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 Importers of
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 333 and 341 ST. PAUL STREET,
MONTREAL.
 OUR ASSORTMENT, AS USUAL, THE LARGEST.
 OUR PRICES, AS ALWAYS, THE LOWEST.
 OUR FACILITIES FOR PLEASING THE TRADE BET-
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MOORE'S CHINA HALL
 Direct Importers of.
China, Glass & Earthenware
 SILVER-PLATED WARE,
 Lamps, Cutlery and General House Furnishings

MOORE & CO., Proprietors,
 Wholesale Warehouse, 21 Albert St.
 Office and Sample Room, 430 Main St. **WINNIPEG**
 Orders by Mail will receive prompt attention.

THOS. W. TAYLOR,
 THE PIONEER PAPER RULER,
 AND
Blank Book Manufacturer,
 Of Manitoba and the North-West.
 13 OWEN STREET, WINNIPEG, MAN.

GRANT & HORN
 PRODUCE AND
COMMISSION MERCHANTS
 19 Alexander Street West, Winnipeg, Man.

Receive on Consignment all Kinds of Produce.
 Agents for the Dundee Sacks of the Toronto Bag Works.
 All kinds of Flour and Grain Sacks, Stencilling Inks, etc.
 New and improved process of Printing Flour Bags.
 Agents Liverpool Salt for Packers and Dairy use.

J. Y. GRIFFIN & CO
 (Late Griffin & Allan)
PORK PACKERS
 —AND—
COMMISSION MERCHANTS.
 Dealers in Heavy Provisions; Bacon, Ham, Lard, Butter
 &c., at close prices to the trade. Special attention
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 64 & 66 McDERMOTT ST., WINNIPEG.

J. S. CARVETH & CO.,
PORK PACKERS
 COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
 General Produce Dealers. Correspondence
 solicited.
 Princess St., Opera House Block, Winnipeg

CHAS. DAVIDSON & CO.,
 IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN
SADDLERY AND
CARRIAGE HARDWARE
13 FRONT ST. W., TORONTO

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STENNET,
GEMMEL & CO.

Agents for the sale of Raw Furs
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 Quotations mailed free on application. Highest cur-
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 pondence invited.
 OFFICE AND SALESROOM:
 28 OWEN STREET, WINNIPEG,
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TEES, WILSON & CO.
 Wholesale Grocers and Tea Merchants,
 66 ST. PETER STREET, MONTREAL.

TEAS A SPECIALTY.
BYRCE & COMPANY, McIntyre Block, Winnipeg
 Agents for Manitoba and Northwest Territories


FOR \$10.00
 Dealers in nearly every branch of trade can profitably
 handle a few cigars. In order to introduce my goods for
 the fall trade, I will make the following special offer,
 good for three months from August 1—I will send for
 \$10, seven half boxes all different brands handsomely put
 up in boxes. These cigars are selected from my choicest
 brands, made from the finest leaf tobacco, and guaran-
 teed superior to the ordinary imported 10 cent cigars.
 Mail orders forwarded promptly.

THOS. G. FLEETON,
 MANUFACTURER OF FINE CIGARS,
 361 MAIN STREET, WINNIPEG.


RUBLEE, RIDDELL & CO.,
 Commission Merchants,
 AND IMPORTERS OF
Green and Dried Fruits,
 15 OWEN STREET, WINNIPEG

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

First-class in every respect.
 Appointments Perfect.
 Graded Prices.



Every Attention paid to
 Guests.
MONTREAL.
 ST. LAWRENCE HALL
 HENRY HOGAN.



THE UNION INJECTOR: THE BEST
 known appliance for feeding all kinds of steam boilers,
 will lift water 25 feet. Manufactured by
R. MITCHELL & CO., St Peter & Craig Sts.
 MONTREAL.

REMOVAL
PEDDIE & CO.,
 Have removed to
56 Princess St (Gerrie Block)
 where a full line of D. McCall and Co's samples
 of Millinery may be seen. Also special lines in
 Hosiery, Gloves, Underwear, etc.
 A Call from the Trade is Solicited.

PEDDIE & CO
 NOTHING LIKE LEATHER.
W. N. JOHNSTON & CO.,
 Importers and Dealers in
Leather, Findings, Plasterers' Hair
HIDES AND OIL.
 23 and 25 Alexander St. West, Winnipeg

DAWSON, BOLE & CO.,
Wholesale Druggists, Etc.
 REGINA, N.W.T.
 Large stock of leading Patent Medicines
 Sole wholesale agents for the Cow Boy Cigar. We
 also carry all line of popular domestic & imported brand
 WRITE FOR QUOTATIONS.

Hodgson, Sumner & Co.
 IMPORTERS OF
 British, French, American and German
DRY GOODS,
FANCY GOODS,
Smallwares,
TOYS, BEADS, &c
 WHOLESALE ONLY.
 Cor. Bannatyne & Princess Sts., Winnipeg.

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THE VULCAN IRON COMPANY,
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BRASS & IRON FOUNDERS,
 Light and Heavy Forgings, Engine and Boiler Work
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GENERAL BLACKSMITHING.
 All Kinds of Machinery.
POINT DOUGLAS AV., WINNIPEG

HENDERSON & BULL,
Commission Merchants.

AGENTS FOR The Canada Sugar Refining Co., The Canada Jute Company, The } MONTREAL
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Messrs. W. T. Coleman & Co., San Francisco, and Peck Bros. & Co., London, England.
STORAGE in Bond or Free. Lowest Rates of Insurance. Liberal Advances made on Consignments.
OFFICE AND WAREHOUSE: 41 BANNATYNE STREET EAST,
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"Reindeer Brand" Condensed Milk

Contains ALL the cream of the original milk. Full weight and absolute purity guaranteed.

"Reindeer" Brand Condensed Coffee

Containing pure COFFEES, MILK and SUGAR. One spoonful added to a cup of boiling water makes a delicious cup of Coffee all ready for use. Manufactured by the

Truro Condensed Milk and Canning Company (Limited)

TRURO, NOVA SCOTIA.

Sole agents for Manitoba and the Northwest, HENDERSON & BULL, WINNIPEG

AMES, HOLDEN & CO., MONTREAL.

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Dealers in

BOOTS & SHOES,

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PORTER & RONALD,

DIRECT IMPORTERS OF

GROCKERY

GLASSWARE

LAMPS, CHINA

CHANDELIERS,

CUTLERY,

SILVER-PLATED WARE & FANCY GOODS

330 MAIN ST., WINNIPEG.

TASSE, WOOD & CO

Manufacturers of

Fine Cigars,

MONTREAL.

Our Brands: { RELIANCE &
TERRIER.
MIKADO

Are unsurpassed by any in the Dominion

Ask your Wholesale Merchant
FOR THEM.

Robinson, Little & Co

LONDON.

SPRING SAMPLES, 1888

Our Representatives, MESSRS. BRYCE & Co., are now on the road with Samples of CANADIAN DRY GOODS, also of GERMAN HOISERY and GLOVES for Special Importations.

We request your careful inspection of our samples before placing orders.

Robinson, Little and Co.

G. F. STEPHENS & CO.

MANUFACTURERS,
IMPORTERS & JOBBERS OF

Window Glass, Paints, Oils

VARNISHES, BRUSHES,
PLASTER, CEMENT, Etc.

Sole Agents for

Alabastine

SPECIALTY

STEPHENS' PURE LIQUID COLORS,
READY FOR THE BRUSH.

20 MARKET STREET EAST,

W P B MANITOBA

H. A. Nelson & Sons

TORONTO —AND— MONTREAL

Largest Assortment in the Dominion

Fancy Goods, Toys, Snow Shoes,
Children's Sleighs, Toboggans,
Fancy China, Glassware, etc., etc.

Send for Illustrated Catalogue (enclosing business card)

Represented in Manitoba and N.W.T. by
W. S. CRONE.



LYON, MACKENZIE & POWIS,
WHOLESALE GROCERS,

Cor. McDermot & Albert Sts., WINNIPEG

GEO. D. WOOD,
Winnipeg.

WOOD & LEGGAT,
Hamilton, Ont

GEO. D. WOOD & CO.

WHOLESALE

Hardware AND Metals

GUNS AND SPORTING GOODS.

22 & 24 ALEXANDER ST. EAST, AND 35 &
37 McWILLIAM ST. EAST.

WINNIPEG.



English Salt.

HIGGINS EUREKA BRAND for Butter, an
Cheese Makers. WINDSOR for Meat Packers

Received a Car Choice Eleme and Valencia Raisins.

NATIONAL FOOD,

CHASE AND SANBORN'S COFFEES.

FOR SALE BY

Turner, Mackeand & Co.

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The Commercial

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

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

VOL. 6.

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 26TH, 1887.

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.

ISSUED EVERY MONDAY

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

ADVERTISING RATES.

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THE COMMERCIAL will be circulated extensively amongst wholesale and retail Merchants, Jobbers, Bankers, Brokers, Manufacturers, Hotel Keepers, Insurance and Loan Agencies throughout the entire Canadian North, west.

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

Office, 4 and 6 James St. East

JAMES E. STEEN,
Publisher

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 26, 1887.

HAYES & FREEZE have opened a meat shop in Calgary.

THOS. BRODER, baker, Emerson, closed for some time, has resumed business at that place.

CALGARY wants the sessions of the Northwest Council held alternately at that place and Regina.

I. MITCHELL, butcher, Medicine Hat, has sold out to W. L. Nicol, in the same business, at the same place.

LETHBRIDGE, Alberta has been constituted an outpost of customs and a warehousing port, under charge of the collector of customs at Macleod.

THE contract for five thousand bushels of oats, for the mounted police at Battleford, fell to Benj. Price, at sixty-four cents a bushel. Bids ranged to about eighty cents.

MRS. ANGLIM, stationery, etc., Winnipeg, has sold out.

MURRAY & McDIRMID, contractors, Winnipeg, have assigned.

M. CONWAY, auctioneer, Winnipeg, has sold out to J. Wilson and W. Furnival, and will move to Ontario.

WM. PORTZOGS, hotelkeeper, recently burned out at Birtle, Man., has leased the Grand Central hotel at that place, and will resume business.

R. IRONSIDE is erecting a building at Manitou 22x30, which he will use as a hardware and tin store. He has already ordered a general stock of hardware.

THE Northwest Commercial Travellers' Association is in receipt of a cheque for \$100, a donation to the library fund, from the well known firm of Geo. E. Tucket & Sou, of Hamilton, Ont. The board of directors for the coming year, have under consideration the establishment of a library, containing standard business works, as books of reference for the use of members of the association.

