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

VOL. 5.

WINNIPEG, JUNE 20TH, 1887.

No. 39.

The Commercial

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WINNIPEG, JUNE 20, 1887.

A PARTY of 25 Germans have settled at Langenberg, on the Manitoba & Northwestern railway.

TALL crop reports are now all the rage. Wheat and oats are getting well up in the three feet list.

The postal car service on the Manitoba & Northwestern railway has been extended from Birtle to Binsearth.

MARQUETTE & CAREY, hotelkeepers, Oak Lake, Man., have dissolved partnership. Marquette continues the business.

—Smith, late in the employ of J. R. McPhail, at Prince Albert, Sask., has opened in the tinware business at that place.

THE Sanford ranch at Westbourne has been stocked with a number of very fine imported cattle and horses, of the best breeds.

THE liquidators of the Rainy Lake Lumber Co. have settled their disputed tax claims with the Rat Portage council. The amount to be paid over, including costs, is \$2,242.50.

THE stock of H. B. Rose, merchant tailor, Winnipeg, will be sold by tender on June 24th.

THERE is talk at Calgary of moving the C. P. R. depot further west, and building a more handsome and commodious station house.

WALTERS & BAKER, general merchants, Prince Albert, Sask., advertise selling off at cost, with the intention of making a change in the business.

STEVENS & PALMER, lumber dealers, Oak Lake and Virden, Man., have dissolved partnership. Henry Stevens will continue the Oak Lake business.

A. McLEOD, storekeeper, Cypress River, Southern Manitoba, was burned out on Monday last. Loss \$3,000; insured in the Glasgow and London for \$2,500.

JOHN RIDDELL, of Moosomin, Assa., has received a private letter from a capitalist in England asking what prospects there are of starting a flax mill in Moosomin. He is expected to arrive here some time in August, and we should, therefore, hold out every inducement within our power to get this industry established in our midst.

A WAREHOUSE occupied by Wishart, Bishop & Co., furniture dealers, Winnipeg, was destroyed by fire Monday morning last. Loss about \$4,500; insured for \$2,000. The building belonged to the Scottish Mortgage Co., and was partially insured. The ice house of D. O. Bricker was also burned at a loss of about \$600, not including the ice, a large portion of which will be saved.

S. R. PARSONS, doing business in Winnipeg, as wholesale stationer, etc., under the firm name of Parsons & Ferguson, has admitted into partnership with him Henry Bell and W. E. Hazley; and hereafter the business will be carried on under the firm and style of Parsons, Bell & Co. The new partners have both been connected with the business lately carried on by Mr. Parsons for some time back, Mr. Bell in the capacity of traveller, and Mr. Hazley at the head of the office and financial department. The new move will undoubtedly increase the popularity of the firm as well as to place it in a better position for handling its steadily increasing business.

JAS. HERALD lately in the general store business at Stonewall, Man., but who went east a short time ago, has returned and again entered business at Stonewall.

BEFORE proroguing the Manitoba legislature passed a resolution providing for the construction of the Red River Valley road by the railway commissioner, even in the event of disallowance by the Dominion Government, and also for an appeal to the Privy Council in the event of further disallowance.

NATIVE hard coal, from the Anthracite mines, west of Calgary, will shortly be placed on the Winnipeg and other provincial markets. H. G. McMicken has been appointed agent for Winnipeg. The advent of this coal will probably reduce prices of hard coal. With the development of this new mine of anthracite coal, and the plentiful supplies of soft coal to be had, there should be little trouble in filling our markets entirely with the native coal. The only thing required to supply Manitoba with really cheap fuel, is less exorbitant freight rates. As it now is, it takes such an exorbitant rate to satisfy the railway, that there is little profit left for the dealers, notwithstanding the fairly high price at which the coal is sold.

THERE is great need of a little more enterprise on the part of the C. P. R. authorities in supplying better accommodation to shippers of perishable articles to and from this market. A refrigerator car service is very badly needed. During the present warm weather there is no proper mode of shipping butter and other commodities either to or from the city. The express car has to be taken advantage of, and a few packages of butter, etc., are occasionally shipped west, but freight rates are such as to render this mode of transport almost prohibitory. The railway authorities were to have a refrigerator car for the shipment of a lot of butter to British Columbia lately, but the car failed to materialize, and the proposed shipment had to be abandoned. This is a poor way to encourage our farmers to produce butter and other similar commodities. A refrigerator car service should be arranged for at least once per week each way on the main line and branches, during the warm weather, and it is a shame that some adequate service of this nature is not furnished.

The general assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, which convened in Winnipeg last week, forms undoubtedly the most important and influential gathering ever assembled together in this city. It is indeed a mark of honor to the Presbyterians of this city and province, and indeed to all of us, that a city so young in years and so far removed from the centres of population, should have been selected for this distinction. These delegates come from the most remote portions of the Dominion—from Vancouver Island, on the Pacific coast to the west, and from where the Atlantic surges wash the shores of Cape Breton Isle in the east. They meet at the half-way house of the Continent—Winnipeg. They represent a large, powerful, intelligent and wealthy portion of our population. It is therefore to be hoped that they will carry away with them much information about this part of our country, and the best of wishes for our people.

The *Toronto Monetary Times* is afraid the Dominion authorities will not take action to prevent the Manitoba Government from building the road to the boundary, and it hastens to inform them that the Local Government bill is just as open to the Dominion veto as were the private bills nullified in times past. The *Times* says: "The Local Government possess no immunity that saves the bill from the exercise of the veto power. If the federal government upholds the decision of Parliament, it will be bound to veto this bill." The *Times* further intimates that the Dominion authorities should lose no time in exercising their prerogative to veto the bill, "as tenders for the construction of the road have already been invited." The *Times* winds up with the following precious statement: "Foreign railway companies are evidently at the bottom of this business, and they will have to be shown that we do not purpose to have our independent road strangled by the newly-invented process, any more than by the old process which has been so often tried." The *Toronto C.P.R.* monopoly organ can save itself the trouble of getting into such a stew over the matter. The road to the boundary is going to be built, veto or no veto, and all the antics of hired monopoly, alleged journals will not stop it.

OPINION has evidently undergone a great change in Eastern Canada on the disallowance question in favor of Manitoba, during the past few months. At least this is undoubtedly the case in the premier province of Ontario, since a number of the leading journals there commenced to study up our case and came out in our defence. Up to a few months ago the best informed papers in the east seemed to be all at sea on the great question at stake in Manitoba; and in dealing with disallowance they invariably represented that it would necessitate the breaking of the agreement with the C.P.R. to allow Manitoba to build roads to the boundary. Eastern people, however, can hardly be blamed for this ignorance of the question, when it is well known that many in Manitoba held the same ideas for a length of time. Now that easterners have commenced to see the matter in its true light, the more thoughtful and independent portion are rapidly falling into line

with Manitobans. There is every reason to believe that the recent vote in Parliament on Mr. Watson's resolution did not voice the sentiment of at least the province of Ontario. It is well known how deceptive Parliamentary decisions are, so far as they may be taken to indicate the popular feeling in the country. For instance, everybody here knows that fully seven-eighths of the people of the Territories are opposed to monopoly, though the representatives of these people voted solidly for monopoly. The vote of the Ontario members may be taken as no more indicating the popular feeling in that province than did the vote of the Territorial members. A gentleman recently from Ontario, of strong independent proclivities, who has travelled over the greater portion of that province during the past few weeks, stated to the writer that the people there of both parties were largely in sympathy with Manitoba on the disallowance question. The party referred to accounted for the vote in Parliament as brought about by that hide-bound party feeling, which compels a member to support his party once when right and twice when wrong. There is no doubt a good deal of truth in this, and undoubtedly the visit of the Winnipeg delegation to the east has been the cause of a great deal of the change in the public feeling there regarding the great Manitoba question. If public opinion in the east could be educated up to the proper standard on the disallowance question from a Manitoba point of view, it would be impossible for the Dominion Government to obtain that moral support necessary to enable it to carry out any further repressive measures against this Province. It should be the earnest effort of Manitobans to help on the movement of educating public opinion in the east, and it might even prove an advantage to undertake some active work of this nature by having a course of lectures delivered throughout the east. We make the suggestion for what it is worth. At all events Manitoba's case only requires a lucid explanation to gain many sympathizers, even among those now opposed to our interests.

