

517,997 bushels of spring wheat; 3,959 bushels of winter wheat; 84,183 bushels of oats; 3,297,534 bushels of rye; 18,268 bushels of beans and peas; 43,121 bushels of buckwheat; 18,159 bushels of corn; 51,362 acres of potatoes, yielding 6,961,016 bushels; turnips, 990,336 bushels; oats, 159,043 bushels; rye, 389,721 bushels. Her forests yielded in that year 130,762 cubic feet of white pine; 31,954 cubic feet of red pine; 3,316 square feet of oak; 256,389 cubic feet of tamarac; 348,441 cubic feet of birch and maple; 2,400 cubic feet of elm; 2,371,061 cubic feet of all other timber; 657,400 feet of pine logs; 5,001,069 feet of other logs; 54,406 masts; 955 thousands of staves; 3,434 cords of lath-wood; 55,535 cords of tan bark, and 781,729 cords of fire wood.

The yield of her fisheries from 1869 to 1891 is valued at sixty-one million, seventy-four thousand, and seven hundred and thirty-eight dollars. This, compared with the yield of the fisheries for the whole Dominion, one-fifth, the total for the Dominion for the same period being \$319,227,918. The value of her fisheries in 1888 was \$2,941,863, in 1889 it was \$3,067,039, in 1890, \$2,619,055, and in 1891, \$3,571,051; the largest increase of the various provinces during that period being in New Brunswick. It amounted to \$871,996. In 1890 the number of registered vessels was 981, with a tonnage of 209,460.

At the time of Confederation the allowed debt of New Brunswick was \$7,000,000, this being assumed by the Dominion. The province was subsequently allowed an additional debt of \$1,807,720. In 1890 the gross debt of the province was \$2,268,494, her assets \$1,577,429, and her net debt \$691,065.

Her revenue during the same year was \$646,079, being \$2.01 per head; her expenditure \$651,735, being \$2.03 per head. She possessed in that year 5,928 vessels engaged in the fishing industry. These were manned by 12,222 men. She had 530,612 fathoms of nets, valued at \$389,881, and other fishing material to the value of \$698,605.

Additional facts might be enumerated showing the further wealth of the province, but sufficient has already been adduced to show that she is a country of wonderful resources, and that her past trade is deserving of rank with more mighty states. In the latest year, ended 30th June, 1892, the exports of New Brunswick were of the value of \$4,958,402 and the imports \$5,412,551.

A FIRE INSURANCE SCHEME.

The citizens of Fredericton, New Brunswick, feel aggrieved, it appears, over the fact that while the community has paid out during the last nine years over \$18,000 a year in fire insurance premiums, the losses by fire in that period luckily have not happened to exceed \$5,000 a year. Hence the city clerk has given notice of application to the Legislature for an Act empowering the corporation of Fredericton to insure against fire both real and personal property within the limits of the city, "the business of insurance to be done by the ordinary city officials, policies to be

issued and premiums received by the city clerk." And in order to provide a reserve fund, "unlimited power to issue debentures will be asked for in the Act." The Board of Trade think the present insurance rates too high, contending that their city is peculiarly well protected from fire, that they have excellent pressure, good firemen, that fires rarely happen in Fredericton, and so on.

Is it so short a time since 1877 that the good people of Fredericton have forgotten the St. John fire? That city, in that year, regarded itself as pretty well armed against such an enemy as fire. It is not the part of wisdom to refuse to recognize a conflagration hazard, when there are powerful instances of the fact within reach of every intelligent mind. But the idea of municipal insuring is utter folly. Fancy a lot of city officials running an underwriting establishment! Imagine a lot of green hands making rates, inspecting risks, and then in case of fire adjusting losses! Why, it would be the reign of rule o' thumb! The city clerk to receive premiums and issue policies—we wonder how that official likes the prospect. Would the mayor sign and the treasurer countersign them? Then the Reserve Fund, to be made up of unlimited debentures issued under favor of the Legislature. We shall be profoundly astonished if that body gives its authority to any such measure as the floating of "unlimited" debentures, to enable municipal bodies to go into the insurance business.

