

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 Columbia 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, and including northwestern 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, MARCH 23, 1891.

Manitoba.

R. Alexander, grocer, Winnipeg, has received an extension.

Arthur Doig, hardware, Birtle, is opening a branch store at Russell.

W. J. Middleton, boots and shoes, Winnipeg, stock advertised for sale by the sheriff.

The general stock of the estate of M. A. Russell, Morris, has been sold to Henry Burke.

Ermer Morden, confectioner, etc., McGregor, has left, and reported as going to the Pacific coast.

The estate of J. J. Smith & Co., Emerson, which has been conducted for some time for the benefit of the creditors, will be sold shortly.

The dissolution of partnership of Jos. A. Merrick & Anderson, general dealers, Virden, took effect March 2. C. V. Anderson & Co. continue.

Philp & Co., fruits and commission, Winnipeg, have assigned. The trouble has been brought about by snow collections and losses on credit accounts.

The fourth annual spring show of horses, under the auspices of the Portage and Lakeside Agricultural society, will be held at Portage la Prairie, on April 11.

The Beaubier House, Brandon, changes hands on the 1st of April. Beaubier will go out of the business and the hotel will be handed over to his son-in-law, Payne.

Richard Alston, of the Royal Green House, Notre Dame street, Winnipeg, has just issued his spring catalogue of plants, bulbs, seeds, etc. It is one of the best he has ever issued.

Two men from Bottineau, Dakota, were in Deloraine recently, asking for railway rates to

Edmonton; they reported they know about 20 families who would come over shortly.

A. McBean, general dealer, Cartwright, is in trouble, a demand of assignment having been made on him on Friday. The estate is a small one, but shows a deficit; liabilities being about \$3,000 and assets \$2,600.

It is reported that two hundred families in North Dakota have decided to move to this side of the boundary on terms proposed by the Canadian Pacific railway Co. and the Dominion Government. Agents are now working in Dakota.

This has been a remarkably fine winter for sheep, says the Pilot Mound *Sentine*. These useful and profitable animals have been able to remain on the fields and prairies most of the season, finding much of their own feed and seemingly delighted with their liberty.

The Manitoba & Northwestern railway have decided to establish an extensive stock yard at Portage la Prairie. Shipments of stock from along the line of this railway have increased to important dimensions. The region served by this road is specially adapted to stock raising.

A correspondent writes: "Stewart & Kelly have opened up a general store and lumber yard at Methven; Robinson & Co., of Wawanesa, have a clothing and gents' furnishing establishment in full swing. James McFadden has a hotel and livery stable in course of construction. We also boast a blacksmith shop and two grain warehouses, and numerous other buildings will be erected in the spring." Methven is a new town which has sprung up on the extension of the C. P. R. Glenboro branch, constructed last fall.

Cattle in Fine Condition.

Cattlemen in Southern Alberta are jubilant over the prospects for the coming season. The stock have never come through winter in better condition and the loss has never been lighter. The remarkably fine weather of the past winter was highly favorable for the cattle grazing on the open plains, and the snowfall of the past month, while not heavy enough to cause any inconvenience, will produce sufficient moisture to give the grass a good start in the spring and insure a reasonable good growth of natural fodder. Should the country be favored with an abundant rainfall in the early summer as there is every reason to hope, it will be a great stimulus to the cattle industry of Southern Alberta. —*Lethbridge News*.

French Wheat Crop.

A Paris despatch of March 3rd says.—"In the Chamber of Deputies yesterday, M. Meline, on behalf of 145 Deputies, submitted a proposal remitting the land-tax for this year on that portion of the Winter Wheat area which will have to be resown with Spring Wheat. He stated that out of 17 million acres nearly five million had been a prey to the frost, causing a loss of 80,000,000 fr or 100,000,000 fr; that, to prevent a deficit of 40 or 50 million bushels of Wheat the fields would have to be resown, as also other fields, for Spring sowing never yielded much; and that farmers must be encouraged to make a great effort. M. Meline added that in any case the yield of Wheat sown in the Spring being so much less than Winter sown, the consumption of Foreign Wheat would necessarily be large this year.

Potatoes Booming.

Potato prices are so high, says the Chicago *Produce Reporter*, that buyers are afraid to buy more than they just need. Most sales are comprised of small lots. The demand is strictly local with prices slowly advancing. The receipts are quite large, but there is no accumulation visible, and very likely prices will further advance. The same paper quotes prices as follows—Mixed stock, in car lots, choice, 96 to 98c per bushel; mixed fair, 95 to 96c.; fancy selected sort, 98c to \$1.05.

Regina Board of Trade.

The annual meeting of the Regina board of trade was held last week. President D. Mowat read his report which was received and adopted. Treasurer's report shows receipts and expenditures of about \$500.

Mr. Mowat suggested that the farmers be at once instructed to prepare their exhibits for the exhibition car.

The question of reducing fees from \$4 to \$2 was discussed and left over.

The following new members were balloted for and duly elected: W. C. Fowler, James Duncan, L. C. Rodgers, J. K. McInnes, Geo. Fleming.

Election of officers for the ensuing year was proceeded with, resulting as follows: President, R. Paul; Vice-President, H. Lejeune; Secretary, R. J. Steel; Treasurer, R. B. Ferguson. Council—D. Mowat, J. W. Smith, J. A. MacCaul, P. Lamoat, W. C. Fowler, L. C. Rodgers, R. J. Tinning, J. K. McInnes, Robert Martin, Jos. Jackson. Mr. Stenshorn was appointed an *ex officio* member. Board of arbitrators—All the council and Andrew Martin, H. Lejeune, R. Paul, John J. Young, J. Duncan.

A gentleman who has wandered over nearly the entire civilized world writes: "The handsomest grocery I ever expect to see, is in Belfast, Ireland. It has a grand front on two streets. The goods are arranged with the best effect. The ornamental woodwork is of black walnut, traced with gold. The floor would answer for a ball room. Innumerable gas jets flood the place with light, and gorgeous mirrors double the brilliancy. Sixty clerks are employed in this establishment, mostly young men, and neatly dressed. You could shake hands with any one of them, and not smell like a mackerel two hours after. The proprietor boards and lodges all of them. Their dining room through the day becomes their sitting room in the evening. And he not only gets the work out of them for his money, but he also keeps a careful eye on their personal interests."

The reports of the visit of the British tenant farmer delegates to Canada last year, in parts one, two and three have been published from the office of the Dominion Government in England. The reports all contain illustrations of the various Canadian cities visited by the delegates, and numerous scenes in Manitoba, including the Beresford Stock farm, threshing and harvesting at Sandison's, near Brandon, an Albert ranch scene, two original sketches of Manitoba and Northwest farm houses by Col. Fane, and views on the Dominion experimental farms.