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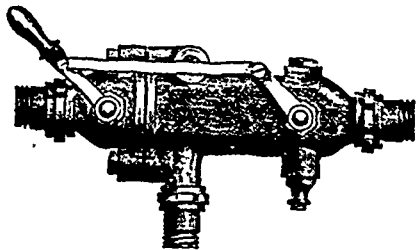
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A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE FINANCIAL, MERCANTILE AND MANUFACTURING INTERESTS OF THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

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

VOL. 3.

WINNIPEG, OCTOBER 7, 1884.

NO. 2.

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.

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WINNIPEG, OCTOBER 7, 1884.

D. McKellar, hotel keeper, Minnedosa, has given up business.

R. Robson, baker, Regina, contemplates giving up business in that town.

F. G. Haultain, barrister, late of Toronto, has settled and intends to practice his profession at Fort McLeod, N. W. T.

C. W. Spears, of Griswold, has nearly completed a grain elevator at that place with a storage capacity of 30,000 bushels.

Jones & Barker, insurance agents, Winnipeg, have dissolved partnership and the business will be continued by Jones alone.

H. Schofield and R. M. Chester have joined interests in the grain and provision business at 535 Main street and will carry on business under the firm name of Chester & Schofield.

Feron, Shaw & Steuart, produce merchants, Winnipeg, have dissolved partnership, Shaw & Steuart continuing the business. M. T. Feron, the retiring partner, contemplates going into commission business here.

THE construction of a two-story warehouse has been commenced by the Portage la Prairie Milling Company with an area of 24x40.

Moosomin Farm and Trading Co., of Moosomin, contemplate giving up their trading department and confine their business to farming and land generally.

Efforts are being made by the farmers of North Dufferin to establish a cheese factory near Nelson. The fact that native cheese is already crowding the eastern article out of the Winnipeg market should be encouragement to go on in their undertaking.

AROUND Fort McLeod there is considerable trouble brewing over the disputed claims of squatters and holders of grazing leases. The cases tried last court resulted favorably for the leaseholders, thus establishing their right to evict squatters from their leases.

OVER \$200,000 of the stock of the Commercial Bank of Manitoba has been subscribed from local sources and it is expected that there will be no difficulty in securing the balance of the funds in Britain. Manitoba's prospects at present are bright enough to encourage foreign investment in a banking scheme here.

T. A. Garland, Portage la Prairie, has moved into magnificent new premises and intends to launch into a wholesale as well as a retail business in general merchandise. Merchants in the Portage at one time did a heavy jobbing business with itinerant western trades, and now that these trades have been succeeded by retail merchants there is no reason why Portage merchants should not do a share of the wholesale trade of the west.

THE Chicago Northwestern Lumberman, of September 20, in the review of the situation merely re-echoes the complaint of dullness and gives but little hope of revival. The lumbermen counted on the time when the crops being matured the farmers would begin to buy lumber; the crops are fully assured and there is still no demand. The great yield of cereals and the inadequate demand for their produce causes farmers to be slow in buying lumber and the outlook is at present far from favorable. The reports from most of the cities of the Northwest shows a good local demand for building purposes, but there is no rural demand to speak of. The movement from Albany is

steady, but exhibits nothing indicating a rise above the dead level of this season's trade.

THE St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba Railway have given notice that their winter rates from St. Paul to St. Vincent will be the same as those in effect last April, and which are much lower than those prevailing last winter. The rates take effect the 1st of November, and are: from St. Paul to Winnipeg, 1st, \$1.35; 2nd, \$1.13; 3rd, 91c; 4th, 70c; 5th, 64c; 6th, 62c; 7th, 37; 8th, 35c; 9th, 33c; 10th, 31c; governed by general Canadian classification. It is not expected that the Chicago roads will raise their rates to any great extent, so that low rates from Montreal to Toronto may be expected, and importers will not get in burthen-some stocks as they did last year, to take advantage of lake rates in anticipation of heavy winter rates by the all-rail route. Merchants express great satisfaction at the announcement, which is made publicly by the all-rail line agents here on authority of Mr. Mohles, G. F. A of the St. P., M. & M. Railway.

THE American Forestry Association held its opening session at Saratoga on September 16, and was largely attended. Mr. Loring, the president, in his address, contrasted the complete system of legislation affecting the forests of Europe with the total absence of forestry legislation prevailing in this country. The president further said that in his opinion the matter was not a subject for congressional action, except as regarded the public lands still held by the government, but whatever action was to be taken must be taken by the States separately. Dr. Seeger, of New York city, in a letter to the convention, referred to the bill which was introduced in the legislature last winter to protect the forests of the Adirondack mountains from further destruction, and which he declared was a most necessary measure, for the reason that the Hudson river and many feeders of the different canals took their rise in that region. Dr. Seeger further called attention to the report of many boatmen on the Erie canal, who declared that their boats dragged on the bottom of the canal, something which was unheard of before and which was wholly due to the water level being lowered by lands around the feeders of the canals becoming denuded of timber.

Business East.

ONTARIO.

W. D. Pringle, baker, Wingham, has been burned out.

T. J. Gould's flour mill, Uzbridge, has been burned out.

Mrs. M. Taylor, grocer, Toronto, has assigned in trust.

J. M. Crawford, grocer, Mount Forrest, has assigned in trust.

L. Lewis, watchmaker, Watford, has sold out his business.

N. Deichurt, hotel keeper, Zerich, has sold out to H. L. Peine.

John Crotty, general storekeeper, Bothwell, has assigned in trust.

W. H. Hays, dealer in fruit, Strathroy, has sold out his business.

Thos. Wilson, hotel keeper, Toronto, has sold out his business.

John Saunders, dealer in boots and shoes, Whitby, has sold out.

C. & J. A. Lloyd, wagon makers, Paris, have dissolved partnership.

Wm. Reynolds, hotel keeper, Exeter, has sold out to E. Portice.

Stewart Bros., dry goods merchants, Ottawa, have assigned in trust.

R. S. Donnelly, general storekeeper, Mattawan, has assigned in trust.

P. J. MacLean, dry goods merchant, Ridgetown, has sold out his business.

J. Gregg, hotel keeper, Toronto, has got the sheriff in possession of his house.

R. C. Stonehouse, general store keeper, Wallaceburg, has assigned in trust.

Margaret Weir, hotel keeper, Enterprise, has been succeeded by James Kenedy.

The stock of Marrion Brothers, general store keepers, Stoney Point, has been sold by auction.

There has been a change in the Haron Soap Co., Goderich, G. Rister going out of the business.

R. Diprose, grocer, Strathroy, has admitted a partner. New firm now is Diprose & Foreman.

Workman, Bush, & Co., Ottawa, dealers in pianos and organs, are about to dissolve partnership.

Charles Cross, dealer in fancy goods, Toronto, has sold out his stock and retired from business.

D. Johnston & Co's Mills, and J. McGregor & Son's Boiler Works, Windsor, have been burned out.

There has been a dissolution of partnership in the Atlantic Publishing Co., of Toronto. E. Meagher retires, and the other partners continue the business.

D. A. Frazer, general store keeper, Watford, has admitted M. McLeay partner. New firm's name is D. A. Frazer & Co.

QUEBEC.

L. Epinay de Couillard, general store keeper, Cacouna, has assigned in trust.

Paul Dexamps, dealer in boots and shoes, Montreal, has assigned in trust.

James Walker, dealer in boots and shoes, Montreal, has assigned in trust.

R. G. Brown & Co's Piano Factory, St. Jean Baptiste Village, has been burned out.

A. Cameron & Co., boot and shoe manufacturers, Montreal, have assigned in trust.

Ferdinand Polletice, general store keeper, St. Arseno, is offering to compromise with his creditors.

J. Wright & Co., carpenters, Montreal, have dissolved partnership, and business will be continued by R. J. Wright.

Ferdinand Danielson, dealer in groceries, boots and shoes, Baie St. Paul, is endeavoring to reach a compromise with his creditors.

Crossette & Provost Bros., lumber dealers, Valleyfield, have dissolved partnership, and the business is being continued by Octave Crossette.

Fenwick & Selater, dealers in mill supplies, Montreal, have dissolved partnership. Business will be continued by A. G. Fenwick and Wm. Selater under old firm name.

NOVA SCOTIA.

D. M. Pettis, Parisbore, has given bill of sale of business.

J. A. Craig, druggist, Yarmouth, has given bill of sale of stock.

D. N. Murray & Co., harness dealers, Pictou, have assigned in trust.

J. D. McPhee, hotel keeper, Oxford, has given bill of sale of business.

F. L. De Wolf & Co., lumber dealers, Halifax, has assigned in trust.

Rupes F. Page, general store keeper, Thompson, has assigned in trust.

