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 Colin McArthur & Co., Damian Wall Paper Works,
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THOS. G. FLEETON,
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Choice Havana Cigars,
361 Main St., WINNIPEG.
 In order to introduce my home manufactured cigars
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 each of the following three brands to any dealer sending me
 \$5: Fleeton's A 1, Key West and Grand Discovery.
 Seven half boxes, all different brands, for \$10. Sent C.O.
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 A complete assortment of Artists' Materials in stock
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Banker, Broker & General Loan & Insurance Agent
 DRAFTS SOLD ON ANY PART OF CANADA
 OR UNITED STATES,
 227 Collections promptly attended to & \$
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 CITY HALL SQUARE,
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 A. G. McBEAN, P O. Box 1299, Montreal.

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GRAIN & PRODUCE.
THE QUEEN'S,
 The Palace Hotel of the Northwest,
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 O'CONNOR & BROWN, Proprietors.
GRAND VIEW HOTEL,
 OPPOSITE NEW C. P. R. STATION,
 BRANDON, MANITOBA
FRANK BOISSEAU, Proprietor.
 LATE OF THE RUSSELL HOUSE, OTTAWA.
 Strictly first-class in every respect. Commercial Sample
 Rooms Attached.

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THE VULCAN IRON COMPANY,
 OF MANITOBA, (LIMITED),
BRASS & IRON FOUNDERS,
 Light and Heavy Forgings, Engine and Boiler Works,
 Millwrighting,
GENERAL BLACKSMITHING,
 211 Kings of Machinery.
POINT DOUGLAS AV., WINNIPEG.

BOILER PURGER
 Prepared specially for the ALKALINE waters
 of the NORTHWEST, the
ONLY RELIABLE
 preparation of its class made.
JOSEPH PARKINSON,
 MANUFACTURING CHEMIST,
 WINNIPEG, - - - MANITOBA.

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 Sole Agent for the Dominion of Canada for
THE HAYWARD HAND GRENADE
FIRE EXTINGUISHER,
 It is the only Grenade that is imported into Canada
 freight and duty paid. Indorsed by Chiefs of Fire De-
 partments, Fire Insurance Companies, Business Houses,
 Hotels, and by all who have seen its practical workings.
 Price \$15 a Doz., baskets included.
 ORDERS filled with Promptness and Despatch
 Also with
Munderloh & Co., Agts for the White Cross Line
 and Sole Agents for the Dominion of Canada for
MYER'S WATCHMAN'S CONTROL CLOCK,
 Indorsed by Chiefs of Police, Business Houses and all who
 have used them.
 PRICE \$35. Will last for years.
 Contracts for either supplied with promptness and
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 SOLE AGENTS FOR
W. L. ELLIS'
STAR BRAND OYSTERS
 In Cans or Bulk, also Importers of
Apples, Oranges, Lemons
 And all varieties of
Foreign Fruit.
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WINNIPEG.
 Post Office Box 820.

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MONTREAL.STORAGE, Bond or Free. Lowest Rates of
Insurance Liberal Advances made on Consig-
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WINNIPEG.

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33 Queen Street,

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WINNIPEG.A. C. FLUMERFELT,
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CONFECTIONERY**PAULIN & CO.,**

Wholesale Manufacturers.

Orders by Mail promptly attended to.

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IN STORE AND ARRIVING.

Choice off-stalk Valencia, London Layers in boxes and
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Currants, Prunes, etc. **CRANBERRIES****New Teas, '85-86**Choice assortment of Japans, Oolong, India Teas,
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eas in c cts, half chests, caddies and 1lb fancy papers.

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WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS.

TABLE LUXURIES.

Closest Prices. Samples Mailed.

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PRINCESS STREET, **WINNIPEG****Thompson,****Codville & Co.,****WHOLESALE GROCERS,**

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MANUFACTURER AND DEALER IN

SADDLERY, HARNESS,

SADDLERY HARDWARE,

Leather & Findings, Trunks, Valises, &c.

EVERYTHING IN THE SADDLERY LINE.

See my Felt Horse Blankets, Fall Lap Rugs, Frost
Proof Whips, Maud S. and Blue Ribbon Driving Harness,
also large assortment of Sursingles just manufactured.

Store: 569 Main Street.

Hotel Brunswick Block,

WAREHOUSE AND FACTORY:

46 McWilliam Street East,

ESTABLISHED 1307.

WINNIPEG.SAMUEL HOOPER, DEALER IN MONUMENTS, LEAD
Stones, Mantle Pieces, Grates, etc. Special designs fur-
nished on application. Cor. Bannatyne and Albert Sts.,
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Loan and Agency Company (Limited)

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CAPITAL, \$5,000,000.

Loans effected on Farm & City

PROPERTY. DEBENTURES PURCHASED

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the N.W.T.

OFFICE: McARTHUR BLOCK,

Cor. Lombard and Main Sts., Winnipeg.

Sutherland & Campbell,**WHOLESALE GROCERS**

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COMMISSION MERCHANTS

STOCK LARGE AND WELL ASSORTED.

PRICES LOW TO CASH AND

PROMPT MEN.

PRINCESS ST., **WINNIPEG.****W. HIGGINS & CO.,**

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Boots & Shoes, Trunks, &c.

33 PORTAGE AVENUE EAST,

WINNIPEG, MAN**RICHARD & CO.,**

Importers and Wholesale Dealers in

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365 MAIN STREET,

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Hardware AND Metals**GUNS AND SPORTING GOODS.**22 & 24 ALEXANDER STREET EAST, and
35 & 37 McWILLIAM ST. EAST,**WINNIPEG.****Turner, MacKeand & Co.,****WHOLESALE GROCERS,**

AGENTS FOR

CHASE & SANBORN'S
Celebrated Roasted Coffees.

IN STOCK:—Herrings in Half-Bbls. and Bbls.

Boxless Fish in 5 and 40L boxes

New Valencia, Elme Raisins
and Currants.**AT WAREHOUSE,**35 AND 37 BANNATYNE STREET EAST
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The Commercial

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

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

VOL. 4

WINNIPEG, JANUARY 5, 1886.

NO. 15

The Commercial

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

ISSUED EVERY TUESDAY.

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

ADVERTISING RATES

1 month weekly insertion	\$ 130 per line.
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THE COMMERCIAL will be circulated extensively amongst wholesale and retail Merchants, Jobbers, Bankers, Brokers, Manufacturers, Hotel Keepers, Insurance and Loan Agencies throughout the entire Canadian North west.

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

Office, 4 and 6 James St. East

JAS. E. STEEN,
Publisher.

WINNIPEG, JANUARY 5, 1886.

A. P. SAMPLES & Co., butchers, Calgary, have sold out.

W. J. BARKER has opened a general store at Prince Albert.

THE Commercial Hotel, Morden, is advertised for sale by auction.

THE Caldwell Hotel, Rapid City, was burned on Sunday morning.

D. C. MCKINNON, hotelkeeper, Brandon, offers his business for sale.

THOS. TOWERS, hotelkeeper at Brandon, has sold out his business to F. White.

ACCORDING to the Edmonton Bulletin strong bakers' flour is worth \$10 at Victoria and \$15 at Lao la Riche.

OSMENT & FREEMAN, general storekeepers at Indian Head, have dissolved partnership, and the business in future will be carried on by A. I. Osmont.

STEAMBOAT inspector E. R. Abell has moved his office from Winnipeg to Selkirk.

MR. J. W. CASTELLO has been appointed inspector of weights and measures at Calgary.

THE merchants of Manitou have adopted the early-closing system for the winter months.

P. C. DONOVAN, M.D., and drug storekeeper at Neche, Dak., has opened a branch store at Gre'na, Man.

THE Calgary Board of Trade will petition the Minister of Militia, in the matter of the unsettled rebellion claims.

ANOTHER grain warehouse is being built at Shoal Lake, in addition to the one being erected by the railway company.

THE first shipment of green hides ever made from Battleford, was forwarded to Winnipeg a couple of weeks ago.

MACHINERY for a saw mill and blacksmith shop was forwarded to the Hungarian settlement near Neepawa, last week.

A PUBLIC meeting has been held at Neepawa to discuss the matter of building a roller flour mill and elevator. No conclusion was arrived at.

EIGHTY-EIGHT shares out of a total of 200 shares, have been subscribed for by Hanlan farmers, with a view to starting a cheese factory.

MAILS west of Canmore, the western terminus of the C. P. R. for this winter, will be run by dog train to Golden City and Farwell, once a fortnight.

JAS. BARR has opened a general store at the end of the Manitoba Southwestern track. Bailey & Duffie are erecting a feed and sale stable at the same place.

A BRITISH COLUMBIA coal dealer has been making inquiries to ascertain the cost of coal in the Northwest, with a view to shipping coal from British Columbia to western points in the Territories.

THE deposits in the Winnipeg branch of the Dominion Government Savings Bank, for the month ended 31st December, 1885, were \$65,724.94. The withdrawals were \$45,038.63. The excess of deposits over withdrawals was \$20,686.31.

ONE of our foremost commercial travellers, T. J. Lawlor, for many years with Messrs. Thibaudeau Bros. of this city, left yesterday for Killarney, Man., where he is opening up a general store.

THE farmers of the Hanlan district, near Portage la Prairie, talk of building a flour mill on the co-operative plan, alleging as a reason that the local millers "take the grist and leave them the toll.

W. T. RUTHERFORD, formerly a cigar manufacturer in London, has opened up business in Winnipeg as a manufacturer's agent, in the same class of goods, and has located in the Clements' block.

THE early closing system came into effect in Winnipeg on Monday evening. Dry goods dealers, stationers, etc., now close their places of business at 7 p. m., and grocers at 8 p. m., every evening except Saturday.

RAPID CITY was the scene of a disastrous fire yesterday in which Caldwell's Hotel and Newcomb's billiard parlor were completely destroyed. Incurdianism was supposed to be the cause. No insurance.

THE Manitoba Live Stock Company is the name of a new corporation formed for the purpose of stock raising, principally sheep. About 1 000 head of the latter have been placed on the Company's property near Rapid City.

THE new winter time table on the C. P. R., went into effect on Monday. The changes at Winnipeg are as follows: The Port Arthur train will arrive at 8:10 a. m. and leave at 6:15 p. m.; and the one going will leave as now, at 8:40 a. m. From Moosejaw west, there will be three trains a week; namely, on Tuesday's, Friday's, and Saturday's.

