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A Journal of Commerce, Industry and Finance, specially devoted to the interests of Western Canada, including that pertion of Ontario west of Lake Superior, the Provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia and the Territories.

Ninth Year of Publication. ISSUED EVERY MONDAY

SUBSCRIPTION, \$2.00 PER ANNUM (in advance).

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The Commercial certainly enjoys a very much larger circulation among the business community of the country between Lake Superior and the Pacific Coast, than any other paper in Canada, daily or weekly. By a thorough system of personal solicitation, carried out annually, this journal has been placed upon the desk of the great majority of business men in the vast district designated above, and including northwestern Ontario, the provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia, and the territories of Assiniboia, Alberta and Saskatchevan. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, JANUARY 5, 1890.

Manitoba.

A. M. Chaney, grocer, Brandon, is reported in difficulties.

Peebles & Braden, butchers, Winnipeg, are in trouble with the sheriff.

Mrs. J. G. Mills, baker and confectioner, Plum Creek, has sold out to McDowell.

Barron & Peterson, clothing, etc., Winnipeg, contemplate going into wholesale jewelry business.

The electric railway in Fort Rouge, Winnipeg's southern suburb, will be in working order in a few days.

C. Furber has opened out a confectionery store at Holland, and intends to start a bakery in connection.

The Cosmopolitan Trading and Commission Co., Ltd., Winnipeg, have made application to wind up the concern.

The Empire Brewing Co., Winnipeg, is in difficulties, and an application has been made to wind up concern.

G. V. and W. A. Hastings, of the Lake of the Woods Milling Company, were in Winnipeg last-week on a business trip.

The estate of Cummings & Co., groceries, Winnipeg, has been sold by the bailiff to John T. Wilson for 52c on the dollar, cash.

According to the Monitor the following is the amount of wheat and flax seed shipped from Morden, for 1890, to date: Wheat, 171,-097 bushels; flax seed, 5,291 bushels.

The Scandinarian-Canadian newspaper, of Winnipeg, has been sold by Mr. Ohlen to J. E,

Forslund, of the C.P.R. land office, who has had considerable experience in journalistic work.

Wm. Senkbeil, of the late firm of Senkbeil Bros., is opening a boot and shoe store at Brandon.

The Winnipeg street car railway again accepts U.S. silver at par. The change was made Thursday. The crusade against U.S. silver has not amounted to much, as the silver brings its face value in every shop in the city.

Molson's bank will open its new Winnipeg branch in the Manitoba Mortgage company's buildings, with W. G. Nichols, formerly of the Merchants, as manager. This is a most important addition to the financial institutions of the city.

T. G. Waters, accountant of the customs department, and S. W. Michaels, financial inspector of customs for the Dominion, were in Winnipeg last week. They are here to look into some difficulties between importers and customs officials.

The Patterson & Bro. Co., implements, Winnipeg have appointed G. W. Saunders to represent their implements at Carman. The same company have moved their agency from Greenway to Balder and placed James Graham in charge of their warehouse at the latter place.

Cornell, Spera & Co, wholesale furnishings, Winnipeg, have moved from their old quarters on Portage Avenue east, to the fine new Sanford block on Princess street, where they will lave excellent facilities for handling their stock to the best advantage. A description of this block was published in this journal a few weeks ago.

The transactions at the Dominion Government Savings Bank, Winnipeg, during the month of December were as follows:

Withdrawals in excess of deposits\$11,814 01

E. L. Drewry, of the Redwood brewery, Winnipeg, during the past two or three days, has not been forgetful of the unfortunates who are lying sick and helpless in the general hospital, and he has been around amongst the wholesale liquor cealers in their behaif, with the following result, which aggregates over \$500: Hudson Bay Co., \$100; G. F. & J. Galt, \$100; Hiram Walker, per J. B. Mather, \$100; E. L. Drewry, \$100; A. Colquhoun, \$25; Alex. McImtyre, \$25; McDonough & Shea, \$25; A. Strang & Co., \$20; Blackwood Bros., \$20; Richard & Co., \$10; J. A. Wood & Co., \$10.

Premier Greenway returned last week from his trip to England in the interests of immigration. He stated to a Free Press reporter that he has not yet made any definite arrangements regarding the opening of an immigration office in England, as was generally supposed, nor had he established any offices as had been reported, but he had attained the desired end of his trip. The prime object was to gain necessary information as to what should be done to secure not only a large number but the right kind of immigrants, and he felt satisfied that what he had learned could be turned to good advantage when the government had decided what policy to pursue in the matter.

E. G. Johnston, the practical man of the Western Woolen Mills, St Uniface, goes east to investigate late improvements in the line of

woolen mill machinery. It is the intention of the company to enlarge its operations next season, and new machinery for the manufacture of blankets, cloths, etc., will be put in. The past season has been given mainly to the manufacture of yarns, from pure Manitoba wool, for which a ready local market can be found, on account of the superior quality of the article in comparison with eastern manufactures. H S. Northwood, of Chatham, has taken an interest in the company, which will strengthen the institution financially and otherwise, he having had experience in this industry in the east.

A fire occured in the dry goods store of Geo. Craig, Winnipeg, on New Year's afternoon. The fire had not made much progress when it was discovered, and the firemen quickly extinguished the flames. The fire broke out beneath the archway between the gent's furnishing and fancy goods departmenes, and was confined to that locality. The quantity of goods burned was not large, but much damage was done by smoke and water from the chemicals and engines. The loss will not be known until the stock is examined, but it will probably amount to several thousand dollars, which will be covered by insurance. The fire was caused by sparks in the chimney, which extends down to the archway, the archway being cut through what was formerly an outside wall. After burning through the timber of the archway, the fire fell on the goods beneath and ignited them. There had been no one in the store since the previous night.

Assiniboia.

Two hotels, another livery and sale stable are under course of construction at Yorkton.

Mann & Pollock have received a new boiler and engine for their saw mill north of Yorkton.

D. Livingstone, sr., threshed on his farm, five miles north of Yorkton, 2,200 businels of oats off 20 acres.

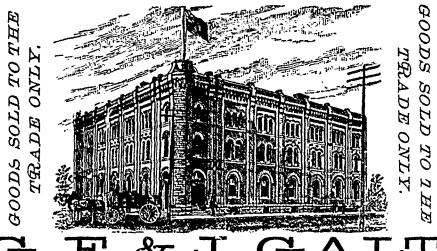
James Weidman, publisher of the Qu'Appelle Proyress, announces in his last issue that he has sold out, and the business will be transferred to new hands on Jan. 17.

Mowat Brothers, Regina, announce that they will do a cash business commencing January 1. They state in a neat little pamphlet that they have lost \$25,000 from bad debts in the past twelve years. This is certainly a very good reason for throwing up the credit system.

Immigration Agent Stemshorn at Regina has received a letter from A. L. Chute, of Leola, one of the Dakota delegates who was in Regina in the autumn, to the effect that he and some of his frirnds have decided to go to Yorkton, Assa. Inducements in the shape of loans on their stock have been held out to them, which they have accepted. One hundred families are going. The letter concludes warmly thanking Mr. Stemshorn and the Regina people for their kindness, and saying it was through them that they were persuaded to come to the west.

Saskatchewan.

J. M. Campbell & Co., general merchants, Prince Albert, are giving up business. Mr. Campbell will devote his time in future to agricultural pursuits. He is at present largely interested in stock and farming. James Taylor, Winnipeg accountant, has been engaged to assist in closing up their business.



G. F. & J. GALT. DIRECT IMPORTERS

TEAS, SUGARS, WINES, LIQUORS and GENERAL GROCERIES CORNER PRINCESS AND BANNATYNE STREETS, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

Virden.

There are six or seven grain buyers on the Virden market this year. The elevator capacity of the place has been increased by the erection of an elevator last fall by the Like of the Woods Milling Company, and this, with the Ogilvie and McBean elevators, makes three in all, of about 35,000 bushels capacity each. With this number of buyers and elevators, Virden should be as good a primary market as any other place in Manitoba.

In addition there is also the roller flour mill, operated by Koester & Son, which adds to the importance of the place as a grain market. About \$1,000 worth of machinery was added to the mill previous to commencing operations for the season. This included Waterous centrifugal reels and Richmond cleaners.

Among the recent additions to the business institutions of the place is the branch of the Commercial Bank of Manitoba, lately established, with Robert Adamson, who carries on a private hanking business at Virden, as manager. The opening of this branch, of a chartered bank, will be a great convenience to the business men, and the size and importance of the town fully warranted the opening of such an institution.

Several other additions have been made to the business places during the year. These include the general store opened a couple of months ago by Ramsay & Chingan. Mr. Ramsay, who came from Toronto to Manitoba a few months ago, liked the country so well that he decided to remain, and finally located in Virden, his partner being an old Virdenite.

W. C. Edgar, merchant tailor, is another Ontario man, from Walkerton, who has been in Virden long enough to make up his mind that he likes the country and has come to stay. He carries a nice stock of cloths, and Virden people will not need to send east for their ordered clothing, when they can get them done by an eastern man on the spot.

R. S. Mackenzie, who carries on a tent, awning and mattras factory, is another addition to the place within the year. Mr. Mackenzie commenced business in this line at Virden last spring. He also manufactures overhauls, shirts, pants, etc.

R. Steel, who carries on business in drugs, stationery, tobacconist and fancy goods, has been in Virden about a year, and was formerly in Howard's drug store, at Wienipez.

E. A. Stanley, who was in business in Virden some two years ago, has recently opened out again in groceries, boots and shoes, crockery,

Among the older established business places there are the general stores of Wilcox & Co., J. J. Dunlop, J. S. Young and Jos. A. Merrick & Anderson, and the hardware business of Frame & Miller. R. E. Trumbell does a wholes she business in liquors and eigers, and does quite a business shipping on permit into the Territories, as Virden is will situated for this trade, being near the territrial boundary. T. & J. Jones and Mallins & M. Intosh carry on business in meats. In the botel line there are the Virden house, kept by Wellington E liott, the Coural, conducted by Samuel Swanson, and the Ottawa house.

Oak Lake, Man.

Leitch Bros., of the Oak Lake flour mill, have sheeted their mill building all over with iron and made some general improvements before starting up for the season. This is one of the largest and best mills in Manitoba, being only exceeded in size by the Winnipeg, Portage and Keewatin mills. The mill building is first class and there is elevator storage in connection for 30,000 bushels of wheat. Four grades of flour are made, including patent and bakers' grades. Shipments are made regularly to eastern Canada and also westward. There are four of the Leitch Bros. all working together, each one having his own department, and in this way they can pull to the best advantage. Their business is carried on on business principles. Leitch Bros. are shippers and wholesale dealers in all kinds of grain, feed, etc., as well as millers. The mill was one of the first to start grinding on new wheat this year, and has been running night and day since September 12th last. The first car load of new flour shipped east this year was from this mill. The firm is buying grain this year at Routledge, the next station west of Oak Lake.

It is expected that 350,000 to 400,000 bushels of wheat will be marketed at Oak Lake this

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season, and a great deal of it is of very good quality, despite the unfavorable weather for harvest. A good deal of damage resulted from bleaching, but some very fine samples of wheat are shown nevertheless, a few grading No. 1 hard, and one sample was taken in recently at the mill quite equal to extra Manitoba hard. Ogilvies have an eleveror here.

Oak Lake is a splendid stock region. Hay is abundant, and there is plenty of wood and water. The place derives its name from the lake close by and from the blutts of oak trees in the district. J. R. Hood is the local stock dealer and butcher.

Dr. Wright has erected a new building, which he has recently occupied with his drug and stationery business, and he has put in quite a stock of holiday goods.

J. E. D'Aoust, from Quebec, has opened a general store recently, south of the track, and he expects to work up a trade with the French speaking residents, quite a number of whom are settled in the district.

Hollinquest, who started in the general store trade about a year ago, has formed a partnership with C. W. Cavanagh, a commercial traveler.

Wm. Thompson continues the well known Thompson house. The Leland house, which has changed hands so frequently, is now in charge of P. J. Flanagan.

John Horseman, who has been in the hardware trade for some years, is gradually extending his business.

A. Cameron and Thos. McNicol are doing a large trade in the general store line. Robert Neill has had a good season's trade in the lumber line. The private bank, started by Jas. Andrews, is one of the recent additions to the business institutions of the town.

The daily receipts of grain at Minnedosa, Man., says the *Tribune*, are very large, much more so than in any previous year.

Chas. Oppenheimer, a pioneer of Bitish Columbia, and brother of the Oppenheimers at Vancouver, died recently at San Francisco, where he has resided lately.

W.D. PETTIGREW & CO.

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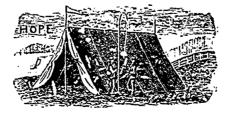
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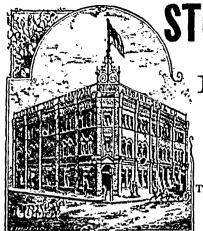
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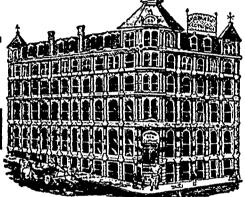
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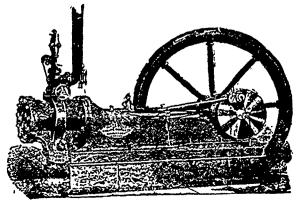
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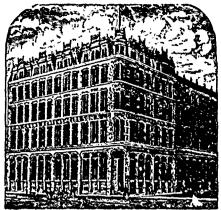
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Eldorado Castor, the best Oil in the world for Farm Machinery.

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R. A. NIBBET

The Commercial

WINNIPEG, JANUARY, 5, 1891.

PUSH COLLECTIONS.

THE COMMERCIAL a short time ago tendered the advice to country merchants that they should push their collections. The collection department is one of the important features in connection with every business where a credit trade is done. It is, however, a department which is frequently neglected. Many merchants do not attach that importance to the matter of collections that they should. Some seem to think that if they are sending out lots of goods, and their stores are thronged with customers, that everything is all right. This is a great mistake. Better do half the business, than do a large trade to the neglect of collections. Many failures in Manitoba have resulted from carelessness or disinclination to puch collections. Sometimes there is fear of offending customers by asking them to pay up. This is one of the many forms of cowardice in business. Nothing is gained by it, and a great deal often lost. Customers will frequently leave men who have been over lenient with them, and do their trading with a sharper business man. Sometimes the account gets so large, that the customer is ashamed to come back to the store. and he will goelsewhere and pay cash for what he requires. There is no clearer evidence of business incapacity than neglect in the collection department.

