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# The Commercial

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WINNIPEG, JANUARY 2, 1893.

## Raising Hogs.

"The William Davis Co., packers of Toronto write as follow:

"It is strange that with grain so low there are not twice as many hogs fed in Ontario and Manitoba. We are now paying 6 cents live weight and cannot get half enough for our requirements. This branch of feeding is only in its infancy, and we believe that the farmer who goes into it with intelligence, courage and enterprise, will reap a rich reward. The foregoing applies with greater force to the farmers in Manitoba, as we read in the Trade Bulletin that barley only nets the farmers there 9 cents per bushel. Many farmers appear to have almost as great a dislike to hogs as the Hebrews. They feed a lot of useless horses that no one wants at any price and they are eating their heads off, and in the fall many have a lot of steers 2 years old, for which they get about 2 cents per pound, but nary a brood sow do you find, though she would bring two litters a year, which could be sold at six months old for from \$8 to \$10 each."

## Wheat Production in Australasia.

The Australasian harvest is sufficiently advanced for an estimate of the probable yield to be interesting. Last season the total was over-estimated by 6,700,000 bushels, it being assumed at about 38,005,000 bushels instead of 31,305,000 bushels. The New Zealand crop, which is not sufficiently forward at the end of November for estimates to be safe, was reckoned at 5,600,000 bushels, whereas it turned out to be 9,000,000 bushels. On the other hand the acreage in South Australia, assumed at the previous year's figures, was found to have declined 400,000 acres, and on the reduced acreage was more gravely deficient than at first supposed. Thus where 17,100,000 bushels have been originally expected, only 10,100,000 were

eventually secured. The present promise is a great improvement on last year, as it had need to be.

	Acres.	10 bus. per acre =	Bushels.
Victoria .....	1,100,000		11,000,000
N. S. Wales.....	400,000	10	4,000,000
Queensland.....	40,000	0	360,000
S. Australia.....	1,600,000	8	12,000,000
W. Australia.....	40,000	8	320,000
New Zealand.....	300,000	24	7,200,000
Tasmania.....	25,000	8	200,000
Total.....	3,405,000		35,080,000

The wheat growing regions of the Antipodes show no such steady extension as might have been expected. The need of irrigation makes many holdings expensive, and the persistency with which labor clings to the great towns makes rural wages range exorbitantly high. The acreage and yield in this region since 1880 may be given as follows:

Year	Acreage.	Yield in bushels
1880-1 .....	3,376,000	31,508,000
1881-2 .....	3,361,000	29,876,000
1882-3 .....	3,434,000	31,078,000
1883-4 .....	3,672,000	31,400,000
1884-5 .....	3,840,000	31,078,000
1885-6 .....	3,663,000	30,630,000
1886-7 .....	3,161,000	25,288,000
1887-8 .....	3,201,000	29,400,000
1888-9 .....	3,520,000	24,610,000
1889-90 .....	3,000,000	29,000,000
1890-1 .....	3,720,000	41,000,305
1891-2 .....	3,320,000	31,305,000
1892-3 .....	3,405,000	35,080,000

Fourteen years ago the acreage was roughly calculated at 3 1/2 millions, and the yield at 35 million bushels, and from this mean the deviation has not been great. The expanding industry and developing agriculture of a new country will be looked for in vain, but the national debt to be borne by the settler has risen nearly a hundred millions sterling. The above figures, however, warrant our supposing that Australasia in 1893 will have 3,775,000 bushels (471,875 qrs.) more wheat to ship than in 1892. The new wheat has opened at 33s, delivered at any English port, which is a rather inviting price.—London Miller.

## Silver.

The adjournment of the Brussels conference and the introduction of a measure in the United States Senate authorizing the suspension of purchases under the Sherman law had a depressing effect upon the silver market. Reports that the closing of mines on account of the low price of silver is checking production are not wholly substantiated. Some low-grade miners have been forced to suspend operations, but the effect of this is counteracted by the heavy production from a number of recent high-grade discoveries. The supply of bullion coming forward from smelters is reported as normal in amount. The decline of commercial prices early in the week reached a level close to the lowest on record, the London quotations on Wednesday last being 37 10/16d per ounces and 53c in New York. Support was, however, extended to the market by the action of the British-Indian government, which showed a plain disposition to check any extraordinary decline in India exchange. The fact that only one half of the council bills offered on Wednesday were allotted had a strengthening effect on bar silver, which advanced to 38 1/16d, though the New York price remained at 53c in consequence of the cessation of government purchases for the current month. Silver bullion certificates were affected by the general decline in the stock market, though the trading in them is small. The amount of bullion on hand at New York against certificates outstanding is now \$59,730 ounces.—Bradstreet's.

## Keeping Insured.

No one who pays attention to the reports of life insurance companies, or the official Government returns on the subject, can fail to be impressed with the great number of people who insure their lives, but who allow their policies

to lapse by neglect or inability to keep up their premiums. The subject is one of more interest than some people think, inasmuch as, though an individual may one year pass an admirable examination, the next year, for some reason or another, he cannot pass muster. Life insurance is equally important with, if not more so than insurance against fire; but it is far more difficult to obtain. Given the goods to be covered by a policy and a reasonably substantial building in which they are stored, and the obtaining of a policy is easy. It is not so with a life risk. How ever good a man may be, or how ever useful he may be to his family or to the country, it frequently happens that the tenement in which his life risk is contained is a very frail and unsatisfactory one, and will most assuredly deteriorate by degrees—good as it may have been at the beginning.

It is not enough that a man's life be assured in the first instance, it is of even higher importance that it be kept assured. Moreover, fearing that they may not be able to keep up their premiums, there are many people who, in the first instance decline to take out a policy. A large source of the profits of every insurance company is the sums that from time to time accumulate in connection with policies that are not kept up, and the constant presence of the figures belonging to this branch of the account are continually raising the question in the minds of the insuring public whether in this particular the companies have it not too much their own way? It is true that some institutions, after a policy has been in existence for a certain length of time, give it a surrender value which may be had upon certain conditions, in cash or in the shape of a paid-up policy for what may be called a minimum amount. But the impression is gaining ground that in view of the manner in which every insurance company safeguards itself against possible loss or contingency, it should at least do more for its clients, thereby materially augmenting confidence in life insurance as a principle, and in the good faith and fair dealing of the life underwriters.

There are those who, in their objections to life insurance, say that the companies prefer to have risks run out by the way. They are unquestionably a source of profit, but it should not be forgotten that, outside of this, every institution in its calculations has arranged them upon a fair estimate of the average duration of human life. It would seem that the feeling is growing in strength that policy holders have a right to expect something even more than this from the companies in the shape of a guarantee of the permanency of their insurance investment, and it will be interesting to notice which companies will be the most liberal in this regard.—Exchange.

## The New Navy.

In a recent article from the pen of Henry W. Cramp he gives the following as the list of vessels of the new navy actually in commission:

Name.	Keel laid.	Length.	Breadth.	Displacement.	Contract price.
Chicago ....	1883	315	43	4,500	\$830,000
Boston .....	1883	270 1/2	42	3,183	610,000
Atlanta .....	1883	270 1/2	42	3,183	617,000
Dolphin.....	1883	240	32	1,455	315,000
Yorstown.....	1887	230	30	1,700	455,000
Vesuvius.....	1887	248 1/2	20 1/2-12	900	350,000
Baltimore....	1887	315	43 1/2	4,413	1,325,000
Petrel .....	1877	175	31	899	247,000
Charleston...	1887	300	48	3,730	1,017,900
Philadelphia.	1883	315	43 1/2	4,324	1,350,000
San Francisco	1883	310	49 1/2-6	4,083	1,425,000
Newark .....	1887	310	49 1/2-6	4,083	1,245,000
Cushing .....	1889	159	14 1/2-6	110	82,750
Concord .....	1887	230	30	1,700	400,000
Bennington...	1883	230	30	1,700	400,000
Montonomah	1874	230	60	3,900	400,000
Stilletto .....	.....	83 1/2	11	70	25,000

The Philadelphia Press adds: "Not only have the most remarkable improvements been made in the construction of cruisers and battleships, but ordnance, projectiles, powder, machinery, and ship-maneuvering have undergone just as many and startling changes."

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Specialties: LINENS, DRESS GOODS, KID GLOVES AND SMALLWARES.

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J. M. MACDONALD, Agent for Manitoba and Northwest,

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J. C. REDMOND, British Columbia Representative.

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GREAT NORTHWEST  
**Saddlery House**

Is now Open for Business

Our new premises will be found opposite the City Hall, Corner Main and Market Sts.,

No. 518 Main St. and 191 to 195 Market St.

The Largest Stock and Best Equipped Establishment in Canada. Lowest prices and Best Goods is our Motto.

TRUNKS, VALISES, LEATHER AND FINDINGS, SADDLERY HARDWARE, WHIPS, &amp;c.

Don't forget the new premises.

E. F. HUTCHINGS, Proprietor, WINNIPEG.

**Morton, Alexander & Morton**

Tanners, Curriers,

—AND—

BOOT MANUFACTURERS.

Sole, Harness and Upper Leathers.

BOOTS, SHOES AND BOOT TOPS.

HIDES TANNED FOR ROBES, ETC.

Highest Cash Price Paid for Hides and Skins  
171 and 173 KING STREET,

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MONTREAL AND VANCOUVER.

**OUR TRAVELLERS**

Are now on the road with full lines for Spring. Showing special value in the following departments: Dress Goods, Wool Challies, Prints and Household Linens. Also extra value in Canadian and American Prints, Cottonades, Shirtings, Flannelettes, Linings and other staple lines.

....Full set of Samples with....

C. J. REDMOND, Donaldson Block, WINNIPEG

**SKATES!**  
**CUTLERY**

—FANCY—

**HARDWARE.**Banquet and Piano Lamps,  
Tables, etc.

Suitable for Christmas Trade.

**Rice Lewis & Son**

(LIMITED.)

TORONTO.

**Tees, Wilson & Co**

TEA IMPORTERS,

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LARGE STOCK IN STORE OF

CEYLON, ASSAM, CHINA AND JAPAN

**TEAS.**

Specially Selected for the Northwest.

Represented in Manitoba, Northwest Territories and British Columbia, by

D. C. MCGREGOR, - MCINTYRE BLOCK WINNIPEG

# The Commercial

WINNIPEG, JANUARY 2, 1893.

## NATIONAL BANKRUPTCY LAW.

In the United States, as in Canada, the need of a uniform bankruptcy law for the whole country, is greatly felt. Here in Canada we have different laws in the different provinces, while in the republic the law varies in different states. Some of our provincial laws are good and some bad, affording opportunity for preferences and unfair dealings, and the same is true in the States. Bankruptcy laws should from the very nature of things, be federal in character, and not local. A measure is now before Congress, known as the Torrey bill, which aims to provide a uniform system of procedure in bankruptcy, under federal administration. The measure has received the endorsement of leading commercial bodies throughout the country, and is generally regarded with favor, as it has come to be a belief that in order to secure justice, uniformity and economy the state bankruptcy laws should be superceded by a federal enactment, covering the whole country.

In Canada at present there is a movement in commercial circles in favor of a national insolvency law, to supercede varying provincial laws. It will therefore be of interest to consider some of the arguments advanced in the States, in favor of a uniform national system of bankruptcy. Following are some reasons given in the report of the judiciary committee, in favor of the proposed national law:—

A debtor cannot under the present insolvency laws of most of the states, secure an extension of time or a settlement, except by the voluntary clemency of everyone of his creditors, whereas under the proposed bankruptcy law he may, with the concurrence of a majority of his creditors, secure more time to pay his debts or effect a compromise by means of which the amounts owed will be reduced. A creditor who wishes to secure a settlement for a debtor under the laws of most of the states may be practically coerced into purchasing the claims of other creditors who have it in their power to prevent a settlement, and in that way secure a price for their consent, while under the bill proposed, creditors of the same class will enjoy equal rights, and cannot, therefore, impose on each other. Under many of the state laws a debtor cannot legally secure even a limited discharge; under any of them he cannot secure a discharge from a non-resident creditor, while under the proposed law a debtor may, if an honest man, secure a discharge as a matter not of clemency but of right. A creditor who donates or sells a release to a debtor by the laws of most of the states knows that some other creditor may have joined therein on more advantageous terms, participated in fraudulent misrepresentations, or become the subject of favoritism, while under the proposed law every creditor will receive only what in equity belongs to him, and will be bound by the decree of the court confirming the settlement. Under the present laws of most of the states a debtor's property may be attached while he is temporarily embarrassed and broken up in business, though amply able, if given a little time, to pay his creditors and have a surplus left, while under the proposed law attachments will not be availing solely to the creditors causing them to be levied, provided the defendant is adjudged bankrupt under

a petition filed within four months after the levy of the attachment.

Under many of the present state insolvency laws a creditor is frequently compelled, through fear that some other creditor will take advantage of a common debtor, to make an affidavit as to facts he does not know to be true, and to give a bond in order to secure a ruinous attachment against an honest debtor, while under the proposed law he can deliberately inquire into the affairs of his debtor, and, if necessary, render him assistance in the form of an extension of time, of the scaling of the debt or of the loan of money, with the assurance that his generosity will be appreciated by the debtor, and that he will be protected by the court. Under the present insolvency laws of many of the states a debtor cannot, as a practical proposition, have a meeting of his creditors, because of a probable scramble among the creditors to secure their claims by attachments, garnishments and replevins in case of a notice calling such meeting, while under the proposed law such a meeting can be called as often as desirable, since the creditors cannot get an advantage over either the debtor or each other on learning that he needs their assistance. Under the insolvency enactments of most of the states a creditor cannot secure the confidence of his embarrassed debtor, because the debtor knows that the creditor will be compelled in his own selfish interest to take advantage of him and the other creditors; if the present law be enacted the creditor can always have the confidence of his debtors, and be thereby enabled to assist them in avoiding trouble and to help them, if it comes, with advice and with money, if occasion requires.

A debtor, by the terms of many of the present state laws, may be induced to give or coerced into giving preferences, and thereby bring on his financial ruin without actual necessity, with the result of favoring a few creditors and being compelled to continue to owe the others; the proposed act forbids the giving and receiving of preferences, and, as a result, the creditors will receive their equitable share of the estate, and the debtor, if honest, will be discharged. A creditor, in view of the provisions of many of the present insolvency laws, suffers a nightmare of apprehensions lest his debtors should, in anticipation of real or imaginary dangers, dispose of their estates to his financial detriment; under the measure submitted for passage he will be without fear, as he knows that whatever misfortune may befall his debtors he will receive his share of their estates over and above their exemptions. A debtor frequently commits moral and occasionally legal wrongs with regard to his property in the protection of his dependents under present laws; he will not have occasion to do so after the passage of the proposed law, as it will permit him to retain the exemptions allowed by the laws of his state, grant him a discharge if he is honest, and thereby enable him to honorably perform his duties to his dependents.

A creditor at present, when selling goods or loaning money, must take the chances of his debtor giving secret liens and conspiring with others to defraud him; under the bill now favorably reported, such secret liens cannot be enforced and such frauds may be prevented. He will, therefore, be liberal in extending credit, and thereby greatly benefit his debtors. A debtor may now, almost without restraint, engage in reckless speculation, buy goods, not intending to pay for them, and make away with his assets, with but small risk of punishment; under the proposed act such conduct, if the creditors protect their interests, will result in a liquidation of his estate, the refusal of a discharge, and in his punishment; the effect will be a diminution of illegitimate transactions and the promotion of conservative methods in the affairs of commerce. A creditor under the present laws of many of the states is without remedy as against his fraudulent debtor; by the provisions of the proposed law an adjudication may be secured; the entire property and

all property rights will thereupon vest in the trustee, who will be entitled to use all processes known to the state and federal courts for securing the property and enforcing the property rights for the benefit of all the creditors. A debtor, in view of the present laws, cannot now secure reasonable financial concessions from his creditors, because they prefer to obtain judgments against him and hold them over him; after the proposed law is enacted he can obtain such concessions as he may be equitably entitled to, because his creditors will know that unless they are granted he can go into a bankruptcy court and enforce them.

A creditor knows that less than 2 per cent. of the people engaged in conducting the credit transactions of the country fail annually, and realizes that all of such debtors may now defraud him of every cent of his claim, and that such a result would cripple him financially, while under the proposed law such claims would all be collectible in part, and hence it would be impossible for him to be seriously crippled by the failure of that percentage of his debtors.

## HARDY FRUITS.

A bulletin upon cherries has been prepared by John Craig, horticulturalist of the Dominion Experimental farm at Ottawa, and published by the Department of Agriculture. The bulletin deals principally with results of experiments with hardy varieties of cherries, which have been brought from northern Europe, and tested at the farm during the past few years. Some of these varieties appear to be very hardy, and they have done well at the experimental farm and in portions of Quebec, where experimented with. It is expected that some of these varieties of cherries will prove adapted to cultivation in the prairie region of Manitoba and the Territories, where the list of tree fruits sufficiently hardy to stand the climate, is somewhat limited. Buds of these cherries were distributed last season among nurserymen, and a further distribution will be made from the experimental farm next season of propagation. The bulletin gives instructions in the various modes of propagating cherries. No doubt in time many new varieties of fruit, which will bear cultivation in our climate, will be brought out by these experiments carried on at the farm.

## NEEDED RAILWAY EXTENSION.

A year or two ago the COMMERCIAL referred at length to the desirability of opening up the territory north of Stonewall, in this Province, to railway communication. There is a large area of country, north of the present terminus of the Stonewall branch railway, at Stonewall, and between lakes Winnipeg and Manitoba, which is well adapted to settlement. The region is specially reliable for mixed farming, being well wooded and watered, and with rich pasturage. It is in every respect an excellent district for farming and stock-raising, and the abundance of wood for fuel is a valuable feature. Its proximity to Winnipeg is also an advantage. For some distance north of Stonewall the country is very well settled, but as the distance from the railway increases, settlement becomes more sparse. The geographical location of this portion of the Province, which has placed it outside the line of usual travel westward, has led to a lack of appreciation of its value for settlement. A railway up through the region and which could be made to tap

both lakes Winnipeg and Manitoba, would attract attention to this valuable district, besides being a great boon to the settlers now there.

### MANITOBA HOGS.

This year has proved that Manitoba can produce hogs of good quality, to good advantage. There were those who claimed that for various reasons the country was not suited to raising hogs. Some based their argument upon the fact that this is not a corn country. They claimed that we could not compete with corn-fed pork, etc. Others said the winters were too cold for hogs, and that they could not be raised to advantage on that account. Now, all this has proved false. If we cannot grow corn to advantage, we can grow other stuff which will answer just about as well. The winters are cold, but not too cold to interfere with raising hogs. A good, warm pen is necessary, and when provided with this, the animals will do better, and consume less food, than if they were not provided with comfortable quarters. Barley, potatoes and roots will make excellent food.

This fall and winter a large number of Manitoba hogs have been marketed in Winnipeg, and they have averaged good quality. Now, these hogs have undoubtedly been fed principally on low grade wheat of the crop of 1891. There was a large quantity of low grade wheat from that crop, which it is known has been used for feed, and the greatly increased number of hogs marketed this winter have no doubt consumed a great portion of this wheat. Wheat is not considered as valuable as most other grains for feeding animals, but it seems to make good pork.

The hogs marketed this season have averaged considerably heavier than in former years, as they have been fed longer, owing to the abundance of cheap grain. Quite a number, however, are not as fat as they should be, and with grain so plentiful and cheap, it is a matter of some surprise that farmers do not feed up better. From 50 to 100 pounds could be added to the weight of many of the hogs, by a little more feeding, and it would pay much better than selling the grain. Improvement in the breed is also desirable. The average run of Manitoba hogs do not show sufficient care in breeding, as well as neglect in feeding to best advantage. This is a loss to the farmers. The breed could be improved to the advantage of the farmer, by producing a hog more economical to raise, while the marketing of hogs not fully fattened, in view of the cheapness of feed grains, is a direct loss, as the increased weight by proper fattening would represent a greater value than the cash price of the grain.