THE *Emigrant* for December, just issued, is an excellent number profusely illustrated with Christmas and other sketches. A cut of the town of Birtle, with a brief history of the district, is an interesting feature. There is also a cut and accompanying letter-press sketch of the Rinscarth farm. A cut of Capt. Grahame, Dominion Immigration agent at Winnipeg, is the finest piece of work ever published by a Winnipeg journal.

A QUANTITY of school lands in Manitoba will be offered for sale by auction at the following places on the dates named: At Manitou, on the 10th of January; Winnipeg, on the 17th of January; Portage la Prairie, on the 24th January; Brandon, on the 31st January; Minnedosa, on the 7th of February. In any case in which a settler upon any quarter section of land included in the list referred to can prove that he was bona fide residing upon and cultivating the said quarter section, in ignorance of the law, on the first day of October, 1887, the purchaser of the quarter section will be required to pay, for the benefit of the settler, the value of the improvements thereon.

T. O. ALLEN has opened a real estate and insurance office at Vancouver.

GEO. R. THOMPSON, jeweller, London, Ont., is said to be about moving to Winnipeg.

WILSON & BOYD, bakers, Winnipeg, have dissolved. John Wilson will continue the business.

THE Hudson's Bay Company have built a house on the site of Fort Pitt, destroyed during the Saskatchewan rebellion, for offices and a residence for the officers, and will rebuild the stores and warehouses in the spring.

MANN & HOLT, contractors for the Hudson's Bay Railway company, have obtained an order to sign judgment against the company for \$71,391.10, with interest at 7 per cent after February 4, 1887. The action was brought to recover \$184,403.81, being made up of several items, including grading, bridging, engineering, track-laying, and money paid for freight, right of way, insurance, rails, etc. The amount of the claim for grading, bridging, and tracklaying, has been held over in the meantime, pending farther investigation as to whether the work has been properly passed by the inspecting engineer.

A MEETING of the Winnipeg Board of Trade was held on Tuesday afternoon. The council reported the action taken in memorializing the Dominion Government to revise the grain standards for Manitoba wheat, and on other matters. Considerable discussion took place regarding the shortage of cars for the transportation of grain, and it was stated that country dealers had informed members of the board that they could not make returns owing to the fact that they could not get transportation for their wheat or that of their customers. It was stated also that fully 400 cars were required on last Saturday in the province which were not to be had. The committee appointed to assist the firewood dealers in getting some concession from the C. P. R. in the way of free sidings on the main line, reported that the C. P. R. authorities had promised to do all in their power to help the fuel dealers. A. Wickson, banker, J. W. Harris, city engineer, and R. P. Roblin, grain dealer, were elected to membership on the board.

Our Pacific Province.

Last week's letter on British Columbia concluded with a reference to the wholesale grocery trade of Victoria, but the list of wholesale houses in the city is by no means exhausted.

There are in Victoria quite a number of wholesale and commission dealers in

FRUITS, PRODUCE, GRAIN, ETC.

J. & A. Clorihue, commission merchants and manufacturers' agents, do a large business in California and native fruits, and their business extends all over the Northwest, shipments having been made as far east even as Winnipeg. This firm intends giving special attention to the Northwestern trade next season, especially in fruits. Flour and Manitoba produce is also handled. J. C. Devlin, wholesale provision and commission merchant, is another extensive dealer in Manitoba produce, grain, flour, oatmeal, etc., in addition to other lines. Mr. Devlin claims the honor of having been the first to import Manitoba flour, oats, millstuffs, etc., into Victoria. The following dealers also handle Manitoba produce: Anderson Bros., hay, grain and produce, commission merchants, etc.; Howard Tilton, grain and commission, seeds, etc.; R. Baker & Son, wholesale grain and feed, fruits, etc.; McLachlan Bros., commission and feed merchants; Sere & Co., feed merchants.

The British Columbia Fruit Co. makes a specialty of native fruits, but also handles California fruits. This company is also looking toward Manitoba and the Territories as a future field wherein to operate. Some of the samples of native fruits seen in the warehouses of the company gave a fair view of the capabilities of the province as a fruit-growing country. Some very fine varieties of apples and pears, especially, were observed.

THE WHOLESALE HARDWARE TRADE.

and kindred branches are also well represented in Victoria. First on the list, in this branch, stands the old and well-known house of Marvin & Tilton, established over quarter of a century. This firm deals largely in iron, steel and general hardware. A considerable business is also done in agricultural implements, Messrs. Marvin & Tilton having the agency for the celebrated Massey Mfg. Co. Another hardware house is that of Matthews, Richard & Tye, connected with the English house of Matthews, Richard & Co., of Birmingham. This house handles shelf and general hardware, American agricultural implements, etc. E. G. Prior & Co., shelf and heavy hardware, were established in 1859. Special attention is given to agricultural implements. The house has a branch business at Kamloops. Nicholles & Renouf, handle agricultural implements, hardware, etc., and have, with other agencies, those of the Waterous Engine Works, and A. Harris, Son & Co. E. B. Marvin, ship chandler and commission merchant, handles ship's supplies of all kinds paints, oils, glass, and a long list of sundries. Peter McQuade & Son, do a similar business. There is a large trade done at Victoria in ship chandlery, as is evidenced by the large stocks carried by dealers in this branch. The goods handled are largely of British manufacture, though domestic oils and rope are largely carried. Jos. Sears does some jobbing

trade in paints, oils, glass wall papers, etc., and imports his goods direct, handling Canadian, British and foreign goods. R. Lottice does a similar business. Spratt & Gray, is the name of a new firm, lately established, for the purpose of carrying on business as manufacturer's agents in machinery, and handling steamboat and mill supplies, brass goods, etc. A machine shop for repairs, has also been established. As the firm is a new one, the members are anxious to correspond with manufacturers, with a view to securing additional agencies. Mr. Spratt was formerly connected with the Albion Iron Works, and is interested in shipping.

IN WHOLESALE DRUGS,

there is only one house doing a considerable wholesale trade, though there are two others doing some jobbing business. Langley & Co., the principal wholesalers, have commodious premises, and carry a large stock. Their house was first established in 1858. The firm is composed of A. J. Langley, F. G. Lyman, J. N. Henderson and T. M. Henderson. The other two houses referred to are, Moore & Co., and Thomas Shotbolt.

THE STATIONERY TRADE,

is represented by three houses, doing a mixed wholesale and retail business. The British Columbia Stationery and Printing Co., was established in 1884, by J. B. Ferguson, an old Winnipegger. The business was transferred to a joint stock company in 1886, with Mr. Ferguson as manager. The company is agent for Alex. Pirie, Sons & Co. papers; Stafford and Stephens' writing inks, Shofferck's printing inks, Lansdown Piano Co., the Doherty Organ Co., etc. T. N. Hibben & Co., were established in 1858. The house does a general jobbing trade throughout the province, and has several wholesale agencies for manufacturers. M. W. Waitt & Co., have been established ten years in stationery, etc. The firm has several piano and organ agencies, and also the agency for Taylor's safes. A branch show room is used for the piano and safe business.

COMMISSION MERCHANTS AND AGENCIES.

The firm of Robert Ward & Co., commission merchants, shipping and insurance agents, etc., is widely known. The firm is represented in England by H. J. Gardiner & Co., London. Besides representing a number of leading British insurance companies, the firm has the agency for Curtiss & Harvey, powders, etc., London, England. Portland cement, fishing apparatus, tin plate, oilmen's stores, combustibles are handled, also imported wines and cigars. Messrs. Ward & Co. handle the product of Ewen & Co's and the Bon Accord Fisheries, the two largest salmon canneries in the province, having a combined output, this season, of over 13,000 cases. Mr. Ward is president of the Board of Trade. Findley, Durham & Brodie are interested in the salmon canning industry, and also handle canned salmon, and lumber extensively for export. The well known Ames, Holden Co., shoes, is represented by A. C. Flummerfelt, resident partner. A stock of boots and shoes is carried at Victoria. T. G. Mason represents Galt Bros. & Co., dry goods, Jas. Linton & Co., boots and shoes, and P. D. Dods & Co., paints and oils, all of Montreal. Full lines of samples are carried. H. G. & R. Walker represent John Macdonald & Co., dry

goods, Toronto; also, A. A. Allan & Co., fur goods, Toronto and several other eastern wholesale houses. They have lately introduced the celebrated white bronze monuments, in which they have been doing a good business. Cowan, Shaw & Co., represent the Sanford Mfg. Co., clothing, Hamilton, Boeckh & Sons, brushes, etc., James Robertson & Co., leads, etc., and several other houses. Also interested in the canning industry. E. B. Carmichael, represents James O'Brien, clothing, Montreal. J. I. Beckwith does the business in British Columbia for H. Shorey & Co., clothing, Montreal, an agency which has been established for fifteen years. Chas. R. King, represents the Pure Gold Mfg. Co., Toronto, baking powder, extracts, etc.

THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

of Victoria are not very numerous, but represent a great deal of capital. There is first, the Bank of British Columbia, incorporated by Royal charter in 1862, and with a capital of \$2,500,000. This Bank has branches as follows: At Victoria, New Westminster, Vancouver, Kamloops, and Nanaimo, B. C., San Francisco, California, and Portland, Oregon. The Bank is furnished with British capital, and its general meetings are held in London, England, where the members of the court of directors principally reside. The Bank has a very handsome stone building in Victoria, where its business for the city is transacted. The Bank of British North America is the only remaining chartered bank having a branch in Victoria. Garesche, Green & Co., do a general banking business, and are also agents at Victoria for Wells, Fargo & Co. They do business in Eastern Canada through the Merchants' Bank and Bank of Commerce, and also have connections at San Francisco, New York and in the United Kingdom.

VICTORIA HOTELS.

Though hotels are usually not considered in a sketch of trading institutions, yet a brief reference to the leading commercial hotels, may not be out of place here. Victoria is especially favored in the way of hotels, and at the head of the list stands the Driard, a house famous all over Canada, for the excellence of its cuisine. The people of Victoria are justly proud of this excellent hostelry. The great variety of fish and sea food, game, etc., procurable at Victoria, render it possible to furnish a bounteous table, whilst the fruits, vegetables and delicacies of California, are also called into requisition, furnishing tender herbs and green vegetables at all seasons, and of these opportunities the Driard steward takes full advantage. The Driard, Redon & Hartnagle, proprietors, is a large brick and stone building, having a frontage of 194 feet on View street, and 120 feet on Douglas street. It is comfortably furnished, and has accommodations for two hundred and twenty-five guests. The Clarence is a new house, established in 1886. It has sixty rooms, and is run as a first-class house. E. G. Richards is proprietor. For those wishing a medium priced house, the Occidental is the favorite. It is a large house, having eighty rooms. The old portion of the building, was the first brick hotel built in Victoria. W. Jensen is the proprietor. The Oriental is also a hotel of some standing. Our next letter will be devoted to Victoria industrially.

