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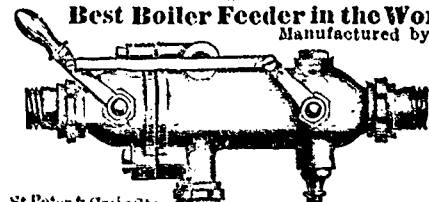
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Published by James E. Steen—Every Tuesday—Subscription, \$2 per annum.

VOL. 5.

WINNIPEG, MAY 3RD, 1887.

No. 32.

The Commercial

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WINNIPEG, MAY 3, 1887.

A. E. GARNER has leased the Cambrian hotel, Wapella, Assa.

MORDEN merchants close at 7.30 o'clock, commencing May 1st.

GEO. H. JAMIESON, tailor, Virden, Man., has sold out to Wilcox & Co.

Thos. Wellband, boots and shoes, Winnipeg, has sold out to Chas. Wellband.

JAS. McCracken, hotelkeeper, Rat Portage, has compromised at 50c in the \$.

Mrs. A. L. DAVIS, manufacturer of canned goods, Winnipeg, has moved to 606 Main St.

B. LIMOGES, general storekeeper, Whitewood, Assa., will open a general store at Banff, Alberta.

A DELIGATION from the Winnipeg board of trade, city council, and anti-disallowance conservative association, will go to Ottawa, in the interests of the proposed railways to the boundary.

CALGARY merchants have adopted the early closing system.

J. A. BROWN, of Brandon, talks of opening a bakery and confectionery establishment at Rapid City.

JAS. ROSS, proprietor of the suburban hotel at Silver Heights, near Winnipeg, has sold out to McDonald.

THE Manitoba Wire Co of Winnipeg, find a good demand for their barbed wire, which is taken as fast as turned out.

THE Manitou *Mercury* says there are openings at that place for a tailor and a shoemaker, these lines not being represented at present.

A PETITION has been prepared asking for the extension of the Manitoba Southwestern from the end of the spur at Carman to Manitou.

At the last quarterly meeting of the Regina board of trade, the committee on the proposed local fire insurance company were requested to report at the next meeting of the board.

THE Killarney *Manitoba* says:—Alf. Ashdown, of Boissevain, was it town one day this week. He contemplates buying the Bird stock of hardware. If he succeeds in making the purchase it is his intention to remove to this place.

G. C. LONG, lately in the clothing business in Winnipeg, has purchased the bankrupt dry goods stock of John Faulkner of this place. The price paid at public auction was 66¢ on the \$. The business will be continued by the purchaser. The stock realized in the neighborhood of \$2,600.

THE Rapid City *Indicator* says:—Work on the woolen mill is being energetically pushed. In addition to the cleaning and spinning and knitting machinery, four Crompton looms are to be set up. The manufacture of flannels and tweeds will be an important item in the list of goods to be turned out.

THE Lieutenant Governor of the territories has refused to issue any more liquor permits for the Calgary district for three months, owing to the large illegal traffic in liquors going on at that place. It is thought the discontinuance of the permits will better enable the local authorities to cope with the unlawful traffic.

THE "Manitoba Oil Co." will apply for incorporation. The capital stock is placed at \$100,000, in shares of \$100 each. The applicants are James H. Ashdown, M. Howell, R. Allan, S. Shoare, of Winnipeg, W. Baker, of Portage la Prairie, John Crerar, T. Cuddy, George Barker, of Minnedosa, who are to be the first directors of the Company.

THE Duluth board of trade has memorialized the President against calling into force the retaliatory measure passed by Congress against this country, on account of the fishery difficulties. The memorial calls attention to the large international trade between the Northwestern states and Canada, and asks that the west be exempted from any restrictive trade measure.

MILLER, MORSE & Co, hardware dealers, Winnipeg, are preparing to commence in the course of a couple of weeks, the erection of a large wholesale warehouse on Princess street, near the corner of McDermot street. The building will be of brick, three stories high, of handsome design, and fitted with hydraulic elevators and all of the latest improvements and conveniences, making it one of the most complete in the city. It will be completed and occupied in time for the fall trade.

At Brandon a few loads of wheat find their way in, principally from those who have got through seeding and have more than they required. The price paid is from 50 to 53c per bushel. Oats are scarce and bring from 38 to 42c per bushel. Hay brings from \$12 to \$14 a ton; pressed, \$16 a ton. Potatoes scarce, 50 to 55c a bushel; butter scarce, and 25c a pound for good rolls is willingly paid. Eggs are very plentiful and it is hard work to get 10c a dozen cash for them at the stores.

J. H. BROWNSLEE, C.E., has prepared a railway and guide map of Manitoba, which far excels in general appearance and usefulness any map of this province heretofore issued. The location of the railways, rivers, etc., are accurately shown, as distinguished from the haphazard way which has characterized other publications. Grain elevators, warehouses, schools, churches, post offices and many other useful features are shown by the map. The Department of Agriculture have given an order for a large number of the maps.

THE *Chamber of Commerce Journal*, published by the London, England, Chamber of Commerce, has an article on "Home Defences," viewed from a commercial standpoint. The *Journal* points out that whilst other states have increased their armies enormously, Great Britain has done nothing to keep up with these powers. Even the navy, it is claimed, has been neglected, until it could not compete with the united forces of any two European powers. In case of a war with Russia, it is said that "our power of interference would be limited to the coast, and that the army would serve but as an auxiliary to the navy." If the navy is in the condition represented, it is certainly not upholding the tradition that the British maritime force should be superior to all comers. The *Journal* puts the matter in the light that the interests of the trading classes demand that the country should be put in a state of defence, and adds: "It is 'safe that we, who more than any other nation 'on earth, depend on others for our daily food, 'let alone our splendid commerce, should tolerate the existence of a doubt as to our power 'to defend our shores, and maintain the freedom of our communications? Is it not court-'ing disaster to offer the immense and almost 'defenceless booty of British commercial centres 'to the cupidity of foreign armies." Special reference is made to the desirability of rendering the home defences secure against military occupation by a foreign power, as in such a contingency a heavy ransom would have to be paid. In this connection it is urged that, as a matter of ordinary insurance, the national defences should be placed in an efficient condition. Reference is made to the ransom of one hundred and twenty millions demanded in the case of Paris, and the question is asked: "What would the probable ransom of London amount to?"

THE public accounts for the financial year ended June 30th, 1886, a statement of which has been presented to Parliament, are looked upon by the independent press of the Dominion as anything but satisfactory. It is shown by the returns that the net debt on the 1st of July last amounted to \$223,000,000 in round figures, against \$196,000,000 at the end of the previous financial year, or an increase of \$26,751,000. This is certainly an astounding increase in our indebtedness for a single year, and will make those unacquainted with the situation open their eyes in astonishment. This addition to the debt has been brought about mainly from two causes, namely, deficits and aids to railways. The last fiscal year shows a deficit of about \$5,500,000, which, with accumulated deficits from the previous year, brings the total up to about \$8,000,000. The railway expenditure of the year was very heavy. The C.P.R., of course, came in for the lion's share, receiving \$4,750,000, in addition to \$10,000,000 in lieu of lands, or a total of \$14,750,000. The Northern and Pacific Junction received something over one million, and the balance to make up a total of \$18,000,000 went to other railways. It must be borne in mind that though the net debt on the first of July last was \$223,000,000, there is still a further debt of \$50,000,000 to be added to the total liabilities, the latter amount being

deducted from the total as an offset against assets. The total expenditure for last year was in round numbers \$30,000,000, or an increase of \$4,000,000 over the previous year, against a total revenue of \$33,000,000. Of the expenditure \$3,000,000 was in payment of claims on account of the Saskatchewan troubles. For the present financial year the revenue has shown a gain over expenditure and it is thought that should the improvement continue, by the close of the year the surplus will be sufficient to wipe out the last deficit. It is to be hoped that such a desirable result may be attained.

WHILST we in Canada are clamoring for immigrants, the *London Chamber of Commerce Journal* finds reason for congratulation in the increase of emigration from that country in 1886 and the consequent loss of a larger proportion of the surplus population. Special cause for congratulation is also noted, owing to the fact that a larger proportion of the emigrants from Britain were foreign residents of that country. Of the total emigration for last year, 94,370 were foreign residents, or an increase of 75 per cent. over the figures of the previous year in this class of immigrants. The total number of emigrants of British and Irish origin was 232,900, or a gain of 12 per cent. over 1885. The foreign element are described as mainly belonging to the lower orders, "incapable of advancement," and "slaving for a miserable pittance to the detriment of healthy labor." Another point which is regarded with special favor by the British public, but which cannot be so considered by the receiving countries, is found in the fact that a large percentage of the aggregate emigration consisted of unskilled labor. Not only does Britain send out a large number of emigrants, but she also receives a considerable number of immigrants, last year the total of the latter amounting to 80,018. These are mostly Englishmen and Scotchmen, who return to their native country. It is significant that few Irish return. For 1886 the percentage of emigration to the total population of the United Kingdom was .42. Ireland continues to contribute a much larger number, in proportion to population, than the other political divisions of the United Kingdom, as will be shown by the following figures:—Ireland, percentage of emigration to population, 1.25; Scotland, do., .64; England and Wales, .52. The United States took 65.4 per cent. of the British emigrants; Australia came next, getting 22.3 per cent., and Canada third, with 11.5 per cent., the balance of 8 per cent. being distributed to other countries. Since 1853 it is estimated that 2,557,950 Irish emigrants have taken their departure from that country, out of a total of 6,088,640 from the United Kingdom. The United States received out of this number 2,096,448 Irish, 1,629,251 English, and 295,151 Scotch, or nearly two-thirds of the total. The last feature noted and one which is of the greatest interest to the receiving countries, is the occupation of the emigrants. Of 120,678 British and Irish emigrants during 1886, whose occupations were given, 28.37 per cent. were laborers; 12.48 per cent. were agricultural laborers, gardeners, carters, etc.; 9.85 per cent. gentlemen, merchants and professional men

6.01 per cent. mechanics; 5.60 per cent. farmers and graziers; with the balance distributed in a small percentage of stated trades, etc. Domestic servants numbered 16.91 per cent., but it is noted that a larger number of the female emigrants were classified: "Occupation not stated."

