

mings; scarcely a model has been shown that has not somewhere in its trimming a bow make of very wide ribbon, and this often carried up very high. The large bows at great height need support, and needless to say that support must be imperceptible; some of the designs were created by wiring a fine cape net or stiff muslin, and setting this inside the bow. The use of wire depends, of course, largely upon the quality of the ribbon used by the milliner, the best qualities needing no support. Feathers are always a valuable assistant to the milliner's art, and this season, as was to be expected, with large shapes in vogue, ostrich feathers are in evidence everywhere. The manufacturers of Austria and Germany have vied with one another in the art of dyeing and curling these feathers until their appearance is exceedingly beautiful. Fancy laces are also prominent, Valenciennes and antique in the *beurre* shades meeting with general favor. Flowers of all varieties were shown in profusion in the warerooms of either city, and the larger descriptions will undoubtedly find a prominent place on the hats worn in the coming spring. Poppies, pink and purple roses, violets, fleurs de lis, are among them. The new steel ornaments of beautiful and varied designs are sure to be popular. Straw braid will be plentifully seen, spangles and buckles too. Light tones and delicate hues will prevail everywhere, in costumes as well as millinery, for the spring of 1896.

A MONTREAL WORLD'S FAIR.

The project of a World's Fair in Montreal this year, to last from Queen's Birthday till October, was broached in 1895, with, as now appears, more energy than discretion. Some of the literature circulated in order to boom it originated, one would think, across the Line 45, so extravagant were its terms. The broad sheets sent out were luminous with portraits of foreign exhibitors, with pictures of parks, gardens, kiosks and halls of dazzling delights—all to be provided on the slope of Mount Royal within five or six months—and eloquent with assurances that this was to be *the greatest* show ever held in Canada, etc., etc. This sort of spread-eagle advertising may be justified where there is capital behind the project, and where the really influential men of our greatest city authorize the use of their names to give weight to what might be made a distinctly important event.

But it appears to have dawned upon some of the more thoughtful people of the city, within three months of the proposed opening, that for a World's Fair worthy of the name more time was needed; that neither the requisite money, the proper people, nor the needed buildings could be got in time, and hence the public meeting called by the mayor of Montreal on Monday last. That gentleman pointed out to the gathering what could and what could not be done, and gave reasons for thinking that it would be better to begin preparations now for an exhibition on a grand scale next year. It was well said at the meeting that the honor and credit of the city were at stake in the affair; which was not too much to say, for to draw exhibitors and spectators to a half-baked show would bring ridicule, instead of renown, upon both city and Dominion.

The serious mistake appears to have been made by the projectors—should we say projector?—of assuming to state that a Canadian World's Fair would be held before he had secured the support in men and money, without which no such grave enterprise could succeed. If any one or any half-dozen gentlemen thought that an exhibition which needs long and careful planning, civic and commercial support, besides hundreds of thousands of dollars of capital, could be floated (in this country) by boasting on paper, he or they are probably by this time undeceived. One of the

members of an investigating body asked, properly enough, being jealous of the good name of Montreal, "why that city, which had in no way endorsed the scheme, should be called upon, at this late hour, to step into the breach, and be told that if it did not its good name was going to be affected. . . . There was no public endorsement of the scheme whatever, and the city of Montreal was not in any way responsible for the representations that have been made."

The outcome of Monday's meeting was, we are glad to see, the nomination of a committee, really representative, to consider the whole matter of holding a World's Fair in Montreal, and to report during the present week. A business like report may be expected from such men as have been named—no hasty or flash-in-the-pan action or utterance with respect to a proposal fraught with such possibilities to the city and the country.

NOVA SCOTIA MINERALS.

The Nova Scotia Department of Mines has some encouraging things to say respecting certain departments of mineral production in that province. For example, the gypsum, or plaster of Paris industry, is described as showing an increase during 1895, though not yet having attained the high-trade mark of a few years ago. The iron trade, though dull in common with other industries nearly all the year—total production 29,090 tons, principally from Londonderry and Ferrona—became more animated at the close, and the outlook is now encouraging. The yield of gold was 22,112 ounces from 37 mines; and 58,082 tons quartz was crushed. The following are returns from the different gold districts for year ended September 30th, 1895:

District.	No. of Mines.	Mills.	Tons Crushed.	Total yield of Gold.		
				Ozs.	Dts.	Grs.
Oldham	2	1	594	489	7	10
Brookfield	1	1	3,344	1,992	3	4
Sherbrooke	4	3	3,397	1,942	2	0
Fifteen Mile Stream ...	2	1	4,734	2,661	12	0
Gold River	2	1	80	120	15	0
Lake Catcha.....	2	2	1,501	858	15	7
Stormont	5	4	16,582	4,225	6	11
Caribou, Moose River...	4	4	11,565	3,189	11	1
Renfrew.....	2	1	1,242	1,366	17	0
Uniacke.....	4	3	3,516	2,535	13	13
Waverley	2	1	6,315	1,540	2	0
Unproclaimed and other districts	7	5	5,212	1,190	12	23
Total.....	37	27	58,082	22,112	17	21

The actual production of coal at Nova Scotia mines is not given, but the sales show a decline of 188,000 tons, or about nine per cent. compared with the previous year. Increased sales to New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and the West Indies are shown, but less was sold at home, and less sent to Quebec and the United States, thus. Coal sales:

	Year 1894.	Year 1895.
Quebec.....	877,743 tons.	740,098 tons.
Nova Scotia	671,883 "	633,041 "
New Brunswick.....	221,844 "	228,525 "
P. E. Island	63,734 "	81,492 "
Newfoundland	97,378 "	63,232 "
West Indies	5,526 "	11,872 "
United States.....	79,837 "	73,097 "
Other countries	1,707 "	 "

The Commissioner says: "I am aware of no special reason for the decrease in the coal trade during the past season. There have been no disturbances of trade, and wages and freight have remained practically unchanged. The general quiet in business is presumably the cause; at the date of writing, however, business at the mines is taking a shape promising better for the ensuing year."

It is agreeable to learn that a good deal of attention seems to have been given to the representation of the mineral resources of Nova Scotia at the Imperial Institute, in London, England, and judging from the long list of