

Manitoba.

The Local Legislature will meet on the 4th of March.

As high as 78c has been paid for wheat at Pilot Mound lately.

A number of Winnipeg hotelkeepers have been fined for opening their bars on Sunday.

The gross earnings of the C. P. R. for the week ended Feb. 14, show an increase over the same week last year of \$19,000.

The immigration season opened last week. English, German, French and Hungarian settlers have already arrived.

Mr. Spence, formerly clerk of the Local Legislature, is preparing a pamphlet on the resources of Manitoba and the Territories.

Dakota farmers are said to be marketing their wheat at Gretna, Man., after paying a duty of 15c per bushel, prices being more than that much higher on the Canadian side.

S. Parish & Son, Brandon, have been awarded the Government contract for supplying 5,000 bushels of barley to the Prince Albert settlers who lost through the rebellion.

D. Hope, Winnipeg, will send to the Colonial Exhibition, a drawing-room suite made of Buffalo horns, very ingeniously arranged and forming most unique articles of furniture.

A movement is on foot to secure a charter for a railway running through the county of Beautiful Plains and having for its termini Brandon and a point on the Hudson Bay Railway.

A meeting has been held at Brandon for the purpose of agitating the matter of railway construction to the southwest. A committee was appointed to canvass for stock for the proposed road.

The amount of property in Winnipeg exempt from paying taxes is as follows: Ward 1, \$7,600; ward 2, \$715,600; ward 3, \$28,000; ward 4, \$666,700; ward 5, \$1,162,500; ward 6, \$149,000. Total exemption, \$2,729,400.

Mr. Alex Begg C. P. R. immigration agent in London, England, is publishing letters received by him from the women of the Northwest, giving their experience of the country. The accounts are said to be most favorable.

The Hudson's Bay Company's claim against the Government for supplies, transportation, etc., on account of the Northwest rebellion, amounts to \$2,000,000. This does not include the claim of the company for losses through the rebellion, which will be heavy.

At the meeting of the Provincial Board of Agriculture, held in Winnipeg last week, C. J. Brydges was elected president, and Wm. Lowell, of Turtle Mountain, vice-president. It was decided to hold the annual exhibition for 1886 at the grounds in St. Boniface, from September 27th to October 2nd.

The Rockwood Dairy Co., held their annual meeting at Stonewall last week. The company made their first cheese on the 5th of June and closed for the season on Sept. 25th, operating the factory for three months and seventeen days. They received from the patrons during that time 418,328 pounds of milk, from which they made 43,120 pounds of cheese, or an average of one pound of cheese from 97/10 pounds of milk.

Of the above amount 36,239 pounds were placed in the Winnipeg market, whilst the patrons for home consumption consumed 6,881 pounds. The price averaged in Winnipeg was 9½c.

The Territories.

The thermometer registered 52 above zero at Battleford, on Feb. 6.

Lafferty & Smith, bankers, Calgary, will build new premises for their business.

Sheriff Chapleau is to be appointed Deputy Minister of Agriculture at Regina. Dr. Tuck is retiring on account of ill health.

Mr. Doddridge, of Brockville, has been awarded the contract of building the new jail and court house at Prince Albert.

The mail which left Battleford on Feb. 6. was the largest ever sent from that place. There were about 2,500 letters, of which over 200 were registered.

The contractors who went to Medicine Hat last week with the intention of putting up ice for the C. P. R., found the Saskatchewan river a flowing stream, instead of a field of ice.

In the vicinity of Macleod last week the chinook had about succeeded in clearing all the ranges of snow. There is none to be seen in any direction, and the thermometer has been over fifty in the shade for several days.

Dan Reeves, engineer at Gleichen, reports that the Indians enter the store at all hours and deliberately help themselves to whatever they want. It is said that a detachment of police will be moved to Gleichen on March first.

A. C. Sparrow of Calgary has been out on his range for the last few days looking over the condition of his stock, and states that he has found twenty or thirty cows with good healthy calves, and all of his cattle in most excellent condition.

In a great majority of cases the feeling is that the claims have been unduly cut down, and an effort will be made to have many of the cases re-opened when the commission comes here to settle the losses of merchants and others which were not taken up by Mr. Muma.

Reports from the range between the Old Man's and Willow Creek are to the effect that cattle are in splendid fix. There has been some suffering among poor and young cows, which calved late in the fall, and there have been a few dead ones found in the vicinity of Willow Creek. The generality of cattle from one end of the range to the other are reported in the best possible condition.

Speaking of the country around Medicine Hat, the *Times* of that place says: "That this part of the Northwest is going to be a great stock country, is generally conceded. The short winters, light snowfalls and balmy chinooks, all tend to make it the stockman's paradise. Several capitalists are now in correspondence with some of our citizens, with regard to bringing in cattle for breeding and other purposes. While we do not profess to be prophets, we don't mind venturing the opinion that before five years the whole country from Swift Current to the Rocky Mountains, will be covered with heads of cattle and flocks of sheep.

Delegates from the Northwest council are now at Ottawa for the purpose of pressing certain claims upon the Government. Among other things they ask that the council have power to incorporate companies having purely territorial objects; that the Government should use its influence to have the freight rates on the Canadian Pacific Railway reduced, especially on lumber from British Columbia; that food supplies for the police and Indians be purchased in the Territories; and the early settlement of claims for compensation for rebellion losses, and the payment of settlers and merchants who furnished supplies to the troops in good faith.

The *Battleford Herald* says: Last mail brought a little over forty-eight thousand dollars to be disbursed on account of rebellion losses claims, being about half of the amount found due. Many of the claims have been very largely reduced, apparently on stock. If so, then the prices has been fixed at a figure far below what a similar grade can be imported, to say nothing of the loss of the season and the natural increase of the year. A number of names of men well known to have been heavy losers are not on the schedule, which can only be accounted for on the supposition that the present list will be followed by a supplementary one as soon as the claims have been passed upon.

British Columbia.

THE Albion Iron works at Victoria, British Columbia, has employed 100 to 150 men during 1885, and its out-put for the year has reached \$300,000 in value.

Samuel Gray has secured the contract for the erection of wharves and houses for the torpedo boats, etc., at the Esquimalt navy yard. The expenditure will be in the neighborhood of \$30,000, and will give employment to a large number of men.

We understand, says the *Nanaimo Free Press*, that Mayor Bate has received a letter of inquiry from a firm in Eastern Canada as to the prospects of starting a woolen mill in Nanaimo, to embrace the manufacture of hosiery and ready-made clothing as well as cloths and other woolen textures.

For the month of January the customs receipts at New Westminster were as follows: Customs, \$1,772.19; other revenues, 34.44; total, \$1,806.63. This is a decrease of \$4,974.59 from the same month last year. The interruption to navigation and the snow blockade on the American railways account for the very large falling off.

The *Victoria Standard* in advocating an appropriation by the Local Government for the purpose referred to, says:—That we have fishing grounds of great value around our coast is almost a certainty, as the presence of the finest fish of the cod species in our water indicates. The sooner such fishing grounds, if any, are discovered the better, and if they are in existence here, every day must count against those whose duty it is to find them out. That lobsters can be grown here admits of scarcely any doubt, and money expended in this respect will have been a venture that but very few will gainsay.