

The Commercial

Journal of Commerce, Industry, and Finance
specially devoted to the interests of Western
Canada, including that portion of Ontario
west of Lake Superior, the Provinces
of Manitoba and British Columbia
and the Territories.

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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, JULY 16, 1888.

ALFORD & CAREY's new hotel at Oak Lake, Man., has been opened.

WM. THOMPSON's Oak Lake hotel has been enlarged and improved.

THE sheriff's sale of the estate of the Assiniboine Valley Stock and Dairy Farming Co. has been postponed until August 1st next.

THE Medicine Hat board of trade at its last meeting took up the railway question and appointed a committee consisting of Finlay, Scatcherd and Tweed to correspond with Mr. Small, regarding the opening up of the coal mine.

THE work on the Wood Mountain trail has been completed. The settlers along the trail petitioned for a grant, and the Qu'Appelle board of trade recommended it. The sum of \$300 was granted to the order of the board, under whose direction the work was carried out.

THE heavy sales of agricultural implements and machinery reported from different parts of the country, speak well for the crop outlook and the prosperous condition of our farming population generally. One agent at Neepawa, Man., expects to deliver about \$18,000 worth of implements on July 18th.

THE Manitoba and Northwest Commercial Travellers' Association met lately and filled existing vacancies by electing W. M. Ronald president, R. M. O'Loughlin, vice-president, and Andrew Straug, treasurer. Vacancies in the directorate were filled by the appointment of J. K. Whinnery, W. M. Rublee and W. S. Alley.

A HALF interest in the Royal Hotel, Calgary, is advertised for sale.

JONES Bros., photographers, Winnipeg, have sold out to J. A. Clarke.

WHITEHEAD & Co., druggs, Winnipeg, have been closed out on a chattel mortgage.

R. J. COLE, general storekeeper, Keewatin, has assigned in trust to R. T. Riley, of Winnipeg.

THE Regina board of trade has decided to issue a pamphlet showing the advantages of Regina district for settlement.

MOWAT Bros., Regina, who lately gave up their butchering department, have rented their butcher shop and plant to James Crack, who will continue the business.

VOTING took place at Port Arthur on Wednesday last on the by-law for granting a bonus of \$2,572 to the C. P. R., being a rebate of half the taxes of 1885 and 1886. A majority of the votes polled were in favor of the by-law, but it is defeated, owing to two fifths of the votes of the property owners being required by statute to bring it into effect. The by-law authorizing the adoption of the Edison electric light was defeated. The by-law regarding public parks was carried.

THE following is a statement, furnished by R. W. Jones, collector, of the value of free and dutiable goods imported into the port of Regina, Assa. for the year 1887 and 1888, with the duties collected thereon:—

Value of goods dutiable, year ending	
June 30, 1887	\$8,499 00
Value of goods free	5,224 00

Total	\$13,723 00
Duty collected	\$2,441 64
Value of goods dutiable, year ending	
June 30, 1888	\$13,605 00
Value of goods free	10,115 00

Total	\$23,720 00
Duty collected	\$3,526 70

E. RICHARD, of Battleford, Sask., will leave for Peace River, where he will open two trading stations. One will be at Dunvegan and another at Slave Lake.

THE following classified statement of the number of bona fide immigrants who have settled in Manitoba or the Northwest during the first six months of the present year, has been furnished by the Dominion Government office:

	Males.	Females.	Child.	Total.
January.....	173	182	36	291
February.....	185	51	31	267
March.....	1,291	362	246	1,899
April.....	2,183	435	301	2,919
May.....	1,821	430	393	2,644
June.....	1,310	324	347	1,981
Not classified:				
April.....	...	...	...	350
May.....	...	...	...	150
Total	6,963	1,684	1,354	10,501

The above statement shows that the arrivals for the first half of this year are slightly in excess of the total influx of 1886.

It is reported that the mail service between San Francisco and Victoria, will be replaced. The withdrawal of the mail service from this route, in favor of the route by rail and Puget Sound, caused a great deal of opposition in Victoria a short time ago. The Puget sound service will be continued.

THREE hundred Icelanders arrived in Winnipeg on Thursday last, and will locate in the country.

W. W. Spink has been appointed agent at Kamloops, B. C. for the Citizen's Insurance Company.

A boom across the Assiniboine at the flour mill, Brandon, broke recently and allowed 500 cords of wood belonging to the mill to escape.

It is said the Red River Valley Railway will be completed as far north as Morris, by the close of this week.

THE Winnipeg grocers will hold their annual picnic at Rat Portage, on Thursday, July 26th. The butchers and millers will join the grocers in their picnic.

G. T. LUNDY, proprietor of the Queen's hotel, Morden, Man., has commenced an addition to his hotel, for furnishing better accommodation to commercial travellers in the way of sample rooms.

BRANDON Sun:—John A. Christie has returned from the north, where he was looking after his drive of logs. The rise of water in the river gave him an opportunity of getting 30,000 pieces in the Assiniboine, and they may be expected here shortly.

MR. BEDFORD, manager of the Manitoba Experimental Farm, arrived at Brandon, on Saturday, with a carload of horses and implements, with which to commence work for next season's crop. Fencing and the erection of buildings will be proceeded with at once.

The official survey of the Fraser river between Westminster and Deep Water has been completed. Only one place was found which did not show sufficient depth of water, the shallowest sounding being 11 feet 6 inches at low tide, or about 22 feet 6 inches at high tide.

A third ship has been chartered to load lumber at Westminster, for export. The navigation of the Fraser river to Westminster now seems assured, and as a consequence, lumbering operations on the Fraser may be expected to look up.

WHOLESALE grocers in the United States have recently been considering the sugar question, in a somewhat similar spirit to that in which wholesale grocers in Canada some time ago took up the matter. The trouble with wholesale grocers in the United States has been as regards profits on sugars. At present there is little or no profit in handling sugars, and not infrequently direct loss accrues to the wholesaler. The grocers see that the only way to arrange the matter satisfactorily, is to come to some agreement with refiners, similar to the agreement now existing in this country between the grocers and refiners. To make such an agreement, however, will be much more difficult in the United States than in Canada, owing to the greater number of refiners in the former country. The officers of the sugar trust have expressed a willingness to aid wholesale grocers in fixing a market price for sugar that would allow some profit to the wholesalers, but before an arrangement can be arrived at, the grocers must receive the support of all the refiners, both inside and outside the trust. Herein lies the difficulty, but the grocers have resolved to face it, and they have set to work with that object in view.