In the country towns of Manitoba, where so much credit business is done, it is necessary that the strictest attention should be given to the matter of collections. Eternal vigilance in this respect is the price of success. Neglect means certain failure. This is the excuse THE COMMERCIAL has to offer in again returning to the subject.

The season for making collections is short. In districts where farmers are engaged mostly in growing grain, money can only be collected during the grain-marketing season. For the rest of the year there is a famine in cash. The farmers have liabilities to the loan companies, implement dealers and others, to meet, and these institutions are on the alert to rake in their money as early as possible. In the case of the implement companies, the entire attention of these companies is given to making collections as soon as the grain commences to move. As the loan companies are thoroughly secured by mortgage, they do not require to be so active in the matter of pushing collections. Still, they are ever on the alert to get their dues. Unless the merchants push collections while the money is going, they will occasionally get left entirely. The farmer may not have money to go around, and he will pay those first who are most urgent. Farmers have often been known to invest their cash in other ways, such as buying land, while their store bills were unpaid.

The statement is frequently made after the crop has commenced to move, that enough money has not yet been paid out to reach the general trade. It will be remarked that "the loan companies and implement men have not

been fully paid up yet," and the inference is that until these are paid, there will be no cash coming to the storekeepers. This certainly seems to be all wrong. The storekeeper is the least secured of any of the creditors of the farmer, and it would naturally be supposed that he should be the first paid. Besides, he is probably more in need of the money than the other creditors of the farmer, and he has supplied the farmer with the necessities of life. The rearen is that these other concerns are conducted on better business principles than the average store, and one of the first rules of an institution conducted on business principles is to look sharply after the collections.

The writer recently saw a letter which had been sent to an implement agent in the country, from the head office of the company in Winnipeg. This letter instructed the agent "to push collections for all they were worth." He was further advised "not to be too chickenhearted" in dunning his customers, and in putting on the interest, and "not to be put off hy the farmers making a poor mouth." Tois shows how it is that these companies can get their money before the storekeepers. This is business, and the companies are right in following this course. All we say to the storekeepers is, to take a lesson from this and endeavor to get their share of the cash while it is moving. Have your bill heads ready and your accounts made out, and begin right at the first of the season to "push collections for all they are worth." And further see that you are not too "chicken-hearted." You will not gain anything by allowing commercial cowardice to prevent you from obtaining that which is justly yours, and which you are in need of. Push your collections, for eternal vigilance in this matter is necessary to success.

UNITED STATES INDUSTRIAL STOCKS.

It is well known among leading financiers that a good deal of the trouble in the New York stock market has been owing to the forced sales of United States securities by foreign holders. The cause of these forced sales was the depression arising from the collapse of the Argentine Republic inflation. A vast amount of British capital, for instance, has been sunk in the South American republic. As Argentine securities declined in value, holders of these were forced to sell other securities. The house of Barings, London, the principal firm engaged in floating South American stocks, was known to be selling United States stocks in New York heavily for many weeks previous to its collapse. Of course a great deal of this selling was done through brokers, and it was not supposed to be known who the actual sellers were. It is more than suspected, however, that a considerable portion of the pressure to sell came from foreign as well as home holders, who had been caught in the Argentine squeeze. It is well known that London has been a heavy seller in New York.

One effect of the present figancial situation is to temporarily, if not permanently, stop the craze for the investment of British capital in United States industrial securities. At the time the fever of speculation set in in Britain, for the purchase of industrial institutions in the United States, such as breweries, elevators, mills, etc., THE COMMERCIAL predicted that the fallacy of such investments would soon be made apparent. The plan was to get an option upon a number of industrial concerns, form a combination and float the stock of a new company in the London market The stock in some of these enterprises was greedily picked up by British investors.

British capital has been freely invested in all parts of the world, and looking back over the wrecks of the past, the British investor cannot be considered as always having been very discriminating in his purchases of stocks. etc. Streams of British capital have been poured into Mexico, the different countries of South America, Egypt, Turkey, in fact all over the world, and still the flow continues, though millions upon millions have been suck. In South America, every country with the exception of Brazil and Chilli have defaulted in the payment of their bonds. A great deal of British capital has been sunk in the United States, as well as in the semi-civilized countries previously mentioned, though a great deal of British capital has also found profitable investment in the great republic to the south of us. As a rule British capital sunk in the United States has been in wild-cat schemes of one kind and another, while others have been purely swindling transactions from the start. In fact British investors seem to bave been very easily gulled. They seem to have been altogether too confiding in their nature, and have placed implicit confidence in the glowing accounts given by interested agents, of the profits to be made from certain investments.

The rage for investment in Uunited States iudustrial securities, which was at its height about a year ago, did not promise much to the careful observer, but all the same plenty of British capital was forthcoming to float these doubtful enterprises. At the beginning of this craze, (for such it may be termed) about eighteen months ago, THE COMMERCIAL commented as follows :-

"The result of these investments in American manufacturing concerns will be awaited with carious interest, and it will be just a little strange if the British investors do not gain considerably more in experience than they do in dividends, from many of their recent purchases. A great howl has gone up from a portion of the United States press against the purchase of manufacturing concerns by 'the foreigners.' These papers cry out that it is a shame that their enterprises are passing into the hands of foreigners; that in using the warea turned out in these manufacturning establish-ments they will be paying taxes to the foreign capitalists who own them and draw the dividends; that it shows lack of ability that these institutions are being taken out of the hands of citizens and passing into the hands of foreigners. Now, this is all bosh. This much can be depended upon, and that is, that the shrewd Yankee knows what he is doing when he sells out to the foreigners, and the smile in his sleeve is no doubt a broad one as he hands over his establishment in return for British gold. It is a funny thing if he does not get the best of the bargain every time. The newspapers need not squirm about the dividends going to support British aristocracy. It is to be feared all the dividends the British investors may get will not greatly increase their wealth. If the British capitulists do not get 'milked' in the process, there will be more reason for surprise
In the first place, the Yankee is not going to

sell out a profitable industry unless he gets a

big thing for it. If his business is a paying one, and returning him regular dividends, he is not going to sell out unless he gets something for the prospective profits which he has in view from the enterprise. The Yankee steps out with his cash, and is free to start another establishment, with new and improved machinery. The British capitalist steps in at a disadvantage from having paid a big price for his manufactory, and at best he has a second hand outfit to work with. He is inexperienced, and must depend upon the advice of his managers. Altogother, therefore, his chances for successful competition in the industry are not very bright.

There is another aspect in which these foreign investments of British capital may be considered. This is the building up of foreign industries, with the aid of British capital, to compete with home industries in the same lines. In all parts of the world British capital is being called for, and is being invested, with the avowed object of building up foreign industries to compete with the British manufacturer. In some of the countries where British investments of this nature have been large, these same countries impose a heavy tax upon imports of British goods. Especially is this true in the case of Canada and the United States. This is a question well worthy the attention of British economists. But such arguments are not likely to have much effect upon the British capitalist, who sees large prospective dividends from foreign investments, and but a paltry one or two per cent. obtainable at home.

The predictions of THE COMMERCIAL appear to have been already fully realized. In speaking of the sale of United States securities as a result of the present financial stringency, The Banker's Magazine, of New York, says:

"There has been no liquidation in England yet of these inflated industrial stocks, partly because there is no market for them, and partly because the time is not yet ripe in the general reduction or default in dividends, which have so far been paid, either out of the business or the proceeds of the original sale of these properties, which are still managed by their vendors, who have not unleaded the stock they took in part payment therefor. When this is accompart payment therefor. When this is accom-plished, and unearned dividends are no longer paid, the English holders of these American industrial stocks will be seeking a market here for their securities at some price, as they are now for our railroad securities. The prospect of Jonathan getting much from John Buil, in the next few years, except what he must have to eat and raw material for his manufactures, is not very bright. Neither our stock or money markets can therefore rely upon Europe for much support in the near future, and the sooner we prepare to stand alone, except for such products as we can sell her, the less disappointment and reaction are likely to be experienced.

The Banker's Magazine further says that as soon as times get better, home capital, with improved plant, will be ready to compete with these industries which have been sold to the Britishers. Just so. The craze for British investment in United States industrial enterprises is already spent, and the over-confiding investors are no doubt beginning to realize their position.

SHORT CROP.

A short crop does not always give a small return to the grower. In fact sometimes the farmers receive more for their shorts in a short crop year than in a year when the yield has been large. This is the case in the United States with the crop of 1890. The average price of corn on this crop in the States is placed at 50.1 cents per bushel, as compared bushel. Though the crop is light, farmers will receive more for it than last year. . Oats are placed at an average of 42.2 cents, as compared with 23 cents last year, potatoes at 77.7 cents, or 90 per cent. higher than prices for the last two years.

This is the statement given by the agricultural department at Washington, and it may be considered as at least approximately correct. In the case of corn the price is 77 per cent. higher than last year on the average. It is the highest price realized since 1981, in which year the average price in December was 63.6 cents per bushel. The price of corn in the United States is not affected by foreign crop condition to anything like the same extent as wheaf, and therefore the market value rules more in keeping with the size of the home crop.

The price for oats this year is also the highest since 1881, and the same is true of barley and rye. Altogether, on account of these high prices, the value of the crop of 1990 is stated by the department to be greater than last year.

Of course this enhanced value means that there has been a general shortage in the crops of the country as a whole. If the crop shortage were confined to certain districts, and not great enough to affect the totals for the country, the enhanced value would not appear. The difficulty often with a short crop is, that it is confined to certain portions of the country. Thus the crops may be about a failure in one section, and the farmers will receive little or nothing, while other districts which produce a fair crop will be benefited by the shortage else-Therefore, though the value of the crop to the country as a whole may be as great as last year, it will not be evenly distributed, and stringency will be felt in some localities. A fair crop, evenely distributed, is better for the country as a whole, than either a short crop or a very heavy crop, in the total, but not evenly distributed.

National Sentiment.

The Toronto Empire has recently issued an excellent edition of very large size, filled with information, not so much of a local character. as about the country as a whole. Though not always agreeing with the political arguments of The Empire, there is one feature about that journal which even its political opponents must admire. This is its manly course in matters concerning national character and national reputation. It is sometimes remarked that there is little in Canada to foster national sentiment. The population of the Dominion is small in comparison with the United States. Adjoining us to the south along a boundary of 3,000 miles, is the great republic-a nation with vast resources, great ambition and irrepressible energy. The republic is inhabited by people similar to ourselves in race, language and institutions. Under these conditions there was almost more than a possibility that Canada would gravitate toward the United States. But we have lived along side of the republic for more than 100 years and still exist as a separate realm. Indeed we have made progress in the opposite direction, by uniting together in forming a federal government, which with an average price last year of 26.3 cents per has stood the test of a quarter of a

century, while the territory over which the Dominion holds away has expanded enormously.

There are evidences that national feeling has made marked progres in Canada in recent years. There are two principal causes for this. The first and important reason is plainly traceable to the extension of the boundary of the Dominion to include the vast region included in what may be geographically described as weete:n and northwestern Canada. The development of this vast territory of illivitable distances and great and varied resonrces, has inspired a national feeling which could not otherwise have originated. The second cause for the marked growth of national sentiment in Canada of late years, is undouttedly due to the unfriendly action of the United States towards this country. The unwarranted seizure of our scalers upon the high seas, the repeated threatenings of congress in the passage of what was termed "retaliatory" measures, the placing of a prohibitory tariff upon our exports, have all combined to more firmly establish the Dominion. This feeling has gained such headway in Canada, that outside of certain political circles, the passage of the McKiuley bill, instead of staggering the Dominion as was no doubt expected, was looked upon with complacency. While it was recognized that the measure would injure this country, Canadians did not wince, but philosophically decided to endeavor to make up in other directions for what they had lost in being shut out of United States markets.

The press is generally regarded as the great educator of the people. In connection with the press it may be noted that Canada has made progress during the last few years in acquiring a national press. This is a distinctive feature which has become prominent of late, and which looks favorable for the future of the Dominion. Of this class of publications we must mention the Empire, of Toronto, and the Dominion Illustrated, of Montreal. There are no doubt many other journals worthy of mention in this connection, such as The Young Canadian, for the children, a paper recently established at Montreal, the Canadian Queen, for the ladies, published at Hamilton. In fact at no time in her history has Canada been so well supplied with a distinctively national press, as at the present day, and it is only within the last two or three years that we have made marked progress in this direction. We cannot close these remarks about the press without deploring the fact that a few journals, even including some of our leading papers, occasionally decry the country and its prospects, in order to embarras their political opponents and make political capital for their party. While gushing loyalty and braggadocia born of national vanity are not always to be encouraged, a dignified national sentiment and a true love of country are features which should distinguish citizens of a free and enlightened] country. The man without these sentiments prevailing to some extent, is not likely to prove a good citizen.

THE COMMERCIAL has been favored with a copy of The Home Fascinator, a family journal published by a company of the same name at Montreal. The journal is devoted to "useful knowledge, romance, amusement, etc." The number before us appears to be a very creditable production. The paper will be sent six months on trial for 50 cents.

Alberta.

J. Walsh, fur buyer, has arrived at Edmonton and will remain for some time.

Edmonton Bulletin: "The fur brought in by the Lac la Biche traders P. Pruden, A. Hamelin and J. Ladouceur, was purchased by the H. B. Co. The value was about \$2,500.

The Edmonton Bulletin says: "Mr. Dinwoodie arrived from Calgary and Dakota on Thursday, with a farming outfit. He brought with him ten cows, three horses and some farm machinery.'

Geo. Thomson, late of Canmore, has purchased the stock and good will of the drug business of P. Daly & Co., and will continue in the same stand. P. Daly & Co. have opened a flour, feed and commission business next door to the drug store in P. Daly's warehouse.

A. W. Johnston, formerly chief clerk of the Department of Agriculture, Winning, and latterly connected with the C.A.C. & C. company at Calgary, has resigned his position with that company to engage in business on his own account at Calgary. Ho will do a general customs, commission, insurance and loan business.

Oats are not yielding as largely this year as was expected in the Edmonton district, accordto the Bulletin, owing to the very large proportion that was lodged so badly as to either injure the grain or to altogether prevent its being cut. The heaviest yield reported is that of Geo. Long, 70 bushels per acro. The heaviest yield of barley reported is 60 bushels per acro on J. A. Carson's place.

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RAT PORTAGE, - ONTARIO.

