

STADACONA

FIRE INSURANCE CO.

HEAD OFFICE, - - - - QUEBEC.

Incorporated by Act of Parliament of the Dominion of Canada, 37 Victoria, Cap. 94.

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL, - - - - - \$5,000,000

SHARES, \$100 EACH.

Insures all Classes of Risks against Fire at Moderate Rates.

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views expressed were generally in accord with our article on this subject. The Dominion Board decided that the question of establishing Tribunals of Commerce or Arbitration Courts be brought under the special notice of the Hon. Minister of Justice, with a view to the introduction of a measure during the next session of the Dominion Parliament to provide for the summary settlement of commercial disputes and differences.

The debate which ensued on this resolution showed that the mercantile community felt that it would be a great boon to them if commercial disputes were left to an arbitration of merchants for settlement, instead of being submitted to the litigation of the courts. In many cases of mercantile disputes, after having been taken into court and a great deal of time and money lost on them, had finally to be settled by arbitration. Under the proposed system, trade transactions where there would be no written contracts would be settled according to the customs of trade.

The exorbitant charges of Express Companies and high rates of Telegraph Companies were discussed severely.

The following Officers were elected for the ensuing year:

PRESIDENT:

Mr. C. H. Fairweather, New Brunswick.

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

Quebec—Mr. Robertson, Montreal.

Ontario—Mr. A. Brown, Hamilton.

New Brunswick—Mr. R. Marshall, King's Co.

Nova Scotia—Hon. Mr. Stairs, Halifax.

Prince Edward Island—Hon. Mr. Howland.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR 1875.

Mr. Darling, Montreal	Mr. Sheriff Harding, St. John.
" Fry, Quebec.	" Howland, Toronto.
" Pennock, Ottawa	" Joseph, Quebec.
" McLennan, Montreal.	" Cunningham, Kingston.

Manufacturers' Association.—A large meeting of manufacturers was held in St. John during the month and decided the following questions:—

That the present Freight Tariff of the Intercolonial R. R. is too high, and injurious to business along the line.

That a Manufacturers' and Mechanics' Exhibition should be held in this City this coming Autumn.

That a General Exhibition for the Maritime Provinces should be held in 1876.

That the Reciprocity Treaty (as proposed now) would be injurious to their business and is not wanted.

Mr. W. E. Everett read some very interesting notes relating to the progress of our manufacturing interests, (while opposing the Reciprocity Treaty,) from which we make the following extract:

"That the Maritime Provinces are bound to become great manufacturing centres. St. John City and County now has 614 factories giving employment to 2,513 persons, paying out \$3,318,874 in wages per annum, and having \$7,708,000 capital invested. Manufactures had doubled in five years."

Postal.—The reciprocal postal arrangements relating to letters, postal cards, etc., passing between Canada and the United States came into effect on the first of February. The particulars were published in our last number and in addition to those an arrangement has been made to cover samples of goods, the particular will be found in our advertising columns.

Dominion Parliament.—The second session of the third Parliament of Canada opened on the fourth of this month. There was very little of commercial importance foreshadowed in the Governor-General's speech.—The most important relating to the probable formation of a Supreme Court. Referring to the state of commerce he says:

"I am happy to believe that, notwithstanding the general and widespread commercial depression which has prevailed over the continent, the trade of Canada is sound; that the contraction we have experienced in some branches of industry for the past year has not been greater than might naturally have been anticipated."

No questions affecting commerce have yet come up for discussion as the whole time of the house has been taken up with settling political disputes, and other matters. The Trade and Navigation returns which were laid before the House show that the total exports for the year ending 30th of June last amounted to \$89,351,928, and the total imports for the same