

PAVING IMPROVEMENTS.

There is, moreover, the paving of the streets and sidewalks, which work was done in St. Louis, Montcalm, Palais and St. John Wards during the past four years. I believe I do not exaggerate when I say that in these wards the property has gained value by 25 to 50 per cent, and even more than that in certain places.

In the Lower Town wards, that is to say, St. Peter's, St. Roch's, Jacques-Cartier, St. Sauveur, and St. Valier, work was done all through them in improving the streets and sidewalks. Again the practical effect of the improvements in this part of the city was the increase in the value of property by 25 and 50 per cent.

LIMOILON WARD.

In Limoilon, a new ward of the city, we have spent the sum of \$350,000 in permanent works. Four years ago, when Limoilon was annexed, its revenue was \$12,000. This year the revenue is \$53,000, despite the fact that the new ward is still enjoying the stationary tax concession which was granted for five years as one of the conditions of annexation, that is the same rate of taxation as prevailed before annexation or sixty cents per hundred dollars valuation. The property doubled in value, and even in certain cases it trebled, which shows and permits us to hope that when the five years tax privilege has expired, this new ward will become a source of considerable revenue for Quebec.

THE FIRE BRIGADE.

It will be interesting for the taxpayers to remind them of the condition of the fire brigade four years ago, when the insurance companies notified us to ameliorate our system of fire protection if we wished to avoid an increase in the insurance rates. I believe I am able to assert with certitude that our organization is now of a standing to undergo a favorable