No class of individuals appreciate a good joke better than the knights of the grip, and if the joke falls upon a brother drummer, so much the better. Three or four good hearted, socially disposed commercial men will frequently make things lively for the whole community of a small country town, where they happen to be lingering for a short time. The drummer possesses the faculty in a large degree of adapting himself to circumstances, and under trying occasions life will be made enjoyable, if there are a few of these gentry around to perpetrate their pranks upon each other. Thus what would often prove a weary season, waiting for a stage or train at some out-of-the-way place, is often made enjoyable by the presence of a few drummers. A joke which caused a great deal of amusement to the fraternity gathered in the city last week, was perpetrated by a fur man from Montreal, upon an unsuspecting boot and shoe trader from the same hamlet. Like all commercial men, the boot and shoe man was desirous of making the acquaintance of some of Winnipeg's fair ones, to enable him to pass away the time more pleasantly during his sojourn in the city, and the fur man, having volunteered to introduce him to some ladies, at once set to work to keep his promise. The leather vendor had procured a sample room and chamber adjoining in a block where commercial men resort, and into these apartments the fur man managed to inveigle a couple of dusky natives of the feminine persuasion, during the absence of the temporary occupant. The shoe man was somewhat astonished to find his quarters occupied upon his return, and he at once concluded it would be necessary for his future comfort to get the intruders out without their being noticed. But this he found a difficult task, for the occupants of the block, who had been informed of the joke, had left their doors open and some of them would appear about the halls each time the drummer would make an attempt to get rid of his unwelcome guests. As the time drew near at which some customers were to look at his samples, his uneasiness noticeably increased, and after watching for about an hour without an opportunity of getting rid of his visitors unobserved, he was obliged to march them out, just in time to meet an unusually large number of persons in the hallway, including the landlord and wife, who had all along been silently enjoying his discomfiture and manoeuvres to get rid of his visitors. All the explanations of the unfortunate drummer were unavailing, and to escape further persecution he packed up and left for the west on the first train, deciding to leave the Winnipeg trade until his return.

THE Manitoba Northwestern Ry., will be extended ten miles from Lagenburg at once.

CLARKE & SUTHERLAND have purchased the stock of the Winnipeg Lumber Company from the banks holding the property.

Mr. A. A. AYER, butter and cheese exporter, of Montreal, who has been lately looking into the capabilities of Manitoba as a dairy country, is a firm believer in the creamery mode of butter-making. He shows that by the improved mode of manufacture, from four and a half to five pounds of butter can be manufactured from 100 pounds of milk, whilst by the old dairy system from three to three and a half pounds of butter is the usual return from 100 pounds of milk. Very rarely does the return exceed the larger amount. Besides the modern system turns out the butter speedily, of uniform quality and color, and in a manner that it can be readily placed upon the market. Mr. Ayer thinks that in this province, owing to the rich natural pastures, the milk would be made to yield the highest average of butter. He strongly urges the formation of companies among the farmers to introduce the creamery system of butter manufacture, and says there will be no trouble whatever about finding a profitable market, if the right quality is produced. He uses figures to show that the new modes are much more profitable than the old dairy systems. The advantage in establishing creameries, as against cheese factories, is that the former can be operated successfully with about one half the number of cows that would be required to make a cheese factory pay.

THE inter-state commerce law has now been in force ten days, and there is hardly an industry in the country which has not felt injurious effects from its enforcement. The first impression regarding it was that it would benefit the railroads chiefly, but present indications are that they will suffer very severely from its workings. Their general policy seems to have been to increase rates which were deemed too low, and leave other rates as they were. This has clogged the wheels of business, by stopping the movement of leading manufactures and products, while there has been no increase in volume in the less active lines of freight traffic. It is not to be expected that people will cease to use machinery, or stop eating flour or groceries, because such a law is in effect. There must come a general advance in prices and a readjustment of relative values, but nothing which can reasonably be expected in this line can have the effect of popularizing the law, or of making the diverse industries which it injuriously effects prosperous and profitable. There can be no doubt but that the next congress will repeal or greatly modify it, but meantime the country must suffer inestimable injury from its workings. —*Northwestern Miller.*

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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, MAY 3, 1887.

IRON PRODUCTION IN CANADA.

A deputation representing the Canadian iron manufacturing interests has waited upon the Minister of Finance, to urge further protection for this industry. Producers of pig iron are now protected by a duty of \$2.24 per gross ton of 2,240 lbs on the imported article, and further aid is provided by the granting of a bonus to the amount of \$1.68 per gross ton on the home production. Still these measures of protection have proved inadequate to the profitable production of pig iron in Canada, and a protective duty about as large as that imposed by the United States is asked for, which is in the neighborhood of \$7 per ton. A duty upon scrap iron, which is now admitted free, is also asked for, as it is claimed the scrap largely interferes with the demand for pig. Puddled bar iron is now admitted at a duty of 10 per cent, *ad valorem*, equivalent to about \$1.50 per ton, and this is also looked upon by the manufacturers as a discrimination. There is but one coke iron manufacturing establishment in Canada, that of the Londonderry iron works, in Nova Scotia. There are also charcoal furnaces at Three Rivers and Drummondville, Que., and an open hearth steel furnace at New Glasgow, N. S., besides several rolling mills for reworking scrap and puddled bars, etc. A list of about a dozen companies is given, who will establish furnaces if the Government grant the measure of protection asked for. Only a limited number of these companies could probably do a profitable business in Canada, with the present demand for iron and steel rails at about 200,000 tons annually, though of course with the extension of railways this demand will be gradually increasing. One of the proposed new companies mentioned in the list is the International Mining & Smelting Co., of Winnipeg. The reason assigned for the lack of success in the industry heretofore, is said to be owing to the fact that labor enters very largely into the cost of producing iron, rendering Canadian manufacturers unable to compete with British and continental producers. Undoubtedly Canada has vast resources in iron ore, and she has been frequently referred to as one of

the great iron-producing countries of the future, but the question of nearly doubling the duties upon imported iron for the purpose of immediately developing this industry, is one which will meet with strong opposition from consumers of iron in this country. However, a number of the leading Government and protectionist papers have taken sides with the iron manufacturers, and in keeping with the general policy of the Government, it would not be a matter of surprise should the producers succeed in obtaining a partial if not entire acquiescence in their demands.

WHEAT-GROWING IN MANITOBA.

Wheat growing in Canada, according to the *Quarterly Review*, is not a paying business, and that journal adds that, "British wheat-growers have no reason to fear Canadian competition." The *Review* says that in Ontario wheat-growing has not been remunerative for the past three years, and as a consequence rents have been reduced. The climate of Manitoba is declared to be "too arctic," though it is admitted that the "soil is very fertile."

After all that has been written regarding the great adaptability of Manitoba soil and climate to wheat-growing, and coming at a time when many in Great Britain are turning their attention towards this country, these utterances of the *Quarterly Review* will occasion general interest, and to many great disappointment. True, wheat-growing has not been a remarkably profitable industry during the past few years of greatly depressed values, but this is not more applicable to Canada than to other wheat-growing countries. Indeed, in spite of these great drawbacks to profitable wheat-culture, the area sowed to this cereal in Manitoba has been rapidly extended, year after year, and in 1887 will be about one-quarter greater than any previous year in the history of the country. Furthermore it can be safely asserted, that notwithstanding the low prices ruling for wheat during recent years, wheat-growing has been profitable in this country, as is shown by the steady and continuous extension of the area under cultivation. With so many other avenues open to farmers in this country, few would persist in annually extending their wheat acreage, were the industry entirely without profit. Investigation will show, however, that even during last year, with

less than an average crop, and with prices lower than at any period almost within the memory of the present generation, many farmers in Manitoba obtained fair profit from their season's operations. Taking wheat-growing countries as a whole, it is doubtful if any have felt the depression in values less severely than it has been felt in Manitoba, and this in the face of the fact that the majority of our farmers have been but a few years in the country, and hardly yet established in their new homes.

Wheat-growing, like all other industries, is subject to season's of depression, and during the past few years values for the leading cereal have been at a very low ebb. This depression has been so great that undoubtedly wheat-growing has been rendered entirely unprofitable in some countries. This is notably the case in Great Britain, where the farmers, handicapped with heavy rents and other expenses, have been driven to sore straits in their competition with the freeholders of the American continent. Likewise in America, the rapid extension of the wheat area over the virgin soil of the north-central and north-western portions of the continent, has operated as a check upon wheat-growing in the eastern and older settled portions. Thus it will be found that in the United States during the past few years, whilst the wheat acreage in the Northwest has increased by leaps and bounds, in the eastern states the acreage sowed to wheat has actually fallen away. What is true of the United States is in a measure also true of Canada. The decline in values and the growing competition from the west, has injured the wheat-growing interests of the east, and consequently this industry has not kept pace with the development of the country in other directions. But it is manifestly absurd to state that Canada is not a wheat-growing country, because the rapid extension of the wheat area in the west, together with the growing competition from other countries, has caused over-production and depression in values, thus checking the industry in the older settled provinces. The *Quarterly Review* might as well state that "British wheat-growers have no reason to fear the competition of the United States," for the conditions are the same in each instance. The *Review* might add that Great Britain is not adapted to agriculture, because the area of cultivated land has decreased of late years.

