

—Montreal, as an ocean port, has had a far more successful season thus far this spring and summer than last, so far as grain and flour are concerned. Up to June 26th the exports of wheat were doubled, those of corn trebled, oats were shipped far more largely, and peas was the only grain showing a decline. Shipments of grain reached 4,998,000 bushels at the date mentioned, where in 1885 they were only 2,643,000 bushels. The following is a comparative statement of shipments by sea-going vessels from the port of Montreal up to June 26th from the opening of navigation:—

	1886.	1885.
Wheat, bushels.....	1,764,749	854,831
Peas, "	457,691	621,993
Corn, "	1,581,712	551,379
Oats, "	1,193,997	615,195
Flour, barrels	85,089	61,443
Ashes, "	1,102	1,392
Apples, "	1,375	314
Oxen and horses.....	20,852	21,215
Sheep	7,871	1,542
Dead meat, tons	264	378
Phosphates, tons	2,547	4,672
Deals, St. Petersburg Standard	7,997	9,024
Sawn lumber, feet	2,151,785	5,841,489
Sundries (butter, cheese, etc.) tons.....	9,736	11,323

—Something more than a mere holiday show is intended to be made of the Indian and Colonial Exhibition. Those having charge of the Indian section have made arrangements for the examination in the section of certain commercial products, which are believed to be insufficiently known in Britain, or to be suitable for new purposes. Among the substances which will be examined are fibres, silk and silk substitutes, drugs, tobacco, gums and resins, minerals, oils, oil seeds and perfumery, dyes, mordants and pigments, timbers, tanning materials and leather, and food stuffs. Any visitors to the exhibition who are interested in the subjects will be permitted to attend these examinations of products, which will take place in the commercial room, attached to the Economic Court. It is urged by the *Canadian Gazette* of 24th ult., that, if this move be found of practical value, Canadian commerce would, no doubt, profit by a similar intimate examination of products of this country.

—Once more, a project is on foot to effect by commercial means a rapprochement between France and Canada. What is termed a French Board of Trade has been formed in Montreal, which is "about to consider at once the advisability of establishing a direct line of steamers between France and Montreal. What has the line which started steamers to ply between Havre and Halifax to say to this? The French residents of Montreal—by this, we take it, are meant the natives of old France in that city—have constituted the new board, the officers of which are as under: President, M. Schwab, vice-consul of France; vice-president, M. Girard; treasurer, M. Galibert; secretaries, Mm. Frechon and Degonzagne; councillors, Mm. Gendron and Doin.

—Up to the first of the present month, inclusive, there had arrived at the port of Quebec 205 vessels of 160,359 tons, while to the same date in the previous year the arrivals were 255 vessels, having a tonnage of 198,049 tons. Of ocean steamers there were 93 of 166,183 tons as compared with 73 with 132,389 tons in 1885. From the lower provinces the arrivals were 86 steam and sail with 36,515 tons as against 72 vessels of 30,055 tons in the previous year.

—The following is a comparative statement of timber, staves, &c., measured and culled to 2nd July at Quebec:

	1884.	1885.	1886.
Waney White Pine.....	614,299	393,028	636,108
White Pine ..	627,940	531,864	397,781
Red Pine.....	27,196	12,965	136,766
Oak	420,641	691,650	398,537
Elm.....	226,120	266,317	150,565
Ash	95,258	86,770	28,237
Basswood	205	80
Butternut ...	1,685	36	2,346
Biroh & Maple	178,495	264,979	153,769
Std. Staves ..	16.6.2.22	39.0.3.28	19.8.2.3
W. I. Staves ..	69.8.21.23	54.2.1.17	8.1.2.16
Brl. Staves ..	0.6.2.13	48.5.0.22

—This is what the Troy correspondent of R. G. Dun & Co's. Mercantile Agency has to say about the knitted-goods trade. "The prospects evidently for knit goods are looking up. Some of the best manufacturers say that they look for a repetition of the fall of '79 and they look for the prosperous years thereafter. It is stated that up to 1883 there were in the hands of commission houses all the time one or two million dollars of knit goods on hand. To show the difference to-day, it is stated, that the amount now in their hands would not exceed \$200,000."

—The imports and exports at Winnipeg for June last have been published. The dutiable goods imported, \$100,132 in value, were a third less, but free goods, \$34,652 in value, were far more than in the previous June. The duties were \$34,741. Exports were more than doubled in value: \$44,853 for the month, as compared with \$20,563.

Correspondence.

SOME NORTH-WEST NOTES.

To the Editor of the Monetary Times.

SIR,—Distant from Brandon, about sixty miles, is Virden, the provisional county town of Dennis. It is one of the most prosperous villages on the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway. It has a population of about 350. Less than four years ago Messrs. Frame & Millar, dealers in lumber and hardware, erected the first store in Virden. To-day there are several good general stores and about a dozen others which carry special stocks. Here I found, together with some smaller industries, a flouring mill having a capacity of 100 barrels daily. During last season the grain dealers of this place handled wheat to the value of \$150,000. The average price obtained was 60c. per bushel. It was of good quality, only a small portion being frozen. The Ogilvies and McBean Bros., have each an elevator here.