THE proposal coming from prominent Winnipeg Conservatives to the effect that Mr. Robert Watson, M.P., be tendered some recognition of appreciation for his efforts in behalf of the Province, on his return from Ottawa, is one well worthy of being acted upon. Mr. Watson is certainly more deserving of some distinction at the hands of the people of Manitoba than many who have in times past been made the recipient of honors at the hands of our people. It is not many years since a banquet was given at Winnipeg to a Manitoba M.P., who has since proved himself the very lowest of party tools; who for some mercenary purpose has opposed the most important interests of his Province; voted to keep Manitoba under the bondage of monopoly; broken every pledge made to the electors of his constituency, and violated all sense of decency, honor and veracity in denying that he ever made such pledges. Mr. Watson has worked hard and unceasingly for the best interests of this Province, never allowing an opportunity to pass by to put in a word in our behalf. These are the plain facts, acknowledged by all, and we should take them

as they stand, without questioning the motives which prompted such action. What should Manitoba care for Grit or Tory when the rights of the Province are being trampled in the dust. Playing the part of the cringing mercenary to the party in power has been tried long enough, without success. It is time Manitobans gave over this idea. Little Prince Edward Island, with a solid phalanx against the Government, can obtain her demands, but cringing Manitoba is denied the clearest justice. It was ever thus and ever will be. Manly independence will always triumph over mercenary support. It is really time the belief that a province must support the party in power to obtain its demands was exploded. Experience has proved that exactly the opposite is the case. There is another idea which would render the move to recognize Mr. Watson's service most commendable. This is, that it would help to remove party bitterness, and smooth down the sharp edge of party asperities. A public recognition of Mr. Watson's labors in behalf of the Province, coming from Conservatives, would be, in addition to a recognition of true merit, a great step in the direction of creating a more harmonious feeling among the people, irrespective of party. If for no other motive than this alone, the good which might be accomplished would be worth the effort. In the present juncture Manitobans should not be divided on party lines, and really there is no question at stake of paramount interest to the people here to cause such a division. By all means let Mr. Watson's services be recognized, and let such recognition take the shape, not only of a Winnipeg but a provincial movement.

THE Chicago wheat market has had a terrible shaking out during the past week, resulting in the financial ruin of many who a few hours before counted their wealth by hundreds of thousands of dollars. The market opened very steady on Monday, and like the proverbial calm before the storm, there was scarcely any change in prices, fluctuations being confined to a very narrow range, with trading fairly liberal. It has been well known that a strong clique had been operating for some time back in "bulling" the market, and that owing to these manoeuvres prices presented the abnormal features of ranging considerably higher for cash and near futures than for the more deferred options. For instance, at Monday's closing of the board, June wheat was 8½c higher than July and 13½c higher than August. These abnormal prices rendered cash and near futures at Chicago considerably higher than surrounding domestic markets. The natural consequence was that Chicago was draining the surrounding country of wheat, and the amount in store there was only limited by the elevator capacity. To show the difference in the markets it may be noted that Chicago cash wheat was about 12c higher than Duluth, and shipments by rail from the latter to the former place had actually commenced. With these vast streams of wheat pouring in upon them from all quarters, the clique were unable to hold out any longer, and the crash came on Tuesday last. Such a panic was never before witnessed in the Chicago market. There was a great crush to sell at the opening on Tuesday, and with mountains of

wheat pressing upon the now quaking bulls, it took but a moment to cause a break. One tumble followed another, amid scenes of the wildest confusion, and then came rumors of failures of large concerns, of checks being thrown out and of runs upon the banks where the clique operators were supposed to be obtaining their funds. Such a similar scene of turmoil has probably never before been witnessed. The decline for the day for June wheat was 19c, with the other options in proportion, the [more deferred futures, which were not under the influence of the abnormal prices, not showing much change. The panic extended to outside markets, Duluth declining about 5c, with failures reported. The excitement was continued on Wednesday, with a further drop of 3c in June wheat, but a recovery of 2c before the close. The result of the crisis will be to place wheat once more upon a healthy basis. To show the way wheat has been pouring in, it may be stated that though exports for the previous week from Atlantic ports reached the enormous amount of 4,000,000 bushels, yet during the same time the visible supply only decreased 400,000 bushels. With such a movement, interior elevators must have been undergoing a clean sweeping. Among the failures reported is that of Arthur Walters & Co., of Duluth, who were a quarter of a million "long" on wheat. A dozen or more Chicago houses were unable to further margin up on Tuesday, and more were expected to follow.

The Loss Account.

"I always look after and talk about my losses; the profits take care of themselves." That is the motto of a successful dealer in a business peculiarly liable to losses, owing to the perishable nature of the goods handled.

The losses in business are the measure of a man's business ability. Carelessness and errors of judgment are responsible for most of them. There is always an excuse for a loss, and while the dealer may deem it justifiable or unavoidable, it nevertheless argues against his claim to superior business capacity. In alluding to the activity associated with a prominent retail store, the proprietor remarked: "I never was doing a better business or making more money."

Six months later the same person said: "I found in summing up the year's business that I had added nothing to my capital because I trusted too much to my cashier. Now I have so arranged matters that I cannot be cheated." He locked the stable door after the horse was stolen, and in so doing confessed a want of prudence and over-confidence in his employees. It is the leaks that must be looked after closely. Small or large they must be stopped. It is the persistent effort to avoid losses that leads to success. The merchant who tries as hard to stop the leaks as he does to make profits will be found generally on the winning side.—*Dry Goods Chronicle.*

FARMERS throughout Southern Manitoba, says the *Manitou Mercury*, have been industriously engaged in breaking for some time past and an immense amount of ground has been turned over. Some of the settlers in the vicinity of Manitou have already finished over twenty-five acres of breaking.

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THE recent rains have proved a great boon to mill men on the Little Saskatchewan, Bird Tail, and other streams in Manitoba. Logs which were "hung up" last year have been successfully floated this season.

AT a public meeting held at Calgary, to consider the financial situation, the Mayor stated that the council proposed submitting a by-law to raise \$30,000 to be expended in the perfection of the fire protection system and other public improvements.

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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, JUNE 20, 1887.

THE OUTLOOK.

Seldom in the history of Manitoba has the outlook been more favorable for a bountiful harvest. From all parts of the Province come reports of the most encouraging nature, telling of bountiful rains, wonderful growth, increased acreage, etc. There are scarcely any exceptions to the general rule, and only one or two instances of damage to crops, and that from very limited areas, have been reported. West of Manitoba, from the Qu'Appelle country and the North Saskatchewan settlement, the reports are also favorable. It would perhaps be counting the chickens before they are hatched to rely implicitly upon present indications in making arrangements based upon a certainty of a bountiful harvest. Notwithstanding the exceptionally favorable condition of the crops to date, provincial merchants have shown a great deal of caution in making contracts for the future. Country dealers have even displayed more than the usual amount of conservatism in placing orders for fall delivery, and they have pointed to past years when the favorable indications early in the season were not realized. Last year early indications were fairly favorable, but later on drought seriously injured the crops in some parts of the country, and greatly lessened the aggregate yield of grain. This light crop, combined with ruinously low prices for cereals and high freight rates, rendered last year's agricultural operations not eminently satisfactory. In the previous year (1885), the crop prospects, until late in the season, were most favorable for an abundant yield, and in this respect expectations were fully realized. The crop was certainly a very heavy one and fully sustained the reputation of Manitoba soil and climate for producing almost fabulous yields, but cool weather late in the season delayed the ripening of the grain, until a considerable portion was damaged by an early autumn frost. Merchants who have suffered in the past from placing too great reliance on early crop indications, have therefore determined to profit by such dearly-purchased experience, and in doing so they are following a commendable course. As a rule it is always best to be

on the safe side in estimating for future requirements. Besides, it is now an easy matter to replenish stocks within a short time, now that railways cover a great portion of the country, and bring nearly all points within reach of a ready market. But notwithstanding this feeling of caution, it will not perhaps be out of place to take a more optimistic view of the more immediate future, in considering the state of the crops at the present time. Though there is still some possibility of the crops receiving considerable damage between the present and harvest time, yet the possibility of such damage is infinitesimally small in proportion to the probability of an abundant crop. As regards drought, which was the cause of damage last year, there is now very little to fear from this source. Last year the bulk of the damage was done previous to this date, whilst during the present season the rainfall has been plentiful to date, and quite a spell of dry weather could now be endured without serious results. The fear of danger from this source may therefore be almost entirely dismissed. Likewise there can scarcely be anything to fear from early autumn frosts this year. The crops are now fully three weeks ahead of what they were at the same date in 1885, and with hardly average weather from this forward, the harvest will be over before the very earliest frosts are likely to set in. Any fears of extensive damage to crops may therefore be confined to wet weather during harvest, and of this there is always some slight possibility, though in the Northwest the likelihood of injury from such a source is usually considered very improbable. Some injury may also be caused from hailstorms, but these were never known to affect any large areas of country, though occasionally individual settlers here and there have suffered severely. Summing up the favorable indications, and giving due weight to every possibility of future injury, it must be conceded that the probability of a bountiful harvest in the Northwest for 1887, may be counted upon with almost as much certainty as any merely human exigency can be.

INCREASE OF CROP AREA.

