

represent a sum nominally far in excess of those figures. General sympathy is expressed for the firm in its present troubles.

Application will be made to the provincial legislature to incorporate a company for the construction of a line of railway commencing at a point at or near Maple Creek, Crow's Nest Pass, Kootenay district; thence by Elk River to Kootenay River; thence by way of Cranbrook and Mooyie Pass and Goat River to the Lower Kootenay River in the province of British Columbia.

The dispute between the contractors of the Esquimaux Graving Dock — McKenna and Mitchell vs. McNamee — is now before the Supreme Court at Ottawa. The contract entered into by the latter with the British Columbia Government in February, 1883, was for \$350,000, and the dispute arose in regard to the employment of the appellants by the respondents to complete the work.

Several of our merchants who were indiscreet enough to pay out money to agents of the *San Francisco Journal of Commerce* are anxiously enquiring when the British Columbia number of that journal is to make its appearance. Some go so far as to express an opinion that there is something crooked about the deal. *Vancouver Herald*. Moral—Patronize home industry.

The steamship *Batavia*, Capt. Watton, sailed on Monday afternoon at half-past three o'clock from Vancouver for Yokohama and Hong Kong with about 1,200 tons of cargo, including 36,196 sacks of Oregon flour, 200 sacks Manitoba flour, 883 pieces of cotton goods from Montreal, a lot of machinery and a large quantity of general merchandise. She took out 12 first-class passengers, 3 second-class, and 84 steerage, Chinese.

A public meeting was lately held at Vancouver to discuss the most feasible way of improving the communication between the splendid farming country situated on the North Arm of the Fraser and on Sea and Lulu Islands and Vancouver. At present this city is sending many thousands of dollars away annually to foreign countries or to the eastern provinces for fruit, farm and dairy produce, whilst within a few miles of it lies a country probably unexcelled on the continent for the richness of its soil and the magnificent crops which can be raised within its borders.—*News-Advertiser*.

The Fraser is becoming as famous in Westminster for boat building as the Clyde is throughout the world. Not a season passes by unless several craft of some description are floated. At present there are building on the Fraser within the city limits of Westminster, no less than four steamers intended for different parts of the province. The first, owned by Messrs. D. W. Port & Co., is to be used in the fishing industry, as also is the one building for the British-American Packing Co. Mr. George Cooper's stern-wheel boat is nearly ready for launching, and when finished will be used for excursion parties on Harrison lake and river. Mr. Calhoun is building a small steamer for his own use.—*Ex*.

Raison, hotelkeeper, Maple Creek, has sold out to Yerex & Cowles.

Western Trade Notes.

Considerable building is still in progress at Virden.

A large number of horses are being imported from Ontario and Montana, to the Northwest

C.P.R. passenger trains will stop at Anthracite and a station building will soon be erected.

Calgary asserts that its position is the best in the country for the erection of smelting works.

Several provincial papers are informing subscribers to pay up their subscriptions in cordwood at once.

The Dominion Government engineer is about to survey the route of the Regina and Long Lake Railway to Saskatoon.

I. S. Freeze of Calgary, has just completed his handsome building, and now has the best business block west of Winnipeg.

The Calgary Lumber Co., are applying to have their letters patent extended to give them power to engage in the manufacture of bricks and tile and mine for coal and other minerals.

A bridge over Sheep Creek will soon be constructed. This is one of the most difficult streams in the territories to cross being too shallow for a ferry and too deep to ford, with continually shifting sand shoals.

Dr. McEachren, Dominion cattle inspector, intends to add a new branch to his cattle ranche at Fort McLeod, by going extensively into the raising of horses with a view to supplying them to the British army. He proposes to gather 200 fillies during the winter and send them to the ranche.

Robert Charles Drummond, Donald Watson Davis, William Thomson Ramsay and Edward Pease Davis, are seeking incorporation under the name of "The Bow River Waterworks Company (Limited)." The objects for which the incorporation is sought are the establishment of a system of waterworks in the town of Calgary.

THE *Moosomin Courier* offers, as an inducement to new subscribers for 1888, and delinquent subscribers to pay up, three cabinet photos, by the local photographer. Enterprise must be commended, but experience with delinquent subscribers, has usually been the difficulty of placing them, especially long enough to secure a photo of a flattering nature.

An application for incorporation is being made by "The Chinook Belt and Peace River Railway Company," authorizing and empowering the said Company to construct a railway, at, near to, or between Calgary and Gleichen, thence to, at, or near the town plot of Edmonton, and thence to the Peace River in the Northwest Territories of Canada, with the usual powers to build a telegraph or telephone in connection therewith.

Calgary Tribune: Christmas turkeys are offering at \$2.00 and \$2.50 with brisk supply and demand. This is probably the only district in the Northwest that supplies its home market with turkeys. They were first introduced in '81, and for several years farmers were careless about trying to rear them, thinking that they would be too delicate for the climate. Experience has proved that they increase rapidly and

thrive well, and are being reared successfully and profitably throughout the district.

A sample of coal, brought by Mr. H. Hassard, sec. 4, tp. 2, rg. 8, from the Souris coal fields, and which has been mined there this season is of excellent quality. We have given it a trial, and it burns equal to Galt, but not quite so freely, there is no difficulty in keeping up a good fire with it, and it throws out a good heat. The coal used was taken from a ravine bank and about 100 feet in. A branch railway to these mines would enable vendors to supply this excellent domestic fuel throughout Manitoba and the Territories for about \$3.50 per ton. Mr. Hassard states that several minor coal beds are on fire in that vicinity. Settlers would do well to consult their own interests and pay a visit to these coal fields.—*Moosomin Courier*.

Lumber Cuttings.

The Royal City Planing Mills of New Westminster, B.C. shipped 20 car loads, containing 175,000 feet of lumber to Manitoba and the Territories. They have an order in hand for 400,000 feet for the new C.P.R. elevator at Port Arthur. The mills are running night and day.

A bill has been introduced in the Minnesota legislature to admit duty free on the product of the forests on Rainy Lake River and the Lake of the Woods and other tributaries, owned by American citizens and sawed in the provinces of Ontario and Manitoba, the same being in part manufactured.

The creditors of Stewart Bros., the Maritime Province lumbermen, who failed some time ago with a million of dollars of liabilities, are endeavoring to buy out the interest of J. A. Grier, of the firm of Grier & Stewart, at Ottawa. Mr. Grier's mills and limits are valued at one million dollars and an advance of one hundred thousand dollars is offered. This, if bought, about settles this famous failure.

De Graffs and other well-known railroad builders, besides prominent business men in St. Paul, Minneapolis and Duluth are interested in the building of the Duluth, Rainy Lake & Southwestern railway. Dennis Ryan is among the number who are interested in pine lands on the Minnesota side on the northern slope and the primal object in constructing the road is undoubtedly to give value to much of this timber by making it accessible.—*Mississippi Lumberman*.

Mr. James MacLaren, of Buckingham and Senator J. G. Ross, of Quebec, have through their Victoria agent, C. D. Rand, given notice through the *British Columbia Gazette*, that they intend making application to the chief commissioner of lands and works for the lease of certain timber lands situate west of Duncan Bay, Sayward district. The lands mentioned comprise in all about 26,000 acres. This is probably the largest piece of land for timbering purposes ever laid out in one block in this province. Mr. E. Hermon, D. L.-S. who made a survey of this property, describes the country as level, heavily timbered with Douglas pine, with some cedar and white pine.

Another batch of J.P.'s for the province have been published, a number being re-appointments