THE Inland Revenue returns for the month of December show an enormous increase over the same month last year. The receipts are nearly \$8,000 in excess of those of 1884.

	1885.	1884.
Tobacco	\$4,615 60	\$2,107 38
Spirits	14,743 26	10,288 54
Malt	1,209 87	158 96

\$20,568 73 \$12,554 88

Business East.

ONTARIO.

J. Thring, grocer, Parkdale, has sold out.
 F. J. Cross, soap manufacturer, Windsor, is dead.
 A. S. Colver, jeweler, Toronto; stock seized by sheriff.
 Robt. Spencer, tailor, Kingston; stock damaged by fire.
 John Noble, blacksmith, Markdale, has assigned in trust.
 Geo. S. Hobart, druggist, Kingston; stock damaged by fire.
 H. Simmon, dealer in clothing, Stratford, has assigned in trust.
 J. M. Wilson & Co., grocers, Ingersoll, have assigned in trust.
 J. W. Cuthbertson, dealer in tinware, Bothwell, has sold out.
 D. Bigley, hotelkeeper, Stratford, has sold out to E. Shipman.
 Isaac Lindsay, general storekeeper, Phelpsston, has assigned in trust.
 H. Hogben, restaurant keeper, Toronto, has been closed by landlord.
 J. A. Kirk of the Stratford Shoddy Mills, Stratford, was burnt out.
 Smith & Saddler, plumbers, London, have dissolved; Saddler retires.
 A. E. Fish, dealer in gents' furnishings, Belleville, has assigned in trust.
 The following were burnt out at Brampton:—
 D. A. McNichol, harness maker; Geo. Tait & Co., tailors; and L. Waldo, fruit dealer.

QUEBEC.

Jos. T. Denis, baker, Montreal, has assigned.
 Zephir E. Martel, trader, Montreal has assigned.
 Geo. Venner, merchant tailor, Montreal, has assigned.
 G. Reinhardt & Sons, brewers, Montreal, have dissolved.
 Robitaille Jacques & Co., grocers, Quebec, have dissolved.
 A. Tenny, general storekeeper, South Stukely, has assigned.
 Courteau Bros., cigar manufacturers, Montreal, have assigned.
 D. H. Rochon, general storekeeper, West Farnham, has assigned.
 Jacob Rosenthal, manufacturer of caps, &c., Montreal, has assigned.
 E. Jacot, manufacturer of watches, Quebec; damaged by water and smoke.
 McDougall, Logie & Co., paint manufacturers, Montreal, were burned out.
 Arnd & Arpin, manufacturers of boots and shoes, Montreal, have dissolved.
 Turcotte Cyprien, dealer dry goods, St. Gabriel Village, has assigned in trust.
 Mayotte & Sherwood, tailors, Montreal, de mand of assignment made on them.
 Bolduc & Co., Valleyfield mill, Valleyfield, have dissolved; T. Bolduc continues.
 Brunet, Laurent & Co., dry goods merchants, Quebec, stock damaged by water and smoke.
 M. O'Kane & Co., Mary Ann McKeown, wife of John O'Kane, Montreal, has ceased doing business under this style.

Commercial Traveller's Banquet.

On Monday night, December 27th, the North-west Commercial Traveller's Association held their annual banquet in the Grand Union Hotel, when the largest turnout of members and their friends since the birth of the association was made. One hundred and fifteen persons sat down to a sumptuous dinner, such as few caterers can place before their guests, while the large dining hall was beautifully draped and decorated for the occasion.

The chair was occupied by Mr. Thomas Johnson, president of the association, and Mr. J. J. Fanning, the vice-president, occupied the vice chair; while among the guests were Honorable Premier Norquay, Hon. C. P. Brown, Hon. Dr. Wilson, Alderman Pearson, Mr. Kenneth Mackenzie, president of the Board of Trade, Mr. J. H. Ashdown, Mr. G. F. Galt, R. J. Whitla and others.

Dinner being served and partaken of the President commenced the toast list with "The Queen," which was enthusiastically drunk the whole company singing the national anthem.

Chief of Police Murray then sang "Hearts of Oak" in fine style and was loudly applauded.

"The President of the United States" was next proposed and drunk, and in the absence of Consul Taylor, Mr. Joseph Mulholland responded in his usual humorous style, and was followed by a few remarks from Mr. J. E. Steen.

Mr. Doll, of Toronto, then favored the company with the song of "Old Black Joe."

The President proposed the toast of "The army, navy and volunteers," which was drunk with great enthusiasm.

He paid a high tribute to the gallant 90th, describing their eagerness to go to the front without waiting for any reinforcements, and illustrating their case with a very apt quotation from Shakespeare's King Henry V.—

"If we are marked to die, we are enough
 To do our country's loss; and it to live,
 The fewer men, the greater share of honor,
 God's will! I pray thee, wish not one man more."

No, faith, my coz, wish not a man from England:
 God's peace! I would not lose so great an honor,
 As one man more, methinks, would share from me,
 For the best hope I have. O, do not wish one more."

Mr. James Porter recited in a stirring manner the "Charge of the Light Brigade," and was followed by Capt. Whitla who responded in a spirited speech for the army and volunteers. Mr. Steen followed him with a short reply for the navy.

After Mr. Kelland had rendered the song "Sailing," Mr. Harden as an old volunteer paid a high tribute to the bravery of the boys who last spring marched to the front.

The president proposed the "Provincial Legislature," which was drunk with the usual "They are jolly good fellows."

Premier Norquay in a neat speech responded and took credit to the Legislature for having done considerable to further commerce by the liberal subsidy given last year towards branch railway construction. He was followed by the Hon. C. P. Brown in an apologetic strain, regarding some acts of the Legislature which were not endorsed by all men in trade. Hon. Dr. Wilson also replied briefly.

The toast of "The Mayor and Council of Winnipeg" was drunk and responded to in a pithy speech by Ald. Pearson.

"The Commercial and Manufacturing Interests" was the next toast, and was responded to by Mr. Kenneth Mackenzie, President of the Board of Trade, Mr. G. F. Galt, Mr. J. H. Ashdown and Mr. James Burridge.

Mr. Mackenzie contrasted the commerce of the city now, with the time, when in an eastern mercantile house, he worked 18 hours a day getting off goods to the then "Great lone land," a country he and other eastern men had only very hazy ideas about then.

Mr. Galt referred to the prominent part commercial travellers had not only taken in extending commerce, but in keeping it within safe and legitimate limits, and stated that in this respect the travellers of the North-west had done their duty well to themselves and their employers.

Mr. Ashdown expressed astonishment at the rapid growth of the Commercial Traveller's Association of the North-west, and thought it argued well for the growth of Winnipeg's trade. Being the pioneer merchant present he had watched the city's trade development since 1869, and was satisfied that it had been something extraordinary. Referring to assistance to commerce from our Legislature, he hoped they were only commencing that good work, and that they would give a stimulus to settlement in Manitoba itself, which would make a large commercial field there, without one having to go to the North-west Territories.

Mr. Burridge gave some interesting figures regarding the growth of manufactures in Canada during the past 35 years, and expressed the belief that Winnipeg must soon begin to take its place as a manufacturing centre.

The toast of the Sister Societies was responded to by Messrs. Doll and Thwaite, from Toronto, and a gentleman from Montreal.

"The Ladies" brought out an eloquent response from Mr. Thomas Gilroy, who was warmly applauded. He was followed by Mr. Joseph Mulholland in a short speech bristling all over with funny sayings, and tinged with a sorrowful alloy regarding the speakers' own bachelor loneliness.

After the toast of "The Press," the company sang "God Save the Queen" and "Auld Lang Syne," and brought to a close one of the happiest gatherings that has ever met in Winnipeg.

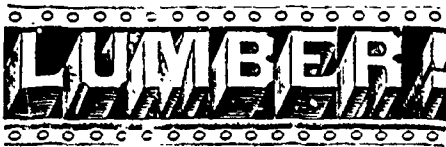
The following are the names of the new stations on the C. P. R. Southwestern, west of Manitou, with their distances in miles from Winnipeg:

stations.	miles.
Manitou.....	102
First Siding.....	114
Pilot Mound.....	125
Crystal City.....	130
Clearwater.....	135
Cartwright.....	145
Long River.....	156
Kil'arney.....	164
Little Pembina.....	170
Cherry Creek.....	183

The line will be open for general business on Thursday, January 7th, and a mixed train will leave Manitou on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings at 7.30 o'clock, arriving at Cherry Creek at 4.30 p. m. in the evening. A mixed train leaves Cherry Creek every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7.55 a. m. arriving at Manitou at 5:05 p.m.

BOYD & CROWE,

WHOLESALE DEALERS IN



MAPLE STREET,

WINNIPEG.

North-Western Planing Mills

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

SASH, DOORS, BLINDS,

And General House Furnishing
Made to Order.

The Wholesale Trade supplied on the Best
Terms Orders attended to promptly.

PATERSON & JITCHELL.

Winnipeg Warehousing Co.

STORAGE FOR ALL KINDS OF GOODS

BONDED OR FREE.

Customs Government Bond in Building,
Freight advanced. Negotiable Receipts issued
and Goods Insured. Charges moderate.

Warehouses and Office: **POINT DOUGLAS AV. and HIGGINS STREET.**

JOHN E. DINGMAN, Acting Mana. cr.

Winnipeg Elevator Co.

WINNIPEG.

On and after Monday the 28th
December, the Winnipeg Elevator
Company will be prepared to
receive Grain for Storage and
Clearing.

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

N. BAWLF,

WHOLESALE DEALER IN

Grain, Flour and Feed

Special attention given to

GRAIN EXPORTS.

Cor. Princess & James St. West, **WINNIPEG**

City Roller Mills.

D. H. McMILLAN & BROTHER,

Manufacturers of, and Dealers in

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GENERAL STATIONERS.

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AGENTS WANTED THROUGHOUT THE WEST.

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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, JANUARY 3, 1886.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

We have entered upon 1886, and left behind us the eventful year of 1885, and a comparison with our hopes and prospects now with what they were a year ago will not be without interest to us all.

