

Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association, who will be the Secretary and Manager. The expense of the building, which amounts to \$30,000, has been entirely defrayed by Mr. William Gooderham.

### **Retaliation and the Bonding System.**

In reading President Cleveland's message, issued on the rejection of the Fisheries Treaty by the United States Senate, where he speaks of our ports being frozen in winter, one might suppose that he was living before the bonding system was first introduced, and to which full reference is made in a previous chapter, and in which the writer took an active interest at the time, when Canadians were, for want of railroads, confined to the St. Lawrence route. But it is almost incredible that a gentleman in his high position should not be aware of the marvellous change that has taken place. Our railroad connections with the seaports of St. John and Halifax have revolutionized the whole import and export trade, and find Canada to-day entirely independent of United States ports, so that the immediate effect of retaliation would be to injure the United States trade in the same proportion that the Canadian business would be built up and increased. Some of the English papers have fallen into the same error as the President regarding our winter connections, and the present agitation must prove of immense benefit by enlightening the world as to our present geographical position; and the ventilation of the whole question will undoubtedly redound to the welfare and prosperity of this great Dominion, and develop her strength and independence.

President Cleveland ought to know that had our present railway facilities existed at the time, Canadians never would have gone to Washington to ask for the privilege of allowing British and foreign goods to pass through that country in bond—something that then was a necessity; nor would the ports of New York, Boston, and Portland, have had the trade from which they have enjoyed so rich a harvest these thirty years;