

picturesque, and it is surrounded by a beautiful country, while the river, at whose mouth it stands, is one of the great scenic streams of the continent.

The most famous natural feature is the entirely unique Reversing Falls. The river enters the harbor through a deep gorge only five hundred feet in width. At the upper end of this gorge the river waters are met by a rocky barrier over which, when the tide is low, they tumble in a water-fall, and a series of rapids and whirlpools. But when the tide returns to the harbor it not only overcomes this fall, but rises several feet above the river level so that now there is a fall in the other direction.

In consequence of this remarkable phenomenon vessels can pass the gorge only at half-tide, when the waters of the river and harbor are in agreement.

Probably because of its proximity to the United States, Saint John has caught the spirit of enterprise for which their people are notable, and has always been distinguished by a lively faith in the future.

This was splendidly illustrated at the great fire in 1877, when over 600 business houses and 1,600 homes were destroyed. So fearful a calamity might have seemed crushing, but the sturdy citizens were not overwhelmed. They began at once to build a new city upon the ashes of the old, and the result is a bright, handsome, comfortable city, whose inhabitants now number nearly fifty thousand.

Shipping and the lumber business have been the two pillars of Saint John's prosperity. In the good old days of the sailing ship there were many big firms whose stately craft voyaged to the four quarters of the globe, but since the prosaic steel-plate freighter has supplanted the more romantic white-winged galleons, the number of firms engaged in shipping has greatly decreased.

The bulk of the carrying trade is now in the hands of large steamship lines, which make regular sailings, and the balance goes for the most part to the tramp steamers that are always ready to bid for cargoes to any destination.

The most important shipping house is that

of William Thompson & Son. In former days the name of Troop & Son was one to conjure with, but their operations are not now conducted on so extensive a scale, although they are still active in the field.

The steamship lines running regularly to Saint John, either all the year round or during the winter season, are as follows: The Allan, Elder-Dempster (now Canadian Pacific), Manchester, Furness, Donaldson, and Head. The total of tonnage loaded at the port during the winter has risen from 50,892 in 1896 to 275,746 in 1902, and the increase for the future will doubtless be at an even more rapid rate. The total value of exports last year was no less than \$15,000,000.

Being at the mouth of a river running five hundred miles inland, and traversing the vast forests of New Brunswick and Maine, Saint John could not fail to be an important centre of the lumber trade. There have always been big mills there, and to-day those of Cushing & Co., Dunn Bros., Hillyard Bros., Murray & Gregory, and Miller Bros. are leading contributors to the handsome total of 237,000,000 feet which represents the shipments for the last fiscal year.

The manufacturing interest has not been so strong in Saint John as might have been expected from the known enterprise of her inhabitants, yet there are a number of substantial establishments such as the Cornwall and York cotton mills (formerly Park's), Simeon Jones' brewery, McAvity's brass foundry, Rankine's biscuit factory, Pender's nail factory, Fowler's tool factory, the Portland rolling mills, and so forth, in which large capital has been invested. These give employment to many people, and their products are widely distributed.

The wholesale trade of the city is also an important factor. In the realm of dry goods the renowned house of Manchester, Robertson & Allison holds the lead, while two other firms of note are Brock & Paterson, and Macaulay Bros. T. B. Barker & Sons is an old established house in drugs, and Emerson & Fisher in hardware. In groceries, C. M. Bostwick & Co. and Dearborn & Co. are the most prominent.