C. S. McDonald, hotel keeper, Mahone Bay, has given a bill of sale of his business.

A. J. McDonald, general store keeper, Port Hope, has given bill of sale of furniture.

Robert Benjamin, general store keeper, Brookfield, has admitted a partner, and the new firm's name is Benjamin & Marks.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

S. De Venne, dry goods merchant, Portland, has assigned in trust.

Isiah Tingley, general store keeper, Salisbury, has assigned in trust.

W. A. Wheaton, dealer in carriages, wagons, etc., Salisbury, has assigned in trust.

E. C. Mc Letchey, grocer, Moncton, is offering to compromise with his creditors at 25c on the \$.

THE failures in the United Kingdom and Ireland for the week ending September 1 reported to *Kemp's Mercantile Gazette* numbered 62, as compared with 196 and 212 in the corresponding weeks respectively of 1883 and 1882. England and Wales had 51 failures, as against 174 and 179 in the weeks specified: Scotland had 11, as against 19 and 21, and Ireland had none as against 3 in 1883 and 2 in 1882.

Recent Legal Decisions.

RAILROAD—FRAUD OF PASSENGER.

One who travels on a railroad train upon a ticket issued to another without the consent of the company commits a fraud thereby and is not entitled as a passenger in good faith to recover for personal injuries received during transit. So held by the Supreme Court of Iowa in the case of *Way vs. the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Co.*, reported in *Reporter*.

CONTRACTS FOR FUTURES.

Among the recent decisions of the courts on the vexed questions arising out of dealings in "futures" is that in the case of *Whitesides vs. Hunt et al.*, decided by the Supreme Court of Indiana on the 20th inst. In this case the court held that the former rule, that when the vendor has not the goods but merely intended to go into the market to buy them no auction could be maintained, was now changed so that a vendor may contract for the sale of an article not in his possession, and that this doctrine was consistent with the rules of public policy. What is now required, said the court, is that there shall be a bona fide intent to fulfill the agreement according to its terms, and not merely to pay differences. This latter agreement is gambling and contrary to law. Where a commodity is brought for future actual delivery the contract is valid. But if it is understood by all the parties that there is to be no delivery, but only differences paid, the contract is illegal and void. The court further declared that while parties to such contracts when equally at fault would not be aided by the courts, yet that if either party contracted in good faith he would be entitled to the benefit of his contract no matter what might have been the secret purpose or intention of the other.

NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS.

The case of the *Central Railroad vs. the First National Bank of Lynchburg*, decided by the Supreme Court of Georgia on the 16th inst., was one in which the cashier of a bank, which held a draft payable to the order of that office, made the following endorsement upon the draft: "Pay W. H. Patterson, cashier, or order, for collection, for account of First National Bank, Lynchburg, Va. Allen W. Talley, cashier." The indorsee made the following endorsement upon the draft: "Pay to John A. Davis, agent, or order, for account of Citizens' Bank of Georgia, Atlanta, Ga. W. H. Patterson, cashier." The draft was delivered to one Davis, an agent of the Central Railroad. The Citizens' Bank failed; Davis collected the draft and the Central Railroad refused to pay the amount to the original payee of it because the Citizens' Bank had failed, and being in debt to the railroad the latter had given its credit for the amount collected. The court held that the qualified endorsement by the cashier of the first bank, directing payment to be made to Patterson, cashier of the Citizens' Bank, or order, for collection, for account of First National Bank of Lynchburg, Va., was nothing more than a warrant of attorney authorizing the indorsee to collect the amount due on the draft for the payee; that it conveyed no title except for that purpose, and was notice to all persons subsequently dealing with it that the payee had not parted with the title or intended to transfer the ownership of the proceeds to another, and that when the second indorsee (the Central Railroad) received the money from the drawers it received that which belonged to the original payee, and this put them in privity with such payee to such an extent that upon failure to pay on demand an action for money had and received would lie.—*Bradstreet's*.

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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, OCTOBER 7, 1884.

FANCY WHEAT GRADES.

It is now understood, that the appointment of a grain inspector at Port Arthur cannot take place, until the Dominion Parliament meets and so amends the inspection act, as to allow of the fixing of hard wheat grades in the province of Ontario, that privilege being possessed as yet by Manitoba alone. The gentleman selected for the position by the C.P.R. General Manager must therefore act until then simply as examiner of grain, with no legal power to fix beyond dispute the grades of grain coming under his inspection. This is greatly to be regretted, and may cause a great amount of inconvenience and annoyance not only to the railway company, but to grain houses in the East and the Northwest. We are decided in our opinion that a legal system of grain inspection is a necessity in Winnipeg, but we are equally decided, that the same is necessary at Port Arthur, and, in fact, the two should work in harmony, if the best interests of all concerned are to be regarded. Even with only the system of grain examination at Port Arthur this is necessary, and if properly carried out, will obviate a great many of the difficulties which the latter place must labor under during this season. Unfortunately the General Manager of the C.P.R. for some unaccountable reason is said to favor a course, which must effectually shut out the possibility of this harmonious working.

A great many people in the Northwest have fallen into the mistaken belief, that grain inspection for this country will have the effect of raising the grade of the bulk of our wheat to No. 1 hard, and the balance to No. 2 hard, and before the present crop is all marketed there will be many dissatisfied men among our farmers. The Examining Board of the Winnipeg Board of Trade in fixing the standards of grades for this city, have carefully weighed this fact. They know that from a state of chaos in our grain handling, to a system of strict and equitable inspection, is a big stride to make in one season. They have therefore, been careful to make the standards equal to those of Minneapolis and Duluth, the only other hard wheat markets on this

continent, but they have had the wisdom not to exact any higher standards for this season at least. The fact that the Examining Board is composed entirely of experienced grain dealers accounts for this wise action, and what they have done will no doubt do much to lessen the annoyance which a grain inspector has to encounter during the first year of an inspection system. When we contrast the action of the Winnipeg Examining Board with that of the General Manager of the C.P.R. in this matter of fixing standards, it is not difficult to see experience in the former, and something very like presumption in the latter. Mr. Van Horne is unquestionably the General Manager of the greatest of Canadian Railways, but he cannot assume the regulating as he sees fit of the whole grain trade of the Northwest. Although the Dominion Inspection Act distinctly places the power of fixing standards of grain grades with the Boards of Trade of certain cities, Mr. Van Horne completely ignores the fact, and with a vividness of imagination parallel to his audacity, he believes himself competent for a whole Board's duties. It is unfortunate, however, that people of experience in grain matters have not such a high opinion of the qualifications of the General Manager as he evidently has of himself, and some go so far as to say, that in his, as in most other such cases, presumption has found an ally in limited knowledge of the whole question under consideration.

Let us see what Mr. Van Horne's standards are. Duluth and Minneapolis inspection places No. 1 hard at 58 lbs. to the bushel minimum weight; and No. 2 hard 56lbs. Mr. Van Horne has fixed No. 1 hard at 60lbs., and No. 2 hard at 58lbs. Duluth and Minneapolis inspection fixes the minimum weight of No. 1 spring at 58lbs to the bushel, No. 2 spring at 56lbs., and No. 3 at 54lbs., while Mr. Van Horne has fixed them at 60lbs. for No. 1, 58 for No. 2, and 55½ for No. 3. As a kind of cupalo to top this whole structure of novelties, Mr. Van Horne has manufactured a new grade to suit his own fancy, for it will certainly be found to suit nothing else connected with the Northwestern grain trade. This he calls Fancy No. 1 hard, and the minimum weight of this he fixes at 62lbs. to the bushel. Of course these are Mr. Van Horne's own grades, and he doubtless intends that they shall

be as unchangeable as the laws of the Medes and Persians. Duluth, Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Chicago, New York, Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal and even Liverpool may have been guided hitherto by other standards, but they must change in deference to the opinions of the C.P.R. General Manager. Some of these places are old grain centres, but Mr. Van Horne has decided, that they are not yet too old to learn, and in receiving instructions he has constituted himself the Gamaliel at whose feet they shall sit. A stranger might think he imagined himself as important as the Irishman when he first possessed a watch. Early in the morning this gushing Hibernian stood, glancing alternately at the dial of his time-piece and the eastern horizon, when suddenly he exclaimed "be jabers if the sun doesn't rise over that hill inside uv another minit he'll be behind time this mornin."

All this sense of self-importance might be conceded to Mr. Van Horne, if it did not entail so much injury to the agricultural and other interests of the Northwest. As already stated it will be difficult enough during the first year to enforce an inspection equal to that of other grain centres, but to enforce a system of inspection which would not admit of 100 cars of No. 1 hard out of our five to six million bushels of surplus wheat, shows only how little Mr. Van Horne knows about the grain wants of this country, and how poorly he measures them.

