

A Word of Warning to the Farmers of Hope Station and Vicinity.

Farmers as a class have a mistrust of many elevators. We do not claim that all managers of elevators are dishonest, but often, and very frequently we are compelled to think that some of them will bear careful watching. For instance, a manager of one of the elevators at Hope, by his own admissions to a reliable citizen of Cass county, is guilty of damnable villainy that should compel the public to furnish him with a suit of striped clothes for a term of years. By his own admission he took an auger in the dark hours of night and bored a hole through the bottom of a car standing on the railroad track at Hope, said car being loaded with wheat. When the farmer received returns from said car it was found to be 80 bushels short of the amount placed in the car for shipment. In another instance said elevator manager, by his own admission, took a pinch bar and stove a hole through the inside door of two cars loaded with wheat at the station heretofore mentioned; he also admitted pouring kerosene oil into a car of wheat, whereby said car of wheat was lowered a number of grades by said wheat being shipped in an oil car; and by his own admission mixed a large amount of low grade wheat with a lot of No. 1 hard that was put through the elevator as special bin wheat by two farmers near Hope. One of said farmers has in his possession a certificate of inspection made by the state inspector of Minnesota, where one car loaded with wheat from said special bin was graded by him as No. 1 hard. When the car of wheat was sent to the mill to be unloaded the miller discovered a large amount of frosted wheat in said car, and the miller called for a re-inspection, and upon re-inspection by said state inspector of Minnesota, said car of wheat was changed from No. 1 hard to No. 3, there being at the time 20 cents per bushel difference in the market at Minneapolis between No. 1 hard and No. 3. When the attention of one of the owners of the elevator was called to said fact the manager was ordered to pay said farmer the price of No. 1 hard wheat at Hope at that time for said car. Was not this an admission on the part of the elevator manager, or are the farmers of Steele county in the habit of getting the price of hard wheat for No. 3? Now the admission was not only made to a citizen of Cass county, but also to a reliable citizen of Hope.

Most Respt'y,

J. A. WHITE.

Hope, Steele Co., Aug. 3, 1889.

P. S. Said transaction all took place in the fall of 1888.

C. V. RUSS.