

is to erect structures that will rival, and, if possible, outstrip Mr. Macdonald's, the belief being that the trade of Toronto is expanding with such rapidity that those who have the best facilities for doing business are likely to get the lion's share of it.

As an evidence of the progress being made, we shall refer to two or three large establishments which the builders are now working at, leaving out of the account those completed, and also those that are merely in prospect.

It is, perhaps, a little singular that a spot of ground which was utterly neglected two or three years ago should have come into such sudden demand; we mean the lots on Front street from Yonge to the Queen's Hotel. This frontage, it now seems, is to be the site of the finest tier of warehouses west of Montreal.

At the corner of Front and Bay streets, Messrs. Gordon & McKay are erecting a large brick block, 127 feet on Bay street by 110 feet on Front street, which is now under way, and is to be completed by the first of September next. It will embrace three warehouses, the one on the corner being reserved for their own accommodation; the others will be rented. The building will be of white brick, with cut-stone facings. It is designed in the Italian style of architecture, and with Mansard roof fronting on both streets. The height is five stories, including the basement, or about seventy feet from the level of the street to the top of the roof. All the windows have circular tops, with cut-stone arches, and will be of plate glass. The ground floor is elevated five feet above Front street, giving a light, airy, and capacious basement. All the supports throughout the building are of iron; the roof is of slates, in various colors, and surmounted with an ornamental wrought-iron railing, adding greatly to the effect. Messrs. Gordon & McKay's store on the corner will have a frontage of 127 feet on Bay street and 42 feet on Front, giving them the use of five capacious floors, each the full size of the warehouse. The offices are in the rear, and front on Bay street, and are approached by a flight of steps six feet in height from the ground floor, forming an intersole between the ground floor and the first flat. Immediately under the offices is the packing room, 30 by 42 feet, under which again is the furnace room, for the accommodation of the heating apparatus. It is expected that steam will be employed as the heating agent. It will be seen from the above outline that Messrs. G. & M.'s warehouse will be one of the most commodious and perhaps the most stylish in Ontario. The whole building will have an imposing appearance, and must become a decided orna-

ment to that part of the city. The 62 feet unoccupied by Messrs. G. & M. will be divided into two stores, each 51 by 90 feet, affording ample accommodation and a good site for the business of two other firms. The total cost of the structure may be set down at \$50,000.

Mr. Thomas Lailey, a wholesale clothing house, has bought the lot and building immediately west of the Harbor Master's Office, and adjoining the large new warehouse of Messrs. Thomson & Burns. The frontage of the lot is 34½ feet by 180 feet. The building on the premises, which was of white brick, and had been a wholesale store, is being used in the erection, on the same site, of a first-class warehouse, extending 11 feet further towards the street; also across a lane or gateway next to Messrs. Thomson & Burns, and 35 feet further in the rear, making in all a building 105 feet deep and the entire width of the lot. The height will be four stories. It will be divided into two stores. The front will be of red brick with stone and white brick facings; the first two tiers of windows have circular tops. A Mansard roof will give the whole a stylish appearance. The work is now far advanced, and a few weeks should put Mr. Lailey in occupation of what will be elegant and altogether suitable premises for the conduct of his line of business. The total cost of the property is stated at \$15,000.

Mr. Myles is erecting, on a lot next to the new warehouse of Messrs. James Campbell & Son, on Front Street, a four story brick building, in size 200 feet by 70 feet. This structure is now in progress, and is to be ready by the 1st of August. It will be occupied by Messrs. Sessions, Turner & Co., manufacturers of boots and shoes, under an eight years' lease. The four immense flats will give accommodation for a most extensive manufacturing business, which we believe it is the intention of the firm to carry on in the premises. It is said that they will give employment to as many as six hundred hands. The style of the building is plain; it will be principally of red brick, but the front will be relieved with white brick and stone facings, making altogether a very good business-like appearance. Cost about twenty-five thousand dollars.

We ought to mention that Messrs. McMaster & Bros. contemplated an extension of their premises from the rear of the present warehouse, behind the Bank of Montreal, through to Front street, thus occupying a lot, purchased at a cost of \$16,000; but unavoidable delays in the negotiations have compelled the firm quite recently to abandon the idea for the present season.

TORONTO CAR WHEEL COMPANY.

A company has been formed, under a Royal Charter, for the manufacture of car wheels and railway machinery, in Toronto. The organization was completed at a meeting of the shareholders a few days since. Mr. G. D. Ferguson, of Fergus, was elected President; and Mr. J. B. Cook, of Toronto, Vice-President. We understand that arrangements have been completed for the immediate commencement of business. Mr. Gartshore, well-known in connection with his Dundas foundry, has taken the management of the company's works. The Directors have purchased the works of J. & N. C. Scoville, on the Esplanade, and are prepared to execute orders. We believe that arrangements have already been made with the Grand Trunk, the Northern, and Great Western Railways, to supply car wheels to these companies. We hope this enterprise will receive due encouragement and prove a complete success.

SUN INSURANCE COMPANY.

An Act (28 Vic., cap. 43) incorporating the "Sun Insurance Company of Montreal" has been extended by the House of Commons this session. The authorized capital is \$1,000,000, with power to increase in sums of not less than a million dollars to \$4,000,000. Power is given to transact the business of life and accident insurance, to sell and purchase annuities, to grant endowments, to receive investments of money, for accumulation, and generally to transact the business usually entered into by life or accident insurance companies; also, to do fire, marine and guarantee insurance. The capital shall be applied solely to the life branch, the business being divided into a "life branch" and a "general branch," the accounts of which are to be kept separate, and the failure of one branch not to work a suspension of the other. Directors may be elected so soon as five thousand shares have been subscribed and \$50,000 paid in, and life and accident business commenced. The business of the "general branch," may be undertaken on the subscription of another five thousand shares, and the payment of a further \$50,000. The company shall not hold real estate for the conduct of its business to a value exceeding \$30,000. The Provisional Directors are:—Geo. Stephen, Geo. Winks, Thos. Gordon, H. Mullholland, J. H. Frothingham, A. W. Ogilvie, A. F. Gault, Jas. Hutton, and M. H. Gault. A wide field of operations is given the company by the act; we shall see what use they will make of the powers granted.

—Sir Francis Hincks has introduced a bill providing for the transfer to the Government of the powers now vested in the Trustees of the Bank of Upper Canada.

—One or two communications, also our Petrolia letter, have been crowded out.