All sizes of Boards

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ROYAL

Is Pure. Is Best for the User. Is Best for the Grocer,

TRY IT!!

Manufactured Only by

The Royal Soap Company

WINNIPEG, MAN.

DICK, BANNING & CO

Lumber, Shingles and Lath,

DOORS AND SASH.

MILLS AT REEWATIN. OFFICE: OPPOSITE O.P.B. PASSENGER DEPOT. WINNIPEG

ROBINSON &

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MILLS AT SELKIRK, MAN. DIMENSIONS ALL SIZED.

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David Ross.

-MANUFACTURER OF-

Spruce, Tamarac

Cedar Lumber.

A Specialty made of Tamarac and Cedar Bill Stuff.

WHITEMOUTH, Man.

The Largest Factory of its kind in the Dominion.

VINEGARS.

Manufactured Solely under the Supervision of the Inland Revenue Department.

Mixed Pickles, Jams, Jellies & Preserves

-PREPARED BY-

MICHEL LEFEBURE & CO.. MONTREAL.

Established 1849.

Gold, Silver, and Bronze Medals.

20 Ist Prizes.



ROBINSON, LITTLE & CO.

WHOLESALE

343 and 345 Richmond St.,

LONDON, Ont.

Complete range of Samples with Andrew Callender, McIntyre Block, Winnipeg.

Wyld, Grasett & Darling

-WHOLESALE-

Dry Goods, Woolens, and Men's Furnishings,

TORONTO.

Represented in Manitoba, Northwest and British Columbia by

J. R. MILLAR,

LELAND H. TSE. WINNIPEG.

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MANUFACTURERS,

Importers and Wholesale Dealers in

SHOES!! BOOTS AND

36, 38 & 40 Front St. West

TORONTO.



Home Production

WITHOUT BARBS.

And are Agents for the

ErWoven Wire Fencing. To

We are in a position to fill all orders promptly.

Ours is the only wire manufactured in the Dominion of Canada on which is found the GENUINE LOCK BARB. A personal inspection will convince you of this fact. Quality of wire the best ENGLISH BESSEMER STEEL. Every pound guaranteed.

Manitoba Wire Company

-Manufacturers

LONDON. ONTARIO.

SPRING, 1891.

Mr. Glass will as usual call on the trade in Manitoba, North West and British Columbia. Samples are now ready. Wait for him.

JOHN McPHERSON & CO.

MANUFACTURERS

FINE SHOES

HAMILTON, ONT.

A. C. BUELL & CO.

RUMSEY & BUELL.

Commission - Merchants,

Nos. 81 & \$2 Board of Trade Building.

A. C. Buell & Co.

CHICAGO.

Barley a Specialty.

McLaughlin & Moore,

ROYAL DOMINION MILLS.

TORONTO.

Highest prices paid for Choice Samples of HARD WHEAT on cars at any Station in Manitoba Northwest Territories.

NOTHING LIKE LEATHER.

W. N. JOHNSON & CO., Importers and Dealers in

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Manufacturers of Harness, Collars, Boot and Shoe Uppers, etc. 25 and 27 Alexander St. West, Winnipeg



London, Ontario.

Wholesale Hats, Furs, Gloves, Robes, Straw Goods and Rubber Goods, Horse Clothing and Carriage Rugs.

Furs

Highest Cash price paid. If you want to see our goods write us and our traveller will call upon you.

BURNS AND LEWIS,

WHOLESALE CLOTHIERS.

London, Ont.

ARE THE LARGEST MANUFACTURERS OF

Children's, Boys' & Youths' Clothing

IN THE DOMINION.

Our travellers visit Manitoba, Northwest Territories and British Columbia twice a year.

R. PHILP & CO.

Manufacturers and Importers of

Coffins! Caskets!

ALL KINDS OF UNDERTAKERS' SUPPLIES.

THE LARGEST AND OLDEST HOUSE IN THE DOMINION.

100 AND 102 FRONT STREET WEST

TORONTO.

MONTREAL.

-MANUFACTURERS OF-

Gas and Electric Light Pixtures, Gas Meters

Engineers', Plumbers', Gas & Steamfitters' BRASS GOODS.

Montreal Brass Works.

WINNIPEG MONEY MARKET.

There has been but little stir in city monetary circles during the past week, and in connection with real estate mortgage business matters have been quietly asleep until the holiday time goes fairly over. In trade affairs there has been a little more life, as the movement has been calling for funds at the rate of nearly one hundred thousand dollars a day, while with the opening of the month quite a lot of fresh general trade paper is going to dis count. Banks are meeting all regular demands at the usual rates of seven to eight per cent., and give forth no word of scarcity of funds, although the pressure caused by stringency in the east has in no way let up, nor is there any hope of an early loosening up in that respect. Bankers are entering upon the new year with considerable confidence, and some express the belief that the fin encial load of the trade interests of Manitoba will be brought down to an abnormally low level before spring has fairly opened.

WINNIPEG WHOLESALE TRADE.

So far as sales are concerned, the past week has been a very quiet one in city wholesale circles. There has been a short stop in lines required for building and contracting, and in season goods no effort to sell has been put forth. Even such lines as fruit have been very slow in their movement, and the only volume of business done has been in supplying immediate wants of goods of every day consumption, and even in these the movement has been very light. There will now be a general effort to push sales of spring and summer goods from samples. To-day nearly every travelling man from the city starts out with full samples of both foreign and domestic goods, and another week will bring reports of how buyers in the country are taking hold.

Most houses are now in a position to take a rough retrospective view of the business of 1890, and at the same time size up the prospect for 1891. For the past year a few report their aggregate sales a little below those of 1889, a larger number report a small increase, but most state that the figures of the two years will be almost the same. All are agreed that the outlook is much brighter than it was a year ago, and the fact that fully one half of the entire grain exports of the year are yet in the hands of farmers, is the strongest reason for this general belief. There are other minor circumstances, however, which strengthen it, and one is that retailers, both in the city and country, are not left with heavy loads of winter goods to carry over. A year ago the majority of them were in this position, but last year careful and cautious buying have prevented the mistake, although the winter so far has been a very mild one, and not favorable to the sale of heavy winter lines. Only in a few districts in the south west of the province is there an exception to this rule, and there most retailers are pretty well loaded.

The complaint most heard is still about slow collections, although a few houses give quite a good report in this respect, and nearly all agree that money is steadily if slowly be coming freer in circulation throughout the country. That there has been so much disappointment in cash returns is doubtless due in a great measure to the expectation with which the fall season opened. People had made up their minds to a

speedy relief from the financial famine of last summer, as soon as the crop commenced to move, whereas the relief has only come in a gradual and rather slow fashion. There is, however, no doubt but matters will even themselves up by the spring, and there is no fear of a repetition of the financial famine next summer, as the crop movement will extend pretty well into the warm months of 1891. With the outlook as above stated, there should be liberal sales made of spring and summer lines during the next six weeks, and that the first half of this year should be a prosperous one for the Canadian Northwest.

BURNING OHS.

No change to report. Prices are as follows: Water White, 31c; Rocene, 33c; Sunlight, 28c; Naptha, per case, \$3.50; deoderized gasoline, \$3.50.

FCEL.

Quotations are the same, and as follows: Anthracite coal delivered, \$9.25; bituminous, \$8; Galt at \$7.50. Tamarae wood in car lots on track, \$4 25 to \$4.50; poplar \$2 60 to \$3.10; oak, \$6; maple, \$6.50.

DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, ETC.

Dry goods travellors are all goin yout this week, taking for the first time samples of imported as well as domestic lines. Clothing men will be mostly in the province for a week or two, as but few of the retailers there have bought from spring samples, whereas in the far western points nearly all have given their opening orders for the coming season, and only some supplementary culls can be expected from them. There have been practically no sales during the week for immediate wants, and cash returns have been light, although considerable improvement is looked for this week.

DRUGS.

Nochange reported. Quotations are as follows: Howard's quinine, 55 to 65c; German quinine, 45 to 55c; morphia. \$2.25 to \$2.50; iodide of potassium, \$4.25 to \$4.75; bromide potassium, 60 to 70; English camphor, 80 to 90c; glycerine, 30 to 40c; tartaric acid, 65 to 75c; cream of tartar, 35 to 40c; bleaching powder, per keg, \$6 to \$8; bicarb soda, \$3.75 to \$4.50; sal soda, \$2.50 to \$3; chlorate of potash, 25 to 30c; alum, \$4 to \$5; copperas, \$3 to \$3.25; sulphur flour, \$4.50 to \$5; sulphur roll, \$4.50 to \$5; American blue vitrol, 10 to 12c.

GREEN FRUITS.

There has been a big collapse to the rush of sales which existed before the holidays, and business is down to a very low ebb. Apples are climbing up in price rapidly, but there are no other changes of note. Quolations are. Apples, good to foncy. Số to S7; Mes-ina lemons, SS to SS.50abox; Florida oranges, S5 to S6.50 a box, according tosize and quality; bananas, S3.50 a bunch; winter pears, S3.50 to S3.75 a box; cranberries in barrels, Bell and Cherry, S11; Bell and Bugle, S11.50; Cape Cod, S12; Malaga grapes in 50 pound kegs, SS to SS.50.

RAW FURS.

There is not much doing yet in furs, though a few small lots occasionally arrive and are put up for competion. The following quotations represent a fair range of values in the Winnipeg market for the skius named, the range being from poor to prime skins: Badger, from 5 to 75c; bear, black, 50c to \$25; do brown, \$1 to \$18; do grizzly, \$1 to \$15; beaver, 50c to \$7.50; castorum, \$2.50 to \$4 per pound; ermines, Ic to 2c; fisher, \$1.50 to \$0.50; fox, cross, 75c to

\$5; fox, kit, 10c to 45c; fox, red. 25c to \$1.50; fox, silver, \$5 to \$60; lynx, 25c to \$3; marten, 75c to \$1.50; mink, 5c to 85c; musquash, 3c to 10c; otter, \$1.50 to \$8.50; raccoon, 50c to 85c; skunk, 5c to 75c; wolf, large, \$1.50 to \$2.25; wolf, small, 25c to 70c; wolverines, \$2 to \$4.

WHOLESALE PRODUCE MARKETS.

WINNIPEG.

WHEAT

The first three days of the week were marked by something of a better feeling in wheat markets. May wheat at Chicago advanced 18e on Monday, ic on Tuesday and ic on Wednesday, closing prices on each day being taken. New Year's holiday, however, seemed to have changed the situation, for on Friday, January 2,-the first business day in the new yearprices declined at Chicago sharply, due, it was reported, to improved outlook for winter wheat, rain having fallen in districts suffering from drought. Up to Tuesday there was not much change in British markets, as compared with a week ago, though home grown wheat was 6d. dearer. Cables were dull and steady on Monday, but on Tuesday cables were 1d. higher Liverpool cables were again 4d higher on Wednesday for cash and futures. Receipts of wheat at Minneapolis and Duluth were very heavy on Monday, Minneapolis getting 775 cars and Duluth 60 cars; total \$39 cars, against \$04 cars a week ago, and 225 cars the same day a year ago. These two points received 304 cars on Tuesday, against 165 cars a year ago, and on Wednesday they received 374 cars. Receipts at other points were liberal, combined receipts at the four principal spring wheat points for the first three days of the week being 2,102 cars, against 444 cars for the same time a year ago. The visible supply statement on Monday, Dec. 29, showed the small increase of 114,000 bush, showing that in spite of large receipts, the wheat is being absorbed rapidly. For the corresponding week last year the visible supply decreased 303,528 bushels. The total stocks at all points enumerated in the statement aggregate 25,478,237 bushels against 33,971,650 bushels last year. Exports of wheat and flour for the week as reported on Monday from all Atlantic ports 640,150 bushels against 1,123,650 bushels for the corresponding week last year. The amount of wheat and flour on ocean passage as reported by Beerbohm on Tuesday showed a decrease of 2,016,000 bushels, making the available supply 17,526,237 bushels against 53,659,650 bushels for the corresponding date last year, and 59,841,144 bushels two years ago. The amount on ocean passage decreased 664,000 bushels for the corresponding week last year. On Wednesday Bradstreet's statement was published showing an increase of 959,000 bushels during the past week, in the available supply at 1,000 points east of the Rocky mountains in the United States and Canada. The increase for the previous week was 189,000 bushels. There was a spurt in United States markets toward the close on Saturday.

The local situation has been characterized by a very fair movement of wheat from farmers' hands in Manitoba. Farmers have evidenced a less disposition to hold for higher prices, being either discouraged at the long continuation of low prices, or forced to sell to satisfy demands of creditors. At any rate receipts at country points have increased. Brandon has

been getting 10,000 to 12,000 bushels and Deloraine 5,000 to 8,000 bushels per day. Rapid City had 7,000 bushels one day, and other points in proportion. There was no snow yet for sleighing up to Saturday, the snow following Christmas day not having amounted to much. Whoeling is good. Prices in Manitoba country markets have ruled rather easier on account of expected higher freight rates. About 60c per bushel was the usual price to farmers for No. 2 hard, but upwards to 65c was paid at some points. On the Winnipeg grain exchange the week was an exceedingly dull one. On the call board on Tuesday 2 cars of No. 1 frosted, North Bay, sold for 77c; and four cars of feed wheat, Brandon rate of freight, for 30c per bushel. On Monday and Wednesday there were no transactions. On Saturday No. 2 hard was offered at 97c at Carleton junction, with 96c per bushel bid.

The feature attracting interest mainly among grain men was the situation regarding grain rates. It was known that the railways had decided upon advancing the grain and flour rate between Minneapolis and Chicago from 71 to 124c per 100 pounds. This would effect shipments from points on the Northern Pacific railway in Manitoba, on all rail shipments eastward. It meant an advance of five cents on rates from here unless the Northern Pacific counteracted the advance by a cut on local rates from Manitoba points. It was also understood that the Canadian Pacific contemplated an advance in rates. The full policy of the railways has not been officially announced, but it is understood the C.P.R. will go back to the old tariff in force a short time ago, which means an advance in the rate from Winnipeg to Toronto, from 44½ to 46 cents per 100 pounds. There will also be a proportionate or greater advance to seaboard points.

FLOUR.

Flour has maintained a steady tone, and there is no change to note in values. The usual local and exatern shipping trade is doing. Quotations in jobbing lots to the local trade, per 100 pounds are as follows: Patents, \$2.60; strong bakers', \$2.40; XXXX, \$1.40; superfine, \$1.20; middlings, \$2.60; graham flour, \$2.40.

MILLSTOFFS.