When statistics of a season's shipments are reached, as they will be annually, and it is seen that somewhere about one per cent. of our exported wheat reached the grade of No. 1 hard, while Minnesota and Dakota with grades two pounds lower, will show a much larger proportion, it will be seen how these figures will be made use of by United States Railway Co's and immigration agents, and their effect upon the sale of C.P.R. lands can be imagined if not measured.

Mr. Van Horne evidently calculates that the wheat producing power of the Northwest grows in proportion to his own disposition to blow about it. It is also evident, that there is no act on the Dominion Statute Books, which is capable of being amended to suit the peculiar demands of Mr. Van Horne, and we may expect to have him applying at next session of the Dominion Parliament for a whole and split new act, which will allow of wider scope for his inspection vagaries.

It remains to be seen if Parliament will pander to his epicurean tastes in legislation.

It is to be regretted that the C.P.R. General Manager should set his face so firmly against the arrangements made for inspection at Winnipeg, as their workings cannot in any way injure the interests of the C.P.R., but on the contrary will be an advantage to the Company. Until the inspection act is amended there is an insuperable barrier to inspection of hard wheat anywhere outside of Manitoba, and the sooner Mr. Van Horne realizes and acts upon this fact, the sooner will the difficulties of his company cease. The Winnipeg Board of Trade consulted the C.P.R. Superintendent before attempting to perfect their arrangements thus showing their anxiety to avoid inconvenience to the company as much as possible. Although their overtures were not taken advantage of, there is no doubt but the Board are still willing to act in the same spirit, and about the best course the C.P.R. managers could adopt, would be to apply to the Board, and through its prerogatives have matters so arranged for this season, that their inspection difficulties can be overcome. Where there is a will there is a way, and with the C.P.R. managers and the Board both willing and anxious to make interests mutual, there are no difficulties about inspection that cannot be arranged to the satisfaction of all concerned.

THE SICK LUMBER TRADE.

There is such a thing as being killed by kindness and pampering and when death is evaded, dangerous sickness may result from similar treatment. This theory applies to an industry just as much as an individual, and we have a notable instance of this in the present state of the lumber trade of the Northwest. No business in this country has been more pampered and protected than lumber, and to-day it is in a more demoralized state than any other branch of commerce.

In the first place pampering commences in the lumber business, when the Dominion Government grants timber permits, or leases. These are in almost every case granted not to men anxious to develop the lumber resources of the country, but to political blowers and strikers and their relations and friends. Let a legitimate lumber manufacturer without any political influence (that is to say if such a specimen of humanity exists in Canada), apply for one of these timber

limits, and he will soon find out how foolish it is for him to make his application. What he asks for he will soon find out is reserved as a reward for some political trickster, or some friend of an Ottawa official, and when either one or the other of them secure it, the terms are of such a character, that the Dominion Treasury is never much benefited by the transaction. Even the settler on the prairie may suffer for want of fuel in sight of the timber limit thus granted to a political barnacle, who may never take the trouble to visit the locality in which it is situated.

Having been thus pampered from the first, the lumber interest cannot survive without a continuation of the treatment. The manufacturer, it seems, is not able to compete with his United States competitor, even when his timber costs him nothing to commence with, and a protective duty is resorted to to bolster him up. Besides having the advantage of timber free of cost, our lumber manufacturers are so far distant from lumber markets of the United States, that freights are to them equal to another protective tariff, and still the trade cannot prosper. Today lumbermen in Manitoba will admit, that not one institution in their line has been paying for the past year, and the outlook does not give promise of their paying during the coming year. At present banks have more money locked up in lumbering concerns in Manitoba, than would be sufficient to meet half of the discount wants of the mercantile community in the city of Winnipeg, and as matters look at present, they have made in this respect a number of permanent investments. But with all this financial and legislative bolstering, the lumber trade continues in a very weak condition, and has been in the same now for nearly two years. Other branches of trade have had their time of trouble, but many of them have now completely recovered, and with the exception of the lumber business, there are none that do not give signs of early convalescence. Truly the lumber trade of the Northwest furnishes a notable instance of how pampering has permanently crippled, if it has not crushed an industry, which if left to fight its way in a field of open competition, would soon recover and regain vitality. At present those engaged in it have been accustomed to rest upon artificial props, and no sooner do they discover the rottenness of one,

than they look around for another to rest upon. Yet this country furnishes an ever widening field for the trade to develop in, and one in which any unbolstered industry could not fail to be blessed with prosperity.

FREIGHT COMPETITION.

The announcement made by the St.P.-M. & M. Railway Company, to the effect that freight rates between St. Paul and this city will be the same during winter as they were last spring, and that we are not going to have the extortionate rates of last winter, must have given general satisfaction to the mercantile community of Manitoba. Merchants here know how burdensome freights between the two cities have been in past years, and how in some classes of heavy goods they compelled consumers here to pay prices for goods unheard of in almost any other portion of this continent. When we hear of this reduction in freights, we must not conclude that the managers of that road have been seized with a fit of philanthropy and commiseration for the poor oppressed Canucks of Manitoba. We must rather accept the notice of reduced freights as a result of the presence of competition, and not merely of immediate competition, but of what is shadowed for the near future. Railways are not guilty of philanthropy, and past experience has shown, that the St.P.M.&M. is not a generous exception. It is now almost a certainty that the C.P.R. line north of Lake Superior will be finished before the close of lake navigation next year, and the St.P.M.&M. managers are only taking time a little by the forelock, in thus trying to hold friendly relations with the Manitobians. Another reason for this reduction of freights is to be found in the fact, that other wealthy railway corporations in the United States are heading for the prairie province, with the very reasonable hope, that the days of the C.P.R. monopoly are pretty nearly at an end. Competition from such a source is most to be dreaded by the St.P.M.&M., and most to be wished by people here. Let them all come we say. There has been enough of suffering here from extortionate freight rates, and competition is what we want to cure the evil. With three or four different routes to the east smashing into each other, the people of Manitoba have a chance to pick up some of the pieces.

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WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

Any change that has taken place in monetary affairs during the past week has been a little more of a drift into a healthy safe state. In commercial circles there has been the usual activity and extracurricular discounts which marks the opening of a month, and October has shown a more marked increase than several of the preceding months. The fourth occurring on Saturday caused a little bustle also, but the days of anxiety about how the fourth would come out are past, and Saturday was remarkable only for a little extra work at the banks. Paper was well met as a rule, and the number of part renewals was much less than in September. The day altogether was an uninteresting one. Banks profess to have plenty of money for all trade demands and have acted during the week as if they had good hopes for the future. The only money difficult to obtain was small loans without security and these have still to be had mainly from private sources. Rates have not changed and are: 8 per cent. for first-class paper; 9 to 10 for ordinary, and 10 to 12 for promiscuous discounts and one-name paper. There has been very little increased activity in loans on real estate mortgage, still the dead feeling of six weeks ago has disappeared and applications are growing more numerous, while inquiries are being made which will doubtless develop into business as soon as crops are started to come to market in any quantities. Overdue interest is still a little slow in coming in, but a very decided improvement in this respect may be expected during the current month. Rates of interest are still ranging from 8 to 10 per cent., the latter figure being almost exclusively on renewals of old loans.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

The past week has been one of considerable bustle in wholesale circles in the city. The sudden increase in activity which we noted in our last report has been lasting, and there has been a steady demand for goods in most lines during the entire week. The bustle has been most marked in season goods, and the lights in wholesale establishments until late hours during most of the week showed that it required some hurry to overtake orders. The cautious feeling of the past two months is now scarcely visible, and the only trace of it left is a desire on the part of retailers to confine purchases to every-day goods, and avoid dangerous stocks as much as possible. Even country merchants who refused to order during September are now clamoring for goods in a hurry, and, should cold weather strike the country suddenly during this week, there will be a scarcity for a few lines of winter goods. In staple lines, such as groceries and provisions, sales have increased during the week, although the rash that exists in season goods is not to be found. Goods for building operations are still in good demand, but it is evident that the season's trade in such is drawing near a close. As yet the retailers throughout the country do not report much business doing, but with scarcely an exception they are thoroughly confident about a good season's trade, and are making preparations for the

same. In the city stocks are being replenished, but retailers are not rushed, and do not look for much activity until colder weather comes. In short, the wholesale trade is now in the lull of the season, but retailers have not yet entered upon theirs, and once they do there is a prospect of a good sorting trade, as stocks are still moderately light, and no doubt deficient in many lines. Collections have not improved much as yet, but the past week has given signs that better returns in this respect may be looked for very soon, and a little slowness now does not cause any anxiety as trade affairs are certainly in a safer state now than they have been for over two years.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

The trade in threshers still continues although fresh orders are beginning to be few. The filling of former ones has been pushed during the week and will continue during the most of the present month. The plow trade keeps lively, and country agencies look for an increasing demand during the present and coming week. With the exception of wagons, these are the only goods selling, although houses here are preparing with sleds and other articles of winter demand. Collections are not much improved, but the first returns from the present crop returns are in, and steady improvement in this respect may now be expected.