As the comments of the *Quarterly Review* are directed particularly against Manitoba, it will be in place to take a glance at the progress of wheat growing in this province. Wheat-exportation from Manitoba may be said to have commenced with the crop of 1882, the crop of the previous year having been all required for home consumption at a price considerably above an export basis. In three years from the date named we find that Manitoba produced and exported a surplus of fully 5,000,000 bushels of wheat and flour equivalent to wheat, as shown by the report of the grain examiners for the last crop year, ending July, 1886.

This is certainly a remarkable showing for a new province, with a total population (excluding Indians) of less than 100,000 souls, and scarcely yet brought into communication with the markets of the world. Within three years from the date of the commencement of exportation, and with great disadvantages in the way of transportation, this province exported a surplus of wheat amounting to over fifty bushels each for every man, woman and child in the country. The progress which has been made in the flour-milling industry will bear out the statements regarding wheat-growing. The first new process flour mill in the Canadian Northwest was established in Winnipeg in 1882. There are now twenty-five or more of these mills in the country, and others in course of erection. What more will the British public require to prove that Manitoba is a wheat-growing country, the *Quarterly Review* to the contrary notwithstanding? The quality of Manitoba wheat requires no defence. Wherever it goes it speaks for itself, and only a comparison is necessary to show its superiority over all competitors. It may not be amiss to state, however, that Messrs. Dunlop Bros., grain merchants of London, England, in a recent circular speak as follows: "It should be noted that the finest wheat of the year was received from the rising territory of Manitoba."

The progress made by Manitoba in the immediate past bids fair to be continued in the future, and even at a more rapid rate of advancement. With a favorable crop for the present season, we will have 8,000,000 or 9,000,000 bushels for export next fall from the yet sparsely settled province of Manitoba alone. The Canadian Northwest is bound to assert its supremacy as a wheat-growing country,

and with the population to till the virgin soil, and the additional facilities for reaching the world's markets which will and are now being provided, this country will produce a surplus of wheat sufficient to supply Great Britain with all her foreign requirements.

THE DISALLOWANCE SITUATION.

Like a pot on an irregularly fed fire, the disallowance question in Manitoba has during the past few years had its boiling and its simmering turns alternately. Until very recently the pot's contents embraced the liquid matter which kept boiling furiously on the surface, while the dense and solid matter lay comparatively immovable at the bottom. But steady boiling and simmering has gradually assimilated these contents, and at the present moment from bottom to surface is one bubbling mass, while the fires which support it, seem fanned into fury. Such has been the growth of public opinion, and now that the long-wished-for feeling of unanimity on this question has been reached, it remains to be seen what this unanimity will accomplish for us.

Notwithstanding the many promises made, and the hopes held out by the member for Winnipeg and his friends during the late election campaign, the fact still stands out clear and undisputed, that up to the present moment Sir John's Government are in no way committed to any relaxation of their policy of monopoly in this province. Although Mr. Scarth's "positive assurances," which he boasted of having in his various "letters from Sir John," led him and his campaign managers to plaster Winnipeg with posters, telling the electors that by voting for Mr. Scarth disallowance would be removed, there is still not a vestige of proof that such an announcement was else than a deliberately circulated falsehood on the part of the member for Winnipeg and his friends. It may be, however, that the gushing member during the enthusiasm of his canvass deemed himself tactician enough to mould Sir John to his own opinions, and that now he finds the moulding process tough work, and anything but impressive upon the wily old politician. Political, like other monomaniacs, get some queer ideas into their minds, and we know of no member of the Dominion Parliament more entitled to a place with such a class than our Winnipeg representative.

For some time after the opening of the

parliamentary session Mr. Scarth seems to have been strong in the opinion that he was able to accomplish Manitoba's liberation single handed, and that deputations from this province to Ottawa would only mar the great work he was engaged on. A change has come over the spirit of his dreams, and he is now willing if not anxious to receive an influential deputation of Manitoba citizens. An organization called the "Manitoba anti-disallowance league," composed mainly of admirers of Mr. Scarth and worshippers of Sir John, have promptly responded and sent a deputation, while the Winnipeg board of trade has joined in by sending its president, and the Winnipeg city council has also dropped into line. Whether this deputation will accomplish any good for the province, or get treated in the manner so ably and not untruthfully burlesqued recently by the Ottawa correspondent of the *Montreal Herald*, remains to be seen.

The delegation now sent from Winnipeg must face a yet unbroken work when they reach Ottawa. They must use their powers of argument to change the declared policy of a Government, and rumor has it, a policy the changing of which will not fail to affect financially men closely linked with, if not within the Government. Whether they will accomplish this or not can be easily answered by that portion of the electors of Manitoba, who expressed their opposition to disallowance at the ballot boxes by voting against the Government which persisted in upholding it, and answered in the negative. The majority who favored the coaxing policy of trying to get clear of monopoly no doubt think differently, and are hopeful about the influence of the deputation, and use at least one sound argument in favor of hope, namely, that for the first time in the history of Manitoba party spirit is lost in one united and earnest demand for freedom from railway monopoly. Let us hope that this latter class will have their best hopes realized.

But should our delegates fail to favorably impress the Dominion Government, we shall be obliged to once more fall back upon the member for Winnipeg as our champion, in forwarding an object in which he himself has no faith. Some people are very skeptical about his power to accomplish anything for us. But they should remember what Samson accomplished single handed with the jaw-bone of an ass, and there are those who say that our Winnipeg representative is an adept in the use of the same weapon.

First-class in every Respect.
Appointments Perfect.
Graduated Prices.



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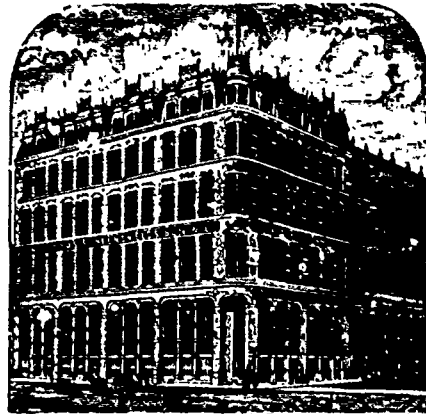
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Are now receiving and opening large shipments of
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EMBROIDERIES, DRESS GOODS,
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A visit from our Manitoba Friends when in this
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93 St. Peter St., MONTREAL,
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WHOLESALE SHELF HARDWARE,

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Complete Set of Samples with

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stones, Mantle Pieces, Grates, &c. Special designs fur-
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WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET

There is still a good deal of uncertainty in the situation, and matters were not flourishing. Last week being the close of the month, a closer period was expected, and it was generally felt in that way. Money was not in free circulation by any means, and wholesalers were generally inclined to grumble at the way in which remittances from the country were coming forward. The city was also quiet, though perhaps a shade better. Though the season is so well advanced, nothing has been yet commenced in the way of railway building or other extensive works, and this has a tendency to cause closeness. In the city considerable building is going on, but not enough to greatly effect the circulation of cash. In the country the farmers are all busy with spring work, and business from that quarter is consequently reduced to its lowest ebb.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE

Last week was a quiet one in wholesale circles. All around there was not much signs of activity, though a few lines would give exception to the rule. But whilst a slight improvement might have occurred in some lines, many others were even slower than a week or two ago. The season is undoubtedly backward, in comparison with former years, and though a brisk trade may yet be done, yet many dealers seem to have concluded that a quiet summer is before the wholesale trade. Money is close and retailers show little inclination to purchase on future prospects. In this they are encouraged by many wholesalers, who would prefer to have goods in their warehouses, than force large stocks upon retailers. The only prospect for improvement before another crop is harvested, is in the prosecution of railroad building and other large undertakings of a similar nature, but in this direction little or nothing has yet been done. The present dulness has no doubt been heightened by the busy season among the farmers, and when this is over some improvement is looked for.

BOOTS AND SHOES

Extreme dulness is the only characteristic of this trade. The past week is described as one of the quietest on record. The country trade has fallen off to almost nothing, and the city was also decidedly slow. The entire season has been backward in this branch since the time when spring sorting business should have commenced. The outlook is not encouraging, and unless a change sets in soon, the summer sorting trade for 1887 will make a poor showing.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE

Business in this branch last week, like most other lines, could best be described by the word quiet. Only a moderate trade was doing, and so far this season at no time has business been brisk. It is now time that a more active movement should be enjoyed, if the spring trade is to amount to much.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS

Quotations show but slight change, as follows: Howard's quinine, 90c to \$1; German quinine, 70c to 80c; opium, \$4 to \$4.50; morphia, \$2 to \$2.50; iodine, \$4.25 to \$4.50; bromide potassium, 65 to 75c; American camphor, 40 to 45c; English camphor, 45 to 50c; glycerine, 30 to 40c; tartaric acid, 70 to 75c; cream of tartar,

35 to 40c; bleaching powder, per keg, \$8 to \$10; bicarb soda, \$4.50 to \$5; sal soda, \$2.25 to \$2.50; soda ash, \$3 to \$3.25; chlorate potash, 25 to 30c; alum, \$3 to \$3.75; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur, flour, \$4 to \$4.50; sulphur, roll, \$4 to \$5.25; American blue vitrol, 6 to 8c.

DRY GOODS

This leading branch was influenced by the most prominent feature of the week, namely, quietness. The regular spring sorting trade has not yet reached a state of even moderate activity, and the season is described as backward in comparison with other years. Travelers are now taking a rest, but will go on the road again in a week or so. Altogether the situation is not to be described as flourishing. The clothing line was quiet and steady.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALL WARES

In this line there was a quiet feeling, extending to both staple and fancy departments, without features of special importance in any direction.