Prices hold firm at \$12 for bran and \$14 for shorts per ten. The local demand is slack, on account of the plentiful supply of feed grain. While millers have such a good demand from the east at fair prices that they no not crowd the local market with offerings.

OATMEAL, OIL CAKE, ETC.

Prices are steady. Quotations are: Oil cake in bags, \$21 a tou; oil cake meal in ton lots, \$26.50; in car lots f.o.b. \$25; Oatmeal, standard, \$2.60; granulated, \$2.70 per 100 pounds; rolled oats, \$2.70 per sack of 80 pounds; Cornmeal is held at \$1.50 per 100 lbs. Pot barley, \$2.75 per 100 lbs.

GROUND FERD.

Business is dull in feed. Best ground oats and barley feed is quoted at \$17 to \$18 per ton, and ground oats alone at \$16.

OATS.

There was a firmer tendency in oats again, later in the week, though easy at the start. Farmers offerings in the Winnipeg market were taken at between 25 and 28c per bushel (34 lbs.) though 26c was about the top paid on some days. Shippers were paying between 28 and 29c for cars on track at country points. At Montreal the first of the week 44 to 45c was quoted for Manitoba oats, while in the same market Ontario oatsold from 2 to 3c higher, the latter being of better average quality, being cleaned

better. At Toronto 45 to 46c was the quoted price, with 41 to 42c quoted at country points in Ontario for home grown.

BARLEY

Slow at 25 to 28c for feed qualities.

BUTTER.

Commission dealers are selling small lots in the city at a range of from 12 to 20c per pound as to quality, and picked butter may be quoted at 17 to 20c selling in this way. Larger lots as they are received from the country are of course of mixed quality, and 15 to 16c would represent about their value in lump.

CHEESE,

Cheese is slow sale and jobbing about 12c per pound.

EGGS.

Eggs have a firmer tendency. Pickled sold at 21c per dozen, but will likely be held firmer at 22c after Saturday. Fresh are irregular in price and quality, and quoted anywhere from 25 to 30c per dozen. At Toronto fresh were quoted at 25c and limed at 22 to 23c.

LARD.

Chicago compound lard in 20 pound pails held at \$2; pure \$2.20.

CURED MEATS, SAUSAGE, ETC.

Local packers have been working some, mostly on hogs brought in from Ontario, further car lots having arrived. Quotations here are as follows: Dry salt bacon, 9½c; smoked long clear, 10c½; spiced rolls, 12c; breakfast bacon, 12½c; boneless, 13c; smoked hams, 14c. Sausage are quoted: fresh pork sausage, 10c lb.; bologua do., 8c lb.; German do., 9c lb.; ham, chicken and tongue do., 9c per ½-lb. packet.

HIDES.

Few butchers hides offering, this class being mostly picked up for the winter kill. No 1 green are worth 4c lb. here. Country frozen hides are being taken at about 2½ per pound in round lots at point of shipment, or are worth here 3½ for No. 1 Skins worth 50 to 65c.

VEGETABLES.

Not many potatoes offering, and those having quantities are inclined to hold till spring when they imagine prices will be higher. Quotations here at about 30c per bushel. Other vegetables are quoted: Turnips: 20c bus.; parsnips, 1½c lb; carrots, 60c bus.; beets, 40c bus.; cabbage, 40 to 60c doz., onions, 3 to 3½c lb.; Spanish do., \$1.60 per crate of 30 lbs. nett; celery, 25 to 50c doz. heacs.

DRESSED POULTRY.

Stocks of frozen dressed poultry are light, and as they are in few hands prices are held steady. Turkeys are jobbing by commission dealers at about 134, geese at 10c, ducks 11c and chickens 9c. The demand for turkeys and geese will be very slack hereafter, the holiday season being over, but chickens are still in good request.

DRESSED MEATS.

Now that the holiday season is over, everything is dull in dressed meats. Butchers are stocked up in frozen meats, and are buying but very little. There is still considerable frozen country beef offering on the market, which sells at from 2 to 4c per pound for sides, as to quality. Country pork brings from 6½ to 7c, usually the latter price Ontario pork is selling in a small way by importers at 7 and 7½c. Mutton is worth 9 to 10c. Veal 5 to 7c.

HAY

Bailed hay quoted on track at \$8 to \$8.50. Loose on the market \$5 to \$7 per ton.

Furs.

Although the earliest records show that many of the eastern races employed the skins of beasts as clothing, it is pretty certain that the custom was imposed by necessity rather than dictated by choice. It is impossible to say how long the sheep were his fleece before man invented the loom, but we know that not a few among the nomadic tribes—notably the Arabs

and Tartars—clothe themselves with sheepskins to this day; while fur mantels were worn by the prophets and chiefs of the Hebrews, less as necessary garments than for the secondary purposes of distinction and dignity. On the other hand, what may be colled the natural use of furs originated in those countries in which the severity of the climate rendered such a protection as almost the first condition of existence. The Greeks learned spinning from the Egyptians, and the Romans followed and surpassed them in the vast staple of woolen manufacture, the more luxurious of the latter going to extraordinary lengths in the way of costly clothing of this character. When, however, the Roman Empire fell before the hordes of the Northern conquerors a new era was inaugurated. Furs were almost their only riches; and Beckmann tells us that these hardy tribes were so well acquainted with the art of preparing and wearing them in the most effective manner that they were thus recommended to the notice of the young Romans. A not unnatural result fol-lowed. The Northern nations took more and more to woolen clothing, while the Romans adopted the fur dresses of their conquerors; the latter, however, vying with each other in making the new assumption "modish" and fastidious. Skins were, in fact, among the first articles of commerce between Italy and the North. Unfitted as fur dresses were for ordinary use in such a climate, they were in time dedicated to occasions of state ceremony, and thus became associated, and ultimately identified, with the prescriptions of rank and per-sonal dignity. The Italians chiefly bordered and trimmed their dresses with fur, and the fact that it was procurable only from a distance and at considerable expense, helped to sustaian the artificial idea of its importance. At every petty court of Central Europe furs soon began to form the state costume of the reigning famiy; and the nobility being quick to follow suit, the and "miniver pure" became too much for the Lord Chamberlains of the day, and were gradually handed over to the Herald's Office, with the laws and traditions of which they speedily became incorporated.

It was in obedience to a swiftly spreading fashion, therefore, that furs were first domiciled in Eugland, and with them a whole mass of the mostridiculous edicts and observances. In Germany, in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, it was forbidden to any degree below the kightly order to wear either sable or ermine. Merchants and tradespeople generally were ordered to use no fur trinmed clothes whatever, and even the wealthier members of the same classes were only permitted "lininge" of lamb, fox or weat of skins. Many sumptuary enactments in England were almost literal transcripts of the German laws. Edward III. decreed that no person should wear furs of any kind who "could not spend" £100 a year. "Her gowne was blue," says Chaucer, "and furred with gray;" and again, in the "Romaunt of the Rose," the poet describes a citizen's "Burnette cote, furred with no miniver, but with a furre of lamb-skinnes heavie and blacke." Our nobility were the mon-polists of ermine and sable, while the lower classes had still to be content with home mater als, in the shape of squirrel, lamb, and, above all, rabbit skins. The distinction between the east and west of Temple Bar was, for a long time, maintained with the nicest severity, and many heart-burnings were doubtless caused by the restraints under which civic beauty labored in the matter of personal adornment.

It was doubtless the splendid furs obtainable in Siberia that induced the Russians to make the conquest of that country, which still continues to supply some of the choicest sorts. From this source some of the early traders of Italy obtained the stores of which they became the distributors throughout the rest of Europe, but the discovery of America and the foundation of the fur trade laid by the French settlement in Canada immensely increased the field of operations. It was not till the year 1670 that the English Hudson's Bay Company wa

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WINNIPEG,

MANITOBA

chartered by Charles II., the object of which corporation gave employment to so many thousands of adventurous spirits. It is an essential feature in a supply of such a precarious nature that the value of the higher qualities of fur should be subject to great fluctuations.—New York Fur Trade Review.

A High-Toned Colony.

The Regina Leader publishes the following about the French settlement near Whitewood, territory of Assiniboia :-

Among the numerous foreign colonies surrounding and tributary to Whitewood that of St. Hubert, situate on the banks and occupying several miles of the valley of the Pipestone, but ten miles south of the town, has developed into one of the most prosperous and successful.

Some four years ago Baron de Brabant and family and the Count de Roffignac located in close proximity to the ever running Pipestone and after two years experience of the climate and a thorough test of the capabilities of the soil conceived the idea of establishing a French colony. The securing for their compatriots free and comfortable homes, liberty and remunerative employment were the instigations that prompted the actions of the projectors. With this end in view some ten thousand acres of good arable land were secured and a number of French families induced to transport themselves across the Atlantic and locate within the serves across the Atlantic and locate within the limits of the settlement, one quarter section (160 acres) being apportioned to the head of each family. The general object of the promoters was to enter largely into the cultivation of chickory and sugar beet and the raising of horses, cattle and sheep. At the head of the chickory enterprize are Baron de Brabant and Count de Roffignac who have formed a partnership for the growth and manufacture for this ship for the growth and manufacture for this now indispensable article under the firm style of "The Bellvue French Coffee Company" with headquarters at Bellevue, where the Baron has

erected a commodious dwelling, and where the principal drying and manufacturing buildings are situated. The general management of the firm is under the direct supervision of the proprietors. The drying of the root, which requires considerable experience and skill is in charge of S. Brabant, while the secret of the final preparation is entirely entrusted to O. Brabaut, son of the Baron, and who has had a thorough training in its manufacture. Over fifteen practical men are employed in the differfifteen practical men are employed in the different departments during the winter season, but as the production is yearly being greatly augmented, the number of workmen will next season be largely increased. During the "pulling season" this year assistance was so scarce that numbers of Indians were employed and are the work parformed. To paid in proportion to the work performed. To encourage the more extensive growth of both the chickory and beet root the company offer to supply small packages of seeds. This was done last year and many of the farmers outside of the colony here obtained a profitable return and intend to more largely enter into the cultivation of these roots next season, claiming cultivation of these roots next season, claiming that the venture is the safest one they can make. Frost neither retarding the growth nor injuring the quality. The price paid at the factory is 60 cents per bushel of 60 pounds, which yields a large and sure advance on the time and money invested. The company last year were unable to supply the demand and have already booked several large orders for both the eastern and western wholesale markets. The settlers who have already arrived are well The settlers who have already arrived are well pleased with their newly adopted homes and express themselves to be heartily glad to escape the excessive taxation exacted from them while in the old country. They also claim that fifty per cent, less labor is required to be expended on Northwest soil to produce an equal result with that obtained at home, while fertilizing can be entirely dispensed with. It is the intention of the company this season to increase the capacity of their works and next fall

"dryers" will be placed in other districts for the better accommodation of settlers who produce in quantities. The results so far in the manufacture of chickory have been highly satis-

manufacture of chickory have been highly satisfactory to the company and remunerative to the producer, and as the colony is part and parcel of the Whitewood district, the results will be generally beneficial and productive.

O. Brabant will spend the winter in France actending to immigration business in connection with the colony. Among other enterprises worthy of note in St. Hubert is the Rolandrie Form and Stock Company. They proceed to Farm and Stock Company. They possess ten sections and 150 head of cattle which are gradu ally being increased and improved. Count de Seyssic and Mons Jannet combine farming and ranching, being firm advocates of mixed farming. Count de Jumellac and Messrs. de Soras and Wolf have two thousand head of sheep and intend considerably increasing their flock. The ranch is situated at Richelieu in the Moose Mountain district.

Sir Joseph Hickson has resigned the position of general manager of the Grand Trunk railway and is succeeded by L J. Sergeant, the present general traffic manager. The resignation was entirely unexpected, and has created surprise and much regret, as it is understood that continued ill-health was the cause of it. Sir Joseph will continue to reside at Montreal and will maintain a semi-official connection with the road.

NOTICE

is hereby given that on from and after the first day of January A.D., 1891, the business heretofore carried on by the undersigned under the name, style and firm of "Henderson & Bull" wilt be continued and carried on by the undersigned by and under the name and style of "W. F. Henderson & Co."

Dated, Winnipeg, December 31st, 1890.

W. F. HENDERSON

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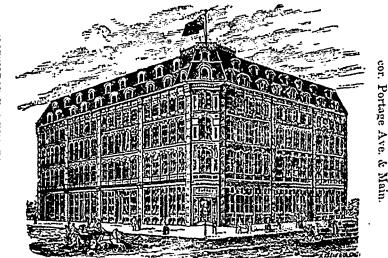
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Ohicago Board of Trade Prices.

Wheat opened easy on Monday, Dec. 29, but gained from ? to 1½c on Saturday's prices, closing near the top of the day. There was a sharp local demand for cash wheat, rumors of further damage from the fly and drought in Kansas, and a small increase in the visible. Closing prices were:

	Dec	Jan	Feb.	May.
Wheat	SO	80		97
Corn	472	481	487	514
Oats	40	40)	_	431
Pork	S 00	19 20	10 421	10 10
Laid	5 773	5.87	 - `	6 474
Short Ribs	4 50	5 .074	5.25	5.72}

On Tuesday wheat made further gains in price. May opened ge higher than at Monday's close and advanced a further gc. The full gain was not held, and the close was he higher than Monday. Higher cables, decrease in wheat on passage, a better feeling in Wall street and lighter receipts were the strong features. Closing prices were:—

	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	May.
Wheat		89		974
Corn	493	491	49}	521
Oats	40}	403		441
Pork	8.00	10.35	10.60	11.25
Lard	5.80	5.874		6.47}
Short Ribs	4.60	5.10		5.73

Wheat was firmer on Wednesday and closed ic higher. Cables were stronger. Closing prices were:—

Jan.	reo.	may.	July.
891		93	933
49}	49}	623	
412	423	459	
10 52}	10.771	11.424	
5.90	6.071	ช 50	
5,121	5 30	5.80	
	\$9} 49} 41} 10 52} 5.90	\$9½ 49½ 49¾ 41¾ 42¾ 10 52½ 10.77½ 5.90 6.07½	S91 93 491 493 623 412 423 455 10 521 10.771 11.421 5.90 6.071 0.50

On Friday the wheat market broke sharply on heavy deliveries, and reports of extensive rains, snow and general moisture, where most needed in the winter wheat country. Closing prices were ½c lower.