HOOPS AND SHOES.

Business has kept active in this line during the week, and wholesalers report a good aggregate of sales. There are evidence, however, that the first rush has spent its force, and a week or two of dull pending sorting trade is close at hand. Collections are still slow.

CLOTHING.

Although the week's business in this line has been a good one, matters have been a little slower than we reported in our last. The filling of former orders has kept houses active, but a falling off in fresh ones has been general, although those received have, as a rule, been heavy. Collections are reported slow to fair.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

There is nothing remarkable to report about business in this trade during the past week. A fair volume of sales has been kept up, and has been, if anything, increasing. Country orders have been getting more numerous and have comprised a fair share of fancy lines. Collections have not improved much but are as good as could be expected.

DRY GOODS.

In this staple line business has been steadily good all week, and wholesalers have been pushed to attend to demands, so much so that night work has been found indispensable. Both city and country retailers have been making demands, and the quantity of goods sent out has probably been the heaviest of any week of the season. There is a marked contrast in the reports of last week and those of a month earlier, and the absence of grumbling now is one of the most prominent features. Collections are reported fair and inclined to improve.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

There is no change to note in this line. Business maintains an even flow, and last week was

fully up to the average. Collections pursued the same steady gait.

FANCY GOODS AND SMALLWARES.

From this trade we have a good report for the week. Sales are reported liberal, with plenty of new orders coming to the front, while collections are reported fair to good, and a long way better than could be expected at this time. Quite a share of fancy goods are selling, and wholesalers are all in good hopes.

FISH AND POULTRY.

Quotations in this line have changed since our last issue. The demand has been larger than last week but is still quiet for this time of the year, and present supply has been equal to the demand. Prices and quotations are as follows: white fish, 6c; Lake Superior trout, 10c; salt white fish, 4½c; smoked white fish, 10c.

Game is plentiful, especially prairie chickens, which are coming in in large quantities at 25 to 30c per brace; dressed ducks, 25c per brace; dressed spring chicken, 15c per lb.

FRUIT.

Business has been good in this line during the week, while the variety of fresh fruit has been rather limited. Apples are still plentiful and at low prices, quotations being from \$3.50 to \$4.00 a bbl. Crab apples are now out of the market. Lemons are worth \$6.50 to \$7.00 a box, and dates 12½c a lb. A few California pears are still on the market. White grapes are still to be had at \$3 a basket. Peaches are getting scarce. Dried fruits have no change in prices.

FUEL.

There is a steady increase in the demand for fuel as the season wears on, and the past week has shown a little more activity than the one before. Anthracite coal still holds at \$10.75 on track, and bituminous at \$8.50. Saskatewan lignite is delivered at \$7.50. Wood is in fair demand at \$3 to \$4 for poplar, and \$4 to \$4.50 for tamarac.

FURNITURE.

A few scattering orders from the country are all that has been heard of in wholesale business in this line during the past week. Dealers do not look for much improvement until crops are fairly into market. No report can be given of collections.

GROCERIES.

There has been a decided increase in the volume of sales in this staple line during the past week. The quietness noted in our last report has disappeared in a great measure, still there is no rush yet. Collections are reported a little better but still with room for improvement. There have been no changes in price although sugars are quoted weak, coffees stronger and teas still firm although not so inclined to advance as they were a month ago. Quotations are as follows: Sugars, yellows, 6½ to 7c; granulated 8½c; Paris lumps 9½c. Coffees, Rios, 14 to 17c; Javas, 21 to 24c; Jamaicas, 17 to 20c, and Mocha 30 to 34c. Teas, Moyune gunpowder, 30 to 75c; new seasons, 65 to 85c; Japans, 25 to 50c, new seasons 40 to 55c; Congous 30 to 75c; new seasons 55 to 90c. Syrups, single crown \$2.50, and triple crown \$2.75 per keg.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

There has been but very little improvement in the tone of business in this line during the week. A trade slightly below the average of the season has been done, and the store branch has made up a large proportion of this. Heavy goods have been rather dull. Prices have not changed. Quotations are now as follows: Tin plate I.C., 14x20, \$6.25 to \$6.50 a box; I.C., 20x28, \$12.50 to \$13; Canada plates \$4 to \$4.25; sheet iron, 28 G, \$1.75 to \$5.25 per 100 lbs; iron pipe, 40 to 50 per cent. off list price; ingot tin, 25 to 30 per lb; pig lead, 6 to 6½c; galvanized iron, 7 to 7½c per lb; bar iron, \$2.75 to 3.25 per 100 lbs; cut rails, \$3.55 to \$3.75.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

The report of the week in this line is rather a quiet one. Sales have not been heavy, and collections have not been as good as could be wished. As soon as weather gets cold an improvement is looked for. Prices of staple goods are unchanged and are as follows: Spanish sole, 33c to 35c; slaughterer sole, 35c; French calf, first choice, \$1.40 to 1.50; domestic, 85c; BZ calf, \$1.00 to 1.10; French kip, \$1.00 to 1.25; BZ kip, 85c to 90c; slaughterer kip, 65c to 75c; No. 1 wax upper, 55c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, 34c to 36c for plumb stock; English oak sole, 65c.

LUMBER.

This trade is still in a rather unsatisfactory state. There have been few sales of any consequence during the week, and dealers and manufacturers are rather careless about selling at current prices, unless in cases where cash is offered. The season is now drawing to a close, and has been altogether a very unsatisfactory one. Hopes are expressed that matters will be better next spring as the cut of logs will no doubt be kept down, and, with the general improvement which is going on in trade, better prices may be looked for.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS.

The improvement noted in our last issue continues in this trade and the only complaint heard is about collections. Prices of goods are unchanged and are as follows: Linseed oil raw, 67c per gal.; boiled, 70c; seal oil, steam refined, \$1.10; no pale or straw seal in the market; castor, 15c per lb; lard, No. 1, \$1.30 per gal.; olive, \$1.50 to \$2, according to quality; machine oils, black 30c; oleine 50c; fine qualities 65c to \$1. Coal oils, headlight, 27c; water white 33c. Calcined plaster, \$4.00 per bbl.; Portland cement, \$6; white lead, genuine, \$8.00; No. 1, \$7.50; No. 2, \$7. Window glass, first break, are quoted at \$2.50.

SADDLERY AND HARNESS.

Business in this line has been only fair during the week, although orders from the country have been quite numerous but, as a rule, light. Collections have not been too free. Quotations still remain: Harness leather, 33 to 36c per lb; collar splits, 27 to 33c; sheep skins, \$5.50 to 11.50 per doz., according to size.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

Business in this line has improved somewhat during the week but is still far from being

rushed. Further improvement is looked for this month. Collections are reported good.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

The report from this line for the week gives fresh encouragement. Sales have been quite liberal and there are signs of collections improving soon. Prices are unchanged and are as follows: Hennessy's one star, \$13 to \$14; in wood, \$4.50 to 5.00 per gallon; Martel, in case, one star, \$13 to \$14; Renault, 1-star, \$12, \$16 and \$20; Louis Freres, in cases, qts., \$9; flasks, two dozen in a case, \$11; M. Dubois, in wood, \$3.50 per gallon; cases, quarts, flasks, \$8; Gin, \$9; Holland, in wood, \$3 per gallon; red cases, \$10.5 to 11.50; green \$5.50 to \$6.50; cases, Old Tom gin, Bernhard's, in wood, \$3.25 per gallon; Booth's, in wood, \$3.25; Booth's, in cases, quarts, \$8.50; Scotch whisky, Ramsay's, in wood, \$3.50 to \$4.00; Coal-Ha Islay, in wood, \$3.50; Stewart's, in cases, quarts, \$8.50; flasks, 10.50. Irish whisky, John Jameson & Sons, in wood, \$3.50 to \$4. Bernhard's, in cases, quarts, \$8; flasks, \$9.50. Jamaica rum, \$3.75 to \$4.00 per gallon. Champagne—Pomeroy, quarts, \$34; pints \$25 per case; Bollinger, quarts, \$33; pints \$34; Moet and Chandon, quarts, \$27; pints \$29; G. H. Mumm, quarts, \$28; pints, \$30; Carte Blanche, quarts, \$20; pints \$22. Sherry from \$2.50 to 3.00 per gallon, according to quality and brand; ports \$2.50 to 7.00, according to quality and brand; claret in cases \$5.00 to 7.00; Bass's ale in quarts \$3.50 per doz; pints \$2.25; Guinness' porter in quarts \$4.00, pints 2.50. Domestic whiskies, Gooderham & Wort's, in wood, \$1.55 to 2.25 per gallon; 65 o. p. rectified, in wood, \$2.52; W.F.L. five year old, \$2.50 per gallon cases, quarts, \$7.50; flasks \$5.00.

