

# London as a Railway Centre.



**E**XCELLENT transportation facilities for passengers and freight are an important concomitant of growth and prosperity in a manufacturing centre. No city without ample and abundant railway accommodation can hope to attain great and lasting commercial importance. Chief among London's advantages is the fact that no city in Canada has the passenger train accommodation that it enjoys, no less than fifty-five regular passenger trains arriving at and leaving it daily, and this number is often largely augmented by excursion and special trains. Neither Toronto nor Montreal can compare with it in this respect. Over one hundred and twenty-five freight trains pull in and out of it every twenty-four hours, giving facilities for the receipt and shipment of freight which are not excelled by any city of its size on the Continent. It is the divisional point of two of the greatest systems on the Continent and the terminal point of three others. Below is a list of the railways entering the City, which will show that it is one of the most central and best shipping points in the country:

The Grand Trunk Railway has just emphasized the confidence it has in London's future by removing its divisional offices from Hamilton and Stratford, and locating them here. The City is just about midway between Detroit and Niagara Falls on its southern division, and the Sarnia Branch gives it connection for Chicago and the West, via the great St. Clair Tunnel. The St. Mary's Branch connects the southern and northern divisions, these enable shippers to reach all the principal points in the province.

The Canadian Pacific, the transcontinental railroad, enters the City by its Ontario Division, paralleling the Grand Trunk between Montreal, Toronto and Detroit. This gives shippers the advantages of competition between these points. This company is now negotiating for a direct line between London and the Falls. It has its divisional offices and shops also in London.