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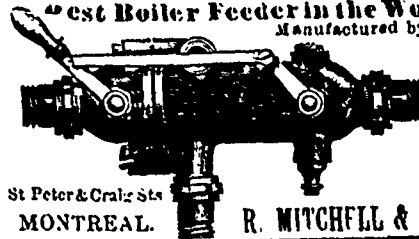
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Published by James E. Steen—Every Tuesday—Subscription, \$2 per annum.

VOL. 5.

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 28TH, 1886.

No. 14.

## 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, DECEMBER 28, 1886.

WILSON & CARRICK, blacksmiths, Brandon, have dissolved partnership.

W. R. DICK, general storekeeper, Dominion City, has moved to La Riviere.

S. J. HOGG & Co., lumber dealers, Calgary, have opened a branch yard at Banff.

W. P. McCORMICK, proprietor of the Palmer House, Regina, will open a hotel at Calgary.

— DICK, formerly of Dominion City, will open a general store at La Riviere, Southern Manitoba.

THE Canadian Live Stock Insurance Co. will apply for incorporation at the next meeting of the Legislature.

A SAMPLE of corn, grown at Headingly, near Winnipeg, took first prize in a contest offered by the *Rural New Yorker*, one of the leading agricultural papers of the United States.

There was a large competition, including samples from all sections of the continent.

THE town of Deloraine, at the end of the C. P.R. Southwestern, is rapidly upbuilding since the opening of the railway to that point.

CARROLL, MAULSON & Co., general storekeepers, Moosomin, Assa., have dissolved partnership. J. G. Carroll and M. Bull retire from the business, and W. F. Henderson and W. H. Maulson will continue the same.

THE following are prices current at Regina: Butter, 25c per lb.; eggs, 25 to 30c per dozen; dressed pork, 5 to 5½c a pound. Oats are retailing at 60 cents per bushel, and potatoes at from 75 cents to \$1. Wheat brings 50 cents per bushel. Poultry is worth from 12 to 18 cents per lb.

THE Northwest Commercial Travellers' Association have decided to donate \$100 to the leading charitable institutions of Winnipeg. \$50 will be given to the general hospital, \$25 to the maternity hospital, and \$25 to the infants' home. The annual dinner of the Association will be held on Wednesday evening, 9th inst., in Trinity Hall.

THE *Manitoba Gazette* contains a notice of an application to the Legislature for an act to revise the act to incorporate the Manitoba Central Railway and amending acts, and providing for the construction of a railway line from the city of Winnipeg to a point or points on the 49th parallel, north latitude, known as the international boundary line.

THE Royal Soap Manufacturing Company, of Winnipeg, will accept thanks for a box of assorted soaps, including the various brands of laundry and toilet soaps manufactured by the company. The different sorts are all very handsomely arranged, the laundries neatly put up in wrappers, and the toilets arranged in boxes. The soaps should be received with favor by the trade.

A COMMUNICATION from the secretary of the Calgary Board of Trade furnishes a list of officers for that institution for the current year as follows: President, James Martin; vice-presidents, W. L. Bowen and A. Ferland; secretary, E. R. Rogers; council, S. J. Hogg, James

Reilly, J. A. Lougheed, A. Allan, Dr. Lafferty, Major Walker and A. Lucas. The Calgary Board of Trade is one of the live institutions of the place, and has accomplished much good in the interest of that rising far-western metropolis. No doubt in the future the watchful oversight of the Board will be instrumental in accomplishing a great deal in the interest not only of Calgary, but the whole territory. Steps will be taken to have the Board regularly incorporated.

SUPERINTENDENT BAKER, of the Manitoba & Northwestern Railway, has issued a circular to the employees of the company, forbidding the circulation of presentation subscription lists among the men without his sanction. This is certainly a wise regulation on the part of the superintendent, and will do away with a system of extortion which often prevails to a great extent in connection with railways and other corporations where a large number of men are employed. This system of extracting money from the hard earnings of the employees, to make up purses for favored officials, is a practice which should not be tolerated by any large company. It has been carried on in this province, in connection with the C.P.R., to such an extent as to amount to nothing less than robbery. Many employees, with families to support, have been unwillingly compelled to subscribe largely from their limited incomes, to make up presentation purses, usually for officials receiving salaries many times larger than those who are obliged to draw upon their scanty earnings for such purposes. If these presentations were free offerings, outsiders would have no right to object; but it is well known, that as carried on among the employees of a large corporation, these presentations of sums of money, etc., are generally the result of systematic extortion. Instead of the presentations being free-will offerings, they are generally made up of sums extracted from the employees, who dare not refuse lest they incur the displeasure of officials above them which may lead to their dismissal on the slightest provocation. If the C.P.R. authorities would issue an order similar to that submitted by Mr. Barker, they would receive the heartfelt thanks of the employees of the company.

THE *Budget* reports that the movement to establish a live stock insurance company for Canada is progressing satisfactorily, and that it is expected to have the company formed and perfected by the commencement of the new year. A provisional board of directors has been appointed, and a committee will communicate with the Government concerning the formation of the company. Subscriptions to about one-fourth of the required guaranteed fund have been received. The company will undoubtedly fill a want, and should, therefore, prove successful.

THERE are three assemblies of the Knights of Labor in Winnipeg, and others will be organized, among the number one composed of German citizens. An attempt will be made to organize assemblies in the larger provincial towns. In a short time at this rate the Knights will be able to wield considerable influence in the province, and especially in the city. There can be no harm in the organization of the workmen for mutual assistance, and so long as their efforts are kept within constitutional bounds, they have a perfect right to organize and agitate for the improvement of the condition of the mechanic and laborer.

MINNEAPOLIS lumbermen are just at present seriously agitated over the acquiring by Canadian lumbermen, of large tracts of timber land in Northern Minnesota. The Minneapolis men are disposed to kick heartily against such acquisitions, as they claim that all this lumber will shortly be required by the States of Minnesota and Dakota. It is stated that one Canadian syndicate, with American partners, has acquired the title to 500,000,000 feet of pine timber in Northern Minnesota, and that the whole of the vast timber belt of the northern slope of the State will shortly be "gobbled up" in the same way. This doubtless refers to companies operating mills on the Lake of the Woods at Rat Portage and Keewatin. The logs for some of these mills are floated down the rivers running into the lake from Minnesota, and thence towed across the lake to the point of destination.

THE *Northwestern Miller*, in stating that "American millers have demonstrated that they control the leading flour markets," advocates that a convention of millers be held at an early date to discuss the situation. It proceeds on the line of argument that the American millers having conquered the markets of the world and rendered milling unprofitable in Great Britain, they should not allow the advantage which they have gained to pass from them by careless or unwise action. The *Miller* thinks it is possible for the Americans to hold the markets which they have at last shown their ability to control, and still do a profitable business. This it is well known Minneapolis millers have not done. These manufacturers have shown their ability to control the markets of Great Britain only by selling at a loss to themselves. American low grades of flour have been selling in British markets at an actual loss to the manufacturers, and in this way milling has actually been rendered unprofitable in Great Britain. The Americans have a good profit from their domestic trade in patents and

strong bakers, and the surplus they slaughter in foreign markets. This is showing their ability with a vengeance.

THE immense value of the fisheries to the Dominion of Canada is hardly realized by the great majority of Canadians, notwithstanding the prominence given the subject of late by the action of the Government in enforcing the treaty of 1818 relating to United States fishermen pursuing their avocation adjacent to the Canadian coast. A paper recently published, shows that during the year 1885, the value of the fisheries to the country represented nearly \$18,000,000. This is exclusive of Newfoundland, where during the same year the fisheries were valued at \$6,000,000. Distributed over the provinces, Nova Scotia comes first, the fisheries of that province being valued at \$8,233,922; New Brunswick follows with \$4,005,431; Quebec, \$1,719,459; Prince Edward Island, \$1,293,429; British Columbia, \$1,078,038; Ontario, \$1,042,691. In the case of British Columbia, there is room for almost indefinite expansion of the figures given, the industry in that quarter being yet in its infancy. The completion of the Hudson's Bay railway will also open up another most valuable field for such pursuits. The number of men given employment in connection with the industry is placed at 69,000, and the number of vessels at 1,117, besides some 28,000 open boats.

MR. ROBBINS has a paper in a late number of the *Popular Science Monthly* regarding sudden changes of temperature and modes of heating buildings, which every Canadian would do well to peruse. He describes the sudden changes of temperature which are encountered many times every day by most people, by passing from a heated room to a cold atmosphere, as ruinous to the constitution. "If," he says, a "blizzard of unusual severity were coming that would send the thermometer down 50° or 70° in three hours, we should expect a great increase of pneumonia and other respiratory diseases, resulting in many deaths. Now, instead of three hours, suppose the mercury were to drop three score deg. in three seconds, what would be likely to be the effect on health? And yet we bring about artificial changes to ourselves quite as sudden and as severe as this." Mr. Robbins thinks our whole system of heating is faulty. He would do away with stoves, furnaces, steam pipes, etc., replacing them with open fire-places. Open radiation warms the objects in the house or room, and from them the air gets all the heat it wants. In the other case the air is heated first, and surrounding objects receive their supply from it. Besides the ozone of the air is destroyed by our mode of heating. In an absence of more perfect heating arrangements, he urges strongly against over-heating apartments, and to use caution in passing from a warm room to a cold temperature.

