

is of great value, not so much to aid them in deciding difficulties in which they may have become involved, as to enable them, in their daily transactions, to follow a strictly legal course, and thereby avoid the annoyance and loss to which ignorance of such matters often subjects them. It has, therefore, been our care to supply in the successive issues of this Journal articles on important points of Commercial Law, giving at the same time concise accounts of important legal decisions which affect mercantile interests.

The other subjects which have engaged our attention—navigation, canals, rail oads and insurance—are all important auxiliaries to trade and manufactures, and should in consequence receive their due share of attention.

In treating of these various matters we have not identified ourselves with any party; nor have we advocated any sectional interest. The Dominion of Canada has been the field of our labors, and its remotest corners have found their interest represented in our pages.

From the liberal assistance which we have received at the hands of the principal merchants and bankers of the chief cities of Canada, we have good reason to hope that this work will be amply supported, and in return for such support we pledge our time, labor and resources to make the *MERCHANTS' MAGAZINE* a valuable work of reference, an interesting journal, and a fearless advocate of all commercial interests.

It may be considered by some that the various trade journals published weekly throughout the Dominion provide in a measure for the object the Publisher has sought to attain. The experience of merchants, capitalists and bank managers, however, leads to a different conclusion. The necessity frequently arises of referring to many matters considered in such weekly journals; this has proven the need of a handy and permanent volume containing such information, carefully indexed, as is found of constantly recurring interest. The *MERCHANTS' MAGAZINE*, bound half-yearly and of convenient form, will be found to satisfy this need. Within its covers will be recorded the various Bank, Insurance and other like reports; the spirit of the weekly Trade and Financial press, condensed or amplified for future reference; and a resumé of Commercial Law, sudden recourse to which may be of advantage to commercial men.