with wheat. Corn and oats have been dull. The prospect in California is for a large wheat crop to be harvested unusually early. The number of failures in the United States reported to Bradstreet's this week was 191, against 209 last week, and as compared with 212 in the tweifth week in 1885, 162 in 1884, 170 in 1883, and 118 in 1882 Canada had 30 this week, against 30 last week and 30 in the fourth week of March, 1885. The total number of failures in the United States from January 1 to March 26 is 3,139, agailst 3,686 in a like portion of 1885, a decline this year of 544 failures, or nearly 46 per week, as compared with last year. The total in twelve weeks of 1884 was 3,047, in 1883 was 2,970, and in 1882 was 2,017 .- Bradstreet's.

McKenzie & Mills, wholesale cauned goods and teas, Winnipeg, are enlarging their premises by the addition of an adjoining store. They will add a line of fancy greceries to their business

BOYD & GROWE,

WHOLESALE DEALERS IN



MAPLE STREET.

 ${f WINNIPEG}.$

Wholesale PRetail

(ENGLISH AND AMERICAN DESIGNS.)

Orders by Mail promptly attended to. Samples sent free on application.

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239 MAIN STREET.

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BONDED OR FREE. Customs Government Pond in Building, Freight advanced. Negotiable Receipts issued and Gords Insurca. Charges moderate.

Warehouses and Office: POINT DOUGLAS AV. and HIGGIRS STREET.

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All Consignments promptly attended to and Prompt Returns made.

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Special attention given to

GRAIN EXPORTS.

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545 Main Street, - WINNIPEG.

The Commercial

WINNIPEG, APRIL 6, 1856.

CONFIDENCE IN MANITOBA.

The first signs of confidence in Manitoba after the severe trials of 1883-1 were undoubtedly in connection with the commercial affairs of the province, and as far back as a year ago eastern manufacturers and importers had discovered that these trade affairs possessed an elastic recuperative power, such as had never been shown in any other part of the Dominion. Such men were the first in the east to perceive that recovery from depression in the prairie province was not the slow process which followed the crash of 1857-8 in Ontario, but was going on with a rapidity out of the range of all former eastern calculations. Last fall this return of trade confidence brought a swarm of eastern commercial travellers back to the country, and the care in looking after and attention shown to Manitoba merchants while in eastern cities is a proof that trade confidence in the province is now unlimited.

But there are many other symptoms of returning confidence in Manitoba outside of what might be strictly called trade affairs. Financial concerns in the east who have large investments made here are not now in the despondent state they were in two years ago, and at present look upon many an investment as profitable, which then they deemed rather doubtful if not very dangerous, and there is in the minds of many eastern men of financial ability a growing belief that progress of the most solid and satisfactory character has been going on ever since the first crash of the collapsed boom subsided. Such are the facts made plain to a representative of THE COMMERCIAL during several weeks of a searching investigation in cities of the cast, and the contrast in the feeling between now and two years ago is something which can only be fully comprehended by an investigation such as our representative has made. In using the language of the head of one financial concern which has over a million of dollars invested in this province, "Manitoba is making progress, and the progress is of the solid and satisfactory character," we give the opinions of scores of similar men.

If we are at all inclined to use our reflective faculties, we cannot help looking back to consider under what circumstances

Manitoba has made the progress we now speak of. These circumstances have certainly not been of the most favorable description, but on the contrary have with scarcely an exception been as unfavorable as it was possible for them to be Manitoba is as yet a purely agricultural coun try, and the prices which products of that class have been sold at during the past three years have not been such as would bring wealth to any agricultural community. For over a year we have had the lowest range of grain prices all over the world that the grandfathers among us can remember, and every other class of farm products has been more or less depressed in price during that period. Then in 1883 when our farmers were in their worst struggles we had a badly damaged crop of grain, and in 1884 there was no great improvement in the quality of the crop. Again in 1885 we had some damage to crops from frost, though not to the same extent as in 1883, but sufficient to add materially to the pressure we were passing through, especially when we add the unprecedentedly low prices grain has been sold at during the past six months. These were evi!s over which we had no control, and they were aggravated by others which might have been avoided. For political purposes our country has been slandered and belittled in the east to an extent that might well drive the struggling Maritoban to ask, is there such a thing existing as Canadian patriotism? Nor has the east done all the slandering, for fools in our own province, hounded on by political demagogues have done much to injure the growth and impede the progress of the land they live in, and have displayed the worst symptoms of that suicidal folly of cutting off their own nose to vent their spleen on their face. Railway monopoly and the unjust discriminations of the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. have added to the burden under which the province has tottered, but with pride it may be said, tottered onward in the path of progress.

After taking the above retrospective view of affairs, may we not ask with confidence and not a little pride. If we have progressed during these years of depression until we have forced back the confidence of the outside world, what may we not accomplish once the tide of the world's affairs sweeps into prosperity? Truly we have great reason for hope, and even when hope is long deferred, we can successfully

battle with difficulties under which many a country would have sunk bank into insolvency and social chaos, which a decade or two would not have cleared away. But we have by no means reached yet that stage of progress to which we must attain. Nature has placed in our hands advantages which she has bestowed upon no other portion of the Dominion, and if we fail to make full use of them the loss is our own. The voice of the fool and demagogue in our midst, who world as dupe or knave slander the land we live in, must be silenced in the most summary manner, while the eastern politician, who finds political capital in libeting and belittling it should be remembered and repaid when opportunity affords. The monopoly in which we are tightly held must be broken, even if very summary measures are necessary to do so, and when these things are done, and our people united, we have removed every artificial obstacle to progress; and although nature has made us one or two unfavorable visitations in the past, we have no doubt but she will heartily second our efforts in the future. There is one point on which we must never falter, and that is our confidence in Manitoba. Let that be firm, fixed and unchanging, and it will prompt us to efforts which will retain and increase the confidence the outside world now have

CONTINUED LOW PRICES.

There are periods in each year when certain commodities rise or fall in value with a regularity which can almost be depended upon, and these rises and falls are looked forward to and discounted ahead so to speak, so that their effects are but little noticed and in no way dreaded. But we have also unlooked for periods of depression or activity, which often act with perverse opposition tendencies in different branches of commerce, one branch being abnormally depressed, while another vergeson inflation. Again we have also periods of general inflation and depression all over the commercial world, which the most strenuous efforts of farseeing commercial economists utterly fail to counteract. Through one of these the whole commercial world seems to be passing at present, and we might say that in the depths of one it has been wallowing the greater portion of the past two years, and still the cure for the evil seems as far off as ever. It is needless to discourse on the depressed prices of agricultural products, for it is too keenly felt by those dependant thereon. With cash wheat ranging in Chicago between seventy and eighty cents a bushel for almost a whole year, and other products at a corresponding level, it is unnecessary to go further into details upon that subject.

