

The Commercial

A Journal of Commerce, Industry and Finance, specially devoted to the interests of Western Canada, including that portion of Ontario west of Lake Superior, the Provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia and the Territories.

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The Commercial certainly enjoys a very much larger circulation among the business community of the country between Lake Superior and the Pacific Coast, than any other paper in Canada, daily or weekly. By a thorough system of personal solicitation, carried out annually, this journal has been placed upon the desk of the great majority of business men in the vast district designated above, and including northwestern Ontario, the provinces of Manitoba and British Columbia, and the territories of Assiniboia, Alberta and Saskatchewan. The Commercial also reaches the leading wholesale, commission, manufacturing and financial houses of Eastern Canada.

WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 22, 1892.

Manitoba.

Hood & Cooper, merchants, Roland, have assigned.

W. H. Sharpe, furniture, Douglas, has sold out to Jas. Bonsfield.

J. C. Johnston, livery, Brandon, sold out to Kain & Smith.

Geo. Peterson, of Winnipeg, has opened a law office in Deloraine.

C. H. Carboneau, of Greenway, has sold out to H. E. Beattie, of Miami.

David Brown, hardware, Portage la Prairie, has assigned in trust—meeting of creditors on 23rd inst.

Thos. Sturdy, grocer, Emerson, has disposed of his stock to E. A. Whitman, general merchant, of the same place.

Charles Watson, of Carberry, is building a harness shop at Nesbitt, where he intends to locate early in the spring.

Kelly Bros, of Pembroke, Ontario, propose establishing a factory in Winnipeg for the manufacture of aerated waters.

The stock of J. W. Laurin, dry goods and fancies, amounting to \$3,450, will be offered for sale at Winnipeg, on Feb. 22nd.

The stock of furniture, etc., of M. Hughes & Co., Winnipeg, amounting to about \$11,000, will be offered for sale by the sheriff on Feb. 22nd.

Velie, Carry & Co., liquors, Winnipeg, have decided to close out their retail bottled goods business and in future devote their whole attention to the wholesale trade.

W. H. G. Marquis, accountant of the Bank of British North America, Winnipeg, left last week for Victoria, B.C., having been transferred to that agency of the institution.

The Portage la Prairie Board of Trade has

discussed the cash system compared with the present credit given by merchants. One of the leading merchants of the town, T. A. Newman & Bro., have advertised that after April 1st they will do a cash business only.

The Winnipeg City Council is considering the question of the acquisition of the city waterworks system. This is certainly a move in the right direction, and something which should be followed up. The city should control the water works by all means.

The grounds and buildings committee of the Winnipeg Exhibition Association held a meeting last week. It was decided to recommend the expenditure of about \$12,000, about \$5,000 of this to be spent in increasing the accommodation for main building, and the remainder in improving the grounds and other buildings.

Fullerton, Ross & Gordon, general merchants, Manitou, have dissolved partnership, C. R. Gordon having bought out the interest of his partners and assumed full control of the business. He has also purchased R. Ironside's share in the lumber business and will continue this branch in connection with the hardware trade.

An application for an hotel license at Nesbitt, a new town at the present terminus of the Glenboro branch, has been received by the chief license inspector. An application for the transfer of the Carney house license, Emerson to Robiison, has been received. The license of the Leland house, Glenboro, has been transferred to James Donohue, late of Winnipeg.

G. F. Wynne, of Bole, Wynne & Co., wholesale drugs, Winnipeg, has returned from an extended trip east, and will now locate permanently in Winnipeg. Arthur Atkinson, of Atkinson & Co., grain shippers, Winnipeg, also returned last week from New York and other eastern points. He reports that New York exporters, who bought heavily of low grades of Manitoba wheat, have lost on the export of this grain, on account of so much smutty stuff.

The Manitoba Stone and Asphalt Paving Company, is the name of a new manufacturing industry to be established at Winnipeg. The parties at the head of the company are C. A. Stark and E. E. Twiss, both of whom have been residents of St. Paul, Minnesota, for some years past. Mr. Stark is well known to Winnipeggers, having been the first general manager of the Manitoba and Northwestern Railway company. It is the intention of the new company to at once establish a factory here for the manufacture of tiles for sidewalks and floors, asphalt paving for streets, etc., and tiles for public buildings, halls, etc. An office has been opened at 421 Main Street.

