

Annapolis Valley, the St. John and the St. Lawrence, Muskoka, the Rocky Mountains. These are well known and well visited. But there are a hundred other attractive localities which only want to be made known to become popular as health resorts or recreation grounds for strangers.

TRADE WITH NEW ZEALAND.

Some description of New Zealand may be of interest to our readers, since from the accounts given by a gentleman from that colony who is now among us, there is an encouraging prospect of a much increased trade between the Dominion and New Zealand, if Canadians choose to look after it. The colony has a population of 700,000, a coast line of 3,000 miles and an area of 105,000 square miles. It produces gold, wool, hides, Kauri gum and hemp, and imports an enormous variety of merchandise, the inhabitants being as a rule comfortably off and living well. That they are an up-to-date community is proved by their having adopted a policy in various political and social matters in advance of older countries. The New Zealanders have female suffrage; they permit the manufacture of no spirituous liquors; they have established courts of arbitration for commercial differences, and we believe they have State life assurance. They are well supplied with means of communication, for the P. and O. steamers, the Messageries Maritimes, the Orient line and many other Belgian and German, as well as British steamers, constantly ply thither. As to banking accommodation, the capital of the Bank of New Zealand is nearly £8,000,000, and of the National Bank of New Zealand £1,750,000.

Some very instructive figures as to the extent and character of the foreign trade of New Zealand are given in the Report of the Registrar-General of the colony for 1897. The aggregate trade of that year, inward and outward, reached £18,162,216, say in round numbers \$90,800,000, which was an increase from \$82,000,000 in 1896 and \$74,600,000 in 1895. Ninety-four per cent. of this trade is done with Great Britain and with Australasia, the rest of the world getting but a bagatelle. The Mother Country gets three-fourths of the whole, for in 1897 the exports of New Zealand to the United Kingdom were 80 per cent. and the imports from the United Kingdom 67 per cent.

A resume of the proportion of trade done by New Zealand with the rest of the world is compiled as under by the Trade Review, of Wellington, July 7th, 1898:

1897.	Exports to	Imports from
United Kingdom	£8,168,123	£5,392,738
Australasia	1,323,784	1,001,003
Pacific Islands	117,365	283,593
Europe	6,894	252,367
Asia	10,081	408,353
Africa	10,103	26,335
America	380,943	690,834
	£10,016,993	£8,055,223

It is added that a portion of the exports, which are here shown to amount to fifty millions of dollars, is no doubt trans-shipped from London to Germany. The small share of America in this great trade is a noticeable feature. Its sum, £1,071,400, was barely one-seventeenth of the whole, and Canada's share but one-seventeenth of that—for it is elsewhere shown that where the United States' share amounted to £1,008,000, that of Canada was but £82,000, mainly imports.

With regard to the character of the trade with the United States we find that, apart from gold and specie the exports from New Zealand to the States were Kauri gum, £218,488; sausage skins, £22,557 wool and sheepskins,

£8,249; and smaller quantities of hides, rabbit skins and hemp. It deserves to be added, however, that "goods shipped hence from New York or Boston by way of London are registered in our (N.Z.) records as exports for the United Kingdom," for this is what the Trade Review says.

The merchandise principally imported from the United States last year consisted of tobacco, £88,926; kerosene oil, £82,063; bicycles and parts of ditto, £38,082; machinery of various kinds (largely farm and mining), £70,400; printing paper, £27,002; tools and implements, £28,066; cigars and cigarettes, £18,068; patent medicines, £14,998; canned fish, £11,507; besides hardware, barbed wire, carriages, textiles, clothing, boots and shoes, leather, furniture, organs, woodenware and fifty other things. Well may the Trade Review say: "We would call the attention of our Canadian friends to this list (of imports) that they may see the goods for which their southern neighbors find a market in New Zealand." It is satisfactory to be able to add, upon the testimony of New Zealand merchants who have seen Canadian goods, that the manufacturers of the Dominion can compete in both quality and price.

THE NEW WESTMINSTER FIRE.

The conflagration which started before midnight on Saturday last on a steamer at Brakman & Kerr's wharf, swept the business portion of New Westminster until in four hours its public buildings, churches, banks, hotels, warehouses and some hundreds of dwellings were reduced for the most part to a heap of ruins. There was a strong wind blowing down the river, and the burning steamer drifted from her moorings, carrying sparks and flame all along the wharves; the flames ran south-westward as far as Tenth street and back from the Fraser River as far as First avenue, the width of which, and its being more sparsely built upon, prevented their further spread. But the fire worked its way northward, too, as far as Merrivale street, beyond Lytton Square. Of the forty odd blocks bounded by these three streets and the Fraser River nothing remains but a block on Columbia street, consisting of a hotel and three stores adjoining and an occasional cottage or shop. The burned area may be said to extend, roughly, half a mile back from the water and three-quarters of a mile from east to west. The loss is certainly over two millions and may reach three millions of dollars, with an insurance of perhaps one-half. More than a thousand people in the city are without homes.

So great a calamity as this suppresses for the moment all feelings except that of sympathy for the loss and suffering involved. The neighboring cities of Vancouver and Victoria and the coast cities of Seattle and Tacoma have already done noble work in affording relief in the way of money, provisions and bedding. Government stores of blankets at Victoria are being used for the destitute. The C.P.R. authorities have subscribed \$5,000 to a relief fund, and the treasurer of Toronto has been instructed to forward \$1,000 as a preliminary contribution, in advance of the meeting of the council. The Province of Ontario forwarded \$2,500; Hamilton sends \$500, Rossland \$2,000 Montreal \$1,000, St. John \$1,000, Winnipeg \$500, and other places various amounts. Relief committees are organized in Vancouver and Government authorities have visited the scene of the fire. No doubt generous assistance will come from the length and breadth of the land.

In the face of so grievous a trouble one does not feel like moralizing upon the lessons of the disaster. And yet it is well to look things in the face. The authorities of any place so largely wood-built as New Westminster ought