

The Commercial

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west of Lake Superior, the Provinces
of Manitoba and British Col-
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JAMES E. STEEN,
Publisher

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, AUGUST 13, 1888.

H. H. MILLIE, jeweller, Battleford, N.W.T., has gone out of business.

MCDONALD & BOULTON, blacksmiths, Virden, have dissolved partnership.

CREER & MICKLE, barristers, Birtle Man., have opened a law office at Binscarth.

The board of trade of Maple Creek, Assa., has placed a show case upon the C. P. R. platform there.

G. L. MASHINTER, of the Portage la Prairie Liberal, has sold out his interest in that paper and will go east.

JANET SHEPPHERD, dry goods, Regina, has added groceries, and admitted R. H. Williams into partnership.

THE Qu'Appelle board of trade has had a building 8x20, erected for the use of the hook and ladder company.

PIPER BROS. have finished their new building at Fort William, and will open up a stock of stoves and hardware.

RAPID CITY Vindicator:—Our merchants' stock of butter was cleaned out by a Winnipeg firm this week. The ruling price was 12½c.

FOURTEEN cars, numbering in all 255 head of Stewart ranch cattle, in magnificent condition, were shipped to Montreal on Thursday last.

JAS. McDONALD and K. A. McLeod, builders and contractors, Edmonton, Alberta, have entered into partnership under the firm name of McDonald & McLeod.

KNIGHT & MALONE, who purchased Charles O'Meara's blacksmithing business at Calgary,

recently, have dissolved partnership. Malone will continue the business.

THE new printing plant for the Winnipeg Morning Call has arrived, and that paper appeared on Monday last in a new and elegant dress, and otherwise improved in form.

GARLAND, of Portage la Prairie, has asked for tenders for the erection of a store at Carberry, Man. It is understood he intends opening up business in the line of gents' furnishings.

AN idea of the extent of the crop on the big plain surrounding Carberry, Man., may be gathered from the fact that the agents there of the different implement firms have sold in the aggregate 104 binders.

LAIMAN & MYRES, the Manitoba Wine Co., of Portage la Prairie and Winnipeg, have sold out their brewing plant to E. L. Drewry, and will confine their operations to the manufacture of aerated waters, &c.

THE Ontario & Rainy River railway company has voted to amalgamate with the Port Arthur, Duluth & Southwestern, to send out a surveying party to locate the line for its connection with the latter road and to try to secure bonuses from the mining towns along the route.

NOTICE is given in the last Manitoba Gazette of the application for letters patent by the Riding Mountain Oil Company. The applicants are:—R. P. Roblin, grain merchant; Charles T. Brown, real estate agent; Wm. L. Harrison, Alex. L. Anderson, insurance agent; Wm. P. Johnston, machinist; C. W. Clark, physician; and Samuel B. Woods, salesman, all of Winnipeg.

THE Icelanders who went into the Red Deer country, north of Calgary, lately, are pleased with their new home. The remainder of this colony, numbering 73 souls, will arrive in the fall after they have disposed of their effects in Dakota. The Alberta Lumber Co. have made no advances in erecting their mill. Lumber is badly needed in the settlement, McKenzie Bros. with their small saw mill being unable to supply the demand.

THE Regina board of trade held the first meeting on Wednesday, under incorporation. D. W. Bole was elected president, and J. A. McCaul vice-president. The following were elected a council:—J. W. Smith, M. McNichol, D. Mowat, R. Tinning, A. Martin; P. Lamont, C. J. Atkinson, J. F. Mowat, Alex. Sheppard, Jonas Smith, G. B. Elliott, secretary. A board of arbitration, comprising twelve, were elected. A number of by-laws were introduced and passed, and several new members were elected.

EARLY last spring Hill & Mason, of Sintaluta, Assa., wrote to Mons. Pasteur, of Paris, France, for a small quantity of the poison which he had recommended for the extermination of the rabbits in Australia, hoping it might be successful in destroying "gophers," the pests of this country, and received from him a most courteous reply. He also sent, at his own expense, a bottle containing microbes of chicken cholera, with full instructions for use, which are as follows:—Mix the microbes with soup, allowing the same to lie three or four days to germinate, then mix with meal or shorts. The

experiment has been highly successful, and the gentlemen referred to say that they have gained the upper hand of the gopher, and expect no further trouble from them. Large numbers of them have been found dead, and an examination proved them all to be diseased, whilst a few running around are minus their hair or fur. It is to be hoped that this means of ridding the country of such destructive pests may be taken up by the authorities, seeing Mr. Pasteur has kindly offered to give further supplies of microbes should the experiments prove successful.

EDMONTON Bulletin:—Word was brought in by hunters some weeks ago that the beaver on the Athabasca river and its tributaries had died during the past winter and spring in thousands—that they were in fact almost exterminated. Subsequent reports have partly confirmed these statements, and are to the effect that the destruction extends from the foot-hills of the Rockies to Fort McMurray on the Athabasca. Some say that disease is the cause of the trouble. Others, that owing to dry seasons the streams on which the beavers build their dams have got so low that during last winter the dams in which their food was stored under the ice froze to the bottom and prevented their getting at it, thereby starving them to death. And further, that where this did not occur or was only partly the case, as the spring was remarkably late it is probable the supply of food ran out before the ice broke, and they were thus starved. Whatever may have been the reason the fact remains that throughout a great extent of country that ordinarily turns out thousands of skins in a year, the output this season will be very greatly decreased, and it will be some years before it can be expected to come up to the old figure.

A LARGELY attended meeting of the Portage la Prairie board of trade was held recently and a large amount of business transacted, President McLenaghan in the chair. The by laws were adopted and the regular meeting of the council fixed for the third Thursday in each month. On motion Vice-President Wm. Garland, Robt. Watson, M. P., and Secretary Prest were appointed a general railway committee. Messrs. Robt. Watson, David Johnson and Secretary Prest were appointed a committee to draw up a resolution to the Dominion Government in conformity with the resolution passed by the Winnipeg board of trade, to change the present wheat standards to one which will do justice to our farmers and grain men. A resolution was passed reciting the injury being done to Portage la Prairie and surrounding country by the scarcity of lumber, due, the board is informed, to the lack of transportation facilities on the C. P. R., and urging Superintendent Whyte to give the matter his immediate attention with a view to rectifying the evil. The secretary was instructed to forward a copy of the resolution to Superintendent Whyte. Considerable discussion followed this, devoted to matters affecting the commercial interests of the town. The members of the board have settled down to business, and the board is bound to become a useful and convenient factor in advancing the interests of Portage la Prairie. It comprises, it is said, nearly all the leading merchants and business men of the town.