### PROHIBITING IMMIGRATION.

There is a strong probability that a drastic measure restricting or prohibiting immigration into the United States, will be adopted at once. The agitation which has been working principally in labor circles for years, against immigration, and which has found a public voice in the laws against the Asiatics, the alien contract labor law, etc., has been greatly strengthened by the outbreak of cholera in Europe last year.

There is now a strong public sentiment in the republic, in favor of the restriction or prohibition of immigration. This is partly due to a conviction which has been growing for years, that there is a large foreign element which is a menace to the nation. The opposition on the part of organized (and unorganized) labor to immigration, has been of a more selfish nature, the object being to reduce competition in labor. The quickened public sentiment now in favor of the prohibition of immigration, is also of a selfish nature, the incentive thereto being the fear of the introduction of cholera. But aside from this, there is a firm and growing conviction, founded on sound moral, social and political reasons, that the immigration business has been overdone. The country has been deluged annually by a great wave of immigration of a very undesirable class. The country has been unable to assimilate this immigration, and events have constantly occurred showing how undesirable it has been.

The cholera has now transpired to increase the feeling against immigration to a degree of intensity. The New York chamber of commerce has passed a series of resolutions providing that Congress be requested to enact speedily a law placing the quarantine of all ports under national control, with the object of exercising greater vigilance over immigration. Now that the cholera has appeared again in Hamburg, the popular demand for greater restrictions upon immigration, has become quite urgent. It is felt that the only hope of exemption from the spread of the plague throughout the country next summer, depends upon immigration restrictions and stringent quarantine arrangements. There are now two bills before Congress, one providing for a quarantine abroad, and for the suspension of immigration whenever the President may deem it necessary for the prevention of the introduction of any contagious disease into the United States. The other bill provides for the total suspension of immigration for one year.

Immigration to the United States this year has been nearly equal to last year, notwithstanding the restriction imposed during a portion of the present season. The returns for the eleven months ended with Nov. 30th last, show that 520,768 persons came into the republic, as compared with 562,093 for the corresponding portion of last year. In view of the stricter quarantine regulations, and the practical suspension of immigration for a period, owing to the cholera outbreak, a much greater falling off than this would naturally be expected. The general sentiment in official circles at Washington is said to be in favor of the suspension of immigration for one year. Officials most familiar with the subject do not think that any system of supervision and quarantine at the port of departure is possible, and do not believe that any such system could be enforced or made uniform.

While in the republic there is a growing feeling in favor of restricting all immigration, in Canada the need of a larger immigration of the right class is becoming more apparent. We have here a much greater area of unoccupied and undeveloped territory than there is in the

United States. The natural increase in the already large population of the republic is equal to the extension of settlement quite as rapidly as is desirable. In Canada the natural increase in our much smaller population will make but slight impression in extending population over the vast unoccupied areas. The restriction or prohibition of immigration into the United States would undoubtedly turn an increased number of immigrants toward Canada. There are those who urge that we should endeavor to make every use of the opportunity to turn the tide of immigration into this country. This is a question over which there is need of serious thought. Undoubtedly to turn the tide of immigration which has been pouring into the republic into Canada, would be a great calamity to this country. We do not want all of those who have been going to the United States, nor half of them. If they are felt to be a public menace in the republic, they would prove a still more dangerous element in Canada. The United States, with its variation in climate and conditions, and its numerous industrial centres and many large cities, has facilities for employing and absorbing immigration which Canada has not. The great majority of those who annually go to the republic, are totally unsuited to this country. They would do us injury, would become a burden upon the community, and would add a vicious and undesirable class to our population. Canada affords good opportunities for the right class of immigrants, but these opportunities are largely limited to those who are adapted to and prepared to follow agricultural pursuits in a temperate to northerly country. Instead of opening our arms to receive the tide of immigration which may soon be barred out of the United States, the necessity would arise for much greater surveillance over immigrants to this country, with a view to restricting the undesirable classes. The following figures show the number of immigrants arriving in the United States from the different countries, for the eleven months ended Nov. 30 last, compared with returns for the corresponding period of the previous year:—

COUNTRIES.	—11 mos. ended—	
	Nov. 30.	1892. 1891.
Austria Hungary—		
Bohemia .....	7,131	10,677
Hungary .....	31,728	21,278
Other Austria (ex. Poland) .....	28,230	30,508
Denmark .....	9,743	10,175
France .....	4,948	6,023
Germany .....	111,966	116,029
Italy .....	55,427	65,561
Netherlands .....	7,496	5,241
Poland .....	28,635	30,078
Russia (ex. Poland) .....	51,825	67,149
Sweden and Norway .....	53,992	51,061
Switzerland .....	6,165	6,610
United Kingdom—		
England and Wales .....	43,197	49,959
Scotland .....	10,767	12,058
Ireland .....	40,408	54,864
All other countries .....	22,120	19,567
Total .....	520,768	562,073

A few good sized orders for nails, says the *Montreal Trade Bulletin*, have been received during the past week from the west and Manitoba at former prices. The trouble between the Toronto mill and agents of Montreal firms does not appear to be settled, as the cutting in prices is said to be still going on. Here sales are being made at \$2.45 by wholesale dealers for 3-inch cut nails.

# 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

OF READY MADE

# CLOTHING.

Cor. BAY & FRONT STS, TORONTO.

Samples at McIntyre } REPRESENTATIVES.  
Block, Winnipeg } 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.  
84 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 ADVANCE MADE ON CONSIGNMENT**. Speciality 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.

1lb, 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, hhds, 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 shipment.

### 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 furnished 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 \$13. GUARANTEED STRICTLY PURE.

**HORSERADISH**—Put up in 16 oz. bottles, 2 doz in a case Price per doz. \$3. Patronize home industry.

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

## COMMERCIAL JOB DEPT'

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

## James Carruthers & Co.

## GRAIN EXPORTERS,

BOARD OF TRADE. CORN EXCHANGE.

## TORONTO, MONTREAL.

## C. H. Mahon & Co.

—BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURERS—

Solid good wearing goods in all lines. Lowest Prices.

## Rubbers!

Discount 40, and 5 and 4 off for cash. 5 per cent. added for freight.

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

WINNIPEG WANTS.

## PRODUCE!

We are always open for

## BUTTER AND 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.

## WINDOW DECORATION

The "DURER" Process

Is the best imitation of Stained Glass Windows ever invented. It is easily applied and durable. Large stock on hand. Good profits to dealers.

—SEND FOR PARTICULARS TO—

## A. Ramsay & Son

MONTREAL.

### The Curing and Packing of Teas.

Tea is the dried leaf of various species of the Thea plant, a hardy evergreen shrub, cultivated in China, Japan, India and Ceylon.

There is probably nothing more interesting connected with the stock of goods usually carried in a grocer's store than the history of the little dried leaves contained in the gaudy-colored Japanned cans marked Oolong, gunpowder, Young Hyson, Imperial, etc., etc. How few realize that the contents of perhaps a dozen chests of tea, which one sees piled up in the rear of a retail grocery, or stacked conspicuously near the front door or window, would have more than filled the entire room from floor to ceiling, when first gathered in bamboo baskets from the tea plantations. Take for example Japan tea (there being more of that variety consumed in the United States than all others combined), when the leaves are just plucked from the plants by the native women and children (who perform a large share of the work), they are exceedingly bulky, and are reduced in size very gradually as the curing proceeds. At first they are spread out in the air on mats made of straw or grass, in which they are occasionally rolled up to start and hasten the curling, which is the form that the leaves are desired to take as the moisture evaporates.

After drying in the manner the firing process is begun. For this purpose the Japanese use a sort of deep, oblong tray made of paper and wood, about three feet long, twelve or fifteen inches wide, and three or four inches deep; the bottom consisting of stout native paper, and the sides and ends of wood. The tea leaves are dried over charcoal fires in these trays, and when the Japanese consider them properly cured after repeatedly turning and stirring them about, the sorting is done on long, low tables; this consists of breaking off and discarding the larger stems, and separating the small or fine, medium and large or coarse leaves, all of which is accomplished in great part by women and children, and requires pretty nimble fingering. The Japanese then regard the work done, and to preserve the tea for future use pack it away in large wooden boxes and earthen jars. The boxes are oblong and contain ninety pounds. The jars are usually three or four feet high, holding from fifty to sixty-five pounds. Both boxes and jars have strong, tough paper pasted over their entire surface, which seals their covers and lids and further protects the teas from dampness, of which there is a superabundance during the summer season, and sometimes as late as the early part of November.

White teas thus dried satisfy the natives, they would be regarded, if forwarded in such condition to this country, as having too raw a flavor, and in short time would appear very stale, if not actually musty. Consequently the teas that are exported from Japan are all re-fired. In the shipping ports—Yokohama and Niogo—large tea firing warehouses called "godowns" are erected for this special purpose. Such a building usually contains from 300 to 500 iron pans set in masonry—generally stone, and under each pan is a small furnace of charcoal fire. The pans are kept so hot that the coolies only escape burning their fingers while stirring and rubbing the tea, by dexterously keeping some of the leaves between their hands and the hot iron. The quantity of tea (which is taken from the jars or country boxes previously described) put in each pan, is generally four or five pounds, and the re-firing consumes from 50 to 75 minutes. It requires very skillful superintending to exhaust all the moisture in the leaves and at the same time avoid burning them, and just when the right point is reached, the tea-firing coolies scoop up the tea into baskets which they carry to one end of the building or an adjoining packing "godown," where they are emptied over sieves through which a portion of the finely broken leaves and dust falls. This is necessary because the long stirring in the iron pans produces too large a percentage of dust to admit of shipping the tea without sifting. The tea and dust are

then packed separately in strong boxes, in which are first placed linings made of patent tinned lead which is imported in sheets from England where it is manufactured expressly for this purpose.

The boxes or half chests are usually covered on all sides with figured paper. This has a coating of native prepared oil which hardens with a gloss like varnish. A printed face mark is then pasted on one end of the half chest, which must then be given time to dry, for it also must be oiled to agree with the other sides, or the Japanese would consider the work imperfect. Next comes putting on mats; then another printed face, the same as under the mat; and when the rattaning is neatly done, the wonderful Oriental herb is at last in fit shape and condition for its journey to New York of either 8,600, 15,000 or 30,000 miles, according to the route, whether by steamer and railroad via San Francisco; by steamer via Suez Canal; or by sailing vessel via Cape of Good Hope or around the Horn.

### Macaroni.

Every housekeeper has asked the question: "Why is my cook's macaroni doughy and tough?" She follows the recipe EXACTLY.

It is because it is made of American flour; and no skill in manufacture or cooking can make it good. Good macaroni can be made only from exceedingly hard and flinty wheat; and the most suitable variety is produced only in the province of Taghnarak, in Southern Russia. None of this comes to America; it is all taken by the principal Italian and French manufacturers; and we have no suitable substitute. One must look to Italy and France for thoroughly good macaroni—that which dissolves instead of becoming dough, when cooked.

In the manufacture of Macaroni the hardest and flintiest varieties of wheat are selected first washed and then thoroughly dried in the sun. The wheat is then coarsely ground, and run through an immense revolving sieve to separate the starch from the bran and flinty portions. It is then successively passed through a series of six hand sieves, each a little finer than the preceding, for the purpose of separating the flinty portions from the bran. This apparently simple process requires a considerable skill, and a certain knack which it takes time to acquire. The motion which is given to the sieves by the sifters is half rotary and half up and down, with an indescribable side motion which can only be characterized as a "boomerang," for it throws the mass which is being sifted in an opposite direction to that taken by the sieve. Every few minutes each sifter pauses and skims off the bran which has worked to the top and centre of the sieve, and after these various manipulations, there remains a clean, flinty farina, known as Semolina. This is then mixed with warm water into a stiff dough, and this dough is thoroughly kneaded by means of a long prism like, hardwood lever, so adjusted that the spring of the timber may be utilized in alternately raising and depressing it upon the mass of dough, which is then pressed and kneaded into the required consistency. It is rather amusing to see two or three men sitting on the end of this lever, and bobbing up and down, so as to throw their weight at one instant on the lever, bringing it down into the dough, and then allowing it to spring up again in order that it may be brought down in a new place.

After it has been thus mixed and kneaded for about an hour the dough is put into presses with perforated bottoms and pressure being applied it comes out through these holes in the shape shown to us as Macaroni. At this stage of the process it is of course soft and flexible, and in order to keep the various little strings of dough from sticking together it is constantly fanned by a boy in order that the current of air thus made may slightly dry the outside of the strings and prevent them from adhering. It is then cut off and hung on racks or frames made of bamboo, to dry. As it hangs on the frames the different pieces are of unequal

length, and a boy passes rapidly over them, wringing off the longer ends to make them uniform. The drying has to be done in the shade, and in a place not exposed to the wind; for if dried too quickly, or if the slender pieces were blown against one another, they would be apt to break. When sufficiently dry it is removed from the frames, and packed in boxes such as are familiar to all grocers.

The different sizes are made by changing the movable bottoms of the press, and employing different sized perforations. Each of these perforated holes has a core or centro around which the dough has to pass, and this produces the hollow which is a characteristic of the macaroni. The reason of this arrangement is, if the macaroni is made solid it would take very long to dry when hung upon racks, and also when dried it would be very difficult to cook it without a great deal of boiling, and impossible to do so uniformly. So important is this considered and so defective do the Italians regard the product if not thus perforated, that a proverb has arisen in Italy to the effect that "A foolish person is like macaroni without any hole in it."

Vermicelli is made from the same material, and in the same way as macaroni, except that it is not so low, it being so small that it is neither practicable nor necessary to make it so.

### Coffee.

The coffee plant in its wild state is a tree attaining medium height, but in cultivation it is kept trimmed so that it does not reach over eight feet in height. A tree matures in about three to four years, and will bear fruit for about twenty to thirty years, although it is known that there are trees in Java that are over one hundred years old; but of course these ceased bearing some time ago. This plant generally grows on the upland, and is planted in rows from eight to ten feet apart. The berry when ripe and ready to pick resembles a cherry and is of about the same size. After it is picked it is allowed to dry in the sun, and then hulled, during which process a series of two or three coatings come off. The beans are then washed in water in order to free them from the albuminoid substance, and are again dried in the sun, when they are ready for market. All coffees come from the same species of plant, the difference in the flavor of the bean being due to climatic influences. The Mocha coffee, for instance, has an acrid flavor because it is grown in hot, dry places, where it is often necessary to irrigate the land. The amount of real Mocha coffee produced is very small, and most that is sold under that name is not genuine.

In Java and Sumatra, where the commercial Java coffee is produced, the fruit is first brought in and allowed to ferment. It is then placed in the sun for three or four weeks and allowed to dry thoroughly. It is then put into a machine and hulled in order to free it from its several coatings; after this it is ready for the market.

This delicious little berry is supposed to have originated in Abyssinia or Ethiopia, where it has been found growing in a wild state. Coffee was first used as a beverage in Arabia, the berry being brought from Africa. The Arabs soon began to grow coffee in their own country, and about the fifteenth century it was introduced from Arabia into Europe as an article of commerce. The coffee which was grown in Arabia was called Mocha from the name of the port on the Red Sea, where nearly all the coffee was gathered and shipped; and for more than fifty years the Europeans used this Mocha coffee alone. About this time Java commenced growing coffee, which had been steadily increasing in popularity, and in the early part of the 17th century, Holland imported into Amsterdam through the Dutch East India Trading Company a quantity of this so-called Java coffee. It was merely Mocha coffee transplanted to Java, and the climatic changes gave to the article a peculiar taste and flavor, somewhat milder than the

Mocha coffee. The Island of Sumatra, adjoining Java, soon commenced the growing of coffee, and coffee shipped from both Sumatra and Java were generally known as Java coffee. From the 18th century, other countries, such as Mexico, West Indies, Central America, Brazil and others, commenced the growth of coffee, and at the present time coffee is one of the most important articles of commerce.

Most of the coffee consumed in America comes from Brazil, Venezuela, Columbia, Central America and Mexico. The berries are of medium size, greenish white in color, rather light, and are lacking in firmness. They are of inferior grade, having a somewhat bitter flavor and lacking delicacy of aroma. Java coffee has large firm berries, pale yellow when new, and brown when old. The color is partly a result of the method of curing, in addition to the effects of age. The berries of Mocha coffee are small, round, and of a dark yellow color.

Mocha coffee has always held a high rank among consumers on account of its ancient high name and lineage. The acid taste of the Mocha berry having made it popular when blended with Java which is of mild flavor. The two, assimilated, suit the bulk of the people in the Middle and Eastern States. As comparatively little Mocha is brought to America, it is evident that most of the coffees sold under the name are not entitled to that distinction. Consumers therefore who wish to be sure of getting the best coffee must buy brands with an established "pedigree" so to speak, prepared by a house whose connections reach direct to first hands.

Every consumer knows how frequently he is disappointed and deceived in the quality of his coffee. This is due not only to the selling of inferior grades under the names of the better, but too frequent adulterations. Chicory and various cereals are very largely used for the purpose; compounds containing no coffee at all, but ground and colored in imitation are sold to unscrupulous grocers for admixture with genuine coffee; and even imitation coffee beans are made from flour, bran, etc.

Sardines.

But a portion of the little fish that are sold as sardines are entitled to the name. Sprats, herrings and pilchards, all inferior in delicacy to the true sardine, are imposed upon the consumers under false colors. They are excellent and valuable articles of food, but they are not sardines. The excellence of so-called sardines depends first, upon the genuineness of the fish itself; and next, upon the quality of the oil in which it is preserved. Pure olive oil is an essential; with any other the delicate flavor of the fish is destroyed. Adulterated and inferior oil is used to a great extent in the preservation of sardines, and a rank and coarse flavor results. The consumer should always select brands whose reputation is a guarantee of quality.

Sardines are abundant in the Mediterranean and the Bay of Bisacy, and are also found in the Atlantic Ocean, although not as far north as England.

Sardines are exported to the most distant parts of the world, cured in oil, in tin boxes. To cure them, they are first carefully washed, then sprinkled in fine salt, and after a few hours the head, gills, etc., are removed; they are then washed again, and spread out on willow branches or wire work, exposed to the sun and wind if the weather is dry but in damp and rainy weather to a current of air under cover. They are next put into boiling oil in which they remain for a short time, and when they are taken out the oil is drained away from them as much as possible, and they are put into the familiar tin boxes. The boxes being filled with sardines, oil is poured in, the lid soldered on, and they are placed for a short time in boiling water or exposed to hot steam. The boxes which have leaked or have burst in boiling are

rejected, and those that remain sound are ready for the market. In the South of France, sardines are sometimes cured in red wine, and those so cured are Sardines Anchoiseses, or anchovy sardines.

There seems to be no good reason why the sprat of the British coast should not be cured in oil like that of the west coast of France, and so prove a new source of wealth, besides probably being brought at a lower price to market, to the advantage of those for whom sardines are at present too expensive. Several species of small Clupeidae, which resemble the sardine, are found in different parts of the world, and are used the same as sardines of the Mediterranean. One species frequents the south and east coast of Ceylon in such vast shoals that 400,000 have been taken at a single haul of the net in a little bay, and when the shoal approached the shore the broken water became as smooth as if a sheet of ice had been floating below the surface.

The "Soo's" Shipping Record.