Western Trade Notes.

Woods and Co., lumbermen, etc., Winnipeg, have sold out their retail department to A. Woods.

Prices at Edmonton, Saskatchewan, recently were: Oats 60c, barley 75c, wheat 85c to \$1.00, hay \$8 per ton delivered, wood \$3 per cord, coal \$3.50 per ton.

In the far north the H. B. Co. have erected at the Athabasca landing, this fall, a log dwelling, shop, and workshop. The lumber for the new steamer has been sawed and the timbers are being prepared.

Edmonton Bulletin: "Reports from Lac la Biche, Lac la Nonne, Lake Ste. Anne, and other fur trading points are to the effect that a good hunt is being made. Not much fur has come in yet, but what has been bought is generally very good.

J. H. Brownlee, the publisher of the excellent map of Manitoba, will publish a map of Assiniboia. The Regina Board of Trade has promised to take 10,000 copies and will have a description of the Regina district printed to send out with the map.

W. B. Scarth, on behalf of the Northwest Land Co., has offered to pay half of the taxes assessed against the property of the company at Broadview. This was agreed to on condition that the previous year's taxes be paid by the company in the same proportion.

Victoria Colonist: It is stated that Mr. Muir, of Metchosin, has disposed of 900 acres of land on Pedder and Beechy Bays for the sum of \$27,000. A few months ago land in the same vicinity was sold for \$4 and \$10 per acre. The increase in value is referable to the immediate prospect of the Island Railway being extended to Sooke.

In the appeal suit of Calgary vs. Canada Northwest Land Co., the case has been decided against the town. Briefly stated, this was a suit to collect the taxes levied on the Land Company's property in that town for 1885. The Calgary Tribune says: "By a perusal of the judgment it will be seen that the court does not say that the town has not the right to collect these taxes, but that on account of the company being improperly designated on the assessment roll, it could not be held that they had been assessed at all."

ROBLIN & ATKINSON
WHOLESALE

Grain Shippers,
SPECIALTIES: WHEAT, BARLEY & OATS
P.O. Box 612. WINNIPEG
CORRESPONDENCE INVITED.

A. C. FREEBORN,
Wholesale Dealer in

WINES, LIQUORS
AND CIGARS,
VIRDEN, MANITOBA.

GREENE & SONS COMPANY

WHOLESALE

HATS and CAPS,

STRAW GOODS,
etc., etc.

Manitoba Spring Trade, 1888.

Men's

Furnishings

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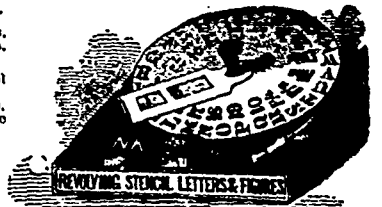
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The Commercial

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 20, 1887.

ANOTHER YEAR.

The next issue of THE COMMERCIAL will bear the date of 1888. The year 1887 will then be spoken of as "last year." It is customary at this season to take a retrospective view of the year, and sometimes also a prospective contemplation of the future. Considered commercially the year 1887 has been a mixed one to the West. It has been both a year of depression and a year of great prosperity; a year of keen financial stringency, and of bountiful harvests; a year of great hopes and possibilities, and of corresponding disappointments. It has certainly been a year of extremes.

The year 1887 may be said to have almost commenced with something of a financial stringency. The crop of 1886 was a decidedly short one all over the west. Instead of having an increased surplus of wheat for export as might have been expected from the steady extension of the area under crop, the shipments from the country showed a considerable shortage, as compared with the previous year. In other products of the soil the same thing was the case. Money was sent out of the country for products of which we should have had a surplus at home, as in the case of oats and potatoes. In a new country where the bulk of the settlers are only becoming established, and where the majority had only liabilities ahead of them, it could not be expected otherwise than that a short crop would cause great stringency. At any rate the stringency has been realized, and considered financially 1887 has been one of keen closeness. This monetary stringency increased as the year advanced, until only lately relief came in the advent of a new crop in the markets. All through the summer country merchants supplied many customers with the necessaries of life, trusting to the harvest for their pay. In turn wholesale dealers were obliged to exercise leniency towards the retailers, and all round the disposition to bear and forbear had to be largely exercised. Such has been the situation—or rather the dark side of the situation for 1887.

The bright side of the situation during the early part of 1887 may be summed

up in the little word "hopes." The hopes of the people were centred mainly upon two things: A good crop for 1887 and relief from railway monopoly during the season. The one has been most overwhelmingly realized; the other, after many ups and downs, has finally resulted in disappointment, so far as its being accomplished in 1887 is concerned. It is unnecessary to recount the many eventful incidents in connection with the hope for release from monopoly. One day apparently realized; the next wavering in the balance, only again to loom up more brightly than ever, and then as suddenly fade away. These incidents are all fresh in the minds of the people. Had this last great hope been realized, the cup of joy for the Northwest would have been full. The failure has cost the country many thousands of dollars in moving this year's crop alone. But it was perhaps too much to expect in one season, along with the wonderful harvest. Release from monopoly must now be left for some future year, and come it must—let us hope in 1888.

So far as railway construction is concerned, 1887 has been a year of disappointment pretty much all around. The prospect of an active season in the construction of the Hudson's Bay railway has been an entire disappointment; the settlers of Southern Manitoba, beyond the end of the present lines, who stand so much in need of railway accommodation, are obliged to wait at least another year. Other projected roads have not been prosecuted to any extent, and not until late in the season was there any pretense made at railway construction, outside of the Red River Valley road.

Notwithstanding the financial stringency, the year 1887 has not been a serious one in the matter of commercial failures. Some few dealers have been forced to the wall of financial ruin, but those who have worried through are now receiving the benefit of a bounteous harvest. Liabilities are being wiped out, and country merchants are now having a very prosperous season.

Taken altogether 1887 has been a year of solid progress for the Northwest. Immigration has been considerably in excess of the several preceding years, and the country is being settled up, as a rule, with an excellent class of people. Our industries have steadily developed, especially in milling, which latter has made rapid strides. Our exports, as the resul-

of the season's crops, will show an enormous expansion. Our granaries are full to overflowing, and the wealth of the country in stock, dairy produce, etc., has greatly increased. With such a bountiful harvest the people have every reason to feel thankful, especially when they consider that in nearly all other parts of the continent the harvest has been very disappointing.

In one respect, however, our bountiful harvest has only shown more plainly the great disadvantage under which this country labors, owing to railway monopoly. Freight blockades have added to the terrors of monopoly. The large surplus of wheat has rendered the demand less keen, and enabled eastern interests to hold prices for our grain below a natural level. With only one outlet at hand we are entirely at the mercy of the eastern interest which controls our wheat. A heavy crop has therefore made the artificial disadvantage of monopoly appear more onerous.

The new year will be entered upon with greatly improved prospects, in comparison with the same time last year. There is a large amount of surplus grain and produce yet in the country, whereas last year the country was drained of grain a little later than this. There will be a steady stream of wheat pouring in for the balance of the winter, spring and summer, with the exception of an intermission during seeding. Old liabilities have been considerably reduced, and with the income from exports yet to be made, the financial situation for the next twelve months should be one of comparative ease. Farmers enter the new year with buoyant spirits, and merchants have had their faith in the country renewed by the great harvest of 1887. Let us hope for a like return from 1888, and also a release from railway monopoly during the coming year, that the development of the great West may be allowed to go on without retardation from artificial drags.

THE COMMERCIAL wishes its readers a prosperous and happy New Year.

THE BLOCKADE.

The railway blockade has apparently come at last with full force. The O. P. R. company has exerted itself to the utmost to prevent a blockade, well knowing that such an occurrence would be a most powerful argument against monopoly and disallowance. Every possible effort has been made, and employees have been worked

day and night, but all to no purpose. The blockade is now being felt most seriously all over the country, to the grievous injury of the general commerce of the West.

There has been some complaint to the effect that when the Manitoba delegates visited Ottawa last winter, to urge a discontinuance of the disallowance policy, that too much attention was given to the question of rates and competition, and not enough to the question of traffic necessities. But it must be remembered, that at that time the reason of insufficient accommodation for traffic could not then be urged as it can now, as an argument against disallowance. Had such an argument been advanced, the Government could easily have met it by pointing to the exports of the country for that year, as furnishing an amount of traffic which could be very easily handled by a single road. The delegates were, therefore, obliged to confine themselves to such grievances as could then be presented with full force. The C. P. R. officials thoroughly understood this situation, and the agitation of last season has spurred them to put forth their utmost efforts to prevent an occurrence which could be used against a further continuance of their monopoly with such powerful effect. Their entire failure to handle the traffic of the country, after such unceasing efforts as have been put forth, only furnishes the most powerful lever to overturn monopoly yet presented. It can now be urged as an incontrovertible argument, and altogether aside from the question of rates, that a second outlet for the exports of the Northwest is an actual necessity, owing to the rapid increase and quantity of traffic now to be handled. How great the efforts of the company have been to prevent such an argument obtaining force, may well be imagined. It is furthermore a certainty, that had it not been for the agitation against disallowance and monopoly, the blockade would have occurred very much sooner than it has. In this respect the agitation has, therefore, accomplished something.

The large crop of the past season, and the rapid increase in the traffic of the West, has demonstrated undisputably that this country must have an additional outlet, if our exports are to find a market in anything like reasonable time, if indeed at all. The C. P. R. has already exhibited its inability to handle the traffic of the country. Notwithstanding the most

superhuman efforts, the freight blockade has been steadily growing, until on Saturday of last week, it is estimated that over four hundred cars were wanted for wheat in the province, which could not be furnished. The elevator accommodation of the country is filled up, and miles of grain sacks, five or six tiers deep, are piled up in the open air along the railways, waiting to be moved. A soft spell of weather would mean the loss of many thousands of dollars in grain so exposed.

