

THE WEST INDIA TRADE.

EXPORTS FROM THE UNITED STATES TO THE WEST INDIES.

WE gave last week a statement of the principal exports of the West Indies and British Guiana. We now give a statement of their imports from the United States—for this is the portion of their trade for which we can best compete. Our figures are taken from the American returns for the year ended June 30th, 1864.

The total exports from the United States to the British West Indies and Central and South American Colonies, were:

Of the produce and manufacture of the United States	\$10,638,616
Of the produce and manufactures of other countries	312,707
	<hr/> \$10,951,323

The list, in detail, is as follows,—all articles being given over \$5,000.

ARTICLES, THE PRODUCE OR MANUFACTURE OF THE UNITED STATES.

Agricultural implements	\$10,117
Alcohol	11,162
Apples, green	8,929
Apples, dried	977
Beef	333,963
Beer, in casks	40,318
Beer, in bottles	5,375
Boots and shoes	150,622
Bread and biscuit	260,300
Brooms and brushes	7,214
Butter	261,633
Cables and cordage	92,752
Candles	413,372
Carriages and parts	62,921
Cheese	122,121
Clothing	32,326
Copper, manufactures	9,354
Cotton, manufactures	54,456
Cutlery	13,677
Drugs and chemicals	115,241
Fish, dried and smoked	35,812
Fish, pickled	73,934
Fish, preserve	1,100
Fruits, dried, &c.	8,335
Glassware	26,454
Gold and Silver Bullion	998,805
Hams and bacon	178,706
Hardware	45,650
Hats, of wool	1,549
Hats, of straw, &c.	15,833
Hay	30,244
House furniture	71,663
Ice	30,743
Indian corn	254,106
Indian meal	659,544
Nails	19,017
Machines	30,864
Manufactures of wire	25,419
Lamps	13,016
Lard	306,818
Leather, manuf's of common	25,781
Lumber, boards	163,838
Lumber, other	21,310
Matches	29,036
Meats preserved	5,949
Musical instruments	10,530
Oil cake	127,029
Oil, sperm	8,345
Oil, whale and fish	13,119
Oil, lard	32,927
Oil, petroleum, crude	16,108
Oil, petroleum, refined	50,436
Oil, coal	19,831
Oil, linseed	5,240
Onions	11,456
Oysters	6,690
Paints, prepared	19,237
Paper and stationery	45,963
Perfumery	5,817
Pork	808,467
Potatoes	62,616
Printing presses	10,264
Oats	10,907
Peas	9,278
Beans	93,802
Pears	9,043
Saddlery and harness	6,254
Sewing Machines	16,726
Stingles	13,168
Skirts	42,932
Soap	28,106
Whiskey	6,021
Brandy	13,764
Wines	96,489
Rum	8,019
Starch	91,834
Staves and heading	170,915
Shooks	6,663
Hoops	6,298
Sugar, refined	6,817
Tallow	5,293
Tar and pitch	270,656
Tobacco, leaf	82,403
Tobacco, manufactured	6,670
Trunks and valises	9,002
Vinegar	5,013
Wax	1,453
Wheat	8,184,318
Wheat flour	16,121
Wooden wares	25,641
Wood, manuf'd and specified	

ARTICLES, THE PRODUCE OR MANUFACTURE OF OTHER COUNTRIES.

Tea	\$12,707
Cotton manufactures	6,894
Drugs, medicinal	11,210
Raisins	6,492
Cables and cordage	10,720
Gunny cloth	10,968
Wines, in cask	13,731
Champagne, in bottles	6,830
Refined sugar	41,221

It is unnecessary for us to point out how many articles in the above list we can supply better and cheaper than the United States. With free trade among our northern colonies (one of the first and best results of Confederation) and depots for our produce established at St. John and Halifax, it would be strange indeed if the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick craft, owned and sailed by as shrewd a set of people as you will find any where, do not come in for a large share of West India commerce,—not to mention the part which might be played in winter by our own schooners from the Lakes.

It is not a new trade for any of these colonies—even for Upper Canada, where the energies of the Merritts and McGiverins have already shown it to be profitable—but under a united government they can extend it almost indefinitely, as the above figures plainly show.

Meeting of the London, C.W., Board of Trade.

