

Macdonald & Co., Importers Rubber Packing, 164 to 172 Barrington Street.

that time; a massive granite front is now in course of erection, which, when completed, will render this by far the most expensive and durable ecclesiastical structure in the Province.

The Halifax Banking Company was organized in 1825, and is consequently the oldest banking company in the city. It was then a private company, but in 1872 it obtained a charter from the Dominion Government and is now a joint stock company. It was followed by the Bank of Nova Scotia and the Bank of British North America. There are now in all seven chartered banks and two or three Savings banks in the city. Within the past few years a considerable number of private individuals and firms have gone into the Banking Business in connection with Exchange under the name of Bankers and Brokers. And Hollis Street, presents the appearance of a Young Wall Street. And this gives Bank facilities formerly unknown for Bank accommodation; and forming a favourable method of utilizing small sums held by the working and provident classes.

There are two Building Societies, four Public Libraries, three Reading Rooms and several Benevolent Societies of various descriptions and nationalities (of which the North British was the first established.)

Since the opening up of railway communication with the interior of the Province, the city has increased rapidly in wealth. Since 1858, railways have been in operation from Halifax to Windsor, on the Bay of Fundy, and from Halifax to Truro, at the head of Cobequid Bay. The latter line is now continued to Pictou harbour, in the Straits of Northumberland, where it has already attracted a large trade from the Gulf of St. Lawrence, besides bringing the coal mines of Pictou county within easy reach of the city. The Windsor line of railroad has been extended to Annapolis, 120 miles from Halifax. The discovery of gold in the Province, and the extensive investment of capital and employment of labor in the gold mines, has also to some extent aided the commerce of the city, by providing a new and valuable export with which to pay for goods purchased in Great Britain. For the last few years the population of the city has been rapidly increasing, and, when the projected lines of communication by rail and steamships with neighboring Provinces and the United States are completed, Halifax must come to be one of the foremost cities in population and wealth, as she is already one of the most important in geographical position on the continent of America.

Since the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, and especially within the past five years, Halifax has made rapid progress in manufactories. Four carriage factories, four large boot and shoe factories, which employ a large number of men. The manufacture of furniture has called into operation A. Stephen & Son's establish-

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