But depression reigns with an iron hand in commercial and manufacturing circles even more absolutely than in agricultural The soup kitchens and riots in the British metropolis and other cities of that country; the strife between capital and labor in Belgium, and the poverty of the people of Italy and other countries of Southern Europe all tell the tale of un precedented industrial depression in that continent. Political quacks are of course prepared to diagnosce the evil, and we have those in our midst who attribute Great Britain's industrial depression solely to that nation's free trade policy. But when we cross the Atlantic this specious argument goes for nothing. the United States, where there exists the highest system of protective tariffs in the world, thousands of artisans in every large city are in forced idleness and clamoring for work and bread. Strikes on a scale more formidable than ever before heard of are heard of in all directions, and the cry of labor against oppression and depression is heard from shore to shore of the great republic. In the south it seeks vent in striking and Boycotting while on the Pacific slope it has degenerated into Mon golian expulsion and even massacre. In Canada we are not so bad, but it is safe to state that there is scarcely a prominent industry in the Dominion, which has yielded a fair return during the past two years.

The state matters have now reached carries anomaly on its very surface. The laborer is crying for bread, and yet bread has not bean cheaper in a hundred years. Money to invest in industrial affairs is going around the world begging, as we may judge from the plethoric state of the banks, and the fact that call loans in New York have been quoted as low as two per cent. Labor is called for that money may be earned, while money is begging a market, and bread is on a similar mendicant tour, amid the loud cry of its scarcity.

It does seem as if the whole world had reached a state in which a foundation for periodical inflation has become an indispensable element of prosperity, and the

most frequently supplied foundation for this inflation is war. At the very sound of coming war industry and the arts of peace have, so to speak, harned to smile. The sword turned into a plow share is now only the fancy of our childhood, for the plow share now moves most merrily to a martial tune, and cleaves the earth most lively when war inflates its prospec tive reward. It is only too true that we build much of our hopes of prosperity upon the slaughter of our fellow man, and while we sneer at and rail upon the absolute monarchs of the Old World, who march their hosts to the carnage, too many of us are ready to secretly chuckle, if not gloat over their sanguinary folly, because it brings us gain of a temporary nature. For three years thousands if not millions of people have hoped and wished for a great European conflict that our own continent might profit thereby. disappointment has followed the hope and wish, and now there is no room for either. We are left to struggle with depression and low prices in every branch, and without a shadow of a war hope to look forward to. It will be interesting to watch during the next year or two the forces which will combine to bring us out of the present depth. That the world at large is going to rise out of it soon we have no doubt. There is no panic in front of us, and no appearance of any great commercial disaster anywhere. The feeling is only one of sullen depression, and persistently low prices. Whatever these forces may be, we believe they will be far more acceptable than war, and we also believe that the cure they will bring about will be much more lasting than any war has over produced.

DUTIES ON WHEAT AND PLOUR.

During the present session of the Dominion Parliament, the millers of Eastern Canada have been agitating in favor of a change in the tariff respecting wheat and flour. What the millers ask from the Government is, that the duties on wheat and flour be equalized. The millers claim that the present duty of fifteen cents per bushel on wheat and fifty cents per barrel on flour is a discrimination against them, inasmuch as I favors the importation of flour from the United States, against the importation of wheat for local grinding purposes. The millers find that they cannot manufacture the best brands of flour from Eastern Canadian wheat, and consequently they have been obliged to import hard wheat, heretofore principally from Minnesota. It is therefore but natural that the millers should desire a reduction in the duty on wheat, to enable them to import the hard wheat of the Northwestern States, and at the same time shut out flour manufactured from such wheat. However. there are other ways of looking at this question, in which Manitoba and the Canadian Northwest is interested. When Canada found it necessary on account of the high import duties imposed by the United States on imports from this country, to adopt a protective tariff, that tariff was so arranged as to distribute its benefits, or burdens, as evenly as possible to all parts of the Dominion. On account of the geographical position of Mauitoba, which compelled her to import largely from the United States, and from the fact that her exports have up to the last year been very small in comparison with her imports, it has been manifest to all that the protective tariff weighed far more heavily upon this province than on any other part of the Dominion, while in return little or no benefit was received from it. Now, however, we have commenced to export agricultural products to a considerable extent, and wheat being the principal crop, stands at the head of the list of exports. We are in a position from henceforth to supply Eastern Canadiau millers with all the hard wheat which they may require, and our farmers have a right to demand that such requirements be supplied from the granaries of this province, in return for the tax which they pay on agricultural implements and manufactured goods generally, for the benefit of eastern manufacturers. Even were the people of Eastern Canada compelled to purchase the greater portion of their wheat at an extra cost of a few cents per bushel from Manitoba, the balance would still be against this province. But it does not follow that any extra price will have to be paid by the imposition of duties on wheat, for where such a large surplus is produced, prices must be ruled by foreign importing markets. Eastern millers will be able to purchase their supply of hard wheat in Manitoba just as cheaply as if no duties were imposed on importations from the United States. while at the same time they will be helpto provide a market for a portion of the surplus product of the country.

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WINNIPEG.

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

There has been little if any change in the situation of monetary affairs in the city, in comparison with the provious week. There has been a feeling of considerable stringency, and the circulation of money has not been as free as about the first of the year, but perhaps this feeling has not been more marked than might be expected at this season. However, the winter is now considered over, and any temporary closeness in financial matters is e pected to be of very short duration. Already there are indications of improvement, which will become more marked as the season advances. There has been a fairly active call for discounts, at the usual rates of 7 per cent, for first class commercial paper, and from that to 10 per cent. for other securities. There is no change in the real estate loan business.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

The past week has been a quiet one in wholesale trade circles in this city. The previous week concluded the work of shipping out spring orders, and with little sorting trade doing, a very dull week was experienced. In dry goods, clothing, fancy goods, boots and shoes, etc., dealers have had the usual rest which they expect at this season. However, in some lines there has already been an improvement in the receipt of sorting orders, which have now fairly commenced to some in. A great many country merchants have apparently orderd their first stocksas lightly aspossible, with the intention of keeping up stocks by giving additional orders as such are required. By adopting this course the danger of overstocking with unsalcable goods will be avoided. The weather has continued fairly favorable to an early spring, and a good sorting trade is expected from this time forward, should no serious setback occur. In hardware and builders supplies the week has developed a more active movement and the distribution of such wares is now more general, In staple lines, groceries, etc., there has also been an improved demand. The movement of immigration has now set in to a considerable extent, and is not without its influence on general trade, especially in the increased distribution of provisions. In collections there is nothing new to report.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

There is still a tendency to hold off in this branch, and although a few more calls are received, and the number of such is gradually increasing, yet there has not been any active movement as yet. Samples have been sent out to agents, and warehouses at provincial points are being supplied with stocks. It is expected that immigrants who are now coming in will soon require implements with which to commence operations, and as present indications point to an early commencement of spring work it is thought that the basy season cannot long be delayed.

BUOTS AND SHOES!

There has been but little change in this branch and practically nothing new to report. Dealers are still enjoying a season of comparitive quiet, and the few small so, ting orders coming in to

date have not taxed the energies of dealers in filling them Collections slow

CLOTHING.