THE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

GRAIN AND PROVISIONS.

The movement of grain during the past week has been chiefly confined to car lots of wheat, the quality of which has not been as a rule what might be expected from this province. It has been out of condition, and in a great many instances very filthy. Farmers, if they expect good prices, must clean it thoroughly before they send it to the market, as the day is past that millers will pay freight on dirt. New oats have not as yet made their appearance on the market, consequently old oats, what stocks there are in the city, are firmly held. Provisions are without any essential change, with the exception that business has been somewhat better than reported in our last issue.

WHEAT.

Millers are still eager purchasers, the wet weather having curtailed deliveries that were expected to supply their demands; hence the urgency above noted. The prices paid during the past week must not be considered as the proper value, as high as \$2c has been paid for No. 1 hard, and rejected, 65 to 68c.; of which the bulk of the past week have consisted, as No. 1 hard this season seems to be rather a scarce article.

OATS.

On both local and shipping accounts the demand for oats has been good. They are still remaining fixed at 35c in consequence of the old oats getting scarce, and the new ones not likely to be on the market for some time to come.

BARLEY.

There has been no appearance of this grain as yet, but a few samples of the new crop have been sent to town, the quality of which is fair to good.

FLOUR.

Millers are now grinding new wheat, and are supplying the home market with flour from the same, but no shipments to the east are yet being made. Prices still hold, Patents \$3; strong bakers \$2.60; XXXX \$2.20; superfine \$1.80.

BRAN AND SHORTS.

The stock is exceedingly limited in the city, and is wanted as fast provided. No car lots are to be had, and prices cannot be given.

POTATOES.

Are selling from 25 to 35c, and are quite plentiful. Stocks for storing during winter are not filling up as yet.

EGGS.

The price has been going up during the week, 22c being the general quotation, and a higher figure will doubtless soon be reached.

BUTTER.

Good quality butter has not been too plentiful during the week, and there has been a slight falling off in the local supply. Choice Manitoba lots has sold up to 15c, and medium to 15c. Inferior grades are hard to sell. No importations from the east are now to be heard of.

CHEESE.

There is practically no change during the week, choice new Manitoba has sold at 14c, with eastern quoted at 13 to 14c. The demand holds good.

BACON.

As in all other pork products prices have held firm all week, although no advance in prices has taken place. Dry salt still sells at 13½c; spiced rolls 16c; smoked bacon 14½c; English breakfast 17c.

HAMS.

There is still a good steady demand for these with prices holding firm. Stocks are not heavy in the city. Quotations are 17½c for choice lots.

MESS PORK.

Sales have been about an average for the week, and prices have not changed. The steady quotation has been \$22.50, although \$22 has been heard of for one heavy lot cash down.

MESS BEEF.

keeps moving with its usual slow steady sale, and quotations not moving from \$17.00.

MINNEAPOLIS.

Under ordinary circumstances the heavy receipts of wheat the past week would have greatly depressed prices, but the week has been noted for steadiness, with occasional advances, the close showing a firm market at an advance of ¼ to 1c all around. Free purchases by millers on 'change and an increased demand from outside contributed to hold up the market. The weather has been very wet and cold, and the general feeling is bullish. Reports indicate that there is still considerable old wheat at country points, but it does not come in very fast.

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

Wheat, Highest, Lowest, Closing, 1883 :

	Sept. 19.		
No. 1 hard ...	79 3/4	78	78 1/2
" 2 "	75	73 3/4	75
" 1 " ..	70	69	70
" 2 " ..	66	64	66

Old wheat was not handled by grade, so that quotations cannot be given. Coarse grains were steady, No. 2 corn closing at 55c and No. 2 oats at 25 to 26c.

MILLSTUFF—Is plentiful and easy, bulk bran closing at \$7.25 to .50, and shorts at \$10 to 11 per ton.

FLOUR.—There is a good demand for old wheat flour, but new is dull. Most mills are using liberal mixtures of new wheat and report that so far as heard from it gives the best of satisfaction. Two or three mills have enough old wheat to last another fortnight, which will make this the latest run on record on old crop. There is more export inquiry than for some time past, but no improvement in prices offered. Few millers look for any material advance before the holidays. Quotations at the mills for car or round lots are as follows: Patents, \$4.90 to 5.25; straights, \$4.40 to 4.80; first bakers, \$3.90 to 4.25; second bakers, \$3.25 to 3.65; best low grades, \$2 to 2.25, in bags; red dog, \$1.50 to 1.70, in bags.

We doubt if there ever was a time when the mills of Minneapolis turned out as much flour as they are doing now. Every mill is being called upon for the last barrel that it can produce, and the totals are attaining a lofty height. It is a period of big runs, and as the new crop comes into more general use, the mills promise to show even more astonishing results. The total flour production last week amounted to 139,626 bbls, against 119,286 last week, and 85,000 bbls in 1883. This is an average of 23,271 bbls daily, or within about 3,000 bbls of what the maximum capacity of the city is rated at. When it is considered that one mill of 600 bbls capacity is not being operated at all (though rumors are current that it will now soon be started up) while two or three others lost one or two days' time by accidents, this output of flour is something wonderful. The present week, however, gives promise of piling up even a larger amount. Twenty-one mills are being worked at their greatest capacity, and having all the power they need, are not unlikely to approach close to a daily production of 26,000 bbls, their maximum rated capacity. Three or four mills are running or new wheat exclusively, the others using from one-third to one-half, and millers speak very highly of its fine milling qualities. It is conceded to be superior to last year's crop, and flours "like chalk," as one miller put it. It is comparatively dry, has a greater amount of gluten, and consequently gives the flour greater strength, makes the flour a fine color and has a very thin bran. Those mills that have so far run on it entirely have been able to make a greater amount of flour in a given time, and it finds high favor among the operative millers.

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

RECEIPTS.

	Sept. 30.	Sept. 24.	Sept. 16.
Wheat, bush...	944,460	901,600	610,960
Flour, brls....	375	738	598
Millstuff, tons..	37	73	12

SHIPMENTS.

	Sept. 30.	Sept. 24.	Sept. 16.
Wheat, bush...	67,310	38,080	37,520
Flour, brls....	130,081	124,335	87,777
Millstuff, tons..	1,524	2,739	1,791

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

MINNEAPOLIS.

	Sept. 29.	Sept. 22.
No. 1 hard ..	167,364	54,871
No. 2 hard ..	38,655	73,097
No. 1 ..	305,514	208,635
No. 2 ..	63,409	87,168
No. 3 ..	5,972	10,759
Rejected ..	42,305	54,622
Condemned ..	....	....
Specie bins ..	107,985	40,288
Total ..	749,204	529,444

With the amount in store at the transfer elevator, which is not included in the above table, the stock is brought up to 796,304 bus.

ST. PAUL.

	Oct. 1.	Sept. 24.	Sept. 17.
In elevators, bus.....	71,500	61,000	63,000

DULUTH.

	Sept. 30.	Sept. 23.	Sept. 16.
In elevators, bus.....	1,122,351	1,204,130	1,502,860

—Northwestern Miller.

CHICAGO.

The week has been one with very little excitement in grain affairs, corn being the only commodity on which there was any excitement. Wheat made a very slight advance during the week, but receipts are too liberal to admit of any material advance. Pork and lard have been equally uninteresting, the former making a trifling decline and the latter advancing slightly. Tuesday's closing figures were as follows :

Wheat,.....	Sept., \$0.77 3/4	Oct., \$0.78 3/4
Corn,.....	" 58	" 56 1/2
Oats,.....	" 25 1/2	" 26 1/2
Pork,.....	" 16.50	" 16.50
Lard,.....	" 7.20	" 7.17 1/2

Wednesday produced a little more strength to wheat, while pork and lard were practically unchanged. Closing quotations were :

Wheat,.....	Oct., \$0.79 1/4	Nov., \$0.81 1/4
Corn,.....	" 58 1/2	" 56 3/4
Oats,.....	" 25 3/4	" 26 3/4
Pork,.....	" 16.00	" 16.00
Lard,.....	" 7.20	" 7.25

On Thursday wheat still held firm but advanced nothing, while both pork and lard made slight advances. Closing figures were :

Wheat,.....	Oct., \$0.79 3/4	Nov., \$0.81 3/4
Corn,.....	" 58 3/4	" 57 1/2
Oats,.....	" 26 1/2	" 26 1/2
Pork,.....	" 16.50	" 15.90
Lard,.....	" 7.30	" 7.32 1/2

On Friday wheat held steady and closed about the same as on the previous day. Pork

was easier but held its own, while lard eased off slightly. Closing quotations were as follows :

Wheat,.....	Oct., \$0.79 1/2	Nov., \$0.81 1/2
Corn,.....	" 59	" 52 1/2
Oats,.....	" 26 1/2	" 26 3/4
Pork,.....	" 16.50	" ..
Lard,.....	" 7.27 1/2	" 7.30

On Saturday quietness was general except in corn which was nervous and higher. Quotations were :

Wheat,.....	Oct., \$0.77 1/2	Nov., \$0.80 1/2
Corn,.....	" 59 1/2	" 54
Oats,.....	" 26 1/2	" 26 3/4
Pork,.....	" 16.07 1/2	" ..
Lard,.....	" 7.25	" 7.10

TORONTO.