FRUITS—GREEN, VEGETABLES, ETC.

There is nothing new in the market, and prices for old lines are unchanged as follows: Good apples are worth from \$6 to \$7 per barrel; Messina oranges, 200 count \$5.50 to \$6.50 per box; Sorrento oranges fine, \$5 to \$5.50 box; California Washington oranges, \$6.50 box; Targereus, \$6.50 box; Messina lemons, \$6.50 box; bananas, \$4 to \$7 per bunch; pineapples, \$6 dozen; tomatoes, \$3.00 to \$6.00 per box, the latter price for three-peck boxes; rhubarb, 10c pound; Southern red and yellow onions, \$5.00 per 100 lbs; apple cider, \$10 per barrel.

FRUITS—DRIED, AND NUTS.

Evaporated apples are higher in sympathy with eastern markets. Prices are: Figs, Turkey, in boxes, 10 to 11c, new Elme figs, in layers, 15 to 18c per lb, in one lb. to ten lb. boxes; Golden dates, 10c; Valencia raisins, \$2.40 to \$2.50; London layers, \$3.50; evaporated apples, 14½ to 15c; dried apples, 7½ to 8c; new Turkey prunes, 7½ to 9c. Nuts are quoted: Peanuts, roasted, 18c; peanuts, raw, 15c; walnuts, 20c; almonds, 20c; filberts, 15c; Texas pecans, 18c; cocoanuts, \$12.50 per 100; maple syrup, \$1.30 per gallon, in 5 gallon tins, or \$1.25 in 15 gallon kegs; maple sugar 10 to 14c per pound, according to quality.

GROCERIES

Sugars are strong, owing to advances at refineries. Coffees are also firm and higher. Quotations here are now as follows: yellow sugar 6½c to 7c; granulated 7½c; lump sugar, 8½c to 9c; Coffees, Rios, 21 to 22c; Government Java, 33 to 35c, other Javas, 25 to 30c; Mochas, 31 to 35c. New season's teas are now quoted as follows: Japan season 1886-7, 20 to 45c; Congous, 1886-7, 20 to 60c; Indian teas, 35 to 50c. Old range Moyune gunpowder, 25 to 70c; panfired Japan 23 to 45c, basket-fired, 25 to 40c; Ping Sacy young hyson, 25 to 35c; Moyune young hyson, 25 to 50c; Season's congous, 1885-6, 20 to 55c. Syrups, corn \$2.25 to \$2.60; sugar, cane, \$2.10 to \$2.35; T. and B. tobacco, 56c per pound.

CANNED GOODS

Prices steady as last reported, as follows, per dozen: Salmon, \$1.70, mackerel, \$1.50, lobsters \$1.87, sardines (french) ½ tins, \$1.70, ¼ tins \$2.90, cove oysters, \$3; corn, \$1.65, peas \$2.00, toma-

toes \$2.00, baked beans \$2.75, corned beef \$3 to \$3.25, lunch tongues, 2 lbs. \$7.00; 1 lb, \$3.50. Fruit in 2 lb. tins, are quoted: pears, \$2.50 to \$2.75, strawberries, \$2.60 to \$2.75; plums, \$2.25 to \$2.50, peaches, \$3.75.

HIDES

Prices here are as follows: Winnipeg inspection, No. 1, 6c; No. 2, 5c; bulls, 4c; calf, fine-haired real veal, 7 to 13 pound skins, No. 1, 8c; No. 2, 6c; sheep pelts, 30 to 65c; tallow, 3½ to 4c.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS

Prices are: Spanish sole, 28 to 32c; slaughter-sole, 32 to 35c; French calf, first choice \$1.35 to \$1.50; Canadian calf, 90c to \$1.00; French kip, \$1 to \$1.10; B Z kip, 85 to 90c; slaughter kip, 55 to 75c; No 1, wax upper, 45 to 50c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, 33 to 35c for plump stock. American oak sole, 45 to 60c; buffe, 17 to 22c a foot; cordovan, 25 to 27c pebble, 21 to 23c; colored linings 12.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS

Turpentine remains firm at the recent advance. The other prices remain unchanged as follows: Turpentine, 80c in five-gallon cans, or 75c in barrels; harness oil, \$1.25; nestsfoot oil, \$1.50; linseed oil, raw, 68c per gal.; boiled, 71c in barrels or 5c advance in five-gallon lots; seal oil, seam refined, \$1.00; castor, 12½c per lb; lard, No. 1, \$1.25 per gal; olive oil, pure, \$1.50; union salad, \$1.25; machine oils, black 25 to 40c; oleine, 40c; fine qualities, 50 to 75c. Coal oils, silver star, 26c; headlight, 28c; water white, 30c; American oils, Eocene, 35c; water white, 33c; sunlight, 29c. Calcined plaster, \$3.75 per bbl; Portland cement, \$5 to \$5.50; white lead, genuine, \$7.00; No. 1 \$6.50; No. 2 \$6.00; window glass, first break, \$2.25.

WINES AND SPIRITS

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

THE MARKETS

WINNIPEG

WHEAT

The weather has continued very favorable during the past week for seeding, and light, warm rains have assisted vegetation. Grain markets, including wheat, are of course at a standstill, and there is simply nothing new to report in this cereal.

FLOUR.

The city mills have been grinding steadily during the week. The situation in flour has not improved either here or in the east, and the outlook is not particularly encouraging. Prices to the local trade remain unchanged as follows: patents, \$2.25; strong bakers', \$1.80; XXXX, \$1.20 to \$1.30; superfine, \$1.

MILLSTUFFS

The feeling has been easier and prices have declined, prices dropping \$2 per ton on Wed.

wednesday. Bran is now quoted at \$12 per ton and shorts at \$14 per ton.

OATS

Quiet and steady, with the range of prices varying from 43 to 45c for cars on track, according to quality.

OATMEAL

Prices hold steady at \$2.60 for standard and \$2.75 for granulated, in trade lots.

EGGS.

Eggs have held at 15c steadily since our last report, though in some instances a few odd cases have sold at 16c. The supply has been limited, and has not been up to the demand at any time during the week.

BUTTER

Matters have continued in much the same state as at the time of our last report. A limited supply of new rolls have been received, and when of good quality have brought 20c; fairly good rolls sold at 18c; new tubs would bring about the same as rolls, though scarcely any have been offered. There is still a large supply of old butter in store, and dealers find it increasingly hard to make sales of this, as very little is of really good quality. Sales of tubs picked from stocks have been made at all the way from 14 to 17c. A good deal of the stuff now in stock would be sold at less than quotations, ranging from 10 to 14c, and one dealer quoted from 5 to 18c, as the range for stocks of old. Of course anything offered under 12 to 14c is not worth much as butter.

CHEESE

Manitoba cheese is entirely out of the market, and Ontario cheese is in small supply and held at 16c in small lots. It is a fact worthy of note that Manitoba cheese, if it could be had, would bring from 1/2 to 1c more than eastern cheese, owing to superior quality and richness. When first the manufacture of home cheese was commenced, the product was received with a good deal of suspicion, and in some instances dealers were afraid to handle it. Now, however, that the article has fairly been tested by the trade, a decided preference is shown for the home product. This feeling occurring so early in the history of Manitoba cheese products, speak well for the future of this province as a cheese-producing district.

CURED MEATS

Already stocks of cured hog products have been considerably reduced, and no packing is at present being done, no hogs being available for this purpose. Prices are strong, with a probability of an advance when summer packing commences. Chicago hams may be had in limited quantities at 15c. Prices are as follows: Long-clear, in lots of under 500 sides, 10c; over 500 sides 9 3/4c; breakfast bacon, clear, 12c; breakfast bacon, unclear, 11c; spiced rolls, 11c; hams, 13 1/2c; Chicago mess pork, \$19 to \$20 per barrel; mess beef \$16 per bbl, in barrel lots; best pork sausage, 8c.

DRESSED MEATS.

Pork holds firm at 8c, at which price it is taken by the city butchers. Other meats are unchanged at prices last quoted.

LARD

Firm at the late advance, as follows: \$2.25 per pail of 20 pounds. Three-pound pails, 43c; five-pound pails, 65c each.

POULTRY.

Fresh chickens bring 75c per pair. Refrigerator-kept turkeys and geese are in the market and held at 10 to 12 1/2c for geese and 15 to 18c for turkeys.

POTATOES.

There is a good demand, with considerable difficulty in securing supplies. Cars would bring \$0 to \$5c, and broken lots have sold as high as 90c.

HAY

There is any quantity of hay to be had, and car lots of pressed have been easier. Lots for western shipment may be had f.o.c. at from \$6 to \$10 per ton. Only choice upland, cut

green, would bring the higher price, very little of which can be had, and \$0 to \$8 would be a better range of quotation for ordinary pressed hay. One car of slightly damaged sold at \$4 per ton.

LIVE STOCK.

Good beef cattle are firm in price, and would bring 4 1/2c for good average lots off cars. Good hogs would readily bring 5c.

Dairy Matters.

The seasons operations commenced at the Manitoba Cheese Factory on Monday last.

A building for a cheese factory is being erected at Crystal City. Operations will be commenced about the middle of the month.

Personal.

Mr. W. J. Mitchell, wholesale druggist, Winnipeg, has returned from Ontario.

Mr. W. T. Hofferiman, representing E. A. Small & Co., wholesale clothing, Montreal, was in the city last week.

MR. HARRY BENTLEY, of H. Bentley & Co, merchants, Lethbridge, Alberta, was in the city last week, on his way east.

British Columbia.

H. Morris, dealer in boots and shoes, Victoria, B.C., is dead.

J. Copeland, general storekeeper, Donald, B.C., offers to dispose of his business.

Gutman & Frank, gunsmiths, Victoria, B.C., J. Gutman of this firm reported drowned.