The week has brought but little new busiress, and with old orders all sent out, there has been very little stir about warehouses. However, there are indications that the demand is improving, and in a very short time an active season in sorting is expected to get in. Collections are very slow.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

There is about the usual trade doing in this branch that has existed for some weeks back, with but tittle improvement as yet in the movement. Collections are fairly good.

DRY GOODS.

Last week was one of the quietest of the season in this branch, not because the amount of actual business doing was smaller, but on account of the fact that spring deliveries had been about all cleared out during the previous week. As far as actual business was concerned, there was probably fully as good if not a little better demand than during the few weeks previous. Sorting orders have commenced to come in more freely, and dealers are hopeful of a very good trade in this way during the balance of the season, a good many country merchants having oredred their first stocks sparingly. A few buyers have been in the market, making purchases from stocks, but their number has not been large as yet. From the city trade there has come evidence of an early improvement. Collections rather quiet.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

Trade continues very steady and fairly active in this branch. We give a list of quotations as follows: Howard's quinine, 90c to \$1; German quinine, 80 to 90c; opium, \$4.50 to \$5.00; morphia, \$2 to \$2.50; iodine, \$4.25 to \$4.50; bromide potassium, 50 to 55c; American camphor, 33 to 40e; English camphor, 45 to 50e; glyce ine, 25 to 35c, tartaric acid, 65 to 70c; cream of tarter, 35 to 40c; bleaching powder, pe. eg \$8 to \$10; bicarb soda, 35 to 40c; sal soda, \$2.25 to \$2.50; soda ash, \$3 to \$3.25; chlorate potash, 25 to 35c; alum, \$2.75 to \$3; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur, flour, \$4 to \$4.25; salpner, roll, \$3.75 to \$4; American blue vitrol, cask \$8 to \$9.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

In this branch there has been a fairly active trade doing for the season, and dealers express themselves as hopeful for the future. Spring deliveries have been all made, and there is therefore less bustle about the warerooms.

FISH.

Considerable quantities of frozen Lake Winnipeg fish are still offered on the market in wagon lots, and there is a good city demand for the same. Trade in frozen scafish is also good. though prices rule low as the season draws toward a close. Quotations are: Whitefish, 3 to 4c; pickerel 3c; 'ackfish 13c. Salt white, \$4 per bbt; Labrador herrings, \$8 per bbl; salmon, \$17 per bbl; mackerel \$1 to \$1.75 per kit; smoked haddocks, 93 to 10c per pound. Fresh sea fish are quoted: haddock 7c; cod 6c; herrings 5c; smelts 8c; tommy cods 4c; lobsters 12c.

The changeable weather of the past week has interfered to some extent with trade, and some shipments made by freight were damaged by frost. In other respects the situation is very much the same as the previous week. There is nothing new in the market. In apples the feeling is slumpy. Stocks are large and new cars continue to be brought in. Lots may be had at almost any price from \$2 upwards. Choice fruit is also lower, the highest quotations now being \$4 50. Oranges are unchanged. Lemons again firmer. Cranberries are selling for what they will bring, and stocks a. etting pretty well used up, both in quantity and quality. Quotations now are: oranges, Los. Angelos, \$5.00 to \$5.25, per hox, Messinas, \$6.00; Valencia, cases, 400 to 420 count, \$9.50c \$10.00; Riverside \$6.00 to \$6.50 per box. Apples are in large supply and are worth about \$1.00 to \$4.50 for extra choice. Messina lemons, \$6.00 to \$6.50 per box; cranberrries, \$2.00 to \$5.00: valencia raisins, \$3.75; London layer raisins, \$4.00 to \$4.25; black crown, \$5.00 to \$5.25 walnuts, 15 to 20ca lb; almonds, 20c; filberts, 124c; necans, 16c; peanuts, 15c for roasted and 13c for raw; figs 18c to 20c.; dates mats 8 to 10c: golden 10c. Apple cider,\$10 per bbl.

FUEL.

Since the sleighing has disappeared, the supply of country wood on the market has not been so large, and city dealers are holding for better prices. Quotations are: poplar \$3.25; oak \$5.50; tamarae \$4.50. Prices are for car lots, delivered. On track, 50c per cord less than above. Hard coal is worth \$10.00, and soft \$8. Galt coal sells at \$7.50 on track.

There has been no change worthy of special reference in this line. Dulness continues to be the ruling feature. Only a very few small lots are occasionally going to the country, and in the city trade is neglected. Collections are

FURS.

The annual spring sales of raw furs, held in London last month, were a great success. Prices realized were from 10 to 60 per cent. advance on previous values. The following cable report of the sales was recieved at Montreal: Otter, best quality sold at a sharp advance, quote them from \$8.00 to \$10 00: Fisher, sold about the same as last march, quote \$3,50 to \$5; Silver and Cross For, sold at about 1884 prices, h ving recovered the heavy decline which took place last year; Martin, sold well, some lines advancing considerably, quote these at 90c to \$1.15; Mink, contrary co all expectations this article has sold at a strong advance, quote 75c to \$1. Cable advices received in New York, have the following regarding the sales : Alaska furs were 6 per cent. higher that in November 1885. At the Hudson's Bay sale otter was 60 per cent. higher than last March, fisher 5 per cent. higher; fox silver 60 per cent, and fox cross 25 per cent higher. At Tuesday's sale of the Hudson's Bay Company, lynx was advanced 60 per cent.

GROCERIES

A fairly healthy tone prevails in this staple branch. Though there is yet no rush, still

some improvement is noticeable in the demand, and the distribution is gradually becoming more general. A full report of the budget speech has not yet come to hand here, but it would appear from a summary of the same that there will be no changes in the duties to materially affect prices, which are steady and unchanged here. Collections are rather slow. Quotations are as follows: Sugar raw, 64c, ye'low 61 to 7c; granulated 81c; lump 91 to 9c Coffees, Rios, 13 to 15c; Government Java 23 to 33c, other Javas 22 to 27c; Mochas 31 to 34c. Teas range, Moyune gunpowder 25 to 70c; panfired Japan 23 to 45c, basket-fired 25 to 40c, Ping Sucy young hyson 20 to 30c; Moyune young hysoa 25 to 50c; Season's congous, 1885-86, 20 to 55c.

HIDES.