The Cleveland Iron Trade Review says: "The figures given December 1 for ore shipments through the 'Soo' Canal in the season of 1892, include everything that has gone through the canal the past year. The total was 4,376, 010 gross tons, or 4,901,132 net tons, the canal office making its reports in net tons. The total tonnage through the 'Soo' for the season was 11,214,333 net tons, as against 8,383,759 net tons in 1891, an increase of 26 per cent. If the same percentage gain is made next year, it is evident that the new lock cannot be finished too soon. The official report, just at hand, gives this tabulation of the traffic of this season, as compared with 1891:

	1891.	1892.	Increase.	Amount.	Pct.
Vessels, number	10,191	12,680	2,389	23	
Lockages, number	4,981	5,847	866	18	
Tonnage 'reg'd' net.	8,400,635	10,617,203	2,216,518	27	
Tonnage freight, net.	8,383,759	11,214,333	2,825,574	26	
Passengers, number	26,190	25,806	244	1	
Coal, net tons	2,507,532	2,904,266	396,734	16	
Flour, barrels	3,780,142	5,413,135	1,637,992	43	
Wheat, bushels	38,810,570	40,991,720	2,178,210	6	
Grain other than wheat					
bushels	1,032,101	1,606,090	634,880	61	
M'fd and pig iron, net tons	62,741	101,520	31,779	46	
Salt, barrels	234,528	275,710	41,212	18	
Copper, net tons	62,190	64,993	4,197	6	
Iron ore, net tons	3,560,213	4,901,132	1,310,919	33	
Lumber, M ft. b. m.	366,305	512,854	146,639	11	
Silver ore, net tons	1,731	1,030	199	40	
Building stone, net tons	44,080	39,098	4,382	10	
Unclassified freight, net tons	417,093	409,316	42,053	10	

The increase in coal, flour, wheat, iron ore and lumber are noteworthy, as well as the 23 per cent. increase in the number of vessels passing through the canal. It has been the greatest season in the canal's history. In iron ore the records of 1891 and 1890 largely exceeded that of 1891, being 4,095,355 and 4,774,768 net tons respectively."

Winnipeg Wheat Inspection.

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

Grade.	Nov. 23.	Dec. 3.	Dec. 10.	Dec. 17.	Dec. 21.
Extra Manitoba hard	9	1	0	0	0
No. 1 hard	61	50	44	52	39
No. 2 hard	103	157	157	207	93
No. 3 hard	36	67	68	62	18
No. 1 Northern	9	26	13	17	16
No. 2 Northern	6	14	13	14	6
No. 3 Northern	1	0	0	2	0
No. 1 White tye	1	1	4	12	3
No. 2 White tye	1	3	4	2	0
No. 1 Spring	0	0	0	2	1
No. 1 Frosted	14	11	9	21	15
No. 2 Frosted	12	13	14	25	5
No. 3 Frosted	2	0	1	0	0
Rejected	51	70	54	33	22
No Grade	5	5	3	13	11
Feed Wheat	0	0	0	0	0
Total	349	312	410	467	161
Same week last year	722	451	608	733	

Turkeys and Cash.

Considering the generosity of George E. Tuckett & Son, it is no wonder that goodwill feeling exists between the members of the firm and the employees. For years it has been the custom of the firm to remember the employees at Christmas time, on which occasion a gift of some kind is made to every one of them. Yesterday afternoon the annual presentation took place in the large room on the top flat. At one end of the room was a platform decorated with flags and with a picture of the senior member of the firm in the background. In front of it stood the employees—about 350 of them—all waiting expectantly to hear what was in store for them.

Mounting the platform, George T. Tuckett said it was a great pleasure to call them together at the close of another year. He regretted that his father was not present, but they had his likeness before them. He had received a letter from him—he was hale and hearty—and told him to wish them all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. It had always been the custom to present prizes at Christmas, and the firm would continue to do so. Heretofore prizes had been given for competition in the rolling department, but under that system a large number went away disappointed. The intention was to give every pieceworker a turkey, and the day hands a week's wages.

J. W. Lamoreaux also regretted that Mr. Tuckett, sr., was not present, but he had no doubt that he was thinking of them, and wondering if the firm was following the noble example set by him. He thought the employees should be thankful for the privileges afforded to them to take stock in the company, if they desired, once a year. He did not know of a factory where the employees were better treated than the hands of Tuckett & Son.

A Montreal man who has been carrying wheat in Chicago from \$1.16 down to the present time, has closed out his deal at 42c per bushel loss.

The custom of sending out illuminated calendars at this season of the year, seems to be dying out. Only a very few have been received this year, and a few more last year, while two and three years ago, they were coming in with every mail. The finest calendar received this year comes from Matthews, Towers & Co., of Montreal. Very nice lithographic cards have also been received from Bryan & Co., and Richard & Co., Winnipeg.

In the equity court at St. John, N.B., recently, Hon. William Pugsley, counsel for Parks & Son, cotton mill owners, in their suit with the Bank of Montreal, the chief creditors, announced that owing to the action of Judge Palmer, of the equity court, the company was now in a position to pay off all over due accounts, including that of the Bank of Montreal. Three years ago, when an application was made for liquidation and forced sale of the mill, Judge Palmer took the mills under his personal supervision, and appointed a receiver, but actually took personal management, buying raw cotton himself and selling goods by direction to the receiver. As a result of his management the mills are now \$150,000 better off than when the suit was begun.

The "Myrtle Navy" tobacco is not burdened with the usual costs which swell the price of most articles to the consumer, the firm employ no travellers whatever, their orders come to them instead of being sought by them. The merchant does not require to keep a large stock on hand swelling its price with interest, for the factory is an immediate source of supply to him, at the cost of a postal card or at most a telegram. He loses nothing, therefore from being overstocked. The article is a staple one, for which there is as constant a demand as for wheat or flour, and the merchant can, therefore, sell it at a medium rate of profit.

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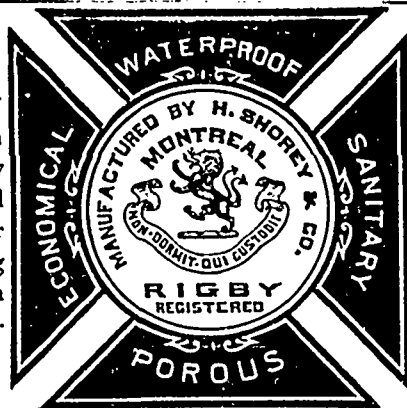
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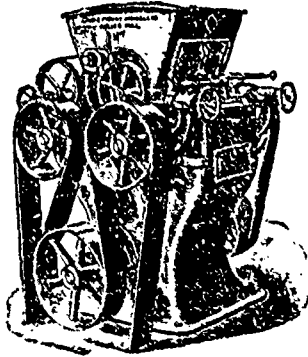
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## WINNIPEG MARKETS.

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

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, December 31.

Holiday week is a quiet one in wholesale trade circles. The only features worthy of note are in the grain and produce trade, and these, with the exception of the report in the price of wheat, are of little importance.

**DRYED FRUITS**—New layer figs are in good supply at 14 to 18c per pound as to quality for fair to good stock. Fine Elmes are held at 15c, while poor stock may be had as low as 12c per lb. We quote: Dried apples 6 to 6½c; evaporated, 8½ to 9c; figs, layers, 12 to 15c; dates, 6 to 8½c. Valencia raisins, \$1.75 to \$2; London layers, \$2.75 to \$2.80 box; Sultanas 9½ to 10c lb. Currants, 6½ to 6¾c; 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 first load of winter caught Lake Winnipeg white, were on the market this week. Prices are: Jackfish, 3c; pickerel, 4c; whitefish 6c; trout 10c; B. C. salmon 15c; Cod 10c; smoked haddies 10c; Yarmouth blotters \$1.75 per box; oysters \$2 per gallon for standards and \$2.25 for selects; can oysters 50c each for standards and 55c selects; Oysters have been sold as low as \$1.50 per gallon in some instances.

**GREEN FRUITS**—Some Catawba grapes in 5 lb baskets have been offering at 50c each. Apples held at steady prices, fancy stock, selected varieties, selling at \$4 per barrel, and other varieties \$3.50 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 Messinas, good, at \$6.50 to \$7; Malaga grapes, \$9 to \$10.50 per keg as to size of package; cranberries, \$10.50 barrel; California winter pears \$4.50 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**—In the Winnipeg market yellow is quoted at 4 to 4½c; granulated at 5½ to 5¾c. The inside price is for barrels, and a fraction higher for bags. Lumps, 6c; icing, 6½ to 7c; sugar syrups, 2½ to 3½c; maple sugar, 9 to 12c a lb.

**GENERAL WHEAT SITUATION**.—Christmas week is always a slow one in the grain trade, and until New Year's is over and business has thoroughly opened for 1893, the markets are expected to be quite. The week, however, did not show as great depression in wheat as might have been expected from the general tendency of the markets of late, and indeed in some respects there was an improvement over previous recent weeks. The week opened on Tuesday with a better feeling in United States markets, and the close of the day left most markets ½ to 1c higher than the closing day of previous week. Crop reports regarding winter wheat were not favorable, and this had some influence upon the market. The adverse report was of cold weather and scarcity of snow in winter wheat sections.

The export clearances of wheat and flour from both coasts of the United States for last week were reported about 1,900,000 bushels larger than during the preceding week. The crop of the United Kingdom was reported at only about 60,000,000 bushels or some 4,000,000 bushels less than expected and quality poor. The India shipments were reported 60,000 bushels less than the preceding week. The visible supply increased 1,514,000 bushels and a year ago increased 1,472,000 bushels. The total visible supply at principal points in the United States and Canada, east of the mountains, now stands at 79,834,000 bushels as compared with 44,-

775,000 bushels a year ago. The points showing largest increase were. Duluth 1,461,000 bushels, Minneapolis 292,000 bushels, Chicago afloat 506,000 bushels and store 150,000 bushels. The points showing greatest decrease were: Baltimore 168,000 bushels, Buffalo store 476,000 bushels, afloat 73,000 bushels, New York store 425,000 bushels, and afloat 84,000 bushels. The quantity of wheat and flour on ocean passage decreased 672,000 bushels for the week. On Wednesday United States markets were lower, losing part of the gain of Tuesday. Cables, however, were higher. Duluth receipts for the day were 341 cars and at Minneapolis 246 cars. On Thursday

Cables were lower, but United States markets were stronger, mainly owing to Bradstreet's weekly visible supply report, which showed a decrease of 1,651,000 bushels east, and about 500,000 bushels west of the Rockies. The Michigan state crop report, showed rather unfavorably for the winter wheat condition, and this feature further strengthened values. On Friday wheat was reported firmer by cable, but United States markets were very dull, owing to approach of New Year's holiday, and there was scarcely any variation in prices.

Total receipts at the four principal United States spring wheat points since Aug. 1, the beginning of the crop year, foot up: Minneapolis 37,183,127 bu; Duluth 27,865,023 bu; Chicago 36,852,542 bu; Milwaukee 8,439,440 bu; making a total of 110,339,131 bu, against 103,680,711 bu during the same time last year and 50,441,703 bu in 1890. The total receipts of wheat at the four principal winter wheat points, Toledo, St. Louis, Detroit and Kansas City from July to date are 59,716,635 bu, against 51,033,972 bu in 1891 and 19,738,278 bu in 1890. Exports of wheat from both coasts for the week ended Dec. 29 (flour included), equal 2,917,000 bushels, against 4,242,000 bushels last week, and 3,106,000 bushels one year ago.

**LOCAL WHEAT**.—The local wheat market has had a feature this week, of something more than usual moment. Manitoba markets have in past seasons been influenced by some peculiar features, not in keeping with the general condition of wheat in other markets. This week the Manitoba wheat situation has again asserted its independence of all outside conditions, by taking one of those sudden turns in prices which has happened on occasions in the past. While prices in leading wheat centres are just about where they were a week ago, Manitoba markets have the distinction alone of having experienced a strong bull movement, which we may say has come as a sort of Xmas box to wheat holders. The farmer (or at least the few of them who have not sold their wheat) will rejoice thereat, and the drooping hopes of some large holders may be revived. To be brief, it may be stated that the Lake of the Woods Milling Co. gave orders on Wednesday to its agents to advance prices 3 to 5 cents to farmers. This company is one of the heaviest buyers of Manitoba wheat, with elevators and buyers at nearly all country markets. The effect of this advance was therefore at once felt all over the Manitoba wheat country, and was the one topic of interest for the week. The company has no doubt a reason of its own for thus suddenly springing such a surprise upon the markets, in the face of the generally depressed condition of wheat and flour everywhere. The reason assigned by the company for the advance is that they want the wheat. The marketings of Manitoba wheat have now declined to very small proportion, so that the advance in price is not as far reaching as if it had occurred earlier. However, it may catch a number of millers short of stocks, and make them scramble to get wheat. It will certainly strengthen the domestic market very sharply for Manitoba wheat and flour, though of course the export value cannot be increased in this way. In Manitoba country markets the range of prices to farmers is now from 48 to 52c, for best samples of hard wheat, according to

freights. At some points where milling competition does not reach, the price is lower. Stocks are accumulating, notwithstanding tight marketings. Stocks in store at Fort William on Dec. 24 were 2,102,287 bushels, being an increase of 291,708 bushels for the week. Fort William and interior stocks aggregate about 5,000,000 bushels.

**FLOUR**.—Is unchanged at the decline of a week ago. There is the continued deep complaint of the condition of the flour markets east. Millers in Ontario are buying their local grown wheat relatively cheaper than Manitoba millers can buy wheat for here, for instance, good Ontario wheat can be bought at the mills east at 60 per bushel or thereabouts, while Manitoba wheat, adding freight, cost 75 to 80c per bushel. This puts western millers at a disadvantage in competing with Ontario millers in eastern markets. Prices here are quoted as 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.

**MILLSTUFFS**.—We quote bran selling to local dealers at \$8 to \$9 per ton, as to quality, and shorts \$10 to \$11 per ton.

**OATS**.—Offerings in the Winnipeg market have been light, but values nevertheless have been easy, and prices range from 18 to 20c per bushel of 34 pounds, for fair to good quality. In Manitoba country markets the range is from 13 to 14c per bushel. Markets east are dull and easy to lower.

**BARLEY**.—Dull as ever. Prices for feed barley are about the same as oats, per bushel, but slower sale than oats.

**GROUND FEED**.—Prices are unchanged. Finest brings \$13 to \$14 per ton, as to quality, and lower qualities \$11 to \$12 per ton. Some mill feed is offered as low as \$9 per ton, composed of wheat and other mixtures.

**MEALS, ETC.**.—There is no change in oatmeal. Rolled and granulated oatmeal held at about \$1.55 to \$2 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. Pearl barley, \$2.50 per 100 lbs. Pearl barley, \$1.00.

**BUTTER**.—Butter remains about the same as last week, with fairly liberal receipts. Single tubs of choice dairy have sold at about 19 to 20c, and we quote round lots of good to choice dairy at 15 to 17c.

**CHEESE**.—Jobbing at 10 to 10½c per lb.

**EGGS**.—Single cases quoted at 20c per dozen, larger lots 18 to 19c as to quality. Fresh not quotable.

**CURED MEATS**.—Local prices are unchanged but outside markets are all very strong and advancing. Up to 5c per pound is being paid for round lots of dressed hogs in eastern Canada markets, and at this big price there must be a sharp advance in provisions. Eastern cured stuff could not be sold in this market, to compete against the local product, as the local packers not only have the freight in their favor, but are buying their hogs very much cheaper. Local prices are: Dry salt long clear, bacon, 9 to 9½c; smoked long clear, 10½c; spiced rolls, 10½ to 10¾c; breakfast bacon, 13 to 13½c; smoked hams, 13 to 13½c; mess pork, \$17 per barrel. Sausage quoted: Pork sausage, 9c; bologna sausage, 9c; German sausage, 9c; ham, chicken and tongue sausage, 9c per half lb packet.

**LARD**.—Compound held at \$1.65 to 1.70 per pail. Pure at \$2.20 to \$2.30 per 20 pound pail. In tins, 12 to 12½c per pound.

**DRESSED MEATS**.—There is very little now business doing, butchers being stocked up by purchases before Christmas. A fair number of dressed hogs are offering, and we heard of one small lot being taken by a packer at \$6.50, but the usual quotation for good packing hogs, of desirable weights, is 6½c, and the range at 6 to

6½c as to quality. A few fancy, light fat hogs have been taken by butchers at 6½ to 7c per lb. Country dressed beef sells from 3 to 4½c as to quality. Mutton, city dressed, held at 10 to 11c.

**POULTRY.**—The supply of poultry is quite large, and easier tendency in prices. Dressed chickens are taken at 8 to 10c, turkeys 11 to 12½c; geese and ducks 10 to 11c per pound.

**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, uninspected in the run. 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. Kips about same as hides. Sheep and lamb skins 50 to 60c 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.**—Baled held at about \$4.75 to \$5 per ton on track at point of shipment. Loose hay on the street market plentiful at about \$4 per ton.

**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.]

Business opened on Tuesday, Monday being observed as Xmas holiday. Wheat was more active and higher, opening ½ to ¾c higher, advanced ¼c more, declined partially, and closed about ¾c higher than last business day. Provisions were strong and higher. Closing prices were:—

	Dec.	Jan.	May.
Wheat .....	72½	72½	72½
Corn .....	40½	41	45½
Oats .....	30	30½	31½
Pork .....	—	15 67½	15 92½
Lard .....	—	10 40	9 67½
Ribs .....	—	8 30	8 40

On Wednesday, wheat opened a fraction higher, but soon declined nearly 1c, and closed ¾c lower. Corn, oats and provisions were all lower. Closing prices were:—

	Dec.	Jan.	May.
Wheat.....	71½	71½	77½
Corn.....	40½	40½	45½
Oats.....	29½	31	34
Pork.....	—	15 82½	15 87½
Lard.....	—	10 30	9 67½
Short Ribs.....	—	8 32½	8 42½

On Thursday, wheat was strong, on the strength of Braintree's visible supply report, showing a decrease in stocks, and unfavorable winter wheat crop news. Closing prices were:—

	Dec.	Jan.	May.
Wheat.....	72	72½	77½
Corn.....	40½	40½	45½
Oats.....	29½	31	34
Pork.....	—	15 85	16 15
Lard.....	—	10 35	9 87½
Short Ribs.....	—	8 42½	8 62½

On Friday, the wheat market was dull. There were no important changes in prices. Closing prices were:—

	Dec.	Jan.	May.
Wheat.....	71½	71½	78½
Corn.....	40½	40½	45½
Oats.....	—	30½	31½
Pork.....	—	15 95	16 15
Lard.....	—	10 50	9 90
Short Ribs.....	—	8 57	8 87½

**Olives and Olive Oil.**

From the earliest time the olive tree has played an important part in the food supply of Oriental nations; and in historical times it has been very extensively cultivated in the Mediterranean countries. At the present time Italy gives no less than two and a quarter million acres to the culture of the olive; and both Spain

and France are important producers. The olive tree in its wild state is a thorny shrub or small tree, but through cultivation becomes a tree of from twenty to forty feet, destitute of spines. It attains a great age. The cultivated varieties are very numerous. The leaves resemble those of the willow; are of a dark green color, scaly, and whitish gray beneath. The flower is small and white, in short dense racemes; the fruit greenish, whitish, violet or even black; never larger than pigeon's egg, generally oval, sometimes globular. The fruit is produced in vast profusion, so that an olive tree becomes very valuable to its owner.

By far the greater portion of all the olives grown are raised for the manufacture of olive oil, not merely a condiment, as with us, but a principal article of food in all the Latin countries. The best olive oil is made in Italy; the best preserved olives come from Spain. The Lucca and Pisa districts of Tuscany produce the best Italian oil.

There are of course in olive oil, as in any other product of the soil, many degrees of fineness; but, broadly stated, the difference between fine and common olive oil, as these terms are understood in Tuscany, is due to the condition of the fruit when pressed and to the diligence used in the process of oil making.

To obtain fine oil, the fruit should be sound, freshly gathered, and promptly crushed and pressed before any fermentation can ensue. Moreover, a supply of pure water is indispensable, and the mills, presses, and various utensils required must be absolutely sweet and clean, while a constant attention to details is essential.

Common oil is the result of the absence of one or all of these conditions. In those districts of south Italy and Sicily where common olive oil is largely produced, hardly fit for anything but manufacturing purposes, even should the olives be sound when they leave the tree, they often lie on the ground for a considerable time from want of hands to gather them. More often still, the fruit is kept for some weeks before being crushed, in the mistaken belief that the fermentation which ensues causes an increased yield of oil.

There are many grades of common olive oil; all are bad, but some are much worse than others. The olive oil produced in Morocco; Algeria, Tripoli, Tunis, Syria, Asia Minor, Greece, Spain and Portugal is all of it, more or less, common.

