

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.

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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 Assinibolia, Alberta and Saskatchewan. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 17, 1896.

Manitoba.

Campbell Bros., hardware, Winnipeg, have assigned.

Funk & Frieson, general storekeepers, Altona, have dissolved.

Dr. Carscallen has sold his drug business at Morris to Lawrie Bros.

D. Ripstein, of the White Rose hotel, Winnipeg, has sold out to J. Donohue.

The stock of J. S. Douglass & Co., Winnipeg, will be sold at a rate on the dollar, on February 18.

F Weir & Co., hardware, Winnipeg, have dissolved. A. Walker retires, and the business will be continued as before.

W. Watson has opened a butcher shop at Rathwell, and not E. Dagg, as previously reported. The latter is engaged in the general store trade at Rathwell.

The value of goods entered for consumption at the new customs port of Virden for three months ending December 31, 1895, is as follows: Dutiable goods, \$4,614; duty collected, \$1,237; free goods, \$564; total value, \$5,178.

The post office and Wm. Rolston's residence at Whitewater, were destroyed by fire on Feb. 12. Loss \$1,000; no insurance. The fire originated by a child lighting matches. All the mail matter was saved.

A. Turner has disposed of his business at St. Bonifacio to Guilbault, hardware merchant of that place, who will continue both. Mr. Turner will continue in the flour and feed business.

The first number of the new organ of the Manitoba Patrons of Industry has appeared. It is called the Patrons' Weekly Sentinel, and is published at Portage la Prairie by the grand officers. It takes the place of the Patrons' Reporter, which went under for lack of financial support.

The Winnipeg board of trade has received assurances from the controller of customs that the customs postal package department in Winnipeg will be moved from the present inconvenient building in south Winnipeg to the post office building.

The Manitoba Poultry and Pet Stock association has issued a prize catalogue of its third annual exhibition, which will be held at the Lyceum theatre, on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th of March. Copies can be had from the office of the association, 277 James

street, or by addressing E. Marston, secretary, box 886.

Fire broke out in Herron's block, Cypress River, on Feb. 10, and the following business places were burnt to the ground: White's hotel, Herron's general store and dwelling, Huston's hardware store, and Pearce's general store and dwelling. The block was composed of wooden buildings. Creighton's new stone store on the west, and Farquharson's new hotel on the east, were saved. The loss is fairly well covered by insurance. Little or nothing was saved.

Mr. Bedford, superintendent of the Brandon Experimental Farm, recently shipped 560 bushels of seed grain to the Central Farm, at Ottawa. It will be distributed from there in three pound bags to farmers living in all parts of the Dominion. This shipment will supply eight thousand applicants with a three pound bag each. The farmers are requested to sow the grain and report the result. By this means the suitability of the different varieties of grain from all parts of the Dominion will be ascertained, for cultivation in other parts of the country. For instance, if wheat grown in Manitoba will produce much better results in Ontario than wheat grown in that province, it might be shown that it would pay Ontario farmers to buy Manitoba wheat for seed, and so on.

Assinibolia.

W. Abraham, tailor, Medicine Hat has assigned.

R. B. Ferguson's furniture store at Regina and stock were completely destroyed by fire on Feb. 13. The fire was caused by an overheated stove and was first discovered about 9.30, when it had already gained a good start. The high wall of the McCarthy's brick block on the west side proved an effectual check, but the plate glass front was badly damaged and a photo gallery in the rear of the upper story is almost a complete wreck. McCarthy's stock is badly damaged by the smoke and water. Ferguson's loss will be in the neighborhood of \$15,000.

Alberta.

Fire broke out in the basement of the dry goods store of A. Allan & Co., Calgary, the night of Feb 8, and did considerable damage before it was extinguished. Loss \$2,500. Insured.

Saskatchewan.

Last week, under the above heading, The Commercial had the following item: A. MacDonald & Co., who carry on a branch general store at Battleford, have bought out the stock and business of Mahaffy & Clinkskill, general storekeepers of the same place.

This was not exactly correct. Each of the firms named have branch stores at Lethbridge, Alberta, as well as at Battleford, and it was the Lethbridge business which changed hands.

Grain and Milling Notes.

The Lake of the Woods Milling Company have appointed a resident agent at Edmonton in the person of J. D. Campbell, who has been travelling agent for the company.

The grain exchange are in communication with the inland revenue department to see if under the adulteration act the sale of inferior qualities of bluestone in this country cannot be prohibited.

It is late in the season to build elevators, but still this work is going on in Manitoba. Chalmers Bros. & Bethune, grain dealers, have commenced the erection of a thirty thousand bushel elevator at La Riviere, Man. The structure will be similar to the firm's elevator at Clearwater.

L. E. Benz, of Wetaskiwin, Alberta, is erecting a small flour mill on the Big Stone Creek at Frank Lucas' place, on the Calgary trail, about six miles north of Wetaskiwin. There will be a saw and planer in connection.

The directors of the Lake of the Woods Milling Company have decided to move the head offices of the company for the Kooewatin and Portage la Prairie mills to Winnipeg. This will combine the mill offices with the offices of the grain buying department, which have always been in Winnipeg.

The grain exchange has made arrangements with the railways to supply their agents with samples of good seed grain, with a view to securing transportation of seed grain for the farmers at one half the ordinary rates on such commodity. The Canadian Pacific Railway has already issued circulars to their agents, authorizing them to quote the reduced rates. This is the same arrangement that was in force last spring.

Legal Decisions.

The case of Pillar vs. Bertrand came up at Winnipeg on Tuesday. Plaintiff was an employee of J. S. Douglas, who carried on business as a furrier on Main street, but left Winnipeg rather suddenly and was subsequently arrested in Montreal. Plaintiff, at Douglas's request, endorsed a note for him for \$5,000, for which Douglas gave him a chattel mortgage on his (Douglas) stock, which contained a proviso that in the event of Douglas selling or in any way disposing of his stock without Pillar's consent the security should become due immediately. Douglas made an assignment to Bertrand a few days after the note was indorsed by Pillar, who commenced this action and asks for an injunction until the hearing to restrain the assignee from disposing of the stock which he has in his possession. Mr. Bradshaw for plaintiff; Mr. Hough, Q. C. for defendant. On the conclusion of the arguments his lordship refused the motion to continue the injunction.

Duluth and Winnipeg.

The Duluth and Winnipeg Railroad will be sold at auction this month under a foreclosure of mortgage. Starting at Duluth this road runs in a northwesterly direction for about 125 miles, ending in the woods on the shore of lake Winibigoshish. It passes through the important town of Grand Rapids and has a considerable traffic in lumber and other forest products and in supplies destined for logging camps. It has never done much more than earn operating expenses, however, and its financial success evidently depends on its extension to the wheat fields of the Red River Valley. The general understanding is that the Canadian Pacific will purchase the road at the upset price named by the court, and that it will have no competitor in the bidding. The intention of the C.P.R. is said to be to extend the road to a connection with one of its lines at Emerson, Man., and thus to obtain, through this road and its ownership of the Duluth, South Shore and Atlantic, a route for grain, cattle and other through traffic from the west, by way of the south shore of Lake Superior that will be preferable to its present route around the north shore. It is barely possible that the Great Northern may think the Duluth and Winnipeg a desirable piece of property to connect the branch which it has started eastward and which has rested at Fosston for several years, and that Mr. Hill may put in a bid. Duluth has witnessed the foreclosure proceedings with no great interest, believing that, whatever becomes of the road, it will have to be operated for the benefit of that city and that its completion as a short line to the lower part of the valley of the Red will only come about when a strong company gets control.—North-west Magazine.