

The Commercial

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 west of Lake Superior, the Provinces
 of Manitoba and British Col-
 umbia 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, DECEMBER 10, 1888.

KEEWATIN debentures sold for 100j.
 McCUTCHEN, painter, Port Arthur has as-
 signed.
 W. SNIDER, hotelkeeper, Illecillewaet, has
 sold out.
 FITZGERALD & ELLIS, Calgary have dissolved
 partnership.
 FORT WILLIAM is agitating for a smelting and
 reduction works.
 J. AUSTIN, has purchased the Stewart House,
 at Vancouver, B.C.
 M. A. E. KEYES has opened a blacksmith
 shop at Lethbridge.
 GEO. HANNUM, dealer in fruit, Banff, has
 assigned to F. Fullon.
 THE Bank of British North America will open
 a branch at Brandon.
 MESSRS. ACKLAND have opened a carriage
 warehouse at Emerson.
 TOBTAS & Co., general storekeepers, Morden,
 have sold out to Heiman.
 J. J. JOHNSTON, has decided to give up busi-
 ness at Emerson and remove to Vancouver,
 B.C.
 THE elevator at Keewatin is being rushed
 through, fifty men being employed at the build-
 ing.
 I. C. KITLEY & Co. have purchased the whole
 of the tailoring department of Messrs. Rankin
 & Allan at Calgary.
 CORDWOOD is being brought in from Minne-
 sota by the N. P. & M. railway, resulting in
 prices taking a drop.

THE Commercial Bank of Manitoba is about
 to open a branch at Morden.

FRANK MARWOOD, blacksmith, Qu'Appello
 has succeeded T. Welsh of that place.

ELLIOTT & Son's implement ware- use at
 Morden, was burned down last Monday.

JOHN CABLE has sold out his livery stable at
 Carberry, and will remove to Rapid City.

ROBT. CUTHBERT, restaurant keeper, Port
 Arthur has left, leaving numerous creditors.

CHAMBRE, PATTERSON & Co., real estate
 agents, Winnipeg; style now C. Grundy & Co.

KELLY BROS, Winnipeg, have secured the
 contract for the masonry work of the N.P. &
 M. Railway bridges.

THE receipts of wheat have been small since
 the lower prices took effect. Farmers are evi-
 dently holding for a rise.

ROBERT TODD of the Standard office, Victoria,
 has completed arrangements for the publication
 of a morning paper, to be known as the Nan-
 aimo Morning Courier.

Two thousand and twenty lots are advertised
 for sale at Portage la Prairie, on the 12th.
 Some parties are objecting to the notice as be-
 ing too short but the council purposes to go
 ahead.

A. D. McDONALD, baker and grocer, Rat
 Portage has assigned to the sheriff. A number
 of Winnipeg firms are heavily involved, as is
 also A. Carmichael, who holds a judgment for
 over \$800.

THE C.P.R. station buildings at St. Boniface
 were destroyed by fire on Monday last (3rd.)
 Outside of the papers of the Company no great
 loss will be sustained, the building being a poor
 frame affair.

BY-LAWS are to be submitted to the people of
 Rat Portage for the purpose of raising a loan
 by way of debenture for the establishing of
 reduction works at that place. A saw mill is
 also pressing for a bonus.

A BOARD of trade has been formed at Mac-
 leod and the following officers elected:
 President, Mr. D. W. Davis; Vice-President,
 Mr. J. B. Smith; Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. D.
 J. Campbell; Committee: Messrs. T. H. Sted-
 man, A. F. Grady, H. Taylor, G. A. Ken-
 nedy, C. E. D. Wood, J. Cowdry and J.
 Hollies.

THE C.P.R. authorities have got the start
 of the Fort William Council to the tune of
 \$1,000. The Journal of that place pertinently
 remarks: Is it not about time the council took
 steps to get the balance —\$1,000—and have the
 matter settled now and forever? That \$1,000
 would be just as well in the coffers of our cor-
 poration chest as in the hands of the company.
 Let us have the matter settled.

THE new arrangement by which the through
 freight to and from American points will be
 hauled over the C. P. R. Pembina branch goes
 into effect to-day. Some slight changes will be
 made in the running time of local freight trains
 in consequence of the new arrangement. A
 train will be run each way daily between Win-
 nipeg and Gretna, and also between Winnipeg
 and Manitou, irrespective of the Gleaner and
 Southwestern branches,

CARSON & RILEY, harnessmakers and saddlers,
 Calgary have dissolved partnership. The busi-
 ness will be continued by A. Carson.

OSTERHOUT & KENNEDY, late of the Brunswick
 House, Victoria, have recently taken hold of
 the Central Hotel at Nanaimo, B.C.

THE Medicine Hat Railway Company have
 one month in which to construct its line to the
 mines before the expiration of its charter.

PORT ARTHUR offers to bonus a flour mill,
 cooperage works, fish cannery, smelting works,
 or agricultural implement manufactory, or will
 give free a building site.

THE Red Deer Valley Coal company will
 apply for a charter to build a railway from
 Cheadle on the C.P.R.; to the Red Deer coun-
 try, with a branch to Calgary.

REAL ESTATE and implement dealers report
 an averaging improvement in collections. In
 a few districts where the frost had been most
 severe the farmers were unable to pay much,
 and would have to be carried over for another
 year.

SEEMINGLY the Northwest Council is thor-
 oughly alive and awake on the question of im-
 migration to the Territories. A report sub-
 mitted by a committee on immigration and
 adopted without a change by the Council, asks
 for the sending of two permanent immigration
 agents to Great Britain, and during the summer
 season one to Montreal, one to Quebec, one to
 Toronto and one to Chicago. The Council
 evidently do not intend to do things by
 halves.

THE people of Rat Portage are striving to
 solve the problem whether to pull up stakes and
 go to Keewatin, or remain where they are, the
 difficulty of deciding being somewhat embarrass-
 ing, with points in favor of Keewatin. There
 has been much to discourage the business men
 of the former place the principal of which has
 been the vexed question of titles to mining pro-
 perties. There is a future before this place that
 many do not realize, and the efforts now being
 made in the direction of a smelting and reduc-
 tion works would be a big step to a more direct
 effort at making Rat Portage a place of stability.
 The opening and working of the Sultana mine
 whose richness is so promising, would justify
 the citizens in the step proposed and the settling
 of the other numerous mining properties would
 be assured.

WHILE many of our provincial towns have
 adequate means at hand for fire protection, in-
 stances are of almost daily occurrence, when
 their use is of the utmost importance, that the
 appliances are not in working order, or in case
 of chemical apparatus, the cylinders are not
 charged, and the time consumed in putting the
 same in condition has been usually too late to
 render any material assistance in the saving of
 either buildings or stocks. That such a state
 of affairs is allowed to exist amounts to criminal
 negligence, in the town councils not providing
 proper buildings for the accommodation of the
 extinguishing apparatus and the citizens of
 towns where such conditions exist would do
 well to bestir themselves and see that their
 business houses and residences are not without
 the means of protection from fire and not wait
 to indulge, when too late, in useless regrets.