

must be admitted, that Sir John Macdonald himself should have agreed to leave to Mr. McDougall and Mr. Taché the determination of the boundaries, which was the very course subsequently followed by Mr. Mackenzie, the only difference being that a third arbitrator was named who was not a resident in Canada, so as to secure an award.

LIENS ON INSURANCE POLICIES.

The letter of our correspondent "Agent," which will be found elsewhere, seems to deserve the consideration, not only of those who effect insurances, but also of the Superintendent of Insurance, whose duty, as is pointed out, is to investigate on behalf of the insuring public the securities held by the various companies. Should there be any explanation of the system that would tend to remove the objections which our correspondent has made, we can only state that it will afford us pleasure to enable any advocate of the insurance liens to point out their advantages.

THE PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION.

The Quebec Provincial Exhibition in this city, which closed on Saturday last, was in some respects a decided success, and in others not so; but it is generally admitted that the weather, which exhibited itself in a most perverse manner, was the cause of the considerable falling off in attendance, and consequently in the total receipts, as compared with previous years. It is estimated that at no previous Exhibition were there so many strangers in the city, and this is borne out by the testimony of merchants and shop keepers, but it would be difficult to over-estimate the bad effects of the wet and booming weather throughout upon the really excellent Exhibition. The aggregate attendance of those who paid entrance fee was about seventy thousand, or twenty-five thousand less than last year, and the total of receipts are roughly estimated at about \$18,000, or nearly \$6,000 less than in 1881. The Permanent Committee, however, are in a better position financially than last year, when they incurred heavy expenses by building the agricultural implement building and grand stand. In some respects the display was scarcely equal to that of previous years; in the main hall the quality and number of the Exhibits was most creditable, but manufacturers of textile fabrics were in many cases unable to send goods as in former years, because of the continued pressure upon their time and capacity. In the machinery hall also, there was considerable empty space, due partly to the delay in arrival of goods and partly to the fact of this building having been greatly enlarged. In the agricultural and live stock departments there was nothing to complain of, the exhibits being of a superior character. While the committee are to be congratulated on the whole upon the success which has attended their efforts, in the face of discouraging circumstances, they have undoubtedly learned the im-

portance of overcoming the difficulties which this year prevented the strict enforcement of the rules for placing exhibits in position before the opening day, but more especially what we stated last week, that the annual exhibitions no longer possess the novelties which attracted visitors years ago. It is not improbable that in future Montreal may take her turn with other cities for the great Show.

We append brief notices of principal exhibitors and prize-winners in some of the foremost departments, which illustrate the growth and progress of Canadian industries:

The large exhibit in the left wing of the main building of D. Morrice & Co., this city, agents for 42 woollen and cotton mills in Canada, was one of the best and most representative displays made, showing the progress made in the cotton and woollen manufactures of the Dominion during the past two or three years. This show was indeed most creditable to the large number of manufacturing firms interested as well as the agents.

The enterprising firm of Wm. Parks & Son, of St. John, N. B., made their usual full display of cotton yarns of every description, carpet warps, white and colored, grey sheetings, tickings and shirtings, etc., carrying off first prize medals in every department. As usual this firm were awarded all the prizes, eight firsts for yarns and warps, and highest award (silver medal) for best assortment of cotton manufactures.

Prominent among Sewing Machine Exhibits in the gallery of the Main hall were a number of the Williams Manufacturing Co.'s machines in operation before a constantly increasing crowd of admiring spectators. The reputation of this machine has long been made; specimens of its work were prepared by the company for competition for the prizes offered at the Exhibition, but it is stated that the prizes were withdrawn even after the Exhibition was opened, though the Williams' Manufacturing Company were not consulted.