The olives as soon as gathered, are brought to the frantoio—so the mill is called. Storage is generally provided in an upper floor, where the olives are spread out until they can be crushed; but they are never allowed to remain longer than twenty-four hours, because olives, particularly if wet when brought in, rapidly get mildewed, and the oil made from them is bad.

The mill trough (pila) is built of cut stone cemented externally; it is essential that the stone used for the purpose, as also the millstone, should be non-absorbent, lest, becoming saturated with oil which would become rancid in time, a bad taste and smell should be communicated to the product. A silicious conglomerate rock is much employed for these uses. Olive mills are most frequently worked by water power; when this is not available, by animals, generally oxen.

About ten bushels of olives are crushed at a time, the operation lasting about an hour. Pulp and stones are crushed together; the pasty substance resulting is next placed in flattish, circular receptacles, termed bruscoles, made from a kind of rush, and tied at the mouth with a horse-hair cord. When full, ten or twelve of the bruscoles are put in the oil press, the number which it can hold being termed the castello.

Cold water is poured upon the bruscolo to facilitate the flow of oil; hot water would be much more efficacious, and increase the yield, but then the quality of the oil would suffer. The oil and water which serves to collect pass into the tinello, a receiving vessel which stands loose by the oil press; from time to time the oil

is skimmed off with a shallow pan, and transferred to the charitoio, therein to settle, before it can be considered saleable or fit to be put into the coppajo, the oil store, so named from the large terra cotta jars (coppi) in which olive oil is generally kept in the country districts.

Great scope for adulteration is offered in the number of cheap vegetable oils which can be profitably employed for the purpose, such as cotton seed, ground nut, sesame and colza oils. Of these, cotton-seed and ground nut oils are probably more generally used, and in Italy, cotton seed oil.

Adulteration is not by any means confined to Italy. Seed oils of various kinds are largely imported as well as made in France. There are factories at Marseilles and Bordeaux where oil is extracted from African ground-nuts, arachides, of which there is an enormous importation. Not only is this oil used to adulterate olive oil, but it is said to be used to some extent, as a substitute for it in packing cheap brands of sardines. In the United States olive oil imported in casks, is mixed with cotton-seed oil and retailed as pure olive.

One fact, however, which must be especially noted, is that adulteration is confined to low qualities of olive oil. It would not pay to adulterate fine olive oil, for the quality would be irretrievably ruined, and it would then sell only at the price of common oil. Olive oil of really fine quality is so delicate that the addition of as little as one per cent. of its volume of cotton-seed, or other such oil, a quantity far too small to pay, can be easily detected by the taste. Such oil is ruined, degraded in fact and acquires the unmistakable twang of cotton-seed oil. However highly refined the latter may be, it is rank and nauseous compared with good olive oil.

Notwithstanding that large quantities of adulterated oil are sold in America, it is certain that the best brands of pure Tuscan oil can be easily obtained from firms whose long standing and high repute are a guarantee of genuineness and excellence.

Table olives of the highest degree of excellence are produced mainly in Spain, and in the trade are known by the general name of "Queen" olives. To many, especially to uncultivated palates, olives are distasteful, but a taste for them is soon acquired and they are then greatly relished. They are a most piquant and effective stimulant to the palate, adding zest to succeeding viands; and no relish holds a higher place with epicures. Olives intended for table use are gathered before they are quite ripe. After immersion in lime water to soften them and make them of milder flavor, they are pickled in various ways, packed in salt and exported in hogs heads.

The Lake of the Woods Milling company, at Portage la Prairie, have distributed one hundred and fifty Christmas turkeys amongst their employees. William Hastings, the manager of the company's business at Montreal, is in town.

The reduction works at Rat Portage was sold on December 29, by Sheriff Carpenter, on behalf of J. H. Brock, trustee for the mortgagees. The property, after several bids, was knocked down to Messrs. Barnes & Upton, of Duluth, for the sum of \$15,000. It is the intention of these gentlemen to form a company to operate the works. The present machinery will be overhauled and put in shape and Crawford mills for the treatment of the ores put in.

There was a meeting of the Winnipeg grain exchange on Friday, when the question of holding a dinner on the date of the annual meeting of the exchange, Jan 11th, was discussed. It was decided that a dinner be given on that date, and a committee consisting of President Mitchell, Vice-President Atkinson, Secretary Bell, and R. P. Roblin was appointed to make all necessary arrangements. It is probable that a departure will be made in this affair from the ordinary conventional dinner, and the lady friends of the members will be invited.

Winnipeg Wholesale Prices Current.

**PAINTS, OILS AND GLASS.**

WHITE LEAD, pure, ground in oil, Association guarantee, in 25 lb irons and 100 and 200 lb kegs ..... \$6.50 to 7.00

White Lead, No. 1, per 100 lbs. 6.00 to 6.50

" No. 2 ..... 5.50 to 6.00

" assorted, 1 to 5 lb tins, per pound 10c

PREPARED PAINTS, pure liquid colors, per gallon. 1.35 to 1.4

" second quality. 1.10 to 1.20

DRY COLORS, white lead, per lb. 8

Red lead, per pound 7

Yellow ochre, per lb. 8

Golden ochre, per lb. 5

Venetian red, French, ..... 8 1/2

Venetian red, Eng. .... 8 1/2

English purple oxides, ..... 4 1/2

American oxides, per lb. .... 4

These prices for dry colors are for broken lots. 5c per pound less when full kegs or barrels are taken.

Zanzibar vermillion, kegs. .... 18

Less than kegs, per pound. .... 20

English vermillion, in 30 lb bags 1.00

Less than bags, per pound. .... 1.10

VARNISHES, No. 1, furniture, gal. 1.35

Extra furniture, per gal. 1.35

" 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.

LINSEED OIL, raw, per gallon. .... 61c

" Billed, per gallon. .... 64

These prices are in barrels, but would be shaded 2c for ten barrel lots.

TURPENTINE, Pure spirits, in barrels, per gallon. .... 63c

Less than barrels, per gallon. 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

" Black. .... 25 to 30

" Lard. .... 70

CASTOR OIL, per lb. .... 12

Mica axlogreese, per case. .... 3.75

Oem " ..... 3.20

Imperial ..... 2.50

SUNDRIES, Coal tar, per barrel. 8.00

Portland cement, per barrel. 4.75

Michigan plaster, per barrel. 3.25 to 3.50

Putty, in bladders, per pound. 03 1/2

" in barrels of bladders per pound ..... 03

Whiting, barrels, per 100 lbs. 1.25

Alabastine, per case, 20 p'ks. 7.00

Asbestus, per case of 100 lbs. 7.00

WINDOW GLASS, 1st break. .... 1.90

**WOOD.**

Mixed tamarac, or oak, per cord \$4.00 to 4.50

Poplar, per cord ..... \$2.50 to 3.25

Prices are for car lots on track; 50c per cord more at yards; \$1 per cord more delivered in city from yard.

**COAL.**

COAL, Pennsylvania Anthracite, per ton. .... \$10.50

Pennsylvania, soft. .... 8.00

Lethbridge coal ..... 7.50

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.

**DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.**

Alum, per lb. .... .03 1/2 to .04 1/2

Alcohol, per gal. .... 4.75

Bleaching powder, per lb. .... .06 to .08

Blue vitrol ..... .0 to .13

Borax ..... .11 to .13

bromide potash ..... .44 to .55

Camphor ..... .75 to .85

Camphor cunces ..... .80 to .90

Carbolic acid ..... .40 to .65

Castor oil. .... .11 to .15

Chlorate potash ..... .25 to .30

Citric acid ..... .65 to .80

Coppers. .... .03 1/2 to .04

Cocaine, per oz. .... \$9.20 to \$9.75

Cream tartar, per lb. .... .28 to .35

Epsom salts ..... .03 1/2 to .04

Extract Logwood, bulk ..... .14 to .18

boxes ..... .15 to .20

German quinine ..... .30 to .40

Glycerine, per lb. .... .20 to .25

Howard's quinine, per oz. .... .60 to .80

Iodine ..... \$5.50 to \$8.00

Insect powder ..... .35 to .40

Morphia sul ..... 1.75 to \$1.90

Oplum ..... 4.00 to 4.25

Oil lemon, super ..... 2.75 to 3.50

Oil peppermint. .... 3.75 to 4.25

Oxalic acid. .... .13 to .16

Potass iodide. .... 4.25 to 4.50

Saltpetre ..... .10 to .12

Sal rochelle. .... .30 to .35

Shellac ..... .85 to .40

Sulphur flowers. .... .3 1/2 to .5

Sulphur roll, per keg ..... .3 1/2 to .5

Soda bicarb, per keg of 112 lb 3.75

Sal soda ..... 2.00 to 3.00

Tartaric acid, per lb. .... .45 to .65

**LEATHER.**

Spanish sole, best, No. 1 per lb. .28 to .30

Spanish sole, No. 1 ..... .28 to .28

" No. 2. .... .24

Slaughter sole, heavy ..... .30

" light ..... .27

Harness, heavy, best. .... .23 to .30

" light, ..... .28 to .30

" No. 1 ..... .28 to .28

Upper, heavy, best ..... .35 to .45

" light ..... .35

Kip skins, French ..... \$ 1.00 to \$ 1.10

" domestic ..... .75 to .85

Calf skins, French, premier choice ..... 1.25 to 1.50

Calf skins, domestic ..... .75 to .85

Splite, senior ..... .25 to .30

" junior ..... .30

Cowhide ..... .35 to .45

Cordovan, per foot ..... .17 to .21

Pebble, cow ..... .17 to .21

Buff ..... .17 to .1

Russets, saddlers', per doz. 12.50

Linings, colored, per foot. .... .12

**METALS AND HARDWARE.**

Tin, Lamb and Flag, 56 and 28 lb ingots, per lb. .... .28 to .28

Strip. .... .23 to .30

TIN PLATES—Charcoal Plates, Bright. Per box.

Bradley H. L. S. .... Per box.

I. C., usual sizes. .... \$7.50 to \$7.75

I. X., " ..... 8.25 to 8.50

Raven and P. D. Grades—

I. C., usual sizes. .... 5.75 to 6.00

I. X., " ..... 7.00 to 7.50

Charcoal Plates—Terne.

Dean or J. G. Grade—

I. C. 20 x 28, 112 sheets. .... \$10.00 to 11.50

**IRON AND STEEL—** Base Price.

Common Iron, per 100 lbs \$3.00 to \$3.25

Band " " ..... 3.50 to 3.75

Swedish " " ..... 5.25 to 6.00

Sleigh Shoe Steel. .... 3.75 to 4.50

Best Cast Steel, per lb. .... .13 to .15

Russian Sheet. " ..... .12 to .13

BOILER TUBES—40 per cent. off list.

SHEET IRON—1 to 20 gauge. 3.75 to 4.00

22 to 24 ..... 3.75 to 4.00

26 ..... 4.00 to 4.25

28 ..... 4.25 to 5.50

CANADA PLATES ..... 3.75 to 4.00

IRON PIPE—40 to 45 per cent. off list.

GALVANIZED IRON—Queen's Head—

16 to 24 gauge, per lb. .... .06 to .06 1/2

26 gauge, " ..... .06 1/2 to .06 1/2

28 " ..... .06 1/2 to .07 1/2

CHAIN—

Proof Coll, 3-16 inch, per lb. 0.7 to 0.7 1/2

" 1/2 " " ..... 0.6 1/2 to 0.7

" 5-16 " " ..... 0.6 to 0.6 1/2

" 3 " " ..... 0.5 to 0.6 1/2

" 7-16 " " ..... 0.5 1/2 to 0.6

Trace, per doz pairs. .... 4.00 to 8.00

ZINC SPELTER ..... 0.7 to 0.7

ZINC SHEET ..... 0.7 1/2 to 0.8

LEAD—Pig, per lb. .... 0.6 1/2 to 0.6

Sheet, 2 1/2 lbs. per square ft. .... 0.6 to 0.7

SOLDER—

Half-and-half (guar) per lb. .22

ANTIMONY—Cookson's, per lb. .25

AMMUNITION—Cartridges—

Rim Fire Pistol, Amer. dis. 35% Cartridges, Dom., 50% " Military, Amer. 5% advance. Central Fire Pistol and Rifle, Amer., 12 1/2 " Cartridges, Dom., 30%.

Shot Shells, 6.50 to \$9.50.

SHOT—Canadian ..... 0.6 to 0.6 1/2

WADS—Eloy's, per 1,000. .... 25 to .75

AXES—Per box ..... 0.50 to 15.50

AXLE GREASE—Per gross. .... 10.00 to 14.00

WIRE—Clothes line, galv., p. Wire Barb. .... 4.85 to 5.00

ROPE—Sisal, per lb, 10 1/2 to 11 1/2c, Manila, per lb., 14 1/2 to 15 1/2, Cotton, 25 to 27.

NAILS—Cut 5 in. and upwards, per keg base, price, 3.00. Wire nails, 4.00.

HORSE NAILS—Canadian, dis., 50 to 45 per cent.

HORSE SHOES—Per keg, 4.50 to 5.00.

# THE CANADA JUTE COMPANY, LTD.

MONTREAL.

## JUTE AND COTTON BAGS,

Twines and Hessians.

ALL KINDS CARRIED IN STOCK.

Write for Samples and Prices before Purchasing Elsewhere.

PRINTING SACKS IN COLORS A SPECIALTY.

## W. F. HENDERSON & CO

Agents, 151 Bannatyne Street East,

Winnipeg.



**Trade and Business Failures.**

Bradstreet's weekly report, issued at New York on December 31 says:—"Features of the general trade situation this week are found in continued holiday dullness, stimulus to the coal trade due to the cold snap, the announcement that southern pig iron stocks are over sold, competition by makers for orders for manufactured iron and steel, the cut of \$1 per ton by the steel rail combination, lower prices for soft steel at St. Louis, for rice at New Orleans, leather at Boston, and corn and oats with small advances on wheat, hogs and silk goods, and steady quotations for wool, cotton, sugar and cattle.

The close of the year finds the speculative and investment share market dull and apathetic and the advance in Manhattan, a bear attack on Northern Pacific stock and bonds and irregular trading in Reading were the only positive features. The deal between the last named company and a Philadelphia financial institution is believed to involve considerable change in the conduct of the coal trade by the allied railroads and producers.

Fears of disturbance in interest rates about January restrain bullish action, while a decline of exchange with decreasing prospects of gold exports causes a subsidence of apprehension and discourages bearish attacks on value. An engagement of \$500,000 in gold for shipment was, however, made on Friday, though it was understood that it represented sales of bills made some time since.

There have been no striking changes in Canadian trade circles. Travellers have not gone out yet and business is quiet. Trade of late at St. John, N. B., has been good.

Bank clearings for the week at Halifax, Montreal, Toronto and Hamilton aggregate \$16,145,000, or 24 per cent less than last week, and 23 per cent less than the concluding week of 1891.

In the Dominion including Newfoundland, the total number of failures reported for 1892 is 1,682, a decrease of 9 per cent. compared with the preceding year. The decline in volume of liabilities, however is much heavier from \$14,884,000 to \$11,603,210 or 22 per cent. increase. A number of failures are reported from Nova Scotia, Manitoba and British Columbia where the gross liabilities of those failing are likewise large as compared with 1891. Ontario and Quebec show a gratifying reduction in the number of business failures, together with gross liabilities. The report of failures in the Dominion to Bradstreet's this year and last year in detail is here given.

1892.		1891.	
NUMBER OF FAILURES.	LIABILITIES.	NUMBER OF FAILURES.	LIABILITIES.
Ontario.....	716 \$3,652,959	843 \$5,321,000	
Quebec.....	505 2,273,447	689 7,538,000	
New Brunswick.....	85 549,002	93 599,000	
Nova Scotia.....	153 950,320	122 599,000	
P. E. Island.....	8 113,000	10 166,000	
Newfoundland.....	3 37,400	7 96,000	
Manitoba.....	62 117,400	61 349,000	
Northwest Territories.....	16 51,521	17 159,000	
British Columbia.....	71 452,401	23 81,000	
Totals.....	1,682 \$11,603,210	1,816 \$14,914,000	

The total number of failures for 1892 includes three from St. Pierre Miquelon.

**Thin Margins.**

The text of the "I told you so" crowd relates now to the deal usually called a "spread." There are many kinds of spreads, but most of them have to do with that that is drawn out of thin—not necessarily too thin, but thin always. Many things are better thin. Thin margins in an unprofitable transaction save men from greater losses. There is such a thing in a deal as to be right, although too seldom found, when too thin margins evaporate just before light breaks in. Then the misfortune is charged to bad luck while the error, perhaps is in overtrading. When one

gets on the wrong side and loses, he rants about luck. So its simply out of luck and thin margins that keeps the whole speculating world poor. There are only two sides to speculation; the right side and the wrong side. Almost everybody takes the wrong side, while the rest are out of luck on account of thin margins. The man with thin margins always loses in heavy trading. If he is right in general judgment he is dropped out in the little swells or dips that his margin is too thin to carry him through. If he is wrong he loses anyhow. So thin margins are too attenuated, whether right or wrong, to lead to wealth and fame. But then, too thin margins sometimes carry notoriety, although that is but an indifferent substitute for fortune.

Spreads are a consolation because they promise big business with little capital. If they are right they waste the profits in commission. If they are wrong the expenses double the losses, and if they are right, the expenses eat up the profits. It follows that all the good the one gets out of them, who takes the risk, is the fun there is in never seeing his money any more.

There is such a thing as a spread taken with the margins so thin that they consist merely of the shadow of a business rating. Usually spreads are so safe that the brokerage firm that gets them, takes margins even thinner than the shadow of a business rating. They are the promise that the loser will call it a debt of honor if the profits of the spread do not pay the brokerage. Debts of honor lose their charm when offered as collateral for overcoats and they are sometimes refused at the banks on account of their ethereal thinness, but the man who once gets them may be consoled with the certainty of being never without assets afterward.—Minneapolis Market Record.

**Minneapolis Markets.**

Following were closing quotations for wheat on Wednesday, Dec 28.

Grades.	Dec.	Jan.	May.	On trk
No. 1 hard.....				85 1/2
No. 1 northern.....	6 1/2		70a	84
No. 2 northern.....				58 to 60

Flour - Flour production this week is light, as there is more than usual trouble with the water power that supplies the mills. The market remains stupid, as it always is the last week of the year. Wheat markets are easy, and that creates some interest in the flour market. While flour buyers are not expected to take larger supplies than the business requires, for a few days, they all realize the present cheapness and are apparently ready to buy on a steadier firmness in wheat. Foreign buying is flat this week. Bakers are not selling. Quoted at \$3.50 to \$2.80 for first patents; \$3.35 to \$3.50 for second patents, \$2.20 to \$2.60 for fancy and export bakers, \$1.10 to \$1.35 for low grades, in bags, including red dog. The daily output of mills grinding will probably aggregate 21,100 brls.

BRAN AND SHORTS—Bran markets were weak at yesterday's figures the price at the opening to-day. The larger part of the spot bran offered was held at \$8.50 per ton on track and in bulk, ready to bill out. Shorts were held at \$9.25 to \$9.75 most generally, with \$9.50 a common quotation for bulk lots in cars.

Oats—Oats were in some request for May at a light reaction. The speculative prices were too slow to affect markets materially for spot grain, which was slow. Too many poor oats were offered on the local market to be taken up by shippers, who wanted mostly graded No. 3 white. Dirty grain had to be sold to local dealers who bought too sparingly to create activity. Prices were unsatisfactory, and ranged from 24 1/2 to 29 1/2c per bushel.

Barley—By sample sold at 30 to 33c.

Feed—Millers held at \$14.25 to \$14.75; less than car lots \$14.75 to \$15.00, with corn meal at \$14.00 to \$15.00. Granulated meal, \$20.—Market Record, Dec. 28.

**Manitoba.**

Geo. Armstrong, livery, Alexander, has sold out to Geo. Cheasley.

J. G. Hooy, general store, Chater, has sold out to John Vance.

Newberry & Wells, general store, Melita, have assigned in trust.