A. Ofner, groceries and liquors, Victoria, B. C., has sold out to Angus & Gordon.

Osterout & Prout, hotelkeepers, Victoria, B. C., have dissolved partnership; business continued by W. E. Osterout.

Geo. Hayes and Wm. A. McIntosh, have opened a meat business at Vancouver, under the style of Hayes & McIntosh.

A by-law to exempt the 100 acre tract of the Canadian Pacific railway from taxation for 30 years will be placed before the ratepayers of Vancouver for their approval, on Tuesday 17th inst.

Grain and Milling News.

The new mill at Rapid City, Man., was put into operation last week, and was found to work satisfactorily.

The settlers in the Glenora district, Turtle Mountain, are agitating for a roller flour mill, and a bonus by-law may be submitted.

It is estimated that 200,000 bushels of grain were marketed at Manitou the past season. About 55,000 bushels are still in store at that place.

George Morton, merchant and grain dealer, Boissevain, has a scheme on foot to convert a warehouse owned by him, into a steam elevator.

The farmers about Portage la Prairie interested in the elevator scheme, give notice in the last Manitoba Gazette of application for letters patent constituting them a body corporate under the name of the Portage Farmers' Elevator Co. (Limited). The capital stock is placed at \$12,000.

McKay's elevator, eight miles south of Brandon, was destroyed by fire last week. The building was insured for \$2,700; loss estimated at \$5,000.

The farmers in the vicinity of Wapella, Assa., have subscribed \$1,000 as a bonus in aid of the establishment of a roller flour mill at that place, to be of not less than 25 bbl capacity.

A public meeting was lately held at Killarney, Man., in the interest of securing a roller flour mill at that place. It is proposed to request the council of Turtle Mountain, in which municipality Killarney is situated, to submit a bonus by-law in aid of the project.

A protest has been entered against the flour mill bonus, passed at High Bluff, Man., and the by-law will probably be invalidated. The objections raised are, that the terms of the petition and by-law were different, and that the by-law did not receive three-fifths of the resident votes, as required by law.

The British Indian wheat crop of 1885-86 was 258,333,081 bushels from 27,392,792 acres area, and 302,000,000 bushels in 1884-85. The crop of 1886-87, just harvested, indicates an output of about 231,000,000 bushels. The exports from India in 1886 were 43,160,000 bushels of wheat, which about exhausted the reserves and the crop of 1885-86. On this basis it is not probable that the exports to the end of March 31, 1888, will exceed 30,000,000 bushels, and may not be much more than 25,000,000 bushels.

The New Insolvency Act.

The following is a brief summary of new Insolvency Act, lately brought into force in Manitoba: Section 2 provides that all gifts, conveyances, etc., with intent to "defeat, delay or prejudice" creditors, or to give any one of them a preference over others shall be void as against them; except any payment of money to a creditor, unless an assignment for the general benefit of creditors is made within one month after the payment. Section 5 provides that if an assignor owes debts both individually and as a member of a partnership, "the claim shall rank first upon the estate by which the debts they represent were contracted, and shall duly rank upon the other after all the credit of those have been paid in full." Section 6 empowers a majority of the creditors who have proved claims to the amount of \$25 or upwards "to substitute any other person for the assignee appointed by the assignment." A judge of the Court of Queen's Bench or the County Court is given similar powers. If the superseded assignee refuses to execute the necessary transfers, the court has power to order an officer to execute them for him. Section 7 provides that if any creditor thinks that some proceedings ought to be taken for the benefit of the estate, and the trustee, under the authority of the creditors or inspectors, refuses or neglects to take that proceeding, he may apply to a judge for leave to take such proceedings at his own expense and in the name of the trustee, and the judge may grant, refuse or vary the order asked for. Section 8 provides that if the person to whom effects have been illegally assigned should have sold the effects, the money or other proceeds which he has received for them can be seized or recovered. Section 10 provides that the re-

muneration of the assignee shall be fixed for him by the inspectors when the creditors fail to make provisions, subject to revision by the judge of the county court on complaint being made by the assignee or any of the creditors. Section 11 exempts assignments for the general benefit of creditors from the operation of "The chattel mortgage act," and requires that notice of assignment must be published in the *Manitoba Gazette* and another paper in the judicial district. Section 15 requires the assignee to call a full meeting of the creditors within ten days of the assignment for the appointment of inspectors and the giving of directions for the disposal of the estate.

What is Cost?

We hear constantly of the cost of an article, that such a grocer is selling it at cost or such another one is able to make ends meet by selling at a small percentage over cost. The question to which we shall give a moment's attention is, What is this cost? If a retailer sells sugar at the exact price per pound at which he bought it is he selling at cost? No, he is in reality selling below it. We will say nothing of the inevitable loss in the breaking up for customers of large packages, for every one knows that a barrel of sugar or tub of butter, if cut up into single pounds, will never equal the invoice weight. In addition to this every barrel of sugar and every article of canned fruit or vegetables should bear its share of the general expenses of the store, the rent, the clerk hire, etc. Thus "cost" to the grocer means not the purchase price, but that price increased by its share of the expenses. What that percentage is can be easily ascertained by dividing the amount of the yearly expenses by the yearly purchases. Then when wishing to know the real cost of any article add this percentage of itself to the purchase price. It is only after doing this that you can really speak of profit.—*American Grocer*.

Milling Progress.

In tracing the progress of milling for the past century, because no progress of any kind has been made in the art from the earliest period up to about a century or so ago, we will be as brief as possible. As science and the mechanical arts advanced people sought more luxurious food, and while in the early ages men were satisfied with only grinding their grain, in course of time they desired the separation of the meal from the bran, and bolting of some kind was introduced. One of the first devices for this purpose was a sieve moved round by the hand, and was generally done at a separate establishment from the mill and at some distance from it.

The method of using a sieve in the form of an extended bag, which was attached to the machinery in such a manner that the meal might fall into it as it came from the stones, and of causing it to turn and be shaken by the machinery, was first made known about the middle of the sixteenth century.

This invention was the forerunner of the bolting-cloth, which was first made of wool spun to a fine equal thread, and was first prepared by being scalded in hot water to prevent shrinking.

The web was also stiffened by some kind of sizing to prevent clogging. It was not until the beginning of the present century, however, that silk cloth was introduced. Both wool and wire were used for bolting purposes for a long time in England after the introduction of silk.

The economical milling of the French has been known in Germany since the beginning of seventeenth century. The art was substantially high grinding, putting the meal or grits through several times, and afterward purifying it.

This practice was forbidden in Paris about the end of the sixteenth century, as being prejudicial to health, but the following was the real cause of the prohibition.

A heavy tax was demanded for all the meal brought to Paris, and after a short time the people found a method of defrauding the government, and many sent not meal but bran abounding in meal, which they caused to be ground and sifted there, and by this means acquired no small gain.

When the tax was abolished an end was put to this deception, which would otherwise have brought the system much sooner to perfection. The attempt, however, to separate the meal from the bran was found to be successful and soon became a common practice.

Down to the end of the eighteenth century there was no further advance made in milling, until Oliver Evans, a native of Newport, Del., commenced those series of improvements in the construction of machinery and appurtenances of mills, which completed a perfect revolution in the manufacture of flour. So great has been the influence those improvements exerted that the following tribute was paid him by the late Henry C. Carey: "Wherever the mill resounds with the hum of industry, whether grinding flour on his native Schuylkill or cutting logs in Oregon, there do you find a monument to the memory of Oliver Evans."

The next advance made in milling, which ultimately resulted in high grinding, was in the neighborhood of Vienna, in the early part of the present century. The wheat was broken and the coarser parts were separated by agitation in tubs having sieves across the bottom. The bran worked to the surface because of its lightness, and was from time to time separated by means of a little shovel, leaving at the bottom coarser fragments, consisting of gluten, with more or less of the adhering outer coats of the bran.

This was assorted by means of hand sieves and constituted the article known as Vienna grits, the demand for which suggested the idea of coarser grinding, which was the first step taken in the art of high milling. This art was brought to a greater degree of perfection in 1810, by one Isaac Paur. He made the experiment of grinding again the separate grits, and obtained what he called extract flour, the demand for which became so great that, to be able to meet the numerous orders that poured in on him, hand-sifting had to be abandoned. Paur made several experiments in the direction of a device to supersede the hand sieve, and in association with a cabinet maker named Winter, the first purifier was manufactured in Europe, but it remained for an American, Mr. George T. Smith, to put the stamp of perfection on it and take it outside the domain of hypothesis by

making it practical and within the reach of everyone, and thus make further milling progress possible.

Roller milling, in a more or less rude way, has been practiced in Europe for a long time. Harlitt, an author of a work on husbandry, published in London in 1651, recommends roller milling, and Mortimer, another authority, who wrote in 1751, is more explicit, as he describes two plans of roller milling. The first English patent on roller milling was granted in 1753 to Isaac Wilkinson, and is described as being designed for grinding malt or any other kind of grain. Since that time several more practical roller mills were patented in Europe and here, the history of which is most decidedly in favor of roller milling, and its future is hopeful in every respect. Glyn, in his work on the power of water, mentions roller mills as being in use in England and France previous to 1850, and describes their operation.

It is delightful to look back from the height of improvement upon which we now stand and observe how we have kept pace with the times in our progress toward perfection in milling. Our minds are placed by this means on the track of invention, from which we may perceive the inflections, as it were, of those circumstances which generated improvement, and learn by analogy to discover any hidden paths which may lead us upward and onward to still further progress in the art and science of milling.—*American Mail and Export Journal*.

Boot and Shoe Profits.

