

est. So with communities, we find the same principle exists. Toronto, which is now the most prosperous city in the Dominion, would be able, under pressure of very bad times "to stand—financially—four square to all the winds that blow," while smaller and less prosperous towns would fall, and become burdened with debt; but when cities grow as large as Toronto they absorb all the best talent and capital of the smaller, and less important towns. As civilization advances centralization increases.

The most reliable indication of a city's growth may be found in the assessed valuation of its property. We find that the total assessed valuation was—

in 1886.....	\$72,715,533
in 1889.....	113,063,075
in 1890 it is.....	137,230,774

A rough estimate of the amount invested in buildings will prove still further the advance being made.

1886.....	\$1,500,000
1887.....	3,000,000
1888.....	2,500,000
1889.....	4,000,000

Millions of dollars are being spent upon the magnificent new Parliament Buildings, the erection of which has stimulated the building trade considerably.

### A City of Universities.

Toronto is the fortunate possessor of a university within the walls of which the highest educational training may be received. In the whole of the great continent of America there is not a university which may be said to rank higher than that of Toronto. Students from all parts of the United States and Canada have thronged to this centre of light and learning; and every year the love and veneration which is felt for this noble institution grows stronger within the heart of every patriotic citizen, the truth of which was clearly manifested at the time of the recent fire.

We have also Trinity and McMaster Universities,