B. L. Tomkins, confectionery, fruit, etc. Winnipeg, has sold out to Geo. Carrol, and has since left town.

The Brandon Times has issued a neat Christmas number in magazine form. It contains handsome photo engravings of the leading citizens of Brandon and the city's public buildings, also a list of improvements of the year.

W. & P. Dickson, general merchants, Alexander, Man., has dissolved partnership. The business will be continued by P. Dickson & Co.

**Alberta.**

J. L. Somers, stoves and tinware, Calgary, is opening at Edmonton.

H. St. Jean, hotel, Edmonton, is succeeded by Thos. Malletto.

**Duluth Wheat Market.**

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

Monday—Holiday.
Tuesday—Cash, 65 1/2c; May, 71 1/2c.
Wednesday—Cash, 65 1/2c; May, 71 1/2c.
Thursday—Cash 65 1/2c; May 72c.
Friday—Cash 66; May 72 1/2c.
Saturday—Holiday.

A week ago cash wheat closed at 64 1/2c, and May delivery at 71c. A year ago cash wheat closed at 87 1/2c, and May at 94 1/2c.

**Canned Goods.**

The art of hermetically sealing fresh articles of animal and vegetable food was first invented by a French savant, M. Apert, in 1807. In 1810, one Peter Durand patented the newly-discovered art in England, and carried it to a somewhat higher degree of perfection. In 1837, Thos. B. Smith, of Philadelphia, began preserving corn according to Appert's process, a book having come into his possession relative to it, from which he gained his information. In 1848, meats were first packed in tin cans; but just where the use of tin in connection with the preserving of food and food products began is not definitely known. In the same year Wm. Underwood first packed lobsters in tin at Harper's Well, Maine, and in 1853 he introduced canned salmon. We are indebted to Henry W. Crosby, of Jamesburg, N.J., for the introduction of canned tomatoes in 1847 at Lafayette College, Easton, Pa., and in 1848 he sent a box containing six cans of this vegetable to Queen Victoria, and also one to the President of the United States, both of whom acknowledged receipt of same. So universal has become the use of goods in tin that the annual consumption has now reached over one thousand million cans per year, and there are over fifteen hundred establishments whose sole business is the packing of food and food products.

Every variety of fish, fruit, meats and vegetables is packed and hermetically sealed in tin or glass. Many specialties are packed with which many consumers are not yet familiar, such as cockscombs, sweet potatoes, and other delicacies that one would not expect to find in tin cans. A very general prejudice formerly prevailed against foods preserved in tin cans; but the enormous consumption of canned goods shows that this prejudice has almost disappeared. It was senseless and irrational, for if canned fruit or vegetables are removed from the can soon after opening, deleterious effects from the tin are impossible.

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HATS and CAPS,

STRAW GOODS,

Etc., Etc.

*Manitoba Spring Trade, 1893.*

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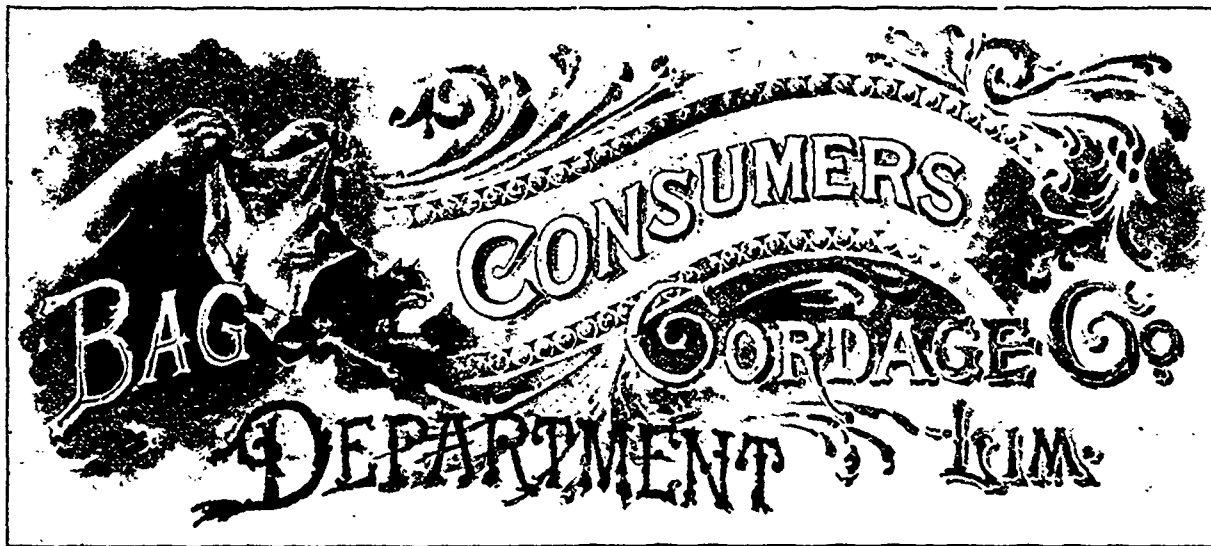
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WINNIPEG.

## The British Grain Trade.

The London *Mark Lane Express* of December 5, in its weekly review of the British grain markets, says: "The situation is unprecedented, and deductions from statistics of previous periods are of little practical value. The imperial average for English wheat for the month of November was only 27s 10d, being 10s 1d lower than last year and 2s 3d lower than any previous November within the century. On December 24 *Beerholm* quoted the average price for English wheat 25s 9d.

Low as these prices are, a comparison with the past must not be taken as warranting any belief in any early recovery of values. During the first three months of the cereal year granary stocks have increased by 6,965,056 bushels, while the breadstuffs on passage, including flour, have risen 6,112,000 bushels. Thus the situation is 13,077,056 bushels worse than it was on September 1, 1892, and the decline in prices since that date is rather moderate than otherwise in proportion to the extra weight of depression laid upon the market.

The freights for grain from the leading producing countries remains very low indeed, about 2s per quarter from the Atlantic seaboard, 7s from the Pacific, while Novorossisk, the new Russian port, which is open all the winter, quoted 1s 9d per quarter up to December 31, and 2s 3d per quarter New Year. From India the freight is only 3s to Bombay and Karachi per quarter; 4s Calcutta. It costs more to bring a ton of wheat from certain parts of England to Mark Lane than it does from India, Russia or the Atlantic ports.

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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.

December 26, 1892.

There has been a sharp spell of cold weather, with hard frost and snow, something unusual at this season of the year. It has had a great effect on Xmas goods and imparted to the season something of the spirit of eastern holiday weather.

Business, as always at the end of the month, is duller than a few weeks ago, except in holiday wares, which has formed a large part of the trade. As remarked in last week's issue the supply of holiday goods have been in excess of demand and necessarily heavy stocks must be carried over or sacrificed.

Though the quantity of meats in the market is large dealers are holding up prices, owing to the stiff prices maintained in the east. There has been no decline since last week as expected.

Dairy products are slow.

There is a prospect of a hard winter for cattle with a consequent stiffening in the prices of beef. At present there is no material change from former quotations, but there is already an appreciable difference in the quality of beeves from the upper county indicating at an early date considerable depreciation. There have already been six weeks of winter in the interior and continued cold weather must have a serious effect on stock. Navigation from Revelstoke to Robson has been closed for some time and communication with Nelson and the Kootenay county is now carried on by way of Spokane. An effort is being made to keep open the route on the Columbia River from Northport to Robson, making connection by rail from Robson to Nelson and from Northport to Spokane and the following circular has been issued from the three transportation companies, viz., the C. P. R. Co., the C. & K. N. Co. and the S. F. & N. Ry. Co. This will continue until navigation closes on the Columbia, after which a pack trail will be used:

"It is expected that the Columbia river, between Northport and mouth of Kootenay river will be navigable during the greater part of the winter months, but as we are not in a position to fix an absolute date when such navigation will close for a short time, on account of extreme cold weather, notice is given that, until otherwise advised, ship neat's of freight for the following points in British Columbia; Trail Creek, Waneta, Robson, Nelson, Ainsworth, Kaslo, Pilot Bay or Ba'four, routed via Northport, Wash., will be accepted, subject to the delay incident to the close of navigation, and to any additional charges which may be involved in forwarding to destination."

The success of the experiment of stocking the waters of the Californian coast is well known. Shad were placed years ago in the Sacramento river, and gradually worked their way northward until they have been found all along as far north as the northern boundary of Washington. In the Straits of Fuca, last year, they were netted at the mouth of the Fraser river. The remarkable way in which these fish propagate and distribute themselves, is evidenced by the fact that they were caught this year during the salmon season, at River's Inlet in northern coast waters. This is significant, and means that to the well stocked waters of B. C. another important food fish is to added, the value of which can be best estimated by what has been realized in California, where the shad fishing has developed into an important industry, although the shad is not indigenous to the waters of the coast.

In line with the above reference may be made

to the shipment of 100 tons of frozen salmon from Port Essington, on the Skeena. Some time ago THE COMMERCIAL contained a description of the refrigerator and the freezing process employed by R. Cunningham & Son, of that place, where during the salmon running season, the white salmon principally, which are not put in cans, though quite equal to the pink salmon in every respect, were stored and frozen. The process itself is complete and the fish, if properly kept, that is, in frozen condition, may be carried any distance and afterwards thawed out in cold water are as fresh in texture and flavor as when first caught. Last year Messrs Cunningham & Son erected the freezer and put in the plant for Ald Bergooff, who perhaps had more enterprise than capital, but who was sanguine about an extensive foreign market. The 100 ton shipment, which came down to Vancouver on the steamer Danube was shipped by boat to Tacoma, there to be sent to Europe. The shipment, of course, is entirely experimental and was undertaken by Mr. Bergooff hampered by lack of capital to carry it through and it may be that of experience in the business and therefore if it be a failure in this instance it cannot be taken as a criterion of the possibilities of the process or even of the marketing of the fish, which can be applied to halibut, cod, skil, etc., as well as to salmon. Cunningham & Son are men of capital as well as business ability, and if there be anything in it they will undertake the shipment on their account. They have all the facilities for boxing and icing cheaply while the fish are plentiful and can be caught by Indians at a price, other things being equal, which renders the prospect feasible. The matter of transportation at the proper temperature and at a sufficiently cheap rate are the only two things which render the enterprise problematical, but which, if they can be accomplished, opens the way to the greatest industry on the coast, one which need only be limited by the limit of the demand itself.

B. C. Market Quotations.

FLOUR, FEED, GRAIN, ETC.—Continues steady. Quotations are: Flour Manitoba patents, \$5.50; strong bakers, \$5 20; ladies' choice, \$5.70; prairie lily, \$6 30; Oregon, \$5.50; Spokane, \$5.65; Enderby mills—Premier \$5 65; three star, \$5 25; two star, \$5.25; oatmeal eastern \$3 40; California granulated in gunnies, \$4.35; National mills, Victoria, \$4.25; rolled oats eastern \$3 to \$3.25; California \$3.75; National mills \$3 65; cornmeal \$3.10; split peas \$3.50; pearl barley \$4 50. Rice—The Victoria rice mill; quote wholesale. Japan rice per ton, \$77.50; China rice do \$70; rice flour, do, \$70; chit rice, do, \$25; rice meal; do, \$17.50; chopped feed, \$31 per ton; bran \$24; shorts \$25; Man. oats, \$28 to \$32; B. C. oats; \$26; wheat \$27 to \$32; oil cake, \$10; hay, \$16. Wheat is quoted in car lots for feed No. 2 regular at \$22 to \$23 per ton; oats \$23 in bulk and in sacks \$25; chop barley \$25. California malting barley, \$26 to \$27 f.o.b. in San Francisco. California chop, \$32 to \$33. The Western Milling Co quote bran in car lots \$19.50 per ton; shorts, \$20.50; mixed chop, \$25; rye, \$38; patent flour, \$4.60; strong bakers \$5.30. Graham flour, \$4 40; B. C. wheat is quoted at \$29 to \$30 per ton, and oats at \$25; beans are 4c per lb. Hay is quoted at \$12 ton on the river bank or \$12.50 placed on the scoops.

SUGARS.—Jobbers prices are:—Cuba, 5½c; powdered, 6½c; dry granulated, 5½c; extra C. 5½c; fancy yellow, 5c; yellow, 4½c; golden C, 4½c.; syrups 4c per lb.

The British Columbia Sugar Refinery quote sugar as follows in their weekly price list: Powdered icing and bar, 6½c.; Paris lump; 6½c; granulated 5½c. extra C 4½c.; fancy yellow 4½c.; yellow 4½c.; golden C 4½c. Above prices are for barrels or bags; half-barrels and 200 lb kegs ½c more. No order taken for less than 100 barrels or its equivalent.

They quote syrup as follows:—Finest golden, in 30 gal. bls, 2½c; ditto, in 10 gal. kegs, 3c; ditto, in 5 gal. kegs. \$2.25 each; ditto, in 1 gal

tins, \$4 50 per case of 10; ditto, in ½ gal tins, \$6 per case of 20.

These prices are subject to 2½ per cent discount for cash in fourteen days, and cover delivery in Vancouver, Victoria, Nanaimo, or New Westminster.

FREIGHTS.—Lumber freights from British Columbia or Puget Sound are quoted as follows: Valparaiso for orders, 36; 61; direct port on West coast, South America, 33; 91; Sydney 30; Melbourne, Adelaide or Port Pirie, 65c; United Kingdom, calling at Cork for orders, 45s; Shanghai, 42s 6d; Yokohama, 40s nominal.

Coal freights are quoted. Nanaimo or Departure Bay to San Francisco, \$1.75 to \$2; to San Diego or San Pedro, \$2.25 to \$2.50.

DAIRY.—Creamery butter is steady at from 27 to 28c; cheese, 13 to 13½c.

FRUITS.—There are few coast apples in the market; a stern apples range from \$5 25 to 5.50 per box. Cranberries are quoted at \$12 per barrel for Cape Cods, and 40c a gallon for natives. Oranges, seedlings, \$4; navels, \$5.50; Japs. 50 to 75c; dates, 7 to 8c; figs, 18c.

FISH.—Prices are: Halibut, 8c; Salmon, 10 to 12c, codfish, 6 to 7c; flounders 4c to 5c; sturgeon 4c to 5c; sole 10c.

VEGETABLES.—No change. Californian onions are quoted 1½c; B. C. onions 1½c; turnips beets and carrots, \$15 a ton; Fraser Valley potatoes average about \$16 a ton; and 1 Ashcroft \$18.

DRESSED MEAT, LIVE STOCK, ETC.—Quotations are: Live steers are quoted at 4c; cows, 3½c; dressed beef, 7½ to 7¾c; sheep, 7½ to 7¾c; mutton, 13c; hogs, 7½c; pork, 10½c, calves, 6½c. veal, 11c.

GAME, POULTRY, ETC.—Blue grouse, per pair, is worth 75c; pintails, 35c; mallards, 50c; teal, 20c; partridges, 50c; chickens, \$4.70 to \$5.50; ducks, \$6; geese, \$7; turkeys, 18c per pound, live weight. Venison, 5 to 6c per pound.

COAL.—J. W. Harrison writes as follows in reference to the San Francisco coal market: The receipts for the past week consists of 23,015 tons from the coast mines and 3,556 tons from Australia. There has been but one cargo received from foreign ports during the week. The quantity to arrive from foreign sources within the next few months is very light, and as a result very little business is being done for future delivery, and prices must strengthen. From now on the coast mines will have an opportunity to make their products profitable, as they will have control of the market for three or four months at least. The Washington coal agents have advanced their prices this week 50c a ton, and their sales have not fallen off in consequence. The next advance will probably be in the British Columbia product, which is in light supply.

SHIPPING.—During the past week the tonnage has been as follows:

Port.	No.	Tonnage.
Vancouver.....	6	3,507
Victoria.....	3	3,100
New Westminster.....	1	1,125
Nanaimo.....	3	11,775
Cowichan.....	1	1,026
Total.....	19	25,534

Mining in West Kootenay.

Mr. Fitzstubs, gold commissioner for West Kootenay, has paid a visit to the coast, and in speaking of the country among other things said:

"The season past has been a very good one and a number of rich prospects have been added to those already found. These, as well as the older claims, have, in most cases, been taken in hand by American capitalists, and will be pushed from prospect holes to mines as rapidly as circumstances will warrant.

"The character of the ores of this section is principally argentiferous. Galena and its richness is shown by the ten ton shipment of the Dardanelles mines which was sent to a Tacoma smelter, and which yielded an average of over \$400 per ton.

"Taking Slocan as a center, the furthest out

the prospecting has been done has only shown the same good results.

"The veins are rich and clearly defined and there seems to be no end to the number of them.

"The coming season will no doubt prove the most active one in the history of the country, for capital is eagerly willing to get a chance to open up the fine prospects already in hand, thus offering added inducements to the prospectors to seek for new claims.

#### Brief Business Notes.

A. S. McArthur, butcher, Kamloops, is adding groceries.

Dobson & Co., fuel dealers, Vancouver, have sold out.

Samuel Brightman has opened a butcher shop in Nanaimo.

Hesson & Irving, grocers, Vancouver, have sold out.

A. G. Theobald & Co., painters, have opened in Victoria.

There is a movement on foot to buy Ke-necome Island.

B. and L. Leguine are applying for permission to build a wharf at Kalowua, on Okanagan Lake.

The Kaslo Transportation Company is now running daily sleighs to Bear Creek from Kaslo.

The Bourder Saloon, Vancouver, has changed hands, the new proprietor being W. J. Glenross New Westminster.

Capt. S. F. Scott, auctioneer and general commission merchant, Nanaimo, has sold out to D. Johnstone & Co., Victoria.

The ss. Empress of India arrived last week with 1177 tons freight, 52 sacks mail, 31 saloon passengers and 329 Chinamen.

The Gold Cure Company is being incorporated in British Columbia under the foreign companies Act, with a capital of \$25,000.

The steamer Island Belle is to be put on the route from Vancouver to New Whatcom, Fairhaven, Port Townsend, Seattle and Tacoma.

Sydney Smith, a farmer living on the Yale and Port Kells road, New Westminster, is boring for coal, indicated by surface indications.

The weekly *Monitor*, published by W. J. Gallagher, has made its appearance in Vancouver. It is the relic of the late Vancouver *Telegram*.

John B. Pike, Vancouver, gives notice of an act to incorporate a company to construct and operate a canal from Pitt river to Burrard Inlet.

Mr. Grant has filed articles of incorporation for the Northern Shipping Company; capital stock of \$50,000, with Vancouver as headquarters.

The barque River Ganges cleared for London with 29,461 cases of salmon, 14 casks of furs and other packages. The whole cargo is valued at \$148,733.

The general office of the Columbia & Kootenay Steam Navigation company have been removed from Revelstoke to Nelson. The company intend building a steel boat for the lake trade.

The Benjamin Bangs has cleared from Hastings mills, Vancouver, with 194 cars for Halifax and 180,085 feet of rough lumber. The cargo is valued at \$10,015, and is consigned to Bentley & Fleming.

P. W. King, manager of the Oriental Trader's Co., Vancouver, has returned from an extended trip in the eastern provinces, and reports having done a good business in Oriental merchandise.

A subscription paper was circulated in Kaled and in about an hour \$500 was raised with which to construct a sleigh road from the south end of the Kootenay Lake to the boundary line, there to connect with the road now being built from Bonner's Ferry.

Boards of Trade are to be organized at the two chief towns on Kootenay Lake. At Kaslo the names of sixty-six business men are on the list. The Nelson preliminary meeting held on December 14 and was attended by about thirty business men.

E. Priest, C. E., has been surveying at Duncans for a ditch on behalf of the North Cowichan Corporation. The Corporation intend lowering Somenos Lake, so as to bring under cultivation some 2,000 acres of land. The ditch will be 1½ miles long, 30 feet wide and 5 feet deep.

A private bill will be introduced at next session of the legislature incorporating a company to construct and equip a line of railway from Nakusp, on Upper Arrow Lake, to the forks of Carpenter Creek, West Kootenay.

