

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

OF

The Town of Battleford.

Situation—The Town of Battleford is situated on the south side of the Saskatchewan river, a little west of the junction of the former with the Battle river. The original location of the town was on the Battle river, about a mile from the Saskatchewan, where the Northwest Government buildings were erected in 1877. In its primitive days it was known as Telegraph Flat. While the original site of the town was not without its attractions, the site of the present town, or North Battleford, is perhaps unequalled for beauty and natural advantages in the Northwest. Situated on the high ground which divides the two rivers, and which slopes gradually to the north, south and east, it will require no great engineering skill to keep streets and cellars dry, while its proximity to two rivers guarantees water for all purposes. Like all towns in the Northwest, it presents a somewhat irregular appearance, and is built almost entirely of wood. Wooden buildings of the cheapest character, however, mark the first stage in the career of a western town—the stage of uncertainty—out of which Battleford, notwithstanding the removal of the seat of Government to Regina, the destruction wrought by the Indians in the spring of 1885, and other difficulties, is slowly but surely advancing. The population of the town is about 500, equally divided between English and French.

Advantages—Battleford is connected during the season of navigation with all points on the Saskatchewan, and good trails lead to Ft. Pitt, Prince Albert, and Swift Current, on the C. P. R., from which latter point the mail arrives weekly. It is surrounded by a good country for farming and stock raising. There are, of course, bad, or what appear to be bad, sections, as is the case in all countries. Sufficient good land, however, is to be found to make homes for many thousands of industrious farmers within easy distance. The crops last year were excellent, every variety of grain and vegetables having been successfully raised.