In considering the blockade it must be remembered that the railway company has had everything in its favor. It made preparations beforehand, and had all available empty cars distributed along the line to be ready for the wheat movement. The season has been a most favorable one for railroading, mild and free from storms, and there has been no smashups on the line to delay traffic. The lack of snow, though favorable to the railroad, in insuring freedom from snow blockades, has greatly retarded the delivery of grain, thus forming an additional favorable feature for the company. Added to this, the great scarcity of thrashing machines throughout the country, has held back grain to a considerable extent. In some sections it is estimated that not over one-half the grain has yet been thrashed. With plenty of thrashing machines and fair sleighing, there would have been a much heavier crush to deliver grain, and the blockade would have occurred earlier. In the face of what is now occurring in Manitoba, the Dominion authorities will be daft indeed if they persist in continuing their disallowance policy for another season.

IN THE WIND.

Everything seems to point toward the probability of some new C. P. Railway deal during the next meeting of the Dominion Parliament. Some such a move has been voiced and indicated in a variety of ways, and notwithstanding denials from official sources, the public will continue to believe that there is something of this nature on the tapis. What the nature of the expected new deal will be it can only now be surmised, and it is also uncertain whether the initiative will be taken by the Government or the Railway company. The anti-disallowance agitation in Manitoba is thought to have had something to do with it, and it is supposed by some that the Government will make overtures to the company to

buy out its monopoly rights in the Territories in order to extricate itself from a somewhat awkward position. It is also rumored that the proposed new move has no connection with Disallowance or monopoly, and that it will be simply in the nature of another demand from the company for further assistance, on the pretext of necessary heavy expenditures for elevators and rolling stock for the Northwest.

That the Dominion authorities contemplate some new move in regard to Disallowance, has been plainly intimated by no less a personage than Sir Charles Tupper, in an interview in this city recently. Sir Charles said:

"As to the policy that the Dominion Government would adopt toward this province, he was not in a position to speak definitely, as he had seen but little of his colleagues since his return from England, but he felt confident that the Government fully recognized the undesirability of having a great province like Manitoba at direct issue with the Federal Government, and he felt that some policy would be evolved to meet the difficulty and settle all contention. Sir John was a man of infinite resources, and it would be a surprise if he did not develop some scheme which would settle the difficulty."

What scheme could be evolved of a more simple and easy nature to get over the difficulty than to buy out the entire C.P.R. monopoly? It would also afford the Government an excuse to fork over a few more millions to its pet, the C.P.R. That the proposed deal is to be a favorable one for the company seems generally accepted, C.P.R. shares having already advanced considerably in the London market.

The nature of the assistance which will be given the C.P.R., it is pretty generally supposed, will be in the shape of a guarantee on \$10,000,000, in addition to the amount already guaranteed. Whether this will include the purchase of the monopoly rights of the company or simply be another grant to the railway without such conditions, is a disputed point. The C.P.R. organ at Montreal, however, it is satisfactory to note, gives credence to the former view.

If the destruction of the C.P.R. monopoly in the Territories is to be brought about, the people of Winnipeg, Manitoba and the entire West will rejoice. Though it has been shown that the monopoly does not apply to Old Manitoba, yet the removal of the ban entirely will be a matter for congratulation. It should, however, be borne in mind, that without a continuance of the unwarranted policy of disallowance, the C.P.R. monopoly is practically worthless. Viewed in this light, the purchase of the monopoly rights of the company should not necessitate a very heavy outlay. Perhaps, however, the Government intends to pay the company for the privilege of being allowed to change its own policy regarding disallowance, and the latter will graciously throw in its monopoly rights.

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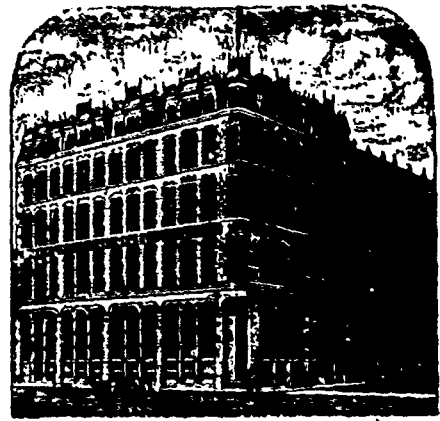
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WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

Monetary affairs in the city during the past week have been somewhat tantalizing to business men generally. With proper facilities for shipping the grain out of the country during this month, about the last shadow of financial tightness would have vanished with the close of the year. The C. P. R. Company, however, are powerless to grapple with the deluge of grain now seeking an outlet, and their slowness is responsible for any monetary pressure now existing. With elevators and warehouses all over the province loaded to bursting and no hope of relief for weeks to come, banks have a big aggregate of funds now locked up in the handling of the crop, and only the certainty of no prospective danger in our business affairs makes them willing to bear every possible strain to carry matters over, until the country generally realizes from the bulk of the crop. Mercantile paper is being met better than could be expected under the circumstances, and the part renewals asked for by men in the country are due to the cause above stated. The minimum rate of discount is still fixed at 8 per cent., and banks show more liberality in answering regular trade demands than might be expected under the present state of finances in the east. In real estate mortgage loans, business is adversely affected by the same cause, but not to the same extent. There are quite a number of new farm loans of a good class being asked for, but the volume of such business is much lighter than was predicted for this month. Interest payments are coming in with encouraging freedom, and delay in almost every case can be attributed to crops still unmarketed. The rate of interest holds steady at 8 per cent., but only good business will be touched by companies.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

The week previous to Christmas is not usually a very brisk one in wholesale trade circles. Customers are all supplied with their holiday stocks some time previous to the last week, and even the last rush for little sorting lots was considered about wound up with our report for last week's issue. In about every line the usual holiday quiet has been felt. So far as country business is concerned, there was little doing, and the few orders coming in were mostly from the city trade in holiday goods. Stock-taking was going on in a number of branches, the quiet season being taken advantage of in this way to perform a very successful work. Collections were generally admitted to be somewhat improved. The city retail trade has not turned out as good as is usually expected at this season of the year, but advices from the country report that retailers generally are having a considerably better business than last year.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

This branch is unchanged since our report of last week. Trade is quiet and featureless, and is expected to remain so until after the holiday season has passed.

CANNED GOODS.

Some business doing at steady prices, but quiet. Quotations are: Tomatoes, \$3.25; peas, \$3.25 to \$3.45; beans, \$2.75 to \$3.00; corn, \$2.25 to \$2.40; peaches, (Canadian)

\$7.00 to \$8.00; apples, \$3.25 to \$3.50; pears, \$3.25 to \$3.50; plums, \$4.50 to \$5.00; strawberries \$5.25; raspberries, \$4.75 to \$5.25; peaches (California) \$3.50; pears, \$8.00; Plums, \$7.50; apricots, \$8.00.

CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE.

Country orders for the last scraps of holiday goods were about all sent out early last week, and outside the city trade there has been little doing since. A quiet season is now before this branch for the next few weeks.

DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

Prices rule steady at the following quotations: Howard's quinine, 75 to 90c; German quinine, 65 to 75c; morphia, \$2.75 to \$3.25; iodide of potassium, 65 to 75c; bromide of 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; chlorate of potash, 25 to 30c; alum, \$4 to \$5.00; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur flour, \$4.50 to \$5.00; sulphur, roll, \$4.50 to \$5.25; American blue vitrol, 6 to 8c.

DRY GOODS.

The week has been as quiet as is usually the case. There was very little country business doing, and not much city trade, though some light selections were made from the latter, which will wind up business in holiday goods. Dealers are waiting for the new year to send out travellers on spring business.

FRUITS—GREEN, VEGETABLES, ETC.

Quite a little movement was going on in fruits, though the varieties in the market are limited. Apples hold firm at last quotations. Lemons are marked up 50c per box. Some cranberries have sold under quotations, but they are understood to have been for poor qualities and damaged lots. Prices are: Apples, cooking \$3.75 to \$4.25; fancy eating, \$4 to \$4.50; snows, \$5.75 to \$6; oranges, russets, \$6 to \$6.50; bright to fancy, \$6.50 to \$7.50; Malaga grapes, \$8.25 to \$8.50 per keg. California pears, \$4.50 to \$5; cranberries, bell and cherry, \$11; bell and huckle, \$13 per bush; lemons, \$7. to \$7.50.

FISH AND OYSTERS.

Lake Winnipeg white are scarce in this market, owing to the fact that the catch is being largely exported. Fresh white are quoted at 7½c; fresh cod, 8c; fresh haddock, 9c; finnen haddies, 11c. Oysters, Selects, \$2.10, and standards, \$1.90, per gallon.

FRUITS—DRIED, AND NUTS.

New dates are only now in the market, though the date is rather late. They are quoted at 10c per pound, in 50-lb. boxes. Other prices are: Valencia raisins, \$2.50 to \$2.65 per box; Morandi's Valencias, \$2.75 to \$3.00 per box; Malagas, London layers, \$3.50; Black Crown, \$5.25; Eleme figs, in different sized boxes, 18c per lb.; Spanish onions, \$7.50 per crate. Walnuts, 18c per lb.; peanuts, raw, 15c; roasted, 17c; almonds, 20c, pecans, 17c.

GROCERIES.

Business has been of rather a quiet nature and steady. Prices are: Sugars, raw Porto Rico, 6½c; yellow, 7½ to 7¾c; granulated, 8½c; Imps, 9½ to 9¾c. Coffees—Rios, from 24

to 28c; Java, 25 to 30c; Old Government 33 to 34c; Mochas, 32 to 35c. Teas, Japan New season's 23 to 40c; Congons, 22 to 60c; Indian teas, 35 to 60c; young hyson, 20 to 50c. Syrups, corn, \$2.25 to \$2.60; sugar cane, \$2.50 to \$2.75; T. and B. tobacco, 50c per pound; P. of W., butts 47c; P. of W. caddies, 48c; Honeysuckle, 7s, 55c; Brier, 7s, 55c; Laurel Bright Navy, 3s, 57c; Index d. thick Solace, 6s, 48c; Brunette Solace, 12s, 48c.

HARDWARE AND METALS.

The general tendency is still toward higher prices. All quotations hold firm, and were trade more active prices would likely advance with greater rapidity. Quotations now are: Cut nails, 10d and larger \$3.75; I. C. tin plates, \$5.75 to \$6; I. C. tin plates, double, \$1.50 to \$12.00; Canada plates, \$4.00 to \$4.25, heat iron, \$3.75 to \$5.50, according to grade; iron pipe, 35 to 40 per cent off list prices; ingot tin, 35c per lb., according to quality; bar iron, \$3.00 to \$3.50 per 100 lbs.; shot, 6 to 6½c per lb.; tarred felt, \$2.75 to \$2.95 per 100 lbs.; barbed wire, 6½ to 7c. The sales in shelf hardware show a falling off in volume since our last report. Collections are reported fair to good.