General Superintendent Whyte, of the Canadian Pacific Railway, returned to Winnipeg last week, after an extended absence in Montreal. Mr. Whyte, together with Mr. Stewart, chief engineer of the western division, discussed with President Van Horne the details of certain projected works which, it is expected, will be carried out in this country during the coming summer. This contemplated work includes the extension of branch lines, the erection of several new station houses and further extensive improvements on the main line between this city and Fort William. Mr. Whyte states that the plans respecting branch railways has not yet been actually decided on, and he is, therefore, not at liberty to make any public announcements at present. The station houses to be erected are those mentioned by President Van Horne on his last visit to Winnipeg and included Portage la Prairie, Regina, Calgary, and two or three other places on the main line west.

In all 53,023 acres were disposed of at auction during the series of sales of government school lands in Manitoba, realizing the sum of \$421,486 or an average price of \$7 95 per acre. This was, therefore, the most profitable sale of school lands ever held in the province, as in the sale of 1883, when 20,000 acres were disposed

of, the average price obtained was under \$7 per acre. In many instances this year school lands brought as high as \$10 per acre, while none were sold at less than the upset price of \$5 per acre, which was fixed by experts, who valued the lands before they were advertised for sale. The highest average was \$9.32 per acre, realized by the Glenboro sale. In all cases the lands were sold to actual settlers for the purposes of cultivation, not an acre having fallen into the hands of land speculators. No doubt the average price paid for the whole sale would have been more than \$7.95 had it not been that there were squatters on several school sections, against whom settlers would not bid, and who, consequently, were usually able to hold on to their places by paying simply the upset price of \$5 per acre.

Northwest Ontario.

Port Arthur wants her municipal boundaries enlarged. East Fort William wants the same. Fort William (formerly West Fort William) wants separation from the rural municipality of Neebing, and incorporation as a town. The three Lake Superior towns all have applications to the Ontario Legislature, to cover their desires as noted above. As the three places are all in close proximity to each other, there is much rivalry, and the demand of the one town is thought to conflict with the interests of the other, etc. It has been proposed to destroy these conflicting interests by incorporating the three places together in one town. This, however would only add fuel to the flames. The three centres of population would still remain apart, even if nominally united in one corporation, and there would be continual strife in the municipal government. These Lake Superior points had better carry on their rivalry separately, than nominally joined together. "A house divided against itself cannot stand."

Assiniboia.

Andrew Dickson Wright has been fined \$10 and costs for hawking and peddling dry goods without a license at Saltcoats.

The Moose Jaw Times has been enlarged to an eight page paper. THE COMMERCIAL wishes the new proprietor every success.

H. S. Scatcherd, formerly a merchant of Medicine Hat, recently left for Detroit, having been appointed Canadian immigration agent to the United States.

Grain and Milling.

W. R. Cahoon is making arrangements to move his flour mill from High Bluff to Portage la Prairie.

C. O. Card, of the Mormon settlement, Lee's Creek, Alberta, has returned from Utah, bringing with him a practical miller to run the grist mill recently established in the settlement. He thinks there will be a considerable influx of well to do immigrants from that state to Alberta next spring.

W. Kitson and K. McKenzie, of Burnside, were in Winnipeg last week as delegates from the Burnside Farmers' Elevator company, interviewing the Canadian Pacific railway officials respecting a site at the above named place for an elevator which the farmers will erect there during the coming summer. The elevator will have a capacity of 50,000 bushels.

The fourth annual report of the Winnipeg Grain and Produce exchange, recently issued, is a much more bulky volume than usual, as in addition to the report of the council, president's address, etc., it contains the revised by-laws of the exchange, and the act of incorporation of the exchange, passed last spring. The annual report also gives the definition of terms frequently used in the grain trade, regulations governing the call board, rules governing the sale of grain and flour for future delivery, copies of official acts relating to grain, and other matters of interest to grain men.