

MINNEDOSA AND DISTRICT.

The Minnedosa district is well known to be one of the finest mixed farming sections in Manitoba. The Minnedosa Tribune recently published an illustrated number, giving views of the town and district. Some of these views,

cumbers, squash or melons, they will require more attention. But her potatoes will excel anything grown outside of this western Canada. Of the settlers who came to this district in the early days, many of whom who had never done a day's work on a farm



Minnedosa, Man., 1885.

through the kindness of that journal, we are permitted to reproduce. Following is an article from the Minnedosa Tribune which gives some information about the district:

"Minnedosa is situated in the centre of a district which is peculiarly fitted for farming; that is to say farming in all its branches, not in specialties. The soil generally, is a heavy loam, which when properly worked, yields heavy crops. There is a considerable area in woods, much of it being in detached groves of poplar and balsam of Gilead, with a good deal of spruce in the north. Natural grasses, which make good hay grow in abundance. Water of good quality, is plentiful and convenient, there being numerous streams and in case of having to dig, you seldom have to go far below the surface. To the farmer seeking a home, it offers advantages not to be found in many other parts of the province. It is all very well for a man to say, "I want a good farm. One that I can plow every foot of." But he soon finds that even such a farm as that has its disadvantages. Looking at them from an Ontario standpoint every farm here is a good one, as there is very little alkali; because they seem to have been made to suit all sorts and conditions, and men of every taste. You can have them hilly or rolling, or you can have them flat, you can have them wooded or without wood, you can have them with hay or without hay, you can have them with water or without water, and you can have them stony or without a stone to be seen. Practically every foot of land is fit for cultivation, and every foot that is cultivated will yield good return, much better for the labor expended, than can be had in the eastern provinces. The woods afford the cattle shelter from the storms of winter, so that with the day cold, you never see an animal here standing at the side of a barn shivering as if it would shake its hair off. The woods furnish the farmer with fuel, fence posts, and building material, and if he so desires he can find stone enough to build a house or a foundation for a barn. He has not to wait a couple of seasons till he seeds down a bit of land to grass so that he may have hay. The grass is already growing, and all he has to do is cut, cure and carefully rake it up. Post offices, schools and churches are quite convenient, as well as telegraph and telephone offices and railroads, and the market for grain will compare favorably with that of other towns in the province. There is a good flour mill in town, as well as a saw mill and sash factory. The farmer's wife, too, can get more for her eggs and poultry, if she dresses the latter properly, than she could in the east, and in the garden, which she usually attends herself, she will raise with no great trouble cabbages, cauliflowers, lettuce, radishes, beets, turnips, potatoes and pot herbs that will be a delight. Of course if she desires to raise tomatoes, cu-

in their lives, there is hardly one that is not now in comfortable circumstances, and the majority of them are fairly independent, being possessed of more of this world's goods, with much



Minnedosa, Man., in 1890.

less labor than they could be in the eastern provinces in double the time."

About Alberta Cattle.

Mr. Fred Stimson, manager of the Northwest Cattle Co., was in Montreal this week. To the Gazette he made some very satisfactory statements regarding the condition of affairs in the territory of Alberta. Last winter was so favorable that the cattle came out in a very fine condition, and in fact there was good green grass in the month of April. Shipping to England began in July, which was fully one month earlier than ever before. No less than 10,000 head were shipped during the month of July, while 20,000 more went out the two following months. "What did the cattle that were sent to England bring?" "The best steers," Mr. Stimson replied, "brought \$45, while \$35 was the price for spayed heifers." The weight of the steers alive would average 1,500 lbs. Besides these shipments Alberta probably sent 50,000 head to British Columbia and the Klondike the quality of cattle going to the Yukon being of the very best. Referring to this trade, Mr. Stimson said that while Messrs Gordon & Ironsides did all the export business, the western trade was absolutely in the hands of Mr. Pat Burns. He has large abattoirs at Calgary, where he has room for 2,000 head of cattle, 1,000 hogs and 25,000 sheep. During the year 15,000 stockers have been brought into Alberta from Manitoba and Ontario, and

there are probably as many as 200,000 head now wintering in the territory. Mr. Burns is feeding about 10,000 beef cattle, out of which he takes a monthly draft of about seven hundred for his trade.

"What about the horse trade in Alberta?" Mr. Stimson was asked.

"The horse trade has been good this year. All the horses for the second contingent and the Strathcona's were taken from Alberta and as they were amongst the best sent to South Africa we find it a little surprising that the authorities did not come to us for remnants, as there were a large number of horses in the country suitable for this purpose."