HIDES.

Hold at last quotations. Few are now coming in, the rush in delivering Christmas hides being now over. Quotations are given as follows: Winnipeg inspection, No. 1, 5c; No. 2, 4c; bulls, 3c; calf, fine-haired real veal, 6 to 11 pound skins, No. 1, 7c; No. 2, 5c; sheep pelts, 25 to 50c. Frozen lots of hides are taken at 3½ to 4c all around; tallow, scarcely saleable at any price.

LEATHER AND FINDINGS.

Without features of interest. Prices are as follows: Spanish sole, 28 to 31c; slaughter sole, 30 to 32c; French calf, first choice \$1.25 to \$1.50; Canadian calf, 90c to \$1.00; French kip, \$1 to \$1.10; B Z kip, 85 to 90c; Bourdon kip, 75c; slaughter kip, 55 to 65c; No 1, wax upper, 45 to 50c; grain upper, 55c; harness leather, 31 to 34c for plump stock. American oak sole, 45 to 60c; buffe, 17 to 22c a foot; cordovan, 23 to 25c; pebble, 21 to 23c; colored linings, 12c.

PAINTS, OILS AND COLORS.

There is no variation yet to report in quotations, and the movement in many lines is so small that prices are merely nominal. The principal demand is for illuminating oils, in which there has been a good business, especially from the city, the burning of the gas works having greatly increased the consumption. Quotations are as follows: Turpentine, 80c in five-gallon cans, or 75c in barrels; harness oil \$1.25; neatfoot oil, \$1.50; linseed oil, raw, 70c per gallon; boiled, 73c 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; machine oils, black 25 to 40c; oleine, 40c; fine qualities, 50 to 75c. Coal oils, silver star, 25c; water white, 28c. American oils, Eocene, 34c; water white, 31c; sunlight, 27c. Calcined plaster, \$4.25 per barrel; Portland cement, \$5 to \$5.50; white lead, genuine, \$7.25; No. 1 \$6.75; No. 2 \$6.25; window glass, first break, \$2.25.

STATIONERY AND PAPER.

The balance of country orders for holiday

goods were all cleaned out about the time our last report closed, and since then some orders for the city trade have been filled. The holiday trade is now over, and business will settle down to the regular order of things.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

There was a fairly good call, mainly from the city trade, induced by the near approach of Christmas. Quotations are unchanged and as follows: Canadian rye whiskey, five year old, \$2.40; seven year old, \$3; old rye, \$1.75; Jules Robin brandy, \$4.50; Bisquet Debouche & Co., 4.50; Martell, vintage 1883, \$6.50, vintage, 1880, \$7.50; Hennessy, \$6.50 to \$7.50 for vintage 185 to 1880; 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, \$11.50 per case; DeKuyper green gin, \$6.50 per case; Tom Gin, \$9.00 to \$10.00; Martel and Hennessy's brandy, one star, \$14 per case of 12 bottles; v. o., \$19; v. s. o. p., \$22.

THE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

WHEAT.

The main feature of interest in the wheat situation has been the growing intensity of the railway blockade. On Saturday, a week ago, it was estimated that the demand for cars was in excess of the supply by fully 400. Since then the number short has probably been increased to nearly 500 cars. Deliveries have grown some, and with the sleighing now enjoyed would undoubtedly soon be much heavier than any time heretofore this season were there anything like reasonable facilities for handling and shipping the grain. As it is, elevators are full, and at many stations, thousands of bushels are piled up in bags outside. The result is an easier feeling and fluctuations in prices at some points, with a possibility that buying will have to stop entirely at some markets. This is a bad state of affairs, but it is nevertheless one which grain dealers are obliged to submit to. Quotations on the Winnipeg Exchange were: No. 1 hard, 58c; No. 2 hard and No. 1 northern, 55c; No. 2 northern, 52c. At country points prices ranged from 51 to 57c, for No. 1 hard. Quotations are for car lots on track. For the week ending at midnight Thursday, 637 cars of wheat passed through Winnipeg, a daily average of 91 cars.

FLOUR.

There is a good outside demand for Manitoba flour, and all the mills are working steadily. Local prices are: Patent, \$2.15; strong bakers, \$1.90; XXXX, \$1.40; superfine, \$1.25.

MILLSTUFFS.

Unchanged at \$10 for bran and \$12 for shorts.

OATS.

At country markets prices ranged from about 21 to 23c. On track here about 22c is the quotation. Deliveries are light, and farmers seem inclined to hold. Exports have been moving both east and west.

BARLEY

About 35c would be paid for No. 3 on track, for eastern shipment, either here or at near country points. Some eastern shipments have been made.

POTATOES.

Selling only in small lots at about 50c per bushel.

EGGS.

There appears to be a wide range in prices, quotations for case lots ranging from 21 to 25c.

BUTTER.

Receipts are now pouring in, and the prospect is that the market will be crowded in a short time, if not already in that state. Country merchants who refused 15 to 18c cash for butter in the fall, are now sending in their stocks to sell on commission, and the prospect is they will be obliged to take considerably less before spring. A great deal of trade has been lost to the city, on account of the price being held too high. One western dealer who wrote for quotations to a commission merchant here, sent back word that he had bought in Montreal, as he could do better there. It is evident that if Manitoba is to have the western butter trade, prices here must not be advanced beyond eastern markets, in proportion to quality. Prices do not appear to have varied much and business has been confined to small sales on city account. Good butter could probably be had at 18c, though some claim they still obtain as high as 20c for choice, from the city trade.

CHEESE.

Quiet and quoted only in small lots at 13 to 14c.

LARD.

Holds firm and steady at \$2.25 to \$2.30.

CURED MEATS.

Several cars of dressed hogs have been brought in from Ontario for local packing, as experiment, but it is not likely that this idea will be carried out to any extent. Packers are only putting up about enough for the city trade, owing to the scarcity of hogs. Quotations for the home-cured product are: Dry salt bacon, 11c; spiced roll, 12½; smoked breakfast bacon 14c; hams, 14½c. Eastern hams quoted at 14c, and Chicago at 15c.

DRESSED MEATS.

Beef is being offered freely, and brings 4 to 4½c. Dealers selling at about 5c, for sides. Hogs are still scarce and all readily taken at 7½c by packers and butchers. Mutton quoted at about 9 to 10.

POULTRY.

Prices were very irregular last week, and owing to the great demand for Christmas supplies, turkeys and geese were higher at the close. The advance is doubtless but temporary, and immediately after the holidays lower prices may be expected to rule. Chickens were an exception, being quoted lower. We quote: Turkey, 11 to 13c, and geese, 10 to 12c, with a probability of lower prices after holidays. Chickens, 6 to 7c.

D. MACARTHUR, manager of the Commercial Bank of Manitoba, has announced himself in the field in Assiniboia, as a candidate for the Local House. His platform is "Provincial Rights and Provincial progress."

S. A. D. Bertrand has returned from the east, and will hereafter represent the old and well known dry goods house of Robertson, Linton & Co., Montreal. The firm has made an excellent selection in the person of Mr. Bertrand.

The steamer Rustler has been sold by Morton and Hastings, of Seattle, to M. Manson, a British Columbia trader, for \$4,000. The Rustler will be placed under the British flag and used as an Indian trading vessel between Nanaimo and the Alaskan boundary line.

The Shoe Market.

The shoe market has been reasonably active, and nearly all manufacturers of the staple lines of reasonable goods have recorded many important orders. The liberal manner in which large buyers have closed orders indicate a brisk spring business. Prices generally rule the same as last year. There will be comparatively few heavy kip boots made for the spring, but a light calf boot has sold with more than usual freedom. All kinds of men's shoes are selling fairly well, and the same is true of women's sandals, slippers and such goods as are designed for summer wear. The favors of jobbers are, perhaps, unevenly distributed. There is a powerful competition for the best trade, and the manufacturer who sells the best shoe for the least money is pretty sure to insure to himself a full share of the business.

As a general thing the medium and cheap grades take the lead, and yet there is a steady call all the while for a better class of shoe. A calf shoe for \$2 is very saleable, and a better one for \$2.25 and \$2.50, has all the style to it that a custom maker will put into a \$10 shoe. A fair quality of calf shoe is sold for \$1.65, and a buff shoe for \$1.35. Calf boots range all the way from \$21 to \$30 per dozen pairs. There has been a large sale for a heavy brogan at about \$1.10 and \$1.15, and for a grain plough shoe at \$7. Women's slippers costing less than \$1 have sold in very large volume, and a fine button boot for \$2 meets with general favor. The leather market is rather slow but as soon as cutters get well under way a lively demand is probable. Stock is ample, but not excessive as a rule, and it is as it has been, a buyers market.—*Boston Herald.*

The Men on the Road.

An investigator of accurate mind has calculated there are now about 80,000 traveling salesmen on the road in this country, and that their expense account alone will average \$2,500 a year each, says the *Nashville American*. He says: "This means an outlay of \$130,000,000 a year, and if you count an average salary of \$1,000 a year, it will swell the total to \$210,000,000 a year. This immense sum is scattered all over the United States. It keeps up the hotels and is one of the most important items of railway passenger receipts. The character of the traveling men has changed within a decade past. You will find very few boys and fewer drunkards upon the road. The competition is so great and the expenses so heavy that firms have to send out their best men, and salaries of \$3,000 and \$5,000 a year are by no means uncommon."

D. Greyell, of Chilliwack B.C., was in New Westminster a few days ago, and showed a package of prunes grown on his place, which he is exhibiting for the encouragement of fruit-growers throughout the district. They were of the Russian variety and were large and well formed, and equal in flavor to any on our market. Mr. Greyell says that he has apples that weigh 24 ounces, and one that weighs 27½; also pears weighing 18 ounces, and plums of which, on an average, five weighed a pound. He is making arrangements to go into fruit-growing on a large scale, and is confident from his past experience that it is a safe venture.

EASTERN MARKETS.

