

# THE COMMERCIAL

The recognized authority on all matters pertaining to trade and progress in Western Canada, including that part of Ontario west of Lake Superior, the Provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia and the Territories.

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Publisher.

The Commercial certainly enjoys a very much larger circulation among the business community of the vast region lying between Lake Superior and the Pacific coast than any other paper in Canada, daily or weekly. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, OCTOBER 20.

## Death of Stephen Nairn.

On Sunday morning last this well known citizen of Winnipeg passed away at his home on Colony Street. He had been seriously ill for only a few weeks, but his end was not unexpected. He was confined to bed only about two weeks, previous to which he was about town as usual, though it was known to his more intimate friends that he was not in good health.

Mr. Nairn has been associated with the milling business in Winnipeg



Late Stephen Nairn.

since 1884 as proprietor of the oatmeal mill on Point Douglas, which bore his name until last year, when he sold out to the Ogilvie Milling Co. He was very successful in business and attained to the highest honors possible in the commercial world of the west, having been president of the Winnipeg board of trade in 1901 and of the grain exchange in 1896. He always took a deep interest in the work of these bodies and served on all their important committees at various times. He was also deeply interested in public affairs, having been one of the first commissioners on the Winnipeg parks board and one of the oldest directors of the Winnipeg general hospital. He was also one of the directors of the Winnipeg exhibition association. He took a great interest too in the St. Andrew's Society of Winnipeg, having been its president one year. In church connection he was a Presbyterian, belonging to Knox church, where he served as chairman of the board of managers and was for many years a trustee.

Previous to his coming to Winnipeg in 1884 Mr. Nairn was in business in Toronto with his brother, Alexander Nairn, who is now one of the retired business men of that city. Their principal line was lumber and fuel,

although they were also interested in the milling industry. Mr. Nairn came originally from Kelvinside, Glasgow, and was the youngest son of the late John Nairn, of the Washington Mills at that place. He came to Canada in 1863 and at once associated himself with his brother in the business which they carried on first at Rockwood, Ont., and later at Toronto, until the partnership was dissolved in 1884, when he came to Winnipeg. In 1881 Mr. Nairn was married to a daughter of Wm. Watt, of Brantford, Ont. His wife and a daughter survive him. His brother, Alexander, came to Winnipeg on receiving news of his illness and took charge of the deceased's affairs. He was buried on Tuesday afternoon in Kildonan cemetery, the funeral being largely attended by the business community.

An engraving of the deceased from a photo taken some years ago, is shown herewith.

## Mining in Wabigoon District.

Mr. J. R. Lumby, of the Wabigoon Star, is in the city on business connected with the mining industry of

nary values. Some of it is running as high as \$1 per pound. Parallel to that is a large vein averaging about \$12 per ton. They expect their mill will be running early in next year. Machinery and other supplies are also going over to the Moose Lake mining property, opened up by a Montreal company. They have been doing work by contract, but a manager has been hired and they intend to run the mine themselves. The Rainy Lake Mining and Power Co., who are operating the Salsrey Camp mine have just started their new machinery running and the vein on which they are working shows 75 feet of width of pay ore and there are other veins equally good on the property. "One noticeable feature about the companies, I have mentioned," said Mr. Lumby, "is that with one exception they are all controlled by American capital, and it shows a lack of Canadian enterprise, in my mind, and in the minds of others who think with me, that in 10 years time this will be the most valuable mining district in Canada, that outside capital is making it go."

A good opening for the pulp in-

tham Wagon Co.'s goods, of Chatham, Ont., for Manitoba and the Territories. The Emerson company's goods have not previously been handled to any extent here and they are practically a new line for this market. The Chatham wagons have of course been in the market here for years, and were lately handled by Johnston & Stewart.

The Canadian Moline Plow Co., Winnipeg, has moved to new quarters, and is now occupying the building on Princess street, recently vacated by the Dominion Bank. This is only a few doors south of the company's old premises. The Winnipeg business of the Moline Plow Co. has now been converted into a regular branch, under the name of the Canadian Moline Plow Co., with J. J. Bugee as manager. Formerly the Winnipeg business was carried on as a sub-agency of the Minnesota branch. The establishment of a regular branch here indicates that the importance of Winnipeg as a jobbing centre for the implement and kindred trades, is becoming generally recognized. In addition to the Moline plows, harrows, etc., the Winnipeg branch will handle Fish



Looking Down Kootenay River from Nelson, B.C.

the Wabigoon district. Speaking to a Free Press reporter Mr. Lumby gave an interesting account of the development work going on at the mines there.

"The mining district never since its opening has been in such a prosperous condition as at present," said Mr. Lumby. "The merchants of the town are doing a safer trade; the transportation companies can hardly keep abreast of the business. When I left three cars of machinery and supplies were awaiting to be shipped, and about ten more were on the road. The most of it is for three or four mining companies at work now. The company which has reached the most advanced stage of development is the well known Glass Reef Co., of which Mr. H. J. Macdonald is president. Their stamps began dropping a week ago Thursday and the richness of the ore may be judged by the fact that before running two hours, gold was being caught on the plates. The company has spent \$75,000 on machinery and development, and never stopped from the time they started work up to the present to produce gold. Another property, which has put in a large amount of machinery, is the Interstate Consolidated Mining Co., who are developing the Big Master mine. They have installed mining machinery this summer and stamp mill and more machinery is being taken across the lake. The small vein on which they are at present working has so far, wherever exposed, shown extraordi-

dustry is also located there, the unlimited water power facilities offering great advantages. Wages are also moderate, \$2.50 per day being the highest for skilled miners."

## Implement Trade Notes.

Blinder twine manufacturers in the United States are already beginning to discuss next year's prices and at least one factory has announced its willingness to make contracts for 1901 delivery. The price named is 7 to 8 cents for sisal and standard.

A report has been published in Minneapolis to the effect that several of the leading concerns which manufacture harvesting machinery in the United States, including the Deering, McCormick, Plano-Champion and Milwaukee companies, are about to amalgamate. This report is characterized by the parties concerned as a pure fabrication, which has been made up for election purposes.

Another new firm in the implement trade has been established in Winnipeg, under the name of H. F. Anderson & Co. The principals in this business are H. F. Anderson, formerly agent here for the Moline plows, and J. J. Bryan, formerly on the road here for the McCormick harvesting machinery. The new firm will continue Mr. Anderson's old local agency for the McCormick goods. They will also have control of the woods of the Emerson Manufacturing Co., of Rockford, Ill., plows, harrows, etc., and the Cha-

Bros.' wagons and Tudhope carriages. The latter line of vehicles are Canadian goods, made at Orillia, Ontario.

It is stated that ocean freight rates between Pacific coast ports and Europe are higher than they have been in 15 years.

The total number of failures in Canada last week was 32, against 24 the previous week, and 27 this week last year.

Thos. J. Chisholm, manager of the Montreal Cold Storage Company, who is being shown up rather badly in connection with the inquiry into the fraudulent issuing of warehouse receipts by that company has skipped. The court has declared his bail forfeited and a warrant is out for his arrest.

The New York stocks of pork subject to delivery on contract are smaller than they have been for several years, and are believed to be largely owned by the Thomas J. Lipton Packing Company. These stocks on September 30 amounted to 35,000 barrels. The short interest is estimated at the way from 50,000 to 150,000 barrels. A representative of Mr. Lipton says: "It has not been possible to prepare pork for the market at a profit for months, which is why stocks have become so low. Packers have sold pork short as a hedge against purchase of hogs, and speculators have sold short without paying enough attention to stocks."