

is at this enterprising city, the capital of the Eastern Townships of Quebec, that the Dominion Exhibition, which is at the same time the Provincial Exhibition of the sister province, is being held. The natural beauties of the place are great; and the energy of its business men, exerted through the Eastern Townships Agricultural Association, which has the management of the present show, has brought about a display that illustrates the capacities of the district as well as the manufactures of the Dominion. The present occasion is one that deserves attention from residents of Ontario and the Maritime provinces; while it attracts, in no small degree, intelligent admiration from residents of the province of which Sherbrooke is an ornament.

Sherbrooke is a hundred miles eastward from Montreal. No less than five railways centre here, the Grand Trunk, the Passumpsic, the Quebec Central, the Central Vermont, and the International, while the Canadian Pacific is at present surveying and locating its main line through the town. A hexagonal structure with a handsome dome has been erected for the main exhibition building. This will give 17,000 square feet of accommodation for exhibitors. All of this large space is already taken up. Machinery Hall, another large building, is built in the shape of a cross and affords 12,000 square feet of accommodation. The machinery in the building is to be run by a fifty horse power engine and machines will be shown in full operation. The main restaurant is a building 115x32, with a kitchen 36x32. The second restaurant is a new building 60x30, and is intended to furnish a first-class farmers' dinner, and at a cheaper rate than the main restaurant. A half-mile track has been graded and put in perfect condition for trotting and riding. Running water is supplied all over the grounds, besides which two enormous tanks have been erected with a capacity of 52,000 gallons. Every accommodation is made for cattle, some 400 stalls being provided for them, besides 250 for horses and 150 each for sheep and pigs. Thoroughbred cattle from the celebrated herds of the Hon. M. H. Cochrane and the Hon. J. H. Pope are expected, and many from other equally celebrated herds in Ontario and Nova Scotia.

Entries have been received from Montreal, Toronto, Quebec, Halifax, Guelph, Ottawa, Brantford, Oshawa, Chatham, N. B., Brockville, Kingston, Levis, St. Hyacinthe, Three Rivers, Gananoque, London, St. Johns, Goderich, Belleville, and many other places, together with all the surrounding districts of the townships.

Liberal arrangements are being made for the accommodation of visitors. The hotels are increasing their sleeping and dining rooms; all available places for the purposes of sleeping are being acquired and fitted up, and arrangements have been made with the railways at greatly reduced rates to run passengers out at night to the surrounding towns, returning next morning. Everything was expected to be in complete readiness by the 23rd instant, the day fixed for the opening ceremonies.

THE TRADE OF MONTREAL.

An interesting review of the past and present commerce of Montreal is given in the *Star* of 16th instant, which devotes the most of its eight pages to the subject. A few facts and figures may be here given from the mass of information there collected.

Montreal's imports of merchandise for the last fiscal year were of the value of \$40,479,000, and the duty collected at the port about \$7,000,000. Exports of domestic produce to the value of \$20,989,000 and of American produce \$4,437,000, in all over \$25,000,000 were made last year. Grain, cattle, cheese, lumber, were among the largest items in this total.

The forty establishments which manufacture boots and shoes turn out 5,000,000 pairs annually and pay \$40,000 a week in wages. Two sugar refiners imported raw sugar from Java, Brazil and the West Indies last year in vessels whose tonnage was 34,707 tons; and a capacity of the two is probably three thousand barrels refined sugar per day.

The iron and steel industry of the city is an extensive and important one. Two million dollars capital is invested in eight manufacturing establishments connected with iron and steel, such as nail, spike and tack mills; these give employment to 1,600 hands. Besides these there are a dozen foundries, as many machine shops, then saw works, lead works, axe works, car-wheel works, cutlery factory, three safe works, a bridge works. Imports of coal to supply these factories with motive power reached 540,000 tons last year. Of this total, 348,600 tons was bituminous, mainly from Nova Scotia, the remainder being American anthracite.