If there is one class of immigrants more than another who are always sure of ready employment in Canada, it is good domestic servants. In the Northwest there has always been a scarcity of desirable help of this nature, and one has only to pick up a copy of a Winnipeg paper to find a number of "wants" in this line. In the older

province of Ontario there is also always a good demand for the better class of domestic help. Domestic servants in Canadian households are usually made more at home than they would be in similar positions in the old country. Very often they occupy a position little inferior to one of the family where they are serving. They are allowed greater freedom of the house, and placed under fewer social restraints. This being the case, it will be seen why the better class of servants are so much in request. Intelligent and well-behaved girls will have no trouble in finding comfortable quarters in Canada. On the other hand, their work will usually be of a more general nature and requiring a wider knowledge than in England, where several servants are kept, each one having a particular routine of duties. However, an intelligent girl, who is capable of adapting herself to circumstances, will soon be able to overcome any little difficulties of this nature through a lack of extended knowledge suitable to a Canadian household. The scarcity of good domestic servants in Canada is partially accounted for from the fact that Canadian girls who are obliged to go out to service, prefer what they term more "genteel" employment in shops, factories, etc. At such employment they will usually work much harder and more continuously for longer hours, often in a vitiated atmosphere, rather than take more healthful, vigorous and pleasant work as domestic servants.

FOREIGNERS, including many leading British statesmen, have been wont to point to the United States as a model of peace, contentment and prosperity. The fact that she has maintained a position of respect and admiration among the nations, without the expenditure of vast sums in maintaining huge armies of soldiers and naval forces, has been frequently referred to by British statesmen as an argument in favor of a reduction in military expenditure. It would appear, however, from the tone of a large portion of the American press, that this enviable position is not relished by many Americans themselves. Many of these journals have been long and loudly clamoring for military and naval expenditure, to place the United States on a par with the armed-to-the-teeth nations of Europe. Among the journals most loudly clamoring for war expenditure, may be found the extreme protectionist portion of the press. Such papers argue that the surplus revenue should be applied in arming the nation, and that there should, therefore, be no reduction in taxes. In the case of such papers, their anxiety to see the nation prepared for hostile attack from without, is likely secondary to their opposition to tariff reform. The *Chicago Journal of Commerce* is one of the latter class. This journal calls for war expenditure "to inspire and present a decent appearance in the world of nations." Not of course "that there is any particular danger that any nation will be so foolishly as to commence a war with America," but just for the glory of the thing, you know. This is, certainly, a "logical" course of reasoning. It is to the credit of the United States that its policy has looked to commerce and industry rather than armament to uphold the honor of the nation, and now that its position has been assured, it would certainly be a retrograde movement to commence at this late date to put on the glitter of war.

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Winnipeg.

# The Commercial

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 28, 1886.

## NORTHWESTERN REPRESENTATION.

In common with other parts of Canada, there has already been a good deal of agitation throughout Manitoba and the Territories regarding the elections for the Dominion Parliament. The probability of an early dissolution of the present House has set the party machines in motion, and professional politicians, political party wire-pullers and independent aspirants have for some time been shuffling around actively preparing for the fray. As to the actual date when the elections will take place there seems to be a glorious uncertainty, and the general public will be kept in the dark on this point up to the time of the issue of the Governor's proclamation settling the matter. In the meantime those demagogues who are "quite intimate with Sir John," you know, and who are kept fully informed as to the doings of the Cabinet, will continue to throw out sundry vague hints, accompanied with knowing winks and nods, as to what they have been informed in the matter. These parties could no doubt enlighten the public as to the date fixed for the elections to take place, but, of course, it would never do for them to outrage the confidence reposed in them by giving the thing away. In the meantime the wire-pulling and organizing goes bravely on, and new aspirants are daily appearing upon the scene.

In spite of all the knowledge monopolized by the favored ones, the Government will bring on the elections when it is considered to its interest to do so. The state of uncertainty thus produced is not without a demoralizing influence to a considerable extent upon commerce and industry. The knowledge that the Government can dissolve the House at any time, must always have a tendency to unsettle the public mind to a greater or lesser degree, as the usual limit of the Parliament draws toward a close, and this in turn is reflected injuriously upon business to no slight extent. It would, therefore, seem in the interest of the commerce of the country, that some definite time should be fixed for the regular dissolution of Parliament, whereby this needless excitement and unsettlement of the national pulse months before the proper time, could be done away with. When the

vultures commence to gather it may be taken for granted that there is carrion in the vicinity. Likewise when the candidates and wire-pullers show unwonted activity, it may be considered that an election contest is not far off. Thus the country is thrown into a feverish state of excitement which is rendered more intense by the air of mystery surrounding the situation.

What might be termed a peculiar feature in connection with the preparations in the Northwest for the next Dominion elections, is found in the fact that the prospective candidates have been largely outside men. Although the Northwest is supposed to be not one whit behind any other part of Canada in the education, intelligence and ability of its population, yet it seems that we have few men in the country fit to go to Parliament. At least, this must be the inference drawn from the present aspect of affairs. It has often been the boast of Northwesterners that our population is largely composed of the cream of the older provinces, but in inviting outsiders to represent us in Parliament, the lie is given direct to this proud boast. And just here is one of the worst features of the case; and that is, that the people of Manitoba and the Territories have, in several instances, invited these outsiders to become candidates for constituencies in this country. What would the people of Nova Scotia or Vancouver's Island think of a Manitoban becoming a candidate in their country? It is certain that such a candidate would be looked upon as possessing a full supply of that commodity usually termed gall. Yet in finding men to represent the Northwest in Parliament, the Dominion has to be ransacked from the little Atlantic province of Prince Edward Island on the east, to the Pacific Coast on the west. To say the least, is not this an insult to the intelligence of the people of this part of Canada?

It is, perhaps, going a little too far to say that these outsiders have been invited by the people. In one or two instances invitations emanating from party gatherings have been sent to eastern politicians, but as such gatherings are usually manipulated by wire-pulling demagogues, it could hardly be said that the invitation was endorsed by the people. In other instances, formal invitations have been extended, but interested parties have been endeavoring to work up a feeling in

favor of certain outsiders, no doubt with the approval of the latter. Still in other cases these outsiders have personally forced their claims upon the people, whilst others, more modest, have only hinted of their willingness to serve the country, should they be largely requested to do so. All this comes of the lingering feeling in the older provinces, that the Northwest should be used as a sort of preserve for the rest of the Dominion, and it is only applying to politics what has frequently been claimed by the people of the East in commercial and other matters. This the people of Manitoba and the Territories should resent in every form.

Notwithstanding the many outside candidates named, we have in this country as good material from which to select parliamentary candidates, as can be furnished by any other portion of Canada, so far as the best interests of this country are concerned. Although it would be an insult to the intelligence of the people to return to Parliament as representatives for the Northwest, outsiders—men gathered from all portions of our broad Dominion,—yet this is not the worst feature of the case. Of all parts of Canada the Northwest, as a whole, is the least known by statesmen at Ottawa, but at the same time it is above all that portion which requires the greatest care in matters of legislation. Its vast extent, in comparison with the rest of Canada, is hardly imagined by those who have not travelled through the country, whilst its great natural resources require most careful and intelligent handling for their proper development. Now, at the commencement of the settlement and development of this great region, is the time to lay the foundation for its future. How important is it, then, that this foundation should be laid broad and deep and on a solid basis. The greatest drawbacks which the settlers in the Northwest have had to contend with ever since the territory passed under the control of the Canadian Government, have been brought about by legislation created by men who were practically ignorant of the wants and requirements of the country. Legislation affecting the most vital interests of this vast stretch of country, included in the term Northwest, has been directed from an Eastern standpoint, by Eastern men, and always in the

interest of the East first, whether the Northwest was the sufferer thereby or otherwise. So long as the people of the Northwest show their appreciation of this policy by electing outsiders to represent them in Parliament, they may expect a continuation of this kind of legislation in matters affecting the country. There is undoubtedly no part of Canada whose interests require more careful handling at the present time than the Northwest. Eastern people, with their limited practical knowledge of the country, cannot be trusted to legislate for us. The Northwest requires at Ottawa a solid body of men who possess the largest possible amount of such knowledge. We may not be able to select from our home population for such distinguished position, men who have gained renown as Dominion statesmen, and if we follow up the policy of choosing outsiders to represent us, we never will have such men. We may not be able to find at home many distinguished literatures who have gained a Dominion reputation, though the country offers many men of erudition. But there will be no difficulty in selecting home men who are far better acquainted with the wants and requirements of the country, than any outsiders can possibly be; men who have a practical knowledge of the extent and diversified resources and interests of the country, and what legislation is best suited to conserve and develop the same. This knowledge, combined with good common sense, intelligence, integrity, broad and liberal views, which will not pander to party influences when the interests of the country are at stake, is what is required in the representatives who go to Parliament to represent the Northwest. A man possessed of these qualifications, who is a resident of, and has a stake in the country, will be able to serve the interests of the Northwest to far better advantage than the most eminent statesman or renowned *savant* in the Dominion. Such may be found to represent every electoral district in Manitoba and the Territories; and if they are not brought out in preference to outsiders, it will be to the disgrace of the country. Wire pulling demagogues, schemers and irresponsible candidates, whose main ambition to get into Parliament is to serve personal ends rather than the people whom they would profess to represent, should

be summarily sat down. By choosing men of business integrity, who have always considered it a duty to meet their honest obligations, and who are known to be good for 100 cents in the dollar, the personal schemer will generally be avoided. In constituencies where none of the candidates would combine the knowledge and qualities required, the people should see that a fit representative is brought out. This could be done by holding an independent convention of representatives from all parts of the district, who would nominate the best local man available, without regard to party politics.

