

STATISTICS.

Other important deficiencies may here be referred to. While the Statistics of Exports and Imports, Railway and Canal traffic, Navigation and Fisheries, Postal system, Banking, Insurance, &c., &c., can be procured annually, there is no machinery in Canada for obtaining the important Statistics of Agriculture, Manufactures and Mines other than the Decennial Census. The returns of 1871 were obsolete for the Paris Exhibition of 1878. It would seem that the assessment system might be utilized to secure some record of progress in manufactures and agricultural productions.

PHOTOGRAPHS.

Messrs. Notman and Sandham, who had photographed the faces and physique of Canadians on snow shoes and upon skates, were solicited to send them to Paris. They completed the series of winter sports by a new and beautiful picture of curling on the ice of the St. Lawrence, with the city and mountain of Montreal in the background. This firm prepared the views of the Victoria and International Bridges, exhibited by the Grand Trunk Railway (which were not merely photographs but veritable works of art), and also interior and exterior views of the Windsor Hotel, Montreal, which the proprietor, James Worthington, Esq., cheerfully consented to contribute. No part of the Canadian section excited greater interests than these beautiful exhibits.

FISHERIES.

To bring our Fisheries more prominently into notice, Professor Hind was engaged to prepare Fish Maps, which excited much interest and received the gold medal.

REGULATIONS.

To reduce the cost of transportation, it was desirable that our exhibits should go by water carriage, and by the St. Lawrence route, and therefore in the regulations it was provided that exhibits would be shipped, free of charge, up to 1st November, 1877, and after that date, at the expense of exhibitors. The short space of time which this allowed for preparation, only five months (or less than half the time allowed for Philadelphia), no doubt deterred some of our manufacturers from entering for Paris.

A more serious change in the conditions as compared with Philadelphia, was the regulation which provided that "all articles exhibited will be sold, during or after the exhibition, for account of owner, unless shipped back to Canada at exhibitor's special request and expense, no return freight being provided by the Canadian Commission, except for special scientific collections, of great value;" and, further, a regulation that "The Canadian Commission will be in no way responsible for loss or damage of any kind." These rules, which, no doubt, prevented some from entering, were adopted in consequence of the large claims for damages which had been paid on account of exhibits at Philadelphia, where the Government had assumed the responsibility of their safe return. Lastly, the announcement made early in the summer that only a limited portion of the space applied for could be granted, no doubt discouraged some intending exhibitors, as well as checked to some extent the efforts of the Commission. When it is considered that no medals were offered by Canada to her exhibitors at Paris, as was done at Philadelphia, and also that the Canadian exhibitor could, with little expenditure of time and money, look after his own interests at Philadelphia, while this could not be done at Paris, we can the more justly appreciate the services rendered by those patriotic Canadians, who came forward to sustain their country's reputation in the Paris Exhibition of 1878.