Notwithstanding the general statement by the trade that prices are cut exceedingly close, and that eight per cent is about the average profit made on goods, it is well known that there are pronounced exceptions, and that certain houses are making large fortunes in the business. If the tree is to be "known by its fruit" we might point to the business of one large house down by the river as an illustration of the point. A brother who bought out the plant of Pinkerton & Co., and is continuing the business of the defunct firm, drew recently from the house which he entered with little or no capital some five years ago, the sum of \$25,000 cash, and this over and above the amount of his annual drawings during his partnership.—*Montreal Journal of Commerce*.

MR. HENRY W. DARLING, retiring president of the Toronto Board of Trade, has been entertained at a banquet in his honor, which is described as the largest and most influential commercial assembly ever held in the Dominion. We have already referred to the high position which Mr. Darling holds in the commercial circles of Canada, and some at least of the members of Chambers of Commerce in this country have reason to know his many abilities. In his speech at the banquet referred to, Mr. Darling dwelt eloquently upon the life and aims of a Canadian merchant, his address being characterized as a "worthy expression of the high ideal that should animate mercantile men." We can only regret that it is possible to reproduce at length Mr. Darling's remarks, which in every way deserve the description given of them. To give an extract only would convey no idea of the tone of the speech, permeated as it was by the necessity for the Canadian standard of probity and honor to equal that of the traditional British merchant, and insisting above everything upon commercial honesty and straightforwardness.—*London, England, Chamber of Commerce Journal*.

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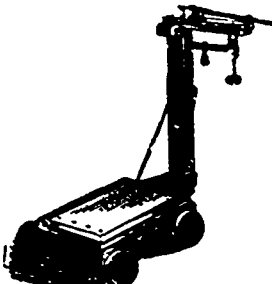
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EASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO

The report presented on Monday showed that the visible supply of wheat had decreased 1,935,000 bushels for the previous week. Exports from the Atlantic ports for the same time were 2,654,000 bushels. A fairly large volume of business was transacted in wheat. May opened at 84½c, which was the lowest price of the day; 85½c was the top reached. Provisions were very steady. Closing prices were:

	April.	May
Wheat	84½	84½
Corn	33½	38½
Oats	27½	29½
Pork	20.50	20.75
Lard	7.10	7.10
Short Ribs	7.80	7.80

Wheat was speculatively weaker on Tuesday. A sharp advance in Paris flour, and strong English markets, were reported by cable. New York advices were that a splendid export demand had developed at the seaboard, while lake clearances aggregating about 1,250,000 bushels for yesterday prove indisputably that the movement toward tidewater has commenced in earnest. Outside news being bullish, buying started actively and May advanced to 85½c, but heavy offerings soon put prices down about 1c, 84½c being the lowest point reached. Closing prices were:

	April	May
Wheat	83½	84½
Corn	33½	38½
Oats	27½	29½
Pork	20.50	20.75
Lard	7.05	7.05
Short Ribs	7.75	7.75

May wheat broke sharply under large offerings on Wednesday. The crowd became panic-stricken, and prices slid down to 82c, with offerings even as low as 81½c. June held up fairly well, only declining to 82½c, with heavy buying by brokers of that option. Provisions were weak. Lard sold down 15c, and ribs 17½ to 20c. Closing prices were:

	April	May
Wheat	81½	82
Corn	37½	38
Oats	26½	27½
Pork	20.50	20.75
Lard	6.85	6.85
Short Ribs	7.50	7.50

On Thursday the wheat market was easier, especially for May, and the difference between that option and June widened. Outstanding trades in May were closed up to a considerable extent and transferred to later months. May opened at 81½c and fluctuated between 81½ and 81c. June ranged from 82½ to 83c, closing at 82½c. Provisions were active, with the exception of pork. Closing prices were:

	April	May
Wheat	80½	81
Corn	37½	37½
Oats	26½	27½
Pork	20.50	20.75
Lard	6.95	6.95
Short Ribs	7.55	7.55

On Friday the difference between May and June options widened to 1½ to 2c. Enormous quantities were changed over to the latter month. It is said that bankers refused to advance the funds necessary to carry the clique through. May opened at 80½c and only reached

one point below that price. The close was at the top. June closed at 83½c. Provisions experienced a sharp advance. Pork advanced speculatively to \$22 for cash, April, May and June at the same quotation. Closing prices were:

	April	May
Wheat	80½	81½
Corn	37½	37½
Oats	26½	27
Pork	22.00	22.00
Lard	7.05	7.05
Short Ribs	7.72½	7.72½

On Saturday wheat advanced at the opening, but fell back before the close. May reached 81½c, and June 83½c as the top prices of the day. June closed at 83½c, July at 83½. Provisions were weaker and unsettled. Closing prices were:

	April	May
Wheat	80½	80½
Corn	36½	37½
Oats	26½	26½
Pork	22.50	22.50
Lard	6.90	6.90
Short Ribs	7.55	7.55

MINNEAPOLIS.

There has been more strength in the local market since Monday, than for some weeks past, and a steady advance has been recorded, partly because of a more bullish feeling, and partly in sympathy with Chicago. Shippers report an improving demand from outside mills and the sample tables are well cleared every day.—*Northwestern Miller*, April 27.

On the local board there was a fair activity among buyers of sample wheat for grinding, but the dealings in futures were light. Offerings on the sample tables fair but much of the wheat displayed graded too low for the millers, who were buying chiefly the harder varieties.

WHEAT—Demand for hard and 1 northern was fair but at a lower range of prices. Low grades were hard to move.

No. 1 hard was quoted at 77½c for cash, or April, 77½c May and 78½c June, in store, and 78c on track.

No. 1 northern in store was quoted at 75½c for cash or April, 75½c May and 77c June, and 77c on track.

No. 2 northern in store 73½c for cash or April, 73½c May and 76½c June, and 73 to 75c on track.

FLOUR—There is a fair inquiry for current consumption and not a few contracts are made for delivery at a future date. Prices were:

Patent sacks to local dealers, \$4.10 to \$4.20; patent, to ship sacks, car lots, \$4.00 to \$4.20; in barrels, \$4.15 to \$4.30; bakers', \$3.40 to \$3.50; superfine, \$1.50 to \$2.25; red dog, sacks, \$1.15 to \$1.25; red dog, barrels, \$1.40 to \$1.50.—*Market Record*, April 30th.

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET

The principal business at the commencement of the week was in transferring May to June. Trading was active on Tuesday, principally in outside orders, operators having realized that Duluth was lower proportionately than other markets. However, there was plenty of property to be had, and this feature prevented any heavy advance in prices. Outside orders continued large on Wednesday, and the market

only responded to the 2c break at Chicago by a decline of ½c, advancing ¼c later. Heavy selling orders broke prices on Thursday.

Closing prices on each day of the week for No. 1 hard were:

	Cash	May	June
Monday	—	78½	80½
Tuesday	—	79½	81½
Wednesday	—	79½	81½
Thursday	—	79½	80½
Friday	—	78½	—
Saturday	—	78½	—

TORONTO.

WHEAT

The demand was somewhat better at the commencement of last week, and prices were a shade firmer, but the feeling was easier at the close. On Wednesday No. 2 fall was offered at 87½c, but not taken though 88c was paid the previous day for a lot f.o.c. No. 2 spring sold at 85c on track on Tuesday.

FLOUR

Some patents sold on Tuesday at \$3.85. Other prices are unchanged.

OATMEAL

Only moving in small lots at \$3.75 to \$4.25, the latter for granulated.

OATS

About 32c was the ruling price for averaged mixed, with choice white worth a fraction above that price.

APPLES.

Very few now offering, and these only on the market. Values have ranged from \$2.50 to \$3.25 for sound fruit.

BUTTER

New rolls have been arriving and best qualities have brought 15 to 17c. Eastern tubs have sold more slowly at 17 to 18c. Western tubs sold at 15c for good.

CHEESE

New has been received and sold in small lots at 12½ to 13c. Old sold at 13½c.

EGGS

Easier at 12 to 12½c.

CURED MEATS.

Bacon quiet and firm. Long clear, in tons and cases, sold at 8½ to 8½c; Cumberland, 8c; rolls, 9c; bellies, 10 to 11c; hams, 12 to 12½c for small lots smoked; pork, inactive at \$18 in small lots.

LARD

Quiet and unchanged at 9½c for large pails in lots not under 25, and small pails at 10 to 10½c.

HOGS

Firm under insufficient offerings, at \$7 to \$7.50.

DRIED APPLES

Dealers have been selling at 6 to 6½c. Evaporated held at 14c.

LIVE STOCK

Export cattle were in less active demand, owing to scarcity of shipping room and reported easier British markets. Butchers' cattle were in fair demand, at steady prices. The best brought 4c, with good at 3½c and medium at 3 to 3½c. The bulk of sales were made at about 3½c. Hogs were in good demand, especially for light fat, the latter selling at \$5.60 to \$5.75, stores sold at \$5 to \$5.25.

HIDES AND SKINS

Prices are steady at \$7.00 for No. 1; \$6.00 for No. 2, and \$5.00 for No. 3. Calfskins, green, 7 to 9c, cured 11 to 12c, sheepskins, 75c to \$1.40.