### DEFAULTING CORPORATIONS.

Mr. W. L. Boyle, of MacArthur, Boyle & Allan, agent for the creditors of the town of Portage la Prairie, has addressed a communication to the late mayor of that place, containing an offer of settlement on behalf of the creditors, which offer cannot be termed unreasonable. Mr. Boyle proposes, as a condition of this offer, that the province guarantee the reduced interest which would be secured by it to the creditors, and he would apply the same arrangement to other towns similarly situated to the Portage, in cases where a settlement had been arrived at with the creditors. This would be a serious step, and though it may have its merits, it would require due consideration. At any rate, the initiative must come from the Government, which would be responsible for such legislation. If the province require some system of municipal relief, it is the duty of the Government to inaugurate it; but at the same time care should be exercised as to how far the credit of the province is committed. Whilst withholding comment upon that portion of Mr. Boyle's letter relating to a Legislative guarantee, it would seem that an absolute necessity exists for action in the interests of the creditors of these financially involved towns, such as Portage la Prairie, in cases where the councils have resigned and where the creditors are left practically without means of relief.

Some legal authorities state that relief can be obtained through the courts; but is it honest or just that when people have advanced their money on the faith of statutes passed by the legislature of the province, they should find that these statutes are made a cover for repudiation. The *Toronto Globe* in referring to the case of Portage la Prairie, says:

"A city or town is as much bound to pay its debts as an individual is, and although the assessed value of the property has declined greatly, it is still nearly four times as great as the debt. Repudiation has hitherto been unknown in Canada, and therefore the credit of our municipalities has stood high. Repudia-

tion by one town must hurt the credit of all Canadian cities and municipalities, and hurt even the credit of our merchants. . . . If the town will not pay its debts, the Provincial Legislature should interfere in the general interest."

In the case of Minnedosa the *Monetary Times* says:

"It is to be regretted that one of the concomitants of repudiation is present in the transaction. The resignation of the council with a view to defeat execution is an old trick of repudiators, the copying of which is the reverse of a favorable omen. We trust these western municipalities will learn the value of reputation if they be guided by no higher principle in dealing with their creditors."

The *Portage Liberal* refers to the matter as follows:

The opinion of the citizens is that some one has to lose. Shall it be the creditors or the citizens who may live here twenty or thirty years hence? The honest answer is: The creditors must lose."

If in a new community requiring capital and credit, it is to be known that our principles of honor and business are to be governed by such sentiments as these, what are we to expect from capital? Once a man has shown himself deliberately dishonest, however much he may attempt to regain public confidence, there will always be a stain upon his character, which can never be removed. So with a young province like Manitoba. If in her infancy she allows frauds to be perpetrated, she can never expect that the debentures of the province or municipalities, or indeed of any project connected with her development, can have any chance of being placed in the market.

Now that the government of Mr. Norquay has been sustained, an opportunity occurs for him to show whether he and his colleagues are equal to dealing with so vital a question, which is at the same time a most difficult one to handle. Some legislation should at once be undertaken, which would enable the creditors of cities and towns to collect, whether the councils of these cities or towns resign or not. Such legislation may be tempered with moderation and guarded from aiding oppression, but it should grant all the power to collect from a city or town, which our existing laws allow for collection from an individual, and its operation should be equally simple. Under the supposed security of the law the creditors advanced their money, and by the law their just claims should be enforced, when other means fail. The interest of one or two towns should not be allowed to ruin the credit of the whole province. The government should act promptly and firmly, remembering that in its hands is the keeping not only of the present interests of the province, but of her future, and that her credit committed to its trust is a sacred charge which it dare not ignore.

Towns which under exceptional circumstances have got into difficulties, are entitled to leniency, so long as that leniency is based upon justice to creditors and debtors, but there must be no repudiation.




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Manufacturers of  
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Highest Market Prices will be paid.

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Manufacturer of Granulated and Standard Brands  
Oatmeal. Orders by mail promptly attended to.

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**REDWOOD BREWERY**  
Delivered anywhere in the City at \$3.50 per keg  
EQUAL TO ANY IMPORTED BEER.

Fine Stock Ales a Specialty  
**EXTRA PORTER AND STOUT**  
In Wood and Bottle always on hand.

**REDWOOD BREWERY,**  
The Largest Institution of its class in Western Canada.  
ED. L. DREWERY, Proprietor,  
North Main Street, WINNIPEG.

**TORONTO HIDE HOUSE,**  
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I am prepared to pay the Highest Market  
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**HIDES!**  
PELTS, WOOL AND TALLOW.  
 LEATHER FOR SALE.   
Either at place of shipment or delivered in  
Winnipeg. Correspondence solicited.  
 Sacks for Wool supplied.  
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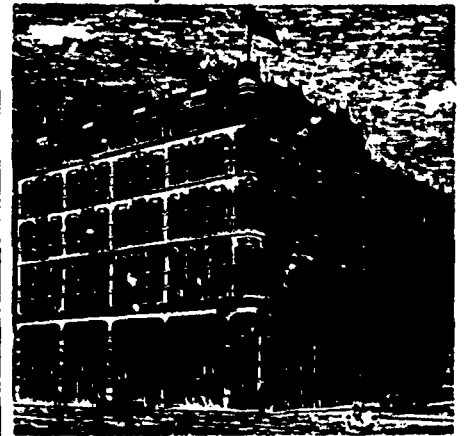
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Complete Set of Samples with  
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**CARSLEY & CO.**  
WHOLESALE DRY GOODS,  
MONTREAL.  
SPRING CIRCULAR, 1887.

Montreal, Dec. 24th, 1886.  
Our travellers will commence their spring trip on or  
about the first of January next, carrying with them a  
complete range of imported staple and fancy dry goods.  
We respectfully ask our friends to reserve a portion of  
their orders until seeing our samples.  
Thanking you for past favors, and hoping to merit a  
continuance of the same, We are,  
Yours obediently,

**CARSLEY & CO.,**  
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Established 1860,  
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WHOLESALE SHELF HARDWARE,  
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Caverhill's Buildings, 89 St. Peter Street,  
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Complete Set of Samples with  
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Pressed and Piled Tinware, japanned Ware,  
Stove Boards, etc., and Dealers in Granite and Agate  
Ironware, and  
**Tinsmiths' Metals and Supplies.**  
WHOLESALE ONLY.

Warerooms: Cor. Rachel St. and Point Douglas Avenue  
Sample Rooms and Offices, 7 Spencer Block, Portage Ave  
J. W. DRISCOLL, Manager **WINNIPEG**

## WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET

With the close of the month drawing near, combined with the general relaxation of business during the holiday season, monetary circles in the city have been rather quiet during the past week. There was little paper of a commercial nature maturing, but what little there was, seemed to have been met with fair promptitude. The lull in grain shipping caused some falling off in the call for funds from this source, and there were no other important demands for money. Altogether the situation was uninteresting, and it is expected that it will remain so until after the holidays.

## WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE

In city wholesale circles, business in every department has been at a low ebb during the past week. The full force of the usual holiday quiet has been felt, at least so far as buying is concerned, and dealers have given their attention in a number of instances to stock taking. Travellers have been hurrying in from the road to be at home for the holiday season, and the usual orders from this source have consequently been cut off. Until after the commencement of the new year there will be little stir about the warerooms in any line. Then a commencement will be made in preparing for the spring trade, and travellers will once more take the road with their samples. In the meantime all hands will be enjoying a well-earned rest, before commencing operations for next season's trade.

## BOOTS AND SHOES

In this branch everything is quiet once more, after a brief season of activity. Remittances are coming in slowly, for the reason that there is nothing falling due.

## CLOTHING

This trade has not been so completely deserted as some other branches, but the quantity of goods going out has been very small, though quite a number of orders have been placed. These, however, have been for such light packages as to make the aggregate trade of the week insignificant.

## CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE

Wholesale trade in this branch has been lighter than the previous week, but still not entirely dead. However, the season's trade is now considered as wound up.

## DRY GOODS

The remarks made in regard to clothing would apply with equal force to this staple branch. Though quite a number of calls have occurred, especially from the city trade, yet the aggregate business of the week would not amount to much more than one or two good-sized orders. In other respects the situation remains unchanged.

