

# REPORT

OF THE

## Nova Scotia Chamber of Commerce,

FOR THE YEAR 1883.

---

The Executive Committee after the lapse of the year 1883, present to the Chamber their Annual Report, and feel it their duty to lay before its members a retrospective, as well as a prospective view of the general business of our port. Your committee, therefore beg to report that the great question overshadowing all others, that they brought so prominently to your notice in their last report, the Winter Port question, is still agitating greatly the minds of our people generally, and this community especially, for now that the railway terminal facilities in our harbor, then in progress, and now satisfactorily completed, affording equal, if not superior despatch and accomadation to any other shipping port in America, have not so far attracted that traffic which we anticipated; it will be necessary to look forward to the adoption of other measures to bring about the desired object. A meeting of representatives of this Chamber met with a Committee of the City Council and adopted resolutions, and subsequently the Cty Council sent a delegation to Ottawa to confer with delegations from Quebec and St. John, which joint delegation passed resolutions which were pressed upon the attention of the Dominion Government by the delagates in person. The Halifax City delegation have made an exhaustive report of the whole subject which, with the resolutions are appended hereto, and is worthy of permanent record. Turning more especially to the general trade of our port for the past year your committee do not think that it presents any striking contrast to that of previous years. Our fisheries have been largely successful, and now more than ever your committee are happy to remark are conspicuously our great source of wealth and dependence, and year by year appear to be more highly estimated by the extending consuming world, indeed it has been lately stated, in a public lecture by a prominent man of business experience, that the value of our fishing grounds, acre for acre, is greater than that of our vast agricultural regions. If this is so, how greatly should we value and foster our Nova Scotia fisheries, surrounded as its whole coasts are, with numerous and valuable fishing banks and harbors, and inlets. In short our experince from year to year proves that the increasing demand cannot be over supplied.