

STONEWALL.

The building for the planing factory is finished, and as the machinery has been shipped from Ontario more than a week, we may expect to see it running in a very short time.

G. M. Weberg has his photograph gallery in complete order now, and besides the work which he has been called upon to do in the studio, he has taken a number of views of the town.

Geo. Dark, butcher, has gone out of business, the trouble being a difficulty in collecting outstanding accounts. W. Lutz, formerly of Walton & Lutz, has taken Dark's old stand and will continue in the same line.

Messrs. Carman & Bros., of this town intend opening a branch store in Balmoral. They are busy getting the lumber on the ground now and will rush the building up immediately. W. T. Green has the contract.

Work at the Bowles quarries has been suspended for the past few days, but will probably begin again next week, when operations will be pushed more vigorously than ever, as we believe there is a large quantity of stone to go west.

Mr. Graham, agent for the Massey Manufacturing Co., has a Toronto cord binder on exhibition in his warehouse. It is certainly a most complete machine. He has placed quite a number of orders and the machine bids fair to be favorite.

The lime business is looking up a little. A. H. Clark & Co. have shipped several car loads lately, and have made arrangements to furnish parties in Brandon who, it is supposed will use large quantities during the season.

The building committee of the Presbyterian Church, having decided to put up a frame building instead of stone, as originally intended, advertised for tenders some time ago, which were opened on Friday. It is possible that W. T. Green will get the contract.

BRANDON.

Miss A. M. Elliot, milliner, has also gone under, liabilities small.

Thos. Barton, hotelkeeper, is being assisted to entertain his guests by the sheriff.

Sword & Moor have their planing mill running in full blast after building a large addition this spring.

Messrs. Alexander, Kelley & Sutherland are about to enlarge their grist mill, and also to erect an oatmeal mill.

The prospects of a large crop and high prices for wheat are good; already 90c. has been offered for wheat to be delivered as soon as harvested.

A. E. Gavin, general storekeeper, has made an assignment. This has been expected for some time as the natural outcome of Winter & O'Neil's double shuffle.

Owen Carson, general storekeeper, has made an assignment in favor of Bannatyne & Co., Winnipeg. Too much property and too much stock having placed him in a tight place. There will be no loss as his assets are several thousand dollars more than his liabilities.

Business has been good this week, there hav-

ing been a good local trade since seeding time. There has been a better demand for oxen, and the prices have again advanced; horses are somewhat slow of sale just now, but the depression is only temporary; cows bring from \$60 to \$80. There is a large demand.

The Langhain Hotel, (Brandon Club), has been entirely refitted and furnished by Mr. Millard F. Thompson, late of the Gateway House, Emerson. The Langhain is strictly first-class and merits its share of patronage from the travelling public. The hotel is to be formally opened on the 14th with a ball and supper.

BROADVIEW.

A travelling correspondent of THE COMMERCIAL gives the following notes on the progress of the above place:

The people here no longer rely upon the canvas for home and shelter. The town is steadily growing and being substantially built up. Broadview has an advantage over some other towns, being the terminus of the 2nd Division west. The round-house has twelve stalls. In the town are three general stores, one hardware store, one tin shop, one shoemaker, one stationer, one lawyer, one watchmaker and jeweller, one billiard hall, and two hotels. Mr. A. G. Thorburn is just moving his stock of hardware, stoves and tinware into his new store, 24 x 52, situated south of the C. P. R. track. In fact the most of the town is south on account of the large Indian Reserve immediately north. It is sincerely hoped by all interested that the Government will soon remove the obstacle which proves so detrimental to the prosperity of the town. As soon as this Reserve is thrown open to settlement the town will have a double advantage compared with its present. Messrs. Clementson & Painter are erecting a large two story frame building, 24 x 60, for general store and post office. There is abundance of wood four miles south. The crops look well. The warm showers of the last few days have given them a good start, and the farmers look forward to a good harvest. The educational facilities keep pace with the town. Two young ladies—Misses Petchell—have opened a private school. There is also a public school-house erected, in which service is held every Sabbath by ministers of different denominations.

Crop Prospects.

The past week has been one that has raised the hopes of all in the North west who are interested in the present growing crop. In the Red River valley showers have been general, and growth has been rapid. Wheat fields look now more like grassy lawns, so thick is the stand, and so well is the ground covered. In the early part of the week a few sultry days made farmers wish for rain, and the wish was granted on Thursday and Friday by general showers all over the province, making as old settlers say a crop prospect at present unsurpassed, if equalled at this period of the season since the first settlement of the province. In the lower valley of the Assiniboine, and especially around Portage la Prairie showers fell a few days earlier than in that of the Red

River, and the prospect in the district named is if anything better than in the immediate vicinity of Winnipeg. Further west beyond Brandon farmers were less favored, and fears of injury from drought were entertained by some. During the last few days, however, showers have been frequent out there, and appearances betoken further falls. From south-western Manitoba the report is quite satisfactory, and rains there have put all fears at an end. Taken altogether the week has added greatly to the prospects of an abundant crop, and unless from heavy rains in the fall, which are not usual in this country, the North-west has no reason to doubt, but a crop unsurpassed for abundance will be gathered this year. A settler of 13 years' residence in the province, who carries on extensive farming operations near Portage la Prairie, gives it as his opinion, that the crop prospect in his section of country is better now, than he ever saw it in the early part of June. All reports from parties of experience in the North-west are of the most encouraging description, although not so brilliant as the one specialized. Such a prospect cannot but have its effect upon business generally, and before the close of June it will doubtless be felt.

Western Express Service.

The *Edmonton Bulletin* complains bitterly, of the manner in which the express business between Winnipeg and that place is conducted. The business, it says, is supposed to be carried on by two express lines, one a chartered Company running on the C. P. R. west, connecting at Troy with Sinclair & McLane's Saskatchewan mail and express line, which is, or was, supposed to forward express matter to all points as far west as Edmonton. The express Company advertised, and the mail contractors gave it to be understood, that they were doing, and going to do, an express business. Having the idea that this was a fact, many parties sent for necessary articles to come by express, which articles were placed in the hands of the express agents in Winnipeg in the ordinary way. Some—a very small proportion—have arrived during the winter, some have been heard from at different points along the line, and some have never been heard of at all. Somebody is to blame for this state of affairs. If the railway express company has received goods not knowing whether they could forward them or not, and taken no means to prevent loss to the consignors or consignees, they should be held accountable for any loss incurred, and more than that, by having failed to transact their business in a proper manner they have shown themselves unfit to hold their charter. As for the mail contractors, if they were unable or unwilling to carry express matter they should have notified the railway express company of the fact, so that no more of such matter should be sent and if they did not do so they are just as criminal as the others. It has been said that check is all that is necessary to carry anything or any person through the world, but this is false. If abundant check could have had any effect in carrying express matter our express would have arrived long ago. The check of the one company in asking payment of charges on goods