We call the year 1885 an eventful one, not that it has been so universally, for so far as great events among the nations of the world are concerned, it has been comparatively free from great changes or incidents, although the air has been redolent with mutterings and murmurings of possible great upheavels, and laden with fears and rumors of great wars. But we call 1885 an eventful year so far as Canada is concerned, probably the most eventful one since the confederation of the provinces into a Dominion. In the early portion of it rebellion suddenly burst upon us, showing that elements of discordance were smouldering within our borders: but ere the half of the year had passed the citizen soldiers of Canada had crushed what threatened to be a formidable rebellion, and a sanguinary Indian rising, and proved that there was patriotism enough in the Dominion to make it a true National Union, even if it had to be cemented together with the blood of its bravest sons. When we remember that our own North-west was the theatre of action, we can understand the deep interest we all had in the operations at the front, and the many hopes and fears which went from here after our brave volunteers.

But as a trade journal THE COMMERCIAL must view the commercial record of the past year, and when we do so, we have every cause for satisfaction. A year ago Eastern Canada was suffering severely from the depression caused by the over production of 1881 and 1862. Factories by the dozen were silent, and once powerful banking concerns were trembling in the balance, and threatening to follow the course of the unfortunate Exchange Bank. To-day quite a large proportion of the industrial institutions of the east have reached a state of moderate prosperity, while the stock of the banks we speak of are now quoted at and above par. A partial crop failure in the east has no doubt retarded recovery there, but withal, recovery has been going on and

safety and confidence in trade affairs has been reached

In the North-west we have recovered from the shock of the late rebellion, and although our crop has been damaged to some extent by frost, the enormous yield we have secured has made up in quantity what we are short in quality. Trade in Manitoba, which seemed to suffer a severe relapse with the outbreak of rebellion has been steadily and rapidly recovering, until now we enter upon 1886 with a sounder, healthier feeling prevailing over our whole commercial affairs, than has been felt in five years

During the past two years it has been the aim of the farmer, trader and every other industrious person in the North-west to reduce the burden of liability, and by systematic retrenchment and economy wonders have been accomplished in that direction. As a natural consequence we have as a community reached a state of comparative independence, that state in which people can get plenty of friends to assist them. We are leaving with 1885 nearly all our trade troubles behind us, and though our politicians may have a troublous time in 1886 with a provincial election, and the probability of a Dominion one before them, we have every reason to believe, that the trading community of our province are entering upon what will prove "A Happy and prosperous New Year."

TWENTY-FOUR O'CLOCK.

The new system of dividing the hours of the day, as proposed and likely to be introduced on the Canadian Pacific Railway, is one of those revolutions of accepted ideas and notions, which even at the present time would be considered a piece of unpardonable audacity, if not an outrage to be opposed and resented, were it attempted by any other power than that of the railway interest. The proposed change is doubtless the most sweeping yet attempted by that interest, although others of a very bold nature have been introduced and scarcely noticed by the ordinary crowd of mankind. It is only a year or so since the combined railway interest of this continent adopted what we now recognize, and have recognized with scarcely a murmur as our standard time. Yet this innovation was an attempt to regulate the diurnal movement of the sun, which had not been undertaken since the days of Joshua, unless by

that mythical Irishman with the new watch, who in the morning looked first at the east then at his pet time piece and exclaimed "Begorra if that sun is not over the hill in two minutes he'll be behind time this mornin'." Undoubtedly railways have the power of effecting great revolutions with accepted ideas and notions and we have scarcely a doubt, but this twenty-four o'clock innovation will in a very few years, and perhaps a very few months, become general over this continent, and scarcely find opposition from any other quarter.

We are afraid the active, rushing, busy public do not stop to consider the radical revolution this "twenty-four o'clock" will produce in connection with our social life, our legendary weaknesses, our gastronomic ideas, and even the affairs of some branches of industry. Just imagine the social hop breaking up at fourteen o'clock or inviting a friend to take breakfast at twenty or twenty-one o'clock, and then to relegate

"The wee short hoor a 'yont the twal" to a place among the relics of the past, seems like an unpardonable insult to the memory of Bobby Burns. Then what will all the ghosts of our romantic days do? Just imagine them cooped up, and waiting for the old tower clock to strike the conventional "one" and liberate them for their nightly ramble. We should expect to hear from them before the thirteen knells were tolled out, such a yell of disappointment and rage, as would almost galvanise into life the dust of the author of "Alonzo the brave and the fair Imogen." It does seem a sin to thus ruthlessly rob us of so many of our time honored social ideas and almost revered associations with the romantic.

But to come to the more practical side of life. What are we to do with our watches and clocks! Many of us possess valuable and much prized pocket time pieces, and we have considerable pride in the handsome clocks which ornament our parlors. Why this "twenty-four o'clock" will in a few years drive them all into possession of Moses in his "hand me down," there to take their place as second hand bargains side by side with cracked parlor mirrors and broken china, while inside of twenty years from now the old "Bull's eye" ticker of a hundred years ago, or "the old clock on the stair," which has sullenly ticked out the moments of half a century, will become relics as rare and valuable as

"The Sword Damocles slew his foe with,
The trick St. Columb steered his brose with,
Or the clout St. Patriek blew his rose with."

We could follow this trail of complaint indefinitely, and yet we believe we would scarcely stir the faintest feeling of opposition to this innovation on the part of the railways. The organizations are now as near to omnipotence as it is possible for mortal power to reach. We have read of the stone age, the bronze age and the iron age, but every day of our lives adds further proof that we are living in the railway age, and our social ideas and legendary associations are only straws, which the dashing locomotive brushes heedlessly aside, or indistinct though at times pleasant murmurings, which its shrill whistle effectually drowns. The locomotive leads in our present path of progress, and at a dashing speed it is hurrying us from the sentimental into the practical, and yet we do not scruple to travel with it, although in our swift onward rush we leave behind much that we held dear and almost sacred. It is a wonderful demolisher of romance the locomotive. Its very birth in Europe crushed out of existence such heroes as Dick Turpin, Tom King and Sixteen String Jack, and in return for the loss of their romantic but rascally feats from us safe travel. With its associate the telegraph it has rid travel of the delays, annoyances and dangers of fifty years ago, and now it is proposed to rid it of a great share of its mystification, even at the expense of a revolution which a hundred years ago would doubtless have provoked legal if not regal opposition in some European countries. In the present day we calmly weigh the sacrifice and the gain, and we say let the dials of our watches and clocks be further stamped or carved with a dozen figures, if in return we can get simplified to within the discerning power of the mass of humanity, a system of time tables and railway guides, which, to the uninitiated are as incomprehensible as a jumble of heathen hieroglyphics. Our sentimentalism we will also sacrifice for the same boon, even at the risk of sometimes being awakened from our most romantic dream by a night patrol's unconventional challenge of "Half past fourteen o'clock and all's well."

LEGISLATIVE "BACKSHEESH."

We are again nearing the time of year when Parliaments and Provincial Legislatures meet, avowedly to legislate for

the wants of the people, a work they no doubt do something at, but which by no means occupies all the time and attention of legislators during the sessions of each year. Their minds are not all the time like the Laird 'o Cockpen's "ta'en up wi' affairs o' state," and even the business disposed of in session, comprises many a piece of private legislation, which does not always turn out for the benefit of the people, whose interests they are supposed to guard.

While our legislators are preparing for the work of a session, there are also in preparation a horde of scheming lobbyists, who by hovering around our representatives and the Government in power, secure the passing of many a private bill, and the passing of many a charter in which the interests of such barnacles are looked after, and those of the people trampled upon. Of course we have the shrewd, grasping barnacle, who never secures the possession of anything on which he cannot quickly realize. Then we have the hazy, speculative barnacle, whose great aim is to possess a few charters for wild, impracticable undertakings, which tickle only his own speculative imagination. Then we have the hanger-on, whose political influence, or to put in better terms, whose powers of wire-pulling are neither respected nor feared by the politician, and we have other specimens of that pap, hinting lobbyists, not so definite in the outlines of their characteristics.

But the barnacles are not all mere hangers-on of the legislators, for among the people's representatives may be found some of the very worst specimens, and even cabinet ministers, Dominion and local, are by no means excluded from the number. The aim of the outside barnacle is to secure possession of the sole right to supply something the public must soon have, and extort his "Backsheesh" for supplying the same. The course pursued by the legislator barnacle is to extort his "Backsheesh" from the outside schemer, by using the latter's ingenuity and his own legislative privileges, or rather using the former and prostituting the latter.

The form in which the legislator exacts his "Backsheesh" differs according to the party he is treating with. For instance, in dealing with the man wanting a legitimate charter, the simple promise of political support is enough to extort. But when the charter is one with great prospective profit, or the legislator thinks it is so, the "Backsheesh" has to take a more tangible shape, and most frequently assumes the form the Yankee would call "allow 'e to stand in." We can easily

comprehend the extent to which our local legislators have been standing in during the last five years, if we will take a look over the directorates of the different companies chartered to carry out public works in the province. We can find on almost everyone the names of leading politicians, and in very many instances Cabinet Ministers and ex-Cabinet Ministers, and we say without fear of contradiction, that not in one case in ten has a dollar been paid on the stock opposite their names. Their right to be in such positions is based solely upon the powers they assume to share in the "Backsheesh" levied off the country's progress. To such a disgraceful extent has this been carried, that we could select politicians, whose names do duty as representing hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of stock in such companies, but from whom the sheriff could not collect one hundred dollars with the aid of Captain Howard and his Gatling gun.

But there is still committed at times that old price of folly of "Killing the goose that laid the golden egg," and this is about what our political "Backsheesh" extorters have done, in this province at least. So many of our dead beat and sheriff-proof politicians have been parading their names on joint stock directorates, that distant capitalists have lost all faith in any concern with which they are connected, and the name of one on the charter of any proposed company is now sufficient to stamp it in the eyes of investing capitalists as a delusion and snare. We cannot ask capitalists to make any radical change in their views upon this subject, for to do so would be to ask them to give up safety for unsafety. That they err in tightening their purse against all such investments we doubt not, but we are compelled to admit, that they err on the safe side.