Regarding the area of grain sown this year in the Northwest, an authentic statement can hardly be given. Full reports from all parts of the country have not yet been furnished from which to compile an average increase in the area for the

whole, and in the absence of anything like a systematic mode of obtaining information, any estimate can at best be given only as an approximation. However, it is beyond a doubt that the increased acreage sown to wheat this year is very considerable. One reason why such is the case may be inferred from the fact that last season was one of the most favorable on record for breaking and fall ploughing. Parties who went through the country last fall all reported a very large acreage of land broken. From such reports as have come to hand this spring and summer, it is also certain that the acreage sown is very considerably in excess of last year. The information obtainable is from grain dealers throughout the country, travelers who have given attention to the matter, local press reports and miscellaneous sources, all of which agree in that the increase in the acreage has been large, estimates varying from twenty to thirty-five per cent. and more, over last year, according to the districts whence the reports come. It is best to take a conservative view of these reports, and allow something of a discount for the natural exaggeration which is almost inevitable in connection with crop and similar estimates. Should the increased acreage turn out as large as the outside figures, it will be a matter of congratulation, especially should the harvest prove as abundant as present prospects would indicate. For the present, however, it will be quite high enough to place the increased area sown to wheat at 15 per cent., as compared with last year. In Southern Manitoba the ground has been gone over pretty thoroughly by grain dealers, and the reports obtained in this way indicate an increase in the area, varying from 20 to 30 per cent. in the different sections, with perhaps a greater increase in the country through which the railways were extended last season. The extensions of the Manitoba & Northwestern railway and the Rapid City branch have also resulted in the increase of the area placed under cultivation this season in those districts.

With the crop harvested in good condition, and the yield in keeping with present indications, Manitoba farmers will have in the neighborhood of 9,000,000 bushels of wheat for export this fall. Of course the benefit to the country from this expected surplus of wheat will depend very largely upon the prices obtainable for wheat in outside markets. Unfortu-

nately wheat prices have ruled very low ever since Manitoba came to the front as a wheat-exporting country, and last year values were the lowest within the memory almost of the present generation. However, our farmers have shown their ability to grow wheat at a profit even with values at rock-bottom figures, and even should prices continue as low for the crop of 1887 as they have for the past year, the result would not be to greatly check the attention given to wheat-growing in this country. It is yet too early to speculate on the course of values for the next crop year; but an abundant harvest for 1887, with a return to the prices ruling for wheat a few years ago, would set this country thoroughly on its feet, and give our new Northwest a great "boost" on the road to prosperity.

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS OF THE EMPIRE.

The recent increase in the duties upon imports of iron and manufactures of iron into Canada has brought the question of closer commercial relations between the United Kingdom and the colonies prominently to the front in the mother country. Heretofore the Imperial authorities have troubled themselves very slightly about the commercial matters of the colonies. The latter have been looked upon only as of value in so far as they offered a market for British manufactures. The commercial value of the colonies in consuming the exports of the home country, has been regarded by many British economists as their only real value to the Empire. Now, however, that some of the colonies, notably Canada, have commenced to place almost insurmountable barriers in the way of trading with the home country, through the inauguration of systems of protection, the feeling has begun to grow in Britain that some change must be made in the relationship between Great Britain and the colonies.

Undoubtedly the motive of self-interest is at the bottom of the action of the colonies in adopting protective measures, and the same motive is the cause of the uneasiness with which these moves on the part of the colonies has been regarded in Britain. The encouragement of home industries and the development of home resources has led the colonies to go into protective measures, whilst on the other hand British economists have believed that free trade was to the benefit of the commerce of Great Britain. The same motive underlies the action of the Im-

perial as well as the colonial Governments. It is therefore manifestly unfair, as some British writers and statesmen have done, to charge Canada with selfish motives owing to her endeavors to build up and foster her own development. The home Government has never shown any desire to favor Canada or any other colony in commercial matters, as against other nations, in the purchase of supplies necessary to support the people of the United Kingdom. In the same way Canada could not very well adopt a protective tariff against other countries, whilst permitting British manufactures to come in under more favorable arrangements.

There is evidently only one way over the difficulty, if British manufacturers would wish to be treated with greater consideration by the colonies, and that is by giving some return equivalent to any favors which they might desire. In other words, if the colonies are to show special favors in admitting goods of British manufacture, as against other nations, the Imperial authorities must be prepared to extend special considerations to the colonies, in favoring the importation of commodities from the colonies, in preference to foreign nations. This is the only practical solution of the question, and this evidently is the sensible view now rapidly gaining ground in Great Britain. As a writer in a leading British review lately expressed it, it would be to the advantage of the Imperial Government to work for the development of the colonies, rather than for the bettering of foreign markets for the disposal of surplus manufactures.


The discussion in Great Britain arising from the recent increase in the Canadian tariff, has brought the question of Imperial Federation prominently to the fore, and some profess to see in it a solution of the difficulties which British exporters to the colonies have to contend with. Those in Britain who favor protection, and who are apparently increasing in numbers, have also received a new cue from the recent action of Canada, and one leading journal declares that the doctrine of one-sided free trade is rapidly losing ground. One writer even proposes the imposition of a tax upon imports of Canadian produce; but it would be unfair to tax Canadian produce, while admitting similar commodities from other countries free. Canada does not discriminate in her protective policy against Britain, and for Britain to discriminate against Canada would

be to drive this country into a commercial compact with the United States, as opposed to British interests. However, there is no likelihood, whatever, of such a result, the proposition being to unreasonable to be tolerated by a British Government.

The other proposition that the Imperial Government should arrange a reciprocity measure with the colonies, whereby imports of produce, etc, from the latter to the United Kingdom, would be given a preference, as compared with similar commodities from foreign countries, in return for concessions favorable to British goods imported into the colonies, is one which would be received with favor at least in Western Canada. All our leading exports, including breadstuffs and dairy products, are such as are required by British consumers, whilst we have comparatively nothing in the industrial line worthy of protection from competition with British manufactures. Cheap manufactured commodities and a preferential market in Great Britain for our products of the farm, dairy and range, with the Hudson's Bay route opened for the export of these products, and the Northwest would be on the high road to prosperity. With the movement going on in some other parts of Canada in favor of commercial union with the United States, the proposal for some sort of a reciprocal arrangement with the Imperial Government might not be so favorably received as it would be here. So far as the Northwest is concerned, however, we have nothing to export to the United States which is not largely produced in the States immediately to the south of us, and therefore commercial union would not add materially to our prosperity. On the other hand we would have everything to gain and nothing to lose from the extension of our trade with Great Britain, on conditions favorable to the exportation of our products in that direction.

The Northwest is now almost purely an agricultural and pastoral country, and though there are many industries which may be developed independent of agriculture, yet the prosperity of the country must very greatly depend upon the success of our agricultural operations. We require also cheap manufactured goods in those lines which cannot be produced in the country; and though we have to pay heavy duties to protect the manufacture in eastern Canada of many articles necessary for our use and comfort, yet we cannot expect in return to find a very large market for our agricultural products in the eastern provinces. Any arrangement with Great Britain which would tend to favor the marketing of our produce in that direction would therefore be welcomed by the people of the Northwest.

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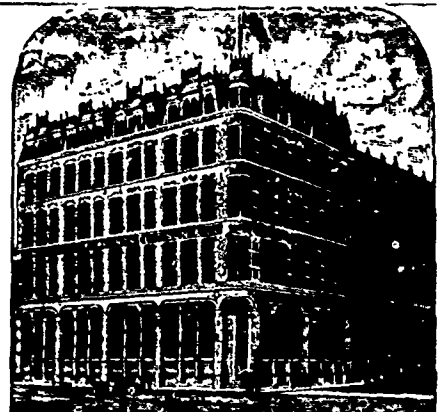
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Complete Set of Samples with

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ASSORTED PACKAGES ON HAND FOR COUNTRY TRADE
ORDERS SOLICITED

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET

In monetary circles the situation remains in about the same condition. At the banks there has been only the usual commercial business going on, with miscellaneous transactions not of frequent occurrence. There still seems to be a great deal of uncertainty regarding the outcome of the various railway schemes, and with the public mind in such an unsettled state, the feeling is to curtail miscellaneous business, rather than favor many such transactions. Attention is centred mainly upon the proposed Government road to the boundary, and there is no denying the fact that considerable uneasiness is felt as to what action the Dominion may take in the matter, and what might be the outcome of any attempt to forcibly check the local authorities. Wholesalers report country remittances as still rather slow, but with a bountiful harvest in prospect, the feeling in this direction is hopeful. Loan companies are doing only a quiet business, at old rates of interest, and with more than the usual care exercised in making the more risky transactions, from the causes previously enumerated.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE

The summer trade in nearly all branches, especially in textile lines, remains quiet. The sorting trade throughout the season in such branches has been very light. Innumerable orders for parcels have been coming forward, but the aggregate of these would only make a few ordinary sized orders. Country merchants have shown a commendable desire to delay ordering large fall stocks until such time as the result of the harvest had been assured, and in following this course they will have the approval of the trade generally. Some miscellaneous branches are doing a fairly good business, such as fruits, saddlery and harness, and building lines, but as a rule things are slow, but with better prospects ahead.