The Kamloops Coal Co. (Ltd.) have been informed by R. Marpolo, superintendent of the Pacific division C. P. R., that "the test of the small quantity of North Thompson coal, delivered to us for that purpose, was successful in demonstrating it to be a good steaming coal, suitable for use on our locomotives."

Although less than a year has elapsed since the transfer of mining property in Slocan district was placed on record, \$200,934 in cold cash have been paid for mineral claims situated in the district. There are now 750 locations on record in the office at New Denver. Assessment work has been performed on 120 locations, only 25 claims being abandoned. The records show that 300 bills of sale, agreements, and contracts have been recorded, and that \$554,500 is still due on sales and bonds.

The Skyline mine, five miles west of Ainsworth, is going to be worked this winter with a full force of men. The property is owned by Salt Lake and Ainsworth parties, and they have been encouraged, after two or three years of hard work, by the building of the smelter at Pilot Bay. The mine has recently had a full force of men put on, and will now boom in true mining camp style. The property now has a shaft down about 200 feet through solid ore. Assays run very high in silver, with a corresponding per cent. of lead.

D. E. Brown, asst. general freight and passenger agent of the C. P. R., who has a roving commission in the interests of that corporation, has returned from a six months trip through China, Japan and India, where he has been making traffic arrangements, looking after World's Fair business, opening up and inspecting agencies etc. He reports a successful trip. He leaves in a few days for Montreal and will start from there for Australia on similar business.

The *Miner* has the following. The most important event that has occurred in the history of West Kootenay for months is the application made for a charter to build a railroad from Nelson to Bear Lake City. We know what sort of a man D. C. Corbin is, and if he has resolved on this extension of his system he will put it through. The temper of the B. C. House of Representatives is such that there is no risk of this charter being refused. A charter has also been applied for to build a road from Sheep creek to Trail creek and into the Red Mountain country.

The smelter returns from the Wellington mine, Slocan, owned by the Columbia & Kootenay Prospecting and Mining Co., show the following results from three sample parcels of ore: No. 1, 2989 lbs., lead, \$15.59; silver, \$280.20; gold, \$2.09 per ton. Net proceeds after smelting and freight charges are deducted, \$397.35. No. 2, lead, \$43.87; silver, \$198.30 per ton; net proceeds on 2053 lbs. ore, \$209.84; No. 3, 3705 lbs ore, lead, \$41.72; silver, \$195.90; net proceeds, \$381.05. The average cost of smelting at and freight to the smelter in Montana was \$36.55. These results based on silver at 85c per ounce are most satisfactory; in fact are wonderful and prove so far as they go that notwithstanding the low prices of silver and lead, mining in West Kootenay can be made extremely lucrative.

The B. C. *Gazette* contains notice of the incorporation of three new canning companies. The first, the Pacific Coast Packing Co., of New Westminster, with a capital stock of \$15,000, in shares of \$150, and is represented by George T. Wilson, George Cassidy and N. H. Bin, the first trustee. The Federation Brand Salmon Canning Co., Walter Morris, S. M. Okell and A. J. McLellan, of Victoria, is formed with a capital of \$50,000 in 1,000 shares, to take over the business of "McLellan's Cannery" on the Nave, and deal in fish prepared for market in every known way, the head office being in Victoria, The Stoveston Canning Co.—M. Costello, R. A. McMorran and Edward Hunt, trustees—place their capital at \$50,000 in \$50 shares, and propose to can and deal in salmon and to manufacture fish oils and fish manures.

#### Grain and Milling.

Millers complain much of depression in their industry these days, and therefore they need something to keep up their spirits. Evidently recognizing this want, the *Northwestern Miller*, of Minneapolis is out with a special funny number, adapted particularly for millers. It is not as elaborate a number as previous holiday issues of this enterprising paper, but it is entertaining. Instead of recurring over business adversities, millers should send 25 cents for a copy of this paper and enjoy a good laugh. There is lots of real humor in this number.

The Duluth correspondent of the *Northwestern Miller* says:—Duluth elevators are rapidly filling up, and if receipts continue liberal a few weeks more they will be full to the brim, and the stream of grain now flowing towards this end of Lake Superior, will have to be diverted to some other market for an outlet down the lakes. Receipts were heavier last week than during any corresponding week of December, being 1,092,317 bus., against 1,160,622 bus. for the corresponding week a year ago and 2,093,826 bus for the preceding week. Shipments were 4,140 bus, against 558 bus the week before and 23,109 bus a year ago. Elevators here now have 12,182,881 bus of wheat, exclusive of nearly 600,000 bus afloat in the harbor. Our elevators contained their maximum holdings just before the opening of navigation last April, when they contained 14,727,483 bus. The capacity of elevators here has been generally represented to be and probably is about 21,000,000 bus, but their actual working capacity is acknowledged to be less than 19,000,000 bus. It is not likely that they will be able to receive wheat at all from Feb. 1 till navigation opens, as, if receipts continue as heavy as in the past three weeks, they will be filled before February. Grain in store here is shown below:

No. 1 hard .....	391,062
No. 1 northern .....	9,966,218
No. 2 northern .....	1,264,015
No. 3 spring .....	103,785
No grade spring .....	56,282
Ref. and condemned .....	38,996
Special bin .....	101,893
Total wheat .....	12,182,881
Afloat in harbor .....	571,100

Total .....

In store last year .....

Joseph Woodruff, who came to Killarney, Man. from Ontario about three months ago and erected a flour mill, has sold out all his right and title in the mill to Young Bros. and Thomas Buck. Mr. Buck is a practical miller and was employed as miller at Wakeon in the first grist mill that was erected in this district. He has been employed for some time past at the Bois-Sevain flour mill. The mill is now running.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Co. have intimated to the grain men throughout the province that the privileges extended the proprietors of elevators in regard to the shipping of barley and oats will be withdrawn after Monday, and in future these grains may be loaded direct on board the cars instead of being obliged to pass through the elevator.

**A. W. H. STIMPSON,**

Grain Commission Merchant,  
WINNIPEG - - MANITOBA.  
OFFICE 182 MARKET ST., EAST.  
P.O. Box 1313. Manitoba Grain Code Used.

**4711**

LYMAN, KNOX and CO.,  
General Agents.  
MONTREAL AND TORONTO.

**WALKER HOUSE.**

The most conveniently located Hotel in Toronto.  
One Block from Union Railway Depot  
A first-class Family and Commercial House.  
**Terms from \$2 a Day**  
DAVID WALKER, PROPRIETOR.  
Corner York and Front Sts., TORONTO, Ont.

LYMAN BROS. & CO.,  
WHOLESALE  
**DRUGS AND MEDICINES**  
Every requisite for the Drug Trade  
promptly supplied.  
TORONTO, ONT.

MUNROE & CO.,  
Wholesale Dealers in  
Wines, Liquors and Cigars  
OF THE BEST BRANDS  
9th STREET, - BRANDON

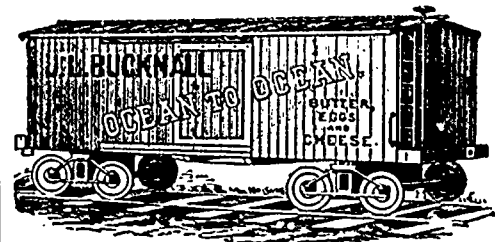
**ROBIN & SADLER**  
MANUFACTURERS OF  
*Leather Belting*  
SPECIALTIES  
DYNAMO BELTS, WATERPROOF BELTING  
MONTREAL TORONTO  
2518 & 2520 NOTREDAME ST. 129 BAY ST.

**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 brains belong 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 insurable 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 MANUFACTURERS'. These are the plans best adapted to suit the requirements of such cases. Let this statement be tested by comparison.

W. R. MILLER,  
Manager for Man., N.W.T. & B.C.,  
WINNIPEG.

THE MANUFACTURERS' LIFE INSURANCE CO.  
Cor Yonge and Colborne Sts., Toronto.



**J. L. Bucknall,**

(Successor to Grant, Horn & Bucknall.)

PRODUCE  
—AND—

Commission Merchant,

128 Princess Street, WINNIPEG

Creamery Butter, Dairy Butter,  
Cheese and Eggs Bought for Cash or  
Sold on Commission.

FIRST CLASS STORAGE.

W. E. SANFORD M'FG. CO., Ltd.

MANUFACTURERS' OF

**CLOTHING**

45 to 49 King St Princess Street.

HAMILTON & WINNIPEG.

**CIGARS!**

Encourage Home Manufactures by  
smoking

Republics, Columbia, Canucks, Selects & Specials

—MADE BY—

**Bryan & Co**

WINNIPEG, - MANITOBA.

ASK OUR TRAVELLERS FOR

**COOK'S CHOICE**

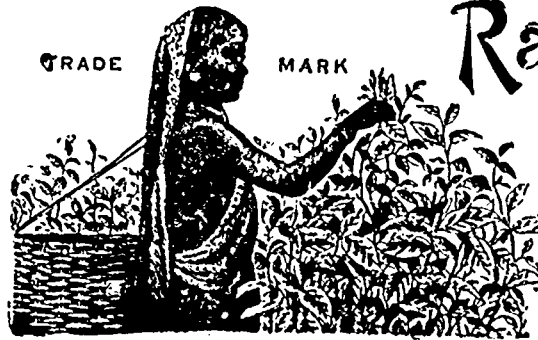
Baking Powder.

Pure Gold Manufacturing Co.

31 and 33 Front St.,

TORONTO.

Western Sample Rooms: 482 Main St., Winnipeg, (Opp. Imperial Bank.)



## Ram Lal's PURE INDIAN TEA

GUARANTEED ABSOLUTELY PURE  
AS MANUFACTURED ON THE  
GARDENS IN INDIA.

Sold by Turner, Mackeand & Co., Wholesale Grocers, Winnipeg.

## J. & T. BELL FINE BOOTS & SHOES MONTREAL.

Representative for Manitoba, N.W.T. and  
British Columbia,  
L. GODBOLT WINNIPEG McIntyre Block

## LAKE OF THE WOODS MILLING CO. LIMITED.

The most perfect Flouring Mill in Canada. CAPACITY 2,000 BARRELS A DAY.

Barrel Factory at the Mill and Grain Storage Capacity of 550,000 bushels in addition to which we have a system of handling Elevators throughout the Northwest.

All Grades of HARD WHEAT FLOUR in Barrels and Bags.

Offices at: MONTREAL. KEWATIN. WINNIPEG.

## E. A. Small & Co.,

—MANUFACTURERS AND WHOLESALEERS OF—

### Men's, Boys' and Children's Clothing.

Albert Buildings, Victoria Square, Montreal.

Represented by Mr. W. H. Leishman, Sample Room 32 McIntyre Block  
Main Street, Winnipeg.

**THE LOCK POCKET PATENTED** Attached to our Garments only.  
See it before Purchasing Spring Goods.

S. C. MATTHEWS.

W. C. TOWERS.

### Still to the Front.

We are showing an EXTRA large and WELL SELECTED range for coming Spring and Summer Trade. Our SANITARY UNDERWEAR, PATENT BRACES, (our own), TIES, etc., being specially worthy of attention.

We trust our friends will kindly wait on Mr. S. C. Matthews usual call, he being now on his journey, and oblige.

## MATTHEWS, TOWERS & CO.

WHOLESALE MEN'S FURNISHINGS,

7 VICTORIA SQUARE,  
COR. ST. JAMES STREET.

— MONTREAL.



P. O. Box 1305.

TELEPHONE 740.

## Northwest Wire Co'y., Ltd.

Winnipeg, - Manitoba.

—MANUFACTURERS OF—

BARBED WIRE, PLAIN TWISTED WIRE AND STAPLES.

A large quantity of Wire always on hand. Orders filled promptly. Send for our Samples and Prices before ordering elsewhere.

OFFICE: 330 Main Street.

FACTORY, Cor. Pt. Douglas Ave. and Lorne Sts.

W. T. KIRBY,

Secretary-Treasurer

## THOS. CLEARHUE,

BROCKVILLE, - ONT.

—WHOLESALE DEALER IN—

Gloves, Mitts, Moccasins

Canadian, American

—AND—

European Goods.

N.B.—Prompt Attention to Mail Orders.

## HOPE & CO.

—SEE OUR LINE OF—

Feathers DOWN  
AND  
Pillows

AND ALL FANCY ARTICLES IN  
THE DOWN LINE.

Cash Paid for Feathers.

183 6th Avenue North, - WINNIPEG

## St. Lawrence Hall

MONTREAL, - - P.Q.

Every Attention paid to Guests. First-class in  
every Respect. Appointments Perfect.  
Graduated Prices.

### Stock taking Essential to Business.

Having for some considerable time past, in fact almost if not quite from the first, been in receipt of *Ironmongery* month by month, I would just like to say how I appreciate it. I consider it a most useful paper to our trade, and feel certain that it must, in time, become a recognised medium for the exchange of opinion and useful information to masters and assistants alike. Every subject dealt with seems to be treated with an amount of spirit and "go" that is really good to see, and forces one to the conclusion that there is life in the old trade yet, although those of us who have been in it towards 30 years or more are often compelled to say mournfully that things are not what they used to be. Of course, I don't mean to say that I agree with everything that appears in *Ironmongery*, editorially or otherwise, from time to time, but perhaps the fault or misfortune is mine, for I must confess that I am not one of what may be called the "go-ahead" kind of ironmongers. I have rather a leaning towards some of what may now be called old-fashioned ideas, which I don't find very easy to shake off, but I suppose that is largely due to my training. It has been my lot to be educated in old-fashioned establishments, some dating back to very early in the century, and it is inevitable that in such places you should get ideas that are not now considered quite up to date. Nevertheless, I flatter myself that I have as good a knowledge of the trade, and the principles on which it ought to be conducted, as any man of my age, judging without prejudice from those I have come in contact with. I may say I always liked the trade, and that, I think every one will admit, is an important factor in learning a trade. In whatever circumstances I was placed, either as apprentice or assistant, I always took every opportunity of gaining information, and as master I go on the same lines, for the ironmongery is a business in which we are, or may be, always learning, but are never fully learned. This is a fact I would ask all young ironmongers to make a note of. I once heard a fellow assistant under twenty-two years of age say he had learnt all he could. I was ten years his senior at the time. I did not know whether to pity or envy him. I don't think he would say so to day.

I have read with interest and benefit many of the articles that have appeared in your journal on "How to Start an Ironmongery Business," "How to Arrange an Ironmonger's Shop," how to advertise, and also on the merits of a cash or credit trade, and on the benefits of cultivating a house furnishing trade. The two latter questions, to my mind, leave great room for diversity of opinion. Unfortunately for me in my own particular case, a cash trade and house furnishing are quite out of the question. As for advertising, I find that strict attention to business, and a reliable article at a reasonable price, the best advertisement. Of course, I make this statement from a tradesman's point of view, without any reference to makers or those who have specialties to offer. The two first subjects are good and important undoubtedly, as far as they go, but they don't cover the whole duty of an ironmonger. It is very essential that he should have a well-arranged shop, in fact, the best his means and taste will allow, and that he should make a good start as to stock and locality, knowing whom he is going to serve and what he is likely to sell. It is quite useless offering an expensive class of goods in the midst of a working-class population, or stocking his shop with nicknacks and furnishing goods if his prospective customers are all engineers, manufacturers, builders, etc. It seems to me quite wide of the mark for any ironmonger to lay down the law as to what other ironmongers should do in the matter of pushing any particular branch of the trade because it happens to have answered his purpose. The ironmongery business is so far-reaching in its ramifications that it is next to impossible for any one man to successfully carry on more

than two or three branches unless he is possessed of very large capital and corresponding large establishment and staff. I think it is far better for the average ironmonger to fully make up his mind what branch he is most suited for, having regard to his capital, and to take it up and stick to it, laying himself out for it, and to devote his whole energy to it, rather than to dabble in this and that, doing no good to himself or any one else.

But to come to the point, it matters not how well an ironmonger may have his shop arranged, or how judiciously his stock may be chosen, it must be well kept or all his outlay and care will be of little avail, for on good stock keeping very largely depends the ultimate success of any business, and more particularly I think an ironmongery business. No business that I know of is so much in danger of an accumulation of old stock as an ironmonger's, and the only way to obviate that is to keep the stock well in hand, and to that end a periodical stock-taking, yearly if possible, is very essential, especially if capital is at all limited. It seems to be in the very nature of things that an ironmonger's stock should have a tendency to accumulate, and it is only by the utmost care that that can be guarded against. Bad stock keeping inevitably leads to reckless buying, and that in its turn to ultimate loss, if not failure. I don't know of any one thing in the conducting of a business that so surely points to failure as injudicious buying, which is very largely brought about by bad stock keeping. It is only a very long purse, well filled, that can stand it; even then it will make itself felt in time, as surely as night follows day. In my time I have seen some good old businesses brought to very a low ebb, very largely by the self-same means. In my own experience it was once my lot to follow, as buyer in a large establishment, a man who had held the same position for a number of years. When I came, as occasion demanded, to go through the stock, I was simply astounded to the reckless work see that had been carried on in the matter of buying. The stock showed by dates that the same goods had been bought time after time, evidently without any regard to what was already there. I was asked by travellers many a time, and quite naturally, "How is it we don't get the orders we used to do?" I could only say that my predecessor had previously bought so freely, that there was no occasion for me to buy; for I was determined to do my little best to remedy the evil, but unfortunately I was too late in the day. Stock was taken during my stay there, and what a stock taking! I am quite within the mark in saying that there were thousands of pounds' worth of goods practically worthless. The inevitable results followed. The business is still in existence, but from a staff of twenty-two men ten years ago, the establishment has dwindled down to a staff of 4 or 5 men to-day; and the man who was largely responsible for the mischief, and who left to commence business on his own account, became bankrupt and was sold up in a very few years, simply because he followed the same lines in his own business that he had done in his previous employer's, only his own purse not being so well filled, he found the bottom sooner, and now, poor fellow, he is going about his native town much out at elbows.

To my mind, it matters not how smart a salesman a man may be, unless he has learnt the art of stock keeping he is a failure as a business man. This may seem a sweeping assertion, but I believe it is one that most men of experience will agree with in the main, because almost invariably careless stock keeping goes hand in hand with careless buying, and we all know what that means. If it entail not actual ruin, it will very soon entail serious loss, which no amount of smart salesmanship will compensate for. I would not for a moment deprecate the art of selling, for it is a very necessary qualification, the lack of which is a serious drawback to any man behind a counter, but yet I think there is far too much importance attached to it by the majority of employers. I have

known masters who have considered it almost a crime for an assistant to miss a sale, although he may have conscientiously done his best to effect it, and doubtless would have done had the right article been to hand, which more careful stock keeping would probably have secured. If, in an establishment of a number of men, there be a smart salesman, he is sure to take the palm for a time, in fact, has his day, but unless there are other qualifications to back it up, he is sure to be a failure. I have come in contact with many smart salesmen, but very rarely knew one who really secured, for any length of time, the confidence of his customers, for the man who makes selling his main business is almost sure to indulge in practices which in time destroy all confidence in him. On the other hand, the man who finds selling a difficult part of his business, and who is satisfied to miss a sale if he cannot effect it honestly, will naturally turn his attention to his stock, be he master or assistant, and keep it in such a condition as to make selling as easy as possible by such means as buying at the lowest possible price, and buying such goods as he thinks most likely to be enquired for, and by keeping them in the best possible condition; so that they may, so to speak, sell themselves; and he will naturally become more anxious to please and more attentive, and will, in fact, almost unknown to himself, develop the best characteristics of a good business man, and thus will inspire the confidence, not only of his customers, but his creditors also.—*Ironmongery*

### United States Iron Production.

The *American Manufacturer* says: "The production of 1900 and 1891 and estimated production of 1892, by half years, is as follows:—

	1892.	1891.	1890.
First half . . . . .	4,779,056	3,368,107	4,560,513
Second half . . . . .	4,350,000	4,911,763	4,642,190

Total production 2,129,056 8,279,870 9,202,703  
As to stocks, as is well known, there was a decided increase in stocks from the middle of July, 1890, up to March, 1891, when there was a decrease up to July, 1891, when another increase took place, which continued up to August, 1892, when the stocks were possibly larger than ever before. From that date stocks have decreased, until now they are about as large as a year ago. In the last four months stocks have decreased one-fourth."