STOCKS.

The market has been without excitement during the week and the downward tendency noted in our last was to some extent checked, still matters have been very quiet, and the quantity of business done light. Wednesday's closing quotations represent about the average price of stocks, and are as follows :

	Sept. 17.	Sept. 24.
Montreal ..	185 1/2	188 1/2
Ontario ..	160 1/2	109 1/2
Molson ..	..	..
Toronto ..	171 1/2	173
Merchants ..	108 1/2	110 1/2
Commerce ..	117	117 1/2
Imperial ..	126	130
Federal ..	52	52 1/2
Dominion ..	188	189
Standard ..	112	112 1/2
Hamilton ..	114	116 1/2
Northwest Land ..	44 1/2	43 1/2

GRAIN AND PRODUCE.

The grain market of the past week has been without any marked change. Notwithstanding all bearish reports, wheat has held strong and kept its prices steady, although in other grains and especially barley, prices have eased off, and a weaker feeling set in. Receipts, except in barley, have not been heavy, and there is a belief gaining ground that many of the farmers are determined to hold until better prices can be had.

WHEAT.

No. 1 fall has sold up to 80c and good samples still hold up to that figure. No. 2 ranged 77 to 78c. No. 1 spring has held between 83 and 84c, and No. 2 about 82c. Occasionally during the week a shade higher prices were reached; but the above are about average prices.

OATS

have been weak during most of the week. Prices have ranged from 33 to 34c for white, and 32 to 33c for mixed. Street lots sold up to 36c.

BARLEY.

The stock in the city has been steadily increasing, and prices, although weakening, have been firmer than might have been expected. Average prices were: No. 2, 62 to 63c; No. 3, 52 to 53c; extra No. 3, 58c.

RYE

There has been nothing doing in this grain, and street prices have been about 60c.

FEAS

have been slow in sale. No car lots are reported, and street prices ranged 65 to 66c.

POTATOES.

Receipts have been light, and sale free. Car lots have sold at 40c, and more wanted at that.

BUTTER

has had an upward tendency during the week, and good lots were eagerly sought after.

Good qualities ranged 18 to 19c; shipping lots from 15 to 17c; medium ranged 13 to 15c. Rolls brought 17c easily when good. Inferior lots were not wanted, even at any low figures, although offerings were liberal.

CHEESE.

Prices have been firm all week, and demand steadily good. Good qualities sold 11 to 12c, and inferior were offered at 10c but not wanted.

EGGS.

Receipts have fallen off very much during the week, while the demand has held steady. Round lots have sold at 17c.

PORK

is in good demand and sales have been liberal during the week, the price holding steady at \$21.00.

BACON

has been very scarce and the demand has held good all week. Prices have consequently been very firm and inclined to go upward. Long clear sold at 11½ to 12c; new Cumberland brought 11½c; new relis—

HAMS

have been very scarce, and smoked sold readily at 16c.

LARD.

Sales have been light at 11 to 11½c.

APPLES.

The receipts of the week have been heavy, and prices have declined. Good to choice have sold at \$1.25 to \$1.75 a bbl., while inferior could not be sold at any price.

New York Correspondence.

The grain market at New York has been of exceptional interest during the past week, owing to the pronounced difference of opinion respecting prices on the part of the opposing interests. It appears that the view is gaining ground that wheat prices have touched their lowest point and that better figures may be looked for from now onward. Those favoring this interpretation believe that quotations touched bottom prices last week, when No. 2 spring at Chicago ran below 75c per bushel. During the interval since, the advance has amounted to 1 to 1½c per bush. Just why this opinion is entitled credence is not made plain beyond the fact that quotations were lower than for thirty years previously, and that the increased demand of the world would not warrant the continuation of prices at the low level reached. One popular, and, according to some, reliable wheat statistics authority has reckoned on the supply and demand for the current cereal year, and figures up a surplus supply of but 750,000 qrs., a very nominal amount. This, of course, is considered a very bullish situation, if true, and the recent declaration of H. Kains Jackson, the eminent English observer, that this era of lowering prices "has gone far enough," goes far to help out the higher prices view of the situation.

Here in New York there is no doubt but that the bull side of the market has been well supported during the week. On Friday, in particular, there were a goodly number of "outside buying orders," which successfully offset the at times rather lively short selling of wheat by professionals. The bears in wheat have not of late been so sanguine of their ability to operate for a decline much further. Their, in part, unexpected success in depressing quotations naturally elated them, and when they succeeded

ed in knocking figures at New York down to 85c and below, and in holding them in the immediate vicinity thereof, they naturally suspected overselling, and they, to some extent, have been covering their contracts. This rendered the greater buoyancy possible, and leaves the present situation one of considerable doubt to traders generally. Exporters have shown their usual caution and have stopped buying since the advance. So conspicuous, however, did the bull feeling become on 'change on Friday, that they in some instances repented, evidently thinking that the reaction was about to amount to something. The advices received here Friday afternoon of damage to considerable of the wheat in shock in Minnesota and Dakota from rain and the probable result of a deterioration in the grade helped to sustain prices and buying became a little more general. Reports of rust from some localities due west of the Mississippi river added to this, and the business done on the 19th inst. was mainly of purchases for an advance.

The shipment of wheat to market by farmers has thus far been more notable (relatively) in the east than in the west. Thus the stock of wheat at New York and vicinity last week increased 776,278 bush, while at Chicago, there was a decrease of 29,615 bush. The visible supply in the United States and Canada, and east of the Rocky mountains, according to the report of the New York produce exchange statistician, was nearly 600,000 bush larger, indicating rather freer sales of wheat by farmers than for several weeks previously. It is worthy of note, however, that at a good many points west of the tributary to St. Louis, farmers are still holding their grain, at the cost of 10 per cent. on the loans effected to enable them to do so. As might be expected, almost all foreign advices from the technical journals incline to the opinion that the supply of wheat for the world, thus far reported, points to a continuation of a low range of prices.

The Chicago squeeze in Indian corn was not unexpected. A good many New Yorkers were on the right side and reaped the consequent advantage. Stocks of No. 2 mixed corn at shipping points, and at tide water, are very low, and the higher range of price commanded of late by the nearer options and by cash corn have failed to draw much corn from the country. This was unexpected, and served to further the designs of those who engineered the advance in quotations. The dissatisfaction of farmers with prices paid for corn at interior western points is well exemplified by their recently reported making of loans at a high rate of interest, with which they have purchased cattle and hogs, and to which they propose to feed the corn, instead of selling it. This is warranted by the relative values of the price of corn and of meats.

In hog products there are speculative dealings, and these, together with complications in the foreign trade, have served to depress prices. In beef and lamb meat products the reverse has been and is true. An expected advance in the price of hogs and the advance already shown in beef and mutton warrants this action on the part of corn growers. If cattle are

cheap, they must profit by turning their corn into meat, with the price of the former as low as at present. The disposition to "hold on" to grain is further shown in the action of Mr. Dalrymple, who has leased some of the spare elevator room at Buffalo (where there are far more than plenty) in which to place the bulk of his heavy crop of wheat, to await figures nearer his own views.

Flour is a little firmer under the influence of firmer grain process. There has been no advance in prices, but receipts have not been so heavy and exporters promise to take with more liberality if favorably advised in return to late cables sent to London.

Saturday's market developed nothing new, aside from a good deal of curiosity as to who is manipulating the corn deal.—*Northwestern Miller.*

Winnipeg Imports.

The following is a statement showing value of goods imported and entered for consumption during the month of September, 1884, compared with the same month 1883.

DESCRIPTION.	VALUE.	
	1883.	1884.
Goods imported, dutiable..	\$181,083	\$193,723
“ “ free	23,249	26,168
Total imported	204,332	219,891
Goods entered for consumption, dutiable and free ..	205,134	230,919
Canadian free goods passing through the United States	199,564	266,934
Goods exported	125,261	90,153

The duty collected during the month of September, 1884, was \$55,518.88, and \$47,355.69 for the same month 1883.

It will be seen from this statement that our imports are slightly on the increase, which is owing, no doubt, to the improvement in trade affairs. Still the increase is small, compared with the wants of the country, many of which are now being supplied with home products which were formerly imported from eastern provinces or from the United States. Altogether the statement is a very encouraging one.

Legal Decisions on Intemperance.