	Juli.	reo.	aray	Juiy.
Wheat	88		973	921
Corn	49	495	523	
Oats	411	42	442	
Pork	10.30	10.45	11.05	
Lard	5.87	5.971	6 371-6.10	
Short Ribs	5.02	5.173	5 62}	

Minneapolis Closing Price Wheat.

At Minneapolis on Saturday, January 3 wheat closed lower at 94gc per bushel for No. 1 northern, May option. This is about 1½c over a week ago.

Minneapolis Market.

Following were closing wheat quotations on December 31:—

	Dec.	Jan.	May (On track
No. 1 hard	90	90		91
No. 1 northern	€03	802	943-3	88]
No. 2 northern	83	S3	-	844

Flour.—Quoted at \$4.50 to \$5.00 for first patents; \$4.30 to \$4.50 for second patent; \$3.50 to \$4.20 for fancy and export bakers; \$1.80 to \$2.25 for low grades in bags, including red dog.

Bran and shorts—Quoted at \$11.25 to \$14.50 for bran, \$14.25 to \$15 for shorts and \$15.25 to \$15.75 for middlings.

Oats-Quoted at 36 to 39c by sample.

Barley—Quoted at 45 to 55c for good fine samples of No. 3.

Feed-Millers held at \$19 to \$19 50 with corn meal at \$18.50 to \$19.

Eggs --Storage stock 19 to 20c, pickled 18c, tresh candled 23c.

Potatoes - Car lots 65 to 952 per bushel. Hides - 41 to 41c for frozen, 5 to 51c for green salted. - Market Record.

Eastern Wheat and Flour Markets.

At Toronto early last week flour was reported dull and unchanged at \$5.50 to \$5.60 for Manitoba patent and \$5.30 to \$5.35 for bakers, in car lots. Bran was quoted at \$18.00 to \$18.50, middlings, \$18 to \$21. No. 2 hard wheat at 98c to No. 2 northern at 90c.

At Montreal flour was easier and quoted at \$5.40 to \$5.50 for patent, and \$4.75 to \$5.25 for bakers. No. 2 hard wheat at \$1 to \$1.91.

buinth Wheat Market.

Duluth advanced 1c on Menday, 3c on Tuesday and 1c on Weinesday, seeline 1 3c on Friday and advanced about 1c on Saturday, Following were closing prices for No. 1 hard, may option, on each business day of the week; Monday, 98tc., Tuesday, 99c. Wednesday, 99f. Friday, 98fc., Saturday, 99gc. On Saturday cash wheat closed at 91fc.

Montreal Stock Market

Reported by Osler, Hammond & Nauton, January 3, 1891.

Banks.	Sellers.	Buyer.
Bank of Montreal	221	2214
Ontario	1121	110
Molson's	160	_
Torout		217
Merchants		
Union		
Commerce	1251	120
Miscellaneous.	*****	
Montreal Tel	041	973
Rich, & Ont. Nav	2.1	54
Rich, & One, Sav	.07	
City Pass, Ry	175	371
Montreal Gas	203	201
Canada N. W. Land Co	71	63
C. P. R. (Montreal)	739	73
C. P. R. (London)	7	75
Money-Time	7	
Money -On Call	G	
Starling &t Days, N. Y. Posted Rate	480	
Money -On Call Sterling 6: Days, N. Y. Posted Rate	485	
" 6) Days Montreal Rate Be-		
tween Banks	81	
" Demand Montreal Rate Be-		
tween Banks	SI	
" New York Exchange Montreal Rate Between Banks	1-10	3

The West's Wealth.

Address at the Calgary dinner to the British farmer delegates, which is valuable as a brief statement of the mineral wealth of the west. He said of coal, no country of the age of Alberta, in fact few of the older countries have as large a percentage of its area underlaid with coal as is already "nown to be the case in Alberta. Further explorations have demonstrated the existence of new and unlooked for fields. So far as the valley of the Bow River is at least concerned (and the same observation may be applied to other streams which have their source near the aummit of the Rocky mountains) immense deposits of iron ore are found to lie in or adjacent to it. We have also two gas wells which have been burning since 1884, and the prebabilities are that natural gas extends over a considerable area of the territory. We have coal of all qualities, from a high-class lignite to semi-bitumunous, semi-anthracte and anthracite proper. We have in the foot hills a coal which for gas and coking purposes cannot be excelled, yielding as high as sixty per cent. of coke. To-day the output of coal at Lethbridge per diem is some 600 tons; from the 1st January it is anticipated it will be 1,000 tons, and by the 1st July, 1891, 2,000 tons per day. Lethbridge is now connected by railway with the great smelting centres of Anaconda and Butto, Montana, and which is rapidly increasing its business at Great Falls, Montana. Two deposits, similar in quality to that at Lethbridge, both of which are thought by many to

be the same, crop out at Grassy Island, in the Bow River, in tp. 17, r. 17 w., 4th meridian, the other being on the Rosebud River, north of the Bow, and extends probably some distance north of the Rosebud.

What might be termed the "Canmore Basin" extends in a norshwesterly direction from Kananaskis on the Bow river, and continues in that direction for a considerable distance. It is found on the Red Deer river also, and recent geological explorations have discovered deposits of anthracite extending for some fifty miles along the north branch of the Saskatchewan river. The trend of these seams is little north of north-west, and their dip varies from 30 to 60 degrees. At Canmore, where most of the exploration has been carried on, no less than fourteen seams have been discovered, varying from 2 ft. 6 in. in thickness to 14 ft., and the quality is from bituminous to anthracite. Farther north, seams of 20 ft. in thickness are reported to have been discovered, but they have not been prospected sufficiently to enable this to be verified. Most other bituminous and semi-anthracite coal found in this district are of very good coking qualities. Adjacent to these are immense beds of iron ore, already referred to, of the quality necessary to produce the highest grades of steel. The consumption of Anthracite coal on the Pacific coast is 55,000 tons per annum, brought from Pennsylvania at a cost of \$14 to \$18 per ton. In the Northwestern States of Montana, Idaho and Washington 35,000 to 40,000 ton. The nearest supply is from Anthracite and should be delivered at less than two-thirds of the present cost, which would mean probably within a year a quadrupling of the consumption, and the annual increase would be at a very considerable ratio.

COPPER AND SILVER ORES.

Ores rich in copper and silver and some gold, and in some cases silver galena, are net with all along the Bow River and its tributaries. With the establishment of works on a sufficient scale, no doubt mining on these lines can be made profitable. I think that not only are the possibilities but the probabilities of mining in Alberta and the portion of British Columbia tributary thereto very bright; this is made all the more certain by the establishment of two smelters, immediately to the west of us, both of which it is anticipated will be fully occupied next spring, and if the results are such as one may anticipate without being visionary, within four years twelve times the amount of work they can do will be performed.

PETROLKUM.

In conclusion I may allude to petroleum. Petroleum has been found in the Rocky Mountains in the southerly part of this district, the quality being considered A. I. As to the quantity, that remains to be determined, but arrangements are now being perfected by which within a year thorough tests will be made and experts are very sanguine of the quantity to be obtained. The greatest undeveloped fields of petroleum are those of the Athabasca and Peace rivers, and their tributaries, a basin covering thousands of square miles. These lie just on the northerly edge of Alberta, extending into the district of Athabasca, but any development therein done will be tributary to Alberts. Here is an illimitable field for the capitalist who possesses energy and nerve enough to enable him to enter into exploring operations. Every report tends most encouragingly to show that the probabilities of this becoming the largest oil bearing country in the continent, if not in the world, are good.

BUILDING MATERIALS.

Alberta has its slate, building stones, sand stone, dolomitics and micaceous limestone, the two latter suitable for structures subject to the action of water, such as bridge piers, etc. Clay, suitable for brick, not only for building brick, but also for a high class of fire-brick and cements, is readily obtained, the Rocky mountains being a huge storehouse of limestone.



Toronto Hiue & Wool Co

Wholesale Dealers in

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83 and 85 Front Street East. TORONTO. PROPRIETOR .

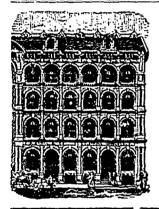
We will be in the market this season as usual for all classes of Wool, and are prepared to pay the highest market prices.

The most perfect Flouring Mill in Canada. CAPACITY 1,600 BARRELS A DAY.

Barrel Factory at the Mill and Grain Storage Capacity of 550,000 bushels in addition to which a system of handling Elevators are now being constructed throughout the Northwest.

WHEAT FLOUR Grades in Barreis and Bage. FOR QUOTATIONS AND OTHER INFORMATION APPLY TO THE MILLS,

KEEW.



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Johnston's Fluid Beef



Keep Strong,

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REGULARLY

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Because it contains all the Nutritious Constituents of Prime Beef in the most Digestible Form.

rsw Allan, President. John McKechnis, Superintendent. J. F. EBY. F. H. Brydges, Vice-President. H. H. Williams, Sec.-Treas. Andrew Allan, President.

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GENERAL BLACKSMITHING. All Kinds of Machinery.

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Eby. Blain & Co.

COR. PRONT AND SCOTT STS.. TORONTO.

Represented in Manitoba and the Northwes Territories by James Dowler, 130 Donald Street, Winnippo.

Redwood Brewery

Fine Ales, Extra Porter and Fremium Lager.

Most Extensive Establishment of the kind in Western Canada.

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PROPRIETOR,

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MANITOBA.

Highest cash price paid for good Malting Barley.

Thomas Davidson and Co.

Stamped and Japanned Ware, &c.

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Hodgson, Sumner and Go.

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British, French, German and American Dry Goods, Small Wares and Fancy Goods.

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Represented: J. McLEOD, HOLIDAY & BRO. Commission Merchants, 54 Portage Avenue, Winnipeo, Man.

Eastern Business Changes ONTARIO.

- J. Wade, drugs, Port Stanley, is dead.
- G. T. Simpson, grocer, Paris, has assigned.
- J. A. Saul, builder, Toronto, has assigned.
- N. Burton, harness, Claremont, has essigned.
- B. L. Michael, publisher, Aylmer, has sold out.

Wm. Fisher, merchant, Goulbourn, has assigned.

TIG. Dorland, grocer, Wellington, has assigned.

C. J. Orchard, confectioner, Petrolia, has assigned

B. Billington, tins, Little Current, has assigned.

A. J. McClennan, general store, Alton, has assigned.

F. T. Allen, general store, Clearville, has sold out.

Max Vineberg, clothing, Cornwall, is damaged by fire.

Dan. Dewar, hotel, St. Marys, has removed to London.

Thos. White, machinist, Cananoque, is burned out.

Craig & Austin, Sawmill, etc., Kinmount, loss by fire \$500.

J. W. Warner, carriage maker, Osuabruck Tp., has assigned.

Jas. Lewis, wagons and blacksmith, Norton-

ville, is burned out. W. H. Dunlop, saw mill, Thorndale, is burn-

ed out; no insurance.

Cook & McIntyre, St. Lawrence Woolen
Mill, Gananoque, are burned out.

Dominion Fertilizer and Casing Works,

Hamilton, is burned out; insured.

R. J. Mills & Bro, shinglemill, etc., Kinmount, are burned out; no insurance.

A. McKinnen & Sous, hotel, Bruce Mines, totally destroyed by fire; no insurance.

QUEBEC.

L. T. Marceau, physiciau, Napierville, is dead.

John Lecompte, shoes, Montreal, has assigned.

Mrs. Jos. Levesque, milliner, Quebec, has assigned.

Geo. Nault, general store, River Desert, has assigned.

Basile Masse, furniture, St. Hyacinthe, has assigned.

J. B. Quevillon grocer, Napierville, has compromised.

McCormack & Taylor, dye works, Brockville, have assigned.

G. W. Clark, fancy goods, Montreal, stock damaged by fire.

Gadonas & Dupuis, confectioners, Montreal, have dissolved.

J. S. Prince, wholesale furniture. Montreal, is offering compromise.

A. & A. Prefontain, groceries, hardware, etc., Beloeil, have assigned.

J. F. A. Morrison, general store, St. Anne de Bellevue, is burned out.

Guerin & Desmarais, hardware, paints, etc., Montreal, have dissolved.

John Larmouth & Co., manufacturers threshing machines, Montreal, have assigned.

J. W. Brayley, manufacturer drugs, patent medicines, etc., Montreal,--R. E. and J. M. Brayley admitted partners, under style Brayley Sons & Co.

NOVA SCOTIA.

E. J. Ayer, dry goods, Amherst, has sold out.

J. H. Feltmate, general store, Whitehead, is dead.

Alfred Hahn, trader, Lower South, has assigned.

J. G. Morrison, general store, etc., Spring-field, has assigned.

J. H. Harris, physician, Beaver Harbor, has moved to Yarmouth.

C. & G. Wilson & Co., dry goods, Windsor-G. H. Wilson dead.

Drespul & Co., barbers, tobacco, etc., New Glasgow—Max Drespul dead.

Young Bros. & Co., lumber, Parrsboro, have registered co-partnership—B. F., D. P. & C. V. Young.

The following were burned out at Lockport: W. H. Chipman, grocer; Albert Locke, grocer, etc.; Frank Locke, men's furnishings; A. C. Mercer, grocer, etc.; Freeman Payzaut, lobster, packer and tinsmith; Thos. Rawlings, barber; George Redding, general store.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

W. S. Trenholm, trader, Bayfield, has assigned.

J. A. McDonald, drugs, Dalhousie, has assigned.

Bernard Gallagher, butcher, St. John, has assigned.

J. Edgecombe & Sons, carriages, Fredericton— John Edgecombe dead.

J. L. Horton, hats and caps, boots and shoes, St Stephen, has assigned.

G. A. & H. S. Flett, brick manufacturers, Nelson-H. S. Flett dead.

The Holiday Miller. The Holiday number of the Northwestern

Miller is to hand, and as usual it is a gem of artistic workmanship and literary composition. The holiday number of our Minneapolis contemporary has got to be an institution which is looked forward to with the keenest of interest. On THE COMMERCIAL staff it is a frequent inquiry towar this season of the year: "Has the Northwestern Miller holiday number arrived yet?" Each succeeding issue seems to be an improvement upon the previous year, though each number at the time it was issued would seem to mark the height of excellence. To say that the Christmas number for 1890 is a creditable production, would be faint praise. It is so far as we know, this year as well as other years, the finest special issue of any trade journal in the world. Even the advertisements are works of art. The old and new worlds do duty to this number. The literary work is made up of forty or fifty articles, from well known writers of two continents. Some of the leading articles are: "America's Leading Exchanges," with fine engravings. An illustrated article upon "Budapest," known as the great milling centre in Hungary, which produced 5,003,253 barrels of flour in the year This city ranks next to Minneapolis among the great milling centres of the world. There are elegantly illustrated articles upon Glasgow, Leith and Edinburgh, in Scotland, and London and Liverpool in England, etc. There are humorous, descriptive, historical, practical, and in fact all classes of articles, and all worked in so as to be specially inviting to the miller, while throughout, the number is profuse

illustrated with the finest of engravings. The miller who does not send for a copy of this "thing of beauty," misses a treat indeed.

