

The Commercial

A Journal of Commerce, Industry and Finance, especially 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.

FOURTEENTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
ISSUED EVERY MONDAY.

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Publisher.

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 desks of a great majority of business men in the vast district described above, and including Northwest 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, MAY 4, 1896.

Manitoba.

J. T. French has purchased the Virden Banner.

Dr. J. A. Hall, a recent graduate of the Manitoba Medical college, will locate in Birtle.

The stock in trade of Hart & McPherson, stationers, Winnipeg, will be sold at a rate on the dollar on Tuesday, May 5.

G. F. & J. Galt are building a large warehouse on the Canadian Pacific railway track, Winnipeg, near the freight sheds.

The case of Cloutier against the early closing by law in Winnipeg, has been thrown out with costs. It may be appealed to the full court.

J. J. Roberts has secured an interest in the Colonist journal, published at Winnipeg, and will in future take an active part in its management.

W. E. Hazley, of the Consolidated Stationery company, Winnipeg, has returned from a two months' visit to Dublin, Ireland. Mr. Hazley was a passenger on the train which met with disaster in Maine last week, several passengers in the same car being killed.

Enquiries among our merchants, says the Carberry News, have elicited the fact that business in town this spring has been much better than for some years. Sales are brisk and cash would seem to be more in evidence than is usual in the spring. If Providence should vouchsafe a favorable season in '96, the position of the citizens of Carberry and the farmers on the surrounding plains will be an enviable one.

Alberta.

The merchants of Macleod, Alberta, have agreed to close their places of business every Thursday afternoon, commencing May 7, during the summer months.

Grain and Milling Notes.

Marks, King & Co. have added an oat clipping machine to their cleaning elevator at Port Arthur. A trial made on a car of mixed oats, which weighed only 82 pounds per bushel, showed that after clipping they weighed 42 pounds. It is expected that in future all Manitoba oats will be clipped before being exported.

A Duluth dispatch of April 27 says: Vessel tonnage for 10,000,000 bushels of wheat from

this port has been chartered for May, the largest figures on record for any port in the history of the grain trade. There is a good demand for all the cash wheat that is offered at about the May price.

The feature in the Toronto flour market on April 22nd was a decline in the price of Manitoba flour of 15c, says the Globe, and the prices quoted by the large mills are now \$1.10 for patents and \$3.75 for strong bakers. Ontario flour is quiet; patents are quoted at \$3.75 west and straight roller at \$3.50 to \$3.60.

Freight Rates and Traffic Matters.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin says: "There will be a heavy movement in lake and canal business as soon as navigation opens, the engagements of wheat from Fort William to Montreal being large, latest contracts having been put through at 80 per bushel. Engagements have also been made at 80 from Duluth. Some weeks ago vessels were chartered to carry corn from Chicago to Kingston at 4c, but the rates are now down to 30 corn and 3½ wheat. The rate on wheat from Buffalo to New York is steady at 3½ to 4c. From Kingston to Montreal the rates are 2½ wheat and 2¼ corn. There has been very little new business in ocean freights. The most recent engagement reported is a lot of about 10,000 bushels of oats for Glasgow at 1s 9d. Heavy grain to Liverpool is quoted at 1s 6d. Engagements are reported in sack flour at 8s 9d to 10s London, 7s to 7s 6d Liverpool, and 7s 6d to 8s 9d Glasgow. Cattle freights have been engaged from this port at current rates at time of shipment, one lot being fixed at 40s Bristol."

Manufacturers' Meeting.

The twenty-first annual meeting of the Canadian Manufacturers' association was held at Toronto, on April 29, president A. E. Kemp presiding. After the election of officers the text of various resolutions was passed. The president's address was an extended and detailed defence of the national policy and an array of arguments for continuing it. The following officers were elected: President, A. E. Kemp, Toronto, first vice, D. W. Kern, Woodstock; second vice, John F. Ellis, Toronto; treasurer, George Booth; chairman of executive, R. W. Elliott; chairman of tariff committee, W. K. McKnight; secretary, J. J. Cassidy. A long resolution was passed endorsing the national policy, detailing the alleged benefits to the country conferred by it since 1878 and alleging the necessity for its continuance. Another resolution warmly advocated preferential trade with the British Empire.