To the eye of its residents the picturesque city of Fredericton seems very unlikely to become the prey of the flames. But the eye of the fire underwriter sees block after block composed, with rare exceptions, entirely of frame and rough-cast buildings, which are a serious menace. And even on the business streets, such as King and Queen, parallel with the river, or upon such streets as Regent, Carleton and York streets, running across, more than half the structures are of wood. In two cases out of three the stores or factories have frame attachments in rear. These would go like tinder in case of a great fire.

A point we would submit for the consideration of the business people of Fredericton, is this: Suppose it possible to get into working order this jejune scheme of municipal fire insurance, what would their city bonds sell for when it became known that the city had made itself liable to a conflagration hazard? The very occurrence of a great fire might beggar every man burned out, and bankrupt the municipality. Let any cool-headed business man of that city ask a dealer in securities what he would give for such securities suppose it were possible to issue them.

MUTUAL FIRE UNDERWRITERS.

On Tuesday last, the annual meeting of the Mutual Fire Insurance Association of Ontario was held in the Walker House, Toronto, the president, Mr. John Beatty, of Fergus, in the chair. There were present, Mr. D. C. MacDonald, of the London Mutual; William Taylor, Nichol Mutual—which the president, Mr. Beatty, also represents. Charles Davidson, Wellington Mutual, Guelph; Charles

Packert, Perth Mutual, Stratford; Levi Stoffer, Waterloo, Waterloo North; W. J. Shannon, Seaforth, McKillop Mutual; George Millar, Jarvis, Walpole Mutual; W. J. Wiloughby, Walnut, Lambton Mutual; Hugh Black, Thos. Waters, Rockwood, Eramosa Mutual; P. S. Armstrong, St. Mary's, Blansford Mutual; [G. H. Hood, Guelph, Guelph Township Mutual.

The views of some of the members are strong on the matter of incendiarianism. Mr. Beatty, we observe, goes so far as to say that five-eighths of the losses sustained by mutual companies, have arisen from this cause. It is worth while to note in this connection that whereas a very few years ago incendiarianism was rife in Montreal, the report for 1892 of the fire commissioners reports only two cases. Something, therefore, has been gained by making it known that all fires would be investigated. The fire-bug detests people who "want to know" things, and he fears detective work. The association desire the Ontario Government to appoint fire coroners, having the same powers as medical coroners, for there is a great deal of culpable negligence as well as from fire-setting. The aggregate losses to the mutuals last year amount to \$279,006, but of this aggregate \$148,656 has arisen from incendiarianism, and only \$130,350 from all other causes.

THE LATE J. K. CAMERON.

Many friends of the MONETARY TIMES who knew him will share in the sorrow with which we announce the death, at the early age of 36, of James Kidd Cameron, who had been since 1875 connected with this office, and who was the first secretary-treasurer of the MONETARY TIMES Printing Company. For several years Mr. Cameron's health had not been robust; his most recent illness was of some days' duration, and at the last a profuse hemorrhage from the lungs carried him off suddenly on Sunday evening, 12th March.

The deceased was a valued member of the staff of this journal. To conscientiousness and strong common sense he added a refined taste and an executive tact that made his services very acceptable in dealing as a business man with a large constituency such as ours. In early life he had been a telegrapher with the Dominion company, afterwards book-keeper in different commercial houses, and some sixteen years ago entered the office of the MONETARY TIMES, one of whose proprietors is his uncle. His tastes were always literary; he loved music and admired art. While not a man of wide reading, he made unfailing choice of sound literature, especially modern, and by dint of observation and persevering effort developed a good style as a writer.

Mr. Cameron, while a spirited, was essentially a modest man, and often was only with difficulty persuaded that the productions of his pen had merit. But the contributions he made in prose and verse to other journals, and the many articles and pithy paragraphs he wrote for this journal during the last dozen years, show how an imaginative nature and a natural aptitude for writing were developing in him into nicety as well as force of expression. The force was always uppermost when he had to deal with meanness or dishonesty.

Among many tributes to his character which admiring friends have paid, none has touched us more than the following from a gentleman connected with the Toronto press: "Your paper has lost an indefatigable secretary in Mr. Cameron. While struggling with delicate health, he was never other than the courteous