

The Commercial

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE FINANCIAL, MERCANTILE AND MANUFACTURING INTERESTS OF THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

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The Commercial will be circulated extensively amongst wholesale and retail Merchants, Jobbers, Bankers, Brokers, Manufacturers, Hotel Keepers, Insurance and Loan Agencies throughout the entire Canadian Northwest.

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JAS. E. STEEN,
Publisher.

WINNIPEG, DECEMBER 30, 1884.

HILL Bros. have opened a general store at Shellmouth.

Dr. OROV has been appointed Coroner for British Columbia.

THE strikers at the Medicine Hat coal mines will resume work.

ROBERT LITTLE, boots and shoes, Winnipeg, has been sold out by the Sheriff.

SPINK & MAVEETY, publishers, Prince Albert, are about to dissolve partnership.

F. G. SMITH & Co., bankers and financial agents, have changed their style to Lafferty & Smith.

Mr. H. J. B. KENNEDY, of Winnipeg, is to be Registrar of Dennis in place of Thomas Norquay.

FIVE and a quarter cents per pound is the price paid for pork at Portage la Prairie by Griffin & Douglass.

THE Northwest Electric Light and Power Co. has applied to have its capital stock increased to \$200,000.

THE M. & N. W. Railway Company lands in the town of Birtle, are to be exempted from taxation for twenty years.

THE Bank of Winnipeg has given notice of an application to Parliament to amend its charter by extending for three years the time for a certificate from the Treasury Board.

THE Indian Department has called for tenders for the supply of flour for the Northwest Indians. Millers within the Northwest Territories and Manitoba are allowed to tender.

THE setting of the poles for the Edmonton and Prince Albert telephone line has been accomplished, and it is expected the line will be in working order by the 1st of January.

THE Minister of Marine has given orders to select a vessel for the Hudson's Bay expedition and to have her ready at Halifax by the 15th of April next. The vessel will cruise all the summer.

THE SASKATCHEWAN VALLEY RAILWAY Co. are to make application at the coming session of the Dominion Parliament for an amendment of their charter. They propose *inter alia* to make Regina the initial point.

THURSDAY last being Christmas day a general holiday was kept in all the towns of this province. In Winnipeg not only were banks and public offices closed, but nearly all mercantile houses, and business generally was suspended.

THE annual meeting of the Northwest Commercial Traveller's Association was held in the Grand Union Hotel, Winnipeg, on Thursday evening. The financial report presented was of a very satisfactory character. The election of office bearers for the ensuing year was proceeded with and the following gentlemen elected: Mr. Thomas Johnson, president; Mr. J. J. Fanning, vice-president; Mr. W. R. Langridge, secretary; Mr. W. N. Ronald, treasurer; and Messrs. James Redmond, J. O'Laughlin, Fred Chilcott, T. G. Lawlor and E. Johnson, directors. Among other business done, a committee was appointed to make arrangements for the Association's annual dinner, and we have since learned that this event is to take place in the Grand Union Hotel, on Friday evening, January 2nd, when a very enjoyable banquet may be expected.

THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY's receipts for the week ending December 21st amounted to \$105,000 as against \$07,000 for the corresponding week last year. The traffic receipts of the Grand Trunk showed a decrease last week, as compared with the same week last year of \$46,000.

MR. BRYDGES reports very dull times prevailing in the east, and that while the visit of the British Association has done this country a great deal of good, he does not anticipate any great rush of immigrants in the spring. He, however, is confident that the Northwest will get its share of the Old Country people.

IN conversation with a *Sun* reporter Mr. Brydges, who has just returned from a hurried trip to England, stated that General Superintendent Baker, of the Manitoba and Northwestern Railway, had already received instructions to let contracts for ties and bridge timber for the fifty miles west of Minnedosa. These contracts are to be awarded at once.

ALTHOUGH the present snow has allowed only a few days of good sleighing, the first of the season, its effects upon trade are already being felt. Several country merchants who have reached town from different points this week report business much livelier in the surrounding towns. As the week advances the wholesale merchants of the city will no doubt begin to feel it.

IT is now announced that the C.P.R. will receive wheat shipped to Mr. Mitchell, of the Montreal Syndicate at Manitow, direct from the farmers' wagons, without its passing through any of the elevators there. This is a direct violation of the policy hitherto pursued by General Manager Van Horne, and of the terms agreed to by the Company in favor of elevator owners. The reason given for the change of tactics is the insufficient capacity of the elevators there to handle the quantity of grain waiting shipment. This may be very well, but it is also singular that the insufficiency of these elevators should be discovered just in time to suit Mr. Mitchell's arrangements with the Farmers' Union. But it will assist to drive grain shipments to Port Arthur, and that is the main aim of the Company.