How long we are to suffer under this system of legislative "Backsheesh" it is difficult to know. That the coming election of a Local Legislature will bring some relief we firmly believe. Our present Legislature was elected from the fragments of our late boom kings, and some of the worst fragments were gathered in. Now after three years of depression we have a chance of securing a Legislature where a majority will be solvent men, and not one like the present where fully two-thirds are not only insolvent but sheriff and bailiff proof. No doubt but that will cause some improvement in the direction above-mentioned, but to thoroughly purge Backsheesh from our Legislature we require the passing and enforcing of some measure like the British Companies Act of 1862, which relieves Parliament of the duties of chartering companies, and gives powers of organization for such under its provisions by a simple process of registration after organization. We require such a measure badly in Manitoba.

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Importers of GENTS' FURNISHINGS,

HATS, CAPS AND FUR GOODS, GLOVES AND MITTENS,

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LAMPS,

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SILVER-PLATED WARE & FANCY GOODS,

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Owners of Steam Tugs "Ozema" and "Lady Ellen,"

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Fresh Salmon, Lake Superior Trout and Lake Winnipeg White Fish.

We keep full lines of Salt and Smoked Fish.

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MERCHANTS.

Have REMOVED to

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Next door to Lyon, Mackenzie & Peris, where they will hold

Auction Trade Sales of Dry Goods, Clothing and Groceries

Every Wednesday & Thursday,

At 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

STEPHEN NAIRN,
Oatmeal Mills,
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Granulated and Standard Oatmeal at lowest rates to the Trade, also Mill Feed and Chop.

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Commercial & Financial Agents.

Corner Portage Av. and Fort St.

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HIDES!

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

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WHOLESALE GROCERS.

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EXTRA PORTER AND STOUT

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DRIED FRUITS,

Pure Malt Vinegar, etc., etc.

CORNER KING AND ALEXANDER STREETS,

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Foot of Princess St., - WINNIPEG, MAN.

1885.

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WINNIPEG, - MAN.

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WHOLESALE IMPORTERS OF

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Manufacturers of White Dress Shirts, Colored Shirts, Woolen Shirts and Drawers, Overalls, Etc., Etc.

Corner of William and Princess Streets

WINNIPEG.

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

There was a general lull in monetary affairs in the city last week, and banks and other financial institutions were but little troubled with work, unless that of making up monthly or yearly balances. On Saturday morning the first ripple spread over commercial financial affairs, and some of the transactions of December began to go into paper. Still the whole week was a quiet one in this respect, and even the fourth coming on Monday seemed to awaken very little interest, and not the slightest anxiety. The results of yesterday's payments were of the most satisfactory character. The aggregate falling due was light for a fourth, but it was sufficient to cause a little stir at the banks, and at three o'clock there was scarcely an irregularity to record. Banks are looking forward to a rather quiet time in January, and it is probable that funds for handling the crop will be the only source of demand of any consequence. This still holds out well and is only limited by the carrying facilities of the C. P. R. Rates of discount are still the same and may be considered as fixed for some time to come, being as follows: first-class paper 7 per cent.; ordinary, 8 to 9; promissories and one-name 9 to 10; but all outside of regular discounts are merely nominal. Loans on real estate mortgage have not been moving much during the week. Applications have been few, and holiday has reigned supreme. Agents with scarcely an exception express great satisfaction with the recovery in this line of business, which has taken place during the latter part of the past year, and each and all confidently expect, that 1886 will be a prosperous year for them. A comparison of the arrears now due with what was due at the close of 1884, furnishes a very encouraging contrast, and gives good ground for the hopes of the present year. Rates of interest are nominal, and quoted at 8 to 10 per cent.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

The wholesale trade of the city was last week down to the last flickers of a season, and was confined to the first four days of the week, Saturday having been as much a holiday as Friday as far as sales are concerned. About the limited amount of business done during the early days of the week, it was a matter of no small difficulty to obtain definite reports, and in many branches they furnished no indication of the tendency of trade. When we consider that scarcely one out of the hundred and odd travellers who hail from this city, left the city on business during the week, we can make a rough guess at the small number of calls received from the country, and in the city matters were very little if anything better. In provisions and lines of every day consumption there was naturally more or less of a constant demand for goods. But even this was down to as small a volume as possible. A few calls for fancy lines for New Year's day trade was also heard on Monday and Tuesday, but beyond that there was literally no business of any kind doing. In season goods lines houses were a day at a stretch without a customer or an order of any kind, and lines dependant upon building and

contracting were entirely silent. The principal employment in season lines was the preparation of samples of spring goods, and this week travellers generally will be out with these so that "the drummer" will be as rare a person in the city this week, as he was plentiful last week. Cash returns have been rather light, as no particular effort was being put forth in the way of making collections. Still money was much freer than sales, showing that matters are in a healthy state, although business has been a little neglected on account of the annual Christmas and New Year festivities. We may expect to hear of a sudden livening up this month, as there will be some determined pushing of sales from spring samples, while the mildness of the winter has had the effect of making retailers make early provision for their spring wants.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

There has been no business doing in any kind of machinery during the week, and the only sales have been a few cutters and fancy sleighs. Collections have also had a lull owing to the holiday time, but are expected to liven up again immediately after business is resumed. The question with the trade now is, when will canvassers for the spring trade be placed upon the road? and this will in a great measure depend upon the weather. If two weeks more of mild weather comes, then there will be a general rush to get them out, for the frost is such a short distance into the ground this year, that change from winter to spring is liable to be very sudden, and may be very early. Continued keen cold weather would no doubt delay this movement.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

This is one of the branches in which it has been all play and no work, and business has been forsaken to a great measure owing to the holidays. The report of the week is therefore a very indefinite one, but wholesalers look forward to clearing out quite a few winter sorts yet, while travellers are again out with spring samples. There has been no reason for complaint about collections.

CLOTHING.

This branch has also been at a standstill during the past week, and only a few trifling sales of sorts are reported. Travellers have started out this week to renew their pushing of spring sales, but winter sorting trade is over for the year. No report on collections was received and none of a reliable nature could be expected owing to the holidays.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

In this trade business has been very quiet this week, the spurt of the week before having slackened down, after the Xmas demand was fully supplied, and there is not much doing at present. Although on the whole affairs in this branch are much better than at the same period the year before. Collections are reported all right.

DRY GOODS.

Only a few sorting sales early in the week disturbed the holiday quiet of this staple branch, and matters have been about as motionless as could well be looked for. The wholesalers have now finished stock taking

while the preliminary work of preparing spring samples has been about completed. Travellers have started out with the opening of this week, and January will be a month of energetic pushing on their part. The circumstances are extremely favorable for an early opening of the spring trade, and our next report will doubtless contain news of how matters are opening up in the country. There are no complaints about collections, and no reports of any irregularities in meeting paper falling due yesterday the fourth.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

In this trade the demand during the past week was fairly active, sales were fully up to the average, the principal demand being from local points in the province. Collections are also reported of having been very good.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

There was a little lingering bustle in this branch during the first two days of last week, but this has subsided now, and business is as dull as in any other line. Stocks have been run down very low, and the trade express their entire satisfaction with the holiday season's business. A few weeks of quietness are now looked forward to.

FISH.

The trade in fresh fish this week was fairly active, the supply now being rather better and on the increase, owing to the roads being pretty well opened up, while there was quite a fair local demand. Lake Winnipeg white fish is not bringing more than 5c all around, Jackfish is worth 3c in car lots. Smoked haddocks continue selling off at 11c; salt white fish still moves fairly well at \$4 per half barrel of 100 lbs in car lots; the variety of salt sea fish is not very extensive as yet, the only sorts on the market are quoted as follows: Labrador herrings, \$8 per bbl, and salmon \$17 per bbl, \$9 per half bbl, and \$5 per qr bbl.

FRUITS.

In this trade business appears to have fallen off this week, the average of sales not being nearly so heavy since Christmas. Collections however are reported as good. Chicago grapes are out of the market now, and a new consignment of Messina lemons is expected in a few days. Fancy Florida oranges are still quoted at \$7 to \$7.50 a box; California pears \$4.25 to \$4.50; Messina lemons; \$7 to \$7.60 per box; Fancy colored apples, \$5; southern cranberries, \$9 to \$11; Valencia raisins, \$3.75; London layer raisins, \$4 to \$4.25; black crown, \$5.25 to \$5.50; walnuts, 20c a lb; almonds, 20c; filberts, 12½c; pecans, 16c; peanuts, 16c; figs 18c to 20c and dates 10c a lb.

FUEL.

Business has been moving along in quite a steady way in this line, the average of sales during the week being good. Round lots of tamarac are still quoted at \$5.50 to \$6 delivered, and poplar at \$4 to \$4.50 delivered. The price laying on track will be 75c less. American hard coal is selling at \$10.25 and soft at \$8 delivered. Galv coal also sells at \$8.

FURNITURE.

In this branch of business trade is not very brisk at present. The rush of sales a

week back have fallen off, but although matters are rather quiet there is a generally healthy tone noticed, with good prospects of a steady trade ahead. Collections are considered fair although perhaps a little slow.

GROCERIES.

In this staple branch business has felt the holiday quietness, and only the light trade which indispensable wants caused prevented a complete lull. Improvement is looked for during this month, and it will probably come immediately the unsettled feeling of the holidays is over. There are no complaints made about collections. Prices of goods have been nominally the same as in our last, but there has not been enough of activity to cause any change. Quotations are: sugars, yellow 6½ to 7¼; granulated 5½c; lump 10½ to 10¾c. Coffees, Rio, 13 to 15c; Government Java 32 to 33c, other Javas 22 to 27c; Mochas 31 to 34c. Teas range, Moyune gunpowder 25 to 70c; pan-fried Japan 23 to 45c, basket-fried 25 to 40c, Ping Suey young hyson 20 to 30c; Moyune young hyson 25 to 50c; Season's congous, 1885-86, 20 to 55c.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

In light hardware there was very little business done during the past week, while in heavy metals affairs were not any brisker, there being but little demand from any quarter. Collections are reported to have been fairly good. Prices are unchanged, quotations being still as follows: Cut nails, 10d and larger \$3.50 to \$3.75; I. C. tin plates, \$5.50 to \$5.75; I. C. tin plates, double, \$11 to \$11.50; Canada plates, \$3.50 to \$3.75; sheet iron, \$3 to \$4.50, according to grade; iron pipe, 40 to 50 per cent. off list prices; ingot tin, 25 to 30c per lb., according to quality, bar iron, \$2.50 to \$3 per 100 lb; shot, 6 to 7½ a lb; tarred felt, \$2.50 to \$2.75 per 100 lbs.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

In this trade business is stated to be in a very quiet condition at present, there being but little demand from either the country or the city and collections appear also to have been rather quiet during the past week. Prices are unchanged, quotations being: Spanish sole, 31 to 33c; slaughter sole, 33 to 35c; French calf, first choice, \$1.40 to \$1.50; domestic, 85c; B Z kip, \$1 to \$1.10; French kip, \$1 to \$1.10; B Z kip, 85 to 90c; slaughter kip, 65 to 75c; No. 1, wax upper, 50c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, 33 to 35c for plumb stock; American oak sole, 50c.