## DRUGS AND CHEMICALS

Business is now moving along steadily, and quotations are still unchanged as follows: Howard's quinine, 90c to \$1; German quinine, 80c to 90c; opium, \$4.50 to \$5; morphia, \$2 to \$2.50; iodine, \$4.25 to \$4.50; bromide potassium, 50 to 65c; American camphor, 40 to 45c; English camphor, 45 to 50c; glycerine, 25 to 35c; 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,

30 to 35c; 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.

## FISH AND GAME

Fresh lake fish continue very scarce and very few have been brought to this market. Quotations for white are for the summer catch, refrigerator-kept. Winter catch of jackfish and pickerel from the mouth of the Red River are in the market, in limited quantities. Quotations are: Whitefish, 6c; pickerel, 6c; jackfish, 2½c. Oysters are quoted at 25c for standards, and 37½ to 45c for selects, according to quality. Bulk oysters, \$1.85 to \$2.20 per gallon, according to quality. Fresh sea fish are in the market and quoted as follows: Smelts, 11c; tommy-cods, 7½c; cod, 11c; haddock, 11c; lobsters, 18 to 20c. Smoked Finnan haddies, 11c. Game are quoted: Rabbits, 15c per pair; prairie chickens, 35c per pair; partridge, 25c per pair.

## FRUITS

Trade is reported quiet for the season. Apples hold firm. Prices are: Florida oranges, \$7.50 to \$8.50; Jamaica oranges, in barrels of 300 to 360 count, \$14, or \$5.00 per 100; fancy Mexican oranges, \$8 to \$8.50. Winter apples, \$4.50 to \$5.00 per bbl, for good stock. Malaga lemons, \$8.00 to \$8.50 per box; cases, \$10.50 to \$17; Messina lemons, \$8.00 to \$8.50; California pears, \$5.00 to \$5.50 per box; Oregon pears, \$4.75 to \$5.00; Malaga grapes, \$8 to \$8.50 per keg; Cranberries, bell and bugle, \$10.50 to \$11 per bbl; Citrons, \$1.50 to \$2 per dozen; Pine-apples, \$6.50 per doz.; Figs, in 50 lb. sacks, 12½c; New Elme figs, in layers, 18c to 20c per pound, in one lb. to ten lb. boxes; Golden dates, 12c; peanuts, roasted, 18c; peanuts, raw, 15c; walnuts, 15 to 20c; almonds 20c; filberts 13 to 15c; Texas pecans, 18c. Dried fruits quoted: Valencia raisins \$3.15 to \$3.25; London layers \$3.75 to \$3.90; black crown \$5 to \$5.25; black baskets, ¼ boxes, \$1.30. Apple cider is worth \$10 a barrel, or \$7 per half-barrel. Sweet potatoes, \$9.50 per bbl; Spanish onions, cases 150 lbs., \$7.25; cases 50 lbs., \$2.50.

## FUEL

Quotations are as follows; Best tamarac wood, \$4.75, with some poor selling at \$4.25; sound poplar, \$3.50; poor, \$3.25. Prices for car lots on track. Coal on track sells at \$9.75 for anthracite, \$10.75 for smithy, and \$7.25 for American soft. Lethbridge coal is quoted at \$6.50 on track, or \$7.25 delivered in the city. Saskatchewan coal, \$6.25 on track, or \$2.25 f.o.b. cars at the mine.

## RAW FURS

Reports from Montreal state that the price for beaver is lower, and that a further reduction is expected. Mink is arriving more slowly and a more general demand is expected which will cause an advance in price, that will be noticeable before the winter is over. Skunk are plentiful and prices are ruling lower. The reduction in the price of beaver is the first downward movement this season. Prices here are now quoted as follows: Beaver, per lb, \$2.50 to \$4.00; bear, per skin, \$5.00 to \$20.00; bear, cub, per skin, \$1.00 to \$7.00; otter, per skin, \$5.00 to \$10.00; mink, per skin, 30 to 90c; martin, per skin, 60c to \$2.50; fisher, per skin, \$1.00 to \$6.50; lynx, per skin, \$1.00 to \$2.50; racoon, per skin, 40 to 60c; skunk, per

skin, 40-60-80; muskrat, per skin, 1 to 7c. Fox, red, 25c to \$1.40, fox, cross, \$1 to \$10; wolf, timber, 25c to \$2.25; wolf, prairie, 25c to \$1.25.

## GROCERIES

Trade is now quiet and prices are steady as follows: Canned tomatoes, at \$3.50; corn, at \$3.25 to \$3.50; peas, \$3.75; yellow sugar 6½c to 7c; granulated 7½c to 8c; lump sugar, 9 to 9½c; Coffees, Rio, 13 to 13½c; Government Java, 28c, other Javas, 22c; Mochas, 31 to 34c. New season's teas are now quoted as follows: Japan season 1886-7, 25 to 45c; Congous, 1886-7, 20 to 60c; Indian teas, 35 to 50c. Old range, Moyune gunpowder 25 to 70c; panfried Japan 23 to 45c, basket-fired, 25 to 40c; Ping Suey young hyson, 25 to 35c; Moyune young hyson, 25 to 50c; Season's congous, 1885-6, 20 to 55c. Syrups, corn \$2.00 to \$2.35; sugar, cane, \$1.85 to \$2.00; T. and B. tobacco, \$10.

## HIDES

Prices hold at the decline noticed in our last as follows: Winnipeg inspection, No. 1, 6½c; No. 2, 5½c; bulls, 4½c; talf, fine-haired real veal, 7 to 13 pound skins, No. 1, 9c; No. 2, 7c. Sheep pelts, 30 to 65c. Tallow, 3½ to 4c.

## HARDWARE AND METALS

Trade quiet and prices steady as follows: Canada plates, tin plates, zinc, etc., and heavy goods generally firmer, owing to winter freight rates. Prices are as follows: Cut nails, 10d and larger \$3.35 to \$3.75; I. C. tin plates, \$5.50 to \$5.75; I. C. tin plates, double, \$11 to \$11.50; Canada plates, \$3.50 to \$3.75; sheet iron, \$3 to \$4.50, according to grade; iron pipe, 45 to 50 per cent. off list prices; ingot tin, 26 to 30c per lb., according to quality; bar iron \$2.50 to \$3 per 100 lb; shot, 6½ to 7c a lb; tarred felt, \$2.60 to \$2.85 per 100 lbs; barbed wire 7 to 7½c.

## LEATHER AND FINDINGS

Prices are unchanged and are as follows: Spanish sole, 28 to 32c; slaughtered sole, 33 to 35c; French calf, first choice, \$1.35 to \$1.50; Canada Calf 90 to \$1.00; French kip \$1 to \$1.10; R Z kip, 85 to 90c; slaughter kip, 55 to 75c; No 1, wax upper, 45 to 60c; 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 12c.

## PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS

Business in this line is quiet and prices are unchanged as follows: Turpentine 75c; harness oil, \$1.10; Neatsfoot oil, \$1.50; linseed oil, raw 68c per gal., boiled 71c; seal oil steam refined, \$1.10; castor, 14c per lb; lard No. 1, \$1.25 per gal; olive, \$1.00 to \$2.00, according to quality; 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, 36c; water white, 33c; sunlight, 30c; Eldorado, machine, 56c. Calcined plaster, \$3.75 per bbl; Portland cement, \$4.75; white lead, genuine, \$7.00; No. 1 \$6.50; No. 2 \$6.00; window glass, first break, \$2.25.

## PAPER AND STATIONERY

The holiday trade in holiday goods and Christmas cards is now over, though during the week there was quite a demand for some sorts. Holiday cards have been well cleaned up, and

scarcely anything has been left in these lines. Collections good.

#### SADDLERY AND HARNESS

Dealers have had a fairly active season in filling orders from country manufacturers. The lack of sleighing interferes with local trade considerably. Collections fairly good.

#### WINES AND SPIRITS

There has been a considerable demand for some lines, notably wines and cordials, for the holiday trade, but this has now slackened up. Prices are steady as follows: Gooderain & 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.

#### WOOL

There is now only an odd lot occasionally coming in. Prices have not been altered and are as follows: Leicester and Cotswold, washed, 14c to 16c; cotted and broken, washed, 12c; unwashed 8c to 11c; unwashed and tags off, 10 to 12c; Montana sheep, unwashed, 11 to 12c.

## THE MARKETS

### WINNIPEG

#### WHEAT

The roads are said to be still very bad throughout the province, there not being enough snow for sleighing and too much for wheeling. This state of affairs, combined with the holiday dulness, had the effect of reducing deliveries to some extent, though there was no great change in this respect from the past few weeks. Still at some markets deliveries were not considered light for the season. The easier feeling at outside markets has had the effect of checking shipments and producing a feeling of weakness. Some dealers would not take hold at present prices, anticipating a drop in values. If prices do not advance at outside markets, there would probably be a drop here in case receipts should increase, the smallness of receipts being the main stay to prices at present. However, deliveries are not expected to show up very heavily until after the holidays. One buyer for a milling firm said, "I would not put a cent in wheat at present for speculation if I could help it. But we are in that business, and we have to purchase the wheat while it is going, or else shut down on the business altogether. If we were able to obtain wheat as we wanted it through the summer, we would not buy ahead at present values." In regard to prices here has been but slight change since our last report. Shipments were a trifle easier, though 58c was offered for some cars of No. 1 hard at outside point. Cars on track here could be quoted at about 59c. At the city mills 61c was the ruling price paid for farmer's loads for No. 1 hard, with No. 2 hard and No. 1 northern at 58c.

