

\* \* “The reason we in Canada have felt the depressed times less than any other country may be largely found in our rich soil, our magnificent climate, our enterprising, intelligent and prudent farmers.”

### BOARDS OF TRADE.

337. Montreal Board of Trade.—“Business throughout Canada during 1893 has been but little affected by the severe depression which has existed in the United States, and which has not yet wholly passed away.” \* \* “The Custom house returns for the port of Montreal show a large increase in the export figures for 1893, as compared with 1892, and an advance of nearly \$9,000,000 over 1891. This improvement is most gratifying, especially as trade throughout the world has been so dull.” \* \* “The continued increase in the value of the exports shows that the produce of the Dominion is steadily gaining ground in the markets of the world, and that the search for other outlets, when the McKinley Bill almost closed the States to Canadian merchandise, proved successful.” \* \* “While the abnormally low price of wheat has made that cereal unremunerative to farmers, dairy produce has commanded good prices throughout the year. The success of Canadian cheese at the World’s Fair, where it came out first in almost every competition, was very gratifying, and it is certain that the exhibit of the natural products of Canada at that exposition enlightened an enormous number of the visitors thereto as to the climate and possibilities of the Dominion. The export of hay to Great Britain has been quite an important business during the year, and that trade appears likely to permanently retain fair proportions. There is encouragement, too, in the circumstance that the export of deals from this port is largely increasing. The export cattle trade has continued to be unfavourably affected by charges of disease among the animals, and the continuance of the British schedule against Canadian and United States cattle renders any improvement unlikely.” \* \* \* “The returns of the Harbour Commissioners show an increase in the number of sea-going vessels arriving in this port, the number in 1893 being considerably larger than in any previous year, and the tonnage also being greater than ever before.” January, 1894.

338. Montreal Chamber of Commerce.—“At the Chicago exhibition no article in all the agricultural building attracted more attention from the visitors than the tower of tobacco of the pro-