spirit with port wine is, at present, probably no more than is absolutely necessary. For many years past the demand in England has been for a port wine dryer in quality and lighter in colour; and the shippers here to meet this demand, as well as to save themselves the expensive use of spirit, now more than ever endeavor to reduce their additions of brandy to a *minimum*. This reduction has, no doubt, been facilitated by the far more careful preparation of wine now adopted in the district of its production. There are at present upwards of 100,000 pipes of wine in stock in Oporto; and after a series of very careful inquiries, my opinion is that in the case of these stocks 39 per cent. is about the average proportion of proof spirit to wine. Some few wines, mostly new, may contain as little as 36, and again a few richer ones 41, or even 42 and 43 degrees. It must be remembered that about 1 per cent. is added on shipment."

Mr. Crawford goes on to deny the truth of Mr Forrester's statement that port wine is adult rated with treacle, elderberries, and geropiga. Elderberries give the wine an unmistakable taste and smell, said Mr. Forrester, and a dark purple colour, which is very different from the rosy colour of true port wine. The demand for very high colour no longer exists. and Mr. Crawford states that only about 1 per cent. of the port wine now made is stained with elderberry, and that wine of a very inferior quality. Geropiga is still employed to some small extent; it is a *vinho mudo*—that is, a must checked at the height of the saccharine fermentation by the admixture of about 32 per cent. of proof spirit. It is used for poor wines requiring sweetness without a loss of alcoholic strength and this is the least objectionable mode of imparting this quality. Coloured geropiga, darkened with elderberry, is seldom used to colour wines in Portugal; a good deal is exported to the United States under the name of "pure juice." Mr. Crawford combats arguments against lowering the import duty on port wine, and maintains that it is impossible to wean the English middle and lower classes from the use of ardent spirits by the introduction of the very light wines of France; it requires a rich, moderately strong, sound, and highly-flavoured wine. He says that there is hardly any limit likely to be reached to the production of sound port wine of good quality. He gives the following account of modern vintages in the Douro district:—"1840, very fine; 1841, very bad; 1842, fine; 1843, middling; 1844, fine; 1845, inferior; 1846, good; 1847, very fine, rich; 1848, good, not so rich; 1849, middling; 1850, fine, very good; 1851, very fine; 1852, good; 1853, very good; 1854, fine; 1855 bad; 1856 very bad; 1857, bad; 1858, very good, rich; 1859, middling, watery; 1860, very good, dry; 1861, fine, rich; 1862, good, dry; 1863, very fine and rich; 1864, middling sweet and rather poor; 1865, good, not liked at first, but turned out well, rich.

"The vintage of 1866, a cold and rainy season, was perhaps as bad as in other wine countries; but more was produced than was expected, and the wine has, at least, proved remarkably sound."—*London Times.*

General Statistics of British India.—A blue-book has just been issued relating to British India. It describes British India as having an area of 955,238 square miles, and a population estimated at 144,674,615; the native States an area of 596,790 square miles, and a population of 47,909,199; States under French Government, 188 square miles, and 203,887 inhabitants; States under the Portuguese Government, 1,066 square miles, and 313,262 inhabitants—making a grand total of 1,553,282 square miles, with a population of 193 100,963 The population of Calcutta, according to the census of January, 1866, was 377,924; of the town of Bombay, according to the census of February 1864, 816,562; of the town of Madras, according to the administrative report for 1863, 427,771. The commercial progress of British India of late years has been astonishing. In the financial year 1840-41, the merchandise imported by sea from foreign countries was of the value of £8 415,940; in 1860-61, it had risen to £23,493,716; in 1864-65, it was £28,150,923, in addition to £21,368,352 of treasure. In the year 1848-49, cotton goods of the value of £2,222,089 were imported into British India: in the year 1864 65, of the value of £11,035,885. The exports of merchandise from British India increased from £13,455 584 in the year 1840-41 to £32,970,605 in 1860-61, and to £68,027,013 in 1864-65. This last increase was, of course, due chiefly to the effect of the American civil war; in the year 1859-60, the export of raw cotton from British India amounted in value to £5,637,624; in 1864-65, to £37,573,637. The other chief exports in 1864-65 were opium, £9 911.804; rice, £5,573 537; seeds, £1,912,483; indigo, £1,860,141; jute, £1 307,844. The United Kingdom took £7 054.888 worth of the exports in 1840-41, and £46,873.208 in 1864-65. Exports of the value of £10,874,652 in this last year went to China and Japan, and £2,902,596 to France. The entrances and clearances of British vessels in that year at ports of British India amounted together to 10,911 vessels of 1,417,521 tons; of European and other foreign vessels, 1,755 of 920,532 tons: of native craft, 40,227 of 1.582,864 tons. In the year 1864-65, 2,747 miles of railway were opened in India, and conveyed 12,826.518 passengers. There were 1,421 post-offices, and 55,986,646 covers were transmitted through the post, besides books and parcels. 17,117 schools and colleges were maintained or aided by the Government; the average attendance of pupils in them was 485.898, and the Government expenditure upon them, £891,277. £4,478,268 was expended in the year upon public works. 11,736 miles of Government telegraph lines were opened. The gross public revenue of British India increased from £20.124.088 in the financial year 1839-40 to £45,652,897 in 1864-65; and the expenditure from £22,228,011 in the former year to £46,450,990 in the latter. The public debt advanced from £34,484,997 in 1839-40 to £98,477,555 in 1864- 5. The troops employed in British India in the former year were 35,604 Europeans and 199,839 natives; in 1864-65, 71,890 Europeans and 118,315 natives.

