

## Alberta.

### The Edmonton Disturbance.

The month just passed will be long remembered by the people of the town of Edmonton by reason of the disturbances which arose over the attempted removal of the Dominion Land offices from the old town on the north bank of the Saskatchewan to the new town on the south bank. This affair has demonstrated the fact that even the usually quiet and staid Canadian can be aroused to a pitch when even the authority of the Queen's Government cannot prevent him from asserting his rights. The removal of the land office was ordered by the authorities of the Dominion Government, who gave as their reason that they wished to facilitate the making of entries for lands situated on the south side of the river. The point of this reason could not be seen by the good people of the older town, so when the agent attempted to load his effects on a wagon preparatory to taking them away the citizens surrounded his office and put a stop to the proceedings. For some time after the first outbreak the telegraph operators were busy flashing messages backward and forward between the concerned Department at Ottawa and the troubled town. Explanations and promises had no effect, however, on the angry townsmen they were determined not to let those office effects go. Indignation meetings were held, the old home guard of '85 was resuscitated by the mayor to do duty in the interests of the town in case the Government should order the forcible removal of the office effects, and altogether they had an exciting time of it.

Finally after a few days suspense, a compromise was effected whereby the agent was allowed to take such of the books as were absolutely necessary to do business on the other side and depart. There the matter stands at the time of writing. The Edmontonites are making history fast.

### Wanted—A Market.

Gordon Cummings, well known in Western Canada as being connected with the Quorn ranche, one of the largest horse breeding institutions in the Territories, and R. W. Ffolkes, an expert horse dealer, paid a visit to MacLeod in the early part of this month. They are working up a scheme whereby a permanent market may be opened for Northwest horses. They want the horse breeders of Alberta to organize and form an Association, the main object of which would be the promotion of this horse shipping business.

Mr. Ffolkes was requested to come out here by Mr. Gordon Cummings and others in England to see if our Northwest horses were suitable for the English market, and to discover the best way of putting them on that market. At present there seems to be no market in Canada for these, consequently a foreign market will have to be found for those now being raised. At present the Northwest is dependent on a catch trade, that is upon people

coming in and wanting teams, &c., Mr. Ffolkes thinks that the most satisfactory way to handle the business would be to have an establishment in Eastern Canada to which the animals could be sent preliminary to their being put on the market. The animals could be handled cheaper and better in such a place than they could in the Northwest. Then it would be necessary to have a similar establishment in the old country, where they could be given a couple of weeks' care if they needed it before being sold.

It is believed that the only way to establish this trade is for Alberta horse breeders to form themselves into an association for the purpose of starting it. Such an association could get better arrangements with steamship and insurance companies, and thus effect a large saving in expenses.

The main idea, however, in forming an association is that it should be the means of making shipments on a large scale. Mr. Ffolkes points out that in shipping a few, say 50, at one time, one could not reasonably expect people to come from Paris, Berlin, Brussels, or even London and other horse centres to examine them. If there were enough, and if able to guarantee them for their different purposes, they would not hesitate to come from these places to see them.

### The C. P. R. Land Sale.

The following report of the C. P. R. land sale in the Edmonton district was given by the *Bulletin*.

"The C. P. R. land sale was well attended, but not so largely as was expected, there being only a comparatively small number of eastern buyers. Of the eastern men, however, a number had been here for some time, and had looked over the ground so that buying was done more carefully than at the former sale. At that sale, land in the immediate vicinity of the railway station went at the highest figures, and indeed the high average reached at that time was made by a very few sections near the station. On Tuesday the highest figure of \$4.65 was reached by the NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of 13-55-24, in the Sturgeon settlement, the purchaser being D. L. Latimer. Lands at a distance from the station averaged slightly higher all around, on Tuesday, than at the sale in May. Nearly 8,000 acres were sold at prices ranging from \$3.05 to \$4.65, the average being \$3.60. At the May sale the average was \$4. The sale was in McLeod's hall. It opened at 1.30 p.m., and was continued until about 5 o'clock. Bidding was lively, but there was no desire shown on the part of the buyers to run up prices beyond a reasonable figure. Several parcels of land were offered to which settlers laid claim, on the grounds of having improvements or other title. In some cases the lands were withdrawn, and in others were offered subject to the settlers claim. That is, if the squatter showed his right to the place the buyer would be refunded his money. Everything passed off very quietly and satisfactorily. The lands remaining unsold will not be again offered at auction, but will be valued according to quality and location and sold at a fixed price.

### Immigration Matters.

*Calgary Herald*: For the six months ending July 7, 1892, there came to or passed through Calgary 2,166 immigrants or settlers. This is a remarkably good showing as compared with former years and affords ground for believing that Alberta is entering upon an era of progress and development in connection with the settlement of its farm lands. Largely to the efforts of the Canadian Pacific railway, considerably to the work of Government agents, and somewhat to the advertising done by the Calgary town council, is due the large influx of new settlers into Alberta this season.

### Notes.

The Ancient Order of United Workmen are organizing a branch at Edmonton.

Reports from Edmonton says that petroleum has been discovered in that district.

The plans for the new lands, timber and registry offices to be erected at Edmonton are now open to inspection in that town.

G. Korman, representing *Der Nordwestern*, Winnipeg's German newspaper, is visiting the German settlements in Edmonton district in company with Rev. W. C. Tahmieder, of Eidenwald, Assiniboia.

In the Edmonton district sheep shearing is generally over. The wool crop is reported to be good, but owing to the fact that there is no buyer there the wool is left on the farmers' hands. It is estimated that there is four or five thousand pounds of wool for sale in the district.

Ludwig Diesbrock representing Spiro & Co., agents at Hamburg for the Allan line of steamships, is travelling in Western Canada. He visited the German settlements at Stony Plain, Rabbit Hill and Beaver Hills in the Edmonton district, and found the people all prosperous and happy. He took a list of the homesteads entered for by the Germans in the Edmonton district and found that there are 160 entries. He predicts a great influx of Germans to the district next year.

"Crops of all kinds are looking well—could not look better," says the Edmonton *Bulletin*. "There has been no break or set back whatever in the season of growth, which although rather later than usual, was still considerably ahead of any other part of Canada. The seed was good and well put in, and there is every possible assurance of the most bountiful crop the district has ever seen. The great heat of the past five days following the late heavy rains is bringing on growth at a most rapid rate."

Much sympathy is being expressed in different quarters of the Northwest for the people of the town of MacLeod, in their disappointment at finding that the railway which they have waited so patiently for and on which all their hopes of prosperity were built, has chosen a townsite some few miles distant from their location. This involves quite a loss to the residents, as a great many of them have invested nearly all they possess in the present town.