Prices rule steady and unchanged as follows: Steers. Winnipeg inspection, No. 1 7e; No. 2, 6e; cow, No. 1, 6e. No. 2, 5e; balls, 5e. calf, fine haired real yeal, 7 to 13 pound skins, No. 1, 10; No. 2, Sc. Sheep pelts, 30 to 65e. Tallow 2½c pro 1b.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

There has been a decided improvement in the demand for general shelf hardware, and during the week a good delivery was made. In heavy hardware and metals there has also been some indication of an early opening up of spring trade. Advance of lic in the duties on wire fencing has been announced, which will probably advance prices to that extent. Prices continue rather firmer, though quotations are unchanged for the week Prices are as follows: Cut nails, 10d and larger \$3.35 to \$3.75c I. C. tin plates, \$5.50 to \$5.75; I. C. tin plates, double, \$11 to \$11.50; Canada-plates, \$3.50 to \$3.75; sheet iron, \$3 to \$4.50, according to grade; iron ripe, 40 to 50 per cent. off list prices; ingot tin, 25 to 30c per lb., according to quality, bar iron, \$2.50 to \$3 per 100 1b; shot, 6½ to 7c a 1b; tarred feit, \$2.60 to \$2.85 per 100 lbs.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

The improvement continues, the call coming principally from the country. Prices are as follows: Spanish sole, 30 to 32e; slaughter sole, 33 to 35e; French calf, first choice, \$1.35 to \$1.50; Canada Calf \$1.00; French kip, \$1 to \$1.10; B Z kip, \$5 to 90e; slaughter kip, 55 to 75e; No. 1, wax upper, 50e; grain upper, 65e; harness leather, 33 to 35e for plump stock; American oak sole, 55 to 69.

LUMBER.

There has been at last some indications of returning life in this trade, though the actual movement has not yet assumed any decided proportion. The improvement noted has been principally in inquiries, which goes to show that contractors are now on the alert and making their calculations for the coming season's work. Dealers expect a fair trade to set in soon and with the steadier and firmer prices now ruling, together with the reduction in the supply, a more prosperous season may be looked for.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS.

There is some improvement in the demand as the weather becomes more springlike. Prices are unchanged and as follows: turpentine S5c: | houses throughout the province, but the quan-

linseed oil, raw 75c per gal., boiled 78c; seal oil' steam refined, \$1.10; castor, 14c per lb; lard No 1, \$1.00 per gal; olive, \$1.00 to \$2, according to quality; machine oils, black 25c; oleine, 40c; fine qualities, 50 to 75c. Coal oils, headlight, 26c; water white, 30c. Calciued plaster, \$4.00 per bbl; Portland cement, \$5; white lead, genuine. 7.50; No 1 \$7.00; No 2, \$6.50 and window glas first break, \$2.50.

SADDLERY AND HARNESS.

There has been considerable activity in this branch, and a fair number of orders for leather, saddlery hardware, etc., have been received from country menufacturers.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

There has not been any very active move, ment of late, but a fairly satisfactory business is doing. Collections are slow.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

There has been a falling off in the demandand the activity of the previous week has given place to a quieter feeling. Retailers have loaded up in expectation of an advance in the duties, but it would appear that there will be no general changes in the duties. Prices are: Gooderman & Wort's 5 year old, \$2.75; 7 year old, \$3.25; old rye,\$1.80; Jules Robin brandy, \$4.50; Bisquet Debonche & Co., \$4.70; M rtell, \$6 Hennesy, \$6.50; DeKuyper gin, \$2.75; Port wine, \$2.25 and upwards; Sherry \$2.25 and upwards; Jamaica rum, \$3.50; DeKuyper red gin, \$11 per case; DeKuyper green gin, \$6 per case; Martell and Hennery's brandy \$13.50 per case of 12 bottles.

THE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

There has been no change in the general situation in the grain markets during the past week. Deliveries at provincial points have gone on gradually decreasing as the season advances, and quiet and disinterested feeling is settling down over the markets. At many points deliveries are now that light that a market may hardly be said to exist. Prices have not materially changed, and outside influences seem to have no weight in this market. Millstuffs have been fairly active and firmer, with increased exportation. Provisions lave been in better demand, and the movement in immigration has induced a wider distribution. Hog products continue to rule low since the break in prices at Chicago.

WHEAT.

The wheat market has continued on quietly in the same course as for the past few weeks, and altogether without disturbing influences. Outside changes in prices have had no effect upon values here, and the same high range of prices has been maintained, in spite of breaks in other wheat centres. Very little wheat has been delivered at provincial points during the week, with the exception of some activity at stations recently opened on the Southwestern railways, and the general feeling is that the busy season is now over. Farmers will soon be busy with their spring operations, and in fact some seeding has already been done in the more favored portions of the province. There is still considerable wheat in elevators and store-houses throughout the province, but the onan-

thy is being steadily reduced by exportation, and deliveries by farmers are not sufficiently large to roplace shipments to any extent. There is still considerable difficulty experienced in obtaining cars for exporting purposes, and had the supply of these been anything like adequate, there would now be little surplus wheat in the country. The feeling is probably slightly easier in regard to prices, though quotations have not changed, and holders still ask outside prices. In the city as high as 80c was paid for choice No. 1 hard, both on the track and from farmers. Damaged lots have been quieter and in less request, and where badly damaged have not been wauted at all. Regular quotations on track here by grade may be considered the same as last week, as follows: No. 1 liard 80c; No. 2 75c; No. 1 northern 75c; No. 2 70c; No. 3, 60c. Frosted lots are worth from 55 to 60c for best samples, and possibly as high as 70c for a really choice sample. Badly damaged lots from 25 to 40c. On the farmers' market hard wheat is now quoted at from 72 to 80c, and northern grades at 65 to 72c. At provincial points prices range from 60 to 70c for hard wheat, and probably as high as 75c at some points.

FLOUR.

There has been no change to note in prices. Production is going on steadily at about the usual rate, and the export movement continues up to the average. The Montreal Trade Bullstin reports a fair demand at that place for Manitoba strong bakers', with sales at from \$4.65 to \$4.80. Priceshere areas follows: patents, \$2.45; strong bakers, \$2.15; XXXX \$1.70, and superfine \$1.30 to \$1.40.

BRAN AND SHORTS

The local demand continues good, and the exportation of considerable quantities to castern markets, where higher prices have been realized, has had the effect of advancing prices here \$1. Bran in now quoted at \$9.25 and shorts \$10.25.

OATMEAL.

There has been some export movement and a fair local demand. Quotations are given at \$2.35 for standard and \$2.65 for granulated.

POTATOES.

Remain quiet and unchanged, with very little movement as yet. The quotation is about

EGGS.

Supplies have been coming in ery freely from provincial points, and these, together with quantities previously imported, have overstocked the market. Prices have taken unother drop, and fresh can now be had at 11 to 12c.

CHEESE.

Continues in the usual moderate demand, at unchanged prices. Prime is quoted at the unchanged price of 10½ to 11c, and medium at 9½ to 10c. Ontario manufacture now in the market is worth 11c.

BUTTER.

There is still no change to note in prices, and the demand and supply continue about as usual. Choice has been scarce and firm, with a good demand, at from 22 to 23c. There has also been some demand for medium grades, but the feeling is easier. For such prices range from 12 to 18c.

OATS

In street deliveries by farmers, there has been practically nothing doing, and the few loads on the market have gone off at from 27 to 28c. The demand has been light and stocks held up by dealers and others in the city are quite large enough to supply all anticipated demands. Prices are now getting down to an export hasis. Car lots on track here are quoted at from 24 to 26c, and perhaps 27c would be paid for choice white. At outside points the average price paid is about 18c.