ST. JOHN TRADE REPORT.

St. John, N.B. May 18, 1867.

There is not much improvement manifested in the business of the past week, the weather is unfavourable, and the continuance of the unusually high freshe prevents the lumber manufacturers from getting to work. There are, however, a good many country purchasers in the city who are (with the exception of flour) taking about their usual quantity of goods. The money market is somewhat easier than it has been for some time past; considerable cash is coming in from the country, and as soon as the mills get fairly to work, there will be abundance of sterling exchange in the market. The shipping arrivals of the week have not been large; there has been one vessel from Charente, France, with brandy and vinegar, two from the West Indies with molasses, three from Boston with general cargoes, one from Philadelphia with coals, and four from Portland with flour. The usual steamers from Boston and Portland have also brought general cargoes, and a considerable number of passengers, although the amount of travelling is as yet much under the usual mark. We notice that the steamer "Emperor" of this port is subsidised by the Government for service on the North shore route, and it is possible that she may extend her trips to Quebec. The returns of the revenue of the Province for the past year are satisfactory. We find from the Auditor General's report, that the revenue for the year was $1,873 255, and the expenditure $1,814,142, showing a surplus of revenue over expenditure of $59,118.

An examination of the Report shows that the balance in favour of the Province was even more favourable than the above figures indicate. The subsidy paid to the St. Stephens Branch Railway amounted to $59,560, and Provincial debentures have been paid off to the amount of $64,400, while the debt due to the Saving's Bank has been reduced by $42 964. The militia expenditure for the year amounted to $148,808.

Lumber, &c.—The movements of lumber for the week have been but trifling, though quite equal to what might under the circumstances have been expected. There has been one vessel for Scotch and five for Irish ports with deals, two for Cuba with boards, and five for United States ports. There are now in port 21 ships of large tonnage, besides 11 barques and 20 brigantines and schooners (not including coasting vessels). Many of these are disengaged and freights are consequently dull, with a downward tendency, although they have been for some time so low as to leave little if any profit to the ship owner. We quote deals to Liverpool 60s. per standard; do to Dublin, 62s 6d to 65s; West coast of Ireland 72s 6d The sugar shook season may now be considered as closed. The quantity of sawn lumber taken from us by the Island of Cuba, from the 1st of September to the 30th April, foots up pretty well.

Sugar shooks	749,620
Boards and scantling	6,415,906

Flour, &c.—Remains steady at the advance quoted in our last. The receipts continue to be liberal, 5,500 bbls having arrived during the week. The demand is much below what is usual at this season; the high prices checking consumption very materially This is especially noticeable in the country demand, which is estimated to be not more than half its ordinary extent. Strong Superfine for baker's use is worth $10.25 to $10.50, and very choice brands are even a shade higher Ordinary Superfine ranges from $9.75 to $10.00. Corn Meal $5.25 to $5 50. Rye $7.25. Oatmeal is higher, $7.25 to $7.35 being now asked.