CHICAGO

The visible supply increase of 1,236,000 bushels, announced on Monday, made a heavy load for the market. The total visible now stands at 43,240,000 bushels. Prices sold down $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ c, but recovered and closed at the opening prices, as follows:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	76 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn	47 $\frac{1}{2}$	47 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats	—	30 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pork	—	15.05
Lard	7.82 $\frac{1}{2}$	7.85
Short Ribs	—	7.75

On Tuesday wheat was strong, on heavy buying from New York, attributed to the war scare. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	76 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn	48 $\frac{1}{2}$	48 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats	—	30 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pork	—	14.50
Lard	—	7.80
Short Ribs	—	7.70

On Wednesday wheat was generally strong, with a good demand from the seaboard. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	77 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn	48 $\frac{1}{2}$	48 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats	—	30 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pork	—	14.97 $\frac{1}{2}$
Lard	—	7.80
Short Ribs	—	7.70

Wheat opened on Thursday at Wednesday's closing prices, and advanced steadily, closing $\frac{1}{2}$ c higher, when prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	77 $\frac{1}{2}$	77 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn	48 $\frac{1}{2}$	48 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats	—	30 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pork	—	14.95
Lard	—	7.77 $\frac{1}{2}$
Short Ribs	—	7.67 $\frac{1}{2}$

There was scarcely a variation in prices of wheat on Friday, though Liverpool advices noted a good inquiry. Provisions are easier. Closing prices were:

	Dec.	Jan.
Wheat	77 $\frac{1}{2}$	77 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corn	48 $\frac{1}{2}$	48 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oats	—	—
Pork	—	14.50
Lard	—	7.72 $\frac{1}{2}$
Short Ribs	—	7.62 $\frac{1}{2}$

DULUTH WHEAT MARKET.

Up to date Duluth has received 12,000,000 bushels of wheat, since the commencement of the crop year on Sept. 1st last. It is estimated that for the next eight months receipts will average 1,000,000 per month, making a total for the crop year of 20,000,000 bushels. The following closing quotations for No. 1 hard on each day of the week, will show the state of the market:

	Cash	Dec.	Jan.	May.
Monday	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	82
Tuesday	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	74 $\frac{1}{2}$	82
Wednesday	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	83
Thursday	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	76	83 $\frac{1}{2}$
Friday	75 $\frac{1}{2}$	76	76 $\frac{1}{2}$	83 $\frac{1}{2}$

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Prices generally unchanged with the exception of cheese, which was easier. Manitoba No. 1 hard wheat was quoted at 86 to 87c. Oats, 37 to 38c, per 32 pounds. Barley, 65 to 70c. Flour, quiet and unchanged. Butter, 15 to 18c for western dairy; townships, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; creamery, 20 to 22c; cheese from 9c for poor to 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ c for finest September make. Dressed hogs, \$6 40 to \$6 50 in car lots.

MONTREAL STOCK MARKET.

The following quotations on Friday, Dec. 23, as compared with prices on the same day of the previous week, will indicate the course of the stock market:

	Dec. 16.		Dec. 23.	
	Offered.	Bid.	Offered.	Bid.
Montreal.....	267	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	212 $\frac{1}{2}$	211 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ontario	111	108	113	110
Toronto	159 $\frac{1}{2}$	158 $\frac{1}{2}$	196	190 $\frac{1}{2}$
Merchants.....	120	118	121 $\frac{1}{2}$	120 $\frac{1}{2}$
Dominion.....	—	—	—	—
Commercial.....	109 $\frac{1}{2}$	109	112	1.11
Imperial	—	—	—	—
Federal.....	—	—	—	—
Molson's.....	140	130	140	—
Union, ex. div.,...	95	—	94	89 $\frac{1}{2}$
N. W. Land Co.....	50 $\frac{1}{2}$	49 $\frac{1}{2}$	53 $\frac{1}{2}$	—
C. P. R.	61 $\frac{1}{2}$	61	62	61 $\frac{1}{2}$

General Notes.

W. N. Role, Q.C., Westminster, has opened a branch law office at Kamloops, B.C.

The creditors of John Green & Co., wholesale dry goods, London, Ont., have accepted a compromise at 50 cents on the dollar.

Wm. Garrett, blacksmith, Morden, is erecting a building adjoining his premises, which he intends to use as a small foundry, enlarging as necessity requires.

Woodley, Neumeyer & Pares brewers, Brandon, have dissolved partnership. Woodley retires, and Neumeyer & Pares will continue the business.

The farmers north of Morden lately held a meeting recently to consider the question of building an elevator at Morden. It was decided to make an effort to carry out the idea.

J. J. Robertson, of Robertson & Robarts, barristers, Winnipeg, died very suddenly from an affection of the heart on Thursday last. He was a brother of the late Judge Robertson, of Victoria, B.C.

The Council of the Vancouver, B.C. board of trade has fixed from 12 to 1 each day as the time when members can meet at the rooms and discuss matters of interest or lay anything before the council.

Three steel steamers of 3,000 tons burden have been contracted for by the Canadian Pacific railway company. The steamers will be built at the Fairfield yard on the Clyde, and are to be used in the Canadian Pacific company's Asiatic service.

Wilson & Robinson, hotelkeepers, Griffin Lake, B.C. were burned out recently. The building was a two storey frame and was insured for \$2,000. The total loss is estimated at \$5,000. It is expected that the proprietors will rebuild in the spring.

Wm. Harkins, contractor, Vancouver, B.C., is missing, and the opinion is that he has taken

an unceremonious departure for the U.S. He received \$3,000 from the city on a contract, just previous to his disappearance. Several contracts are unfinished, and the men are not paid wages for the last month. Several creditors are also anxious to interview the missing man.

The Charlottetown, P. E. I., Board of Trade has adopted a resolution favoring "reciprocal free trade with the United States on the broadest possible basis including the abolition of the restriction on the coasting trade and the transfer of vessel property, and embracing the concessions to the Americans of the common right with our fishermen to use our fisheries." A resolution in favor of commercial union was negated.

For the week ending Wednesday 50,900 bushels of wheat were marketed at Brandon, according to the *Times* the largest deliveries for any week this season. Total wheat marketed to date, 531,339 bushels. For No. 1 hard 51c was paid. Good oats were in demand and sold freely at 22c. No barley. Cattle 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ c; dressed quarters, from farmers 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ c; dressed hogs 6 to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. Poultry has dropped, owing to arrivals from Ontario. Prices, turkeys 10 to 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c and same for ducks and geese; chickens 7 to 8c.

In speaking of the custom sometimes adopted by Western banks of discounting United States money, the *Canadian Manufacturer*, of Toronto, says: Toronto banks charge a premium for American money when requested to exchange current Canadian money for it. Receiving American currency in Manitoba only at a discount of two or five per cent. is an outrage on those who are compelled to submit to the transaction. It would cost no more to move American currency from Manitoba to Chicago, where it could be redeemed at face value in gold coin, than it would to move Canadian currency from there to Toronto or Montreal. It is all well to invite our Yankee friends to come over and spend their money in Canada, but it is unfair to charge them an extortionate discount. The tendency is to drive trade away.

The meeting of the Dominion Commercial Travellers Association, held at Montreal recently, was very largely attended, over eleven hundred votes being cast. The financial report showed that the capital of the association aggregated \$57,776, an increase of \$9,860 over that of last year after paying all claims. This favorable showing is due to the steady increase in membership and to the small number of death claims, which amounted only to \$6,400, or \$3,600 less than in 1896. The total income of the year amounted to \$21,989, a net gain of \$2,346 over that of the preceding twelve months, and the memberships reached 1,372, an advance of 178 in number over that of last year. The elections excited considerable interest, the contest resulting in the election of the following gentlemen: President, Mr. Fred Birks, of the firm of Belding, Paul & Co.; vice-president, Mr. William Percival, representing Crathern & Caverhill; directors, Messrs. Joseph Armstrong, Chas. Hutchison, James Croil, Wm. Mussell and Geo. Browne.

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Lumber Cuttings.

The Griffin Lake mill, Kamloops district, B. C., was recently sold at sheriff's sale. It was purchased by James McIntosh.

Mr. Chase, of Chicago, contemplates the erection of a saw mill at Sicamous, Kamloops district B. C., where he owns timber limits.

The Calgary town council has adopted a report advising that Cushing's planing mill be exempted from taxation for the current year.

Moore & McDonald are erecting a mill on their Edmont forty miles up the Saskatchewan from Edmonton, lately purchased from John Kelly.

The ship Cape Verde, 1,600 tons, will load lumber at the Hastings mill, Vancouver, B. C. She is a large vessel, and will probably carry away about 1,200,000 feet.

Brown & Rutherford are taking out logs on Moose Island, Lake Winnipeg. They expect to cut 2,000,000 feet at their Lake Winnipeg mill next season, spruce timber.

The new saw mill at Asessippi, Man., is about completed. It will be run by water power. The logs are procured in the Riding Mountain and taken down the Shell river.

A petition, largely signed by the rate-payers, has been presented to the Calgary council, asking the exemption of W. H. Cushing's planing mill at that place from taxation for five years.

Tait, of Birtle, Man., is taking out a considerable number of spruce logs in the Riding Mountain. The logs will be taken down the Bird Tail Creek and sawn either at Birtle or the railway crossing near Solsgrith.

Manager Bangs, of the Calgary Lumber Co., has lately visited the coast mills of British Columbia, and has made arrangements to handle the lumber, shingles, etc., of that region. Several car lots have already been received at Calgary.

P. McLaren, a well-known Ottawa Valley lumberman, is said to be making an inspection of the timber resources of the north and east slope of the Riding Mountains, with a view to the development of the region. The timber resources of this district are said to be most valuable, and to the present time they have been untouched.

Owing to the death of S. J. Hogg, the business of the firm of S. J. Hogg & Co., lumber dealers, Calgary, will be wound up. The firm handled lumber principally from the Palliser and the Royal City mills, of British Columbia. It is thought all liabilities will be met from the proceeds of the stock on hand. Fitzgerald & Ellis have the estate in hand. Mr. Hogg is said to have had a \$10,000 life policy.

Grain and Milling News.

Tenders were made for the Odaiah debentures for the Minnedosa mill bonus as high as 103 1/2.

A Mr. Campbell, from Portage, has commenced buying grain at Gladstone and talks of building a warehouse.

McBean's elevator at Manitou has been undergoing repairs. New scales, cleaner and hopper and other machinery have been put in

A subscription list is being circulated among the farmers of the district in aid of the erection of a second grain warehouse at Newdale, Man.

A public meeting will be held at Macleod, Alberta, on December 28th, to consider the question of having a flour mill established for the district.

About 200,000 bushels of grain have been received at Manitou up to date, and it is estimated that only one-fourth the grain has as yet been brought in.

