

The Commercial

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE FINANCIAL, MERCANTILE AND MANUFACTURING INTERESTS OF THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

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THE COMMERCIAL will be circulated extensively among the wholesale and retail Merchants, Jobbers, Bankers, Exporters, Manufacturers, Hotel Keepers, Insurance and Loan Agencies throughout the entire Canadian Northwest.

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J. E. STEEN,
Publisher.

WINNIPEG, OCTOBER 7, 1884.

D. McKellar, hotel keeper, Minnedosa, has given up business.

R. Robson, baker, Regina, contemplates giving up business in that town.

F. G. Haultain, barrister, late of Toronto, has settled and intends to practice his profession at Fort McLeod, N. W. T.

C. W. Spears, of Griswold, has nearly completed a grain elevator at that place with a storage capacity of 30,000 bushels.

Jones & Barker, insurance agents, Winnipeg, have dissolved partnership and the business will be continued by Jones alone.

H. Schofield and R. M. Chester have joined interests in the grain and provision business at 535 Main street and will carry on business under the firm name of Chester & Schofield.

Feron, Shaw & Steuart, produce merchants, Winnipeg, have dissolved partnership, Shaw & Steuart continuing the business. M. T. Feron, the retiring partner, contemplates going into commission business here.

THE construction of a two-story warehouse has been commenced by the Portage la Prairie Milling Company with an area of 24x40.

Moosomin Farm and Trading Co., of Moosomin, contemplate giving up their trading department and confine their business to farming and land generally.

Efforts are being made by the farmers of North Dufferin to establish a cheese factory near Nelson. The fact that native cheese is already crowding the eastern article out of the Winnipeg market should be encouragement to go on in their undertaking.

AROUND Fort McLeod there is considerable trouble brewing over the disputed claims of squatters and holders of grazing leases. The cases tried last court resulted favorably for the leaseholders, thus establishing their right to evict squatters from their leases.

OVER \$200,000 of the stock of the Commercial Bank of Manitoba has been subscribed from local sources and it is expected that there will be no difficulty in securing the balance of the funds in Britain. Manitoba's prospects at present are bright enough to encourage foreign investment in a banking scheme here.

T. A. Garland, Portage la Prairie, has moved into magnificent new premises and intends to launch into a wholesale as well as a retail business in general merchandise. Merchants in the Portage at one time did a heavy jobbing business with itinerant western trades, and now that these trades have been succeeded by retail merchants there is no reason why Portage merchants should not do a share of the wholesale trade of the west.

THE Chicago Northwestern Lumberman, of September 20, in the review of the situation merely re-echoes the complaint of dullness and gives but little hope of revival. The lumbermen counted on the time when the crops being matured the farmers would begin to buy lumber; the crops are fully assured and there is still no demand. The great yield of cereals and the inadequate demand for their produce causes farmers to be slow in buying lumber and the outlook is at present far from favorable. The reports from most of the cities of the Northwest shows a good local demand for building purposes, but there is no rural demand to speak of. The movement from Albany is

steady, but exhibits nothing indicating a rise above the dead level of this season's trade.

THE St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba Railway have given notice that their winter rates from St. Paul to St. Vincent will be the same as those in effect last April, and which are much lower than those prevailing last winter. The rates take effect the 1st of November, and are: from St. Paul to Winnipeg, 1st, \$1.35; 2nd, \$1.13; 3rd, 91c; 4th, 70c; 5th, 64c; 6th, 62c; 7th, 37; 8th, 35c; 9th, 33c; 10th, 31c; governed by general Canadian classification. It is not expected that the Chicago roads will raise their rates to any great extent, so that low rates from Montreal to Toronto may be expected, and importers will not get in burthen-some stocks as they did last year, to take advantage of lake rates in anticipation of heavy winter rates by the all-rail route. Merchants express great satisfaction at the announcement, which is made publicly by the all-rail line agents here on authority of Mr. Mohles, G. F. A of the St. P., M. & M. Railway.

THE American Forestry Association held its opening session at Saratoga on September 16, and was largely attended. Mr. Loring, the president, in his address, contrasted the complete system of legislation affecting the forests of Europe with the total absence of forestry legislation prevailing in this country. The president further said that in his opinion the matter was not a subject for congressional action, except as regarded the public lands still held by the government, but whatever action was to be taken must be taken by the States separately. Dr. Seeger, of New York city, in a letter to the convention, referred to the bill which was introduced in the legislature last winter to protect the forests of the Adirondack mountains from further destruction, and which he declared was a most necessary measure, for the reason that the Hudson river and many feeders of the different canals took their rise in that region. Dr. Seeger further called attention to the report of many boatmen on the Erie canal, who declared that their boats dragged on the bottom of the canal, something which was unheard of before and which was wholly due to the water level being lowered by lands around the feeders of the canals becoming denuded of timber.