

# The Commercial

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

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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 Saskatchewan. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.*

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 25, 1889.

WALSH & Co., auctioneers, Winnipeg, are giving up business.

J. D. MCKENZIE, of the Brunswick hotel, Minnedosa, Man., is dead.

MR. SLATER has leased the hotel at Reaburn, Man., lately kept by Keeling.

W. GALLOWAY, general store, Gladstone, contemplates going out of business.

THE Icelandic population of Canada is about 5,750, of whom 4,900 are in Manitoba.

LAWRENCE McEWEN, of Winnipeg, will open a jewelry store at Lethbridge, Alberta.

THE *Mining World*, is the name of a new journal proposed to be started at Port Arthur.

THE contract for the new Bank of Montreal building at Calgary, to cost \$20,000, has been let.

A NEW weekly paper, the *Critic*, has made its appearance at Prince Albert, Saskatchewan Territory.

LAFFERTY & MOORE have opened a private bank at Regina, Assa., with W. R. Robertson, as manager.

BLYTH & GEMMELL, tanners, of Selkirk, Man., despatched a shipment of leather to Ontario last week.

DAVID KERR, farmer, near Carberry, Man., has bought out the carriage shop of Wm. McMillan, of Carberry.

THE mildness of this winter in the west will be seen from the following item, from the Lethbridge, Alberta, *News* of Feb. 14th:—The river at this place is now fordable, the only ice being a little on the edges.

A FIRE in the boiler room of the Grand Union hotel, Winnipeg, last week, did damage to the extent of a few hundred dollars.

THE Norfolk House, Winnipeg, has been leased by P. O'Connor, and the name has been changed to the Nicolet House.

CHAS. H. STRUTT & Co., dry goods, Port Arthur, have closed business at that place, and are moving the stock to British Columbia.

S. RIPSTEIN, general dealer, Deloraine, Man., has closed up his business at that place and shipped the balance of his stock to Winnipeg.

MITCHELL & BUCKNAL, of the Millwood flour mill, have opened a flour and feed store at Russell village, Man., with J. J. Moon in charge.

SIR CHARLES TUPPER was elected a director of the Bank of British Columbia, at a meeting held in London, England, on Wednesday last.

G. P. PHILLIPS, machinist, of West Selkirk, is shipping the machinery and tools of his machine shop to Red Portage, where he intends to pursue his business in future.

T. W. GOULDING, has received the appointment of manager at Winnipeg for the Great Northwestern Telegraph company, the position recently vacated by Mr. McDougall.

PORT ARTHUR is seeking for provincial legislation to empower the corporation to pass by-laws to exempt from municipal taxes the property of any railway company within the town.

APPLICATION will be made for the issue of supplementary letters patent to the Manitoba Free Press Company, increasing the capital stock of that company to \$133,500 by adding to the original capital 335 shares of \$100 each.

THE Port Arthur *Sentinel* plant has been moved into more commodious and convenient premises, which is a sign of prosperity. The *Sentinel* is a very creditable paper for a town of the size of Port Arthur, and it is deserving of a generous support.

WELLS & DAWSON, hardware, Port Arthur, have dissolved partnership. J. L. Wells, who carries on business in the same line at Winnipeg, will continue the Port Arthur business also. A. Dawson will open a hardware store at Sault Ste Marie.

THE bridges along the N. W. C. & N. Co's railway (Galt road) are being reconstructed and widened to standard gauge width. It seems from this that the road, which is a narrow gauge one, will certainly be widened to the standard width, as has been recently reported.

THE Dominion Government is evidently determined to provide first-class harbor accommodation at our Lake Superior ports. The estimates contain \$133,000 for harbor improvements at Port Arthur and Fort William. A large grant has also been made for a new post office at Port Arthur.

Two new papers are talked of for Winnipeg. One, if started, will be known as *the Mirror*, and will be a weekly society and gossip paper. The other will be known as *The Western Traveller*. It will be published daily, principally for gratuitous distribution on the trains, and will be mainly an advertising medium. C. W. Handscomb, of the *Call*, will publish the *Mirror*, and the *Traveller* will be published by G. H. Ham, F. A. Row and G. H. Campbell.

THE stock of W. Uglow, stationery and fancy goods, Winnipeg, was badly damaged by fire last week. Loss about \$4,000; fully insured.

M. C. KELLY, fruits, Winnipeg, had his furniture in his residence above the store and also his stock, damaged by fire to the extent of about \$300, last week. Covered by insurance.

THE Dominion Government has decided not to adopt the proposed reduction in letter postage rates to two cents at present. It is proposed, however, to increase the maximum weight for which a letter may be sent for three cents, from one half ounce to one ounce. A bill will be introduced to this effect during the present session of Parliament.

PAMPHLETS are the order of the day. The latest one is issued by that enterprising body, the Regina board of trade. It is entitled: "A Few Facts Respecting the Regina District, in the Great Grain Growing and Stock Raising Province of Assiniboia." The pamphlet contains a large amount of information concerning the resources, climate and advantages of the district, together with the actual experience of settlers. A new map of Assiniboia accompanies the pamphlet.

At a recent meeting of the Port Arthur board of trade, seven new members were recommended to the board for election. The council recommended that \$150 be granted J. A. Carman, for his proposed book, "Port Arthur Illustrated," on condition that the town council give \$300. Dobie gave notice that at the next meeting of the council he would move that as soon as the membership number 75, an additional entrance fee, to be fixed by the council, be charged joining members, and that in case where more than one member of a firm belongs to the board the fee for the second be \$7 and for the third \$5.

A TELEGRAM from Ottawa on Wednesday says: The railway committee met this morning and passed the Alberta Railway and Coal company's bill. This is promoted by Sir Alexander Galt, who has Sir Roderick Cameron associated with him. The line runs from Lethbridge to the boundary, sixty miles; thence through Montana to Helena. Sir Alexander Galt says the company has all the powers to build in Montana. The capital had been arranged for and the work would commence in May. The company already has contracts for two hundred tons of coal, to be sent to Montana. The gauge on the Galt road from Lethbridge to Dunmore will be changed, and the two lines will work together.

THE Port Arthur *Sentinel* says:—Money matters are stringent in town at the present time. There are several facts to each of which some portion of the said stringency can be traced. First the C. P. R. is not spending nearly so much money here as last winter. The small grain crop is accountable for some of that but the light fall of snow has made a great difference in the number of hands employed. Perhaps the greatest cause for the stringency is the fact that about \$20,000 has been withdrawn from circulation by the collection of that amount of taxes. This coming at a dull time of the year, and when such a large amount of commercial paper had to be met, has greatly aggravated what at the best would have been a tight time.