Rapid City Spectator says: We understand H. G. Forman has made arrangements with a firm in Ontario to purchase wheat at the Riverdale switch between Rapid City and Minnedosa.

Wheat receipts at Duluth up to Saturday, Dec. 17th, were over eleven and a half million bushels, and the total in store was 5,236,873 bushels. The increase for the last week to the date named was 1,050,000 bushels.

The announcement of the burning of Leitch Bros.' mill at Oak Lake on Sunday last has been received with regret. The mill was valued at \$19,000 or \$20,000, and was insured for \$12,000. A quantity of wheat and flour was also burned. This mill was built by D. Moore & Son, and passed into the hands of Leitch Bros. last summer. It was a new mill, this being the third season which it has been operated. There were 8,000 to 9,000 bushels of grain with some 500 sacks of flour destroyed. The insurance being only for four thousand bushels of grain comes pretty heavily on the proprietors, especially when it is taken into account that the firm have spent some six or seven hundred dollars on repairs to machinery, etc., of late.

Although the market may be called quiet, a fair volume of business has been transacted on city and country account during the past week, and some dealers look quite hopefully to the future. Manitoba flour is undoubtedly the coming favorite, so much so, that a number of Ontario millers are buying Manitoba hard wheat and grinding it exclusively. One large miller west of Toronto, we understand, has made some large contracts with English houses to supply them with Manitoba strong flour during the present winter. These shipments will go via Boston and New York. There have been sales of Manitoba strong bakers' in this market during the past few days at \$4.07 1/2 to \$4.10 for car loads on track, and at \$4.15 to \$4.20 in store. Small jobbing lots have of course sold at higher figures. Sales have also been made at \$4.25 to \$4.30 delivered at bakers' stores. Straight roller flour has been disposed of in car lots at all the way from \$4 to \$4.25 as to sample.—*Montreal Trade Bulletin.*

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Presses, Inks and Printers Goods

generally, ON BETTER TERMS than any other establishment in the country.

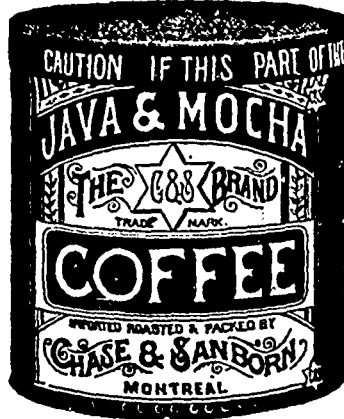
Sole Agents for the Johnson Type Foundry

and agents for George Bruce's Son & Co., James Connor's Sons, Farmer, Little & Co., Wm. H. Page Wood Type Manufacturing Co., Chas. Emu Johnson & Co's celebrated Book and Color Inks, W. D. Wilson's Nova Inks, and Messrs. R. Hoe & Co., C. Potter, Jr. & Co., the Gordon and the Peckless presses. Sole agents for the "RELIANCE" Wharfedale.

Peter A. Crosby, Manager.

THE BEST

A Brand of Coffee which represents a perfect blending of strength and flavor. Always packed in 2 lbs. air tight cans; no charge for cans; 15 cans in a case.



A perfect blend of Private Plantation Java and Pure Arabia Mocha. Imported, Roasted, and packed by
Chase & Sanborn,
MONTREAL.

COFFEE.

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WHOLESALE JEWELER.

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

525 Main St., WINNIPEG.

HILLIARD HOUSE.

RAT PORTAGE.

The Palace Hotel of the Northwest, Ontario. Newly and elegantly furnished throughout. The only Commercial House in the district. First class Sample Room. Terms Reasonable.

LOUIS HILLIARD, PROPRIETOR.

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A. G. McBEAN, P.O. Box 1299 Montreal.

Commission Merchants.

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GRAIN & PRODUCE.

WOLSELY HOUSE,

WOLSELEY, ASSINIBOIA,

E. A. BANBURY, PROPRIETOR.

Headquarters for Commercial Men. This house has been recently refitted, with special reference to the convenience and comfort of the commercial trade. Good Sample Rooms. Livery in Connection.

PALMER HOUSE,

REGINA, ASSINIBOIA,

THE LEADING COMMERCIAL HOUSE.

Free Sample Rooms for Travellers. Opposite C.P.R. Station.

CHAS HARLEY, PROP.

QUEEN'S HOTEL,

QU'APPELLE, ASSINIBOIA

G. S. DAVIDSON, PROP.

Largely patronized by commercial men and possessing special features for the accommodation of this trade. Large Sample Rooms Free.

The Fensom Elevator Works,

Manufacturers of Hydraulic, Steam and Hand Power Passenger and Goods Elevators,

34, 36 and 38 Duke Street

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—THE—

McCLARY MANFG CO.

OF LONDON, TORONTO, MONTREAL, WINNIPEG, AND LONDON, ENG.

Manufacturers of

McCLARY'S "FAMOUS" STOVES,

Stamped and Piped Tinware, Japanned Ware, Stove Boards, etc., and Dealers in Granite Ironware, and

Tinsmiths' Metals and Supplies.

WHOLESALE ONLY.

Warerooms: Cor. Rachel St. and Point Douglas Avenue Show Rooms and Offices,

33 LOMBARD STREET, WINNIPEG.
 J. W. DUNSCOLL, Manager

Smith & Keighley, TEAS,

EAST and WEST INDIA PRODUCE

—AND—

GENERAL GROCERIES,

9 Front St. East,
 TORONTO

Business East. ONTARIO.

G. Ward, grocer, Toronto, has assigned.
 Geo. Kemp, grocer, Exeter, has assigned.
 F. J. O'Hara, grocer, London, has assigned.
 W. A. Garfield, grocer, Toronto, has sold out.
 J. B. Magurn, tanner, Toronto, has assigned.
 A. M. Aubin, grocer, Chatham, has sold out.
 Mrs. Patterson, grocer, London, has sold out.
 Mrs. Atkinson, grocer, Toronto, has sold out.
 Wm. Gillesby, grain dealer, Hamilton, is dead.
 Jos. Northwood, grocer, Chatham, has closed up.
 O. Learn & Son, grocers, London, have sold out.
 John Gaahan, grocer, Orangeville, has sold out.
 Mrs. J. K. Oliver, fruit, etc., Kingston, is away.
 Joel Stauffer, saw mill, Oil Springs, has assigned.
 W. H. Boulter, builder, Toronto, has assigned.
 W. H. Cunningham, grocer, Toronto, has assigned.
 Geo. Kelsey, crockery, etc., Toronto, has assigned.
 Arthur Cumming, builder, Toronto, has assigned.
 Edwin Brown, brick dealer, Milton, has assigned.
 W. H. Simpson, shoe dealer, Clinton, has sold out.
 Cummings & Co., harness, Strathroy, have sold out.
 Thos. Bingham, dry goods, Bowmanville, has assigned.
 Mrs. S. J. Melville, furs, etc., Lindsay, has assigned.
 A. Beebe, general storekeeper, Oakland, has assigned.
 W. G. Brunning, hotelkeeper, Prescott, has assigned.
 J. B. Climo, stoves and tins, Stratford, has assigned.
 Daniel Hayes, lumber dealer, Toronto, has assigned.
 A. Winscom, tea, etc., St. Thomas, is out of business.
 Copeland & Days, druggists, Lucknow, have dissolved.
 Jas. Thompson, bottler, etc., Kingston, has closed up.
 E. A. Hicks, jeweller, Selkirk,—bailiff in possession.
 W. H. Rogers, general storekeeper, Drayton, has assigned.
 G. M. Gardner, tailor, Toronto, was sold out by bailiff.
 Jas. Atcheson, hardware dealer, St. Thomas, was burned out.
 P. W. Murray, general storekeeper, Bannington, has assigned.
 J. W. Ruttan & Son, general storekeepers, Vienna, are away.
 Jos. Kidd & Son, general storekeepers, Dublin, have assigned.
 C. S. Neville, saconkeeper, Ottawa, is offering to compromise.
 John Johns, hotelkeeper, Southampton, has removed to Warton.

Miller & Maynard, general storekeepers, Orillia, have assigned.
 Delaney & Schafer, general storekeepers, McGregor, have assigned.
 G. D. Rawo, jeweler, Toronto, held meeting of creditors on 13th inst.
 Schimbein & Wildfang, general storekeepers, Listowel, have dissolved.
 W. T. Boughner, general storekeeper, Brownsville, has sold out.
 G. & M. Fletcher, tobacconists, Toronto, have sold out to L. Sievert.
 A. G. Selwood, general storekeeper, Henley, is offering 40c in the dollar.
 Geo. Godfrey & Co., woolens, Galt,—Geo. Godfrey, of this firm, dead.
 Beehive Knitting Co., Galt, are selling off stock and intend closing business.
 H. A. Schomberg & Co., furniture, Toronto,—stock sold by auction on 15th inst.
 Petley & Petley Co. (Ltd.), dry goods, Toronto, have held meeting of creditors.
 Holbrook & Mollington, carvers, Toronto,—W. C. Mollington of this firm dead.
 F. A. Richardson, general storekeeper, Trout Creek, has held meeting of creditors.
 Wm. A. Young, wholesale jeweler, London, is closing up business and going to California.
 Russell Smith & Son, wine manufacturers, Fairfield Plains,—Russell Smith, of this firm, dead.
 Geo. R. Thompson, jeweler, London, advertises to sell out by auction and remove to Winnipeg.

QUEBEC.

A. Trudel, baker, Coteau St. Louis, is dead.
 Andrew Courteau, butcher, Montreal, is dead.
 Ed. Larue, coal and wood, Montreal, has assigned.
 Thos. McCord, dry goods, Quebec, has assigned.
 Castle & Co., furriers, Montreal, have assigned.
 Albert H. Weston, grocer, Montreal, has assigned.
 Jos. Boisvert, hotelkeeper, Drummondville, is dead.
 S. St. Michel Fils, grocers, Montreal, have assigned.
 Mrs. A. Cochrane, milliner, Sherbrooke, has assigned.
 Decary & Corcoran, grocers, Montreal, have dissolved.
 Milot & Frere, plumbers, etc., Montreal, have dissolved.
 J. A. Dufresne, general storekeeper, Cacouna, has assigned.
 Elliott, Fox & Co., hotelkeepers, Montreal, have assigned.
 G. & E. Couture, general storekeepers, Levis, have dissolved.
 Joseph Poirier & Co., shoe dealers, Quebec, have dissolved.
 McShane Bros., butchers, Montreal,—bailiff's sale advertised.
 Camille Verdon, tins, etc., Montreal,—bailiff's sale advertised.
 Gellatly & Baillie, manufacturing jewelers, Montreal, have dissolved.
 M. Vinebery, wholesale hats and furs, Montreal, had his stock damaged by fire and water.
 J. B. Belanger and Co., hardware, Quebec,

are in liquidation, and advertise stock for sale by tender.

