

# The Commercial

A Journal of Commerce, Industry, and Finance  
specially devoted to the interests of Western  
Canada, including that portion of Ontario  
west of Lake Superior, the Provinces  
of Manitoba and British Col-  
umbia and the Territories.

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*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 desk of the great majority of business men in the vast district designated above. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale, commission, and manufacturing houses of Eastern Canada.*

WINNIPEG, APRIL 16, 1888.

J. P. FORD has bought out the saddlery business, at Calgary, of Geo. T. Duncan.

SEEDING was commenced at several points last week, though the weather was still on the cold side.

ROBT. HOWSON, furniture dealer, Anthracite, Alberta, was burned out last week. Loss about \$600.

EVERSON & FOX, saloon, Medicine Hat, have dissolved partnership. Everson retires and Fox continues the business.

GEO. BARKER, of Minnedosa, went to the Lake Dauphin district lately with a blacksmith's outfit, where he will do business in that line.

J. R. McINNIS, shoemaker, Medicine Hat, Assa., has gone to Anthracite, Alberta, where he will open up business in the boot and shoe line.

C. H. CARBONEAU has purchased the general stock of the J. D. Chapdelaine estate, at Cypress River, Man. Chapdelaine has left for the United States.

LEONARD FULMER, of Banff station, Alberta, has purchased the branch business of A. Ferland & Co., at that place, and will carry on the business henceforth in his own name, which he has conducted heretofore for his former employers.

MR. JAMES DOWLER, long and favorably known in the Northwest, as representing the wholesale boot and shoe trade, is now on the road with samples from Cooper & Smith, of Toronto, a house which had business connections in this country fifteen years ago. He is to be congratulated on his change, and we have no doubt but he will manage to keep his house well represented in the Northwest.

A FRENCH Liberal paper will shortly make its appearance from St. Boniface. Now that a Liberal Government is in power in Manitoba, no doubt the French printing of the Government is the incentive.

E. S. MATHURSON, late clerk of the Windsor hotel, Montreal, passed through Winnipeg on Tuesday en route to Banff, where he assumes charge of the magnificent C. P. R. hotel at that point, which it is expected will be opened about May 10.

W. S. CRONE, well known throughout Western Canada as the genial representative of H. A. Nelson & Sons, wholesale fancy goods, etc., of Toronto and Montreal, is in the city. Mr. Crone returned last week from a successful western tour as far as Victoria, B. C.

A CORRESPONDENT at Carberry, Man., writes: There has been a great falling off in the amount of wheat marketed during the last couple of weeks, owing principally to the fact that a large proportion of the wheat has been marketed, and some of the largest farmers are holding over for better prices.

ACTIVE measures are being taken by the Winnipeg early closing association. Messrs. Roberts and Hague will call on the grocers during the week and endeavor to secure their co-operation in the movement. A mass meeting will be called shortly for the public discussion of the question. A meeting of the association will be held to-morrow, and steps will be taken for the circulation of a petition praying the legislature to pass an act compelling the closing of store at 9 o'clock, except on Saturdays or the night preceeding a public holiday, when the hour is extended to 22 o'clock.

HON. JOHN NORQUAY has consented to accept the appointment of superintendent in Manitoba and the Territories, of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York. This is the most powerful and important insurance company in the world, and the position of a division superintendent of this wonderful corporation will prove both a lucrative and honorable occupation. The superintendents of this company in the United States are generally men who have gained distinction, and several are held by ex-State Governors. All classes of the people will certainly wish the Hon. ex-Premier unbounded success in his new position.

A NEW time-table on the Manitoba & Northwestern Railway will take effect on Tuesday, April 17th. It will give all stations on the main line, as far west as Birtle, three express trains per week, with three regular freight trains each way: the express trains going east on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and west on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Freight trains will leave Portage la Prairie on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, returning Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. The train service on the Saskatchewan & Western railway line to Rapid City has also been increased to three trains per week: for the east on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, to make connection with the express from Birtle, and going west on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. The Shell River branch will have one train weekly, as heretofore; going north on Tuesdays, and returning the following day.

A CORRESPONDENT at Glenboro, Man., writes: Grain still comes in steadily notwithstanding unpropitious weather. Upwards of 300,000 bushels of wheat have been shipped this season, besides barley and oats. The warehouses are also full, the larger one, owned by J. Nichol, containing about 50,000 bushels, the others about 15,000 to 20,000. There is very little grain on the streets, what remains belonging to farmers, who are stacking it up until they have a car load. Improvements are going on rapidly. Brown Bros., saddlers, have put up a substantial building; Mawhinney & Burchart, hardware dealers, are extending their premises. Stephen McLean, of the Southwestern hotel, will rebuild, putting up a first rate house. Mitchell & Axford, dry goods and groceries, will build a large extension to their store, as will also S. Livingston. Storekeepers have had a good time the past few months, trade having been very good, with plenty of money.

THE colonization company idea seems to be reviving quite a bit of late. About the time of the "boom" and shortly thereafter, a large number of colonization companies were formed, but these nearly all went to pieces shortly after. Lately there has been an effort on the part of British capitalists to revive the colonization idea. The Canadian Pacific Colonization Co. is one of the latest efforts. Capt. Edwards, who is the leading spirit in the scheme, has secured a large tract of land near Gleichen, Alberta, upon which he proposes to settle a number of young men with means. The company claims to have large capital. A townsite will be laid out, stock imported, and the settlers who will be brought out will be supplied with outfits complete for commencing operations.

A PLEASING feature of the immigration this year is that many are taking up and purchasing vacant lands in the older settlements of Manitoba. This is better both for the country and the settlers. By going into the older settlement the newcomers will at once have the advantage of schools, churches and other conveniences. It is also a great benefit to the districts to have the lands well taken up. Taxes are lightened and municipal improvements can be undertaken to greater advantage. It is also pleasing to note the interest which the different sections are taking in securing settlers, a few years ago immigrants coming into the country were dropped off at the railway stations and there left to shift for themselves, the only conveniences possible being the immigration buildings at certain points. Newcomers were generally utterly at a loss which way to turn or where to go to take up land. To hunt up a free grant homestead was often a costly undertaking, frequently involving an expenditure sufficient to purchase a good farm. The only object of those already settled in the country seemed to be to make money out of the newcomer, or tenderfoot, as he was called. Exorbitant prices were demanded by settlers for anything which the immigrant might require. For instance if an immigrant wished to go out to look at a piece of land, from an outside point, he would be obliged to pay an exorbitant price, often as high as ten dollars per day, to be driven about the country. Now this is all changed. At the principal points agents are on hand to meet immigrants, give advice and afford all possible assistance and if land is wanted, the newcomer will be driven any reasonable distance free of charge.