Speaking of the condition of things generally, Mr. Stimson said the country was in a prosperous condition. Large numbers of immigrants from the United States are coming into Northern Alberta, which is particularly well adapted to stock raising and mixed farming. These settlers are a very superior class of people, having a good deal of money, many being Canadians who left the Dominion years ago, and who are now returning to settle down in the Northwest.

Factories Amalgamate.

Toronto, Jan. 2.—Practically all the furniture factories in Ontario have been amalgamated into one concern to be known as the Canada Furniture Manufacturers, Limited, with a capital of three million dollars, two millions of which are preferred stock carrying 7 per cent cumulative dividend. The charter of the new company was taken out sometime ago under a somewhat different name, and considerable stock sold then, English capitalists became interested and finally put up one-third of the capital required, on condition that an English

however, permanently. Small factories at Kincardine and Chesley are almost the only concerns in Ontario not included. Geo. A. Cox is the leading Canadian financier interested. The concern will rigorously push export trade.

Seven Years' Progress.

Rossland, Jan. 1.—The output of the camp for the year just ended amounted to 221,902 tons approximately, which had a value estimated at \$3,500,000. To show what this means an abstract of values since the camp began to ship is given:—

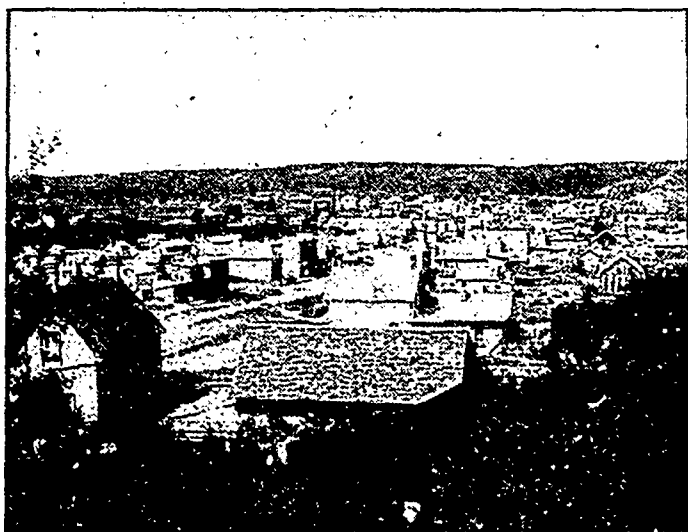
Year.	Tons.	Value.
1891	1,856	\$ 75,000
1895	19,633	703,350
1896	38,075	1,233,360
1897	68,501	2,007,250
1898	111,282	2,178,811
1899	180,300	3,211,400
1900	221,902	3,500,000

Total611,912 \$3,210,729
It will be seen that whereas the shipments have increased in 1900, 22 per cent, over the output of the previous year, the value of the ore extracted has not risen in the same proportion. This is because of the great decrease in the freight and treatment rate which has taken place. Custom smelting is now done as low as \$4.50 per ton, including the cost of transportation to the smelter. This has led to the sending of ore to the smelter at a profit which formerly could not be done owing to the higher cost of transportation and reduction. The placing of larger plants and improved machinery has cut down the cost of mining. These two causes have led the shipping of ore of a comparatively low grade to the smelter. These two causes, while they have increased the tonnage, have cut down the average value per ton. Still the output is most satisfactory.

An important labor dispute came to a head on Monday between the miners employed in the coal mines of Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, and their employers and culminated in a general strike, which went into force on New Year's day. The dispute is over a question of wages and involves 5,000 men. It is said that the strike will tie-up the railways connecting with the mines and also the works of the Nova Scotia Steel Company at Ferrisburgh. Coal stocks throughout Nova Scotia and Newfoundland are very light and should the strike spread there will probably be a famine.

A dispatch from Tacoma, Washington, says the British ship Glenloch, now in the harbor, is to establish a precedent in the exportation of Pacific coast wheat. She is to load with 221,160 bushels in sacks and will sail for Liverpool via the Suez Canal, being the first steam vessel to go from Tacoma to Europe over that route with wheat. There is a difference in favor of the Cape Horn route of 1,500 miles, but the price of fuel at the coaling ports in South America is so much higher that it is believed it will be economy to steam the additional 1,500 miles. The Glenloch will coal in Japan and at Port Said, which it expects to reach in sixty-five days or less.

charter be taken out. Canadians objected to an English charter, and won their point mainly, however, because the recent increase in income tax in England threatened to become a severe burden on industry. The formal transfer of factories, 19 in number, will be made on Monday, and all are to be temporarily closed down, none,



Minnedosa, Man.