

The Shuttleworth & Harris Company, of Brantford, make a conspicuous exhibit, as usual, of their famous Bow Park brand of cheese.

### THE COMING EXHIBITION IN MONTREAL.

News reaches us that arrangements are making progress towards a successful Exhibition in Montreal in the near future. We outlined some weeks ago the probable constitution of a committee, which should formulate plans for so desirable an event. As an earnest of their intended activity in this direction, a group of members of the provincial directorate and of the Montreal city council have already visited the Toronto Fair and obtained data which should help them to make intelligent plans. It is agreeable to observe, too, that the Business Men's League, of Montreal, is taking hold of the project in an active spirit. Mr. Miles and Mr. Evans are on its committee. The Board of Trade and La Chambre de Commerce of that city each appoints a committee of five. The mayor and eight aldermen represent the municipality. Other organizations assisting are the Council of Arts and Manufactures, of Quebec, and the Licensed Victuallers, the Horse Show Association, and the Horticultural Society, the delegates from the last-named being Messrs. R. Wilson Smith and W. M. Ramsay. No fewer than six agricultural societies of neighboring townships have appointed committeemen; the Grand Trunk Railway have named Mr. W. E. Davis their passenger traffic manager; the C.P.R., Mr. A. H. Harris; the New York Central, Mr. F. E. Barbour; the Vermont Central, Mr. J. E. Bentley. A strong feeling is being evoked among the citizens of Montreal generally in favor of a really worthy Exhibition, next year or the year after, in that city.

### OLD FIRMS IN HALIFAX.

#### Editor Monetary Times:

Sir,—Your correspondent, in his Halifax letter in your issue of 28th August, makes a statement which shows that he is not thoroughly informed as to our province and city. He states: "In a comparatively new country like Nova Scotia, it is somewhat unusual to find a firm continuing uninterruptedly in business for almost 100 years." That is not the case, as the following list of Halifax firms will show:

Black Bros. & Co., wholesale hardware merchants, ..	Founded 1815
John Tobin & Co., wholesale grocers and wine merchants, "	1825
Bauld Bros. & Co., wholesale grocers, .....	" 1816
Kelley & Glassey, wholesale wine merchants, .....	" 1818
Alex. Keith & Son, brewers, .....	" 1820

I have not the exact figures as to when the two following firms were founded; but William Stairs, Son & Morrow, wholesale hardware merchants, were founded about 1790; and Kenny & Co., wholesale dry goods merchants, were founded some time within the first quarter of the century.

These firms are the largest firms in the city of Halifax, to-day, and are doing by far the largest business in their respective lines; and are all continued and managed by the descendants of their original founders.

If I had time to think, I could name many firms in Nova Scotia who have been doing business for over half a century. We may not grow so rapidly as they do in the West; but you can see from the list I have given you that we have great staying qualities.

HALIGONIAN.

Halifax, 1st September, 1903.

### EDMONTON.

From a visitor to Edmonton in July and August, we have heard a most glowing account of the activity of that up-to-date town. Twelve business blocks have been erected and three or four hundred dwellings, brick being plentiful. People from the States are looking for tracts of land, and

the belief is general that there is a great future for Edmonton. In fact there was a land boom on when he was there, and the prices being paid by merchants and even by banks (there are branches of seven in the place), for building lots on the principal streets were, as it appears to us, absurdly high. This sort of fever will subside however—not without loss to some persons who are bound to be caught at the subsidence of the boom, as always happens—and then Edmonton will go on and prosper in a sedate way, for she has a fine country around her, into which a fine class of settlers are steadily going. This week we learn that the municipality desires to borrow \$225,000, on debentures repayable in forty and twenty years, from 1st January next, at four per cent. Of this total sum, \$80,000 is for "waterworks, already in operation;" \$60,000 is for "sewerage, already in operation;" \$55,000 is for electric light and power, "the light system is already in full operation, and producing a revenue more than sufficient to meet the required annual payments." The remaining \$30,000 is for a bonus to the Canadian Northern Railway, which is establishing shops and yards in the town. From pamphlets forwarded to us by the secretary-treasurer of the place, we learn that the present debenture debt of Edmonton is \$69,782, and local improvement debt of \$17,124; besides which there is a floating debt of \$10,000. There is a sinking fund of \$17,788. The value of property for assessment purposes was \$3,208,100 in the year 1902, and there were cash assets of \$20,998. There are five thousand inhabitants. The tax rate for the present year is 16½ mills for the Protestant, and 15 mills for the Roman Catholic residents. Extracts from Ordinances of the Northwest Territories are contained in the pamphlet in question, which we can forward to any one desiring to peruse them. They appear to cover the \$225,000 sought to be borrowed, making special provisions that debenture holders of the \$55,000 have a distinct lien upon the electric light plant, as well as upon the municipality generally.

### VISITING ACTUARIES.

Most of the foreign delegates to the recent meeting of the Society of Actuaries, in New York, made a flying trip to Niagara Falls and Toronto on Wednesday and Thursday. They were escorted westward by the Canadian members of the body, Mr. Macaulay and Mr. Macdougald, of Montreal; Messrs. Sanderson, Macdonald, Goldman, and Bradshaw, of Toronto, brought across the lake and lunched at the King Edward yesterday. The visitors numbered some 84, a number of ladies having accompanied the party.

We have not at hand the names of the European actuaries present, other than British, but hope to print a full list next week. Among the distinguished men of the party were Mr. Schooling, of the Prudential; Mr. Carment, of the Australian Mutual Provident; Mr. Hughes, president; Mr. Hardy, past president, and Mr. Wiggins, ex-secretary of the British Institute. The visitors had had a round of festivities in New York, but were not too tired to express in warm terms their gladness at having seen at least one Canadian city. They left at 4 p.m. by boat for Montreal. Mr. J. K. Macdonald presided at the banquet, and many happy responses to the toast of "Our Guests" were made by the visitors, British and foreign.

### FINANCIAL MATTERS.

One day last week, unusual cargoes left the port of New York, on Friday, the 4th, there sailed the steamers Nubia and Sagami, for the Philippine Islands, carrying 10,465,000 silver coins, aggregating in currency value \$1,075,000. The coins were packed at the Philadelphia mint in little iron-bound kegs, each containing \$2,500. To guard against possible attack by pirates both ships are equipped with six four-pounders. They sail by the Suez Canal route.

A mail bag containing letters and packages of value was recently stolen from the mail wagon at the Moncton, N.B. station. This is the third theft of this kind at Moncton in the last two or three years.