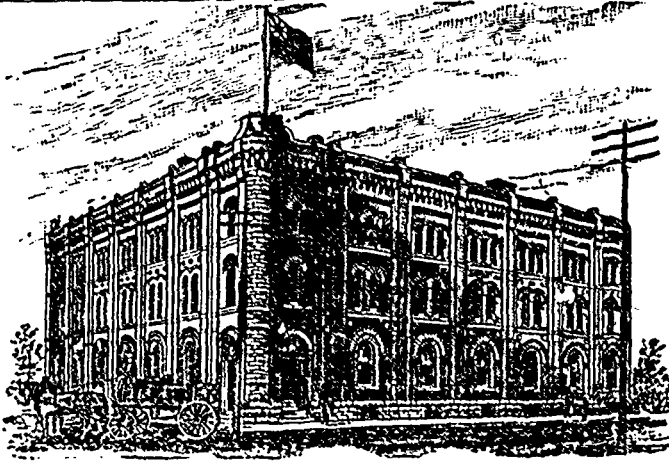


GOODS SOLD TO THE
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DIRECT IMPORTERS
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THE announcement of the sudden death of J. H. McTavish, late C. P. R. land commissioner at Winnipeg, was received with feelings of general regret. Mr. McTavish was looked upon as one of the landmarks of this country. He entered the Hudson's Bay Company's service here some thirty-two years ago, and was connected with this company up to the time he received the appointment from the C. P. R., which he resigned a few days before his demise.

WHILST the City Council and Board of Trade of Winnipeg have been endeavoring to formulate a scheme for the settlement of the vacant lands around the city, it appears that another scheme with the same object in view has been quietly organized. It is now announced that a plan for the settlement of these lands has been matured by private parties. The arrangement is that a number of large land owners in the district shall combine and sell their lands to a syndicate of British capitalists. This syndicate will undertake to colonize the lands, by a system of assisting desirable settlers, in the direction of making first improvements on the properties. So many schemes have been talked of for the settlement of these lands, that until this latest one takes more definite shape, it will not do to place too great reliance in its future operations.

The scribe of the *Toronto Monetary Times* evidently requires considerable instruction in Canadian geography. His geographical knowledge of Western Canada at least seems to be only equalled by his lack of knowledge as to the requirements of the West and the nature of public questions of interest here. Long after all other monopolistic journals had discarded the "argument," the *Times* declared that the C. P. R. was entitled by its charter to monopoly in Manitoba. That journal still seems to entertain the idea that Manitoba is the only geographical division in the West. Every week in its business announcements, items from all parts of the country from Port Arthur Westward and into British Columbia, are put down to Manitoba. Some one should make the *Times* man a present of a map.

Dismissals from the Provincial civil service are the order of the day. Heads are flying in all directions at the hands of the new rulers. Many of the dismissals are made on the plea of economy, and it is claimed the positions so vacated will not be filled. There is no doubt but there is considerable room for economy in the civil service, and a glance over the provincial expenditure accounts will show that the amount going for salaries is out of proportion to the general revenue and expenditure. Still no doubt there are a number of officials who are being dismissed on other grounds than economy. In the case of some of these officials, no regret will be expressed at their removal. A number of those holding positions were appointed purely for political reasons, and their dismissal for political reasons cannot therefore be made a matter for complaint. Some of these latter were unfit for the positions, both on grounds of ability and morality, and they cannot be too soon dropped off the list. On the other hand, it is to be hoped the Government will endeavor to retain in its service all worthy officials, and fill vacancies with men whose moral character and ability will be such as to reflect credit upon the Government. A dishonest and immoral official is a disgrace to the Government.

THE reported conversion of Sir John A. Macdonald has awakened interest all over Canada, and some journalists of a coarse nature have made the matter a butt for alleged wit and cynical sayings. In this they deserve the contempt of honorable people. There is another class of extremely narrow-minded political bigots, who succeed in making themselves believe that nothing good could come from the leader of the Conservative party. To these men Sir John is the embodiment of all that is mean, low, dishonorable; to such he is a thief, rogue and liar, and will always remain so. Happily this class is limited in numbers. Sir John has certainly had his faults, and his reputation has not always been untarnished; but perhaps the dislike of many of his traducers has its foundation in the success which has attended him as a political leader. His biggest fault to many is, that he has been able to hold office so

long. As a statesman Sir John A. Macdonald has shown many qualities which should gain for him the esteem of both political friends and opponents. His ability entitles him to the admiration of all Canadians, and his position as Prime Minister and his past services rendered his country entitle him to the respect of all true citizens. It is one of the failings of the party system that the chief political ruler should be without the moral support of a large portion of the people, so necessary to the dignity of the position. All those who admire honorable action, will be pleased at the moral courage displayed by Sir John, during the late religious revival at Ottawa. No past move which he has made entitles him to greater respect from all citizens, regardless of party or creed. Those who think differently can only be of a low and coarse nature.

FROM present appearances it would seem that this season's immigration will go largely to the far west. Several parties which have already arrived have passed through to British Columbia. In view of this fact, the following from the *Westminster British Columbian* will be interesting: "A great many of the people coming to this province are finding that they cannot obtain such employment as they sought for, and some of them are finding fault with the country because of their failure. There are hundreds of men looking for situations as clerks in stores and offices, whereas there is very little demand for such help. There are also not a few looking for good lands which they hope to obtain at the government rate of \$1 an acre. We need not say that such land is scarcer than twenty-dollar pieces. There are considerable tracts of good land open to pre-emption, but it is mostly situated where it cannot be reached without much difficulty at present. Very little good land within easy reach of the market remains unappropriated; and much land in the hands of private persons cannot be had at anything like \$1 an acre. It will cost in some cases as high as \$50, and at that price some of it will give a very satisfactory return for the money invested in it. The sort of people most wanted in this country are those who bring with them a reasonable amount of capital, and who propose to engage in some enterprise that will develop our resources. People who expect to engage successfully in farming must have enough to start with, and to carry them over the first year. With a moderate capital, backed up with common sense and industry, any person may do well on a farm in British Columbia. Persons coming to this country expecting to find an easy situation with fat salary awaiting them are on the wrong track. We have nothing of the sort in this country. A man who comes to this country need not expect success unless he is willing to turn his hand to any employment that may offer. If he cannot find the kind of work he likes, he must be content to take what he does not like until something better presents itself." The above will show what class of people may expect to find a desirable home in British Columbia. In some respects the remarks made will apply to Manitoba with equal force; in others quite the opposite is true. People com-