CLOTHING

The remarks made regarding dry goods would just about cover this branch, so far as the present movement is concerned. Fall orders are of course further ahead, though a great many country merchants have refused to place any considerable orders ahead for fall delivery.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS

Prices as follows: Howard's quinine, 90c to \$1; German quinine, 70c to 80c; opium, \$4 to \$4.50; morphia, \$2 to \$2.50; iodine, \$4.25 to \$4.50; bromide potassium, 65 to 75c; American camphor, 40 to 45c; English camphor, 45 to 50c; glycerine, 30 to 40c; tartaric acid, 70 to 75c; cream of tartar 35 to 40c; bleaching powder, per keg, \$8 to \$10; bicarb soda, \$4.50 to \$5; sal soda, \$2.25 to \$2.50; soda ash, \$3 to \$3.25; chlorate potash, 25c to 30c; alum, \$3 to \$3.75; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur, flour, \$4 to \$4.50; sulphur, roll, \$4 to \$5.25; American blue vitrol, 6 to 8c.

DRY GOODS

Business in this branch has continued about as quiet as at the time of our last report. Quite a number of orders have come in but they are all for such very small parcels that the aggregate would not amount to much. The sorting trade for the entire season has been of this

nature. Travellers have not yet gone out with fall business, but they are now preparing samples and will move within the course of a couple of weeks. Prospects are considered fairly good for fall business.

FRUITS—GREEN, VEGETABLES, ETC.

Oranges have advanced, owing to warm weather, and lemons are expected to go higher shortly. Messina oranges are about out of the market. Prices are: Sorrento oranges fine, \$5.50 to \$6.50 per box; Messina lemons, \$5.50 to \$6.50 box; bananas, \$4 to \$5 per bunch; pine-apples, \$5 dozen; apricots, \$4 per box; strawberries, \$6.50 per case of 24 quarts; tomatoes, \$3.00 for one-third bushel box; cucumbers, \$1. to \$1.50 doz.; Bermuda onions, \$3.75 per box of 50 lbs.; southern onions, 5½c lb.; Egyptian onions, \$7 per case of 100 lbs.; apple cider, \$14 per barrel, of 32 gallons; cabbages, 6c lb; lettuce, radishes and onions, 30c per dozen bunches, rhubarb, 2c per lb.

FRUITS—DRIED, AND NUTS.

Quotations remain as follows: Figs, Turkey, in boxes, 10 to 11c, new Elme figs, in layers, 10c per lb, in 7 lb. to 10 lb. boxes, or \$2. per doz. in 1 lb. boxes; Golden dates, 9 to 10c; Valcia raisins, \$2.25; London layers, \$3.50; evaporated apples, 15c; dried apples, 7½ to 8c; new Turkey prunes, 7½c to 9c. Nuts are quoted: Peanuts, roasted, 18c; peanuts, raw, 15c; walnuts, 18c; almonds, 20c; filberts, 12½c; Texas pecans, 17c; cocoanuts, \$12.50 per 100; maple syrup, \$15 per dozen cans of 1 gal.; maple sugar, 13c per pound, in cakes, new.

FURS

A more active movement is going on in the direction of preparing for the north furs: Prices are: Beaver, per pound, \$2.50 to \$4.00; per skin, \$2 to \$8; bear, \$5.00 to \$25; bear, cub per skin, \$1.00 to \$7.00; otter, per skin, \$5.00 to \$10.00; mink, per skin, 30 to 75c; marten, per skin, 60c to \$2.00 fisher, per skin, \$1.00 to \$6.00; lynx, per skin, \$100 to \$2.75; racoon, per skin, 40 to 60c; skunk, per skin, 40-60-80; muskrat, per skin, 1 to 8c; fox, red, 25c to \$1.40; fox, cross, \$1 to \$10; wolf, timber, \$1.00 to \$3.00; wolf, prairie, 75c to \$1.50.

FISH

Prices for cured are: boneless fish, 6½c; boneless cod, 8½c; prepared herrings, 7½c; mackerel, 15-lb kits, No. 1, \$2.50; other qualities, \$1.75 upwards; smoked herrings, per box, 25c.

GROCERIES

The feature of the week was the break in the speculative coffee market at New York. Prices here had not been advanced in proportion to the advance in outside markets, and the break therefore did not affect this market. Prices are again on the advance at coffee centres. After a steady advance of 13 cents during the past year, for Rio the first break took place on Friday last, when a decline of 13-10 cents occurred on the New York coffee exchange. Almost a panic ensued, but no failures were reported. Other local quotations are steady, as follows: yellow sugar 6½c to 7c; granulated 7½c; lump sugar, 8½c to 9c; Coffees, Rios, 22 to 23c; Government Java, 33 to 35c, other Javas, 25 to 30c; Mochas, 31 to 35c. New season's teas are now quoted as follows: Japan season 1886-7, 20 to 45c; Congous, 1886-7, 20 to 60c; Indian teas,

35 to 50c. Old range Moyune gunpowder, 25 to 70c; pan-fired 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 \$2.25 to \$2.60; sugar, cane, \$2.10 to \$2.35; T. and B. tobacco, 56c per pound.

CANNED GOODS

The usual movement is going on in these goods, at steady prices. Prices as follows, per dozen: Salmon, \$1.75, mackerel, \$1.50, lobsters \$1.87, sardines (French) ¼ tins, \$1.70, ½ tins \$2.90, cock oysters, \$3; corn, \$1.65, peas \$2.00, tomatoes \$2.00, baked beans \$2.75, corned beef \$3 to \$3.25, lunch tongues, 2 lbs. \$7.00; 1 lb, \$3.50. Fruit in 2 lb. tins, are quoted: pears, \$2.50 to \$2.75, strawberries, \$2.60 to \$2.75; plums, \$2.25 to \$2.50 peaches, \$3.75.

H. DWARE AND METALS

The movement keeps steady in this branch. Quotations are as follows: Cut nails, 10d and larger, \$3.75 to \$4.00; I. C. tin plates, \$5.50 to \$5.75; I. C. tin plates, double, \$11.00 to \$11.50; Canada plates, \$3.50 to \$3.75; sheet iron, \$3.50 to \$5.00, according to grade; iron pipe, 35 to 40 per cent off list prices; ingot tin, 28 to 30c per lb., according to quality; bar iron, \$3.00 to \$3.50 per 100 lbs.; shot, 6½ to 7c per lb.; tarred felt, \$2.75 to \$2.95 per 100 lbs.; barbed wire, 7 to 7½c.

HIDES

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

LEATHER AND FINDINGS

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

LUMBER

The distribution of lumber to country points has not been large, but the movement has been in proportion to last year, and a better fall trade is expected. A good deal of fear is entertained about logs being hung up. A large number of logs intended for supplying the mills on Lake of the Woods are in a very precarious shape, and it is feared that about 15,000,000 feet will be "hung up," owing to low water. It is hoped that the recent rains will enable these to be got out, and another effort is being made to float them. On Lake Winnipeg a good deal of trouble has been experienced from low water, and a considerable quantity of logs may be "hung up" there. Logs cut in the Riding Mountain, which were "hung up" on the Little Saskatchewan, Bird Tail and other streams in Northwestern Manitoba last summer, have been successfully floated this season.

PAINTS, OILS, AND COLORS

The rush of spring business in this branch is now over and matters have assumed a more quiet aspect. Prices are: Turpentine, 80c in five-gallon cans, or 75c in barrels; harness oil, \$1.25; neatsfoot oil, \$1.50; linseed oil, raw, 68c

per gallon; boiled, 71c in barrels or 5c advance in five-gallon lots; seal oil, steam refined, \$1; castor, 12½c per lb.; lard, No. 1, \$1.25 per gal.; olive oil, pure, \$1.50; union salad, \$1.25; maceine oils, black 25 to 40c; oleine, 40c; fine qualities, 50 to 75c. Coal oils, silver star, 26c; headlight, 28c; water white, 30c. American oils, Eocene, 35c; water white, 33c; sunlight, 29c. Calcined plaster, \$3.75 per barrel; Portland cement, \$5 to \$5.50; white lead, genuine, \$7.00; No. 1 \$6.50; No. 2 \$6.00; window glass, first break, \$2.25.

WINES AND SPIRITS

Quotations are now as follows: Gooderham & Wort's five year old, \$2.40; seven 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, \$1.00 to \$1.50; 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, \$15.00 per case of 12 bottles.

WOOL

The movement of receipts is increasing. Quotations are: Cotswold and Leicester, washed and in merchantable condition, 12 to 15c; do. unwashed, 8 to 10c, according to condition and quality. Pure Southdown and Shropshire, washed and in good condition, 15 to 18c; do. unwashed, 10 to 12c. Montana and Oregon fine wools, unwashed, 13 to 15c, when in good condition.

THE MARKETS

WINNIPEG

WHEAT

The features of the grain market are still centred in the state of the crops. Reports from all parts of the Northwest continue most favorable, and each succeeding week improves the prospect. There is scarcely any wheat being delivered by farmers, and therefore the break in prices at Chicago would not effect wheat-growers here very materially. However, prices declined 3c, making the average about 64c paid for loads to farmers. Cars on track to dealers are quoted at from 67 to 68c at provincial points. The tumble in wheat will affect dealers who have stocks in store, a considerable quantity being held in this way at Lake Superior ports, as well as some in the Province. The decline in the value of such wheat will be in about the same proportion as the decline at Duluth, shown in our report of the Duluth market in another column.