LUMBER.

In this branch very little business was done, during the past week, dealers being more intent on squaring up their books for the year than in pushing sales of lumber. There are still, however, a few orders being received for both rough and finished stuff, but these are not of any very great extent. The sawing mills are of course closed down, and have been so for some time back, but the planers are quite busy working away and preparing for the opening of the new year's business, but of course it is too early to place orders as yet, but from all appearances there are good prospects of an excellent trading being done during the current year.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS.

In this trade business is stated to have been somewhat improved this week, there being a better demand from the country, principally in sorting orders. In the city matters still remain in rather a quiet state, and collections are reported as pretty fair. Prices of goods are unchanged, quotations being as follows: Linseed oil raw, 75c per gal, boiled 78c; sea oil, steam refined, \$1.10; castor, 13c per lb; lard, No 1, \$1.25 per gal; olive, \$1.50 to \$2, according to quality; machine oils, black 25c; oleine, 40c; fine qualities, 50 to 75c. Coal oils, headlight, 25c; water white, 30c. Calcined plaster, \$4.25 per bbl; Portland cement, \$5; white lead, genuine, \$7.75; No 1 \$6.75; No 2, \$5.25 and window glass, first break, \$2.50.

SADDLERY AND HARNESS.

In this line business has continued very briskly during this week, the aggregate of sales turned over being up to a good average. There was a good country demand but the principal orders were for the city. Collections are stated to have been rather slow.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

In this branch business was rather slack during the past week, this however, not being unexpected, as a dullness was naturally likely to follow, after all the holiday demands were fully supplied. Collections falling due are light, but generally pretty fair.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

In this line very good sales are reported for this week, their being an active demand from the country and in the city, apparently owing the holiday season. Collections are reported to have been very good. Prices are unchanged, quotations being as follows: Gooderman & Woel's five year old, \$2.75; 7 year old, \$3.25; old rye, \$1.50; Jules Robin brandy, \$4.50; Bisquet Debonche & Co., \$4.75; Martell, \$6; Hennessy, \$6.50; De Kuyper gin, \$2.75; Port wine, \$2.25 and upwards; Sherry, \$2.25 and upwards; Jamaica rum, \$3.50; DeKuyper red gin, \$11 per case; DeKuyper green gin, \$6 per case; Martell and Hennessy's brandy \$13.50 per case of 12 bottles.

THE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

In the local grain market, there has been a continued dullness and inactivity during the past week. There seems to have been but little improvement in any sort of grain especially wheat, although there are plenty of freight cars now available on the C. P. R. Eastbound shipments were very light, this being no doubt due to a certain extent, to the late holiday season, and also partly to the flatness of the markets in the east, and the low prices attainable. Oats and barley do not show much improvement either, street receipts being the principal movement, for which the demand was only an ordinary fair one. In flour, trade at present would seem to be in a state of stagnation, the local demand being very light, while the state of the markets in the east will not warrant any shipments being made for some

time. In provisions business was not over active, this week again, while in dairy products there was the usual holiday or New Year's want. Meats, generally, have experienced a dullness for the past ten days or so, but on the whole prices have been fairly well maintained.

WHEAT.

There is still a continued quietness in this market, the movement during the last week was small and although there is now ample car room offering on the C.P.R., the shipments of all grades of wheat to the eastern markets are very light, evidently due to the low prices prevailing there at present. Prices on the local market here are practically unchanged the millers and dealers quotations being for No 1 hard, 75c; No 2, 70c; No 1 Northern, 70c; No 2, 60c; No 3, 55c; No 1 Regular, 65c; No 2, 60c.

FLOUR.

In this market there is but little change from our last report noticed, business still remains in a very quiet and depressed state and there is but little demand from any quarter, local or eastern. All the city mills are now closed down for repairs, so that though shipments are few and light there cannot be much over production to glut the market. Prices are unchanged, the millers and dealers quotations being for patents \$2.45; strong bakers, \$2.75; XXXX \$1.70, and superfine \$1.30 to \$1.40.

BRAN AND SHORTS.

The local demand was fairly good during the week, sales were up to a good average and the supply is still sufficient for all wants. Sales are still being made in car lots of bran at \$9 per ton and shorts at \$10 per ton.

OATMEAL.

In this market a pretty fair demand continued through the week the demand being principally a local one. Standard grade oatmeal still sells at \$2.25 and granulated \$2.50 per sack.

POTATOES.

There is very little movement at present, there being but little demand and few sales. Car lots are still quoted at 35c and smaller quantities at 40c.

EGGS.

There is a sufficient supply of imported in the market, and the demand though quite fair was not heavy enough to cause any increase in prices. Good fresh lots are still quoted at 27c while lined appear to be worth about 25c.

CHEESE.

Business in this market seems to be rather quieter this week, there being but a very little demand. The supply is quite plentiful, and sufficient to meet all wants. Prices are unchanged, the following being the dealers quotations: Medium lots 9½ to 10c; prime 10½ to 11c; and full creamery 11c.

BUTTER.

In this market the business of the past week does not show much improvement the supply of the better grades are still all right, and quite sufficient for present demands, and prices are unchanged; but there are indications that these will go higher as stocks all over the province would seem to be running down. There is also some movement in the lower grades of butter, this demand being to supply lumber camps away in the woods. Dealers are still quoting as follows: Prime dairy 20 to 21c; medium qualities 13 to 16c and lower grades 8 to 10c.

OATS.

There was a fair demand in this market during the week and sales were up to a good average. The supply is quite ample for all wants at present and prices are somewhat lower

Good milling quality having changed hands at 23c, and feeding quality seemed worth 21 to 22c.

BARLEY.

In this market there was also a fair demand during the week and sales turned over were up to a fair average. A good bright sample usually brought 40c, and a fair sample for malting purposes was worth about 35c. Feeding quality changed hands at about 30c.

BACON.

Business was rather quiet in this market during the week there being but little demand noticed. Prices however, are still unchanged, dealers quotations being for dry salt 7½ to 9c; smoked, 9 to 10c; rolls from 11 to 11½c and breakfast bacon 11 to 11½c.

HAMS.

There was a very fair demand in this market during the week, and the aggregate of sales made were fully up to a good average. A slight change in prices has been made, local cured being now quoted at 13c. and American cured at 13½c.

MESS PORK.

No improvement has taken place in this market, business has continued rather quiet during the past week there being but little demand. Prices are still quoted at \$15 to \$15.50 per barrel.

MESS BEEF.

In this market there is very little business doing at present, the demand being limited and consequently light. Prices are still quoted at \$15 per barrel.

LARD.

A good demand continued during the week and sales were up to a fair average. Sales are still being made of the local product at \$2.25 and of imported at \$2.40 per cask of 20 lbs. Pieces were quoted at 10c a lb but no sales were heard of.

DRESSED HOGS.

The receipts continue coming in very freely, but have not affected prices in any way as \$5 is still being paid, this, however, being the outside figure.

CHICAGO.

The markets like every other branch of business have been affected by the holiday feeling during the past week. The long recess from Thursday to Monday seemed to have caused no eagerness to get at business again, and operators during the last week of the year were in anything but the humor to push business. As a natural consequence, no article of trade has developed any marked tendencies during the week, while the restless feeling which is so apparent in an uncertain market was not very apparent, and gave place in a great measure to one of easy carelessness. There were no outside influences at work to cause any decided fluctuations, although there were the usual string of rumors, all of which caused only sufficient changes of prices to make room only for the work of the keenest scalpers. Bulls and bears were alike careless, and at least those of the decided stamp were, and many attended the different sessions of the Board more from habit than from a desire to do business. The Balkan trouble was brought to the front a little at one time, but its bullish influence was found to be very light. The long deferred want of snow, and rumored probability of severe frosts in the winter wheat districts were dressed up also to do bull duty, but did not have any appreciable

effect. The action of Minneapolis millers, or rather their rumored intended action of shutting down in January was brought forward for bullish purposes, but was equally powerless to create any feeling, or awake operators out of the careless satisfied state they were in. It was holiday time with them and a broken week as well, and it seemed as if for the time being there was a truce to local influences of one tendency or the other, and the reports from Europe and the east were not of a character to cause any excitement.

On Monday the session opened with a little display of briskness, indicating that the rest had refreshed some operators. There was a firmer feeling manifested and a slight advance upon the closing prices of Thursday were secured. It was but a hectic start, however, and before the close a careless feeling had set in and taken more or less hold upon those present. Closing quotations were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	\$0.84½	\$0.84½
Corn	36½	36½
Oats	27½	27½
Pork	9.15	9.90
Lard	5.97½	6.00

On Tuesday there were no fresh signs of activity and a carelessness was general among operators. Rumors from the Northwest were brought to bear on the market, but had no marked effect. Receipts were rather light, and there was no increase but rather a falling off in the quantity of wheat on sight. A slight decline set in in this article, and the advance of the previous day was lost. Corn and oats were almost motionless and were neglected. In pork and lard the feeling was similar being quiet and steady. Closing quotations were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	\$0.84½	\$0.84½
Corn	36½	36½
Oats	27½	27½
Pork	9.35	9.90
Lard	5.97½	6.00

On Wednesday wheat opened with a weaker feeling, and at one time seemed likely to suffer an appreciable decline, but any offers below certain figures were promptly taken, and the steady careless feeling was soon resumed. Foreign and New York advices were steady and quiet and no outside influence caused any feeling. Corn showed a weakening feeling and declined a point or two, while oats were neglected and weak. Pork was steady but weak, while the few lard sales made were slightly below the figures of the previous day. Closing quotations were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	\$0.84½	\$0.84½
Corn	36½	36½
Oats	27½	27½
Pork	9.30	9.80
Lard	5.95	5.97½

On Thursday there was a kind of frolicky activity in wheat and corn, and prices ranged slightly higher. The advance was more the result of good feeling on the part of operators than anything else, but it caused quite a lively local trading. Pork and lard were both firm

and advanced slightly. Closing quotations were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	\$0.85	\$0.85½
Corn	36½	36½
Oats	28	28½
Pork	9.44	10.00
Lard	6.05	6.05

Friday and Saturday the board held no session, an adjournment being made to Monday 4th inst.