BARLKY

There has been little movement in this grain, and a few cars of rejected would probably cover the exportations. Some has been taken on the street for feeding purposes. From 32 to 35c would be paid here for No. 3. Rejected ranges from 25 to 30.

BACON.

Prices have not changed since last report, and continue to rule low, in sympttly with the decline at Chicago. The demand is steadily improving. Quotations are: dry salt 8c; moked 9c; rolls '1c; breakfast bacon 11c; old dry salt 7c.

HAMS

There has been a fair city demand, and country trade improving The quotation is now 12c.

MESS PORK.

There is now a better distribution to provincial points. The price remains at \$15.

MESS BEEF.

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

LARD.

No change to note in prices. Quetations are: \$2.10 per pail; or 93c per 1b for tierces.

DRESSED HOGS.

The demand is now light for packing purposes, and prices are easy. Receipts are on the decline. Quotations range from \$4.25 to \$4.50.

DRESSED MEATS.

There is no demand for frozen beef, and the trade in this is about over for the season. The quotations is from 5½c to 6c. Mutton now offered is imported and worth from 9c to 10c. Veal Sc to 11c. Prices are for dealers' quotations.

DRESSED POULTRY.

Stocks are not large, but dealers wish to clear out the balance of frozen before warm weather. Quotations now are 12½c for turkeys, 10c for chickens, 9c for geese and 12½c for ducks.

OYSTERS.

Only a moderate trade and unchanged, cans are worth 35c for standard; 40c for plain select, and 45c for extra. Bulk sell at \$2 0 \$2.50 per gallon.

MINNEAPOLIS.

The continued disappointment resulting from the slow decline in the visible, quite large receipts, and a decline in the demand from outside mills, contributed to make the past week a dull one on 'change. The interest of the crowd centered chiefly on reports from winter wheat sections, the progress of plowing a 1 seeding in the Minneapolis belt, and gossip on recent local events. The bulls are not all dead yet, and while the prediction of a further decline of 5 to 6c is frequently heard, there are many who believe that bottom has at last been touched, and that even if an early and large advance is improbable, there must come a hardening and gradual improvement in values. The belief that winter wheat is not in good condition is gaining ground, despite the fact that confessedly reliable authorities have constantly sent in favorable reports, but there is a disposition to await the next Government report before acting on this belief in a speculative way. The chances are, however, that even if this report is late enough to be deemed conclusive, it will be forestalled by private enterprise for private benefit, if there is any price-making influence in the facts, whatever they may be.

While the area plowed and seeded in this and the greater number have enough their thus far is not large, indications are that them in motion two or three weeks yet.

the season has opened with the ground in good condition, that the crop will go in early, and that we are to nave pleasant settled weather for some time. The area will not vary much, it is believed, from that sown last year, though there may be an increase of 5 per cent. Many farmers would sow less wheat this year if they keew that some other crop would do as well or better than the average crop of wheat.

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

April. 1. Wheat. Highest. Lowest. Closing 1885. No. 1 hard. . \$5\frac{1}{2}\$... \$5\$... \$5\$ \$2\$ No. 1 north'n \$0\$... \$0\$... \$0\$ 79 ... \$73\$... \$73\$... \$73\$... \$73\$

Futures were dult and weak, May 1 hard opening at 87c and closing at 863c, May 1 northern opened at 82c and closed at 813c. Coarse grains were neglected, corn closing at 31 to 32c, oats at 29 to 303c, borley at 45 to 65c and rye at 49 to 51c, all by sample.

MILLSTUFF. -Continues in better supply and is duller, bulk Lian selling at \$8 to \$8.50 and shorts at \$8 to \$8.75 per ton.

From n.—There is again a fair export inquiry for flour, but the offers made are as yet too low, as a rule, to tempt millers to sell freely. The domestic market is at a standstill, buyers not caring to load up on an erratic and far from strong wheat market, while millers insist that they must have more for their product than the mere cost of production and delivery. Shipments show an increase in keeping with that in the output, and stocks here are about nominal, having been reduced one-half during the month.

Quotations for car or round lots at the mills are as follows: Patents, \$4.50 to \$4.70; straights, \$4.10 to \$4.30; first bakers', \$3.60 to \$3.80; second bakers' \$3.00 to \$3.20; best low grades, \$2.00 to \$2.20, in bags; red dog, \$1.50 to \$1.60, in bags.

These quotations are on flour in barrels, except as stated. The rule is to discount 30c per 3bl for 250 and 140 lb jute bars, 20c for 24lb cotton sacks, 15c for 40lb cotton sacks, 10c for 24lb cotton sacks, and 20c for 40lb paper sacks.

The mills now have almost as much water as they can use and show greater activity than for a long time. There were eighteen which recorded an output last week, and the figures were the largest since last November, there having been no week since that date when over 100,000 bbls were manufactured. The production of the week ending Saturday was 123,400 bbls-averaging 20,500 bbls daily-against \$0,000 bbls the preceding week, and \$3,100 bbls for the corresponding time in 1885. week the mills occupy about the same position There were eighteen as they did a week ago running at noon to-day, with a capacity of 26,-000 bbls, and they were producing not far from 21,500 bbls. The last engine has been shut down and everybody is now depending on water for a motive power, though some are not quite able to run up to full motion. The flour market is quiet. There is some inquiry and demand from abroad, at lower prices, but domestic trade is dull. The mills are at present working mostly on orders taken some time ago, and the greater number have enough to keep

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

RECEIPTS.

	Mar.	30.	Mar.	23.	Mar.	16.
Wheat, bus .	. 311	,360	350	,000	483	,840
Flour, bbls .		390		984		125
Milistuff, tons.		27	•	123		147
	sim	MEN	TS.			

Mar. 30 Mar. 23 Mar. 16, Wheat, bus . \$6,800 125,440 85,120 Flour, bbls . 125,137 \$8,893 84,698 Millstuff,tons . 3,026 3,107 2,576

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

MINNEAPOLIS.

			March 29.	March 22.
No. I hard		٠.	1,762,474	1,772,234
No. 1 northern			1,468,989	1,606,662
No. 2 northern			695,500	777,452
No. 3,			11,319	11,823
Rejected			44,635	36,521
Special bins	••		1,335,066	1,374,646
			5,317,883	5,579,338
		ST. P.	ADL.	

In elevators - March 31, March 24, March 17, bush ... 1,042,000 1,045,000 1,052,000

DULUTH. March 29. March 22. March 15.

In store, bus. . 6,054,965 5,874,630 5,796,716 Affoat, bus. . 124,521 124,521 124,521

Total, bus 6,179,486 5,899,151 5,931,237

—Northwest Miller.

The Duration of Natural Gas.

John F. Carll writes as follows in the Petrolcum Age: "The fallacious notion that naturalgas deposits will be more enduring than petroleum deposits have been needs correcton. No good reason can be assigned why the average life of a gas-pool should be greater than that of an oil-pool. Indeed, if the probabilities are considered, the chances for longevity appear to be in favor of the latter. Oil, when produced in excess of daily demands, can be tanked for future use; accumulating stocks depress prices; low prices retard development, and thus prolong the life of a pool—and, as before cited, oil can be pumped with profit after gas has been practically exhausted.