I visited the farms of Sir George Stephen and Hon. F. B. Bouverie. The first named is under the management of Mr. Wm. Stephen, a cousin of Sir George, who has also an interest in the property. He thoroughly understands the working of a farm on a large scale, having been brought up to the business in Scotland. Notwithstanding my early call—6 a. m.—I found Mr. Stephen moving around, attending to the stock which consists, for the most part, of fine-bred cattle. There are 75 head, principally short-horns, and the horses are Clydesdales. The farm, nearly a thousand acres in extent, has a very pretty situation and is arranged with taste; the farm house and outbuildings are substantially built on a bluff and surrounded on nearly every side by shrubs and trees. Over 2,000 bushels of excellent wheat, bringing a minimum price of 65 cents per bushel, was threshed last year. Oats, a large crop, brought from 40 to 50cts. There were also barley, turnips, etc., etc. A walk of one and a half miles brought me to Mr. Bouverie's 1,600-acre farm. Nearly half is under crop this year. As in the case of Mr. Stephen's place the buildings are compact and the live stock of the best comfortable and the live stock of the best breeds. Mr. Bouverie's granary held 8,000

bushels of wheat last season, besides flax, oats and root crops. Turnips attained a large growth. Both gentlemen find that farming in Manitoba and the North-West is a profitable enterprise.

A ride of forty miles and I arrive in another thriving town—Moosomin N. W. T.—the population of which is about the same as that of Virden. To R. D. McNaughton, the proprietor of the largest business here, belongs the distinction of having built the first store in Moosomin. About fourteen traders now cater to the wants of the village and district. Nearly all are doing well, although a lack of rain has made matters dull for the moment. I am told that the yearly turn-over, in more than one general store, runs from \$90,000 to \$60,000 while in one instance the total has not fallen far short of \$100,000 yearly. The shipments of wheat during the past season amounted to 160,000 bushels. Moosomin will soon have a grist mill with a capacity of 100 barrels daily. The contract for its erection has been given out.

It is a matter of surprise to find on the open prairie a town of such extent and interest as Regina. Of recent growth this place may well be regarded as one of the wonders of later civilization in Canada. The court-house, post-office, business premises and residences, although plain in appearance, are yet substantially built of brick, which is made in the immediate vicinity. Messrs. Dawson Bole & Co., in connection with their large drug business, do a jobbing trade in cigars and druggists' sundries. Messrs. Tinning & Hoskin, general dealers, are also among Regina's successful business men. When the track of the C. P. R. reached Regina, in the fall of 1882, Mr. McNicol built the first store. There are now twelve that carry a general assortment of goods and sixteen others which carry on special lines of business. McCall, McNicol, and Riley are the owners of a good roller flouring mill that turns out its 100 barrels per diem. There is also a planing mill. An excellent fire brigade has been organized and 150 members of the Mounted Police force are stationed in comfortable quarters a mile distant from the town. In the immediate neighborhood of Regina the land is very level and not uninteresting to one accustomed to a well wooded country, but a few miles farther north and south the prairie is rolling and fertile, most suitable for wheat-growing and stock-raising. May it soon be settled by a thriving and prosperous community!

Lying about midway between Moosomin and Regina is another growing place, the now well-known Qu'Appelle. On the road to the Fort, which is some seventeen miles from the town, I found a stretch of beautiful and fertile country, interspersed with small lakes and wooded patches. It is destined, ere long, to be the home of many an industrious family. The pioneer business man of Qu'Appelle is Mr. Caswell. He dates his residence here as far back as 1881. I am told that his banking business alone reached quite \$1,000,000 in 1885. Lumber is handled by two firms, Thompson & Nelson, and J. H. Mowat. D. H. McMullen, of Winnipeg, has erected a four-storey flouring mill. It can turn out from 150 to 175 barrels every day. A faithful and energetic worker is His Lordship the Bishop of the Church of England at Qu'Appelle. He can point to a school and a college as the result of his labors. His church, a neat structure, is situated in the town; the school and college are some two miles away. The Presbyterians and Methodists also have tasteful buildings, and one is talked of for the Roman Catholics.

THOMAS GORDON OLIVER.

—Mr. Depew before the Oxford Club, in Brooklyn, said that as president of the New York Central Railroad Company he was probably the largest employer of labor in the world, and he found that in so far as he got down among the men employed on the roads, in so far as there was success in running them. Trouble was largely due to the fact that employers did not look at corporations as representing the money of many persons, perhaps forty thousand, but regarded them as a big lump used against them. Many of the persons interested in corporations looked upon men employed as simply so much bone and muscle. So long as these false views of both employers and employed lasted, so long would there be irritation and trouble.