

# 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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**WINNIPEG, FEBRUARY 3, 1890.**

A. W. E. Thompson, furniture, Winnipeg, is being closed out.

A. CONDIE has bought out the business of J. Temple, butcher, Deloraine, Man.

T. N. CAMPBELL, stationer, Prince Albert Sask., has sold out to Dr Jardine.

THE Lake House, Moosomin, Assa., is now under the management of Lake & Schmidt.

THE Albion hotel, a new hostelry, has been opened at Portage la Prairie, by A. McLeod, formerly of Morden.

A MOVEMENT is on foot to establish a creamery or cheese factory at, or near Fort Qu'Appelle, Assa.

E. C. S. WETMORE, representing McMaster & Co., wholesale dry goods, arrived in the city last week.

A FOUR foot seam of pipe clay has been found on Payton's cattle ranche, thirty miles south of Medicine Hat, Assa.

O. H. DINGMAN, boot and shoe dealer, Morden, Man., recently in difficulties, has resumed business in the same line.

H. C. PIERCE & Co., implements, Manitou, Man., have recently opened a branch at Swan Lake, with J. Itico in charge.

THE Winnipeg city council will memorialize the Dominion Government on the subject of improving Red river navigation.

THE plant of the cheese factory at Wolseley, Assa., has been purchased by a company formed at Pheasant Forks, north of Wolseley.

AMONGST the petitions presented at Ottawa last week was one from the Northwest Coal & Navigation Co., asking for an extension of time for the construction of a railway from Lethbridge to McLeod.

MCCULLOUGH & Ross, jewelers, Portage la Prairie, Man., have dissolved partnership.

E. ARNOLD, late of the Ellis house, Manitou, Man., has leased the Russell house, Rat Portage, and expects to leave Manitou about the 20th March.

MACTAVISH, GUY & Co are opening up a private banking institution at Carman, Man. They expect to commence business about the middle of February.

BATOCHÉ, who has a trading post at Fort la Corne reports that the Indians and half-breeds are suffering much from cold and starvation and are unable to get any fur.

THE stock of general goods of Chas. Booth, Sinaluta, Assa., was seized and sold by the Sheriff recently. H. Jaeger, of Qu'Appelle, was the purchaser, at 50¢ on the dollar.

CHALMERS BROS. & BETHUNE, of Pilot Mound, have a car load of corn from the United States. There is seven cents per bushel duty on this article, which could be well dispensed with.

JOHN ELLIOTT & SONS, implements, London, Ont., have sold out their implement warehouse at Portage la Prairie, Man., to A. D. Campbell and Isaac Laidman who will continue the business.

D. A. McDONALD, local agent, at Regina, for A. Harris, Son & Co., implements, has been authorized by the company to proceed in the spring with the erection of an implement warehouse.

FURTHER communications have been received regarding the proposed retailers convention, all of which are favorable to the idea. One letter from the west suggests the advisability of holding a separate convention at some western point, for the territories alone, owing to the cost of a trip to Winnipeg, unless the railway's could be induced to give reduced fares to the convention.

MANITOBA is shipping fish to the Pacific coast, which seems equal to sending coals to Newcastle. A Vancouver paper notes that R. V. Winch has received a consignment of Lake Winnipeg white fish. If the fish are not any better than the half decayed stuff which has been in the Winnipeg market ever since last spring, the Vancouver people are not likely to take kindly to them. But it is stated that while the good fish are shipped away, spoiled lots are placed on the home market.

THE News, Lethbridge, Alberta, says: Thos. McNabb, master mechanic for the Northwest Coal & Navigation Co., (Galt railway), is at present preparing plans for a new round-house and machine shops. The round-house will have stalls for twenty engines and will be fitted up with turn-table and other conveniences. The machine shop, judging from the plans, will be a mammoth affair. These preparations are probably being made in view of the extension of the railway from Lethbridge into Montana.

THE Bulletin, of Edmonton, northern Alberta, says: "Fur is not coming in as liberally as usual at this season of the year. The fall catch was very light owing to the lack of snow. Beaver have been particularly scarce, and lynx nearly as much so. Coyotes and foxes—black as well as red—are more numerous than usual. There has been a fair catch of fisher and bear. At present prices are generally from 15 to 40 per cent. lower than at this time last year, and advices indicate the possibility of a still further decline."

THE law firm of Davis & Gilmour has been dissolved; T. H. Gilmour and Robert M. Thompson will enter into partnership for the practice of law under the firm name of Gilmour & Co. G. Davis will continue to practice alone.

THERE seems to be a reversal in the weather conditions this year, on this continent. While in the east the winter has been remarkably mild, in the far west it has been remarkably cold. The Pacific coast has experienced cold weather, prolonged to an unusual period, with phenomenal snow falls. A British Columbia coast paper says: "It will soon be a month since sleighing commenced, and for once in the history of the coast a spell of real wintry weather, lasting close on thirty days, will be recorded." In Manitoba cold weather was later than usual in setting in, but for the month of January the weather was quite as cold as the average in this country.

WINNIPEG Free Press: It is evidently the intention of the Northern Pacific & Manitoba company to strike out boldly for Fort Macleod and the Crow's Nest Pass. The proposed branch to the Souris coal fields was originally located from Souris City on the Morris-Brandon branch in a northwesterly direction to the coal beds; but that location has now been abandoned and a line has been surveyed westward from Belmont through the tiers of townships, 5 and 6, and from that line a branch has been located southward to the coal fields, the main line being continued on westward. What is now known as the Morris-Brandon section has hitherto been regarded as a main line, but it seems that the main line is to be built almost directly west from Morris, and all lines deflecting therefrom will merely be feeders. The indications are that the Northern Pacific proposes paralleling the C. P. R. right to the mountains. The main line above referred to as now projected will tap all the settlements along the southern portion of Manitoba, Assiniboia and Alberta, as well as coal fields and cattle districts of the two Northwest provinces.

RUMORS have been afloat within the past two weeks to the effect that capital has been secured for the construction of the projected extension of the Galt railway from Lethbridge to Great Falls in Montana. Many reports of a similar character have been circulated since the scheme was first mooted that the public has not placed any credence in, but the Free Press is in a position to state that they are absolutely correct. The money has been raised, the contract has been let and construction work will be commenced just as soon as the frost is out of the ground this spring. The veteran railroad builder Donald Grant, of Faribault, Minnesota, has been given the contract. I. M. Ross, of this city, is a partner of Mr. Grant. It is likely that the Montana portion of the proposed Galt extension will be built northward from Great Falls, and the Alberta section will be built from Lethbridge to the boundary at the same time. The present Galt railway from Dunmore to Lethbridge will be widened to standard gauge by the time the new extension is completed. Preparations are now being made to begin work on the road. Timber, ties, telegraph poles, etc., are being got out, and everything will be in readiness to commence grading just as soon as the frost is out of the ground. The road from Great Falls to Lethbridge, a distance of 210 miles, will be completed by September next.—Free Press.