D. W. CUMMINGS, banker and lumber dealer, Birtle, Man., has sold out his lumber business to R. Gibson,

Business East.**ONTARIO.**

J. Robertson, tailor, London, has sold out.
 S. D. Walker, grocer, Glencoe, has sold out.
 C. M. Darker, fruit, etc., Thorold, has sold out.
 Guelph White Lime Co., Guelph, have dissolved.
 J. H. Brown, livery, London, is selling out at auction.
 J. W. Mann, grocer, Guelph, has given up business.
 M. James, grocer, etc., Toronto, has assigned in trust.
 John Charters, grocer, Toronto, has assigned in trust.
 D. Sinclair, general storekeeper, Iona, is selling out.
 R. G. Freeman, hotelkeeper, Leamington, has sold out.
 E. S. Bedford, boots and shoes, Wallaceburg, has sold out.
 Alex. McKenzie, saloon, Hamilton—Bailiff in possession.
 J. H. Percival, tins, Farmersville, has assigned in trust.
 D. F. Cordingly, agent, Brockville, has assigned in trust.
 M. McPhadden, tins, Sunderland, has assigned in trust.
 Rivers & Co., carriages, Teeswater, have assigned in trust.
 D. A. McNichol, harness, Brampton, has assigned in trust.
 Ed. Chatterton, builder, Kingston, has assigned in trust.
 W. H. Scott, shoes, Leamington, is moving to Wallaceburg.
 Mrs. A. F. Rocque, dry goods, Toronto; stock damaged by fire.
 R. J. McGill, general storekeeper, Blyth, has assigned in trust.
 Miss S. McCaffery, milliner, Toronto, advertises stock for sale.
 Alex. Simpson, baker, Newmarket, has sold out to T. T. Bailey.
 Wm. Latch, lumber, Toronto, has called a meeting of creditors.
 A. J. McNeil, general storekeeper, Tiverton, has assigned in trust.
 A. Hall, hotelkeeper, St. Marys, has sold out to Coleman Bros.
 Mrs. J. Wylie, grocer, Gravenhurst, has sold out to A. W. Moore.
 Wilson Bros., hammer manufacturers, Merriton, were burned out.
 C. M. Nickle, tailor, Brantford, has compromised at 50c. in the \$.
 D. T. Latchford, wagons, Stouffville, has sold out to J. & E. Raymer.
 Mrs. C. J. Diamond, druggist, Toronto, has sold out to A. F. Kennely.
 Bowers & Macfarlane, tailors, Toronto, have compromised at 50c in the \$.
 Thompson & Co., general storekeepers, Alliston, have moved to Chatham.
 Grahame, Horne & Co., lumber, etc., Port Arthur, advertise dissolution.
 Jos. Campbell, stoves and tins, Woodville, has sold out to B. & A. Jewel.
 Mrs. Wm. Broderick, grocer, Clinton, has sold out to William Robertson.

Foot & Hays, confectionery, Forgas, have dissolved; John Hays continues.
 Alex. Wilson & Son, general storekeepers, Caledonia, have assigned in trust.
 Jas. Robinson, general storekeeper, Humber, has sold out and moved to Weston.
 Norman Ainley, general storekeeper, Weston, has sold out to James Robinson.
 Hall & Smith, wallpaper, paints, etc., Chatham, have dissolved; H. Hall retires.
 Bissel & Collins, stoves, etc., Mount Forest, have dissolved; Chas. Bissel continues.
 John Lawrie & Co., flour and feed, St. Catharines, have called a meeting of creditors.
 Caughill & Weaver, hotelkeepers, Hamilton, have dissolved; Chas. Weaver continues.
 M. McDonald & Co., general storekeepers, Gravenhurst, have sold out to Powell & Co.
 Corrigan & Agnew, tailors, Toronto, have dissolved and compromised at 50c. in the \$.
 D. R. McGuigan, general storekeeper, Newburg (late Port-Alma), has assigned in trust.
 Barnard, Murdock & Co., dry goods, Hamilton, have dissolved; Barnard & Co. continue.
 Elliott & Co., wholesale druggists, Toronto, have dissolved; R. W. Elliott continues alone under same style.
 Geo. Woods, dry goods and groceries, London, have dissolved; Jas. Dobbie, the silent partner, continues.
 Mackenzie, Musson & Co., Varnish, Toronto, have dissolved; D. A. Mackenzie continues, under style D. A. Mackenzie & Co.
 Brown, Wright & Co., manufacturers of slippers, Berlin, have dissolved; Geo. H. Wright retires; style now Brown, Whiting & Co.
 I. R. & S. Ault, general storekeepers, Aultsville, have dissolved; business continued by Isaac R. and C. S. Ault, under style I. R. Ault & Son.

QUEBEC.

J. Kimber, painter, Montreal, is dead.
 L. & O. Derome, butchers, Montreal, have dissolved.
 Louis Landry, tinsmith, Montreal, has assigned in trust.
 Mailhot & Pichette, plasterers, Montreal, have dissolved.
 J. K. Boswell & Son, brewers, etc., Quebec, have dissolved.
 Lamontagne & Villeneuve, grocers, Montreal, have dissolved.
 D. Rees & Co., pork dealers, Montreal, have assigned in trust.
 Pilon & Legault, grocers, St. Anne de Bellevue, have dissolved.
 I. Joseph & Sons, wholesale jewelers, Montreal, have dissolved.
 L. Weinstein, trader, Montreal—demand of assignment made on him.
 Albert P. Benoit, general storekeeper, Cookshirs, has assigned in trust.
 A. Goldstein & Son, cigars and tobaccos, Montreal, advertise business for sale.
 Senechal, Cadioux & Co., wholesale liquors, Montreal, are retiring from business and advertise stock for sale.
 W. A. Stewart, general storekeeper, Napierville, has admitted Albert O. Stewart, under style W. A. Stewart & Bro.
 B. Goldstein & Co., wholesale tobaccoists, Montreal—Adolph and Jacob Goldstein admitted partners under same style.

NOVA SCOTIA.

W. M. Willis, carriages, Halifax, was burned out.
 John H. Timpany, —, Rossway, has assigned.
 Miss M. Kinsman, milliner, Kentville, has sold out.
 F. R. Wilson & Co., founders, Yarmouth, have dissolved.
 W. J. Calder, stationery, etc., Windsor, has assigned in trust.
 E. Steadman & Son, woodenware, Mills Village, have dissolved.
 Levi Oxner, hotel and general storekeeper, Chester, was burned out.
 Henderson & Potts, manufacturers of paint, Halifax, were burned out.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

MacLellan & Co., bankers, St. John, have assigned.
 Fred McGowan, general storekeeper, Sheffield, was burned out.
 H. Horton & Son, saddlery and hardware, St. John—Henry Horton, senior partner, is dead.

Early Closing.

The retail salesmen's association of Winnipeg have addressed the following to the retail merchants of the city:

GENTLEMEN,—We the retail salesmen of the city of Winnipeg beg to call your earnest attention to a matter of great importance to us, viz: the present hours which we are obliged to work.

While at all times willing to perform our bounden duty towards you, we think that you should have also some consideration towards us.

You are aware that at present your places of business are kept open to such a time that it is impossible for us to have any opportunity for an hour or two in the evening for mental or physical recreation.

There is an old adage which says "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." While not wishing to dictate to you as to how you should conduct or manage your business, we still think and hope that you will come to some amicable agreement amongst yourselves and resolve to close your respective places of business at half past eighteen o'clock, Saturday night and all nights before any public or civic holiday excepted.

In making this request of you we think that by so doing you will not lose any trade, and at the same time it will promote a more harmonious feeling between the employer and employe.

We think that a man who cannot earn his wages in these hours is of very little use to his employer.

SALT is now sold in Michigan at 51c a barrel, the lowest price since 1866, the time its manufacture was commenced. On January 1 the Salt Association had on hand 1,600,000 barrels of last year's salt, and the first three months of this year shows an increase in the product of 100,000 barrels, as compared with the same period last year. The development of new fields and the increase of the product has put the price down to a point that will force many manufacturers out of the business.

COFFEE!!

The Best is the Cheapest.

At this time when owing to the high prices prevailing for Green Coffee, many inferior grades are being forced upon the public, it is for your interest to buy

Chase & Sanborn's Coffees.

The superior quality of which has been and always will be maintained, being guaranteed **strictly pure**. Their goods have a well-earned reputation of being

THE BEST IN THE MARKET.

And their **STANDARD JAVA** is recognized as the leading fine Coffee of Canada and the United States, also their

"Star" Brand of Java and Mocha

Is rapidly earning for itself a reputation rivalling that of the **Standard**. This Coffee is a rare combination of **Private Plantation Java** and **Arabian Mocha**, producing a perfect blend of great strength and exquisite flavor. It is always packed in 2 lb. air-tight tin cans which thoroughly preserves its original flavor and strength, and never in any other form.

Agent for Manitoba and Northwest Territories :

JOHN B. MATHER, 42 McDermott Street, Winnipeg.

Respectfully yours, **CHASE & SANBORN.**

—BOSTON.—

—MONTREAL.—

—CHICAGO.—

DOLL

W. F.

WHOLESALE JEWELER.

Watches, Diamonds, Clocks, Spectacles,
Gold-headed Canes, Silver-plate, Watch
Material, Tools, etc., etc.

525 Main St., WINNIPEG.

BOECKH'S STANDARD BRUSHES.

Quality and Size Guaranteed.

For Sale by all Leading Houses.

A BY-LAW granting the McClary Stove Works, of London, \$5,000 for establishing a branch at Port Stanley, Ont., was passed there on Tuesday without one vote against it.

Two prizes of 50 guineas each are offered by the Tobacco Trade Section of the London Chamber of Commerce, to be awarded respectively for the best specimen of tobacco grown in the United Kingdom, and for that produced in India, or in any of the British colonies and possessions,

Men's Clothing.

In spite of the difference in the extremes of the two climates, which necessitates the wear of many garments in this country which, from their lightness or warmth, are not required by the smaller range of temperature on the other side of the Atlantic, English styles continue to hold the predominating influence on those worn throughout the Dominion, and even the proximity of the American frontier and the numbers of American visitors seen upon our streets, only modify the styles sent to us from England to an extent much slighter than most people fancy. This season, not only will London set the fashion for the masculine gender as heretofore, but the spring and summer styles will be more distinctively English in appearance than ever.