The statement of exports from Canada for the month of November shows a considerable decrease compared with the values for November last year, and this is owing, no doubt, to the general decline in prices of wheat which, besides reducing the value of the export of the commodity, has induced farmers to hold their grain for higher prices. During November this year the exports from the Dominion amounted to \$11,829,924 against \$16,203,075 exported during November last year, a decrease of \$4,370,151. The imports for November amounted to \$9,797,979 compared with \$8,419,716 during November last year, an increase of \$1,378,263. For five months the imports were \$52,066,414, an increase of \$3,572,277 compared with the imports for the first five months of last year.

It is a singular fact that the cheapness of an article should even temporarily retard its sale and yet that was the experience of Messrs. Tuckett & Son in the introduction of their new famous "Myrtle Navy" tobacco. People who had been in the habit of smoking the finest Virginia tobacco, could not for a time be made to believe that they were offered the same article at about one half the old price, and it was only by slow degree that they were induced to put the question to the test of an actual trial. When they did adopt that test, however, it never failed to satisfy them.



# O'LOUGHLIN BROS. & CO.,

—SOLE AGENTS FOR—

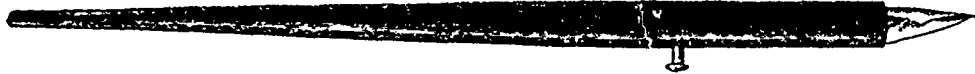
## THE INKWELL FOUNTAIN PENS

AT VERY LOW PRICES. REQUIRE NO FILLER AND ANY OF THE ORDINARY BUSINESS PENS CAN BE USED IN THEM.

Self Filling.

Self Feeding.

Cut Showing the No. 1 or Pocket Pen, two thirds exact size.



Cut Showing the No. 2, or Desk Pen, two thirds exact size.



MAIL ORDERS RECEIVE OUR PROMPT AND CAREFUL ATTENTION.

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

### The Wheat Situation Abroad.

From the *Liverpool Corn Trade News*, Dec. 6.

The outlook as far as wheat is concerned, is no brighter. As week after week goes by, and the weight of supplies increases and accumulates, one feels inclined to ejaculate like Lord Palmerston was wont to do in moments of annoyance. "Why can't you leave it alone?"

If only importers would refrain for one month from buying for shipment, a cure for the existing evil state of the market would be found. It is true the pressure would be more intense at the markets of origin, but it is not in those centers where the disease is so acute or so infectious.

As long as the wheat is at rest the necessity of selling appears to be less imperative than when it is in motion. A physical analogy will at once occur to the reader's mind, lending support to this theory; in any case there can be no doubt that if the current shipments were to fall off for a few weeks, the position would begin very quickly to right itself, and if prices could only be given an upward turn, the volume of wheat that is pouring out of America and Russian farmers' hands would be checked, as they very rarely sell largely on advancing markets.

At prices to which the trade is accustomed, it would be safe to say that this season the importing countries would not require more than 352,000,000 bu to supply all ordinary demands during the cereal year ending July 31 next, but at current rates, of which we were entirely without experience, it is at the outset extremely difficult to say what quantity of wheat will find its way in the different countries. To render freely a quotation, it is certain "that those who will buy who never bought before, and those who bought before will buy the more," and that the invisible wheat reserves will be built up to an extent that has never been the case before. The low price of flour may open up new channels for its use, and probably the ordinary consumptive demand enlarged *per se*, will fortuitously be increased by an accessions of wastefulness born of plenty.

The fact is that in the first eighteen weeks export countries have shipped, as shown by our weekly cable, over 152,000,000 bu, a rate which, if continued throughout the season, would furnish a supply of 440,000,000 bu, or practically as much as was imported in the previous cereal year; a year when Franco Germany and Russia were afflicted with crop failures. Under no circumstances does it seem likely that we could utilize a like volume of wheat this season, therefore, unless a prompt change in policy should bring about a material diminution in the weekly shipments, there would seem to be no prospect of a recovery of prices during the present cereal year, or at least until the coming crops cast their influence before them.

### Scotch Fife Wheat.

Last week THE COMMERCIAL published a statement of an investigation of the origin of Scotch fife wheat, that was made by the Grand Forks, N. D., chamber of commerce, which credited it to a Scotch settler in Manitoba, named Andrew Fife, in 1858. That origin is upset by the statement in the following letter to the *Minneapolis Market Record*, by Robert Elliott & Co., of Milwaukee, Wis., who located it in Fond du Lac and other Wisconsin counties two years earlier.

Milwaukee, Dec., 19—Returning herewith clipping from your paper of recent date we desire to correct an error that it implies. Scotch fife wheat was raised in Fond du Lac and in some other counties in Wisconsin as early as 1856. In February and March 1858 we forwarded in sacks quite a number of car loads of this wheat, which had been raised in the oak opening sections of Fond du Lac county, to points on the Racine & Mississippi River Railway, to wit, Durand Station and stations east and west of it, to be used for seed that spring. The seed as it came from the oak opening soils, was rather bright in color, but when raised on the prairies of northern Illinois, produced a smaller berried and much darker, although clear, dark, amber looking grain, and came in general use then throughout that region and throughout Wisconsin. These facts would imply it was a distinct variety from Scotland and didn't take its name from the Scotch settler, Andrew Fife, who settled in Manitoba in 1858.

Robert Elliot & Co.

### Wealth in the Southern States.

In 1860 the assessed value of property in the south was \$5,209,000,000 out of a total of \$12,000,000,000 in the entire country, or 44 per cent. In ten years there was a startling change. In 1870 the south had only \$3,000,000,000 of assessed value, while the total for the whole country was \$14,170,000,000. While the south grew poorer the north and west grew richer as never before. In 1869 the assessed value of property in Massachusetts was \$777,150,000, as compared with \$5,200,000,000 in the south; in 1870 Massachusetts had \$1,590,000,000 of property, and the south \$3,000,000,000.

Such was the poverty of the south that the one state listed for taxes more than one half as much property as the fourteen states of that section could show. The assessed value of property in New York and Pennsylvania alone in 1870 was greater than in the whole south. South Carolina, which in 1869 had been third in rank in wealth in proportion to the number of her inhabitants, had dropped to be the thirtieth; Georgia had dropped from the

seventh to the thirty-ninth; Mississippi from the fourth place to the thirty-fourth, Alabama from the eleventh to the forty-fourth, Kentucky from tenth to twenty-eighth, and the other southern states had gone down in the same way, while the northern and western states had steadily increased in wealth.

In 1860 the assessed value of property in South Carolina, according to the census, was \$498,000,000 while the combined values in Rhode Island and New Jersey aggregated \$421,000,000, or \$68,000,000 less than South Carolina. Of course the true value is always greater than the assessed value. In 1870 the combined values in Rhode Island and New Jersey amounted to \$868,000,000 and the value in South Carolina was \$183,000,000.

Thus while South Carolina had \$68,000,000 more assessed property in 1860 than these two states, in 1870 their wealth exceeded South Carolina's by \$685,000,000. Notwithstanding the mighty industrial advance in the south during the last ten years, the building of 20,000 miles of railroad, and the increase in agriculture production, the assessed value of property is not yet as great as it was thirty years ago, and Maryland—a border state—and Florida and Texas are the only states which have as much assessed wealth now as in 1860.—*Engineering Magazine.*

The cutting in the lead and paint trade, that has been going on for some time past, says the *Trade Bulletin* is a source of great annoyance to the trade here; and now that the season has arrived when contracts are made for the whole of the coming year's business, it is about time that some understanding were arrived at, whereby the trade in pure lead may be contracted on a profitable basis. It seems that the present trouble commenced about a year ago when one of the participants in the present melee knocked down the price from \$5.00 to \$4.75, and as soon as this was discovered, others put it down to \$4.50, which was about 10c below actual cost, and so the cutting waxed fiercer until pure lead has been sold in Toronto as low as \$4.25, a price that must prove disastrous if continued. Surely no yearly contracts have been made at this figure. The fight has progressed to that stage when it must be to the interest of all concerned to stop it and agree upon some amicable basis whereby pure lead can be sold at a fair profit.

Several noblemen in England are in the habit of giving special orders to makers in Virginia for their supply of smoking tobacco. There is no doubt that by that means they get the very best tobacco to be had, but it costs them about \$2 a pound. The workman of Canada are smoking the very same quality of tobacco at 75c a pound, and it is known to them by the name of "Myrtle Navy."

## Cost of Growing Wheat.

At a recent meeting of the Brandon farmers institute, an interesting discussion took place on the cost of growing wheat, successful farming, etc. This institute seems to have a number of intelligent men among its members. The following report of the meeting, from the Brandon Times, will be interesting, in view of the expression of practical farmers upon subjects of such importance to this province. Mr. Bedford, of the Manitoba experimental farm, opened the discussion with the paper: "How best to overcome the present agricultural depression." He said:

"Farmers as a rule are credited with being persistent grumblers, but I am sure with No 1 hard at 50c per bushel, and cattle at 2c a lb there is reason for complaints, for the profit to the farmer at these prices is very small indeed and the fact that farmers throughout the world are generally suffering from the same cause is very poor consolation.

Many reasons are given for the present extremely low prices of all kinds of farm produce, some of them reasonable, others quite ridiculous, probably the principal cause is the readiness in this age of steam and electricity, that all kinds can be transported to the large centres of trade so quickly. For as soon as any shortage takes place the news is at once telegraphed all over the world and supplies are quickly sent from nearly every part of the globe. Cold storage assisting to this end, so you see that we are sufferers largely through the increased civilization of our time and we will have to bravely face the difficulty.

We will now discuss some of the means by which we can overcome, or at least lessen the evils consequent on the present depression. In attempting this, I shall not try to exhaust the subject, but simply throw out a few suggestions some of which may prove useful.

I hold that the remedy must naturally be of either three directions, viz: "In increasing the selling price," "Lowering the cost of our present products," or in so diversifying our farming that every year we may have some product that can be sold at a profit.

Now in regard to the first, I consider that the price is beyond our control and will have to be left largely to the regulations of supply and demand.

The cost of production, however, is to a large extent in our own hands, and can be lessened. First by getting larger productions per acre. Secondly, by utilizing the waste of our productions of the farm.

Is it not a fact that we are not raising anything like the amount per acre that we ought to do if our land was well in the shape it should be. On some of the clean, well farmed land on the experimental farm, the returns this year were 35 bushels of Red Fyfe per acre, while on poorly farmed land in the same field, the yield was under 17 bushels per acre, a difference of 18 bushels per acre.

Now in regard to quality! In certain years the best of management will not prevent frost, but we all know that many a two horse farmer undertakes a four horse crop and he is then surprised that a portion of it is frozen. There is one source of loss which is completely under the farmer's control, that is loss from smut. Any person who in this enlightened age refuses to blue stone his seed wheat deserves to lose from ten to twenty cents per bushel, for he not only risks loss to himself but also risks injuring the reputation of the wheat of the province. So far eight tests with bluestone have been made on the Experimental Farm. In every instance the bluestone has effectually killed the smut. So that there is no excuse for smutty wheat.

We now come to the question of the utilization of the waste, or by-products, of the farm.

## It began and ended in Smoke.

Oholly, ever smoke two cigars at once? No deah boy, what for? Too expensive for me, don't cher know. Why to distinguish between the flavahs. Ah; nevah though of that—did you? No Choley, Tasse, Wood & Co., gave me the wrinkle. I was lighting an ordinary ten center don't cher know when my friend handed me one of theirs, same price, and told me to smoke them alternately. Well, did you smoke them alter—go on. Yes—did and Tasse's cigar lasted over an hour and tasted sweet to the end. And the other bloomin weed? Burnt crooked and was used up in twenty minutes.

If you were to ask J. A. Christie, our local lumberman, to draw the slabs, or even the saw dust, from his mill and set fire to it, he would laugh at you, and say, "that the returns from slabs and saw dust pay a large portion of his running expenses," and if he took your advice in burning this refuse he would have to close up his business. The same with our flouring mills. They never think of burning bran just because it is a waste product. Farmers in the country are not so particular and thousands of dollars are wasted every year by the burning of straw or chaff, and it does appear to me a shame and a disgrace to burn such bright clean wheat straw as we generally have done here. We found last winter on the farm, that providing we had good clean straw or chaff, we could entirely dispense with hay in feeding cattle. At the present time we have a cow giving 57 lbs. (nearly three pails) of milk a day and she never gets a pound of hay.

Again, farmers allow elevator men to dock them for screenings, much of it small wheat, and then present it to them to send east, or burn as they see fit.

This leads me to the last, but not least, important subject of my paper, viz. diversified, or mixed farming. Judging by the aversion shown by many farmers to keeping stock, one would think that it was a very disagreeable business, or that cattle, sheep and swine did not thrive here, instead of which, stock, properly attended to, adds interest to farming, and I think I am safe in saying that in no part of the Dominion do all kinds of cattle thrive better than in this province. Our winter is no longer than in Ontario, pasture is plentiful and practically free, both hay and coarse grain are cheap, and straw and chaff of the best quality are abundant.

I do not say that all should go into any one branch of stock raising, but let him follow the line most suited to his taste. Some farmers will never succeed with dairy stock, but would make money feeding steers. Others would fail with sheep and succeed with pigs. Expensive females are not necessary, but pure bred male animals should be used. While I am on the subject of feeding steers, allow me to point out the folly of selling poor thin stockers to the butcher.

After the farmer has spent over two years in building up a frame on the steer, and everything is ready for the feeding, which is the most profitable part of the work, many farmers sell their animals. Mixed farming is not only most profitable, but money comes in during every month of the year. With stall fed cattle in spring, wool, mutton, butter and eggs in summer, and pork and poultry in early fall, the farmer is always ready to pay cash for his supplies, and need not either run an account at the store, or borrow from the banks at a high rate of interest.

To sum up. Don't sow more land than you can sow well and properly attend to. Aim at producing the largest amount per acre of the best quality. Always bluestone your seed wheat. Supply yourself with stock of some kind as quickly as you can house them. Stack our straw, it won't take much time or room.

Don't drag it and the weed seed all over your farm, weeds will get there quick enough. Clean your wheat before delivering it. (Buyers well know what they are getting.)

D. Wilson also read an excellent paper on the subject. He thought the present low price of wheat was caused by the craze of the farmers to go into wheat growing to the exclusion of other branches of farming. He advocated the teaching of the principles of agriculture in the public schools. Farmers, he said, as a rule did not look carefully into the "why and wherefore" of matters pertaining to their profession. Mr. Wilson emphasized his remarks by pointing out the methods adopted by other classes of business men in their dealings with any matter that affected their particular line of business or profession. He was a strong advocate for mixed farming and thought that the farmers of Manitoba could have easily overcome the present depressed state of the agricultural interests if they had paid more attention to the raising of cattle, sheep, swine and poultry.

John E. Smith had made it a point for years to pay cash for all he bought and he found that he could purchase cheaper than those who bought on credit. He kept a strict account of his outlays and found that in 1891 he had raised his wheat at an outlay in cash of ten cents a bushel and the past season at something less than that amount. This statement seemed to give umbrage to some of those present, but notwithstanding the cross questioning that he was subjected to, he maintained the position he had taken and insisted that he could raise wheat at a profit even at the low price of fifty cents a bushel.

John Boles said he found that he could raise wheat at a total cost of thirty cents a bushel. He considered that the biggest trouble with farming here was, that farmers did not go in for more stock and other branches pertaining to farming. More stock on the farm enabled the farmer to hire his help for the year round. This plan would be better for the farmer and for the hired man. Both would be money in pocket by this method. He did not complain of the low price of wheat. He brought some stock with him when he settled on his farm at the Brandon Hills and he had never had to pay out one dollar for the keep of his house since he settled there. Of course he supplied the meat and flour but his wife and children supplied everything else from the products of the dairy and poultry yard.

John E. Smith, at the request of the president, again took the floor, and made a good point by stating that he made money on his farms by feeding straw to his cattle, whereas his neighbours burned up what they could have turned into money. He fed but little hay, and that to his most valuable stock.

Mr. Postlethwaite said his wheat raising cost him the past season \$6.45 an acre. He had been an extensive wheat grower for many years and was successful every year, with the exception of 1889. He, however, believed in mixed farming and was drifting into it in a quiet way.

### Montreal Markets.

**Flour.** The market is fairly active on local account, but prices are easy, in sympathy with outside markets, which seem to have no bottom to them. It is said that straight rollers have been offered by a Western miller at \$3.30 in car lots on track here; but it is contended that it will not inspect straight rollers. Other dealers state that the lowest price they can get millers to offer good straight rollers on track here is \$3.48, or a \$3.10 at the mill. So that the offers at \$3 f.o.b. and under in the west cannot be good flour that will inspect. A lot of 1,000 barrels of straight roller was placed at \$3.10 f.o.b. in the west. Choice 90 per cent is quoted at \$3.10 to \$3.20 in the west. Strong bakers flour, city brands, are still quoted at \$4 to \$4.10, but it is said there is not much sold at over \$4, while some is sold under that figure. The sale of a lot of choice strong bakers, Manitoba ground, was sold at \$3.95, said to be as good as the finest city strong bakers. The export trade is very quiet, and prices on the other side are too low to induce shipments being made in any quantity. Regarding straight rollers on spot, sales are being made of choice at \$3.60 to \$3.65 delivered.

**Oatmeal.**—A fair enquiry is experienced for rolled oats which are quoted in car lots on track at \$3.85 to \$3.90, although some mills ask \$4.00. There is very little doing in granulated. We quote jobbing prices as follows:—Rolled and granulated \$4.00 to \$4.05; Standard \$3.80 to \$3.95. In bags, granulated \$2.00 to \$2.05, and standard \$1.90 to \$1.95.

**Mill Feed.**—Bran is in fair demand, both here and at the mills in the west, and sales of car lots have been made at \$13.00 to \$13.50. Shorts are quiet but steady at \$14.00 to \$15.00 and mouthfeed \$19.00 to \$22.00 as to grade.

**Wheat.**—A further decline in the price of wheat in Upper Canada has taken place, red and white winter wheat being freely offered at 61 to 63c, but as there are few buyers the market continues to sag. It seems that farmers are more anxious to sell to-day than when prices were over \$1 per bushel.

**Barley.**—There has been further business during the past week at within range of current rates, which we quote 49 to 50c for malting grades, and feed at 38 to 41c.

**Oats.**—Oats are freely offered at points west at 27½ to 28c per 34 lbs f.o.b., and are quoted here at 31½ to 32c per 34 lbs. The sale has been reported of No. 2 white oats delivered at Halifax at 37c. West of Toronto sales of No. 2 white oats have been made at 27c with a through freight to Liverpool of 30c per 100 lbs.

**Pork, Lard, &c.**—The price of pork keeps high, and the belief is that it will go higher still. In this market further sales of Canada short cut have been made at \$19.50 to \$20.00 per cbl. with a firm upward tendency. There are orders in this market from Newfoundland for Chicago regular mess pork, but they are far below current values in the west. In lard the demand keeps fair, with sales of compound at \$1.75 per pail, and of pure leaf lard at \$2.05 to \$2.10 per pail. In smoked meats the demand continues fair, hams selling at 11 to 11½c for large and at 12 to 12½c for choice small and medium weights. Bacon is still in limited supply with sales at 11 to 12c. Dry salted flanks and bellies are steady at 9 to 9½c and long clear lardon dry salted 9½c.

**Dressed Hogs.**—The market for dressed hogs continues so high that buyers take only what they require from day to day. Sales have been made in this market since the present cold spell set in at \$7.90 to \$8.00, and prices are now quoted very firm at \$7.90 to \$8.00 for car lots.

**Butter.**—A few small lots are still going forward to the English market, costing 22 to 33c for creamery and 19c for western; but shippers say that 23c is a very extreme figure for creamery. An enquiry has been received for choice creamery from British Columbia. Creamery, choice fall, 22½ to 23c; creamery, good to fine, 21½ to 22c; Eastern Townships dairy, choice fall, 20½ to 21c; Eastern Townships

good, 20c; Morrisburg and Brockville, 19 to 21c; Western, 17 to 19c. About 1c may be added to above prices for choice selections of single tubs.

