

Another menace to the prosperity of this manufacture in the west in recent years is the extreme competition which it has to sustain. Another still more potent factor comes to be added. This is the cheaper labor of the French Canadians. It is growing more and more difficult for Toronto, Hamilton and London shoe producers to compete with the cheaper labor of Montreal, and especially Quebec. Still for all such drawbacks as these, the fact remains that the wholesale trade in boots and shoes is larger at Toronto to-day than it was ten years ago. Quite recently two firms removed their factories from Hamilton to the former city, while another firm has recently been constituted in Toronto.

FOREIGN TRADE

THE Census Returns for 1891 being not yet available, a number of features of Canadian industry cannot be presented. But we can obtain some interesting statistics from the Trade and Navigation Returns. The aggregate foreign trade of Canada for the fiscal year ended 30th of June, 1890, amounted in value to \$218,007,000; and consisted of exports valued at \$96,749,000, and imports valued at \$121,858,000, of which \$112,765,000 worth were entered. Dutiable goods constituted seventy per cent, and free goods thirty per cent, of the total imports, while the total Customs duties collected amounted to \$24,014,000, the average rate of duty being over twenty-seven per cent.

A table will show conveniently the countries to which we sent our products, and the countries from whence most of our imports came during the last year for which figures (in round thousands) are available :

Exports in 1890 to		Imports entered in 1890 from	
Great Britain	\$48,354,000	Great Britain	\$43,390,000
United States	40,523,000	United States	52,292,000
West Indies	2,719,000	West Indies	3,089,000
South America	1,552,000	South America	1,004,000
Newfoundland	1,186,000	Newfoundland	470,000
Germany	507,000	Germany	3,779,000
Australia	471,000	Australia	
France	279,000	France	2,615,000
Portugal	207,000	Portugal	84,000
Italy	81,000	Italy	163,000
Spain	70,000	Spain	322,000
China and Japan	61,000	China and Japan	2,100,000
Belgium	42,000	Belgium	721,000
Holland	1,000	Holland	422,000
Switzerland		Switzerland	316,000
Other countries	696,000	Other countries	1,998,000
Total exports, value - \$96,749,000		Total imports, value - \$112,765,000	