NOVA SCOTIA.

B. B. Treen, jeweler, Amherst, has sold out.
 Alex. McDonald, —, Spring Hill, has assigned.
 McKenzie Bros., druggists, Parrsboro, have sold out.
 Norton Bros., confectioners, Halifax, have assigned.
 Howard & Carter, tug boats, Parrsboro, are dissolving.
 Thomas McDonald, grocer, etc., Boylston, has assigned.
 Wm. Wheatley, commission dealer, Halifax, has assigned.
 J. F. Crowe & Sons, grocers, etc., Halifax, have dissolved.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Jos. L. Richard, general storekeeper, St. Louis, has assigned.
 The following were burned out at St. Stephen:—Murchie Bros., grocers; Stewart & Co., confectioners; A. J. Talbert, millinery, etc.; A. D. Taylor, grocer.

Elkhorn.

Elkhorn, situated on the main line of the C. P. R., 196 miles west of Winnipeg, and the last station within the western boundary of the province, is one of the prosperous little towns of Manitoba. It has a population of about 150 and its business institutions number an even dozen, exclusive of grain buyers, etc. The principal business institutions are the three general stores, carried on by W. M. Cushing, A. McLeod and G. H. Rowswell. Some of the largest stocks found in any of the general stores of the province are to be seen in Elkhorn, and the merchants of the place are noted for their enterprise and enthusiasm. Jos. Broadley does the lumber trade of the district and also handles implements, etc. There are two licensed hotels—the Cavanah House, T. D. Cavanah, proprietor, and the Grand Central, O. R. Jones, proprietor. The business men appear contented and prosperous, and the latter is demonstrated by the buildings, which are superior to what is usually found in the small towns of the west.

The country surrounding Elkhorn is an excellent farming region, and there are several large farms in the vicinity. Already this season about 40,000 bushels of wheat have been marketed, which, it is estimated, is not greatly over one-half the amount which will come in this season. Last year about 30,000 bushels of wheat were marketed at Elkhorn, and the comparison will show the prosperity which the place is enjoying this season.

THE Call says: The claims of Ryan & Hauey for the construction of the Red River railroad, appear to be making fair progress towards a favorable settlement. Arrangements have been arrived at between the Government and the contractors by which a settlement of the sub-contractors' claims will be effected at once. Some of Ryan & Hauey's claims have been allowed without dispute and the balance will be settled by arbitration. The contractors have selected C. J. Brydges as their arbitrator while W. R. Mulock will act for the Government. All law suits will be withdrawn except the Dominion application for injunctions.

British Columbia Soap Works,
Manufacturers of a full line of
LAUNDRY SOAP

Consisting in part of Yellow Soap, Brown Soap
Red, White and Blue Mottled Soaps,
Toilet Soaps, Coconut Oil Soap, Soda Crystals
Washing Powders, and their **Shaving Soap**

FULLY EQUAL TO ANY IN USE.

PENDRAY & CO. - - VICTORIA, B.C.

J. & A. Clearihue,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS
AND MANUFACTURERS AGENTS,
Dealers in—

Fruits and all kinds Produce
YATES ST., VICTORIA, B.C.

Representing D. Richards, Manufacturer of Laundry
and Toilet Soaps, Woodstock, Ont. also; Jas. Hall & Co.,
Manufacturers and dealers in Gloves, Mitts and Moccasins,
Brockville, Ontario.

J. C. DEVLIN,
FLOUR

MILLSTUFFS, GRAIN,

Farm Produce & Commission Merchant.

Correspondence Solicited.

GOVERNMENT STREET, Victoria, B.C.

THE DRIARD,
VICTORIA, B.C.

The only strictly first-class hotel
in the province.

Samuel Gray,

Manufacturer of

SASH, DOORS, BLINDS

Mouldings, Stairs, Handrails, Newels
Baulsters, etc.

VICTORIA, B.C.

Having made arrangements with the C.P.R. I am pre-
pared to furnish the trade with the above mentioned
articles manufactured from the very best seasoned dry
cedar and white pine. All work guaranteed. - Correspond-
ence solicited. P.O. Box 39, Victoria, B.C.

British Columbia

The work of excavation has commenced at
Vancouver for the proposed foundry and ma-
chine shop. The works will be located near
and east of the Hastings mill.

Danley & Allison, hotelkeepers, Victoria,
have sold out to McBride and Leach.

Two hundred tubs of good dairy butter were
recently shipped from Toronto to British Col-
umbia.

Capt. Warren, of Victoria, has prepared a de-
tailed statement of the claims for damages of
the nine British Columbia sealers, seized in
Behring's sea. The total amount is \$900,000.

The papers have been forwarded to Washing-
ton.

The first shipment of pipes for the Vanco-
ver water works have arrived. The water will
be brought from across the inlet and conveyed
in the pipes under the water of the inlet.

Owing to the scarcity of ship building timber
in San Francisco and the dearthness of Oregon
pine, yellow fir from British Columbia is in
demand in that city and seems to be well ap-
preciated.

Freight receipts of the C. P. R. in New
Westminster for the week ending Dec. 7th, 67,-
010 pounds; charges on same, \$5,480.32.
Freight forwarded, 975,300 pounds; charges on
same, \$1,226.52.

The China steamers will probably not call at
Victoria until a difficulty with the customs au-
thorities there is settled. It is claimed that
the customs officers cause unnecessary delays to
the steamers by a too rigorous enforcement of
the regulations.

Steam Heating a Success.

On the through trains of the Chicago, Mil-
waukee and St. Paul railway the experiment of
heating trains by steam has been successfully
tested, and now the through trains of that com-
pany, leaving Chicago every day at 7:30 p. m.,
and leaving Minneapolis at 6:30 p. m., and St.
Paul at 7:30 p. m., are systematically equipped
with steam heating apparatus.

No matter what degree of cold may exist
anywhere along the line, an even temperature
of heat is maintained throughout the interior
of the train. As rapidly as possible, all
through trains on the various other lines of the
Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railway, will
be provided with appliances for the heating of
its coaches by steam.

LELAND HOUSE, VANCOUVER,

British Columbia.

The leading commercial hotel of the city.
Directly above the C.P.R. Station and Steam-
boat wharf. All modern improvements. Sample
rooms for travellers.

J. E. INSLEY, Mgr. - WM. PROUT, Prop.

HY. ARKELL,

WHOLESALE

PRODUCE AND COMMISSION

MERCHANT,

Vancouver, B.C.

MANITOBA PRODUCE a Specialty.

Consignments Received in All Lines.
Correspondence solicited

Colonial Hotel,

WESTMINSTER, B.C.

Largest hotel in the city; centrally located in
business portion. Headquarters for tourists
and commercial men. Sample rooms, bath
rooms, etc. Fire-proof building. First Class.

LUKE PITHER, Proprietor.

WHEN YOU ARE GOING

MINNEAPOLIS, TO ANY POINT
ST. PAUL EAST OR SOUTH

TAKE THE

**St. Paul, Minneapolis and
Manitoba Railway**

The shortest, best and most desirable route
TO ALL POINTS IN ONTARIO, QUEBEC
AND UNITED STATES.

If you want to save time and money purchase
your tickets from starting point through to
destination via the

ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS & MANITOBA
RAILWAY.

For full information, maps, etc., apply to

G. H. McMICKEN, Agent,
WINNIPEG.

C. H. WARREN, Gen. Pass. Agt. } ST. PAUL.
W. S. ALEXANDER, Traffic Mgr. }
A. MANVEL, Gen. Manger.

**CHICAGO
MILWAUKEE
& ST. PAUL RY**

Is the Fast-Mail Short Line from St. Paul and
Minneapolis via La Crosse and Milwaukee to
Chicago and all points in the Eastern States
and Canada. It is the only line under one
management between St. Paul and Chicago,
and is the finest Equipped Railway in the
Northwest. It is the only line running Pull-
man Drawing Room Sleeping Cars with Luxu-
rious Smoking Rooms, and the finest Dining
Cars in the World, via the famous "River
Bank Route," along the shores of Lake Pepin
and the beautiful Mississippi River to Milwau-
kee and Chicago. Its trains connect with those
of the Northern lines in the Grand Union Depot
at St. Paul. No change of Cars of any Class
between St. Paul and Chicago. For through
tickets, time-tables, and full information, apply
to any coupon ticket agent in the Northwest.
R. Miller, Gen'l Manager; J. F. Tucker, Ass't
Gen'l Manager; A. V. H. Carpenter, Gen'l Pass.
and Ticket Agent; Geo. H. Heafford, Ass't
Gen'l Pass. and Ticket Agent, Milwaukee, Wis.
W. H. Dixon, Ass't Gen'l Pass. Agent, St.
Paul, Minn.

TRAVEL VIA THE

Minneapolis and St. Louis Railway

AND THE FAMOUS

Albert Lea Route

	Leve St. Paul.	Leve Minneapolis
Chicago, Burlington, Kansas City and Des Moines Ex.....	a 8 45 a.m.	a 9 25 a.m.
St. Louis Fast Ex.....	b 6 25 p.m.	b 7 05 p.m.
Chicago Fast Ex.....	d 6 25 p.m.	d 7 05 p.m.
Des Moines Passenger.....	a 8 25 p.m.	a 7 05 p.m.
Excelsior and Watertown.....	a 8 00 a.m.	a 8 45 a.m.
Wrlington and Excelsior.....	a 4 15 p.m.	a 4 50 p.m.
Mankato Express Accom.....	a 8 15 p.m.	a 4 00 p.m.
a Ex. Sunday. b Ex. Saturday. d Daily.		

THROUGH COACHES AND PULLMAN PALACE
SLEEPERS TO CHICAGO, ST. LOUIS AND DES MOINE

DIRECT LINE TO WATERTOWN, D.T.

PALACE DINING CARS ON CHICAGO TRAINS.

2—THROUGH TRAINS DAILY—2
TO KANSAS CITY, LEAVENWORTH, ATCHISON
ST. JOSEPH, making connections in Union Depots
points west.

Fast and frequent trains between St. Paul, Minneapolis
and Lake Minnetonka points.

For maps, sleeping car berth, or other information
upon any rate in the Northwest or write to

S. F. BOYD,