

STONEWALL.

Very few farmers are to be seen about the village this week, as seeding has commenced in earnest.

The plans and specifications of the Presbyterian church are being studied by the contractors of the village, and the probabilities are that the building will get up this summer.

The village was enlivened by two days more of the election trial this week.

Messrs. Siddon & Herald have purchased and are now opening their new stock, and will soon be ready to invite the attention of customers.

Mr. R. J. Ford's new planing mill is being rapidly pushed to completion, and will be in running order about the end of June.

Mr. Muir has rented the Loeves farm, adjoining the village, and is going extensively into fruit growing. He thinks that with proper selection of varieties and careful attention fruit growing is sure to be a success.

The shipment of stone this week has been lighter than usual, but the receipt of freight was considerably above the ordinary.

Arrangements have been made for the fitting up of a building for the bank, which will no doubt be opened in a few weeks.

Messrs. Stirsky & Mylius have closed up their jewelry establishment here. Mr. H. Caskill, who has been running the business for them, has purchased a part of their stock and will continue in his own name.

RAT PORTAGE.

A. D. McDonald, baker and confectioner, is enlarging and improving the appearance of his premises on Main street.

Colbert & Menzies, bakers and grocers, have enlarged their sale room and put a new front on their building on Second street.

J. Brisette, shoemaker, has removed to Second street.

White, Manahan & Co. have opened their stock of clothing and gents' furnishings in their new building on Main street.

The business men of the town would like to see Main street graded and sidewalks laid, but the masterly inactivity of the mayor and council is preventing people from paying their taxes.

G. A. Kobold & Bro., butchers of this town, are opening a branch store at Keewatin.

Building operations are very brisk, business places and private residences going up in all directions.

More squatting on the streets continues to take place. The Woodbine hotel has pitched a tent on Water street and fitted it up with sleeping apartments; and yet we have a Mayor and Council.

The bush on Main street north of the railway track has been cut out through to the Rideout estate.

The H. B. Co. intend shortly making an additional survey on their reserve here, and putting more town lots on the market. Their last survey sold rapidly.

BRANDON.

Business has been very fair during this week. The number of immigrants arriving has increased and the reception sheds are well filled. Real estate has been moving quite freely. One of the largest sales was that of the Richard block on the corner of 6th street and Rosser avenue. It was purchased from Sheriff Richard by Mr. Spencer, late collector of customs at Winnipeg, for \$37,000.

A. L. Sifton contemplates building a block of stores on the east side of 6th street as soon as brick can be secured.

Messrs. Ripple & Co., hardware merchants, have removed from 8th street to their new store on Rosser avenue.

Messrs. Coombs & Stewart have begun their new store on the corner of 9th street and Rosser avenue.

Messrs. McDougall and McPherson's new factory on 10th street will shortly be completed and work commenced.

The Roman Catholic convent is being pushed forward rapidly and will be completed within a month.

Considerable interest has been taken in a fire which took place last Sunday, as it was the first occasion which the firemen and engines had to work in earnest. Their endeavors were most successful and were the means of saving many thousand dollars worth of property. Considerable relief is felt at the able manner in which everything was done and the perfect working of the engines.

Plans for the new Imperial Bank have been completed and are now in Toronto. If they meet with the approval of the directors an \$18,000 building will be constructed.

Edmonton Freights.

Mr. Carey, one of the leading merchants of Edmonton, has been in Winnipeg during the past week making purchases of general merchandise to supplement the extensive stock carried by the firm of which he is a member. In conversation with a representative of THE COMMERCIAL, Mr. C. stated that the navigation of the Saskatchewan by steamboats this season was not likely to prove of much value in the way of freight transportation to the merchants of Edmonton. The steamboat companies have fixed upon a tariff of 6½ cents a pound on general merchandise. Mr. Carey stated that by shipping over the C. P. R. to Swift Current, and freighting in the old style thence to Edmonton, goods can be laid down in the latter place for 6½ cents a pound. A saving of 1 per cent is not likely to divert much of the Edmonton traffic up the Saskatchewan River, especially when goods can be sent there fully as quickly by rail and team, besides obviating the difficulty of low water during a dry season, which so seriously interfered with the navigation of the Saskatchewan last summer. The extension of the C. P. R. to Calgary, which will probably be open this fall, will, Mr. C. asserts, be a great boon to the merchants of Edmonton. About 206 miles of teaming work still remain, but to a community who have for

years brought their freight all the way from Winnipeg, a distance of 1,000 miles, at least, the trip to Calgary and back will seem little more than a little pleasure excursion. Already there is something of a boom in Edmonton over the near approach of the iron horse.

Writ of Attachment Cases.

Mr. Justice Dubuc finished the hearing of a case on Thursday evening which is of great interest to wholesale mercantile houses. The suit was by the McClarey Manufacturing Company to enforce a writ of attachment issued in April against W. H. Cooper and Deacon, of Emerson. Plaintiffs had supplied the former with goods, and, to enforce payment of the same, had attached goods alleged to belong to Cooper. Defendant claimed that on March 6 he had completed a sale of his stock and business to Deacon, and had taken the paper of the latter in payment. The aim of the suit, therefore, was to make null and void this sale. The case was an intricate one, necessitating the leading of a long array of evidence, and occupied the time of the court all of Wednesday and Thursday. The testimony showed beyond a doubt that the sale by Cooper to Deacon was a bogus one, no consideration having been received by the former. At the time of the sale Cooper was in difficulties, owing to carrying an overload of real estate, and to obtain time had made the alleged transfer of his hardware stock and business to Deacon, thus placing it, as he thought, beyond the reach of his most pressing creditors. C. H. Allen and McMartin, Q. C., appeared for plaintiff, and Ewart for defendants. Justice Dubuc stated, on Thursday evening, before adjournment, that without going into details on the case, he had no doubt but the sale by Cooper to Deacon was void.

Mining Affairs.

The attraction of the past week in mining circles has been the gold brick produced at the Argyle mine, worth somewhere about \$950, which has been on view at the jewelry store of Thomson Bros. & Forrest, on Main street. It has been another proof of the productiveness of the Keewatin district, and inspired many with a fresh energy.

During one or two days of the week there was some stir in mining stock circles, but the sales of the week have not been very numerous. Money is as yet too tight to be spared out of commercial circles, and the purely speculative element of the city are not loaded with funds, but are now in a rather impecunious state. There has been a rumor going the rounds that a number of Fargo men had become interested in North-western mining affairs, and were about to organize a mining company there, to operate a Lake of the Woods claim. The name of well-known speculative dead beat who recently left Winnipeg is mixed up with the scheme.

Very little news can be had from the mines at present, owing to the state of the Lake of the Woods, and quite a number of parties are in Winnipeg waiting for the opening of navigation thereon. There are at least half a dozen claims on which operations will be commenced