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

The closing week of 1885 has been a buoyant one in the stock market, and the year seemed to draw to a close with a decidedly hopeful feeling prevailing speculative circles. Leading bank stocks with scarcely an exception advanced during the week and closed the year firm, while in some instances the upward move was quite marked. Montreal for instance went steadily upward, while Federal is now fairly beyond par and inclining upward. Northwest Land Co. has again started on the upward move and indicates growing faith in the future of this country. The subjoined closing bids of Wednesday, December 23rd, and Wednesday, December 30th, clearly indicate the tendency of the market.

	Dec. 23.	Dec. 30.
Montreal	200½	202½
Ontario	105	106½
Toronto	184½	185½
Merchants'	113½	114½
Commerce	117½	118½
Imperial	127	128
Federal	99½	101½
Dominion	200	201½
Standard	117½	118½
Hamilton	126	126
Northwest Land	53½	60½

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

The closing week of the year was one of inactivity in grain circles, and the aggregate of business done was very light. The holiday feeling affected some dealers, while the election feeling attracted the attention of others, while the general uncertainty as to the future kept many others undecided, and all combined to make a very slow and quiet closing to the year. It is evident that local demands can have very little effect upon wheat at present, and indeed, local influences generally are dormant at present, and some outside ones are necessary to cause a livening up. Receipts have not shown any appreciable falling off, and the quantity in store has been steadily increasing during December, until at its close the figures showed an increase of over twenty per cent on those of the same period last year. No one seems much inclined to take hold of matters, and the feeling is general that at present prices buying on a large scale would be dangerous. On the other hand, holders are in no way disposed to make concessions, and are satisfied to hold on unless some sudden downward turn in foreign markets takes place. In barley and oats the business done has been equally light, although in the former the quietness may in a great measure be attributed to a scarcity of the better grades.

In provisions matters have been very quiet all round. In some lines the holidays will account for this, but in others there are special circumstances at the bottom of it. In almost every class of meats sales have been few and light, and in dairy products there has been no demand unless for selected fine lots. Altogether the week has been a very slow one, and in almost every line stocks have been steadily increasing.

WHEAT

The same indisposition to do business noticed in our last report continued to be the leading feature of the wheat market during the week. However, if there was an evident disinclination to buy there was also equally as little anxiety manifested by holders to sell. Prices therefore held firmly at last quotations without variation during the week. Buyers and sellers were generally apart. No. 2 fall was held at 80c, with 84 to 85c offered. May delivery sold at 90½c; No. 2 spring was worth about 80c F.O.B.

OATS.

were in a good demand throughout the early part of the week but somewhat slackier at the close, with an evident weakening in values. White milling sold at 34c, and mixed ranged from 32½ to 33½c on track.

BARLEY.

The same feature previously noted has again been manifested in this market, namely: an active demand for the higher grades with a scarcity of the qualities wanted. This fact limited the amount of business transacted to dimensions. One car of No. 1 is reported to have been sold at 95c. For No. 2 81c was asked with buyers at 80c, at which latter figure some little business was transacted. Extra No. 3 stood at 70c; No. 3 choice at 64½c, and No. 3 in plentiful supply offered at 55c without buyers.

RYE.

Unchanged and inactive at 60c.

PEAS.

In light request and prices unchanged. The limited quantity offered sold at 60c on track. Street prices were 1c better.

POTATOES.

Cut lots have been coming to hand in fair supply and are offered at 50c, which shows an easier feeling. Bags sold from 60 to 65c.

EGGS.

The demand for these has been rather slack in comparison with the supply which is coming in pretty freely. Prices have held about the same as last quotations, with an easier and unsettled feeling. Round lots of fresh sold slowly at 19c, and salted at 16 to 17c.

BUTTER.

The butter market manifests no new feature but holds tenaciously to the main symptoms of the past few weeks. The only activity manifested is in choice qualities of selections, which are generally taken as fast as offered at fair prices. Medium and inferior grades are constantly increasing in offerings, with no demand whatever existing for such. Shipping qualities of medium could be readily obtained at 10c if asked for. Holders take a very despondent view of the situation and consider the prospects of the trade gloomy. Prices for different grades rule as follows: choice selections 15 to 16c; good to choice rolls 12 to 14c; poor rolls 10c.

CHEESE.

Demand fair and prices unchanged. Choice is worth 9 to 9½c, and medium 7 to 8c.

PORK.

Unchanged in prices at \$13.50, which has

been steadily offered and taken for the needy quantities coming into the market.

BACON.

The feeling is easier on account of an increasing supply. Long clear in round lots could have been obtained at 6½ to 7c. Cumberland is still scarce and rules about the same as long clear. Rolls sell at 8½ to 9c, and bellies at 10 to 11c.

HAMS.

New smoked is the only sort in the market for which a fair demand exists at 11 to 11½c, according to quantity wanted.

LARD.

Quiet and steady at 9 to 9½c for pails.

APPLES.

The only sale reported was a car of golden russets at \$2. Street prices range from \$1.50 to \$2.25.

POULTRY.

The dressed poultry market has been glutted with excessive offerings during the week. Prices have generally dropped all around. Turkeys sell at 8 to 10c and geese 6c per lb; ducks bring 50 to 60c and chickens 25 to 35c per pair in box lots.

The Flour Trade of Minneapolis.

The crop year 1884-5 was one of which the average miller could not complain, as the margins, while not large, were fair and of a healthy character. Wheat occupied a position about on a par with flour, admitting of its being ground with a profit, and the conditions were such that a good export business could be done. War scares on two or three occasions contributed to the gain of the miller, he selling freely on the bulges and pocketing a good profit. Since the gathering of the new crop, the situation has been very different, millers declaring the past four months the dullest and most unsatisfactory in their experience. Flour has steadily declined until it has reached a point very much out of proportion to the current values of wheat, and milling has become almost a non-productive business. Although freights have been mainly favorable, speculative influences have kept wheat so high that the mills could not compete in supplying foreign countries with breadstuffs, and our exports have been greatly reduced. These unfavorable conditions have seriously interfered with operations by the local mills, and for the past month in particular they have been operated very irregularly.

The great disparity between wheat and flour may be shown by giving the prices of one year ago and those at present quoted. In January last, No. 1 hard wheat was quoted at \$1 per bushel, and patent flour at \$6.30 to 6.50 per bushel. On Dec. 16, No. 1 hard was quoted at 90c, and patent flour at \$4.70 to 5. This leaves the wheat equivalent to a barrel of flour worth about 45c less and patent flour \$1.55 less now than a year ago. Or, in other words, it costs \$1 more to make a barrel of flour now than then. In order to run their mills at all under such a shrinkage of values, millers have been compelled to cut corners and reduce the cost of manufacture to the minimum. One direction in which they were slightly assisted has been in getting barrels at a reduced cost, prices having fallen four to five cents.

The mills make a splendid record as to operation. Notwithstanding the flour production was heavily curtailed by a shortage of power during last winter, and the fact that most of the mills were kept in enforced idleness nearly three months in the fall by improvements to the canal, the sum total of the year's work is highly gratifying. The output of the year, ending with Dec. 1, exceeds that of the previous calendar year by over 160,000 bbls. The mills did remarkable work in October, at the time of starting up, after being closed down for nearly three months. A large number of orders had accumulated, and with ample power, the mills were allowed to show their mettle. The flour production for six consecutive weeks was from 10,000 to 26,000 bbls more per week than ever before.

RECEIPTS AND SHIPMENTS.

The receipts of wheat at Minneapolis for the crop year of 1884-5, ending Sept. 1, 1885, demonstrated fully that Minneapolis was the largest primary wheat market in the United States. The receipts from Jan. 1, 1884, to Jan. 1, 1885, were 29,000 bus., nearly 10,000,000 more than those of Chicago. New York was left as the only market in the United States that received more wheat than Minneapolis. The increase of nearly 10,000,000 bus in the receipts at Minneapolis over 1883, was a surprise to the trade, but it is estimated that the increase during the current crop year will be still greater. The shipments of flour show an increase of nearly a half million barrels, and the receipts were over 90,000 barrels less. The receipts of millstuff were likewise very much diminished, and the shipments increased.

RECEIPTS.

	1883-4.	1884-5.
Wheat, bus.	23,514,567	32,112,840
Flour, bbls.	116,084	23,378
Millstuff, tons.	11,721	3,003

SHIPMENTS.

Wheat, bus.	3,132,749	5,584,320
Flour, bbls.	4,814,424	5,298,941
Millstuff, tons.	139,261	142,715

For the year ended Dec. 1, 1885, the figures are as follows:

RECEIPTS.

Wheat, bus.	34,306,850
Flour, bbls.	23,505
Millstuff, tons.	3,973

SHIPMENTS.

Flour, bbls.	5,339,180
Wheat, bus.	5,732,640
Millstuff, tons.	51,632

—Northwestern Miller.

Commercial Summary.

