

**Business East.****ONTARIO.**

D. W. Smyth, grocer, London, has sold out.  
Mrs. Bradford, hotelkeeper, Paris, has sold out.

W. R. Brown, wagons, Georgetown, burned out.

O. O'Boyle, hotelkeeper, Drayton, has sold out.

J. M. Chaso, manufacturer, Paisley, has assigned.

Robert Greene, clothier, London, has assigned.

Wm. Beattie, harnessmaker, Chesley, has assigned.

E. J. Stephenson, shoes, Brantford, has assigned.

George Hunter, millinery, Strathroy, has assigned.

Wm. Getty, hotelkeeper, Leamington, has sold out.

Philip Ridley, baker, etc., Ridgely, has sold out.

John G. James, tins, Waterford, has moved to Belmont.

Howard E. Hughes, tins, etc., St. Thomas, has assigned.

Thomas Stephenson, cabinets, etc., Ailsa Craig, is dead.

Leo & Chillas, wholesale jewelers, Toronto, have dissolved.

H. W. Moad, general storekeeper, Chester-ville, has assigned.

Jas. G. Anderson, general storekeeper, Flesh-erton, has assigned.

Armstrong & Co., books and stationery, To-ronto, have assigned.

J. M. Wilson, baker and confectioner, To-ronto, has assigned.

Van Velson & Shaver, physicians, Blenheim, Dr. Van Velson is dead.

Samuel Kirkland, builder and furniture, Teeswater, has assigned.

J. J. Dutton, groceries and liquor, Toronto, has sold out his grocery business.

B. & E. Baxter, dealers in grain, Cayuga, grain warehouse and contents burned.

P. W. Bell, general storekeeper, Collingwood, has compromised at 60c in the dollar.

**QUEBEC.**

A. Noiseux, hotelkeeper, Beloeil, has assigned.

M. Bisailon & Fils, carriages, Laprarie, has assigned.

Loranger & Jarret, builders, Montreal, have dissolved.

Messier & Collette, grocers, Montreal, have dissolved.

I. D. Thurston, manufacturer of shoes, Mon-treal, has assigned.

C. W. Higgins, general storekeeper, Papin-cauville, has assigned.

Mrs. Jos. Lavallee, grocer, St. Cyrille de Wendover, has assigned.

P. Gardener & Fils, general storekeepers, Woodside, have assigned.

Geo. Robb & Son, carriage hardware, etc., Knowlton, have dissolved.

G. W. Vancor & Son, pump manufacturers, Knowlton, have dissolved.

**Lake Superior Region.**

S. Smith started his shingle mill at Fort William last week.

It is reported that the Silver Islet mine will be put under work again at an early date. It is probable that a shaft of 1000 feet will be sunk on the mainland and prospecting operations started at that depth.

**Toronto Hides and Wool Prices.**

The demand for hides is of a limited charac-ter. Stocks in dealers hands are large. Car lots of cured, present take off have sold at 5½c, but for fall and early winter more than this is asked. Sheepskins are dull. Calfskins more plentiful and prices weak. Prices are:—

Cured cows, No. 1.	.....	\$0 05½ to \$0 05½
Green, inspected No. 1.	.....	0 00 to 0 04½
Green, inspected No. 2.	.....	0 00 to 0 03½
Green, inspected No. 3 and bull	0 00 to 0 02½	
Green, country trimmed.	.....	0 02½ to 0 04½
Sheep and lamb skins.	.....	1 25 to 1 50
Veals, 8 lbs and up, green No. 1	0 00 to 0 06	
Veals, 8 lbs and up, green No. 2	0 00 to 0 05	
Veals, 8 lbs and up, cured No. 1	0 90 to 0 08	
Veals, 8 lbs and up, cured No. 2	0 06½ to 0 07	
Fleece wool in good demand for low grades, stocks of which are light. Buyers are finding a ready sale. Prices are:—		
Fleece, ordinary.	.....	\$0 00 to 0 00
Fleece, pure Down	.....	0 00 to 0 00
Pulled super.	.....	0 22½ to 0 24
Pulled combing.	.....	0 19 to 0 20
Pulled extra.	.....	0 28 to 0 29

—Empire.