"Gas cannot be tanked like oil, and in most cases no prepartions are made for controlling and saving it in the wells; all daily surplusage is wasted; there can be no accumulation of stocks above ground to affect market values, hence prices are more likely to advance than decline, and all increasing demands must be met by new wells.

"The location of a gas-pool is evidently a very important fretor in estimating its probable life. If situated where only a 'imited market is to be supplied it may be lasting; but if near a large city which cannot be surfeited, it must soon be exhausted by the excessive drilling of speculators and competing pipe-lines, and it would not be at all surprising if some of the gas-pool now starting out with the greatest promises should have brilliant but short-lived careers."

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EASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO.

The past week has been another one of low prices in the wheat market, and without any important feature whatever. Prices on the last day were just about where they stood on the first day of the week, and as will be seen by reference to the closing quotations for each day, the variations in prices were but slight. Altogether the week has been a quiet and uniateresting one. There has not been any indication of a higher range of prices being reached in the immediate future, and many who have studied the situation seem to think that we have reached a period of permanently lower values in wheat. Ontside news have been of the regular routine character at this season, and unimportant in nature. The visible supply on March 27th was 49,773,979 bushels, compared with 48,088,987 busnels for the corresponding week of last year. The decline in the visible for the week ending March 27th was 761,335 bushels. It was estimated that on the first of April, stocks of wheat and flour in the United Kingdom had decreased about 20 to 25 per cent, as compared with January 1. A 20 per cent. reduction would make stocks there on April 1 about 19,-091,200 hushels. The amount affoat was estimated at 9,000,000 less than last year. Provisions have continued to rule low and depressed, though on the last day a spurt occurred, and prices closed 15c higher. Pork is now about over \$2 per barrel lower than the same month last year and nearly \$6 per barrel lower than in April, 1884.

On Monday there was considerable activity ia the wheat market. Fluctuations were confined within a parrow range, owing to the fact that there was little outside news to influence the markets. Cables reported steady markets in Britain. Liverpool was reported inactive, and with no indications of better prices. The surplus of English wheat was said to be large, and free offering of India, California and Oregon. May opened at Sige and sold down to Sog. The principal cause of weakness was the report that receipts at Duluth were large and would probably amount to 100 cars a day for ths next two weeks. May closed in the efternoon at 80%c. Com was moderately active and casier, May being quoted at 383c, May oats 303c. Another sharp, break took place in pork, first sales being 10c lower, and declining 20 to 224c. The decline was owing to larger receipts of hogs than had been anticipated. Closing prices were.

				Mar.	April.
Wheat	·	• •		 \$0.76}	763
Corn	••			 35}	351
Oats	••		• •	 27	27
Pork			••	 9.30	9.30
lærd	• •			 5.99	5 90

On Tuesday there were indications of more firmness in the whear market, though there was little upon which to base this. Cables reported a quiet feeling in British and continental markets, and additional weakness was given on account of the railway strikes. The principal

eastern news regarding the war like attitude of Greece, and bull speculators were disposed to make capital out of a decline in Russian securities, based on eastern complications. Wheat opened to lower, but soon regained this, and at one o'clock May stood at 814c. In the afternoon a gain of he was made, on account of purchases for export. Corn was lower, but reacted. Oats dull. Pork again declined, May selling at \$9.25 and June at \$9 30, a drop of 20c. Prices then gradually recovered until the starting point had been nearly reached. Closing prices

			Mar.	April.
Wheat	 	 	\$0.769	765
Corn		 	35	35
Oats	 	 	271	27}
Pork	 	 	9.30	9.30
Lard	 	 	5.90	5.90

The wheat market had rather a weak feeling at the opening on Wednesday, but notwithstanding this prices soon advanced to SIIc for May delivery, and \$31c for June. Then the market declined ic, only to almost immediately advance to higher than the point from wnich the decline commenced. Another break then occurred, and at 10 o'clock May stood at 81c. Considerable long wheat came out on the break. Cables were somewhat improved in tone. Corn was fairly active and lower. Oats neglected. Provisions were firm at the start, but free offerings weakened the market, and prices dropped 10c on pork and 24c on lard. It is thought that the home pork syndicate are enloading secretly, and that a loss of from \$175,000 to \$200,000 will be realized. Closing prices were:

			Mar.	April.
Wheat	 	 	€0.76}	76 1
Corn	 	 	341	341
Oats	 	 	27	27
Pork	 • .	 	9.25	9.25
Lard	 ••	 	5.871	5 S7 <u>1</u>

On Thursday the wheat market was quite steady, and the bulls managed to maintain a comparatively firm front, notwithstanding the fact that stocks had not decreased as much during the week as had been counted upor. Deliveries of wheat were fairly liberal, amounting to about 750,000 Prices opened slightly better than on Wednesday, but the bulk of trading was done at about 4c lower, and fluctuations were confined within a limit of 4c. Corn was active and firm, oats quiet and unchanged. Pork opened 5c lower and declined 5c, recovering 74c before the close. The feeling was nervous. Lard was strong. Closing prices

			April.	May.
Wheat	 	 	&9.76g	819
Corn	 	 	343	36ફ
Oats	 	 	267	308
Pork	 	 	9.25	9.35
Lard	 	 	5.921	5.973

The wheat market was stronger at the opening on Friday and prices ruled je better, and were stubbornly contested all the morning, though prices gradually receded to the close. In the afternoon wheat declined to 81c for May. Cable reports were conflicting and unimportant. The talls, however, derived considerable comfort from the report that a cold influence upon the market was derived from wave was approaching, and war-like rumors

were floating about promisenously. Corn and oats were quiet. Pork opened 710 higher, and lard 21c higher, with a fairly firm market for both during the early part of the session. Later prices receded to the start, but were again higher in the afternoon. Closing prices were:

			Mar.	Apru,
Wheat	 • •	 	761	81
Corn		 	342	383
Oats	 	 	269	308
Pork		 	9.30	9.374
Lard	 	 	5.921	5.97

On Saturday the wheat market was weaker and prices declined. Trading was light and fluctuations in prices were confined within narrow limits. May sold from 801 to 802c and June from \$2 to \$23c, the latter closing at \$23c. Pork opened weak and lower, but soon developed unlooked for strength and sold up from 15 to 20c. Lard was also firm and higher. Closing Prices were.

			Apul.	Moy.
Wheat			 \$0.76	89
Corn Oats Pork			 _	_
Oats	٠.	 	 	
Pork		 	 9.45	9.50
Lard		 	 $5.97\frac{1}{2}$	6.00

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

The stock market has been more active during the past week, at very firm prices. Nearly all the leading bank stocks show a fractional raise, though ro marked advance has occurred in any. Two were stationary, and none lower. Northwest Land sold at 754 and 754 C.P.R. stocks were higher in sympathy with London cables of & higher, and New York the same. Closing bids on March 31, as compared with the week previous were as follows:

			Ŋ	lar. 24.	Ma	r. 31.
Montreal				208		2081
Ontario		• •		1124		113
Toronto				1972		198
Merchants'				1211		1211
Commerce				1215		1211
Imperial				1333		134}
Federal				110		110
Dominion			• •	212		2127
Standard		• •	••	1223		1231
Hamilton				133	+1	134
Northwest	Land	••		763		75}
C.P.R. Box	લીક			101		1015
do Stoc	ks			66 1		67
	GRAIN	AND	PROV	ISIONS.		