Among the exhibits which combined the useful and the beautiful was that of Messrs. Owen McGarvey & Son in the furniture department, for which they occupied the entire width of the gallery fronting the main entrance. This firm, established about forty years ago, maintains probably the largest stock in Canada, as many as five hundred bedroom sets being not uncommon at a time. As an evidence of the amount of business done, we may state that at the beginning of the recent depression they purposely curtailed their business by degrees till about \$80,000 a year had been dropped; but this has been more than restored since the improvement in trade. In their circular recently issued the Messrs. McGarvey say:—"We have sent goods of our own manufacture to the first Paris Exhibition for which we hold a book published with the different prices, and in which we have Honorable Mention in many places for the different articles shown by us. We again exhibited in Montreal in 1856, and received seven Prizes and a Diploma for the largest and best assortment of furniture. We again exhibited in 1880, and then received seven Prizes and a Diploma for the largest and best collection of furniture. We now, in 1882, again exhibit, and have received fifteen Prizes, which show how goods of our own manufacture can bear the inspection of judges qualified to discriminate between really good work and merely showy articles made for exhibiting specially." Mr. McGarvey took one order for \$1,000 worth of goods while attending to the exhibition. An amusing incident of this exhibit was the offer made by a visitor for an inlaid table made of some nine thousand pieces, and valued at \$150. The visitor asked the price, and on being told \$70, thought 'mid the noise of the various pianos clanging at the time that he heard \$7; so he offered \$6, but was told that no less than the sum named could be accepted. He returned and offered \$64, and went away cogitating whether he should pay the other \$60.

The Dominion Barb Wire Fence Co., represented by Messrs. Cooper, Fairman & Co., this city, displayed their various kinds of fencing and fittings, among the advantages of which, as noted by farmers and stockbreeders, is the wonderful straightness and flexibility of the wire. They received prizes in two departments.

R. Mitchell & Co., of this city, deserve special mention for their fine assortment of steam and gas fittings, railroad signals, variety of steam whistles, lamps, etc., all of superior quality and workmanship.

A magnificent exhibit by Messrs. Wm. Evans & Co., this city, occupied the entire western wing of the second building; here was arranged in the most tasteful style every article and implement required for farming or gardening.

Tees & Co., this city, had a creditable show of their specialties in office desks, revolving book cases, and school furniture, in the main hall.

The Canada Worsted Co., of Quebec, exhibited a quantity of their goods just turned out of the new factory opened in Quebec a few weeks ago. The quality and general excellence of the goods commanded general attention, and unqualified terms of approval from the judges.

A. Ramsay & Son, of this city, a fine display of white lead and colors, and some magnificent specimens of plate glass.—J. Mooney & Sons, this city, a creditable display of fine leathers of all colors and varieties.

Hughes & Stevenson, plumbers, etc., this city, had a large, attractive exhibit in the "Annex," including some new inventions, which attracted much attention from householders and builders.

H. R. Ives & Co., this city, exhibited in four departments, and included iron railings, castings, etc. One of the attractive features in Machinery Hall was the machine for making barb wire.

James A. Young, wholesale boot and shoe manufacturer, this city, made a remarkably fine display of his already well-known first-class goods.

Messrs. Mills & Hutchinson, this city, a fine display of Canadian woollens, for which they took several first prizes.

The Canada Cotton Manufacturing Co., of Cornwall, a splendid show of ducks, white, colored, checked and striped. Awarded several prizes.

Messrs. Ramsay, Dods & Co., this city, a fine assortment of stained glass and an extensive exhibit of coarse and fine colors for artists' use.

The design of Johnston's fluid beef display, representing a grand church organ, was very attractive, in the main hall.

John S. Shearer & Co., this city, were awarded first prizes for exhibits of woollens and etoffes manufactured by the Bay Woollen Mills at Beauharnois, Que., and for the products of the Sorel Wadding and Bating Mills. Messrs. Shearer & Co. are the general agents for these among other Canadian manufactures.

Messrs. Morton, Phillips & Bulmer, of this city, took two first prizes for Merchants Blank Books and Blank Book Binding, besides two second prizes for Ornamental Job Letter Press, and Job Letter Press Color Printing.

Mr. S. R. Parsons made no exhibit beyond the elegant set of drawing room furniture, Egyptian style, in his own warehouse window, and the no less elegant assortment which he maintains continually in stock.

There were of course many other very fine exhibits and features worthy of note in the industrial and agricultural departments which, owing to our limited space, we are unable to refer to individually; but if any directly entitled to our attention have been inadvertently omitted, we shall be pleased to hear from such exhibitors.

A new industry has been started in the north of England. A great bed of rock salt has been found at the depth of 1,100 feet, in the Cleveland district, and is already being worked by two tubes; water is pumped down one, and after forming brine by contact with the salt it is pumped up the other. The firm is making only