**Stonewall.**

The town of Stonewall, Manitoba, is one of the places in the province which has been neglected by the Winnipeg papers. Write-ups and articles of information concerning other sections of the province have been freely published in the city papers, but very little has ever been said of Stonewall. The only reason which can be given for this is, that Stonewall is too near home to have been considered worthy of much attention. This is a peculiar reason, but in the absence of any more reasonable excuse, this one may be given. THE COMMERCIAL will try and make up to some extent for this neglect on the part of the city papers, by devoting a brief article to Stonewall and district.

Stonewall has been an old and familiar name to many in Manitoba for years. The place has been visited by a great many of the residents of Winnipeg from time to time, owing to its nearness to the city, and to the fact that it is a favorite point for pic-nics and excursions from the city. Stonewall is situated a little over nineteen miles north by west of Winnipeg, by railway, and it is the terminus of the Stonewall branch of the C. P. R., which connects the place with the city. Ten years ago there was not much sign of a town where the place now stands. The land upon which Stonewall is built, was homesteaded by S. J. Jackson, M.P.P., in 1873. A few years later Mr. Jackson conceived the idea of

**STARTING A TOWN**

upon his farm. He consequently had a portion of his property surveyed in 1878, and layed out in town lots. A grist mill has frequently proved the nucleus of a future town or city, and so it was in the case of Stonewall. O. P. Jackson and James Drake built a grist mill here in 1878, in aid of which the proprietor of the future townsite gave ten acres near the centre of his town plot. O. P. Jackson opened the first store about this time. Thus the nucleus of the town was established, and gradually additional business places were established. Mr. S. J. Jackson followed the custom of giving free building sites to all parties who were willing to erect

buildings in the place, and in this way quite an amount of property was given away. In 1881 the railway was built from Winnipeg to Stonewall, by the Dominion Government. Mr. Jackson gave thirty acres of land as an inducement to locate a station at the rising town, and a well and water tank was also donated for the same purpose.

It will be remembered by the settlers in Manitoba previous to 1882, that Portage la Prairie was reached via Stonewall. The Government extended the railway from Stonewall to Portage la Prairie, but when the road passed into the hands of the C. P. R. syndicate, a new road was built direct from Winnipeg to Portage, and the road between Stonewall and the Portage was torn up. Stonewall then became the northern terminus of the branch road, and it has remained so since.

With the advent of the railway in 1881, Stonewall was given quite a "boom," and the place grew rapidly. Operations were commenced quarrying the

**EXCELLENT BUILDING STONE**

which is found on the town-site, and during the rapid construction of the C. P. Railway, a large quantity of stone was taken out for bridging and other purposes on the railway. At this time about 150 men were employed in the stone quarries. This helped greatly to boom the place. At this time Mr. Jackson could have sold out his town-site and retired wealthy, but he had such faith in the future of the place that he did not do so. This is where he got left, to use a common expression. With the flattening out of the great Manitoba "boom," which so seriously affected all the older towns of the province, Stonewall also flattened. The stoppage of railway construction and general building, brought about the closing of work at the stone quarries, and thus the principal source of revenue to the town, outside of the farmers' trade, was destroyed. Several years of depression followed, with a shrinkage in population and the number of business places. About two years ago it became apparent that the depth of depression had been reached and passed, and signs of improvement were visible. During the last two years the town has slowly but steadily improved, and it is now quite as prosperous as the average village in Manitoba. The population is now about 400, and there are about thirty business establishments in the place.

The present improved condition of Stonewall is due to the gradual settlement of the excellent farming country surrounding, and to the better financial condition of the older settlers. As an agricultural district the residents of Stonewall and vicinity declare that there is none better in Manitoba. The country has been fairly well settled in the vicinity of the town, and particularly to the north and west, for years, and many settlers who travelled all over the province, have returned and located in this district, in preference to any other. During recent years the stream of immigration has been westward and southwestward, and the Stonewall region has not received its fair share of new settlers. No effort has been made to draw the attention of new-comers to the excellence of the district, and being on a branch line upon which there is not much travel, the district has