#### FLOUR

Flour holds steady at unchanged prices as follows:— If prices for the latter hold firm,

flour should advance. Quotations for broken lots are: Patents, \$2.25; Strong bakers', \$1.80; XNPX, \$1.20 to \$1.30; super-fine, 90c to \$1.

#### BRAN AND SHORTS

Steady at \$12 for bran and \$14 for shorts.

#### BARLEY

About 45c appears to be the price for malting qualities, for local use, and from that downward for feeding grades. No shipments.

#### OATS

There is very little doing in car lots and prices hold steady at about 43c.

#### OATMEAL

Unchanged at \$2 for standard, and \$2.75 for granulated.

#### POTATOES

One car lot in store here was sold at 80c, and it is said that there are no other stocks in the city. Farmers' deliveries bring 70 to 90c.

#### EGGS

Prices steady at 23 to 25c for fresh, and 22 to 23c for pickled.

#### BUTTER

No sales of large trade lots have been reported. Small lots of what is considered good continue to move at 20c, which is about the unvarying quotation for all considered up to the standard.

#### BACON

Prices have held steady for all grades. Prices are: Long lean, 8½c to 9c; breakfast bacon, 12c; spiced roll, 11c.

#### HAMS

Prices for home cured hold steady, 13½c now being the quotation for smoked. Some imported Chicago is offered at 14c to 14½c.

#### LARD

Has sold in 20 lb. pails at \$2.15 to \$2.25; 3 lb. pails have sold at 43c, each, and 5 lb. pails at 65c or 70c.

#### DRESSED POULTRY

Chickens have been coming in freely from all parts of the country, and the market is flooded with them, the supply now being sufficient for a couple of months in advance. Prices have ruled at from 5 to 7c, the latter quotation for choice. Turkeys, ducks and geese are all in good supply, made up of importations and receipts from the country. Turkeys are quoted at 13 to 15c, and ducks and geese at 10 to 11c.

#### DRESSED MEATS

Pork is steady at 5c for all good suitable for packing. Light hogs, too small for packing, are worth from 4½ to 5c. Good beef continues in fair demand at 5 to 5½ per pound for sides, but a good deal of that offered is not up to the standard of requirements, and may be had at 4 to 5c. Mutton is held at 8c. Venison has been offered freely. Best quotations sell at 7c per pound by the carcass, with red deer and elk going at 5c. Best pork sausages, 8c.

#### LIVE STOCK

Good beef cattle are very scarce, and really difficult to get hold of. Butchers will pay from 3½ to 4c for all up to the standard. Butchers complain that the bulk of cattle offering are not such as are wanted for this market, being too light and too thin. Farmers have not been feeding good this year, which is attributed to the lack of coarse grains.

### MINNEAPOLIS.

Dullness and weakness prevailed in the wheat markets all the week until to-day, when there was an advance of a cent all around. The movement has been large, but the heavy speculators have been taking a rest and the commotion in financial circles, as well as in other speculative markets, has attracted so much attention as to deprive wheat of what little life there was in it a fortnight ago. Shrewd ob-

servers, who have been expecting to see cash wheat touch 70c in Chicago for two months past, are no longer confident that it will get as low as that, although they expect to see lower figures than are quoted to-day. The export movement continues large, and there is every prospect that it will increase steadily.

The movement from the country is large and steady, particularly of spring wheat. Shipments from this city are heavy in volume, showing increasing popularity for our wheat, as well as for the men who handle it. The tracks at Duluth are still crowded with laden grain cars, and Minneapolis railroads have all they can comfortably handle.

The highest and lowest wheat prices by grade on change during the week ending Dec. 23, closing prices, and the prices one year ago were:

WHEAT—	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.	Dec. 23 1885.
No. 1 hard	76	75	76½	90½
" 1 northern	74	73	73½	84½
" 2 "	72	70	70½	79½

Futures showed about the same range, January 1 hard closing at 75½c, and May at 79c. January 1 northern closed at 73½c, and May at 72c. Coarse grains rule easy, corn closing at 40 to 41c, oats at 26½ to 27c, barley at 37 to 58c, and rye at 48 to 52c, all by sample.

FLOUR.—This market has again fallen into a state of "masterly inactivity," as it is to be expected at this season, though it has a firm undertone, and millers are not forcing their goods upon unwilling buyers. Export trade is dull and concessions are demanded, while domestic buyers are not inclined to take hold with freedom.

MILLSTUFF.—Has been less active, though the close was firm, with bulk bran quoted at \$10 to \$10.50 and shorts at \$11 to 11.50 per ton.

Quotations at the mills for car or round lots are: Patents, \$4.30@4.50; straights, \$4.10@4.30; first bakers', \$3.60@3.80; second bakers', \$2.80@3.00; best low grades, \$1.70@1.90, in bags, red dog, \$1.30@1.40, in bags.

These quotations are on flour in barrels, except as stated. The rule is to discount 25c per bbl for 280 and 140 lb jute bags, 20c for 98 lb cotton sacks, 15c for 49 lb cotton sacks, 10c for 24½ lb cotton sacks. In half barrels the extra charge is 30c per bbl.

—Northwest Miller.

### British Columbia.

New gold finds are reported from several districts of the province.

Chinamen are said to be leaving the coast for the United States, in large numbers.

The Vancouver Gas Company is taking preliminary steps towards getting into operation.

W. Dufour, auctioneer, Victoria and Vancouver, has sold out his branch at the latter place to S. Marks.

Cowan, Shaw & Co., commission agents and dealers in stoves and tinware, offer the latter department for sale.

Manitoba flour is taking the place of Portland flour in the Vancouver market. A few months hence the latter article will not be in demand.

The Hudson's Bay Co.'s temporary store at Vancouver is in course of erection. The store, which is 21x120, will be opened by the middle of January.

The Dougall House, a handsome new structure, has been opened at Vancouver.

The new C.P.R. hotel at Glacier, on the summit of the Selkirk, is completed, and has been opened. The whole of the furniture and appliances were forwarded from Montreal.

The railway employes at Port Moody are beginning to enquire for houses at Vancouver. The entire staff will be moved up there as soon as the extension is completed. Tracklaying has commenced.

The *Victoria Standard* says: "Information has been received from Cairn's Creek, Big Bend county, of a most encouraging character. A claim owned by Dr. Statter has yielded \$4,000 in three weeks' time, and an adjoining claim, worked by a Revelstoke Company, has also yielded rich returns.

Members of the New Westminster Board of Trade interviewed Traffic Manager Olds, of the C.P.R., whilst on his recent visit to the coast, and were informed by him that orders has been issued to place New Westminster, Vancouver and Port Moody on the same footing as Victoria in regard to freight rates, and that rates to Kamloops would be reduced as soon as business would warrant such steps.

THE *Calgary Tribune* has been again enlarged and improved.

S. F. HAMPTON has commenced the publication of a paper at Rapid City, Man., called the *Spectator*.

OVER 121,000 bushels of wheat have been marketed in Virden this season up to the present time.

DAVID MAXWELL, agricultural implements, is having a wareroom erected at Virden, Man.

AT Edmonton oats are worth 60 to 70c per bushel. The wheat is of fine quality, and worth about \$1 per bushel.

BRANDON butchers have been shipping an immense quantity of poultry to western towns during the past week.

MRS. W. H. MUCKLE, of Neepawa, has purchased the confectionery business carried on at Brandon by Mrs. Stripp.

VIFOND, McBRIDE & Co., wholesale fruit dealers, Winnipeg, sent out a heated car of Christmas goods over the Southwestern Railway last week.

THE total receipts of the municipality of Regina for 1886 were \$9,615, of which sum \$7,613, were the proceeds of debentures. The disbursements during the year were \$9,152.

THE *Northwest Vindicator* comes to hand dated from Rapid City, instead of from Brandon as formerly. A monthly edition will be published at Brandon, and the weekly at Rapid City.

ACCORDING to the new time card, passenger trains run from Rapid City to Minneclosa on Tuesdays and Fridays, returning Wednesdays and Saturdays, making connection with all eastern trains.

APPLICATION will be made to the Dominion Parliament at its next sitting for a charter for a line of railway from Rapid City to the mouth of Bird Tail Creek, and then northwesterly to Yorkton, Assa.

THE *Edmonton Bulletin* says: "The fur trade has been fairly brisk lately. Prices are very high, leaving buyers a very small profit. Lynx are not as plentiful as last year, but there is a good catch of other fur."

*Bradstreets* gives the total failures in the United States this year to date at 9,901, against 10,691 last year (decline of 790), 10,630 in 1884, and 9,071 in 1883. Canada has had 1,139 this year, against 1,211 last.