Special telegrams to *Bradstreet's* from the leading trade centers this week report the dullness in wholesale lines customary at this season. There are some exceptions, notable at St. Louis, where the distribution of dry goods is as full and firm as it has been of late. Throughout a good portion of the Northwest, also, notably in Iowa, the movement of merchandise has likewise been large. At Chicago arrangements have been made by bankers for an active and increased business during the remainder of the winter. The general merchandise markets

there exhibit the lack of animation generally observed at this time. Prices of leading staples are firm, and the general belief appears to be that prices are likely to advance shortly after the opening of the new year. At the east there is less doing in the wholesale departments. There is, however, a very general steadiness in most staple lines. At Boston the confidence in a favorable prospect for the latter portion of the winter is marked. The distribution of dry goods from eastern cities is as quiet as expected. Commission houses are doing rather more than jobbers. There is reported to be a fair movement in brown cotton on export orders. The domestic consumption is moderate. Raw wool is as firm as ever. The demand is fairly active for low and medium grades as of late, but there is also some request for the finer fleeces. No weakness is noted anywhere in the list. The movement of groceries has been restricted. Dairy products are improved and higher. The wheat market has been dull, and prices tend downward. Increased quantity afloat, visible supply and (prospectively) foreign stocks combined with speculative selling at home, are responsible therefor. There is still a conspicuous absence of foreign demand. In the Northwest the larger millers are now credited with being long of wheat. In any event, wheat at Minneapolis and Chicago has been well held. Indian corn is in limited export demand, but is freely offered. Oats are dull and lower. Hog products have been weak and lower, but on a slightly improved inquiry both at home and abroad have been a little firmer. Pig iron is strongly held and prices are unchanged, though an advance at the east of \$1 per ton within a week or so would not be surprising. Hardware and implements have been held more firmly for slight advances, owing to the strength in iron. There have been 24 fewer business failures in the United States reported to *Bradstreet's* this week (five days) than last, 193 against 217; and 402 fewer this year to date than during a like portion of 1884, or 10,934 against 11,366. *Bradstreet's*.

The Evolution of the Overcoat.

Caricaturists and writers have endeavored to show that the garments of the gentle sex are becoming more and more masculine as years pass on. This is apparent to the most careless observer. He cannot fail to notice it in the apparel of the ladies as they pass him in the streets, but it has been left to my gigantic intellect to note for the first time that a portion of alleged masculine mankind is becoming affected in the other direction, and that unless some speedy check is given the movement great dangers menace man's most useful winter friend. When the short overcoat was banished and the shoe-top length appeared, the average man was content and warm. The overcoat, that useful and necessary garment, has probably been subjected to fewer changes than any other part of man's attire, but of late, very late years, the tailors, tired of monkeying with coats, vests and trousers, have attacked it and we have seen gradually stealing over its appearance a change for the worse that is distressing and fatiguing.

The respectable conservative overcoat of our daddies showed nothing particular about the fit or material, yet it stood the wear and tear of years, and imparted an air of solidity and solvency to its wearer. Now and then you see one of these overcoats going along the street and note its antique and chestnutty effect in contrast with the "very latest" that follows.

We are not sure who startled *dudedom* with the "cape" style of garment, but presume it was the outcome of some night dedicated to insomnia. It was a decided innovation at first and was somewhat ridiculed, but now that we wear one the excitement has subsided. Take for example last year's style, with a little *lah-de dah* cape half covering the shoulders and a pinched corset-suggesting waist, the first departure towards the feminine cut. It is close-fitting and imparts a suggestive doubt already as to the sex of its wearer, around whose slight form it clings so lovingly. It is imported goods and possibly made in "dear old London, ye know."

The cape grew longer and came down to below the elbows by and by, and then the overcoat took a step farther and evolved itself into the coat with a hood to it just like a lady's waterproof cloak. They are to be seen daily all over New York in increasing numbers, showing that they have found favor with the "Gussies" and "Chollies" who infest our society. No wonder women are wearing men's attire when they see their own appropriated by these creatures. The step is but a slight one to the next change in costume which "Gussie" will adopt. In all probability next year you will see the overcoat worn by him adorned with a large and beautiful bustle in conjunction with the hood, and he'll "toddle away" with his insane smile and think what a sensation he is creating among the women, whose chief prerogative he has usurped. The imagination must be dull indeed that cannot see where they are taking the poor defenseless overcoat, the most masculine of all garments. How long do you suppose it will be before you will see one of these creatures strolling down the avenue or loafing in front of the Knickerbocker Club bedecked with ribbons and with "rick-rack" or lace at the bottom thereof, "fluted" and "flounced," "cut on the bias," "gored," "Lox plaited," &c., till you can't rest. And the tailors will advertise as do the dressmakers, but instead of saying "tailor-made garments" they will add to their announcements: "All garments are made and fitted by female dressmakers."

Meanwhile the men who have brains in their head, instead of charlotte-russe or the like, and who earn their beer by the sweat of their brows, will continue to wear the same old overcoat whose lining falls into the basement of the sleeves every time it is put on in a hurry, and will sneer at the new and advanced styles as they fish it up to the elbow again. — *Journal of Fabrics*.

Railway Control and Railway Subsidies.

Sir Richard Cartwright, in a speech made at Orillia, the other day, referring to the passing of certain railways in Ontario, under Federal

control said: "If a change of Government took place, he could promise them that the control of these railways should be handed back to the Province, or every dollar refunded." The money to be refunded referred to the Provincial and municipal subsidies granted to these railways. Railways which form part of an extensive connection cannot be advantageously controlled by Provinces. The inefficiency of State Control over railways, in the neighboring Republic, is shown by the fact that no State Legislature can prevent discrimination outside the limits of its authority and to this fact the discriminations so often complained of are due. The connection between the control of railways and the subsidies granted in aid of their construction, is not so absolute and complete that the one must follow the other; while it cannot be satisfactory to a province to find railways which it has subsidised passing from its control, it is nevertheless true that dividend control of railways which run through more than one province, is impracticable, and if attempted it could lead to no satisfactory result.

We cannot think that a transfer of control when necessary in the public interest, carries with it the right on the part of the province and the municipalities to obtain a refund of the subsidies. The public utility of the railroad does not cease with the transfer of the control; though it is one thing to work for general, and another thing to work it for provincial purposes. If the province or the municipalities suffer substantial damage from the transfer of control, there is a case for compensation, but there can hardly be a case for the refund of the entire subsidies. The damage, if real, must be capable of being appraised; and the measure of the refund should be the extent of the actual damage sustained. If no damage be sustained, there is no case for refund or compensation. Fanciful injury, such as results from the loss of power, is incapable of being assessed as if it were a substantial damage. A real loss of some kind, and in some form, can alone form a ground of compensation. Whether such loss has been suffered and what is the extent of it, it would be eminently proper to enquire; though we cannot admit that the loss is to be assumed without enquiry and that it is to be put on a par with the whole amount of all the subsidies, provincial and municipal.

The railways, as we have said, remain after the control changes. The change of control may be a result of extended connection, which increases the utility of the road. Even the province cannot confine its view of the benefits to be derived from the road to the bounds of its own territory. Connection with the outer world has its value, and if this additional value be obtained without a loss of local benefits to secure which the subsidies were given, a gain without a loss results from the transfer of the control. The gain cannot, perhaps, be taken into account, in estimating the effect of the transfer on the province. The question, and it is the only question that can come under arbitration, is whether the province suffered substantial damage from the transfer of control, and if so, to what extent. To that extent, we think it might fairly claim compensation; but the claim cannot be legitimately supplemented

by suppositions or fanciful ideas of damage.—
Monetary Times.

The Mistletoe.

This mystic parasite has figured in history for ages past. According to Pliny the ancient Druids held it in sacred reverence when found growing upon certain species of the oak family, and great virtues were attributed to it. They used it in their banquets and sacrifices, and called it according to Pliny, "omnia sanatem," which, interpreted into the language of the patent medicine advertisements, would be "all heal." They used great ceremony in gathering it. First, two white bulls, whose horns were then for the first time bound, were led under the tree, when the priest selected for the purpose, clothed in white robes, ascended the tree and cut the mistletoe with a golden sickle, and the green boughs were caught upon a white mantle that had been previously consecrated by appropriate ceremonies. After these ceremonies they slew their victims, praying God to prosper His gifts unto whom he has given them.

In all the legend of the past there are none so little known and so interesting as those of the Scandinavian nations of Northern Europe. In these legends the mistletoe figures as having furnished Hoder, the blind god, with the subtle poison with which he painted the arrow with which he slew the great sun-god, Baldur.

The name itself comes to us honestly from our ancient progenitors, the Anglo-Saxons, who called it the *mistletan*, from *tan*, a twig, and *mistal*, which meant dark, gloomy, mysterious, foggy, or conveyed an idea of that sort which we cannot well define in the present form of the English language, because as people become enlightened the words that conveyed one idea to the superstitious mind have been retained in form but convey quite a different idea to the minds of the enlightened posterity of the people who coined the words.

But the *Southern Lumberman* does not propose to lead its readers into the realms of mythology or archæology, but simply wishes to call their attention to few facts of minor importance that are appropriate to the coming Christmas holiday. We want to call their attention once in a year to a mystic parasite common to a great many forests in the south as well as to most orchard trees. Very few people have ever paid any attention whatever to it, and we will wager a cocoanut, to be paid promptly on New Year's day, that not one in ten of the most experienced lumberman among them can name the trees upon which the mistletoe is never found.

There are seventy-six known species of mistletoe, but it is claimed that the true mistletoe grows only in England. It has for a thousand years been in demand as a Christian decoration and it is understood and agreed that the lad who steals a kiss from any lass "under the mistletoe" is a thief whose sins are forgiven by foreordination. For this reason a large quantity of mistletoe is now imported every year from England, by society people of the eastern cities, to be used in Christmas festivities. There is no tariff duty imposed on its importa-

tion, and Harper's Monthly, in the "Drawer," December has a highly humorous but instructive article on the subject, the tendency of which leads to the enquiry: Why does not South furnish all the mistletoe needed without importing it from abroad? The only excuse is that the mistletoe of the south is not the genuine *Viscum Album*! Good gracious! The world thought at one time that the South could not grow cotton, and it took many years to convince the Irish flax growers of our ability to do so. Now incredible as it may seem, we grow more than fifty of the seventy-five varieties of the mistletoe, in sufficient quantities to furnish all the young people of the world. Why should we not build up a shipping trade in mistletoe with our northern and eastern people. Ours looks just like the English mistletoe, only it is prettier and we have it in greater variety and abundance, for be it known that nearly all the mistletoe imported from England comes from the apple orchards of Normandy! Suppose our mistletoe is not just the real *viscum Album* of the old Druids, it is just as lucky and fortunate. And, besides, there is not a girl in the world, not even in Boston, who, after having been kissed "under the mistletoe," is going to take the trouble to look up the botany to see whether the article was the true *viscum Album* or a Southern variety—not often. The subject offers food for thought and the promise of a lucrative trade to intelligent enterprise.—*Southern Lumberman.*

Substantial Business Revival.

