

Trunk Railway Company, which should naturally look to this town, from its geographical position, and being the pioneer port of the upper lakes, as one of its principal feeders with the products of the great North-West, as in all likelihood, much of the products which could not come into our harbor, found its way to the seaboard, via Buffalo and American lines of transportation; thus Canada lost entirely the commerce thus diverted. The Mayor for 1893 and myself urged upon several members of the Government early in the year our great need for the immediate improvement of the harbor, and, although the Government has caused some useful work to be done, the scheme of giving us 20 feet of water in the harbor, which we urgently require, and which we were led to expect we would have when the town undertook to pay a considerable portion of the cost thereof, is not being vigorously gone on with, and it is to the prosecution of that scheme I would suggest the best energies of this Board and the Town Council should be directed during the year of 1894.

#### SHIPPING.

The fact that Collingwood is yearly becoming a greater wholesale distributing point, is well attested by the additions that are being made from year to year by the steamboat lines making this port their headquarters. Seventeen years ago there was only one small freight and passenger steamer belonging to the port; now there are nine commodious freight and passenger steamers, some of them equal, in all respects necessary to safety and comfort to any Canadian fresh water steamers.

#### IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The value of our imports for 1893, as entered in the Customs Department here, was \$109,084. The amount is, of course, only for foreign goods imported direct and entered at this port, and does not include the value of foreign goods entered at other ports in Canada, and handled here; but all these only represent a small per centage in value of the volume of business done, as the chief part of the goods handled in recent years are of Canadian production, and are therefore not included in the Customs returns.

The value of exports from the Collingwood consular district for the year 1892 was \$1,317,310. The amount compared with our foreign imports shows the trade of Collingwood to be in a healthy condition.

#### FINANCE.

While almost every country in the world has suffered more or less from financial stringency, and some very severely from financial panics, Canada almost alone has been singularly free from any feeling of distrust, and our excellent banking institutions have been always able and willing to afford all necessary facilities for carrying on the legitimate business of the country. Nothing can more clearly indicate the soundness and stability of the business of a country than its finances, and those of

Canada have shown that, notwithstanding the steady increase shown by the imports and exports.

The past year has been a country with farmers, all the brought good average paying Boards of Trade can give us what they may produce with venture to suggest to our farmers our climate and soil are more apples cannot be overdone, best at the World's Fair. I have hog raising, and leaving the our prairie friends. Land the mountain should be worth at

#### AUSTRALIA.

At present there are good Canada and Australia will therefore, with a direct line of have now, a large and mutually certain to follow. Already opened up business with Australia prospects.

#### WORLD.

Every visitor to the World's Fair at beholding the White designed such complete, complete for the exhibits and visitors. The Canadian exhibits since the Centennial Exhibition, manufactures, fruit, cheese and cat. So marked was this that even sense of pride in the advancement exhibits, the general opinion of the Pacific train was the best.

The various Legislatures promptly consider the best resources, and offer such inducements to industry. Such a policy would the country, without burdening it with expenses.