THE Pray Manufacturing Company, of Minneapolis, Minnesota, extensive manufacturer of milling and other machinery, has assigned. The liabilities are placed at \$290,000, and the assets at \$150,000. The crash will be severely felt in Minneapolis.

THE Northern Pacific railroad will reduce its local rates of fare in Montana, Idaho and Washington Territory on all its main line and branches to a uniform basis of 5 cents per mile. The reduction is about 20 per cent. in Washington and 30 per cent. in Idaho and Montana.

THE Manitoba and Northwestern road has now finished and in running order 207 miles of track. The main line from the Portage to its present terminus at Langenburg is 180 miles in length. The Saskatchewan and western branch is 15½ miles in length, and the Shell River branch 11½ miles.

A SPECIAL general meeting of the shareholders of the Saskatchewan & Western Railway Company will be held in Winnipeg on the 10th of January. It is understood that an issue of preference stock of the company at the rate of five thousand dollars per mile will be asked. The directors will also ask for authority to lease the railway to the Manitoba & Northwestern Railway Company for a period of ninety-nine years.

THE *Manitow Mercury* says: "A good deal of dissatisfaction is expressed by many of the settlers in this district of country who had insured their stock and buildings in the Credit Foncier Company. Most of those who insured distinctly understood that their loss through prairie fire would be made good by the company. Recently, however, the company or agents have been endeavoring to obtain an additional sum for insurance in this connection, and many of the policy holders feel like resenting what they consider an imposition."

### Only a Pair of Shoes.

The shoe has played important parts in all the vicissitudes that environ human life. Memories both pleasing and sad have been connected more or less intimately with that article of wear, ever since man began to wear foot covering. Shoes have come to be an important factor in various forms of expression, and in various social customs, and thus have become powerfully engrafted into our civilization. A slipper thrown after a bridal party betokens good luck. We often hear of things that are noted for solid comfort being as "easy as an old shoe." When a man comes to his death suddenly and by violence, he is said to have "died with his boots on." But in all the offices in which boots or shoes have played a part in the melodrama of life, we have never known one

that was sadder than the case of young Palmer, whose life was so suddenly verified in the Shapleigh and Cantwell fire. All that was left of him, which to even surmise the story of his death, was a "pair of shoes." By these it was known that it was he who had perished, because shoes acquire individuality from wear, and his friends knew his shoes. He was an Englishman, had not a friend in America, and all that is left to carry the story of his death to his old father and mother are the charred remnants of his shoes.—*Leather Gazette*.

### The Break in Stock.

In regard to the recent excitement in the New York stock market *Bradstreets* says:—"Taking advantage of the unwarranted advance in comparatively valueless stocks, the growing stringency of money and the fears occasioned by the interstate commerce bill, a bear combination, comprising some of the largest operators in the New York stock market, was formed and successfully attacked prices, breaking them down and creating a liquidation which nearly approached a panic. The movement culminated on Wednesday, when the whole list sold off from 20 to 30 points, the non-dividend payers suffering the most and dividend payers least. A rally followed in which the bears covered, leaving the market in an unsettled condition in which it has remained since, continued liquidation being in progress. The transactions of the week (Wednesday, 1,090,000 shares, the largest day's record in the history of the Exchange) foot up 3,976,153 shares, against 3,115,341 shares the preceding week, and 3,430,371 shares the same week of 1885. Bonds shared in the depression of the stock market though investments remain firm."

### Down Weight.

Exact weight is the due of every purchaser. Overweight is the foe of every seller. Customers demand down weight, and unless a grocer's scales are adjusted so as to overcome the overweight given in accordance with their demand, he is harboring an enemy that will in the course of a year steal away a large amount of money. Practice makes perfect, and every merchant should see to it that his clerks become adepts in weighing goods. Let them acquire a proficiency that will enable them to give exact weight without giving the customer the impression that they are close or stingy. We have often seen sellers pick up a handful of something in a scale and sift it through their fingers in order to get a balance. Such habits will drive away trade faster than a grocer can make it. Weights on counter scales should be placed directly in the centre of the disc designed to hold them. If placed either to the right or left it affects a true balance. Scale pans should be kept scrupulously clean. One of the best articles to use for cleaning is kitchen soap, polishing the pan after it is dry with a clean woollen rag and some powdered whiting. Dirt accumulates on weights, especially zinc ones, and being seldom cleaned the grocer gives away an ounce or the fraction thereof of whatever he sells, every time he uses them.—*American Grocer*.

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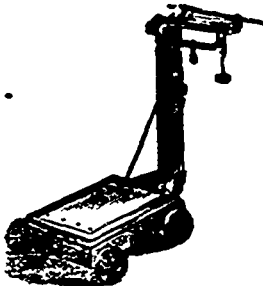
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**EASTERN MARKETS.**

**CHICAGO**

Wheat opened easy on Monday, and in view of a large increase in the visible, there was free selling. May sold down to 84c under these offerings, at which prices there was large buying. Buying orders were largely from outside. The local feeling was bearish, the weakness being mainly accounted for from the tightness of the money market. The advance in freights has checked whatever hope there might have been of an all rail movement of wheat from the west to the seaboard, and this must be included in the list of bear cards. The visible is now 3,000,000 bushels greater than last year's maximum, and the bears will not allow the fact to be lost sight of nor forgotten for a moment that with money hard to get this load will be very heavy. The bulls will not cease pointing to the 73,000,000 or 74,000,000 bushels of wheat already exported since July and to the steady 2,000,000 bushel-a-week outflow from the Atlantic ports. Last prices were at the bottom, May being quoted at 83½c. Pork started 10 to 15c higher, and continued upward, May going to 12-12½c, but dropped back to 5c at the close. Last prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	75½	76½
Corn	30	30½
Oats	25½	25½
Pork	11.50	11.55
Lard	6.20	6.25

Tuesday was a dull day. The forces seemed pretty evenly divided, but the bull crowd were somewhat disheartened by the monetary situation. This, combined with the usual holiday quiet and an absence of outside orders, was more than the market could hold up, and prices slowly eased off. The one o'clock close was ½c under Monday's close. In the afternoon prices were a shade firmer, May again closing at 83½c. Receipts of hogs continued light, but trading in pork was not active. May again sold up to 12-12½c, but closed at 5c under. Last prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	75½	76½
Corn	30½	30½
Oats	25½	25½
Pork	11.55	11.60
Lard	6.22½	6.27½

Reports from the outside on Wednesday were mostly of a bullish nature. Cables were firm and reported a hardening tendency. New York was bullish, and it was announced from that quarter that indications pointed to an export movement from the Atlantic coast of at least 10,000,000 bushels for January. Reports were also received from the Northwest to the effect that grain reserves had been over-estimated. Added to all these favorable predictions was the decline in consols and rumors of European complications. The decline in consols, however, was attributed by many to tight money markets rather than war indications, which would give the bears the best of the argument on that score. May opened at 83½c, advanced 1c, sold off and closed at 84½-½c. Pork was quiet and lower. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	76½	77½
Corn	30½	30½
Oats	25½	25½
Pork	11.30	11.35
Lard	6.20	6.26

Wheat was strong and higher on Thursday. Reports from the Northwest were again favorable to the bulls in regard to stocks, and it is now pretty generally understood that reserves have been over estimated. May opened at 84½c, and after several slight fluctuations advanced to 85½c. In the afternoon prices were lower, May closing at 85½-½c. Receipts of hogs have increased, and packers are offering more freely, under which condition pork was easier. May pork closed at \$11.77½. Last prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	77½	77½
Corn	30½	30½
Oats	25½	25½
Pork	11.26	11.30
Lard	6.17½	6.22½

Friday was the closing day of the week, and trading was not active, either in offerings or buying. May opened at 85½c and sold up to 85½c. Fluctuations were narrow and trading was mostly at about 85½c for May, closing at 85½ to 85½c. Provisions were dull and slightly stronger. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	77½	77½
Corn	30½	30½
Oats	25½	25½
Pork	11.35	11.40
Lard	6.20	6.25

**TORONTO.**

**STOCKS**

The course of the market will be shown by the following comparison of quotations on the dates named:

	Dec. 15.		Dec. 22.	
	ASKED.	HD.	ASKED.	HD.
Montreal	238½	238½	236½	237½
Ontario	115½	115	114	115
Toronto	214	212	—	211
Merchants	—	127½	—	127½
Commerce	—	130	124½	123½
Imperial	—	134	—	133
Federal	106½	109	107½	106½
Dominion	221	218½	220	218
Standard	129	127½	125	124½
Hamilton	—	134	—	134
Northwest Land	62	60½	58	58
C.P.R. Bonds	106	105	106	105

**WHEAT**

The market has ruled quiet and with little active trading on the spot. Lots were purchased freely at outside points for export. No. 2 fall was held at 78 to 79c and No. 2 spring and red winter at 79 to 80c. At the close the feeling was quieter and probably not over inside prices would have been paid.

**FLOUR.**

Some low grade patents sold at \$3.75. Superior extra held firmly at \$3.50, and extra at \$3.40.

**OATS**

From 30½ to 31½c has been the range in prices, at which figures there was a fair demand.