It appears that a man may even die of excessive drinking and yet his friends express the opinion that he never drank to excess, and the person himself contend while yet living that he was "a strictly temperate man." A case of this kind arose in England, where one Weems, who was insured in the Standard Life Company for £1,500 died in 1882 of a liver disease, generally produced by excessive drinking. In reply to the question in the application for insurance, "are you temperate in your habits?" Weems replied "temperate." And to the question "have you always been strictly so?" he wrote in reply. "yes." That a man so describing himself should have a 'whiskey liver' and die from the effects of it, seemed to the company too gross a misrepresentation, and they declined to pay the heirs

the amount of his policy. The heirs accordingly sued to recover.

In the lower court the case went against the company, the judge holding that as Weems did not regard himself as intemperate, he made no false statement in answering as he had done. On appeal the higher court sustained the previous decision, holding in effect that the replies of the decessor in the application were an expression of opinion and not an assertion of fact. But the court of final appeal, the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council last month reversed these decisions and gave a verdict for the company. Lord Fitzgerald deemed the evidence sufficient to show that Weems was not a person of temperate habits. Lord Watson said, in rendering opinion :

The case raises two questions, one of law and one of facts ; the former involves the construction of the clauses of the policy, and the second a question of facts.

The assured said he was temperate in his habits and had always been strictly so. This was an affirmation of facts and not a mere assertion of opinion or belief, and he must be held to have warranted, not only that the thing was true, according to his conviction, but true in point of fact ; the majority of the second division held that it was not a fact to the personal knowledge of the assured. When the truth of a particular statement had been made the subject of warranty, no question could arise as to the materiality of the risk, it being the object of the warranty to exclude that. As to the ingenious argument submitted for the pursuers, that the question from its very nature involves only matters of opinion, and any reply must be only an expression of opinion and not an assertion of fact ; this argument is too finely drawn, and has really no practical bearing on the case. - It would be vain to contend that the man's habits were a matter of opinion and not of fact. It was also argued that such a question was merely intended to elicit a formal opinion on behalf of the assured, and he must be assumed to have placed reliance on that condition. But intemperate habits were in no sense a latent disease, only to be discovered by *post mortem* examination, but as a general rule were manifested by anyone, and more rapidly seen by bystanders. The object of the question was to ascertain the fact and not the opinion of the assured, and if he chose to give an unsatisfactory answer he must take the risk. If he hesitated, the insurance company would be put on their guard and might decline the risk or exact a higher premium. — *Monetary Times*.

Wheat of the Northern Hemisphere.

Mr. Estinne, of Marseilles, France, has issued his annual report of the crops of the year in the northern hemisphere somewhat earlier than usual. He has achieved quite an international reputation for his reports, which have in previous years proved as accurate as could be expected, considering the difficulty of obtaining them from impartial and reliable sources. The French wheat crop is said to be greatly superior to any that has been gathered of late years. In the United Kingdom the

yield is put down at 12 per cent. above an average. In Austria-Hungary wheat is a good harvest for yield and quality. In Italy the harvest is said to be one-fourth more productive than last year. In Turkey and the Danubian provinces there will be a satisfactory yield of all cereals of good quality, and the same may be said of Asia-Minor, Syria and Cyprus. In Russia the harvest is said to be fifteen days late, and the wheat crop is only an average one. In Germany the wheat crop is exceptionally good, and the quality is very fine. Switzerland has a wheat crop about the average yield and quality. Belgium has a good crop, the weight being exceptionally heavy. Spain has not as good a crop as it had last year, and a little will have to be imported. India is put down as average in the provinces of Bombay, Calcutta and Karrachee. Tunis is under its average. Morocco has a magnificent wheat crop. It will thus be seen that European countries will be more nearly able to supply their own wants than for a number of years past, and the outlook indicates a season of low prices. Indeed this may be assumed to be an ascertained fact. The present range of prices is now so low in England that wheat is being fed to cattle, and it must require a great deal of imagination to induce the most optimistic to accept as probable the bullish anticipations of several English writers, who are invariably ready with figures to show why prices must go up, and who supplement their home efforts by obtaining circulation in America to their erroneous statements, through parties who know no better and who lend themselves to assist in loss to their countrymen. — *Millers' Journal*.

The Allspice-Tree of Mexico.

The American Consul at Tuxpan gives an interesting description of the allspice-tree : From \$4,000 to \$5,000 worth of allspice is shipped from Tuxpan to the United States annually under the name of bayberries. The *Myrtus pimenta*, the *Eugenia pimenta* of De Candolle, is an evergreen, reaching to the height of twenty-five or thirty feet. Its trunk is erect, with many round branches toward the summit. The twigs are compressed ; the younger and the pedicles downy. The leaves opposite, oblong or oval, with pellucid dots somewhat opaque and smooth. The flowers are small, and are in axillary and terminal trichotomous panicles ; some flowers are four-fid and subsessile in the forks of the panicle. Calyx tube nearly globose ; limb divided down to the ovary in four rounded segments ; petals four, greenish-white ; stamens numerous and distinct ; ovary two-celled ; berry globose, one-seeded, and black, the size of a pea ; embryo roundish, with the cotyledons consolidated. It is a native of Mexico, South America and the West Indies. The tree completes its growth in about seven years, though fruit may be had from it in the third year. It flourishes best in a limestone soil. The unripe berries are the officinal part. They are gathered just before maturity, thoroughly packed for foreign markets.

The bayberry, *Laurus nobilis* of Linneus,

and *Myrica cerifera*, known as the bayberry, are entirely different species of flora, the former being a large tree unknown to Mexico, but very common on the shores of the Mediterranean, and the latter being the common wax-myrtle of the United States.

Beerbohm on Prospective Wheat Supply and Demand.

During the most recent period of discouragement very exaggerated accounts of an immense over-production in the world obtained credence, for which there never appeared to be any sufficient reason, and thus the decline in prices was precipitated. The great increase in the consumption has been lost sight of. There are sufficient stocks of wheat in the world, but it is questionable whether they will be coming forward so long as prices remain low, a remark which applies more particularly to the United States and to India. The following shows the probable requirements and supplies of the different countries in the present season, the calculation having been made with the same degree of prudence as in previous years :

	Probable Requirements.	Probable Supplies.
United States and Canada. qrs	....	20,000,000
United Kingdom.....	16,000,000	....
France.....	5,500,000	....
Belgium.....	2,000,000	....
Germany.....	1,250,000	....
Holland.....	1,000,000	....
Austria-Hungary.....	....	500,000
Russia and Roumania.....	....	7,000,000
Switzerland.....	....	....
Italy.....	2,000,000	....
Spain and Portugal.....	1,000,000	....
India.....	....	3,500,000
Australia and Chili.....	....	2,250,000
West Indies, China, etc.....	2,250,000	....
Egypt and Sundries.....	....	750,000
Greece.....	250,000	....
Totals.....	3,250,000	34,000,000

This shows a probable surplus of three-fourths of a million quarters, a very nominal amount when taken in connection with such figures — *Beerbohm's List*.

Humboldt Nitre Beds.

The nitre beds of Nevada are far better situated for the development of their nitre deposits than the nitre region of South America, which is a desert entirely devoid of water and all vegetable life, where the development of its nitre beds can only be accomplished by surmounting difficulties. Provisions of all kinds must be furnished from distant countries. The water supply for all purposes must be condensed from the ocean water and carried to the nitre fields at great expense, while fuel has to be procured from the mountains in the south of Chili at great cost. In Nevada the nitre beds are in the vicinity of a rich farming-country, with wood and water right at hand. These beds are, therefore, on an average able to supply nitre, landed in San Francisco, at a much less cost than they are able to produce it in South America. The Nevada Nitre Company will be able to furnish 10,000 tons per annum, at a price that will net \$20 per ton profit. The plans for the machinery for developing this tract are completed, and the work of exploration will be initiated very soon.

An "English" Moulder.

An English exchange contains this: Mr. A. A. Cook, South Street Works, Eastbourne, Sussex, England, has patented an improved segment moulting machine for wood-working. This machine, which weighs about 5 cwt., may be used for all sorts of work, as it cuts all sorts of face mouldings, whether straight or curvilinear. It can also work moulding on the solid, on doors or shutters, is suitable for hand rails for stairs, and for fluting or chamfering newels and balusters. It will work any part of a circle, and, if required, a complete circle, and may besides be utilized as a turning machine. The cutters which revolve at a speed of 3,500 revolutions per minute, are protected in such a manner that it is claimed that accidents are almost impossible, and that perfect safety in working is obtained. The machine is fitted both with horizontal and vertical spindles. We are informed that it has done 1,044 feet of straight work in ten hours, and twenty pairs of sashes complete and finished and six complete doors, in one day.—*Chicago Journal of Commerce.*

New Kind of Stone Saw.