Provisions and Groceries.—There is no change to report in the Provision market. In Groceries an active business has been doing on country account, but the range of prices remains without any noticeable change. Two cargoes of molasses have come in during the week, and some further shipments have been made to the United States.

Bark *Realm*, from Philadelphia, arrived at Miramichi 14th, reports, picked up in the Gulf, fifteen of the crew of bark *Sea King*, from Hull for Quebec, coal laden The *S. K.* had her bow ports stove in by ice, and sunk at once, taking down five of the crew.

Below will be found a statement of the affairs of the two leading Banks of the Province, in which it will be observed there are some striking points of difference. The banking business of the country has hitherto been without that efficient check which the publication of properly authenticated monthly returns imposes, and the public have been kept completely in the dark regarding their actual condition.

Statement of affairs of the Bank of New Brunswick on the 7th January, 1867.

Liabilities.	$ c.
Capital Stock paid in	600,000 00
Notes in circulation	379,324 50
Net profits on hand	217,870 68
Balance due to other Banks	65,951 73
Cash deposited, including all sums due from the Bank (its Bills in circulation, profits and balances due other banks excepted)	292,298 94
Cash deposits bearing interest	482,811 49
Interest on deposits and rebate on bills discounted	30,000 00
	2,047,757 39

Resources.	$ c
Specie	167,081 05
Real Estate	22,208 45
Notes of other Banks	38,480 00
Balances due from other Banks	192,504 22
Debts due to the Bank including Bills of Exchange. Notes, and all Stock and Funded debts, of every description, (Balances due from other Banks excepted)	1,627,488 67
	2,047,757 39
Amount of last dividend declared	24 000 00
Reserved profits at time of declaring dividend	237,291 73
Doubtful Debts	2,00) 00

Statement of the affairs of the Commercial Bank of New Brunswick, Saturday, 4th May, 1867.

Liabilities.	$ c.
Capital Stock paid in	600,000 00
Notes in Circulation not bearing Interest	232,530 75
Deposits not bearing Interest	277,305 79
Deposits bearing Interest	22,458 51
Net Profits on Hand	24,769 64
Unpaid Dividends	12,589 00
Due other Banks and Agents	129,192 91
	1,298 796 60

Resources.	$ c
Bills Discounted, &c	1,076,254 18
Bills of Exchange on Hand	42,800 59
Real Estate	32,000 00
Notes of other Banks	31,718 00
Specie	44,729 90
Due by other Banks and Agents	11,427 46
Bad and Doubtful Debts	59,866 07
	1,298,796 60

To be added to the Bad and Doubtful Debts, about $39,000.

BY TELEGRAPH.

St. John, N.B., May 22nd, 1867.

Business generally without material change; flour market firm at previous rates; Strong Superfine $10 50 to $10 75; Ordinary brands $10 to $10 25; receipts 3000 barrels, demand very slack; provisions unchanged.

THE HARDWARE TRADE.

Brush, George.	Gilbert, E. E.
Charlebois, A., & Co.	Hall, Kay & Co.
Crathern & Caverhill.	Ireland, W. H.
Currie, W. & F. P., & Co.	Kershaw & Edwards.
Evans & Evans.	Morland, Watson & Co.
Evans, John Henry.	Mulholland, & Baker.
Ferrier & Co	Robertson, Jas.
Fraser, F.	Round, John & Sons.

Waddell & Pearce.

Owing to the condition of the country roads, which, from the great quantity of rain that has fallen, are almost impassable, trade has been greatly checked; and although there has been a fair city business, even that has been interfered with by the unfavourable state of the weather, which has delayed operations in discharging and deliveries.

Pig Iron.—The arrivals as yet are limited in amount and with a fair demand prices are tolerably firm at our quotations.

Bar Iron.—The assortment is now pretty complete, and sales are being made at about quoted rates.

Band and Hoop Iron.—We make no alteration in our quotations, though purchases of round lots might be made at somewhat lower figures.

Boiler Plates—Are quiet and unchanged.

Canada Plates—Are without demand, but the stock is not large.

Tin Plates—Are in request, at full rates for best qualities.

Cut Nails.—Quotations remain same as last week.