

will grow with increasing population, and in time coal mining will become a great industry in this country.

We have said nothing about the coal industry of our Pacific coast. This was recently described in THE COMMERCIAL. The purpose of this article has been to show the fuel supply of the great Interior prairie country. It may be stated, however, that an extensive coal mining industry has existed on our Pacific coast for years, the town of Nanaimo, on Vancouver Island, being the centre of the trade. The quality is a high class of bituminous, and is superior to any coal found in the adjoining Pacific coast states. For this reason our British Columbia coal meets with a large demand from San Francisco and other Pacific coast points of the United States.

Winnipeg's Big Exhibition.

The most important event in the exhibition line in Western Canada, is the annual fair of the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition Association. Though only two exhibitions have been held since the formation of the association, a great degree of success has already been attained. The first exhibition was held in the fall of 1891, and though the weather was very bad at the time, it was a success financially, as well as from the standpoint of the display made. Last year the experiment of holding a summer exhibition was tried, with gratifying success, and it is probable that the annual exhibition will hereafter be held in the summer, instead of the fall, as at the former season of the year the farmers have more time to devote to exhibition matters. Besides, there are more visitors from abroad during the summer. Those who contemplate visiting Manitoba during 1893, should make a note of the dates of the Winnipeg Industrial, and endeavor to be in Winnipeg during exhibition week.

At the recent annual meeting of the Association, to review and close up the work of the past year and elect a new board of directors for 1893, there was much interest manifested in the work. On this occasion President Macdonald delivered the following address which was received with applause:

GENTLEMEN.—I am pleased to see so many of the members of our association present, and to welcome them to this our third annual meeting. Such a good attendance is the best evidence we can have that the interest in the movement inaugurated two years ago has in no sense lessened, and that among you, and the public whom you represent, the desire is as strong as ever it was to make of these industrial

exhibitions one of the most permanent and prosperous of the institutions of the province. The suggestion made by your directors at the last annual meeting, and endorsed almost unanimously by the shareholders, that the experiments of a summer fair should be made, to ascertain if the result would not justify a departure from the usual season of the year for holding these exhibitions, has been carried out, and as you all know, with very marked success. The entries from the city were less in number than those of the previous year, on account, no doubt, of the impression with many that a summer fair would be a very doubtful experiment. But any deficiency from this source was more than made good by the increased entries from the country, the general result being such as in my opinion would warrant your directors in recommending that the change be made a permanent one—at least unless, or until the experience of the future should warn us to return to the usual time. The official statement in detail will be read to you by the secretary, from which you will learn the gratifying results of our efforts during the past year. It will be proper for me to remark here that a sum of over \$13,000 was expended in improving the grounds and in the erection of new buildings, notwithstanding which the accommodation, especially for stock, was taxed to the utmost, and a further expenditure will be necessary this year if we are to keep pace with the growing requirements of the country. As doubtless many of you remarked at the time, the display of stock was very fine, exciting the admiration of the judges accustomed to the herds of the old province of Ontario, and extracting from them the admission that they never saw a finer collection of animals. The association is again indebted to the railway companies for the valuable aid rendered in making the exhibition a success. It is important we should realize, and fitting we should acknowledge that, without their assistance, we could not have hoped to make so good a showing as that of last year and the one previous. When asked to continue the same generous treatment extended to our initial undertaking, the management of the Canadian Pacific Railway promptly responded, an example cheerfully followed by the Northern Pacific and Manitoba and by the Northwestern. We cannot be too grateful for the assistance thus rendered. Our thanks are also due to the Provincial Government for their generous grant of \$7,500, and to the city council for the very liberal gift of \$5,000 to the building fund; nor must we forget to acknowledge the hearty support and co-opera-

tion of the citizens of Winnipeg, who contributed so largely to the success of the exhibition. Their response to the appeal for special prizes was most generous, and merits our hearty thanks. It is almost unnecessary for me to urge on you—and through you the directors—the necessity of completing arrangements for the transportation of this year's exhibits as early as possible, and also to decide, without delay, on the time for holding the next exhibition, in order that ample notice be given to all concerned. There were two changes in the directorate during the year, one caused by the death of Mr. Bartlett, which was deeply regretted by all the members of the board, who, in their short acquaintance with him as a colleague, recognized the energy and intelligence manifested in the discharge of his duties. The other was owing to the resignation of O. F. Galt, much against the wish of his colleagues. The vacancies were filled by J. H. Sutherland and A. F. Eilen. As your presiding officer for the past year, I have pleasure in testifying to the diligence with which your board discharged the duties entrusted to it. Nothing was lacking in the desire of your directors and officials to make the exhibition a success in every particular. In parting from my colleagues it is right to acknowledge that my duties as president would have been heavier had it not been that they had taken such an active and intelligent interest in everything calculated to promote the objects of the association. The zeal displayed in carrying out every suggestion that appealed to their judgment not only lessened my own labors and responsibilities, but made association with them in the work we all have at heart a genuine pleasure.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were then read by the secretary and confirmed.

THE YEAR'S WORK.

Secretary Sirachan then read the report of the retiring board of directors as follows:—

To the Shareholders of the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition Association.

GENTLEMEN.—Your board of directors beg to present their report for the past year, as follows:—

After the last annual meeting, held on the 14 Jan., 1892, your directors, having elected a president and vice-president, appointed the necessary committees, and all arrangements were made for holding an exhibition from the 25th to the 29th of July last. The exhibition was duly held, and your board have much satisfaction in reporting a satisfactory result of their labors. The city of Winnipeg contributed \$5,000 towards additional build-