The Argentine Bubble.

In a lengthy review of the financial and business situation, the Banker's Magazine of New York says:—

But London is now, as it has been, the storm centre, from which further trouble is most feared, and the weakness there is chiefly due to its heavy holdings of Argentines, which are believed to be in great part worthless, as everything possible has been bonded, and for every dollar that could be obtained thereon, throughout the Argentine States, not only on State, but provincial, municipal, water, sewer, railroad, street car, and internal improvement bonde, besides stocks of banks, corporations, ranches, and live stock; in fact, every conceiveable kind of property has been sold to European investors for far more than their full value. That the principal of these debts will ever be paid, no one here believes, nor even that the interest can be long kept up under the state of anarchy that has existed there since, and even before the late revolution to depose an administration that had robbed the people until they could endure it no longer. That the debts of these States, and probably of other South American States, which are also held in Europe, will have to be readjusted on a greatly reduced basis is generally expected. Next to Lendon, Berlin, and afterwards Paris, are the holders of these endless issues of bonds, and the two latter have not yet begun to liquidate, as the money stringency there was not so great as to force it, as in London, where it is by no means yet complete. Whether the late decline in these securities will approximate the scaling down of their debts that will have to be made, before the interest on them can be paid, now that no more bonds can be sold to meet interest obligations, is a question that is likely to be answered in the negative by the committee of bondholders appointed to investigate these issues, after the horse is out of the stable. Until, therefore, this debt is readjusted, the menace of a further liquidation and decline in South American securities must impend over the stock and money markets of Europe. While this state of things lasts, it is idle for this country, and especially the holders of its railway securities, to look to Europe for much support for the latter, or any speculative buying of our export staples in advance of her actual wants, much less for the millions of English capital that have been invested the last two years in American industrial enterprises by English syndicates, after being capitalized at two and three times the value, and of what new and improved plants can and will be built by American capital, to compete with them when times get better.'

The Globe, Boissevain, Man., says: "There has been a scarcity of cars for two or three days past, not one empty being available for grain shippers here. The elevators are full, consequently something will have to be done at once to relieve them."

The seven crops of wheat harvested in India since 1883 show an average yield per acre to be 8.73 bushels, little over two-thirds the average yield of United States wheat fields. The entire agricultural outlit of an Indian fa: ner is worth about \$10.

Vancouver in 1890.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

In this letter the writer proposes to deal briefly with the city of Vancouver for the year 1890, leaving the other cities for subsequent mention as your space is limited and all cannot be treated at once.

The past year started out most inauspiciously for Vancouver. For the first few months it suffered the greatest depression experienced in its history, which resulted in some very exaggerated statements being published, much to the injury the of city's credit and business. However, with the opening of spring the tide turned and 1890 has proved to be the most successful year Vanconver over had. One feature was the industrial expansion which occurred. During the year 28 joint stock companies were organized and are all in active operation or being inaugurated, the nominal subscribed capital of which is in the neighborhood of \$20,000,000. The amount subscribed for the previous year was only about \$250,000. This represents an immense increase. The value of the buildings erected, mainly private residences, is considerably over a million dollars, the estimate being based on a detailed valuation. Something like sixteen million dollars represents the capital of monetary institutions established within twelve months, including banking, loan, industrial and insurance companies. The industrial enterprises, set on foot, include a sugar refinery, the British Columbia iron works, a furniture and general wood wo king factory, a fruit canning and pickling factory, a salmon cannery, a ship building and sealing company, several new saw mills, a stone cutting yard, a tannery, a deep sea fishing company, a baking powder concern, a smelting company, several improvement companies for the reclamation of lands, etc., two steamship companies, a candy factory, The Vancouver electric light and tramway company, the Vancouver-Westminster tramway, and the Vancouver-Lulu Island tramway, company, and several mining companies.

The Oriental Trader's Co., and a number of commission houses were established during the year. Four new wholescle tirms started, which together with a number of others who do a partially wholesale and commission business constitute the city as a very considerable supply depot for the provinces. This is a noticeable feature of the year. Another important fact is the regular mail and traffic communication established with Nanaimo by the Union Steamship Company, which has also made connections on the Fraser River as far as Fort Hope. Traffic both ways has developed remarkably. All this considered in connection with the fact that business has been good and labor extensively employed makes the year 1890 for this city the most satisfactory one in its history.

Real estate has been the one quiet feature, compared with previous activity. However, in this respect the movement has been in every sense satisfactory to those who have the good of the city at heart. The investments, many of them heavy, have been of a permanent nature and to a large extent in residence property. Prices have not been inflated or have they reached the productive limit and throughout the city everywhere there is ample room for profitable investment at present prices, and looking ahead five or ten years there are fortunes to be made. Property, of course, does not turn over as rapidly as it used to.

The lumber trade has been good, considering the large increase in output and the fact that the foreign trade has been limited somewhat by the increase of sailing rates and the scarcity of ships, notwithstanding that foreign demand is good. Shipping on the inland and coast nators never was so great as this year and the entire local fleet had constant employment for the greater part of the year. Freight in and out on the C. P. R. and China ships has been very large in volume. Returns from these for the year and the customs are not yet complete, but will when published show that trade has doubled. Business men are looking forward to next year as having in store a still more remarkable expansion.

Coming to the regular weekly report, owing to the Xmas season business has all the characteristics of holiday times. Retailers, of course, did a rattling trade. There seems to be plenty of money all around and collections are easy. The dealers overstocked themselves with poultry and as a consequence there has been a steady decline in prices from 25 cents per pound, which was asked at first, until now they are offered at 124 cents and may go lower before the year is out. Game and fish are very scarce and practically unattainable. Eggs are steady, and imported stock scarce, but fresh eggs are more plentiful. There is little change in the provision market, except that oats and feed are scarce. Fruit is in good demand, especially good apples. Vegetables are not quite so plentiful, but still sufficient for current demands. Current prices are : Meats - Dry salt, 11c; rolled bacon, 111c; breakfast, 13c; hams 14fc. Lard in tins, 12fc; in pails, 114c. Salt salmon is \$9.50 for a barrel of 200 pounds. Sugar Yellow, 6gc; granulated, 7.c. Butter-Good creamory, 25 to 27 and 28c; dairy, good, 22 to 23s. Cheese, 124c. Potatoes, \$25 to \$30 per ton; hay, \$16; oats, \$30; Shorts, \$27; chopped feed, \$35; bran, \$24; wheat, \$35. Flour-Manitoba patents, \$6.25; Manitoba bakers, \$6; Portland, \$5.25; Dayton, \$5.10; 2 Star, \$5.25; rolled oats, \$3.50 per sack; oatmeal, \$3.50; cornmeal, \$3.15.. Onions are \$3 per 100 per 100 pounds for native, and \$6 for Spanish. Eastern eggs, 23 to 26c; ap. ples, 75c to \$2 a box. Japanese oranges, \$1.25 per box; California, from \$5 to \$6 per case. Lemons, California, \$3.50 to \$3.00 per case: Sicily, \$11.50 to \$12.

The High Price of Oats.

The Mont.cal Trade Bulletin of Dec. 26, has the following to say about oats:—

"The present high prices of oats and the chances of their being maintained is becoming quite an interesting question in the grain trade. Some dealers point to large and increasing stocks in store, which are now 131,092 bushels against 31,692 bushels for the corresponding period last year, showing an increase of 102,490 bushels. These same parties claim that oats are being offered more freely from different parts of Ontario, and that as the demand has fallen off to some extent, lower prices will have to be accepted before business can be resumed upon its former dimensions. The larger portion of the stock held here are said to consist of Manitoba black and mixed oats, and the future of the market will greatly depend upon the quantity still to arrive from the Northwest. The large holders on the other hand appear very confident of the future of the market, as they state that the great bulk of the oats in the

country have been marketed, and that all to arrive will be wanted at full prices. About this time last year outs were selling in this market at 30 to 31c per 32 lbs. for Ontario, and 29c for Lower Canada, present values being 15c per bushel higher. At the beginning of last August sales were made here at 50 to 521c per 32 lbs. for Ontario, and at 43 to 49; per 32 lbs. for Lower Canada, and holders expect to see a return of those rates before long. Late sales have transpired in this market at 464 to 47c per 32 lbs. for choice white Outsrio. prices now asked in the country, however they could not be laid down here at above quoted figures. The future of the market will be anxiously watched by both buyers and sellers. The maratime provinces have been taking a number of cargoes of late, and holders state that a considerable quantity will be needed for eastern shipment during the present winter.

British Grain Trade

The Mark Lane Express, in its weekly review of the British grain trade on Dec. 29, says: "There is a limited business in English wheats. Prices are firm for good sorts at an average advance of 6d. Foreign wheats are steady. Beans and barley are 6d, dearer, Oats and corn are slow. At to day's market business was more active, though the holiday fee'ing continues, and no real briskness is expected until next week. English wheats are well held. Foreign was firm for white sorts. and especially Russian and Roumanian, owing to ice closing the port of Odessa and Danube river. Flour was in good request, but large supplies checked the rise. Grinding barley was 3d. dearer. Round corn was 3d. higher. Oats were 3d, lower.

Northwestern Untario.

A. H. Dickens, formerly with the Federal Bank in Winnipeg, and recently manager of Alloway & Champion's branch bank at Rat Portage, has been appointed manager of the new branch of the Commercial Bank to be opened at Fort William. Mr. Dickens was a favorite with the customers of the Federal in Winnipeg, and appoints to have been equally popular at Rat Portage, where he was presented with a pair of curling stones before his departure. Mr. Dickens is well known to The Commercial, and we can recommend him to the business people of the lake port as a man in whom they can have every confidence.

Ju another article, headed "National Sentiment," in this issue of THE COMMERCIAL We thought of mentioning Grip among the papers of a distinctively national tone. However, we decided to reserve Grip for a special notice by itself. This journal is undoubtedly at the front of our national papers, and it is the only one of long standing, being now in its thirty-sixth volume. Grip is a Canadian production, and a good one at that. It compares favorably with any journals of its class in English speaking countries. It is our national humorous publication. It is a fixture, a Canadian institution, and is looked for in Canadian homes from the Pacific to the Atlantic. As an educator in public matters, Grip is unrivaled. It will teach more common horse sense in a few numbers in politics, etc., than can be gleaned from vast masses of ordinary political newspaper literature. Grip is published at Toronto, for 2 per annum.

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Grain, Flour and Feed.

WOOD AND COAL IN CAR LOTS. BRANDON, MAN.

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DIMENSION AND BOARDS DRESSED AND IN THE ROUGH.

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DRUGS AND MEDICINES

Every requisice or the Drug Trade promptly supplied.

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AGENTS Skidegate Oil Works, B.C.; D. Richards Laundry Soaps, Woodstock, untario; Tellier, Bothwell Co., "fontroal, Parisian Washing library cool warehouse with good facilities for handling Butter and Produce in quantities.

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Commercial Travellers Dinner.

The annual dinner of the Northwest Commercial Fravellers' Association was held in the Clarendon Hotel, Winnipeg, on Monday night last, and in every respect was a grand anccess, in fact the greatest success of any dinner of the association since its organization some eight years ago. The chair was filled by M. R. O'Loughlin, the retiring president, and on his right and left across the head of the large dining hall were ranged the Hon. Messrs. Greenway, Martin, McMillan and McLean, Consul Taylor, Revds Dr. Daval, Pentreath Pedley and Crows, Acting Mayor Taylor, General Superintendent Whyte and Robt. Kerr, of the C.P.R., and Major Coutlee. President elect Strang, M. W. Rublee and L C. McIntyre occupied vice chairs, and among those present were the following : -

M. Ronald, R. P. Roblin, A. McMicken, M. A. McLean, A. Wilson, J. Mowat, F. Clayton, D. West, T. J. McBride, A. G. Morgan, J. T. Black, H. Mulholland, W. Williams, T. J. Gilroy, J. Holloway, F. W. Peters, W. W. McMillan, W. Georgeson, G. H. Shaw, J. E. Steen, D. W. Bole, T. Burrows, W. M. Mc-Leod, A. T. Hepworth, R. Kaye, J. E. Dingman, J. T. Griffin, L Arnett, R. Driscoll, M. McManus, W. T Rutherford, J. M. Holliday, D. C. McGregor, R. H. Bryce, J O'Loughlin, J. Lamb, H. Lingelier, W. W Carruthers, W. Boyd, W. P. Riddle, J. A. Robertson, W. Creig, A. Holliday, A. Code, F. W. Diewry, J. G. Morgan, E. F. Hutchings, J. D. Scott. Dr. McDonald, F. Peck, H. Bell, H. S. Wesbrook, J. Carley, J. Mundie, S. S. Cumming, C. Peterson, A. Braddick, L. Masterman, N. D. McDonald, Capt. Whitla, C. N. Bell, F. W. Thompson, W. O. Emery, J. R. Dutton, Mr. Donaldson, H. Brynes, J. C. Campbell, W. G. Agnew, G. Gregg, F. G. Walsh, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Buehler, J. G. Norris, G. Lindsay, F. Neelands, C. F. Church, G. H. Rodgers, E. N. Taafe, Mr. Astley, Mr. Morden, Mr. Guster, Mr. Oulette, D. D. Stewart, W. D. McDougall, H. Fitzgerald, E. Yeomao, H Lethbridge, F. G. Cov, P. Ferguson, M. E. Sym, Joseph Ferguson, W. G. Scott, E. Hunter, C. Wishart, A. A. Mackenzie, T. Scott, Chas. Kelly, G. Scott, Jackson Hanby, F. H. White, P. Paisley, Mr. Rattray, J. A. Girvin, N. R. Preston, C. H. Girdlestone, D. M. Horne, J. Leslie, Geo. Ryen, W. W. Watsen, W. B. Macnamara, R. Scott, S. R. Parsons, C. Cranston, J. N. Hutchinson, J. H. Housser, J. C. Bishop, A. O. Burkart, Robt. Muir, D. L. McIntyre, Robt, Lane, R. L. Richardson, C. B. Deacon, Mr. Armstrong, G. A. Mitchell, P. J. Russell, A. E. Grui dy, W. G. O'Loughlin, J. C. Macdonald.

