

water that there is only room for a range of warehouses and oil factories and a few dwelling houses. Three streets run parallel with the harbour and with one another, the whole length of the city, and these are intersected by a number of cross streets. The main streets are winding and very irregular, following the sinuosities of the harbour. Water Street, the principal business street, presents a substantial though not handsome appearance, the houses being of stone or brick. Shops, stores, and mercantile counting houses occupy the ground floors, while many of the merchants and shop-keepers live in the upper storeys. Fish stores, warehouses, and wharves project from behind, on the side next the harbour. Many of the shops present a very handsome appearance. Three-fourths of the city consist of wooden houses. Of late years an improved taste has shown itself in the erection of a superior description of dwelling houses, and the city is extending rapidly in various directions. There is an abundant supply of excellent water, which is brought from Windsor Lake, five miles distant and 500 feet above the sea-level. St. John's is rarely visited by epidemics, and is one of the healthiest cities on the American side of the Atlantic.

Among the public buildings the most important are Government House, a substantial and spacious building, erected in 1828, by the Imperial Government, at a cost of £30,000 sterling; the Colonial Building, erected in 1847, at a cost of 100,000 dols. It contains the Chambers of the Legislature, and most of the Government Offices. The Athenæum, completed in 1877, at a cost of 58,000 dols., containing a public hall, reading-room and public library, savings' bank, Surveyor General's office, museum, &c; St. Patrick's Hall, a building of noble proportions and handsome appearance, on the ground floor of which are the fine school-rooms of the Christian Brothers. A new Post Office is in course of erection, and will be a handsome and substantial structure. The new Atlantic Hotel was opened in May, 1885, and cost about 70,000 dols. It is a handsome erection, the apartments are airy and cheerful and handsomely furnished, capable of accommodating 70 guests. All modern improvements have been introduced, and careful provision is made for the comfortable accommodation of visitors. It contains dining hall, gentlemen's and ladies' parlours, five private parlours with rooms attached, billiard and smoking rooms—all fitted up in the most approved fashion. It surpasses any other hotel in the Lower Provinces, and is a credit to the city of St. John's.

The Churches in the city are the Church of England and Roman Catholic Cathedrals, St. Thomas' and St. Mary's (Church of England), St. Patrick's Church, River Head, three Methodist Churches, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, and the Congregational Church.