

the rate of £45 the troy pound. The amount purchased to the beginning of summer amounted to 66 "poods," or over 2,600 pounds. When the Chinese authorities had learned that a gold mine had been discovered within their borders, they took steps to assert their rights, and sent a small detachment of troops. The diggers tried to buy them off, offering first four pounds, then eight pounds of gold. Then a force of 10,000 men was sent from Manchouria, the intention being to attack the diggers as soon as the ice began to break up on the Amoor, and they could no longer escape by the river into Russian territory. Had they done this there would have been much bloodshed, for the diggers are well armed and very determined, and as discoverers, consider they have an absolute property in the diggings. Possibly Russia would have found in the confusion an excuse for intervention in a district which she must greatly regret is not within her own borders.—*Banker's Magazine.*

The Mink.

The mink is not nearly so destructive an animal as is generally supposed and much of the mischief usually charged to minks in Manitoba is performed by other animals, such as skunks and weasels, of which there are several varieties in this country. The mink seldom leaves running streams, although it is sometimes found about ponds and lakes. Not being a swift runner, it is quickly overtaken when on the open prairie by wolves or foxes which are ever on the lookout for moving objects and consequently the mink seldom leaves its favorite haunts, where, if attacked, it can quickly find a hole amongst the fallen timber or escape into the water. As the principal food of the mink is fish, it mostly frequents creeks and rivers where its supplies are abundant. In winter this animal spends most of its time in the hollow space which is formed by the water sinking away from the ice, and, like the otter, it usually comes out for a run on mild snowy mornings. Next to the otter the mink is the most beautiful fur carrying animal in the Northwest and along the wooded valleys of the running streams it is found in considerable numbers at this season of the year or somewhat earlier. Mink furs are just now out of fashion and a little protection would encourage and increase production, if the law could be enforced. During the last few years a vast number of these interesting little creatures have been caught out of season both by white men and Indians. A camp is made by some stream where the minks are numerous, traps are set here and there along the creek, for several miles up and down and nearly all the animals are quickly captured. As trapping can be carried on more easily before the water freezes and as each trapper seeks to be first, the fur is taken before it attains its proper gloss and thickness. In a few years fashions will change and instead of fifty cents a good mink skin will, again, be worth four or five dollars. The authorities should by all means provide a close time for minks and not only fine heavily those who trap out of season but seize all the unprime skins found in the hands of dealers.—*Birtle Observer.*

EOCENE. WATER WHITE. SUNLIGHT.
STANDARD OIL COMPANY,
 (CLEVELAND, OHIO).
 Manitoba & Northwest Department, Winnipeg.
ILLUMINATING OILS LUBRICATING
 GASOLINE, AXLE GREASE, CANDLES and all
 PRODUCTS of AMERICAN PETROLEUM.
 Our stock here embraces all the Manufactures of the
 Standard Oil Company. Correspondence solicited.
 JOS. BARTLES, Mgr., Office 343 Main St
 CAPITOL ELDORADO CHALLENGE
 CYLINDER. NE. MACHINERY.

Dominion Organ and Piano Co.
 AGENCY FOR MANITOBA & NORTHWEST.
 Tuning and Repairing a Specialty.
 Also dealers in Stationery and Fancy Goods.
W. H. NUNN & CO.,
 389 MAIN STREET, WINNIPEG.

GRANT & HAMILTON,
 ELEPHANT PAINT AND PAPER HOUSE,
 —Dealers in—
Wall Papers, Paints, Oils,
 GLASS, COLORS, BRUSHES, ETC.
 545 Main Street, WINNIPEG.

W. HIGGINS & CO.,
 WHOLESALE DEALERS
Boots & Shoes, Trunks, &c.
 33 PORTAGE AVENUE EAST.
 WINNIPEG, MAN

A. Ramsay & Son.
OIL AND COLOR
MERCHANTS.
 Plate Glass! Colored Glass!!
 Enamelled Glass, etc.
5 McDERMOTT STREET,
WINNIPEG.

S. SPINK,
 DEALER IN
GRAIN
 &
PRODUCE.
593 Main St., WINNIPEG.

E. D. Moore & Co.
 WHOLESALE
OILS
 Producers, Refiners & Shippers of all kinds Petroleum
 ILLUMINATING & MACHINE OILS.
 SPECIAL BRANDS—Parlor Light, Economy and American Oils.
 MACHINE OILS—Castorine, XXX Castorine, Locomotive Valve, Filtered Cylinder, Summer Eclipse, and all other kinds of Machine Oil.
 We Guarantee our Machine Oils to give satisfaction
 Contractors for Artesian Water or Oil Wells.
 ED. MOORE & CO., Main St., WINNIPEG.
 M. J. WOODWARD & CO., PETROLIA.

STRANG & CO.
WHOLESALE GROCERS
 AND DEALERS IN
 Provisions, Wines and Liquors.
 383 Main Street, WINNIPEG.

MONEY TO LEND.
 MORTGAGES & DEBENTURES PURCHASED.
Western Canada Loan & Savings Co.
 HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, WALTER S. LEE, Manager.
 Winnipeg Branch, Cor. Portage Av. & Fort St
F. B. ROSS,
 Manager Winnipeg Branch

NORTH AMERICAN
Life Assurance Company.
 HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT.
 HON. ALEXANDER MACKENZIE, M.P., President
 WM. McCABE, F.J.A., Managing Director.
 Special attention is called to his Company's
 Semi-Fortune Investment plan of Insurance.
 Wm. R. GRUNDY, Manager Manitoba and N. W. Dep't,
 Office: 302 MAIN STREET, WINNIPEG.

OGILVIE MILLING CO.
 Mill at Point Douglas.
 Capacity - - - 750 Barrels per day.
 OFFICE :—Corner King and
 Alexander Streets, Winnipeg.
 A Full Stock of Patent Hungarian, Strong
 Bakers' and Spring Extra Flour; Oatmeal, Pot
 and Pear' Barley, Graham Flour, Cracked
 Wheat, Bran, Shorts, Ground Feed, Oats, Bar
 ley.
 Wheat buyers at all Shipping C.P.R. Stations.