FLOUR

Local flour markets have not changed, and advices from Montreal report the markets there as about the same, though perhaps sales would be somewhat slower. Flour did not advance in price in proportion to wheat, and the decline in the latter should not materially alter flour quotations. Quotations in broken lots to the local trade now are as follows: Patents, \$2.25; strong bakers', \$1.90; XXXX, \$1.30 to \$1.35; superfine, \$1.10.

MILLSTUFFS

Bran is now quoted at \$3 and shorts at \$10 per ton. Chop feed, \$25 to \$30 per ton.

OATS

Quiet and almost nominal at 44 to 45c in car lots on track.

POTATOES.

New quoted at 2½ to 3½c per pound, according to quality. Old worth about 60c.

EGGS

Steady at 11c in small lots to the trade.

BUTTER

One dealer reported "receipts increasing and absolutely nothing doing." The city retail trade is being supplied largely directly by farmers, and even private parties buy on the street from wagons, prices ranging as low as 12c for new crocks and rolls. About 13 to 14c is the nominal price at which dealers quote new butter, in small lots, but lower bids would not be refused in many instances. The refrigerator car which the C.P.R. was to furnish did not come to hand, and the shipment to the west could not be made. Our remarks of last week will still apply with equal force to the situation.

CHEESE

A small quantity of new Manitoba cheese has come to hand, and is held in single boxes at 15 to 16c. Local factories are holding for too high a price for their product, and they are in danger of injuring the trade by so doing, as there is some talk of importing from Ontario. Eastern cheese (see quotations in another column) could be laid down here for considerably less than native is held at, and whilst this is the case there is always some likelihood of importations being made.

LARD

Held at \$2.30 per large pail for Chicago and native.

CURED MEATS

Quotations are steady, as follows: Long-clear bacon, in lots of under 500 sides, 10c; over 500 sides 9½c; breakfast bacon, 12 to 12½c; spiced rolls, 11 to 11½c; hams, 13½c; Chicago mess pork, \$20 per barrel; mess beef \$16 per bbl, in barrel lots.

DRESSED MEATS.

Pork steady at 7c; beef sides, 7½c, mutton scarce and cost 13c to lay down here. A lot of sheep are on the way, when prices will be lower; veal plentiful at 9c.

LIVE STOCK

One car lot of hogs arrived and were reported to have been taken by a packer at 5½c. This however, is generally conceded to be above the market value, and shippers could not rely upon getting from within ½ to ¾c of this price. Beef cattle were quiet and butchers fairly well supplied, with 3½c about the nominal quotation for fair average stock.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

GRAIN

The market was dull and easy and prices irregular and unsettled, owing to the Chicago depression. Quotations were as follows: Canada red winter wheat, 95 to 96c; white winter, 95 to 96; Canada spring, 95 to 96c; peas, 66c per 67 lbs.; oats, 25c per 32 lbs.; rye, 50 to 55c; barley, 48 to 55c.

FLOUR

Strong bakers' was active early in the week. Manitoba strong bakers' sold at \$4.35 and medium at \$4.25. Quotations were as follows: Patent, \$4.25 to \$4.75; Canada strong bakers', \$4 to \$4.05; Manitoba do., \$4.35; American do., \$4.40 to \$4.60.

OATMEAL.

\$4 to \$4.25 per bbl.; granulated, \$4.25 to \$4.50 per bbl.

PROVISIONS

City hams, 11½ to 12c; Canadian lard, 9 to 9½c in pails; western do., 9½c; bacon, 10½ to 11c; shoulders, 10c; tallow, refined, 4½c; eggs, 13c.

BUTTER.

Nothing doing but local demand. Prices:—New creamery, 18 to 19c; new townships, 15 to

16c; new western, 10 to 15c; low grades, 8 to 9c.

CHEESE.

At the Ingersoll, Ont., sales on Wednesday, 6,200 boxes were offered, June make. Sales there ranged at 9½ to 9¾c. Some was held over at 9½c; 34 factories were represented. Cables declined 6d. to 3s. 6d. The market here was fairly active. Quotations were: Finest white, 9½ to 9¾c; do. colored, 8c; medium to fine, 8 to 9½c.

HIDES.

Green butchers' hides bring 8c, 7c and 6c for Nos. 1, 2 and 3, tannage paying 8½ to 9c.

The Hudson's Bay Co. have re-opened their post at Victoria, Sask.

PRICES at Brandon, Man., last week were:—Wheat still brings from 63 to 65c a bushel. Oats are rather more plentiful, at from 40 to 45c, according to quality. No barley. Cattle have again taken a downward tendency in sympathy with the Winnipeg market. Butter has dropped two or three cents, and thirteen cents is about the price paid now by our merchants. Eggs, 9 to 10 cents a dozen.

SINCE writing the editorial article found on another page, regarding the increase in the wheat acreage, the first crop bulletin of the Manitoba department of agriculture has made its appearance. The figures given in the bulletin are not such as to cause a material difference between it and our article written previous to the time of its appearance. The bulletin places the wheat acreage of the province at 432,134 acres, or an increase of 47,693 acres over last year. With a good crop, this would give the province a surplus of grain for export equal to that indicated in our article, after allowing for home consumption and supplies for seed next spring.

The following northwestern railways will receive grants of land to the amount of 6,400 acres per mile:—The Alberta & Athabasca from a point between Calgary and Crowfoot Creek to Athabasca river, crossing the Saskatchewan near Edmonton, 300 miles; the Qu'Appelle & Long Lake and Saskatchewan Railway and Steamboat company from the present terminus to a point on the South Saskatchewan where the 52nd degree of latitude crosses the river, about 150 miles, thence to the elbow of the Saskatchewan, 25 miles with branches, to Prince Albert, 85 miles, and Battleford, 85 miles, a total of 325 miles; the Medicine Hat Railway and Coal company, from Medicine Hat to the mines, 8 miles. The grantees in each case to pay the cost of surveys.

The wool season is opening in good shape this year, and the trade promises to greatly exceed in proportion that of former years, thus indicating that the province is progressing in the sheep raising industry. Jas. Hallam, the Winnipeg dealer, has already this season made several large purchases from individual settlers, one being for 600 fleeces, another for 250 fleeces, and a third for over 200 fleeces, in addition to numerous smaller purchases. The Manitoba sheep are all of the long-wool breeds, Leicester, predominating, with a fair sprinkling of Southdowns, Cotswold and Shropshires. From the western ranges the finer wools are obtained, where Montana sheep are mostly kept. These are a mixed Merino breed.

EASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO

June wheat opened at 92½c on Monday, and declined ½c during the day, which was the entire range of prices. August closed at 79c, September at 78½c, and December at 81½c. July opened at 83½c, and sold up 1c, but closed ½c under the top. There was liberal trading, especially in July. It looked as though the clique had designs on July, and intended carrying on the deal indefinitely, but they will have to carry all the wheat that is crowding into this market. Exports for last week from Atlantic ports were 4,000,000 bushels of wheat and flour equivalent, the largest weekly shipment for many years. Despite this the visible supply decreased only 400,000 bushels. Closing prices were:

	June.	July.
Wheat	92½	83½
Corn	37	33
Oats	24½	25½
Pork	22.00	—
Lard	6.60	6.65
Short Ribs	7.70	7.70

Tuesday will long be remembered in the history of the Chicago board, as the day upon which the great June wheat deal collapsed. It is reported that at the conference last night it was decided to abandon the deal. At any rate the clique went to pieces with a terrible crash, June wheat breaking 19c, and July 10c before noon. June opened at 92, and broke to 73c, as the lowest point, closing 1½c above the bottom. July opened at 83½, and broke to 73½, closing ½c above the bottom. August opened at 78½, and broke to 76c, closing at 76½c. December remained unchanged from yesterday. The panic commenced from the opening of the board. June broke to 86½c, reacted to 91c, broke again to 89c, and fluctuated sharply between 88 and 90c up to 11:30 o'clock. After this there was no stop to the tumble. *Daily Business* describes it as follows: "Nothing like it was ever witnessed on the Board of Trade. Men who have grown gray in the business say that the excitement ran higher than on the culmination of any of the great corners that have been attempted in the past. It was as though a cyclone had struck and the market fairly boiled. The wheat pit was filled with a crush of steaming, screaming men. There was no haggling over fractions or cents. Everybody who had anything to sell sold it for what they could get, and buying orders were executed like lightning. Margins were devoured and swept out of sight in the twinkling of an eye. It was every fellow for himself and the devil take the hindmost. Up in the offices clerks were making out margin calls, and nimble-footed messengers were racing from door to door with demands for cash. Never in the history of the Board of Trade has there been such an extraordinary call for margins as was witnessed to-day. The bull houses were literally overwhelmed, and no attempt was made to keep up with the procession. The decline represents an actual destruction of nearly \$3,500,000 in the value of the cash wheat that is now here in store and on track. It represents the transfer of anywhere from \$3,000,000 to \$10,000,000 in profits on open trades in June and July from the bull to the bear accounts on

the books of members of the Board of Trade. Individual fortunes were wrecked and other fortunes reared in an hour." The 1 o'clock close was at a recovery of ½ to 1½c above the bottom. The afternoon was steadier, several large traders coming to the rescue. Reports of failures caused some excitement. June ranged from 73 to 74½c in the afternoon, and July from 73½ to 75½c. All other commodities were easier. Closing prices were:

