

factures, at that rate. Mr. Chamberlain, speaking for England, takes the ground that Imperial federation would require an absolutely free market to be given in the colonies for all British goods, a proposition the realization of which would bear down, by the force of competition, all our manufacturers, with the possible exception of a very few. We mention these facts to show that the difficulties in the way of Imperial Federation are immense, and as far as we can see at present insuperable; but perhaps when the atmosphere clears, it may be possible to see into what is at present the inscrutable beyond.

### UNITED STATES TRADE.

The volume of trade done by the United States of America is sufficiently enormous of late years, reaching thousands of millions annually, as an aggregate of exports and imports. It is necessary to bear in mind, however, when considering this vast trade, that it is the result of the activity of an enormous population, seventy odd millions of people, working in an area of exceptional vastness, whose various climates offer facilities for a great range of activity. We Canadians have no need to be overwhelmed with the greatness of this trade, for, as was shown us the other day by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, man for man, and woman for woman, the trade of Canada has greatly exceeded the per capita trade of the United States.

According to the figures of the Treasury Bureau of Statistics, the total inward and outward foreign trade of the United States, for the year ended with June last, was \$2,310,428,573. Of this, imports were \$822,673,016 in value, and the exports \$1,487,755,557. All but a fraction of these exports were domestic products, in fact the domestic products amounted in value to \$1,460,453,000, which is 98 per cent. of the whole.

Classifying the exports, which preponderate enormously, we find agricultural products overshadowing every other item, followed at a good distance by manufactures. The exports of domestic merchandise were as follows in two years:

	1901.	1900.
Products of agriculture .....	\$944,059,568	\$835,858,123
Products of manufacture .....	410,509,173	433,851,756
Products of mining .....	39,267,647	37,843,742
Products of the forest .....	54,312,830	52,218,112
Products of the fisheries .....	7,743,313	6,326,620
Miscellaneous .....	4,561,278	4,665,218

In every one of these great groups, except manufactures, there is a distinct increase over the previous year. The reason for the apparent decrease in manufactures, which amounts to \$23,342,588, is due chiefly to the absence of figures showing exports to Hawaii and Porto Rico, which are estimated at about \$25,000,000 for the year, and largely consisted of manufactures. It helps to account for the decline in manufactured goods, when we remember that the total exports of copper in 1901 were only 252,769,328 lbs., valued at \$41,260,376, against 333,340,725 lbs. in 1900, valued at \$55,772,166. This decrease was chiefly due to a reduction in the demand for copper in Europe. There was also a reduction in an important item, namely, cotton cloths, of which there was a reduction, due to the temporary

suspension of exports to China. To that country the exportation of cotton cloths fell from 132,023,681 yards, valued at \$8,783,134, the previous year, to 83,859,402 yards, valued at \$4,552,534 in 1901. Asia and Oceania are the only quarters of the world that showed a decrease of American export trade in 1901. To Europe the Great Republic sent \$96,000,000 more than in 1900; to Canada and Mexico, \$9,000,000 more; to South America, \$6,000,000 more; to Africa, \$6,000,000 more; she sent \$10,000,000 less to Japan, and \$5,000,000 less to China, while those to Russia were \$9,545,000—a million less than in 1900. Exports to Germany were three millions greater. It is very significant that more than 55 per cent. of the total exports of the year were to British territory, the total value sent to the United Kingdom and the colonies and dependencies being \$819,551,390. Of this total the United Kingdom took \$631,268,263 in 1901, against \$533,819,535 in 1900. Of the total increase over \$50,000,000 was in cotton, about \$15,000,000 in breadstuffs, and about \$10,000,000 in provisions. Broadly, the exports to various quarters of the world were in 1901, compared with 1900, as follows:

	1901.	1900.
Europe .....	\$1,136,092,260	\$1,040,167,763
North America .....	196,570,118	187,194,625
South America .....	44,770,888	38,945,763
Asia .....	49,402,814	64,913,807
Oceania .....	35,377,176	43,391,275
Africa .....	25,542,301	19,469,849
Totals .....	\$1,487,755,557	\$1,394,483,082

Separating the imports into classes, the comparison is as follows: Imported articles of food and animals in 1900 value \$218,510,098; and this year, \$22,227,898; articles in a crude condition for use in domestic industry in 1900, \$302,426,748; this year, \$269,763,404; articles wholly or partially manufactured for use in manufactures and mechanic arts in 1900, \$88,433,549; this year, \$79,080,716; articles manufactured ready for consumption in 1900, \$128,900,597; this year, \$130,662,903; articles of voluntary use, luxuries, etc., in 1900, \$111,670,094; this year, \$120,938,095. The increase in this last-mentioned class helps to illustrate the freedom with which people buy luxuries in prosperous times.

Where reductions are shown in the value of imports is principally in raw silk, hides and skins, wool and India-rubber. Of most of these, however, the reduced value is partially due to reduction of price rather than quantity. Raw silk, for instance, shows a reduction from \$44,549,672 in 1900, to \$29,353,777 this year, a decrease in value of 34 per cent., while the quantity shows a decrease from 11,259,310 lbs. in 1900, to 9,139,616 lbs. this year, or only 18.8 per cent. In India-rubber, while the imports of 1901 are only \$28,455,383, against \$31,376,867 in 1900, the quantity imported this year is 55,275,259 lbs., against 49,377,138 lbs. in 1900. In wool, the importations decreased from 155,928,455 lbs., valued at \$20,260,936, in 1900, to 103,583,505 lbs., valued at \$12,529,881, during the fiscal year ended with June last. It may be wise for the American nation to take heed of President McKinley's words, just before the infamous assassin struck him down. Reciprocity in some form is an inevitable condition of successful trade. A nation cannot expect to sell exclusively—it must also buy. Therefore, no nation can be, in these days, a law unto itself.