Looseness is the great feature in all new sample suits shown. In fact the looser and more baggy any garment can be made the nearer it will be to the extreme of fashion, providing it preserves the contour of the figure. New trousers are cut extremely wide, and fall in almost straight lines from the thighs and hips. The entire absence of any spring at the bottom makes them approximate to the old-fashioned peg top, and as, among ultra fashionables, plaided trousers of striking patterns and large shepherd's plaids will be freely worn, the resemblance to the styles of '58 and '59 is still more striking. Cassimeres and tweeds both imported and domestic are the favorite cloths, and the different shades and mixtures of grey and brown the popular colors. Stripes, which

are gradually growing much wider, have the principal call for trouserings, but checks, particularly black and white, and even plaids, are considered the latest style. It is said that not only plaid trousers but entire suits of plaid will be worn, and some of the patterns offered are very striking, not to say "loud."

The three or four buttoned cut-away is still the leading coat, and continues to be considered appropriate for every occasion outside of full dress. In London coats are again padded out at the shoulders so as to give a military effect, but whether this will again rule here, is looked upon as doubtful. Frock coats have not experienced the revival that was expected and are little called for, but what new styles are shown are all much longer than last season, and reach fully to the knees. Rough-surfaced black cloths are preferred to smooth faced ones for new frock coats, and both the coats and the vests are cut much lower in the neck than last year, and will show much more of the cravat.

For business suits of the same material throughout, the single-breasted sack coat is still the favorite, although the double breasted sack is again fashionable. New styles are not cut away or rounded so much in front and both coat and vest are cut lower and expose more of the shirt front than has been the case for many years past. Scotch tweeds in broken stripe effects, and plaids will be much used; beautiful lines of domestic tweeds are offered which imitate the Scotch so exactly as to deceive any but an expert; and entire suits of stripes, it is said, will also form a new departure.—*Journal of Commerce.*

Chronic Growlers.

There are some people in this world, and they are by no means in the minority, who, according to their estimate of themselves, are able to tell how a thing should be done, but could not, if they were entrusted with the execution of it, be successful. If they did do it, as they imagined it should be done, when accomplished by themselves, they would have some other method to suggest.

The man who is unable to manage successfully his private financial affairs will force upon others his ideas of how governmental finances should be managed.

The man whose tongue is worked harder than any other member of his anatomy will tell the country of the sufferings of the laboring man.

The man who happens not to be interested in railroad stocks, and could not, under the old dispensation, obtain free railroad passes or special freight rates, is heard on the street corners denouncing monopolies.

The man who ships inferior cattle to market and gets an inferior price, damns the commission merchant and claims he has been robbed, and that his cattle should have brought the top price of the day.

The man who does not read up on current affairs as affecting his particular branch of trade and discovers himself in the rear of the procession, is very loud in denouncing the sharp practices of those who have been liberal and progressive in their ideas.

These are but a few samples of the men who are encountered day after day in the busy marts of trade. The world is a heterogeneous mass, and of that mass the chronic growler, who, instead of attending strictly to his own business, is looking closely after that of others, predominates.

It has been said that the wise man knows how to keep his counsel; while others are talking he is deliberating, and while discussions of matters which concern the welfare of all are necessary, it is unfortunately too often the case that those who are the least interested make themselves so prominent as to defeat measures which would afford the desired relief.—*Ex.*

A Form of Tyranny.

Mayor Hewitt, writing to the Brooklyn Democrat Club, delivered himself as follows on the labor problem:—"Until the civil war broke out no man questioned the right of the white citizens of the United States to dispose of themselves and their labor in any manner which might seem good. The war extended the same rights to the colored race as the white citizens had previously enjoyed, so that up to a very recent period every citizen of this country has been free to employ himself and pursue his happiness in whatever direction might seem to him to be good. Within the last five years, however, a secret organization has been growing in strength and power which seeks to enslave the labor of this country and make it subject to the irresponsible domination of men unknown to the people, who are not officers chosen by the people, and who are not creatures of law responsible to free public opinion and to the constituted authorities for their action. Gradually the leaders of this body have succeed in stamp-

ing out all personal independence on the part of a large number of workmen of the country by refusing to permit any person to earn a living who is not affiliated with this secret organization. In this way the workmen have been coerced into blind obedience to irresponsible power, and the condition of those who have tried to remain outside of the organization is in many cases most pitiable. They are called by opprobrious names, are hunted down from shop to shop, and denied employment on the fearful penalty of stopping all work, however pressing and important. This is tyranny, against which the Democratic party has ever struggled, and which it must now confront and denounce in no mistaken tones.

The Japan Tea Market.

The Japan market for new crop teas has just opened, a cable having been received advising sales of choice garden pickings at 40 to 42c per picul, which are about the same as last year's opening rates. The first steamer leaves Yokohama on May 4th for San Francisco, the rate of freight being 2c per pound less than last year, namely, at 3c through to Montreal. No arrangements have yet been made via Port Moodie by the Canadian Pacific, at least no rates have been quoted, which is somewhat of a surprise to the trade, as last year they had been fixed before this. According to cable ad news above referred to, the prospects for the new crop Japans are very favorable, and the quality generally excellent.—*Montreal Trade Bulletin.*

Montreal Flour Market.

A few orders have been received for Lower Ports account for shipment by first boats. The rate of freight asked by the Polino is said to be 40c, instead of 35c, as reported last week. Subsequent steamers are offering at 35c. There have been further sales on English account on a freight rate of 10s. 6d. to 11s. 3d. in sacks to Liverpool and Glasgow. There has also been a good demand for local and country account, a large business having been in city bags, at steady prices. In superior, there have been sales at \$3.90 to \$4 according to quality. Extra is steady, and sales have gone through at \$3.75, one or two cars having fetched \$3.80. Spring extra have been placed in bags at \$1.65 to \$1.67½ and \$1.70 in barrels at \$3.46. Manitoba strong flour has been sold at \$4.20 to \$4.25, sellers paying commission, whilst several lots of choice under a better inquiry have brought \$4.30. Ontario patents are held firmly, in fact too firmly in order to effect business to any extent, \$4.65 being asked for straights, and in some cases 5c, above that figure has been demanded. We quote \$4.60 to \$4.65 for straights, and \$4.10 to \$4.15 for ordinary. In American flour, there has been some business in both Minnesota and St. Louis flour, but it is understood to be for through shipment.—*Trade Bulletin, April 29.*

Notice of application for incorporation of "The Call Printing Company" is given. The capital stock is placed at \$50,000. The applicants are: Acton Burrows, H. D. Munson, barrister; J. Smith, accountant; T. S. Kennedy, barrister; W. R. D. Sutherland, M.D.; T. Wright, insurance agent; W. R. Allan, financial agent, Norman Matheson, W. J. Tupper, Barrister; Stewart Mulvey, W. Bathgate, D. E. Sprague, lumber dealer; T. W. Taylor, bookbinder; Joseph Wolf, Auctioneer; R. J. Whitla, merchant; all of Winnipeg, and L. Bedson, of Stony Mountain.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE merchants have decided to close at 7.30 o'clock.

JOHNSTON & FORMES, lawyers, Regina, will open a branch office at Moosomin.

PREPARATIONS are being made for the erection of the flour mill at McGregor, Man.

MOOSOMIN, Assa., is moving in the direction of securing incorporation as a town.

H. A. PERLEY has leased his hotel at Carberry, Man, to T. Hackel, for one year.

F. WALL & Co., have purchased the grocery stock of Hunt & Dickson, of Winnipeg.

SMITH & SHERIFF, of Brandon, have commenced the manufacture of land rollers.

CHAS. GALLION, harnessmaker, Calgary, has sold out his business to Reilly & Carson.

THE general stock of the estate of Bower, Blackburn & Porter, Brandon, realized 45c in the \$.

T. H. BEDDOME, of Minnedosa, has bought out the butchering business of Warren & Silk, of Birtle.

J. DOOLITTLE will manufacture brick near Qu'Appelle this season, suitable clay having been discovered in that vicinity.

OWING to Rapid City now having a railway outlet, the acreage sowed in that district will be about double what it was last year.

BOUCHIER & INSINGER, ranchers, Indian Head, Assa., have opened a lumber yard and general commission business at that place.

STANLEY & BAGSHAW, general storekeepers, Birtle, Man., have dissolved partnership. The business will be continued by Bagshaw Bros.

ACCORDING to the Birtle *Observer* about fifty persons have settled in the vicinity of Birtle as the result of the immigration scheme gone into by the municipalities.

A. B. ST. JOHN, general storekeeper, Newdale, Man., has sold out to Denison & Darroch, general merchants, Minnedosa, who will continue the business as a branch.

THE cattle dealers of Winnipeg and vicinity will hold a meeting on Friday next for the purpose of organizing a live stock dealer's association. The object of the organization will be to arrange for the driving of stock, as it is claimed the freight rates charged on the C.P.Ry, are exorbitant.

THE Minnedosa *Tribune* says: The oil fever is spreading rapidly, and there is a great rush of speculators to the Lake Dauphin district. This is undoubtedly caused by the large amount of machinery being sent in, and the confidence displayed by the companies already organized for developing the claims.

THE obnoxious advance in the freight rates on lumber from the mills in the mountains to points in the territories, has been abolished, owing to the firm stand which the western people took against this new symptom of C.P.R. extortion. No doubt the fact that the territories have now representation in Parliament had something to do with the reduction in freights. The rates on lumber from the Beaver mills to Calgary have been reduced from \$111 to \$75 per car, and from other mills in proportion.