**BARLEY**

Very quiet. There were sellers at about 50c for No. 2, 45c for No. 3 extra, and 40c for No. 4, f.o.c., but few buyers.

**APPLES**

Mixed in cars sold at \$2, but choice fruit would command a slight advance on this figure.

**POULTRY**

Receipts of all sorts have decreased, and an active enquiry at firm prices has prevailed; turkeys have ranged from 9 to 11c per lb, and geese 6 to 6½c per lb with ducks worth 50 to 60c and fowls 30 to 40c per pair.

**BUTTER**

The grades wanted have been mostly choice qualities, and of these supplies have not been large. Mixed lots of dairy have been taken at 14 to 16c, with the pick going as high as 18c. Box lots of rolls were taken at 15 to 16c, and some choice at 17c. Shipping lots of medium were dull at about 12½c.

**EGGS**

Slow at 16 to 17c for picked, with fresh scarce at 19c.

**CHEESE**

Fine continues to sell at from 12 to 12½c, with common at 10 to 11c.

**PORK**

There has been some little enquiry heard at firm prices, a few small lots having sold at from \$14 to \$14.50.

**BACON**

Long-clear has sold at 8c in cases, though larger lots might probably have been obtained from a quarter to a half cent lower; Cumberland nominal at about 7½c; rolls quiet and easy at 8½ to 9c with backs and bellies about 10c.

**HAMS**

Smoked in round lots could have been bought at to 10½c and small lots at 11c.

**LARD**

One half-car of pails sold at 9c, with small lots going off at 9½ to 9¾c and tinnets at 9c.

**DRESSED HOGS**

Somewhat unsettled, with some packers holding off during the last three days; cars and rail lots, however, have ranged from \$5.60 for light weights to \$5.75 for very choice. Offerings have been all wanted, and at the close buyers' views seemed usually to stand at \$5.65 to \$5.70.

**LIVE STOCK.**

Rather more offering; good demand for 160 to 200 lb. hogs at \$4.30 to \$4.50 per cwt.; mixed lots sold yesterday at \$4.12½ to \$4.25; stores weighing 50 to 150 lbs are finding a ready sale at \$4.12½ to \$4.25. Cattle quotations were: Export, 1,200 lbs and upwards, heifers and steers, 3½ to 4c per lb.; butchers' choice picked, 3½ to 3¾c; butchers' choice, 3½ to 3¾c; common to good, 2 to 3c.

**HIDES AND WOOL**

Following are quotations:—Hides, No. 1 inspected steers, \$9; No. 1 inspected cows, \$8.25; No. 2 inspected, \$7.25; No. 3 inspected, \$5; calfskins, green, 11 to 13c; calfskins, cured, 13 to 14c; calfskins, dry, 11 to 13c; sheepskins, green, 70 to \$1.10; wool, super, 23 to 24c; extra super, 28c; wool pickings, 9 to 10c; tallow, rough, 2c; rendered, 4 to 4½c.

**DRIED APPLES**

Seem to be becoming scarce and tending upwards. Trade lots have changed hands at 3½ to 4c, and more would have been taken; dealers have been charging 4½ to 4¾c. Evaporated decidedly scarce and firmer, with 9½ to 10c obtainable for trade lots and dealers holding at 10½c.

**DULUTH WHEAT MARKET**

Wheat opened rather at the commencement of the week, and on Monday and Tuesday there was rather an unsettled feeling, with narrow fluctuations in prices. There was a better feeling on Wednesday, partly owing to light receipts, which only amounted to 40 cars, leaving about 1,250 cars on track here. On Thursday there was a bulge of 1c, influenced by active covering of shorts. The market closed for the week quiet and dull on Friday. Receipts have shown a gradual falling off, and have averaged about 75 cars daily. It is not expected that they will hold up much longer. Closing prices for No. 1 hard on each day were:

	Cash	Dec.	May
Monday	77	—	84½
Tuesday	76½	—	84½
Wednesday	77½	—	86½
Thursday	78½	—	86½
Friday	78½	—	86½
Saturday	—	—	—

**WHEAT IN STORE.**

The following shows the stocks of wheat (expressed in bushels) in store at the places named on Dec. 11th, 1886: Duluth, 8,275,580; Minneapolis, 6,216,137; Chicago, 11,853,984; Toronto, 93,400; Montreal, 178,031; New York, 11,204,062.

## Business East.

## ONTARIO.

F. Daly, hotelkeeper, Trenton, has sold out.  
 John Lathan, hotelkeeper, Windsor, is away.  
 D. Holiday, harnessmaker, Brooklin, is dead.  
 Chas. H. Hill, grocer, Hamilton, has assigned.  
 J. H. Dickson, grocer, Ridgetown, has sold out.  
 Young, Bigger & Co., gloves, Galt, have dissolved.  
 E. S. Warner, grocer, Brampton, has assigned in trust.  
 C. H. Poile, jeweller, Chatham, has assigned in trust.  
 Jas. Wilkins, grocer, Toronto, has assigned in trust.  
 A. St. John, confectioner, Ridgetown, has sold out.  
 Jos. Potts, hardware dealer, Belmont, has sold out.  
 Cross & Edwards, grocers, Strathroy, have dissolved.  
 J. B. Dignam, gents' furnishings, London, has sold out.  
 W. H. Davis, shoe dealer, Toronto, has assigned in trust.  
 Archibald Dick, grocer, Alton, has sold out to L. McKinnon.  
 S. H. Shaw, saloonkeeper, St. Thomas, has assigned in trust.  
 S. H. Horton, druggist, Toronto, has sold out to J. Coombs.  
 Jacques & Foley, news dealers, Oshawa, have given up business.  
 F. M. Gardner, printer, London; style now Gardner & Oliver.  
 J. R. Hoover, grist mill, Pickering, is offering to compromise.  
 R. W. Craig, photographer, Oshawa, has gone to Rochester.  
 G. B. Alexander, shoe dealer, Toronto, has moved to Peterboro.  
 A. Morell, dry goods, Toronto, has held meeting of creditors.  
 Daniel A. Roszell, harnessmaker, Cayuga, is away to Brantford.  
 T. Richter, saloonkeeper, Hamilton, has sold out to Chas. Schmidt.  
 Thos. Bennett, hotelkeeper, Manchester, has sold out to Peter Holt.  
 Jos. Black, hotelkeeper, Shelburne, has sold out to Geo. Thompson.  
 Knox & Campbell, butchers, Teeswater, have sold out to — Hartley.  
 J. Rordans & Co., law stationers, Toronto, have assigned in trust.  
 W. H. Gardiner, photographer, Orangeville, is removing to Toronto.  
 Duncan McFarlane, general storekeeper, Clearville, has sold out.  
 Jas. McCarthy, flour and feed, Wiarton, has sold out to W. E. Irwin.  
 Harrison & Swales, grocers, St. Marys, have called meeting of creditors.  
 Jas. Wilkins, grocer and baker, Toronto, has held a meeting of creditors.  
 N. M. Ostran, general storekeeper, Frankford, has assigned in trust.  
 Robt. Richie, general storekeeper, Pakenham, has assigned in trust.  
 Middlemiss & Robertson, groceries and dry goods, Galt, have dissolved.

M. Reed, blacksmith, Pickering, is dead.  
 W. W. Montrose, general storekeeper, Cotnam, has moved to Kingsville.  
 Andrew Lennox, hotelkeeper, Orangeville, has sold out to Robert Brown.  
 Chas. Allen, grist mill, Columbus; mill advertised for sale under mortgage.  
 C. G. Willment, tea dealer, Ottawa, has closed up and is out of business.  
 W. J. Wallace, general storekeeper, Lakefield, has sold out to Madill Bros.  
 Walter Contes, general storekeeper, Teeswater, has sold out to G. H. Helson.  
 Warner & Co., gents' furnishings, Orillia; stock advertised for sale by auction.  
 Madill Bros. general storekeepers, Lakefield, have sold out to J. C. Sherrin & Son.  
 J. R. Biette, general storekeeper, Oshawa, is selling off and removing to Toronto.  
 Bastedo & Grant, publishers, Bracebridge, have dissolved; D. H. Bastedo continues.  
 A. E. Cameron, general storekeeper, Oakwood, has sold out to Archibald Campbell.  
 Charlesworth & Co., wholesale boots and shoes, Toronto; estate sold to H. E. Hamilton.  
 Allan, McFarlane, general storekeeper, Claremont, has moved to West Toronto Junction.  
 Singer Bros., general storekeepers, Whitby and Oshawa, advertise selling off and removing to Toronto.  
 J. C. Hughson & Co., lumber, Sarnia, have sold out to Muskoka Mill and Lumber Co.; style retained.  
 Stafford & Wilcox, stationers, Whitby, have dissolved; Wilcox retires, and R. McCormick admitted; style Stafford & McCormick.  
 QUEBEC.  
 David Moore, lumber dealer, Hull, is dead.  
 A. Grundler, tailor, Montreal, has compromised.  
 Mrs. J. E. Vaine, milliner, Montreal, has assigned.  
 International Hoop Skirt Co., Montreal, has assigned.  
 Vigeant & Jette, jewelers, Montreal, have dissolved.  
 A. Leonard, Jr., furrier, Montreal, was burned out.  
 Bronillette & Beauchamp, grocers, Montreal, have dissolved.  
 Elie Noel, hardware, St. Sauveur, has assigned in trust.  
 John Gagnon, general storekeeper, St. Zepherin, has assigned.  
 B. J. Bertrand, general store and mills, St. Placide, has assigned.  
 Lefebvre & Viau, dry goods, Montreal, are offering to compromise.  
 D. R. Borland, coal dealer Montreal, has sold out to D. Whelan.  
 T. A. Christian, general storekeeper, St. Jovite, has compromised.  
 Cote & Co., manufacturers of boots and shoes, St. Johns, have assigned.  
 Armstrong & Co., photographers, Montreal; Bryce W. N. McMaster admitted partner under same style.  
 W. J. Carney, saloonkeeper, Montreal, has admitted Ovide Bachaud under style W. J. Carney & Co.  
 Adolphe Raymond, fish dealer, Montreal, has admitted Louis Larivee, Sr., under style Larivee & Raymond.

