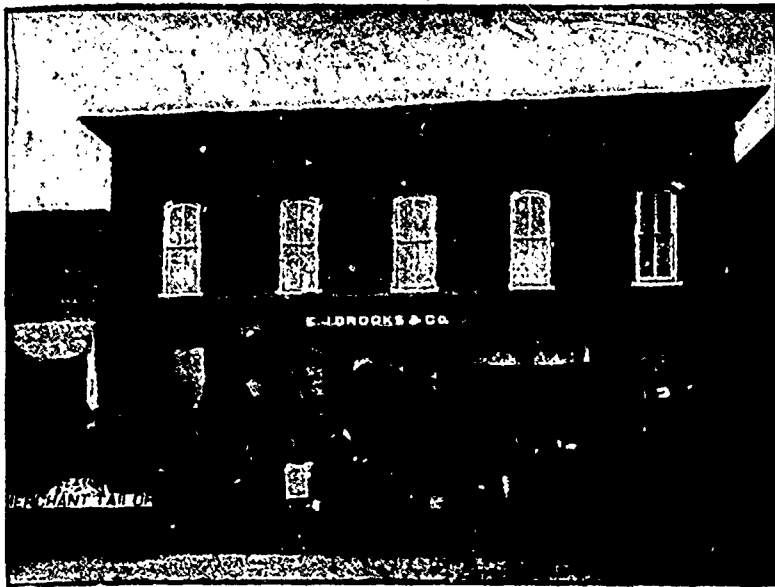




E. J. BROOKS & CO'S STORE, INDIAN HEAD

each having a considerable sprinkling of representatives. The industries above mentioned have not so far been found to be successful and many of the settlers have turned their attention in other directions. Sheep farming, which was entered into by some, has also been unprofitable so far, but it is thought that hereafter with greater knowledge of the requirements that returns will be secured for the labor and capital expended. The business community of Whitewood is a very representative and enterprising one and shows some growth as a result of the prosperity of 1898. Duquette & Co., general merchants, are selling out and E. Rollins has purchased the Windsor hotel business. These are the latest business changes.

Grenfell is unique for the number of stone buildings which it possesses. Some of these are of handsome design and give an unusually substantial appearance to the town. Much of the business done here comes from a German settlement which lies on its north side and which contains upwards of 300 families. The town boasts now of a splendidly equipped flour mill, up-to-date in both its machinery and arrangements. It has also a private bank. The latest addition to the business community is E. A. Walker, who bought out the hardware business formerly owned by Franks about two months ago. D. D. Macdonald, general merchant, opened here in March, 1899.

Wolseley is an important town and a well known grain market. It is growing rapidly and has recently added some new business blocks. One of these is occupied by the drug hall of A. D. Ferguson. Another is the Banbury block, occupied by a hardware store. A. P. Manson, a leading general merchant here, has recently formed a partnership with one of his brothers and has added to his already extensive stock the whole of the bankrupt stock of F. Hockin, of this place. Manson Bros., also carry on a store at Sintaluta, the next town west. This is also an important milling point. Sintaluta is one of the newest towns in Assinibola and one of the most flourishing. Last year it received several additions to its business community and a number of others are expected this year. The number of build-

ings was more than doubled during 1898. The oldest concern here is the general store of E. J. Brooks & Co., a branch of their Indian Head business. D. J. Dutton & Co. were also among the first comers. They propose doubling their store capacity this year. G. L. Hunt opened a butcher shop in July last. E. H. Williams, hardware merchant, moved here from Binscarth, Manitoba, last summer and immediately commenced the erection of a new store building. This is now ready for use. D. Clayton is the latest comer, having opened a harness shop on Jan. 10th. Magee & Thompson, lumber dealers, of Wolseley, have a yard at this point and report their sales in both town and country for 1898 as have been unusually large.

Indian Head is famous as the market town of the Bell and Brassey farms, the former being at one time one of the largest wheat farms in America. These are now being broken up and parcelled out to smaller holders with considerable advantage to the town, as it was found that the homanza farms prevented settlement and stifled the growth of the town. Within the past year Indian Head has made rapid progress. Its buildings are of brick mostly, and are large and substantial. One of the largest busi-

ness buildings in the Territories is located here, a three storey brick block, one end of which is occupied by the Royal hotel, of which A. Davidson is proprietor, and the balance of the block is divided into stories. The stores of Indian Head are stocked with the finest and most fashionable goods, and some of them were obliged to increase their capacity last year. Among others E. J. Brooks & Co. have moved into more commodious quarters. R. W. McLeod, general merchant, moved here from Portage la Prairie in November last. It is expected that a flour mill will be erected at this point this year.

The views of Indian Head, given herewith, are from a handsome special number recently published by the Indian Head Vidette, and kindly loaned to The Commercial.

In a future issue some other towns of Assinibola, including Regina, the capital of the Northwest Territories, and Prince Albert, in Saskatchewan, will be dealt with.

Manitoba Produce in British Columbia.

J. Y. Griffin, of J. Y. Griffin & Co., Winnipeg, returned recently from a trip to British Columbia, where his firm have extensive business interests. He reports that great improvements have been made at Victoria and Vancouver since his last visit to these coast cities and building is very active this season. Business was good, and a large trade was being done at these points in outfitting mining parties, though there was not the same Klondike rush as a year ago.

Naturally Mr. Griffin gave special attention to the trade in Manitoba and Territorial products in the British Columbia market. In this respect he found a great deal of dissatisfaction on the part of the British Columbia jobbers. In regard to the quality of the produce shipped to these markets. These complaints were much more emphatic than at the time of his last visit about a year ago, from which it would seem that our shippers have not been exercising proper care in many instances. Mr. Griffin suggested that possibly the unusually wet weather last summer and fall had affected the keeping quality of dairy goods to some extent, though this, he thought, was only a partial cause of the trouble. The difficulty, he felt sure, has its origin in the custom of holding goods too long in the hope of obtaining a little better price.



GRAIN ELEVATORS AT INDIAN HEAD