A new sort of a saw for cutting stone is described in *La Semaine des Constructeurs*, which seems to have advantage over those now commonly in use, and is easily and cheaply made and operated. In place of the ordinary long steel blades, supplied with sand to enable them to grind their way into the stone, the new machine presents only a slender endless cord, composed of three steel wires twisted together, which is stretched over pulleys in such a way as to bring the lower portion horizontally over the stone to be cut. The frame carrying the pulleys is moveable, so that the cord can be brought into contact with the stone, or lifted away from it at pleasure, and the whole is kept in rapid motion, while water falling in drops from a reservoir above serves to moisten the stone. The three wires which form the saw differ from the ordinary kind in being square in section, and by twisting into a cord they are so turned as to present a succession of oblique cutting edges, which act, when set in motion, in nearly the same way as so many small chisels, while the rapidity with which the blows follow each other probably adds to the effect.—*Mississippi Valley Timberman.*

A Ship Canal Across Ireland.

The proposal to construct a ship canal across Ireland is again to the fore. The *Freeman's Journal* has published particulars of the project which it assures its readers is a reality, and has been warmly espoused by influential Englishmen. Elaborate plans and surveys have been made at considerable expense, and have been submitted by Captain Eads, the American engineer. The proposed canal would be 127 miles in length and would contain 30 locks. For ships of 1,500 tons the cost would be £8,000,000; for ships of 2,500 tons, £12,000,000, and for ships of 5,000 tons and upward, £20,000,000. If built on this scale the canal would be 200 feet wide on the surface and 100 feet at

the bottom. The passage through would be affected by a system of towage, and it is estimated that the passage of a ship from Galway Bay to Kingstown would occupy between 24 and 36 hours. An alternate scheme of ship railway, on which the ships would be carried in cradles, which could be constructed for £10,000,000 is proposed by which the duration of the passage through the island would be reduced to twelve hours. An immense aqueduct would have to be constructed to carry the canal over the Shannon at Banoque. It would be over three miles in length, and would be one of the most difficult and costly works in connection with the undertaking.—*Journal of Commerce*

Winnipeg Grain Standards.

The following are the inspection rules filed by the examining board of the Winnipeg Board of Trade, and which will, in all probability, be adopted in full at the next meeting of the Board:

The following are the rules of the Winnipeg Board of Trade, now in force, governing the inspection of wheat:

No. 1 HARD SPRING WHEAT.—Shall be red fife wheat, containing not more than ten per cent. admixture of softer varieties; must be sound, well cleaned, and weigh not less than 55 pounds to the measured bushel.

No. 2 HARD SPRING WHEAT.—Shall be red fife wheat, containing not more than ten per cent. admixture of softer varieties; must be sound, reasonably clean, and weigh not less than 56 pounds to the measured bushel.

No. 1 SPRING WHEAT.—Must be sound, well cleaned, and weigh not less than 58 pounds to the measured bushel.

No. 2 SPRING WHEAT.—Must be sound, reasonably clean, and weigh not less than 56 pounds to the measured bushel.

No. 3 SPRING WHEAT.—Shall comprise all wheat fit for warehousing, not class enough for No. 2, and weighing not less than 54 pounds to the measured bushel.

REJECTED SPRING WHEAT.—Shall comprise all wheat fit for warehousing but too low in weight or otherwise unfit for No. 2.

NOTE A.—All good wheat which is slightly damp shall be reported "no grade" with the inspector's notation as to quality and condition.

NOTE B.—All wheat that is in a heating condition or too damp to be considered safe for warehousing or that has any considerable admixture of foreign grain or seeds, or is badly bin-burnt, whatever grade it might otherwise be, shall be reported "condemned" with inspector's notations as to quality and condition.

NOTE C.—Wheat containing any admixture of "goose wheat" shall be graded "rejected."

NOTE D.—Wheat containing smut or sprouted kernels, in however slight degree, shall, in no case, grade in its class as high as No. 1.

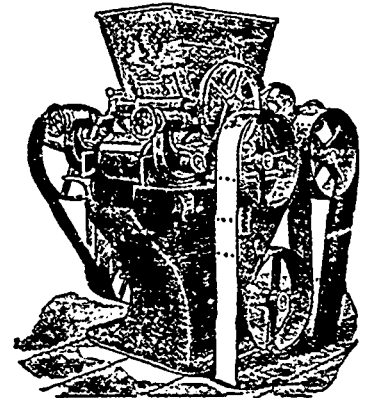
A New Industry.

The new linseed oil mill of Messrs. Body & Noakes, which we noticed two weeks ago, is now in full swing and takes its place among the most valuable industries in Winnipeg. The mill is located on Point Douglas avenue near the C. P. R. track on a lot of 132 feet square.

The mill itself is a substantial building, 88 by 40 feet, and is fitted with the most improved machinery. Its capacity is 120 bushels of seed in 10 hours, or about 250 by working day and night, the production of oil being from 160 to 200 gallons in 10 hours, or 275 to 300 in the twenty-four shift. The machinery has been made specially for the mill in Hull, England, and in the general arrangement of the institution every improvement has been adopted. Beside the mill is a warehouse 40 by 122 feet in area, capable of storing 30,000 bushels of seed, so that a stock can be kept on hand sufficient to run the institution for several months.

The mill of Messrs. Body & Noakes is one of the institutions which will give quite an impetus to the export trade of Manitoba, and outside of the flouring interest is one of the first to export manufactured goods. The supply of oil cake will be a great boon to cattle raising here, and supplies a long felt want for a heating winter food for stock. The impetus which flax growing will receive through the starting of this mill will be great, and add another to the crops that can be successfully and profitably raised in the Northwest. Altogether the institution will be one of great value to this city and province, and we wish every success to its enterprising proprietors.

CAREFUL inquiry among the farmers about Albert Lea, says a correspondent, shows that the yield of grain is unusually good, the average being thus far from the threshed 20 bushels of wheat and 50 bushels of oats per acre, and the quality all that could be desired.



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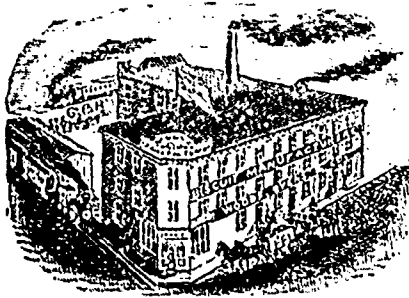
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Canadian Pacific Railway.
(WESTERN DIVISION)

CHANGE OF TIME

On and after July 23rd, 1891, Trains will move as follows:

Going West.	Going East.
10.33 a.m. leave Winnipeg arrive	5.15 p.m. Portage la Prairie
2.30 p.m. Brandon	11.00 a.m. Broadview
9.00 " " "	2.45 " " "
3.05 a.m. Regina	10.20 p.m. Moose Jaw
5.45 " " "	7.45 " " "
1.01 p.m. Swift Current	1.00 p.m. Maple Creek
7.20 p.m. " "	7.10 a.m. Medicine Hat
11.45 p.m. arrive Calgary leave	3.45 a.m. arrive Winnipeg
1.30 p.m. " "	3.50 p.m. " "

Three trains a week will run west of Moose Jaw, leaving Winnipeg on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, with Sleeping Car attached, and will run through to Calgary. Returning train will leave Calgary Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, and arrive at Winnipeg Thursdays, Saturdays and Mondays. Daily trains will run between Winnipeg and Moose Jaw.

Going East	Going West
10.20 p.m. leave Winnipeg arrive	4.00 a.m. Rat Portage
11.50 p.m. " "	1.05 a.m. Barclay
4.55 a.m. arrive St. Arthur leave	8.05 p.m. " "
2.30 p.m. " "	9.15 a.m. " "

Going South.	Going North.
7.35 p.m. leave Winnipeg arrive	6.40 a.m. Erickson
10.50 p.m. " "	4.00 a.m. " "
18.40, 9.15 a.m., leave Winnipeg arrive	4.00, 7.00 p.m. Morris
10.30, 11.55 a.m., " "	1.20, 5.05 p.m. Greta
11.40 a.m., " "	1.00 p.m. " "
5.00 p.m. " "	2.30 a.m. " "

Train leaves for Manitou Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays only, returning next day.

Train leaves Winnipeg for Stonewall, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 9.30 a.m., arriving at Stonewall 10.30 a.m. and Stonewall at 10.55 a.m. Return same days, leaving Stonewall at 1.40 p.m. and Stonewall at 2 p.m., arriving at Winnipeg 3 p.m.

Train leaves Winnipeg for West Selkirk, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 4 p.m., arriving at West Selkirk 5.40 p.m.; returning leaves West Selkirk Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 7.10 a.m., arriving at Winnipeg 8.50 a.m.

- 1 Daily.
- * Daily except Mondays.
- * Daily except Saturdays.
- * Daily except Sundays.

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