So far as the menu was concerned, the dinner was inferior to nothing over laid at a Winnipeg banquet, and after a blessing asked by the Rev. Mr. Crews, all present did ample justice to what was before them.

After dinner the toast list was commenced by the chairman proposing "The Queen and Roval Family," which was enthusiastically received and drank to, a brass band playing the national anthem, with all in the room standing.

The toast of "The Lieutenant-Governor and the Legislature" was responded to by the Hon. Mesars. Greenway and Martin, but neither gentlemen made any important reference to political matters.

h The toast of "The Clergy" brought out well himed responses from the Rev. Messis. Pent-

reath, Pedloy, Crews, and the Ray. Dr. Duval.

(*. S. Consul Taylor responded in his usual

U. S. Consul Taylor responded in his usual spirited style to the toast of the President of the United States, and furnished some interesting facts and figures as to the population of northern and southern shores of the St. Lawrence basin.

"The Army, Navy and Volunteers" was responded to by Major Coutles on behalf of the army and volunteers, and Mr. Steen on behalf of the pays.

An important toast, "The Commercial Manufacturing, Grain and Milling Interests," brought out able and patriotic responses from Capt. Whitla and Messrs. Fred. Thompson and R. P. Roblin.

"The Sister Societies," "The Ladies," "The Press" and "Mine Host" were among the remaining toasts, which were proposed from the vice chair.

Frequently during the night Messrs. Kelly and Hanby delighted all present with their singing of songs and duets, and A. Holloway brought forth peals of laughter by his readering of two humorous recitations.

Altogether the dinner was a very enjoyable affair, and the largest gathering the association has yet held.

SKRTCH OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The association was instituted on the 10th of October, 1882, and at a meeting held a few days later the organization was perfected. Joseph Mulholland, who was then engaged in the hardware business, was elected the first president and he retained the office for two years, being succeeded by Thos. Johnston, one of the representatives of G. F. & J. Galt. The other presidents have been Jos. Campbell, W. M. Ronald and M. R. O'Loughlin.

The association has succe ded during its existence in obtaining for the travellers of this country many privileges they did not enjoy and probably never would have enjoyed had there not been organization. Railway and insurance privileges and concessions have been secured and the association has also been incorporated giving it a legal status and providing for the investment of its funds.

Financially the association is in a most flourishing state, possessing a large and constantly increasing surplus and also a valuable library. Its financial condition is proof that its management has been characterized by economy and has been judicious and careful. If the remarkable growth of this institution continues in the future as in the past, and there is every reason to believe that it will, it will soon be one of the most important in the Dominion. It is now the most progressive and a valuable factor in the extension of the various commercial interests of this city.

The officers for 1890 were as follows:-

President—M. R. O'Loughlin, of O'Loughlin Bros. & Co.

Vice President-F. Chilcott, of Thompson, Codville & Co.

Treasurer—Andrew Strang, of A. Strang & Co. Secretary—John M. O'Loughlin, of O'Loughlin Bros. & Co.

Directors.-H. Bruce Gordon, of Thompson, Codville & Co.; L. C. McIntyre, of Turner, Mackeand & Co.; H. Bell, of Farsons, Bell & Co.; T. A. Montgomery, of Stobart, Sons & Co.; M. W. Rublee, of Rublee, Riddell & Co.; J. H. Holman, of Shorey & Co.; J. K. Whinerey, of Stobart, Sons & Co.

The membership list revised up to this month with the firms represented, is as follows:

with the firms represented, is as follows : -W. M. Ronald, Porter & Ronald; M. R. O'Loughlin, J. M O'Loughlin, O Loughlin Bros. O'Loughin, J. M. O'Loughin, O'Loughin Bros. & Co.; T. Nixon jr., Nixon & Co.; F. Fahey, Carscaden, Peck & Co.; L. Labonde; W. T. Heddie, McKenzie, Powis & Co.; J. J. Tomlinson, A. S. Binns, D. D. Stewart, R. J. Whitla, R. J. Whitla & Co.; Geo. Wishart, Wishart Furniture Co., E. L. Thomas, Wm. Roberts & Co. W. J. Taoffe, R. Medgengen, Jac. O'Reicon. Co.; W. J. Taaffe, R. McLennan, Jas. O'Brien & Co.; W. S. Burns, G. F. & J. Galt; J. K. Whinerer, J. Joss, F. W. Stobart, Stobart, Sons & G.; J. B. Curran, J. R. bertson & Co.; Sons & C.; J. B. Curran, J. R. bertson & Co.; J. R. Mil. 11, M. Vineberg & Co.; J. D. Roberts, A. Jardin & Co.; C. F. Church, W. E. Sanford Mfg. Co.; G. W. Erb, Waterom Engine Works; J. Thomson, Hudson Bay Co.; Lachlin MacIntyre, C. R. Di) on, Jas. L. Turner, Tarner, Mackeand & Co.; G. F. Stephens, W. Hargreaves, G. F. Stephens, W. Hargreaves, G. F. Stephens & Co.; Andrew Strang, G. Mitchell, A. Strang & Co.; W. D. Pettigrew, J. Robertson & Co.; H. Mulholland, W. D. Pettigrew & Co.; W. F. Doll, G. M. Boyd, W. F. Doll; T. Ryan; O. E. Collins, Hope & Co.; J. H. Ashdown; A. Ruehler, W. Anderson, Co.; J. H. Ashdown; A. Buehler, W. Anderson, J. H. Ashdown; J. H. Holman, Shorey & Co.; J. W. Driscoll, McClary Mfg. Co; G. Stott, R. S. Norton, H. Insull, Cornell, Spera & Co.; R. S. Norton, H. Insull, Cornell, Spera & Co.; A. L. Johnson, F. Morgan, Ames, Holden & Co.; G. Gregg, O'Loughtun Bros. & Co.; S. A. McGaw, Lake of the Woods Milling Co.; A. Colquhoun; H. E. Sharpe, Imperial Oil Co.; F. Chilcott, H. B. Gordon, Thompson, Codville & Co.; E. F. Hutchings, J. C. Campbell, E. F. Hutchings; W. W. Watson, W. E. Shelden, Watson Mfg. Co.; H. Bell, J. Love, Parsons, Bell & Co.; J. H. Housser, G. Forsyth, Harris, Son & Co.; J. Lamb, Paulin & Co.; W. B. Macnamara, A. Mackenzie, McKenzie & Mills; F. G. Simpson, S. Ogilvie, Ogilvie Milling Co.; J. H. Mactenzie, McKenzie & Mills; F. G. Simpson, S. Ogilvie, Ogilvie Milling Co.; J. H. Smith, Smith & Ferguson; M. Campbell, Campbell Bres.; H. Byrnes; S. Nairn; G. B. Brown, J. C. Gillespie, G. D. Wood, G. D. Wood & Co.; R. Muir, Muir & Co.; D. Hope, Hope & Co.; H. Beliveau, Richard & Co.; J. C. Macnab, D. West, Standard Ol Co.; R. Scott, A. C. McHlesper, & C. G. G. H. Campath, W. A. C. McPherson & Co.; C. H. Cranston, J. Mitchell, Mitchell Daug Co.; H. G. Middleton, Brown & Erb; S. S. Cummins, M. Patnam, Hingston Smith Arms Co.; R. T. Riley, nam, Hingston Smith Ams Co.; R. T. Riley, Sanford Mig. Co.; W. P. Ridde I, M. W. Rublee, Rublee, Riddell & Co.; W. Hill; F. W. Drewry, E. L. Devry; F. E. Fancind, Fairentld & Co.; W. G. O'Lougattin, O'Loughtin Bros. & Co.; T. J. McBride, E. A. Healey, Massey & Co. Ld.; H. S. Westbrook; D. B. McLeod, Patterson & Bro. Co.; J. S. Dunnett, H. S. Westbrook; S. R. Elwards, D. J. Taylor, Patterson Bio. Co.; J. Burridge, E. & C. Garney Co. Ld.; J. Stevens, Stevens & Aylor, Patterson Blo. Co.; J. Burringo, E. & C. Garney Co. Ld.; J. Stevens, Stevens & Burns; J. M. Macdonald, Cochrane & Cassels; J. N. Adams, Robertson, Linton & Co.; W. W. Scrimes, Carruthers & Bock; J. M. Holiday, A. Holiday, J. M. Holiday & Bro.; W. R. Richards, Dawson, Bole & Co.; J. M. Coombs, Carscaden, Peck & Co.; D. W. Marsh, T. C. Power & Bro. P. A. Prince Kan Chir Coombs, Carscaden, Peck & Co.; D. W. Marsh, T. C. Power & Bro.; P. A. Prince, Eau Clair Lumber Co.; W. Johnston, H. R. Cameron, Johnstone & Co.; G. Thexton, Bryce & Co.; Isaac R. Reilly, I. R. Reilly & Co.; J. W. Clark, Singer Sewing Machine Co.; J. E. Menzies, D. Maxwell & Son; F. W. H. Van Allen, Massey & Co. Ld.; Fred. H. Nesbitt, Gowans, Kent & Co. Jumes W. Fullbrook, Adams Bros. A Co.; James W. Fullbrook, Adams Bros.; A. Thos. Blackwood, W. H. Walker, Blackwood Bros.; Jas. C. McLean, McLean Bros.; C. J. Redmond, S. Greenshields, Sons & Co.; Fred. J. Calvert, Haggart Bros.; W. D. Ross, Singer J. Calvert, Haggart Bros.; W. D. Ross, Singer Sewing Machine Co.; James Russell, jr., Snow Drift Baking Powder; C. Burley, Keewatin Lumber Co.; James F. Whiting, Porter & Ronald; F. A. Fairchild & Co.; Kenneth Mc-Kenzie, McKenzie, Powis & Co.; Geo. Parr, D. S. Perrin & Co.; Geo. Clark, Stevens & Burns; J. S. Paterson, Frost & Wood; Alfred Hall, Waterous Engine Co.; R. J. Orris, Phillip & Co.; A. E. Lewis, Miller, Morse & Co.; Thos. Bellamy, Hirris, Son & Co.; D. W. Bole, Dawson, Bole & Co.; Chas. Adams D. W. Bole, Dawson, Bole & Co.; Chas. Adams,

Adams Bros.; Jas. Grigor, Grigor Bros.; W. J. Palmer, E. & C. Gurney & Co.; F. J. Sharpe, Imperial Oil Co.; Jas. T. Black, McClary Manufacturing Co.; A. T. Moore, A. T. Moore & Co.; Horace Wilson, Wilson & Co.; John C. McLean, Caverhill, Kissock & Binmore; A. Patterson, Frost & Wood; Wm Connolly, O'Loughlin Bros. & Co.; Geo. H. Rogers & Co.; W. S. Heflerman, Jas. O'Brien & Co.; Augustus Van Millingen, Royal Soap Co.; Geo. McCullagh, N. W. Aerated Water Co.; Frank J. Peddio, self: D. W. Fleury, Lsiley, Watson & Co.; John Mowat, Royal Soap Co.; Robert Stewart, Carscaden, Peck & Co.; James Macaulay, McKenzio, & Mills; James Mundie, Carscaden, Peck & Co. N. Musgrave, John F. Conroy, Nixon & Co.; Harry W. Lethbridge, Carscaden, Peck & Co.; 21. A. McCormack, Nixon & Co.; T. E. Avison, Thos. Ryan; Geo. McAlister, John Dawson, Dawson, Bole & Co.; Donald Fraser, Jas. O'Brien & Co.; C. Z. Perry, Ferguson & Co.; T. H. Middleton, Thos. Ryan; R. McGowan, J. Y. Griffin & Co.; D. R. Parsons, F. Stearns & Co.; W. A. Tuxford, self; Jas. A. Grnndy, Grundy & Co.; Frank Lee, Frost & Wood; A. E. Spera, Cornell & Spera; J. A. Magee, Standard Oil Co.; W. G. Evens, Geo. D. Wood & Co.; Jas. A. Lindsay, W. D. Pettigrew & Co.; Karl Savade, F. Ossenbrugge; A. A. Andrews, self; H. Morden, Standard Oil Co.; E. S. Hill, N. W. Aerated Water Co.; Donald Paisley, D. Spiers; Fred J. Cox, Wilson & Co.; Wm. B. Dalton, Carscaden, Peck & Co.; Geo. L. Firestine, Standard Oil Co.; A' & Firio, Carscaden, Peck & Co; J. J. Golden, J. & Firio, Carscaden, Peck & Co; J. J. Golden, J. & Firio, Carscaden, Peck & Co; J. J. Golden, J. & T. Bell; James Walsh, F. Ossenbrugge.

Mission City, B. C.

Correspondence of THE COMMERCIAL.

Barker & Boucher, contractors, of Vancouver, have purchased the double corner on Glasgow & Horne Avenues, and will erect a three story hotel building at once.

The Dominion Real Estate & Loan Agency have established a land office at this point.

Trade is good at this point. The hardware stores especially are doing a fine business.

F. C. Tupper has just finished a very pretty residence on Winnipeg street.

There is a movement on hand to erect a fruit cannery and avaporator, which is much needed as the large quantities of fruit has heretofore been shipped to Vancouver for canning purposes.

C. A. Franklin, a Chicago capitalist, is here, and is negotiating for a water frontage with a view for a manufacturing site.

The town site syndicate has introduced a novel mothod by naming the streets after the principal cities in Canada, from Vancouver eastward.

A rancher just in from Stave Lake valley reports a very successful season and the emigration to that point large.—MATSQUI.

Wheat-Raising Russia.

There has been no lack of books during the past few years about Russia, and its political, social and geographical features have all been frequently and well described. Yet a large proportion of our own population know it chiefly as an active competitor with ourselves in supplying the great grain markets of the world; and knowing this do not further trouble themselves to learn to what extent available lands are being utilized or under what conditions the agricultural population of Russia are laboring; whether the produc-

tion of wheat in Russia may be considered to have reached its limit, or whether under altered circumstances it could not be enormously increased they know nothing about. Beyond a knowledge of the parts of Russia from which wheat exports are greatest and which are the chief shipping ports, we have found a decided lack of information in the grain trade of this city, and this we presume may be taken as fairly representative. Under these circumstances a comprehensive report on "Russian Agriculture and Coreal Trade," by Consul-General Way, of St. Peterburg, is of peculiar value.