	June.	July.
Wheat	74½	75½
Corn	36	37
Oats	24½	25½
Pork	22.00	—
Lard	6.55	6.60
Short Ribs	7.55	7.55

On Wednesday the excitement of the previous day was continued. June wheat opened at 75½c, and the extreme range of prices was from 78½c as the top to 69c as the lowest price reached. July opened at 76c, and only went ½c above that price, but selling down as low as 70c. August opened at 77c, sold up 1c and down to 72½c, closing at 74½c. September opened at 78c and closed at 76c. Thus it will be seen that there was a drop along the entire line. The uncertainty of the standing of many large houses was the source of constant anxiety, and a dozen or more houses gave notice of their inability to further protect their trades. Outside influences went for nothing amid the excitement. Corn was weak, owing to free offerings of suspended houses. Closing prices were:

	June.	July.
Wheat	71	72½
Corn	36	37
Oats	—	—
Pork	22.00	—
Lard	6.47½	6.52½
Short Ribs	7.35	7.35

On Thursday appearances indicated that wheat was returning to its normal conditions. July opened at 73c, and closed at the same figure. Fluctuations were from 72½ to 73½c. August opened at 74½, and closing at 75½. There was some buying of June wheat at about 71c, by old traders who had kept away during the clique domination of the market. Other commodities were steady, except corn, which closed ½c higher. Closing prices were:

	June.	July.
Wheat	71½	73
Corn	36½	37½
Oats	25½	26½
Pork	22.00	—
Lard	6.47½	6.52½
Short Ribs	7.52½	7.52½

On Friday, the wheat market opened ½ to 1c higher, at 74c for July, and sold down as low as 72 cents. The opening price was the very top. June opened at 72c, and sold down to 70½c. The situation was one of expectancy, but no new features of importance were reported. August closed at 74½c. Closing prices were:

	June	July.
Wheat	71	72½
Corn	36½	37½
Oats	25½	26½
Pork	22.00	—
Lard	6.47½	6.52½
Short Ribs	7.52½	7.52½

Prices at 11 o'clock on Saturday were:

	July.	Aug.
Wheat	73	74½
Corn	37½	38½
Oats	26½	—
Pork	—	—
Lard	6.30	6.40
Short Ribs	—	—

MINNEAPOLIS.

The general situation remains unchanged. The visible supply is likely no decrease rapidly from now on, but we shall have a very healthy surplus when the new crop begins to move. Despite a host of canards to the contrary, there is plenty of good wheat in the northwest for local consumption. Farmers are believed to have closed out their holdings on the late bulge. Those who did are 8 to 10 per cent. better off for the corner. The drop here of the week ending June 16th, is 10½.

FLOUR.—The wheat panic has totally demoralized the flour market, and millers say they cannot tell how it stands just now, hence the figures quoted might be regarded as nominal. With light stocks everywhere, there seems to be some prospect for better buying soon.—*Northwestern Miller.*

Closing quotations on the 16th were:

No. 1 hard was quoted at 71c for cash, or June, 71 July, and 72½c August, in store, and 72c on track.

No. 1 northern in store was quoted at 70c for cash or June, 70c July, and 71½c August, and 70c on track.

No. 2 northern in store 68c for cash or June, 68c July and 69½c August, and 68c on track.

Flour prices were:

Patent sacks to local dealers, \$4.35 to \$4.45; patent, to ship sacks, car lots, \$4.30 to \$4.40; in barrels, \$4.45 to \$4.60; bakers', \$3.50 to \$3.80; superfine, \$1.75 to \$2.60; red dog, sacks, \$1.45 to \$1.60; red dog, barrels, \$1.60 to \$1.80.—*Market Record, June 16.*

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET

Lake freights were stiff at 7½ to 8c. Twenty schooners and propellers cleared for Buffalo and lower lake ports the previous week, taking on an average about 50,000 bushels of wheat each. The market this week has been mainly influenced by the break at Chicago. The course of prices will be shown by the following closing quotations on each day of the week, for No. 1 hard:

	Cash	July.	Aug.
Monday	78½	79½	80½
Tuesday	—	72½	73½
Wednesday	—	71½	72½
Thursday	—	72½	74½
Friday	—	73	74½
Saturday at 10 o'clock	—	72½	—

FARMING lands in Brandon are said to be looking up.

A good deal of uneasiness has been felt during the past week, owing to the fact that the Lieutenant-Governor received a request from the Dominion Government to forward the Red River Valley railway bill to Ottawa at once. This seemed that the Dominion authorities intended obstructing the measure by every means in their power, and by forwarding the bill to Ottawa at once it could be disallowed before the Local Government could go on with the work. It is not yet known what action the Local Government will take in answer to the demand from Ottawa. A deputation of leading citizens waited on the Government on Thursday, and urged the ministers to stand firm. The assurances received from the latter were most satisfactory to the deputation.

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Grocers, Counter and Union
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Dealer in Wool Bats & Mattress Material

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Attended to. Satisfaction guaranteed.

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365 MAIN STREET,

WINNIPEG.

Business East. ONTARIO.

Thos. Caldwell, nursery Dundas, is dead.

John Erskine, dry goods, Peterboro, is dead.

A. B. Griffin, grocer, London, is out of business.

John Illsay, tin dealer, Picton, has assigned in trust.

Wm. Rowell, hotelkeeper, London, is out of business.

M. C. Potts, tins, etc., St. Thomas, is out of business.

W. H. Rowe, printer, Hamilton, is reported to have left.

P. Callahan, shoe dealer, Toronto, has assigned in trust.

G. L. Edlestone, tins, etc., St. Thomas, is out of business.

Henry Cohen, clothing, etc., Chatham, has assigned in trust.

Knights of Labor Biscuit Co., Chatham, has assigned in trust.

Thos. J. Walters, confectioner, Chatham, has assigned in trust.

Wm. W. Bishop, carpenter, Jerseyville, —sheriff's sale advertised.

D. A. McArthur, general storekeeper, Maxville, has assigned in trust.

Ruthven & Abbett, bakers, etc., Toronto, have dissolved; Henry Ruthven continues.

The Telfer & Harold Manufacturing Co., manufacturers of corsets, Toronto, have dissolved, and style now the Telfer Manufacturing Co.

Manhard & Co., lumber, Brockville,—Thos. Doddridge admitted special partner, contributing \$10,000, from May 30th, '87 to May 30th, '90.

QUEBEC.

Daoust & Bro., butchers, Montreal, have dissolved.

G. Mackenzie & Co., manufacturers of braces, Montreal, have dissolved.

Theodore Vigeant, jeweler, Montreal,—stock advertised for sale by tender.

Andrew B. Somerville, general storekeeper, Kinnebar's Mills, has assigned in trust.

Oil.

The petroleum deposits of the Athabasca as described by Prof. Bell cannot fail to have a great effect for good upon the future of the Northwest in general and this town and district in particular. It was formerly supposed that these deposits only existed on the Athabasca some forty or fifty miles below McMurray and about 350 north of Edmonton, and that as a stretch of unnavigable river extended from McMurray 80 miles up to the Grand Rapid there was no chance of their being utilized until a railroad was built to them, which in the natural course of events could not be very many years. It now appears that only 30 miles from Grand Rapids around the great bend in the river, only 25 miles in a direct line, and not more than 10 miles further north than the Grand Rapid, is struck the petroleum bed which visibly extends for nearly 150 miles along the river without a break—the most extensive deposit in the known world, except perhaps the similar deposit on the shores of the Caspian sea in Russia. Prof. Bell's report on the geology

of the country gives no reason to suppose that the point where the petroleum bed is first exposed by the deepening channel of the river is its southernmost extension. On the contrary there is nothing to indicate that the deposit may not extend southward to Lac la Biche or even further. At any rate there is more than a probability that a well sunk just above the Grand Rapid would strike the petroleum bed at a depth of not more than 400 feet. Prof. Bell remarks that the most likely place to strike a good flow of oil is not necessarily where there are surface indications. From Grand Rapid there is 125 miles of good steamboat navigation to Athabasca Landing, from where 90 miles of haul over the present wagon road would bring the oil to the banks of the Saskatchewan at Edmonton, the distributing point for northern Alberta. From Edmonton, at a nominal cost, it could be distributed along both banks of the Saskatchewan—good agricultural country for 500 miles—to Prince Albert, or even taken to Winnipeg by water. At present the petroleum used in the settlements of Edmonton, Battleford and Prince Albert on the Saskatchewan is brought by rail over 2,000 miles from Pennsylvania and Ontario, and then hauled in carts or wagons across country 200 or 250 miles; so that in the matter of transport over present routes the Athabasca oil would be on at least an equal footing at these points with the eastern product. Of course as soon as a railroad reached the Saskatchewan at either Battleford or Prince Albert the Athabasca oil would be at a disadvantage there; but on the other hand if the work of development were once commenced no doubt the first railroad to touch the Saskatchewan would do so at Edmonton and would not stop short of Athabasca Landing, which would at once give the Athabasca oil the advantage throughout the Northwest and British Columbia, if not all along the Pacific coast. Of course oil may, and it is to be hoped it will, be found nearer Edmonton than the rapids of the Athabasca, even in the immediate vicinity as there are good indications, but it will never be known as long as it lasts how large the supply in such a discovery is; while it would be the more valuable to well-owners on that account it would be less so to the country than the Athabasca deposit, which is plainly inexhaustible. If the oil field does not extend south to the Grand Rapids the expense of transporting the oil by pipe or otherwise over the short distance that can only intervene will not be great, but will be great enough to defer development until the demand is greater than at present; while if oil can be struck no matter how short a distance this side of the Grand Rapid there is no reason why development should not commence at once in a small way. In view of the importance of the trade awaiting development, would it be too much to ask the government to assist in sinking a test well this side of the rapids? Whether development is commenced sooner or later it is clear that as the coal fields of Alberta may be relied on to supply the Northwest with fuel for all coming ages, so the petroleum deposits of the Athabasca country may be relied on to furnish light for an equal period.—*Edmonton Bulletin.*

J. A. Honns, druggist, Pilot Mound, is building new premises at that place.

Grape Culture.

