

In comparing the growth and expansion of other great cities, such as Liverpool, England, and Chicago, United States, we are bound to deny an assertion recently made, with reference to Toronto, that land which is now staked out in lots, intersected by avenues and streets, will in twenty years time be used only as market gardens. It has also been erroneously stated that Toronto contains as many as six thousand vacant houses, but a digest of the returns lately taken, prove that there is at the most but one vacant house to every 100 population, or ten to every 1,000. It is well known that in all large cities there are a considerable number of vacant houses; old houses in which nobody cares to live, houses under repair, and new houses not yet rented for the first time. The Detroit city council recently passed a resolution in which it was declared, that for a city to continue in a progressive and politically healthy state, there should be from fifteen to twenty per cent. vacant houses, "and that building should be encouraged to that extent." To accommodate the natural increase and influx of a large city like Toronto we require at least 7,000 new houses annually. The erection of the new Parliament buildings and Court house—at a cost considerably over \$2,000,000—must necessarily employ large numbers of men, many of whom will have come from outside towns with their wives and families, and they must require houses, or purchase homesteads of their own.

### **A City of Commercial Enterprise.**

It was for many years supposed that Montreal would always hold the right to claim herself the monetary centre of the country, since it was in that city that Canadian commerce was first carried on, steadily developed, and eventually maintained an unrivalled pre-eminence in financial affairs. But we hope to show clearly that the position which Montreal now holds is quite a secondary one when compared with our present outlook.

Conclusive evidence will be found in the following quotation of statistics as to the truth of our assertion.

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