From this report we learn that the grain producing lands of Russia are in two divisions or zones. The black land zone, the garden spot of Russia, extends right across the Kingdom from Poland far into the province of Siberia. They are lands fertile as the delta of the Nile or the bends of the Mississippi, absolutely devoid of stone and needing no manure nor fertilizer of any description. Year after year enormous crops are raised, yet only onetenth is cultivated. The other division, the arable steppes zone, conforms in its general direction to the black lands; but here fertilizers or manures have beneficial results. It resembles our Western prairies, having no forests. The black lands cover some 190,000 and the arable stoppes 269,000 square miles, giving a grain-producing territory of some 450,000 square miles. From the products of these lands there were exported in 1886 41,-945,000 bushels; in 1887, 62,475,000 bushels, and 1888, 70,525,000 bushels of wheat; and yet in one division alone nine-tenths of the soil lay untilled and unproductive. With such figures as these before us, it becomes of the utmost importance to discover the cause of the restricted cultivation, and if remediable, how long it may be before such steps are taken as will bring out fuller results.

One great drawback at present is the want of means of transportation. Russia has no railroad system in the true meaning of the word. Railroads there are constructed almost entirely for military purposes. If their directions fall in with commercial requirements. well and good; if not, so much the worse for the communities to whom they are not available. That such a condition of things can exist much longer is well nigh impossible. The imperative needs of imperial Russia itself must force on some comprehensive scheme for developing national wealth, and an extended railway system, if not possible from inward resources, will assuredly be permitted to foreign capital. It may be objected that there are no signs of this, and that if such imperative need existed it would have forced such results before now. To argue this way is to ignore all Russia has done within a comparatively recent period, from its emancipation of the serf down to the present time; to ignore also the course of events, which must within the next two or three years force the question of "rural economics" of the country upon the Government, whether it is prepared to treat them or not.

These "economics," when examined, disclose other reasons for so large a proportion of the lend lying idle. With the most fertile soil and cheapest labor, grain raising in Russia is not profitable to the peasant proprietor, who is the great producer of the country. A statement issued by the Statistical Department of

the Ministry of Domains (Russia) in April is the first official recognition of the condition of the agricultural population. The following details are taken from it: The peasant proprictor has his land purchased from the Bank Foncier, the representative of the Government, on a system of yearly payments. He has then to make, firstly, his annual payment for his land; secondly, his municipal and imperial taxes, yearly growing more burdensome, have to be paid; and, thirdly, he has to borrow money in most instances to buy seed, farming implements and food for his family until his crop matures-this to be repaid with from 20 to 50 per cent. interest The harvest ended, the peasant added. desires to take his grain to market, but can not travel without an official permit. This is delayed week after week by the local police acting in collusion with the factor. As a result, local stations or markets are glutted with wheat; then the factor steps in and offers to buy all the grain in sight for about 25 per cent. below its market value. The poor farmer, despairing of reaching the larger market he was aiming at, is compelled to assent. Coming on top of the heavy expeases in raising the wheat, this loss usually makes him bankrupt. But he has no other resource than agriculture, and, with yearly growing difficulties, must tread the same path again on the smallest scale, or as hired laborer. This system prevails over the whole country, and in the opinion of our Consul, would, but for the abnormal demand for Russian wheat and exceptionally good prices prevailing during the past two years (caused almost entirely by the action of American speculators putting up wheat here to a prohibitive export limit) have brought matters to a crisis before now. Under any circumstances short of drastic reform he does not see how it can be long averted.

The position is full of interest to us. Under the depressing artificial conditions shown above, Russia has proved capable of making good what we withheld from our usual foreign markets. What will she be capable of doing when events force her, as they must soon do, to bend her energies to cultivate idle lands and set her agricultural population free from those who prey so heavily upon it? Our Consul says that under favorable conditions Russia could supply the whole world with wheat. It is enough for us, that a very slight change for the better might cause such an increased production as would materially affect the prospects of our own agricultural interests.-New York Commercial Bulletin.

This seems to be an era for establishing what we may call a national press. Canada has long been well supplied with newspapers, professional, religious, trade, mechanical, and agricultural journals, etc. But it is only of late that a press of a distinctively national type has appeared. Another such journal is now added to the list. Volum one. No. 1 of Canada, "a journal of religion, patriotism, science and literature," reached our table last week. It is published at Benton, N.B., at the rate of 50 conts per year. The literary matter of the number us before is of a high order. With its motto "For God and Canada," the new journal should be able to do effective work. There is yet one thing which Canada is in need of in the line of national literature. This is a good magazine,



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	ald, Kamloops, Vancouver, New	
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cept Thur.	Marie, North Bay, Toronto, Lon-	copt Wec
•	don, Detroit, Niagara Falls, Ot-	•
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	ney and Deloraine.	
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	land and Glenboro.	40.05
7 50	.Stony Mountain and Stonewall	12 35
b 18 00	Kildonan, Parkdale, Lower Fort	10 35
	Garry and West Selkirk.	04 00
c 700	Niverville, Otterburne, Dominion City and Emerson.	21 30

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D. McNICOLL, Gen. Pass. Agt., MONTREAL

W. WHYTE,

Gen. Sup't, WINNIPEG. ROBT. KERR, Gen. Pass. Agt., MINNIPEG

Raw Furs.

The fur market at Mont cal is reported as follows by the II raid of that place: "The arrivals continue to increase and the general tone of the market is satisfactory with the exception of beaver, which is still ruling too high in the country and the margin of profit anticipated by dealers is not realized, if, indeed, lesses are not being made. All other lines are firm at last week's quotations. The following prices are for average prime skins. Extra size or quality are worth more; damaged or unprime skins are proportionately lower: Beaver, per pound, \$4 to \$4.50; bear, per skin, \$10 to \$15; bear, cub, \$5 to \$8; fisher, \$3.50 to \$5; fox, red, \$1 to \$1 25; fox, cross, \$2.50 to \$5; lynx, \$1.50 to \$2.50; marten, 75c to 90e; mink, \$1.50 to \$1.75; muskrat, 12e to 15e; otter, \$8 to \$10: raccoon, 50c to 60c; skunk, 50c to \$1.

Immigration to the United States.

As nearly as can be ascertained 15,546,757 immigrants came to the United States between the foundation of the government in 1789 and the end of the fiscal year 1889 90, June 30, last. It is estimated that 250,000 arrived prior to 1820. From 1820 to 1855, inclusive, the alien passengers arriving numbered 4,212 624 of whom 98 per cent., or 4,128,372, are supposed to have been immigrants. Records have been kept of immigrants apart from other passengers since 1856, and the reported total is 11,168,385. Of late years, however, no count has been made of immigrants from British North America and Mexico, and as many more than were formerly reported came in through or from Canada, the

aggregate for the century has doubtless been a good deal in excess of the 15,500,000 and upward shown by the official returns. The years of heaviest immigration were those from 1880 to 1884, and the largest single year 1891, with a total of 669,431 .- Bradstreet's.

Tre Convercial has probably the most varied exchange list of any journal published in the West. As it is the only journal of the kind in Western Canada, it is sought for in exchange by publications not only throughout Canada and the United States, but from Great Britain, the British Colonies, and many foreign countries. Many publications in foreign languages reach this office, and the address upon these is sometimes amusing. The most common mistake is to make the address: "Winnipeg, U S. A." Even British exchanges come addressed in this way. Sometimes Ontario is worked in, such as : "Winnipeg, Manitoba, Ontario." But they reach their destinatio just the same.

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WM. SCOTT. Provincial Manager, Winnipeg AGENTS WANTED IN UNREPRESENTED DISTRICTS.

The Canadian Gazette, of London, England, on Dec. 11, says. "The experiment of shipping Canadian eggs to British markets was brought to a close on Tuesday by the arrival at Liverpool of the Lake Huron with 100 cases, i each containing 1,400 eggs. Since the McKinley tariff came into operation, no less than 1,000 cases, containing in all 1,400,000 eggs, have reached this country from Canada, and dealers who have handled the consignments say that were the McKinley law to be repealed -as it is not, of course, likely to be, at all events for some time to come-the Canadian egg merchants have so far already succeeded in meeting British requirements as to place the trade upon a sound and permanent footing. At the same time, we need hardly remind Canadian shippers that there is plenty of scope for the exercise of caution and enterprise.'

an becarned at our NAV line of work, apidily and honorably, to those of lither sex, young or old, and in their vent localities, wherever they live. Any or can do the work. hasy to learn, e start you. No fish, You can devote your time to the work. It is is an example of the sex of the s and more after a little experience. We can furnish you the em-ployment and teach you FIEE. No space to explain here Full information FIEE. THUE & CO., AUGUSTA, HAISE.



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Northern Pacific And Manitoba Railway.

TIME CARD.

To take effect at 6 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 7, 1890. Central or 90th Meridian Time.)

North Bound	STATIONS.	South Bound				
Freight. No 119. 3rd Class. Passenger. No 117. 1st Class. Miles from	Central Standard Tune.	Passenger No. 118. st Class. reight. No. 120. 3rd Class.				
11.20a 4 10p		·				
11.05a 4 02p 3.0 10.45a 3 f0p 9.3	Portage Junction	11.37a 3.18a 11.61a 3.47a				
9 55a 3 20r 23.6 9 40a 3 12p 27.4 9 20a 3.00p 32.6	Union Point	12.30p 6.15a 12.41p 5.45a				
8 55a 2 43pi40. 8 30a 2 50pi46 6 7 55a 2 10pi56. 7 20a 1 45pi65.	St. Jean Letellier	12.57p 6 25a 1.12p 6 57a 1.30p 7.55a 1.50p 8.50a				
6 331 1 55p (68.) 9 424 161 5.30a 256	Pembina Grand Forks Winnipeg Junction	2.05p 9.05a 5.50p 9.55p				
8 00pi481	D St. Paul A	2.06a 7.00a 7.05a				
8.35p:470 9.30p; Eastward,	Chicago	6.35a 11.15a Westward.				
No. 4. Atlantic Atlantic Atlantic 'Afl.	Main Line. Northern Paciflo Raliway.	No. 1. Pacific Mail. No. 8. Pucific Expres				
9.45a 287 2.05a 487 1.43p /86	Bismarck	9.10p 9.27a 8 64T				
4 05a 1049 10.55p 1172 6.35a 1554 12.45a 1699	Helena	8.00a 1.60p 5.40a 11.25a				
2.50p 1958	via Cascade div.) Portland	6 30a				
7.00a 2080	(via Pacific div.) GE LA PRAIRIE BRANC	CH.				

No. 147. 2nd Cl'a.	Miles from Winnig	STATIONS.	Mixed. No. 149. 2nd Ci's.
11.5¢a	0	Winnipeg	4 30p
11.37a	0 3	Portage Junction	4 42p
11.10a	11	St. Charles	5.10p
11 032	13	Headingly	5.18p
10.40a	21	White Plains	
10.15a	29	Gravel Pit	6.060
9 55a	35	Eustaco	6.27p
9.332	42	Oakville	6.4Sp
9.05a	10	Assiniboine Bridge	7 15p
8 50a	55	Portage la Prairie	7.30p

MORRIS-BRANDON BRANCH.

i	Freight No. 140 Srdt las	No. 133.	Nutes from Morris	STATIONS.	Pass Er No. 137 1st Class Freight No. 130 3rdClass
	0.262	12.50)			2.50p 9.00a
	5.150	12 271	10 0	Lowe's	3 12p 9.45a
		12.01p		Myrtle	3.37p 10.32a
		11 612		Roland.	
		11.3 a		Rosebank	4.05p 11.25a
	3.280	11.202	33 6	Miami t	4 19p 12.05p
		11,00a		Decrwood	4.40p 12.55p
		10.48a			4 51pl 1.20p
		10 30a		Semerset	5.0 p 1.57p
		10.10a		Swan Lake	5 23p 2 25p
	21 001			Indian Springs	5.35p 2.50p
		9 53a		Maricapolis	5 45p 3.14p
		9.322		Greenway	6 00p 3.43p
	11.45a			Balder	6 15p 4.12p 6 35p 4 55p
	11.05a 10.30a			Belmont	6.52p 1.28p
		8.25a		Wawancsa t	7.15p d 15p
		S 02a		Rounthwait	7 38p 7 00p
		7.41a			7.57p: 7.37p
				Brandon	8 15p 8 15p

tMcals.

Nos. 117 and 118 run daily. Nos. 119 and 120 will run daily except Sunday. Nos. 147 and 148 run daily except Sunday. Nos. 140 and 137 will run Mondaya, Wednesdays and

Nor. 138 and 139 will run Tuesdays, Thursdays & Sate. Pullman Palace Sleeping Cars and Dining Cars on L 117 and 118.

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Manitoba and Northwestern Ry.

TIME CARD

Taking Effect Monday, June 16th, 1890.

PASS Tuesday Thursday and Saturday	Miles from Winni- peg.	STATIONS.	Pass Monday Wednesdy and Fridays
LRAVE 11 00 ar 12 60 do 13 00 do 13 00 do 14 45 15 50 16 45	0 56 91 117 135	Winnipeg Portage la Prairie Gladstode Neepswa Minnedosa Rapid City	ARRIVN 17 20 15 39 de 15 20 ar 13 55 12 28 11 45
18 24 19 45 20 25 21 65 } ar 21 05	171 104 211	Shoal Lake t Birtle Thr. Binscarth A Russell B	9 57 8 55 de 7 55 7 15 de
21 32 } 23 02 } 22 30 } 24 00 } ARRIVE	236 262	Thr. c Langenburg D Sat. c Saltcoats D	6 48 5 50 de LEAVE

† Meals.

A Thursdays and Saturdays. B Wednesdays. c Thursdays and Saturdays. D Mondays and Fridays.

If any passengers for stations between Winnipeg and Portage la Prairio, train will stop to let off, and when flagged to take on passengers.

W. R. BAKER, Gen. super't.

A. M'DONALD, Asst.-Gen. Pass'ge Agent.

N. W. C. & N. Co's Railway TIME TABLE.

-	+ Meals.	
4 30 Ar	Dunmore	De 18 45
3 24	Seven Persons	19 48
2 35	Winrifred	20 37
1 49	Cherry Coulce	
1 10	f Grassy Lake	22 00
24 25	Purple Springs	29 48
	Woodpecker	
21 55 Do	Lethbridge	
No. 1 Daily.		No. 2 Daily.
GOING RAST.	STATIONS.	COING WEST.
Read Down.		Read Up.

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CHAS. S. FEE, G. P. and T. Agent, St. Paul

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