

*Review*, published there semi-weekly, in referring to the prosperity of the place, says that no further back than the opening months of 1880, the town was nothing more than a few straggling huts, with here and there a house or store of more pretentious style, and "Now," continues the *Review*, "not one, but many of our streets boast of whole blocks of stores that would be a credit to any of the towns of Ontario, while a number of our palatial hotels and private residences would compare favourably with the larger cities. The old trail, which was followed as a principal street, with its windings, has been supplanted by wide, well-graded streets, on which are laid miles of plank sidewalks and timber crossings. The boom in real estate has been for some time past something unprecedented and brought about there in a great measure by the change of the Canadian Pacific Railway line to proximity with the town;—BRANDON, situated on the south of the Assiniboine, 133 miles west of Winnipeg, and commanding an extensive view of Grand Valley eastward, Brandon Hills a few miles southward, and the valley of the Little Saskatchewan westward. Hundreds of substantial buildings have been put up, including churches, stores, hotels, post office, flouring mill, planing mill, lawyers, brokers, and real estate agents and banking offices. Brandon will undoubtedly soon be incorporated. The population is about 1,000. Land is all taken up in the neighbourhood. A bridge is being built across the Assiniboine, to connect Brandon by road with the country north. The crossing was formerly made by a scow-ferry. The C. P. R. crosses the river about two miles east of Brandon, at Grand Valley, on a temporary wooden bridge, which will be removed on the completion of the permanent bridge now in course of construction.

The Little Saskatchewan, the length of which is about 150 miles, runs from the Riding Mountain and empties in the Assiniboine, a little further than Brandon. Two ambitious towns have also sprung up on its borders:—RAPID CITY, about eighteen miles from its mouth, and the centre of a large and thickly settled district. It has early prospect of railway communication with the proposed Souris river and Rocky Mountain railway, a grist and two saw mills, a newspaper, several stores, hotels, etc. There are excellent waterpowers on the river, and lumber can be floated down from Riding Mountains:—MINNEDOSA, also on the Little Saskatchewan river, and possessing grist and saw mills, several stores, a first-class hotel, a post office.

The Bird-Tail river, which runs to the north-west of the Little Saskatchewan, flows from the northern extremity of the Riding Mountain, and also discharges in the Assiniboine, below Fort Ellice. On the eastern shore of the Assiniboine, opposite the latter post, twelve miles distant, is BIRTLE, whose ambition is to progress like its neighbours, and further on still to the east, at a