

INTRODUCTION.

Believing that the Dominion has arrived at a period in her history when the ever-widening sphere of her trade and commerce, the rapid development of her mines and manufactures, and the self-reliance born of her financial and commercial prosperity may be relied upon to furnish ample material for a Monthly Periodical, devoted entirely to these important interests, the publisher has considered it opportune to enter upon the publication of such a Journal, with the object in view of placing on permanent record all facts which evidence her rapid advancement.

The natural resources of the Dominion, the extent and value of which must be regarded as the great sources of our present and future prosperity, have received our constant regard. Their development, whether in respect of the produce of the soil, mine, or forest, has always been watched with close attention, and of such points we have endeavored to furnish early, extensive and reliable information.

Next in importance, but intimately connected with the above, must be considered the manufactures of the Dominion. In everything connected with the advancement of the various branches of Home Industry we have taken a deep interest, and it has been our endeavor to keep abreast of the times in all matters appertaining thereto.

The monied institutions of most commercial countries, when properly conducted, are an admitted element in advancing their material welfare. This is particularly so as regards the Dominion of Canada, whose Banking and Loan Associations have ever maintained a stability in marked contrast with those of most new countries, where bank failures and fraudulent management have done much to injure their prosperity at home and their credit abroad. It has, therefore, been our care to report from time to time the proceedings and financial condition of our Bank and Loan Companies; to criticize them when deserving of criticism, to defend them when undeservedly or maliciously attacked, for from such attacks the whole commercial community may ultimately suffer.

To those engaged in business, a knowledge of commercial law