There has been little change in the situation here during the past week, and the grain market has ruled quiet since our last report, drop in prices at other wheat centres has had the effect of unsettling the market here, and dealers have been disposed to hold off for an improvement. Buyers would not make purchases at prices roling before the decline and holders seem quite willing to carry their stock until such time as an advance may again set in. Receipts have been very light, notwithstanding that a large portion of the crop is yet to be marketed. Barrey is the only grain which has been largely marketed as yet, while wheat isstill held to a great extent by farmers. In provisions trade has steadily improved.

WHEAT.

The movement has been light, and prices have continued firm. Red winter has sold throughout the week at 84c. No. 2 fall was worth from 83 to 84c, wish but few sales. No. 2 spring was scarce and steady at from 82 to 84c.

FLOUR.

Holders have continued to ask from 5 to 10c more than buyo a were willing to give. Superior extra was offered at \$3.70, with \$3.65 bid. Extra sold at \$3.55, but generally held at \$3.60.

OATS.

Receipts light and prices steady and firm. Toward the close prices were a fraction higher. Cars were offered on track at from 35 to 36½c, but the latter price was above the views of buyers.

RARLEY.

There has been scarcely anything doing in barley. No. 3 choice has sold at 60c, and exceptionally fine sample outside at equal to 70c; No. 3 sold last week at 57c, which would have been repeated at the close with holders bigher; extra No. 3 worth 72 to 73c, and No. 2 from 82 to 83c, but none offered.

PEAS.

Quiet and unchanged, at 59 to 60c.

POTATOES.

Cars on track sold at 50c, but later none were to be had at these prices. Dealers were not inclined to tid higher, and no sales are effected.

APPLES.

Car lots 'very quiet, at the old price of from \$1.50 to \$2.25.

EGGS.

Receipts have fallen off somewhat, and all offered have found buyers, usually in case lots, at 12½ to 13c, round lots have been neither much offered ner wanted, and not worth over 12c.

CHEESE.

A fair trade has been done at firm prices. Stocks are now rather low. Fine sold in small lots at 9 to 9½c, and medium at 7c. Skims are worth about 5c.

BUTTER.

The improvement in this market has coatinued, and while a few weeks ago stocks were out of all proportion to the demand, there is now an actual scarcity of nearly all grades. Bayers for all qualities have been ready to make purchases at reasonable prices. Very choice, answering to selections, has continued tobe the most difficult to obtain; these have been taken readily at 20 to 21c, and a few tubs of Morrisburg and Brockville make have gone to 22 to 23c, medium dairy has been sold to a small extent at 14 to 16c, and some enquiry has been heard for good straight yellow for singment at 8 to 9c, but no sales were reported. Rolls have been very scarce, and good to choice qualities in active demand at 15 to 18c, but inferior have continued to sell as low as ever.

PORK.

Stocks have been light, but the demand has been equally so. A few small lots changed hands at \$14.

DACON

There has been some improvement in the demand. Long clear sold in car lots at 7c, and in cases at 7½ to 7½c. One sale of ten tons of country cured was reported at 6½c. Cumberland has been quiet. Rolls were worth 8½ to 9c and bellies 10 to 11c.

HAMS.

Small lots have sold at 11c, and in large quantity 101c would be accepted.

LARD.

Pails continue to sell at 9 to 94c in lots under 50. Large pails have sold at 83 to 84c, and tierces at 74c.

HOGS.

Few have been offered and prices rule at from \$6, to \$6.50.

The Territories.

A movement is on foot at Maclood to establish a roller flour mill at that place.

The lumber for the new Government buildings at Battleford, is being hauled by teams from Prince Albert.

Seeding commenced on the Bell farm at Indian Head on Tuesday of last week. Twentythree seeders were started on that day.

Manitoba.

A good many settlers are going into the district beyond the end of the Northwestern Railway track.

Some of the farmers in the vicinity of Maniton have already commenced seeding. On Monday, 22 March, D. McFarlane, sowed four acres of wheat, and on the following day B. Cook commenced scattering grain on his fields.

The following is a synopsis of business done at the Minnedosa Lands Office for the year ending 31st Oct, 1885: Homestead and preemption entries, 6; homestead entries without pre-emption, 56; second entries, 24; recommended for patent, 222; pre-emption sales, 32; other sales, 10; homesteads cancelled, 121; preemptions cancelled, 77; total amount returned to head office, \$11,143,74.

Notes and Comments.

What's in a name? Evidently in British Columbia they think there is a good dea! in a name. The residents of the embryo city at the Pacific terminus of the C. P. Railway, have asked the legislature of that province for a charter of incorporation, under the name of Vancouver. The selection of this name has called forth much opposition from several sections of the province, and the question was debated for a whole day in the local house, without a decision having been arrived at. The hoard of trade at Victoria have passed a resolution, calling upon the Dominion Government to take steps to prevent the adoption of the name "Vancouver" for the place in question.

THE settlers in Southern Manitoba are just now indulging in a vigorous kick against the tax emption provided for in the Rulway Aid This act, passed by the Manitoba Legislaure, provides for the exemption from taxation of railway lands along the branch lines within the province, for a period of twenty years. The railway lands held in some of the municipalities of the southern portion of the province are so extensive as to amount to nearly one-half of the total area, and consequently the matter is quite a serious one to such municipalities. Of course had these lands remained in the hands of the Government, they would have been still exempt from taxation, but it is safe to infer, that had they been retained for homesteading, instead of having been transferred to the C.P R. Company, they would have been taken up for settlement ere this. The present exemption amounts to just so much additional tax on the settlers, who are in many instances none too able to bear it. The people of Southern Manitoba were very anxious to secure railway extensions in their districts, but i

they did not count upon paying extra taxes, by baving a large amount of property exempted. However, now that the act has passed without the exemption clauses having been challenged, it is difficult to see how the matter can be rescinded. The act provides that the Government shall receive three per cent. on the gross carnings of the railways, in lieu of exemption, and it would therefore seem but fair that the Government should make restitution to the municipalities which have been deprived of a portion of their revenue by the Railway Aid Act.