## NOVA SCOTIA.

E. D. Woodlock, hotelkeeper, Pugwash, was burned out.  
 Johnston & Sukor, tinware, etc., Halifax, have dissolved.  
 C. E. Cutten, general storekeeper, Economy, is giving up business.  
 McCurdy & Co., general storekeepers, Antigonish, have dissolved.  
 Samuel Pickup, general store and shipping, Granville Ferry, is dead.  
 Garrett Miller, general storekeeper, New Dublin, was burned out.  
 Borden Levi & Co., general storekeepers, Pugwash, were burned out—insured.  
 A. C. Van Meter & Co., agricultural implements, Truro; style changed to Bligh & Prince.

## NEW BRUNSWICK.

Jos. Porier, general storekeeper, Grandance, has assigned.  
 J. S. Vernor, general storekeeper, Sheffield, has assigned.  
 M. Daigle & Co., general storekeepers, St. Louis; M. Daigle dead.

## PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

H. J. Folland, general storekeeper, Northam, was burned out.  
 S. T. Perry, general storekeeper, Tignish, was burned out.

## The Visible Supply.

The amount of wheat in store at the principal points of accumulation in Canada and the United States (east of the Rocky Mountains), on the dates named, with corresponding week last year, was as follows:

	Bush. 1886.	Bush. 1885.
November 27th . . . . .	59,572,340	55,539,993
December 4th . . . . .	59,539,331	56,783,440
December 11th . . . . .	59,989,660	57,981,156
December 18th . . . . .	61,460,330	58,388,469

By this statement it will be seen that the visible supply of wheat increased 1,470,670 bushels for the week ended Dec. 18th.

## A CINCINNATI ESTIMATE.

The following exhibit shows the relative position of wheat in this country on Dec. 1, according to computations of the Cincinnati Price Current:

	1886.	1885.
Total supply July 1..	80,000,000	150,000,000
Unavailable . . . . .	50,000,000	50,000,000
Available supply July 1 . . . . .	30,000,000	100,000,000
Crop . . . . .	455,000,000	357,000,000
Total available supply	485,000,000	457,000,000
Exports, five months to December 1 . . . . .	65,000,000	32,000,000
Consumption to Dec. 1	118,000,000	115,000,000
Seed requirements, year . . . . .	53,000,000	53,000,000
Disposed of . . . . .	236,000,000	200,000,000
Available supply December 1 . . . . .	249,000,000	257,000,000

These figures imply approximately 8,000,000 bushels less available supply now than a year ago, and about 10,000,000 bushels less of "invisible" supply than a year ago. The requirements for consumption for the seven months to July 1 next will be about 166,000,000 bushels, including a surplus of 83,000,000 bushels available for export, by reducing reserves July 1, 1886—corresponding with the low point in 1882.

# COFFEE! COFFEE! COFFEE!

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Respectfully yours, CHASE & SANBORN.

**Boston. Montreal. Chicago.**

#### Grain and Milling Notes.

Twenty thousand bushels of wheat have been shipped from Shoal Lake, Man., so far this season.

Aggregate exports of wheat and flour during the past five months 64,340,220 bushels against 31,185,250 bushels for the corresponding period in 1885—increase equal to 105 per cent.

Exports of wheat from the Atlantic coast during November were 8,201,029 bush., against 2,553,404 bush. in November, 1885. Exports of wheat for the past five months, 43,603,853 bush. against 16,804,060 bush. for corresponding time in 1885.

The exports of wheat from the Pacific slope for the month of November were 4,033,370 bushels of wheat and 140,093 barrels of flour, against 1,690,820 bushels of wheat and 79,220 barrels of flour for November, 1885. For the five months ending November 30 the exports were 13,362,070 bushels of wheat and 644,410 barrels of flour, against 6,517,017 bushels of wheat and 503,393 barrels of flour for the corresponding period last year.

The *Daily Business*, of Chicago, thus refers to the influence of bucket-shop speculation in keeping down prices: "The bear element is unquestionably responsible in a very large measure for the low prices that have been ruling of late years for breadstuffs. The bear element is made up of grumblers, chronic alarmists who are in the habit of overestimating production and underestimating consumptive requirements;

the short sellers, and last and most powerful of all, the bucket-shops. Without the aid of the latter the short sellers of America and Europe could not have dragged prices down. General or "country speculation," as it is sometimes termed, would, if legitimately directed, have formed a support to the markets that could not have been broken down, and that would have enabled the producers to sell their grain crops at prices ranging from 25 to 50 per cent. more than they have obtained. Dumb-trading in bucket-shops has cost the bull speculators enormous sums, but it has cost the farmers and the country merchant class vastly more. It has enriched several thousand professional gamblers who abandoned cards for a game that presented many advantages over the "sweat-cloth," it has impoverished the agricultural classes and thinned the financial blood of the whole country. Its effects have been far-reaching and baneful."

The aggregate deposits in the banks of the United States have increased from \$522,000,000 in January, 1886, to \$1,173,000,000 in October 1886, while loans and discounts have arisen from \$500,000,000 to \$1,443,000,000. The specie held by the national banks in 1886 was \$19,000,000; in October, 1875, it was only \$8,000,000, while in July, 1885, it was \$117,000,000, and is now \$156,000,000.

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**General Notes.**

The line of the M. & N. W. Railway has been surveyed about one hundred miles west of Battle.

The statistic fiend has been at it again and has figured out that President Cleveland's message contained 16,269 words.

The Dominion Government, are sending seed wheat, oats and barley, for spring sowing. This with plenty of snow will give our farmers a good heart to begin farming operations with vigor.

A substitute for india rubber is being introduced under the name of adamanta rubber. It is claimed that it can be used alone, or can be mixed with other materials used in the manufacture of rubber fabrics.

The Windsor Hotel Co's annual meeting was held in Montreal some days ago. The financial statement showed that sufficient had been earned to pay a dividend of 7 per cent., one of 3 1/2 per cent. having been paid. There is now a surplus of \$150,000.

A carload of prime cattle for the Christmas market, Winnipeg, was shipped from Minnedosa by John Wake. Another good carload, besides a large quantity of dressed beef, pork, poultry, etc., was shipped from Neepawa for the same market this week by the same gentleman.

Glenboro is the name of the new Manitoba Southwestern town situated at the terminus of the Railway. Though only two weeks old. There are already four stores and two hotels and two blacksmith shops. There is also an engine house or round house, and two lumber yards.

The firmness previously reported in the Montreal evaporated apple market has been supplemented by a sharp advance. holders now asking 12c per lb. for 50 lb. boxes. Supplies are very light, and consumers have considerable difficulty in satisfying their wants. We quote prices firm at 11c to 12c.

In the Montreal market there has been a very good demand for fresh killed, dry picked turkeys, and such lots have been placed for shipment at 17c to 1 1/2c. The sale of a ton of choice birds being made at 10c., whilst a lot of 500 lbs. of scalded stock was sold at 8 1/2c. per lb. Chickens have sold at 6 1/2c. to 7c. per lb., geese at 6c. to 7c. and ducks at 9c. to 10c.

The cattle market in Great Britain is said to be utterly demoralized and there are no present prospects of improvement. The total exports of cattle from the port of Montreal for the season just closed, amounted to 65,824 head, and of sheep 98,648. There were also 74 hogs, 113 horses and 9 mules. The aggregate value of the cattle was \$4,336,300 and of the sheep \$869,832.

The Foreign Trade Gazette is the name of a somewhat unique commercial journal, published by a company of a similar name, at New York. Each article in the paper is printed in English and reproduced in the Spanish language in a parallel column. The object of the paper is to further international trade relationship between the United States and Mexico and the South American republics.

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Look at the map and observe the time tables, and then go to the nearest ticket office and ask for your ticket over the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, and thus secure the very best accommodations to be had for your money, as this Company runs none but the finest trains, over the most perfect tracks, through the most populous towns and villages, and in the midst of pastoral and picturesque scenery, making Quick Time and Sure Connections in Union Depots. No change of Cars in any class between St. Paul and Chicago.

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