The liberal trade movement in this city of the preceding fortnight has been continued throughout the current week. The jobbing houses handling seasonable goods are agreeably surprised at the number and size of their daily orders, and the universal promptness with which merchants are paying their bills. Advances from manufacturing centres, with scarce an exception, represent reduced stocks of goods on hand, and some leading lines were sold several weeks in advance of production. The increase in the price of steel rails is one of the marked evidences of the business revival. Six months ago they could be bought in the open market for \$26 a ton, and it was charged that sales had been made for \$25 and \$25.50 a ton. The latest price, established a few days ago, is \$35 a ton. The rise is not less than 35 per cent in the course of four or five months. While this increase in prices has been accruing, the league of the mills to reduce production has been relaxed to permit the additional amount of 250,000 tons of rails to be added to the production. It is said that this entire increased production will be absorbed in railroad construction before April 1, 1886, and a further addition to the output will probably be made by joint agreement between the mill owners. So that the entire amount of the steel rail product for 1886 will be 1,000,000 tons, or an amount sufficient to lay 10,000 miles of track. It is not supposed that this extent of new lines of railroad is to be built next year. Doubtless fully a third of the new steel rails will be used to relay track now composed of iron rails. The railroad epochs may be studied with interest

and instruction. In 1880 and 1881 railroads were built everywhere, and far exceeded the demand of the country and transportation. Lines were run into the wheat country, into the pine woods and into the iron districts of the Northwest. Competing lines laid their tracks wherever a route, however unpromising as to an immediate yield of commodities to be carried by rail, could be found. Overproduction occurred in railroads as in everything else. There were more railroads built than could possibly pay operating expenses. Many companies became bankrupt, and even the strong solvent companies were compelled to borrow money to pay dividends, and to finally cut dividends down or suspend them altogether. The men employed in railroad building were then discharged, and became an idle class. Railroad materials became a drug in the market and could not be sold at any price. This was one great cause of the depression in labor and trade that has prevailed during the past two years. The revival has now come. The natural development of the country into which the new lines were built a few years ago has made them productive railroad property, and the companies that built them are recovering from the embarrassment their construction caused. But a new epoch of railroad construction is opening. The same excess of production may occur, to be followed by a similar period of reaction and general depression in business. It would be far better, however, to "go slow," so as to produce no reaction, and in order that a steady though less rapid rate of onward progress may be realized.

The iron situation, generally, continues to improve. A striking illustration of the change in the market for pig iron during the last three months of the year is presented in the last monthly furnace statement, which shows that there were in blast on the 1st of December 94 anthracite and 89 bituminous furnaces. On the 1st of October there were but 75 anthracite and 88 bituminous. The total capacity per week was 26,816 tons anthracite and 49,790 tons bituminous on December 1st, against 20,419 tons and 43,234 tons respectively, three months previous. This demonstrates, that to keep pace with the increased demand, production has been enlarged to the extent of fully 100,000 tons in three months. Coupling this fact with the general testimony of furnace agents that their surplus stocks are not more than one-tenth part of what they were six months ago, it is clear that, while some recent statements as to the improvement in prices may have been rather overdrawn, the increase in the volume of business has not been overstated.

In the east, west and south there has been a general improvement in the steel and iron industries, and a fair distribution of goods, suitable for the season, and the year is drawing to a close with a satisfactory trade in all branches of the manufacturing industry.—*Chicago Journal of Commerce.*

Branding.

The St. Louis convention would have done good work by stating that the branding of cat-

to should be confined to the left side of the animal, every new brand recorded could be put on that side, then after awhile the branding on the right side would run out, to a large extent, leaving one side of the hide free from brands. The leathermen asked this as appeared from their address, as follows:

"That all the brands, after having first utilized the head, neck, legs and flank, be confined to one side of the animal, leaving the other side without blemish or damage, and that your association should establish at once, some rules and regulations for branding obligatory upon the members of your associations, to be disregarded only upon penalty of a fine and forfeiting their membership of your association."
Texas Live Stock Journal.

Taking off Hides by Electricity.

The introduction of improved labor saving appliance in the slaughtering industry of the country, has been so slow and of so unimportant a nature, that it is with a certain degree of satisfaction, we record the invention of what the patentee calls an "electric siding knife," for taking off animal skins, without injury to either the hide or carcass.

The inventor; Mr. L. Newgass, who for a number of years has had charge of the Fairbank Canning Co.'s, immense slaughter house, (and who by the way has made the study of electricity, the principal occupation of his spare time for the last five years), understanding the depreciation in the value of hides, from what is known in the trade as scores, snips and cuts, in other words, where a number of men are employed by a large firm, it is impossible at all times to get skilled and careful butchers, especially, during the busy season, hence the number of damaged hides turned out annually, by such a house as the Fairbank Canning Co., though small in proportion to the total amount shipped, is a sufficient loss, (from dockage by the buyers of the hide-), to make the new discovery one of great value to the firm of Nelson, Morris & Co.; further, we have no hesitancy in saying from what we have seen of the "electric siding knife," that the value of hides will be increased from one-half to one cent a pound, as the fleshy side is left as smooth and even as the inner side of sheep pelt. The siding knife, like all good inventions is simplicity itself, being virtually nothing more than a slight alteration of the Edison incandecent or arc-light, with the glass bulb removed. The knife in construction resembles very much the receiver employed by the Telephone company, and like it, has a double set of covered or insulated wires attached to the butt end of the handle, connecting through the body of same to the cutting, or more properly the burning, edge, or the wire which is composed of platinum, the current is entirely under control of the butcher, who after opening the hide in the usual way with an ordinary knife, turns on the current and commences removing the hide with long quick sweeps of the sider. The principle is that of burning, as the platinum edge is brought to an intense white heat, yet said edge is so arranged and protected with non-conducting shields, that it is impossible to injure either the hide or the

carcass; in fact, the hide seems to be as it were, torn or pulled off by some unexplained force of this wonderful agent, electricity, and further, it has been demonstrated beyond a doubt, that the meat holds its color better and longer, this being accounted for, by the fact that the pores are closed up by the action of the current, which seems to leave a thin and transparent coating over the entire side; another advantage is the beef after leaving the chill room, never sweats or weeps as under the old system of taking off. The patent is controlled by the company who employed Mr. Newgass, the patentee. -*The American Markman.*

LIFE INSURANCE - SELF DESTRUCTION. - A proviso in a life insurance policy that the same shall be void in case the assured die by "self-destruction, felonious or otherwise," includes all cases of voluntary self-destruction, sane or insane, according to the decision of the United States Circuit Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, in the case of Riley vs. Hartford Life & Annuity Insurance Company.

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Canadian Pacific Railway
(WESTERN DIVISION)

WINTER TIME TABLE.

In effect Dec. 13th 1885.

READ DOWN.	STATIONS.	READ UP.
GOING EAST.		
7:00 p. m.	Lv 2 Winnipeg.....	3 Ar 8:00 a. m.
12:40 a. m.	.....Rt's Portage.....	2 10 a. m.
6:40 a. m.	.....Isaac.....	7 45 p. m.
1:00 p. m.	3 Arr.....Pt. Arthur.....	2 Lv 12:30 a. m.
GOING WEST.		
8:20 a. m.	Lv 2 Winnipeg.....	2 Arr 8:30 p. m.
11:05 a. m.	.....Portage la Prairie.....	4 00 p. m.
1:20 p. m.	.....Carberry.....	1 45 p. m.
3:00 p. m.	.....Brandon.....	11 00 a. m.
6:30 p. m.	.....Elkhorn.....	7 45 p. m.
6:45 p. m.	.....Moosemin.....	6 15 a. m.
9:00 p. m.	.....Broadview.....	3 45 a. m.
1:00 a. m.	.....Qu'Appelle.....	1 00 a. m.
3:15 a. m.	.....Regina.....	11 15 p. m.
5:45 a. m.	Ar 3 } Lv 6 } Moose Jaw	8 55 p. m.
6:15 a. m.	Lv 6 } Ar 3 } Swift Current	7 45 p. m.
2:00 p. m.	.....Maple Creek.....	7 10 a. m.
8:00 p. m.	.....Medicine Hat.....	2 30 a. m.
12:45 a. m.	.....Gleichen.....	5 45 p. m.
9:45 a. m.	.....Calgary.....	1 50 p. m.
1:50 p. m.	Ar 5 } Lv 12 } Canmore	8 45 a. m.
7:25 p. m.	Lv 12 } Ar 5 } Lagan	2 10 p. m.
10:10 a. m.	.....Paliser.....	9 55 a. m.
11:21 p. m.	Ar 11 } Lv 12 } Donald	7 00 a. m.
GOING SOUTH.		
19:45 a. m.	Lv 1.....Winnipeg.....	Ar 2:25 a. m.
12:15 p. m.	.....Dominion City.....	2:52 a. m.
12:40 p. m.	Ar.....Emerson.....	1 Lv 10:20 p. m.
18:15 a. m.	Lv 2.....Winnipeg.....	2 Ar 3:30 p. m.
11:00 a. m.	.....Morris.....	2 15 p. m.
11:45 p. m.	.....Rosenfeldt.....	1 45 p. m.
12:55 p. m.	Ar 2.....Gretna.....	2 Lv 11:45 a. m.
12:15 p. m.	Lv 1.....Rosenfeldt.....	2 Ar 9:25 a. m.
2:10 p. m.	.....Morden.....	2 Lv 8:00 a. m.
4:00 p. m.	Ar 2.....Manitou.....	2 Lv 8:00 a. m.
GOING NORTH.		
11:00 p. m.	Lv 9.....Winnipeg.....	Ar 8:50 a. m.
6:00 p. m.	Ar.....West Selkirk.....	8 Lv 7:00 a. m.
GOING WEST.		
19:30 a. m.	Lv 9.....Winnipeg.....	Ar 3:00 p. m.
11:30 a. m.	.....Stony Mountain.....	2 00 p. m.
10:55 a. m.	Ar.....Stonewall.....	9 Lv 1:30 p. m.
GOING S. W.		
9:31 a. m.	Lv 10.....Winnipeg.....	Ar 6:00 a. m.
10:40 a. m.Headingley.....	5 00 p. m.
1:15 p. m.	Ar { End of Track } { M'n. S. W. B. } { L. } { I. }	10 2:30 p. m.

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