**Cheese.**—The market here keeps very firm with actual sales of finest western at 11½c and 11c.

**Eggs.**—At 16 to 17c for Montreal limed; poorer qualities selling at 14½ to 15½c. Held fresh are quiet but steady at 18 to 20c, and strictly fresh, 22 to 24c.

**Dressed Poultry.**—The demand for turkeys has been extraordinarily good, sales of choice dry picked unfrozen birds fetching 10½c readily. A good portion of the stock, however, has been frozen and these kinds sold at 9½ to 10c, one lot bringing 8c. Choice young unfrozen chickens sold at 8c, and other lots of scalded and frozen brought all the way from 5½ to 7c. Good large white geese were enquired for at 6 to 6½c, and some fancy lots brought as high as 7c. Scalded lots selling at 5c to 5½c. Ducks are scarce at 8½ to 9½c.

**Apples.**—The local market is very quiet, round lots of winter varieties being quoted at \$2.25 to \$2.75 as to quality.

**Hides.**—The demand for hides is fairly brisk, the Quebec tanners taking all offerings at 5½c for No 1, and we hear of 5½c having been paid for a few lots. The general price, however, is 5½c, and we quote 5½, 4½ and 3½c for Nos 1, 2 and 3. Dealers are paying 5, 4 and 3c for Nos 1, 2 and 3. The supply of hides is limited at the moment, as there is scarcely sufficient coming in to satisfy the demand.

**Wool.**—The only transactions worth mentioning being in Northwest, one or two lots being closed out at between 12 to 13c. We quote:—Caps, 14½ to 15½c and Canadian fleeces 17 to 18c. Scoured nominal.—*Trade Bulletin*, Dec 23

### Railway Statistics of the United States.

The fourth annual statistical report of the interstate Commerce Committee has just been submitted. It shows a total railway mileage in the United States on June 30, 1891, amounting to 168,402.74 miles. This total indicates the length of single-track mileage, the total mileage of all tracks being 216,149.14 miles. The increase in railway mileage for the year was 4,805.69 miles, which is less than the average for some years past. Railway building was most active in the states lying south of the Ohio and east of the Mississippi rivers, the increase in this section amounting to 1,670.83 miles.

The railway corporations covered by the report numbered on June 30, 1891, 1,785, of which 889, or a little less than half, were independent companies for the purpose of operation, 747 were subsidiary companies, and the remainder were private lines. Sixteen roads were abandoned during the year, and 92 roads, representing a mileage of 10,116.23, disappeared by purchase, merger or consolidation. In spite of the fact that a considerable number of new lines were chartered during the year, the actual number of railway corporations is less than that existing in 1890, when 1,797 corporations were reported. The tendency to consolidation appears to go on steadily. According to some statistics given in the report there were on June 30, 1891, 42 railway companies each of which controlled a mileage in excess of 1,000 miles, and nearly one half of the mileage of the country was the property of these 42 companies. Other statistics show that at the same date there were 80 railroad companies each of which had a gross revenue in excess of \$3,000,000. These railways controlled 69.48 per cent of the total mileage of the country, received \$2.09 per cent of the amount paid by the public for railway service performed, \$3.76 per cent of the total passenger service, and \$2.66 per cent of the total freight service of the country, and out of a total of about \$1,074,000 tons of freight carried one mile carried 67,008,000 tons.

The total capitalization of the railways of

the United States amounted in 1891 to \$9,829,475,015, or \$60,942 per mile of line, an increase of \$602 per mile of line as compared with the preceding report. The figures show an increase of the amount of equipment trust obligations from \$49,478,215 to \$54,755,157—a fact which goes counter to an impression for nearly prevalent among railway men, namely, that the practice of leasing equipments was disappearing. Gross earnings from operation during the year amounted to \$1,696,761,395, or \$6,801 per mile of line, and operating expenses amounted to \$731,887,093, or \$4,538 per mile of line, leaving a net income from operation amounting to \$964,873,302, or \$2,265 per mile of line, a decrease of \$37 as compared with the net income per mile of line for the preceding year. An analysis of the statistics of income shows that freight traffic gave rise to 67.17 per cent of the total earnings, and that passenger traffic gave rise to 23.64 per cent of such earnings. Of operating expenses 34.08 per cent was chargeable to the passenger service and 65.92 per cent to the freight service. The per centage of operating expenses to operating income was 66.73 per cent. Of these per centages those indicating the proportion of revenue arising from passenger service and from freight service respectively and the proportion of operating expenses due to freight service show decreases as compared with the preceding year; the others show increases.

The passengers carried during the year numbered 531,183,988, an increase of over 39,000,000, as compared with the preceding year, and the number of tons of freight carried amounted to 675,698,323 tons, an increase of over 39,000,000 tons as compared with the preceding year. The total number of miles run by passenger trains was 307,297,928, and the number of miles run by freight trains was 446,274,508. The number of passengers carried one mile was 12,844,243,881, and the number of tons carried one mile was 81,073,784,121. The average journey per passenger was 24.18 miles, and the average haul per ton of freight was 120 miles. The average revenue per passenger per mile in 1891 was 2.142c., and the average revenue per ton of freight per mile was .895c. Both these items show reductions as compared with the preceding year, the revenue per passenger per mile being 2.167c. in 1890, while the revenue per ton of freight per mile amounted to .911c in that year.

More locomotives were used by the railroad companies during 1891 than during the preceding year. The number in use on June 30, 1891, was 32,139, an increase of 1,939, and the cars numbered 1,215,611, an increase of 45,944. The employees numbered 784,285, an increase of 34,984. More accidents are reported than for any previous year covered by the commission's statistics. The number of persons killed in such accidents numbered 7,029, and the number injured 33,881, as compared with 6,335 killed and 29,027 injured in the year before. This part of the report brings into prominence the need of legislation compelling railways to adopt train brakes and automatic couplers, of taking some steps besides the adoption of the train brake to prevent the frequency of casualties from falling from trains and engines and of some extensive use of the block system in the handling of trains, as well as a more perfect application of the principle of personal responsibility in case of accidents.

The report suggests certain amendments to the Interstate Commerce act with a view of rendering the statistics of the business of transportation more complete and satisfactory. Among other things it is recommended that express companies and water carriers engaged in interstate commerce make reports to the commission similar to those now made by railways, and that persons, companies or corporations owning rolling stock used in interstate traffic should be obliged to make annual reports so far as may be necessary for a complete statement of the kind of rolling stock used by railways.

Among the most interesting statistics given in the report are those showing the distribution of railway facilities in this country and abroad. These statistics show that the United States is exceptionally well provided with the means of transportation. In the list of the states best provided are New Jersey with 27.71 miles of line per 100 square miles of territory, Massachusetts with 25.99 miles, Pennsylvania with 22.77 miles, Connecticut with 20.77 miles, Ohio with 19.68 miles, Illinois with 18.25 miles, New York with 16.19 miles, Delaware with 16.10 miles and Iowa with 15.12 miles. It appears that the only countries in Europe which have more than 10 miles per 100 square miles of territory are Germany with 12.44 miles, Great Britain with 11.42 miles, France with 11.06 miles, Belgium with 9.23 miles, Holland with 13.73 miles, and Switzerland with 12.10 miles. Of the European countries none, except Sweden, has 10 miles of line per 10,000 inhabitants while but two states in the Union have less than that proportion of railway facilities to population.—Bradstreet's.

### Toronto Markets.

**Wheat**—There were more enquiries for wheat to-day, but in very few instances did buyers and sellers come together on values. White and red are worth 61c to 63c outside. Spring sold at 60 east. There were several enquiries for goose at 55 to 56c outside. No. 1 hard nominal at 80c North Bay; No. 2 hard sold North Bay at 78c; on call 64c was bid, f. o. c., Fort William May.

**Barley**—There is a demand for No. 1, but buyers and sellers do not agree on prices. No. 1 is held at 48c outside.

**Oats**—Quiet and rather easier. On spot May are worth 28½ to 29½. White offered at 27c on the C. P. R., middle freights.

**Grain and Flour**—Car prices are: Flour (Toronto freights), Manitoba patents, \$4.30 to \$4.40; Manitoba strong bakers', \$3.75 to \$3.90 Ontario patents, \$3.40 to \$3.50; straight roller, \$2.95 to \$3.30; extra, \$2.60 to \$2.70; low grades per bag, \$1 to \$1.25. Bran—\$1.50 to \$12.00. Shorts—\$12.50 to \$13. Wheat—straight west and north points)—White, 61 to 62c; spring, 60 to 61c; red winter, 60 to 62c; goose, 55 to 66c; spring Midland, 62 to 63c; No. 1 hard, North Bay, 79 to 80c; No. 2 hard, 77½ to 78c; No. 3 hard, 70 to 71c; No. 1 frosted, 59 to 60c; No. 2, 53 to 55; No. 3, 47 to 48c. Peas (Outside) 53 to 54c. Barley—No. 1, 50 to 51c; No. 2, 42 to 44; No. 3 extra 38 to 39c; No. 3, 35 to 37c; two-rowed, 54 pounds, averaging about No. 3, extra in color (outside), 30 to 40c. Corn—57 to 58c. Buckwheat—Outside 39 to 41c. Rye—52 to 54c. Oats—29 to 30c.

**Eggs**—There is a brisk demand for all the strictly fresh eggs offered at 20 to 22c. Ordinary stock sells at 18c, and limed at 14½ to 15½c.

**Poultry**—Commission houses were inclined to make concessions early in the day, particularly in the price of turkeys, which were in heavy supply. At the closing the ruling price was, however, 10½c. Ducks and chickens were very firm all day, owing to their scarcity.

**Potatoes**—There is not much doing; car lots are held on spot at 70 to 75c. Out of store dealers get 50 to 55c per bag for small lots.

**Honey**—A fair jobbing demand is reported for extracted honey at 8 to 10c. There is not much demand for comb.

**Beans**—Are quiet, but firm; local dealers ask \$1.35 per bush for small lots.

**Hides, etc**—Cured remain steady at 5 to 5½c in car lots; green sell at 4½c. Skins—Offerings are light; sheepskins sell at 95c; prices for calf-skins are nominal;

**Dressed Hogs and Provisions**—The demand for dressed hogs was not so active owing to the holidays, but the offerings were light and values were firmly maintained. Packers bought broken lots at \$7.50 to \$7.75, but they averaged \$7.60. Quotations are. Mess pork,

Canadian, \$17.50 to \$18, short cut, \$18 to \$19; bacon, long clear, per lb, 8½ to 9½c; lard, Canadian, tierces, 10 to 10½c, tubs and pails, 10½ to 11c; compound do 7½ to 9c. Smoked meats—Hams, per lb, 12 to 12½c; bellies 12 to 23c, rolls, per lb, 9½ to 9½c, backs, per lb, 12 to 12½c.

**Butter**—There was no change in the market to-day. The market continues to be well supplied with large rolls and the local enquiry is active. Prices range from 16 to 17c for the best rolls and 13 to 14c for common to good. Dairy tub butter is in moderate supply and firm at quotations. Quotations are. Butter, good to choice selected, dairy, tubs, 16 to 15c, medium, do, 13 to 15c, large rolls, good to choice, 16 to 17c, medium do, 13 to 14c, creamery, in tubs and casks, 24 to 25c. Cheese, choice colored, jobbing at 11 to 11½c.

**Apples** per bbl, \$1.75 to \$2.25, United States parties are buying dried apples freely on this market. Several wholesale grocers cleared out their stock this week at 4½c.—Empire, Dec. 21.

### Home vs. Imported Goods.

Following is from the Toronto Merchant: "The people of this country are gradually getting weaned of the idea once so prevalent, that nothing native is good. Time was when the fact that an article was British, French or German was sufficient recommendation. A few German letters on a label, a French ticket on a piece of goods, or the wonderful words, "Birmingham" or "Sheffield," stamped somewhere settled it. Surely Britain, France and Germany could produce only the best. If Canadian soap bore the English trade mark, although mixed with sand and other ingredients, intended by the British manufacturers for the thick epidermis of the heathen, we had to grin and bear it,—for it was "English, you know." How the beautiful Canadian complexion has suffered from foreign soap, some futuro advertising poet laureate will surely sing. Then there are foreign baking powders, backed by long extracts from the analysis of some analyst to His Royal Highness the King of Humbug. We have suffered from these; our cakes have sometimes tasted like a cross between unslacked lime and washing soda, still there are the words of the advertiser and the editorial in the *Glancer*, or some other paper, telling that the powder was pure—"pure as the angels," as the funny advertisement writers put it. Then our first cheese had to bear the foreign label, and for a villainous compound of smells and skippers, imported cheese surpasses anything in the catalogue. Our curtains and hats also had to come from Paris, our neckties from London, and our faces from Switzerland. We are gradually getting over all this, but it is a slow process. What deception has been practised only those in trade know. For a long time the native manufacturers have had to put up their goods in foreign labels; even at this day an English toilet soap that is very extensively advertised, is manufactured and put up in this city for the Canadian trade, and sold as the English article. The Canadian manufacturer has to pay a handsome royalty for this privilege. The same is true of cigarettes, pickles, mustard, patent medicine, baking powders and some lines of fancy goods—foreign labels must be used.

Now, it is believed that the day is not far distant when the Canadian consumers will come to the conclusion that what is Canadian is good, and what is foreign is cheap and trashy. Our table cheese, put up in glass jars, is fast driving the high-priced, foreign, fancy-smelling article out, for it is better. Our soaps and our wines are equally as good as the best that can be made anywhere. The same is true in every other department. Our Canadian manufacturers can make as good an article as can be produced anywhere, and just as cheaply, quality and finish considered. Why then should all our Canadian manufacturers be protected by a high tariff, pay royalties, and substitute labels?

There must be some reason, and we think it is this, in plain English—our manufacturers are too much afraid to spend money in printers' ink; they would rather bleed for royalties, produce for the politicians, and humbug the public by substituting foreign labels, than sit down and educate the people of this country to buy Canadian goods. All great fortunes have been made by the unstinted use of printers' ink. If printers' ink were used more liberally by our native manufacturers, there would be less need for protection and tariff walls. Printers' ink beats protection and competition hollow. Fry it, and see for yourselves.

There is much truth in what our Toronto contemporary says about a foolish preference for certain imported articles. In some lines imported goods are certainly superior to domestic, but there are other lines in which the home goods are decidedly better value, notwithstanding which imported goods are favored at the expense of the domestic article. We could name several other lines besides those mentioned by the Toronto paper, in which there is a false preference for imported wares. Even in cigars, for which there is such a great preference for imported goods, the preference is largely sentimental. A great deal of rubbish is smoked because it is said to be imported, and in medium priced cigars, the domestic article is certainly better value.

### The Monetary Conference.

The Brussels Monetary Conference adjourned on Saturday last to meet again in May next. Before adjourning it adopted a resolution recognizing the great value of the arguments set forth in the reports presented and of the discussions held in the plenary sittings, and, while reserving final judgment on the questions submitted, expressing gratitude to the United States for affording an opportunity to study anew the present position of silver. The conference further expressed the hope that the members would study the questions involved in the interval with the view of arriving at an ultimate agreement. The American delegates are quoted in cabled reports as expressing content with the work of the conference thus far. They are reported as saying that the conference has achieved all that could have been expected; that interesting discussions have been had, valuable information disseminated and prejudices removed, and that there is hope that a second session will achieve practical results of much moment. The various plans presented to the conference will, it is understood, be laid before the various governments represented, and the hope is expressed that the consideration of these plans may lead to the formulation of one satisfactory to all governments represented, or at least to a majority of them.

It appears that the optimistic view of the results of the conference taken by the American delegates is shared by Secretary of the Treasury Foster. He is quoted as saying that it is a grave mistake to assume that the conference will prove to be a failure; that the taking of a recess till May was expected by the administration when the American delegates left the country, and that there is every reason for expecting the conference to reassemble in May. The Secretary says that the fact that Rothschild made any proposition for the increased use of silver, coupled with his declaration that unless something were done to insure its better use among the nations very serious consequences would follow, was in itself a hopeful indication that the prominent bankers of the world felt the necessity of reaching an agreement of such a nature as would secure an approximate uniformity in dealing with the silver question the world over, and that the general feeling of the conference was even more favorable than was anticipated. It need scarcely be said that these optimistic views of the Secretary of the Treasury and the American delegates are not very widely shared either in the United States or abroad.—Bradstreet's.

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Brandon Ex. Tues. Th. & Sat.	St. Paul Express Daily	Miles from Winnipeg.	STATIONS.	St. Paul Express, Daily	Brandon Ex. Mon., Wed & Fri.
2.55p	4.10p	0	Winnipeg.....	11.45a	1.00p
2.45p	4.00p	3 0	Portage Junction.....	11.43a	1.10p
2.30p	3.45p	9 3	St. Norbert.....	12.03p	1.24p
2.17p	3.31p	15 3	Cartier.....	12.23p	1.37p
1.50p	3.13p	23 6	St. Agathe.....	12.41p	1.65p
1.50p	3.04p	27 4	Union Point.....	12.49p	2.02p
1.39p	2.51p	32 6	Silver Plains.....	1.01p	2.13p
1.30p	2.33p	40 4	Morris.....	1.20p	2.36p
	2.18p	46 3	St. Jean.....	1.35p	
	1.57p	56 0	Letellier.....	1.57p	
	1.25p	65 0	Emerson.....	2.15p	
	1.15p	68 1	Pembina.....	2.25p	
	9.35a	162	Grand Forks.....	6.00p	
	5.35a	223	Winnipeg Junction.....	9.55p	
	8.35p	470	Minneapolis.....	6.30a	
	8.00p	481	St. Paul.....	7.05a	
	9.00a	583	Chicago.....	9.35a	

### MORRIS-BRANDON BRANCH.

East Bound.			West Bound.		
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11.40a	2.55p	0	Winnipeg.....	1.00p	3.00a
7.30p	1.15p	0	Morris.....	2.30p	7.30a
6.40p	12.53p	10 0	Low Farm.....	3.03p	8.15a
5.40p	12.27p	21 2	Myrtle.....	3.31p	9.05a
5.24p	12.16p	25 9	Roland.....	3.43p	9.25a
4.40p	11.57a	33 5	Rosbank.....	4.02p	9.52a
4.10p	11.43a	38 0	Miami.....	4.15p	10.25a
3.23p	11.20a	49 0	Deerwood.....	4.39p	11.16a
2.58p	11.08a	54 1	Atamont.....	4.50p	11.48a
2.18p	10.49a	62 1	Somerset.....	5.10p	12.23p
1.43p	10.33a	68 4	Swan Lake.....	5.24p	1.00p
1.17p	10.10a	74 0	Indian Springs.....	5.39p	1.30p
12.54p	10.07a	74 4	Maricapolis.....	5.50p	1.65p
12.22p	9.10a	86 1	Greenway.....	6.16p	2.23p
11.51a	9.35a	92 3	Balder.....	6.21p	3.00p
11.01a	9.12a	102 0	Belmont.....	6.46p	3.50p
10.30a	8.55a	103 7	Hilton.....	7.21p	4.20p
9.49a	8.46a	117 1	Ashdown.....	7.31p	5.03p
9.35a	8.30a	120 0	Wawawasa.....	7.47p	5.18p
8.48a	8.00a	129 6	Rounthwaite.....	8.14p	6.09p
8.10a	7.48a	137 2	Martville.....	8.35p	6.48p
7.30a	7.30a	145 1	Brandon.....	8.56p	7.30p

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11.50a	3.0	Portage Junction.....	3.55p
11.18a	11 6	St. Charles.....	4.20p
11.08a	14.7	Headingley.....	4.35p
10.40a	21.0	White Plains.....	5.00p
9.45a	35.2	Kustaco.....	5.40p
9.18a	42.1	Oakville.....	6.13p
8.25a	55.6	Portage la Prairie.....	7.00p

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