A number of Italians have taken up 160 acres on the north side of the Inlet nearly opposite the city, and about two miles back from the shore. The intentions of the Italians is to plant a vineyard as soon as sufficient of the ground is cleared. The soil, they say, is well adapted to grape culture, and with the southern exposure they do not see any obstacle to prevent their enterprise becoming a success. If the first season realizes their expectations a large number of their countrymen will also go into the business, and grape pressing will be commenced as soon as sufficient vines are bearing.—*Vancouver B.C. News.*

Early Closing.

The following is from *The Merchant*; by far the most ably conducted and leading general trade journals of Toronto:

"The retailers in all departments,—dry goods, groceries, drugs, boots and shoes, etc., throughout Ontario towns, are adopting the early-closing plan, and in the cities the difficulty can only be overcome by pegging away at agitation until the public are driven to act as a unit in purchasing within reasonable hours, and the merchants are forced, from the dearth of trade after certain hours, to yield to the overtures of the good cause. There is much encouragement in the fact that the number of stores now closing early is much larger than a few years ago, and that the tendency among reputable traders of all kinds is to shorten the hours of labor. The number of window-cards about the city announcing:—"This establishment closes at six o'clock," "at one o'clock on Saturdays" seems to be materially increasing."

"The life of the average merchant is a severe trial upon his character. Surrounded by selfishness and the keenest competition, his integrity is subjected to the severest tests, but this does not justify him in sacrificing health by devoting all his waking hours to business. The final success of a business man is demonstrated in the universal law—the survival of the fittest. Then, gentlemen, who shall be your exemplar? Shall it be the man who, by excess, by over-hours and by continued infractions of nature's unchanging laws, has impaired his physical being, and who, in the great army of business men, falls by the wayside a straggler? Or shall it be the man who, by the observance of these natural laws, is made strong and clear-headed, who survives the struggle and marches on with firm step in the phalanx of the successful? We leave it for you to decide."

The *Gladstone Age* says: As regards the statement that banks and loan companies are going to wind up their business and withdraw from the country on account of its unsettled state, they are not such long-eared animals as to do any such thing.

Biscuit making by Knights of Labor, in Chatham, Ont., has come to grief, after a brief experience. The company had a capital of \$30,000, about \$12,000 being subscribed and only 30 per cent. paid up. Its goods had hardly been introduced when the concern was forced to assign.

The Boom in Coffee.

Coffee is still on the jump. The jobbers and brokers on lower Wall street are "up to their ears" in business. The little Coffee Exchange room at the junction of Wall, Beaver and Pearl streets, continues to attract a big crowd of operators, and judging from the frenzy that now pervades the coffee quarter, there is no telling when the craze will end. Stock brokers, speculators in wheat, operators in cotton, manipulators of the metal market, staid down-town merchants with unlimited bank accounts, and clerks, book-keepers, and frequenters of the race track, and pooling rooms with no bank account at all, are taking part in the fray. Such a boom as has been going on in Rio coffee the past ten months has never been equalled. No one ventures to predict when the crash will come. Prior to the present movement which set in last August, the daily transactions on the New York Coffee Exchange were small. A day's business of 40,000 bags exacted exclamations of Wh-e-w!! and set the crowd wondering. The crowd, by the way, seldom exceed a dozen operators, who spend most of their moments in games of mumble-peg, matching pennies and skylarking. In August last coffee rose to 8 cents. In September 10 cents was touched and the bulls set up a whoop! By November the price rose to 10½ and in December 13½. January witnessed but slight change, the highest record being 13½. In February the bears gained courage 13½ being the highest point touched. In March the bulls again secured control and sent prices up to 13½. The following month the bears were appalled on seeing prices range between 13½ and 16 cents. This was the condition of affairs at the commencement of May, since which time the bull movement has gained additional impetus, culminating last week with an advance to 20½ cents, with transactions one day aggregating 215,000 bags, the biggest day's business in the history of the exchange. Hundreds of excited operators are now to be seen on the floor of the exchange, and at times the contracted quarters are closely packed. Fear of a short crop for the year ending July 1, is the ostensible cause for the present memorable boom. For the year ending July 1, 1885, 5,264,000 bags was the result. It is estimated that the yield will not be less than 6,200,000 bags for the present crop year. It is feared however, that the crop year July 1, 1887 to July 1, 1888, will not exceed 4,000,000 bags, and upon this hypothesis the present bull movement has been successfully maintained. Millions of dollars have been realized by several well known down town operators during the present campaign. No one has taken record of the transactions of various firms who have taken a conspicuous part in the daily transactions, but it is generally presumed that two houses have pocketed several millions by successful turns.—Another house is believed to have cleared no less than \$2,000,000 by bulling the market. Scores of smaller concerns are named as having a large credit balance through their successful ventures. Numerous cases are cited where small fortunes have been realized by purchases of small lots on margin. Thus, a purchaser of but 250 bags on May 1, by depositing \$250 as a margin and selling out during the present week

was enabled to clear \$1,000 by the transaction. On the other hand a decline of 7 cent per pound would have swamped the speculators, leaving no profit save \$20 for the broker. Meanwhile the retail dealers are heaping on the price, and economical housekeepers are saving the "grinds," while the cry already goes up that chicory, sawdust, peas and other adulterants are to be largely utilized until the bulls relax their grip on the mighty bean.—*Mail and Express.*

Coffee.

Another panic has occurred in the New York coffee market of a more serious nature than the one reported in our market report. There was wild selling, regardless of prices, which declined 3 cents further under previous reports for Rio. Several failures are reported. An organized effort by brokers succeeded in causing a rally of 1 per cent. B. G. Arnold & Co. failed, with liabilities estimated at over \$1,000,000. The extreme decline since the weakness set in is from 21.30 to 15 cents, or a fall of 6½ cents per pound

Dairy Matters.

The bulk of the butter used in British Columbia comes from California, and a local paper thinks that the farmers in the province should be able to supply the home market.

The *Manitou Mercury* says: The first shipment of cheese from the Manitou factory was made on Monday last. The product consisted of about fourteen hundred pounds, and was consigned to Messrs. G. F. & J. Galt, Winnipeg, at fourteen cents a pound.

In a recent report issued from the Manitoba Department of Agriculture is the following:—Butter and cheese making is likely to be carried on this season with much greater energy than during 1886, which was in reality the first season that anything like a start was really made. No definite information has been received of the several factories in operation beyond their locations and nature, but fuller particulars of their workings will be given later on in the season. The information to hand shows that there are, in all, seven creameries and fifteen cheese factories, all of which are likely to be doing business during the season. The locations of the creameries are at Joly's, Stony Mountain, St. Francois Xavier, St. Charles, and two at Kildonan. The several cheese factories are located at Lorette, Giroux, Otterburn, Sunnyside, Stonewall, Meadow Lea, Nelson, Manitou, Crystal City, St. Leon, Rapid City, Shoal Lake, Virden, Birtle and Minnedosa. There are some other points at which factories are likely to be started in the near future, and outside of these there are a number of desirable localities awaiting enterprise and capital to establish these enterprises.

Clerking in Country Stores.

A recent issue of the *Grocers' Criterion*, Chicago, contained these sensible words about the coming storekeeper:

"Country store clerks as a class have a hard time of it. The hours are long and many in which they are expected to do service for their employer they have few opportunities for

amusement and recreation, particularly when much business is done; they are expected to do all sorts of work, from taking care of the horse and grocery wagon to sweeping and dusting the store and agreeably waiting on lady customers. But the training they receive is extremely valuable; they can learn far more about practical business than they possibly could in some cramped department of a city establishment."

Dr. Talmage in a recent sermon to store clerks said: "You are in a school from which you will soon graduate. It is the university of hard knocks. You may think the experience hard and the time tedious, but if you do what is right—if you prove apt scholars—you will one day be asked into the private office and told that you have done so well and for so many years in a subordinate capacity and now you were asked to become a member of the firm. In a few days later your name will blossom on the sign."