Hardware and Paint Trade.

The Toronto Globe says: "General trade in hardware and tinware is brisk. Heavy hardware is also moving freely. Metals are not in as good demand as they have been. Barb wire has advanced again to 9c per lb., terms of delivery as before. Garden tools are now being freely asked for, such as rubber hose reels, rakes, syringes and spray pumps."

A fair business has been transacted in paints and oils during the past week, says the Montreal Gazette, and the market on the whole is more active. The strong feeling in castor oil has continued and prices have been market up ½c, to 7 to 8c. Latest advices from Norway say: The crop of Norwegian cod liver oil is only about one-third of last year, owing to fishery being small and the liver lean. All offerings are being eagerly sought after at advancing prices. The supply on spot is very small, and holders are asking \$2.75 to \$3.25 per gallon. Owing to the strike among the workers abroad, the market for gold leaf is much stronger and

prices have advanced 25c per package. Arsenic is also strong and prices are higher.

The Dauphin Railway.

The citizens of Arden, in public meeting, authorize the following statement respecting the Dauphin Railway:

As a railway built in the interests of Dauphin, it should be built from Arden, because it is the shortest and most direct route; because the old beach would give a natural roadbed, as well as lessen the cost of building; because the road would pass through the good land and better serve the population, present and future. Attention is also called to the course of the beach south-east of Arden. If it is considered necessary to build the road on the route surveyed last year by the Hudson Bay Railway Co., which comes within a few miles of Midway and Arden, and then runs directly north for several miles, there is no excuse for building so much extra road at the public expense. If the railway is to open new country, it should go further east. If this is not the intention, then the building of the road from Arden will serve a larger area of good land and a larger number of people without detriment to any existing interest. It is therefore respectfully submitted that every requirement would be met without injury to any existing interest and a large amount of public money saved by building the Dauphin Railway from Arden.

B. VanBlaricon, Chairman
M. E. Boughton, Secretary
Arden, April 28th, 1896.

Canadian Pacific Railway Earnings.

The following financial statement for March has been handed out by the Canadian Pacific Railway company: March, 1896—Gross earnings \$1,503,603; working expenses \$1,027,072; net profits \$476,531. In March, 1895, the net profits were \$392,287; and for the three months ending March 31st the figures are as follows: Gross earnings, \$4,303,657; working expenses, \$2,997,141; net profits \$1,306,218. For the three months ending March 31st, 1895, there was a net profit of \$945,628. The gain in net profits over the same period last year is therefore for March, \$84,244, and from January 1st to March 31st, \$360,585.

Lumber Trade News.

Members of the Western Retail Lumber Association now wear a button, upon which a monogram of the association is engraved.

The Hudson Bay canal scheme is growing. There is nothing small about it. A report from St. Paul, Minn., says: "A syndicate of prominent men has been formed to construct a canal from Duluth to Winnipeg. The company is to be incorporated under the name of the Duluth, Winnipeg and Hudson Bay Canal company."

The April number of the new Canadian monthly—Massey's Magazine—has been received, and is up to the standard of the earlier issues. The number has a handsome frontispiece. "The Easter Carol," by J. D. Kelly, No. 2 of "English Cathedrals" is the first article, and deals with the grand old York Minster, with six illustrations. Horsemen will find a very interesting article on "Horse Shows in Canada and Elsewhere," profusely illustrated. Duncan Campbell Scott contributes a story, "The Mystery of the Red Deep," and follows a poem "The Return of Sergius Catus" by Fidele H. Holland. "The Migration of Birds" is an interesting study of small bird life by Robert Elliott. The World of art department, "A Master of the French School," with illustrations. Poems, short sketches, and the regular departments, complete the April number of Massey's Magazine.