ONE of the three hundred and odd colonization projects which a few years ago were floated by speculators and political schemers, whose "claims upon the Government" were sufficiently strong to obtain them a grant of land, was the Temperance Colonization Company. companies were all formed ostensibly for the purpose of peopling the Northwestern prairies with millions of contented and happy people, and all had more or less of an humanitarian object in view; but none were founded more directly for phil..nthropic purposes than the particular company referred to, at least that was the impression sought to be given in the gushing circulars and pamphlets issued by the company. However, later developments have brought to light the fact that, with this company as well as with all the others, the subjects who were to receive the benefit of all the philanthropic work, were the ring of schemers who had the manipulation of the affair. In fact, it has transpired that the schemers connected with the management of the Temperance Colonization Company, have excelled all their competitors in the same line, in ways that are dark. It has been brought to light in the courts, that where \$301,000 had been set down in the Company's accounts as cash disbursements, but \$\$4,000 had been actually paid, and the balance had been "appropriated" by the original subscribers. In addition to this, it appeared that bonds had been disposed of before they had been obtained, and that while the promoters claimed the possession of 2,000,000 acres of land, they had not an eighth of that amount. These and other discrepancies were brought to light, as was also a scheme to apportion a large portion of the land amongst certain of the managers.

THE few merchants of this city who have decided to close their places of business at a reasonable hour in the evening, independent of what others may do, have taken the :ight course. Individual effort is exectly what is wanted at the present jancture. The merchants who have concluded to close at 8 o'clock, will not be the losers in adopting this course, and if they had gone a little further and decided to stick to the first agreement to close at 7 in the evening, notwithstanding the determination of others to break it, we believe they would have been sustained by all right-thinking persons. No doubt there would be a loss of some transient trade, but the more respectable class of regular custom would be retained. Indeed, were the matter placed properly before the people of this city, we believe there are but few who would not directly support the early closing against the

all-hours system, by extending their custom to those merchants who showed that they have some regard for the welfare and comfort of their employees. There are very few ladies who could not find time to do their shopping during the day, while orking men and mechanics, who prize so much the nine and ten hour regulations, would ce tainly do all they could to assist the early-closing system. As a leading merchant aptly puts it, in writing to a local paper: "It has been the aim of the workingnen to shorten the hours of labor, and I do not believe the (working) people of Winnipeg would wish to compel others to do what they object to do themselves." It is the principal claim of the advocates of the all-hours system that they wish to keep open toaccommodate workingmen. The workingmen should repudiate these arguments, and not allow themselves to be made parties in the oppression of others less favorably situated than themselves. It is a crime to rob a min or woman of his or her labor, equally as great as to rob them of their money; and in this case where injury to health is likely to result from over work, it is a crime which cannot be repaid by money. The purchasing public who uphold the all-hours system, by doing their shopping after reasonable hours, are accomplices in the iniquity, and therefore equally guilty with the principals. Instead of rpholding such a system, all right-thinking people should discountenance it, by extending their patronage to the merchants who show that they have some regard for those under them.

Selections.

The Government arseral at Osaka, Japan, is now turning-out steel rai's as good as the imported; and it is said that before long full railway equipments will be made at home for their rapidly extending lines.

The price of corn has either got to go up or the railroad tariff on corn to come down before much corn is shipped from points west of the Mississippi. With corn at 40c per bushel in Chicago, and freight at 25c per 100 lbs from the river, the western farmer has little to gain by shipping his corn.

A leading dry goods dealer of the United States says that there are now about \$0,000 traveling salesmen on the road in this country, and that their expense account alone will average \$1,500 a year each. This for expense alone means an outlay of \$120,000,000 a year and counting on an average salary \$1,000 a year each, it will swell the total to \$200,000,000 a year.

The Apple Trade.

Schoon has the apple market presented such a demoralized condition as that which has prevailed during the past few weeks in Canada and the United States. Notwithstanding the heavy shipment from the Atlantic seaboard to the United Kingdom sirce last fall, immense quantities are seeking a market on this side. One of the principals of a large Liverpool, London and Glasgow firm was in Montreal a few days since, after travelling through some of the chief apple sections, and he stated that in and

around Rochester N.Y. there were supposed to be stored about 250,000 bbls of B.ldwins. In Chicago some firms nave not been able to realize freight and commission on their consignments, to say nothing of advances made on them in the fall; and during the past week forced sales of really good well kept stock have been made there at \$1.25 per bbl, whilst \$1.50 is the highest price that can be obtained except for an occasional single barrel. Very fair quality fruit has been sold to peddlers in that market at \$1.00 per bbl, whilst large quantities of poor goods have been pashed off at 50c; er bbl.—Trade Bulletin.

Wheat in Sight.

The total quantity of wheat in signt on this continent and affoat to Europe, calculating according to the Chicago visible supply, is 67,-133,000 bushels a decrease of 1,042,000 bushels compored with a week ago, a decrease of 2,401,000 with two weeks alo, a decrease of 2,660,000 with three weeks ago, a decrease of 3.455,000 with four weeks ago, and a decrease of 7,715,000 with a year ago. Calculating according to the New York statement of the visible supply the total quantity is 67,134,000 bushels-a decrease of 1,041,000 bushels compared with a week ago, an increase of 6,443,000 with 1885, an increase of 19,233,000 with 1884. an increase of 21,900,000 with 1883, an increase of 26,132,000 with 1882, an increase of 19,918,-000 with 1881, and an increase of 14,169,000 with 1880.

Paper Rails.

According to the Organ des Mines, of Paris, the paper rail is to become a practical reality. That paper states that a company is about to establish large works for making rails from paper near St. Petersberg. The paper is subjected to great pressure, and it is said that the material is extremely ducable, and can be produced at one-third the cost of steel rails. A further advantage would be to their lightness, not only on account of the saving of the cost of carriage and laying, but also because they could be made in longer lengths than is the case at the present time, therefore the number of joints will be fewer, and consequently less oscillation to the carriages, and the wear and tear to both permanent way and rolling stock reduced to a minimum A greater adhesion also would be offered by these rails to the driving wheels of the engine, and the wo.king expenses reduced accordingly.

Paper Pipes.

In Vienna there were recently exhibited gas and water service pipes made of paper. The same kind of pipes will do for many factory purposes, and for laying electrical wires, etc., we should suppose it to be specially useful. The pipes, according to the Paper World, are made as follows: Strips of paper are taken, the width of which corresponds with the length of one pipe section. The paper is drawn through melted aspualt, and wound upon a mandrel which determines the inner diameter of the

pipe. When the pipe thus made has cooled, it is pulled off the mandrel and the inside is covered with a kind of enamel, whose nature is kept secret by the makers. The outside is painted with asphalt vernish, and dusted with sand. It is stated that such a pipe will resist 2,000 pounds internal pressure, though the thickness of the stuff is only about half an inch.

Tea Growing.

Indian tea and Ceylon tea have for some years been running China teas very close in the race of popularity, and have attained a very bigh position for themselves in the English market; but it is something new to hear of South African teas "entering the lists" of dealers in this article. Tea cultivation on an experimental scale has been carried on for some time in Natal, with such success that one of the planters is sending a "sample" of a ton of his produce to the forthcoming Colonial and Indian Exhibition. In fact, the rapid extension of tea planting in that Colony has attracted the attention of Ceylon planters, several of whom have paid a visit there to judge for themselves of the prospects of the industry; and new enterprises are being started in different directions.

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