"Now," the *Criterion* asks, "Ought not this prospect to stimulate every clerk to do his best to acquire a thorough knowledge of the business in which he is engaged? There is a place waiting somewhere in the world for every competent, energetic, practical business man who is able and willing to work. Order must be learned; obedience to employers must be practised. The clerk must make himself useful and, if possible, indispensable to his employer. It is the only straight way to promotion; and, to be promoted, should be the ambition of every clerk."

THE proposed branch bank of Lafferty & Smith has at last been established at Moosomin. T. N. Christie is manager.

INGLIS & SMITH, butchers and stock dealers, Moosomin, shipped a car of fine steers, sheep and hogs to Calgary, last week.

T. HOULDING is endeavoring to form a joint stock company at Rapid City for the erection of a large public hall with stores underneath.

Portage Liberal: More land has been sold on the Portage Plains this season than for any four years previous. Very little unimproved land is now for sale. There is also one enquiry for town property.

D. P. McLAUREN's elevator at Brandon was burned early on Wednesday morning last, supposed to have been struck by lightning. There were 6,000 bushels of wheat, covered by insurance. The building was insured for \$6,000 and valued at \$10,000.

RAPID CITY *Spectator* says: The frequent and heavy showers of the past week have told wonderfully on the crops in this district. If nothing happens this will be about the largest crop ever produced in the history of the Northwest.

It is not widely known that one of the products of the Northwest is gold. At Calgary, Edmonton, Macleod and other far-western points gold dust is frequently exchanged for merchandise. A quantity of pure gold amalgam was received lately, at James O'Brien & Co', wholesale clothing, of this city, from a customer at Edmonton, to go to the credit of the customer. The sample consisted of 14 ounces, valued at \$18 per ounce.

ONE THING WE WON'T DO!**Reduce the Grades of Our Coffee.****ONE THING WE WILL DO!!****Name prices as low as can possibly be made and maintain the superior quality which our Leading Brands of Coffee enjoy.**

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Advance your selling price to conform with the advance in cost. Tell your customers that coffees cost from ten to fifteen cents per pound more than one year ago. Do not attempt to retain trade by keeping your price the same and furnishing much inferior coffee. Such a course will kill your business.

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Grain and Milling News.

The Olanah council has passed the by-law to grant \$5,000 to James Jermyn, as a bonus, to aid him in changing his grist mill at Minnedosa to the roller process. A vote will be taken on the by-law, on July 4th next. The conditions are that the party receiving the bonus shall for ten years grind thirty bushels of grain, annually, for each resident in the municipality.

A few days ago the Glasgow chamber of commerce adopted resolutions in favor of a protective tariff. The Manchester chamber of commerce on the same day declared itself in favor of free trade. This shows very clearly how British doctors disagree. The Manchester chamber represents the textile industries, while the Glasgow body is supposed to reflect the sentiments of the flour and grain trades. It is

safe to predict that free trade will rule in England for a long time yet.—*Northwestern Miller.*

Rev. Mr. Brick, missionary at Peace River, N.W.T., has been in Ottawa endeavoring to get the assistance of the Government for the establishment of a grist mill and industrial school in his field of labor at Peace River. Mr. Brick has interviewed the head of the Department of Indian affairs, and has undertaken to raise \$2,500 if the Government will grant a sufficient sum to complete the work. The rev. gentleman says there is a band of 800 Indians in the Peace River district, who have never been assisted by the Government. When game is scarce he has seen hundreds of them die of starvation. During the five years he has been among them, he has taught them to follow agricultural pursuits, and now all carry on farming on a small scale. There is no mill within 400 miles, and it costs \$16 to transport a barrel of flour from here to that place.

The June returns of the United States Department of Agriculture indicate a reduction of nearly 2 per cent. in the area of winter wheat. Changes in acreage of states are very light except in Kansas, where a reduction of 2 per cent. is reported, caused by bad harvest and low prices. The spring wheat area has been enlarged to present from increase of immigration, and farm making west of the Mississippi river in the districts traversed by the Northern Pacific railroad.

The Shoal Lake cheese factory is turning out 400 pounds daily.

British Columbia.

The Hudson's Bay Co. will establish a trading post at Priest's Valley.

Brown & White, dry goods dealers, Victoria, will open a branch at Vancouver.

The C.P.R. Co. is erecting a second building at Vancouver, for the storage of tea.

The Pacific division of the C.P.R. has been extended from Donald, to Banff, Alberta.

A store for the sale of Japanese goods and wares has been opened at Vancouver.

O. G. Dennis has been appointed Deputy Sheriff for the Kootany district, south of Golden.

O'Hagan & Coldwell, tailors, Victoria, have dissolved partnership. M. O'Hagan continues the business.

The B.C. Stationery and Printing Co., Victoria and Vancouver, has sold out its branch at the latter place to Wm. Harrison.

The water in the Fraser is subsiding and all danger of a flood is now considered at an end. In the meantime fishing is at a standstill.

The Bank of British Columbia will open a branch at Kamloops, under the management of R. Lee Barnes. Kamloops is becoming the centre of a large trade.

A number of Australians have arrived at Vancouver, en route for Liverpool, England. Heretofore Australian travel has been by United State's roads.

G. O. Buchanan, Donald, reports the loss of his office, boarding house, blacksmith shop, and all their contents by fire last week. His saw mill alone escaped.

The Hamilton Powder Co. will establish a magazine at Vancouver. It is also reported that the company will build a factory for the manufacture of explosives.

The Kamloops C.P.R. lots will be put on the market shortly. The enquiries for these lots have been very brisk, and it is thought there will be quite a rush for them.

A large number of staterooms have been engaged for the return trip to China and Japan of the S.S. Abyssinia, the first of the steamers to arrive on the new C.P.R. Asiatic line.

The amount of capital invested in the salmon fisheries of British Columbia is \$871,445, and the number of men employed 6,211. There were 20 vessels and 459 men engaged in fur seal fishing of this province, and 38,907 seals were killed. Whitefish and speckled trout abound in the inland waters of British Columbia.

The C.P.R. traffic department has received advices that the S.S. George W. Elder has sailed from San Francisco for Vancouver with a cargo of goods to be shipped over the C.P.R. to eastern points. The cargo consists as follows: 150 tons of wool, 75 tons of syrup, 60 tons of beans and a quantity of general merchandise.

Robinson's new sawmill at Beaver, is about completed. It is 70x30 ft. with 22 ft. walls. The water-power is first-class. The water is carried in a flume 6x4 ft. 600 ft. and has a fall of 27 ft. Besides the usual sawing gear capable of cutting 30,000 ft. a day the outfit consists of lath, shingles, and planing machines. Robinson intends to move the old mill to the limits owned by him further west.

The Chinese, says the Vancouver News, are slowly but gradually gaining a stronger foothold among us and are now ten times stronger numerically than they were three months ago. One of the tyhees is building a long row of of cabins near the Royal City mills, and it is reported that he has purchased the land on which he is building, thus securing all the rights of a landed proprietor.

The Abyssinia arrived at Vancouver on Monday last, out 13 days and 14 hours from Yokohama. She had a number of cabin passengers and 80 Chinese. The cargo consisted principally of Japan tea, with general merchandise and mails. The entire cargo amounted to 2,830 tons destined for New York, Chicago, Montreal, Toronto, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Buffalo, Cleveland and other points.

The employes in the Burrard Inlet saw mills went out on strike lately, in order to enforce a demand for a reduction in the hours of labor to ten hours per day. The men have been working eleven and a half hours per day. The mills were very busy at the time of the strike, no less six vessels being in waiting for lumber for foreign ports. The strike has since ended by the proprietors acceding to the demands of the men.

The Victoria Times says: We have it on what we deem the most reliable authority that the Customs collector in this city some weeks ago made an important seizure, a business concern being suspected of undervaluation in passing entries. The matter was arranged finally on payment of double duties (amounting to \$9,000 or \$10,000) and a fine of \$10,000. The whole matter was kept very quiet by all concerned, but it is now current talk at New Westminster

Personal.

Mr. Alex. Jardine, of the Pure Gold Manufacturing Co., of Toronto, was in the city last week.

Mr. John McClary, of the McClary Manufacturing Co., of stove fame, was in the city last week.

Mr. D. K. Elliott, of R. J. Whitla & Co., wholesale dry goods, has returned from a purchasing trip in the United Kingdom, and the East.

General Notes.

The machinery in the Gibson Cotton Mill, at Marysville, is to be reinforced by the addition of two hundred shirting looms.

An advertisement in an English paper announces that seventeen policies, aggregating £48,000, "on the life of a gentleman aged 62 next birthday" is offered for sale by public roup.

The annual meeting of the shareholders in The Craven Cotton Co., was held in Brantford, Ont., lately. A half yearly statement was submitted showing a good profit, which was placed to the credit of reserve account with a view of providing against future contingencies.

Speaking of English co-operative stores the London Grocer says that it is certain that at the present time, among a large section of the more intelligent of the working-class population, belief in the co-operative principle of trading is gradually dying out,

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