In the paper-making industry, Montreal capital owns and controls, we are told of the mills in Ontario and Quebec, fifteen mills of 3,250 horse power, which turn out 21,000 pounds per day, of an annual value of \$2,380,000. And in the important cotton industry, whose total output from twenty-three mills is nearly 9,000,000 yards of cotton cloth yearly, more than half the capital is controlled by Montreal capitalists and business men. The flouring mills of the city have a capacity of over 2,000 barrels per day.

A word as to the grain and produce export trade of the city. The tonnage of ocean vessels arriving in the harbor this year up to the 1st September was 529,000 tons, being an increase of 88,000 tons over same period of last year and 111,000 tons over 1884. The receipts of grain and flour at Montreal up to mid-September were over 15,000,000 bushels, as compared with 11,000,000 in 1885. Cheese export, which reached 1,220,000 boxes last year, was greater by 10,000 boxes up to September 4th than in like time of last season.

The dry goods and clothing trade of our chief city is a very extensive one, in the hands of numerous influential houses. No figures are given as to the grocery and hardware importing trades, but these are both large and important.

Fur manufacture is an important branch of trade in the city. There are two wall

paper factories, two cigar factories, one of which employs 600 hands, the other 300. Paints, varnish, pharmaceuticals, syrups, brass-work, wire goods, woodenware clothing, hats and caps.

No agency has done more to make the name of Montreal known abroad than the Montreal Ocean Steamship Co., more familiarly known as the "Allan Line." The aggregate tonnage of its sixty-seven steamers is over 70,000 tons, and these are now all registered at Montreal. The same owners have a dozen iron clipper ships of 18,000 aggregate tonnage, plying to and from the St. Lawrence. The Dominion Line steamers, ten in number, of 35,400 tons in all, plying to Liverpool to Bristol, form a handsome addition to the shipping of the port. Next come the Beaver Line, the Thomson, the Donaldson, and the Temperley lines, all sailing to British ports and Hansa Line to Antwerp and Hamburg. The inland transportation is carried on by the Richelieu and Ontario and the Ottawa Navigation companies' boats as well as by the various lines of barges.

The banking interests of Montreal need no extended description. Banks whose aggregate capital is twenty-four millions have their head offices there. In this respect, according to the *Star*, "there is only one thing in which Montreal is behind: it has no Clearing House."

MONTREAL DRY GOODS IMPORTS.

Imports of dry goods at Montreal for eight months of the present year show an increase over last year in aggregate value equal to \$358,000, the totals being \$6,370,409 up to close of August, 1886, and \$6,018,476 for the same period of 1885. In January, the quantity of dry goods brought in was markedly less, in all lines, but from that month onward the imports showed an increase in each month over 1885, the exception being July, whose lessened purchases of cottons more than counterbalanced the gain in every other line of soft goods. We give first the totals in each line for the period of eight months and then the particulars, comparatively, month by month:—

	Eight Mos.'85.	Eight Mos.'86.
Cottons.....	\$1,758,393	\$1,667,212
Woollens.....	2,759,279	3,022,962
Silks.....	702,489	849,179
Millinery&fancy goods, &c.....	798,315	821,056
	6,018,426	6,360,409
	Jan'y,'85.	Jan'y,'86.
Cottons.....	381,452	284,965
Woollens.....	404,612	272,804
Silks.....	134,798	69,888
Millinery&fancy goods, &c.....	169,890	108,987
	\$1,087,952	\$736,644
	Feb.	Feb.
Cottons.....	268,067	349,658
Woollens.....	416,735	464,624
Silks.....	117,665	155,043
Millinery&fancy goods, &c.....	183,988	200,565
	\$986,455	\$1,169,890
	March.	March.
Cottons.....	191,364	223,667
Woollens.....	269,471	331,503
Silks.....	60,634	92,669
Millinery&fancy goods, &c.....	106,452	124,896
	\$627,921	\$772,735