

In 1882, the rates of steam tonnage to sailing was as 86 to 14, while the total of inland and sea-going vessels was 6,595, of 1,403,472 tons. Another marked sign of improvement had been, that although in 1867, shortly after the ship channel had been deepened to 20 feet, the wharfage accommodation at Montreal was: with 20 feet of water, 1.39 miles; under 20 feet, 1.78 miles; making a total of 3.17 miles. In June, 1882, with 25 feet of water there were 16,438 feet; with 20 feet of water there were 2,391 feet; from 10 to 20 feet of water there were 5,960 feet, or 24,899 feet in all, equivalent to 4.7 miles. The present revetment wall had been commenced in 1832, when Montreal was merely an outport of Quebec, and the channel in Lake St. Peter began in 1843. The Lachine Canal opened in 1825 with $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 feet of water, and to compare facts with the present condition, formed, indeed, ground for wonderment and congratulation. But in addition to all this, the census figures of Montreal and Hochelaga revealed an astonishing advancement in our manufacturing industries. In 1871, the capital invested in them had amounted to \$12,078,664; the number of hands, 22,774; the total value of their yearly wages, \$5,653,205; the yearly amount of the raw material consumed, \$20,867,492; and of the product, \$35,803,920. In 1881, the capital invested amounted to \$35,233,693; the number of hands employed, 35,290; the yearly wages earned, \$9,395,337; the value of raw material consumed, \$33,994,749, and of the goods produced, \$65,131,181. This was surely satisfactory progress. [Cheers.] The toast proposed by Mr. Hague, and which he (Mr. Henshaw) had had the opportunity to respond to, was one that he hoped would ever be cordially received; for nothing could be more to the interest of Canadians than prosperity to the trade and commerce of Canada. [Applause.]

Mr. J. N. GREENSHIELDS then rose to propose the toast of "The Press," and spoke of the good feeling and harmony prevalent throughout the country, which he said was due very largely to the influence of the Press.

Mr. E. K. GREENE also spoke to the toast, which, having been duly drunk,

Mr. RICHARD WHITE, in reply, said that the pleasantest duty that in his memory had ever devolved upon the press of this city would undoubtedly be that of recording this evening's entertainment. He would not say more owing to the lateness of the hour.