

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, APRIL 15, 1889.

New departmental buildings will be erected at Regina this season, at a cost of \$12,000.

W. MOORE, livery, Oak Lake, Man., has sold out to Abraham Johnston, of Walkerton, Ont.

BARNES, boot and shoe dealer, Newdale, Man., has added a harness department to his business.

Mrs. SPARKING, fruits and confectionery, Emerson, Man., is selling out and giving up business.

R. J. DICKENSON, late proprietor of the Queen's Hotel, Brandon, died last week from consumption.

A FIRE in J. A. McKercher's grocery store, Winnipeg, last week was put out with but slight damage.

THE Regina Journal, not to be outdone by the Leader, has issued a very good special immigration number.

A MR. STILLWELL, from Ontario, has bought out the premises of J. C. McLeod, blacksmith, Killarney, Man.

IMMIGRATION buildings to cost about \$15,000 and accommodate 100 to 150 persons, will be erected in Winnipeg at once.

LAKE Winnipeg Whitefish were quoted at 5 to 6c per pound at Toronto last week. B. C. Salmon were quoted at 12½ to 14c.

WM. MCKENZIE has opened a harness shop at Whitewood, Assa. Barbour is likely to open a blacksmith shop at the same place.

COAL at Calgary sells retail at \$8 per ton for Canmore, and \$7 per ton for Cochrane mine coal. Wood brings \$4 per cord, or \$30 per car in car lots of about 12 cords.

J. O. Cadham, tinware, Portage la Prairie and Carberry, Man., has disposed of his Carberry branch to H. W. Brown & Co.

THE Rat Portage News, now published weekly, will be issued twice a week during the summer, commencing on the first of May.

THE Calgary Tribune says that if the sale of implements is any criterion, this season's acreage will be by far the largest Alberta has ever seen.

A MR. TATE is erecting a building at Selkirk, Man., in which he purposes hatching chickens on an extensive scale, by an artificial process with incubators.

LETTERS patent have been issued increasing the capital stock of the Manitoba Free Press Company from \$100,000 to \$135,500 by the addition of 355 shares of \$100 each.

S. T. TREBLE, dealer in implements, carriages, etc., Crystal City, Man., has started a harness shop in connection with his business, with a Mr. Jeffrey, recently from Ontario in charge.

F. G. RICHARDS, real estate agent, Victoria, B. C., has adopted a system of procuring photographs of all lands offered for sale in his agency. This might be a useful hint to Winnipeg agents.

NICHOLI & COOTES, of Rainy River, are building a steambot to run on Rainy River and Lake of the Woods, between Fort Francis and Rat Portage. She will be ready to run about the 1st of June.

IN future the Portage la Prairie Liberal will be owned and issued by the "Liberal Printing Co." The firm of P. A. Cowan & Co. has been dissolved, Cowan retiring from the business. No change in the policy of the paper will be made.

CAPT. DEACON is building a tug at Prince Albert, to ply on the Saskatchewan. The machinery is now all ready, and when finished the tug will have a carrying capacity of forty tons and will, when loaded, draw about two feet of water.

THE Regina Leader says: The Land Office is literally besieged with applicants for homesteads, and it will not be long before every available section around Regina is taken up. This morning men were hanging on to the Land Office door long before the hour of opening.

CORRESPONDENCE from Brandon to the Winnipeg papers stated that Thomas Spence, general merchant, Brandon, was preparing to move to Vancouver. Mr. Spence writes THE COMMERCIAL to say that though he has contemplated going to Vancouver, yet the item published is misleading, as he has a large stock which it would take him six or eight months to dispose of in the ordinary way.

THE Brandon board of trade will co-operate with the agricultural society in holding the regular exhibition next fall. The assistance of the board should go a great ways towards making the exhibition a success. The board has also appointed a committee composed of C. A. Larkin, W. G. Lindsay and J. Hanbury to confer with the city council at its next meeting regarding establishing of a grain market in the city.

DIFFERENT grades of frozen wheat will be tested on the Manitoba experimental farm, at Brandon, this season. The samples will be taken from wheat regularly graded by the inspector at Winnipeg. These tests may be useful in deciding the question as to the value of frozen wheat for seed.

CATTLE are said to be fat and in prime condition at Calgary, and in the Alberta ranching country generally, though these cattle have picked their living on the prairie all winter. A lot of Alberta cattle taken to the Pacific coast a short time ago, by Van Valkenburg & Bro., meat dealers, of Victoria and Vancouver, have given excellent satisfaction, and further purchases are being made from the same quarter.

SENATOR Clemlow and Messrs. LaRiviere, Scarth and Taylor, with Alexander Mutchmore, one of the promoters of the Northwestern Junction and Lake of the Woods Railway, have had an interview with Sir Jon Macdonald asking for a land grant for their road. Sir John informed the deputation that he would take the matter into consideration. This road is proposed to run from Emerson to Brandon to connect at the latter point with the Great Northwest Central.

H. SHOREY & Co., clothing, Montreal, continue their unique plan of notifying their customers of a coming visit of a representative from their house, by forwarding a photo of some well-known person, with the information printed on the back thereof. Their last circular is printed on the back of a card, the front of which gives a very good photo of Hon. John Norquay, ex-premier of Manitoba. The card will be appreciated, especially by the friends of the ex-premier.

THE heavy snow which fell throughout the Qu'Appelle district, from Moose Jaw eastward, on the first of April, has vastly improved crop prospects in that region. Agriculturalists are therefore quite enthusiastic. In Manitoba the fall of snow was much lighter, amounting only to barely enough to whiten the ground at Winnipeg. In the province, however, moisture was not required as much as in the country further west. The snow was preceded at Winnipeg by a heavy rain.

IN an article on "Sheep Breeding," published in last week's COMMERCIAL, reasons were given why farmers should wash their sheep before clipping. As the wool season will soon come on, these reasons will bear repetition. Farmers often grumble because from 40 to 50 per cent. is taken off unwashed wool, as compared with prices for washed wool. Washed wool also commands a more ready sale from the reason that the duty on wool going into the United States is the same on washed as on unwashed. Mr. Hallam, of Toronto, puts it as follows:—"The present price of washed wool is 22 cents per pound, and the duty 10 cents, which is about 45 per cent.; the present price of unwashed wool to our manufacturers is 12 cents, and, if we had to send it to the United States, there would be a duty of 10 cents a pound, or over 83 per cent." From this it will be seen that the duty on unwashed wool is proportionately much higher than on washed wool, taking the relative value of the different classes,