At an adjourned meeting of this Board, held on the 7th inst., resolutions regarding Reciprocity were passed, endorsing the commercial policy of the Imperial Government, in encouraging the freest possible interchange of commodities and productions between all countries, declaring the purpose which the Board was constrained to believe was entertained by the United States to coerce the people of British America, into an adoption of the commercial system of the United States, to be inimical to the interests of these Provinces, and offensive to the feelings of the people; and setting forth that it was their duty "to stand honestly and firmly by our rights as a free people, to choose our own course in commerce, and to follow it out in such ways as may seem to our people honorable and conducive to the prosperity of our country. And this Board will urge upon our government to abstain from any arrangement, by treaty or otherwise, that may entangle us with the present commercial policy of the United States, but rather to adopt the liberal policy of the mother country."

"And lastly, this Board is of opinion that the time has arrived when the people of Canada should display the utmost self-reliance, by establishing manufactures throughout the Province—manufactures of such a nature as will use up our raw material of all kinds, and provide employment for our rising and thrifty population. And this Board would most respectfully call the attention of the government and the two branches of the legislature to the benefit that will accrue to the country if raw material for the use of manufactures are admitted free of duty in framing a future tariff for these Provinces."

THE FLAX INDUSTRY.

Toronto, 12th March, 1865.

To the Editor of the "Trade Review."

SEEING the deep interest you take in all that concerns the prospects and welfare of Canada, I permit me to occupy a small space in your valuable journal, on a subject which may not be uninteresting to your readers at this particular juncture, when we are told Reciprocity is about to expire in a few days.

One thing we have to console us:—Our American cousins, in making their Will, left us with a large amount of cash at our credit; and as the Honourable Finance Minister so justly remarked in his speech at Cornwall, Canada never was in a more prosperous condition. Do we not already see the spirit of enterprise at work? An effort has been made within a few days to have a large woollen factory started at Cornwall, and the energy of the parties who have undertaken the project is a sure guarantee of its being successfully carried out. Manufactures of various descriptions that have never before been known in Canada will soon be found to spring up in our midst. Not the least important of these are linen manufactures. Three are already in operation with a capital engaged in each of not less than \$50,000 or \$70,000. This new branch of industry must particularly commend itself to capitalists of enterprise in this country, as water power is abundant, and there is a ready demand for every article of linen goods which can be made.

Seamless linen bags have just been produced at one of these factories, and the demand for this class of goods is such, that were all three factories engaged in the production, they would not meet one tenth of the demand.

Besides the profitable investment of capital, another obvious advantage of the establishment of these manufactures is the employment afforded to so many labourers, many of them, too, of an age at which they could otherwise expect to earn but little, thus enabling them not merely to provide for themselves at the present, but also to learn a valuable trade that will always ensure them a respectable and remunerative living. Were a few of these manufactures once started in some of the larger cities and towns, a great number of the idlers we so often see frequenting the streets could be provided for.

One great obstacle is met in places where no water power can be obtained, but when scutching mills form part of the necessary machinery, ample fuel is furnished from the boon or woody part separated from the fibre for all the steam power required.

There are no less than sixty of these scutching mills at work in Canada West, and in addition to the three linen factories already mentioned, there are three lined oil mills in operation, all doing a profitable business.

In some counties grants have been made to encourage this new branch of Canadian industry, and the Government have also come forward and are importing a quantity of Riga seed to be distributed among the farmers for sowing this spring at cost price. The crop is found to be a paying one, and the number of acres put in this year will be largely in advance of previous seasons. Other counties would do well to follow the example set the other day in Simcoe, when a sum of nearly \$500 was granted for the erection of scutching mills. These once started, linen manufactures will soon follow.

Hemp, hops, tobacco, broom corn, and the grape, are all found to answer well, and claim the attention of our agriculturists.

J. A. DONALDSON.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

THE railway receipts for February, 1865, are large as compared with these of February, 1865. The figures being—

February 1865.	Passengers	\$219,295	Miles open.
"	Mails, &c.	31,037	
"	Freight	493,325	
		<hr/> \$743,667	2055
February, 1865		601,390	2019
	Increase	\$142,177	36

The increase in the miles open being only 26, the increased traffic per mile is large.

A portion of this increase is due to the presence of freight destined for the States, which has been pushed forward so as to be across the line at this date. But the major part is due to the increased business of the Province, and we do not apprehend that either March or April will show any diminution as compared with corresponding periods of last year.

Of this increase the Great Western claims \$50,000; the Grand Trunk, \$30,000.

PORK PACKING IN CINCINNATI. The total numbers of hogs packed in that city during the season which has lately closed was 334,094, the average weight having been 238.18-31 lbs. per hog, and they field of leaf and trimming lard, 32.13-25 lbs. per hog. Of the whole number of hogs, 10,000 head were rendered into lard, excepting the shoulders and hams.

The season's packing compares with that of last season as follows:

	No. Hogs.	Avg. weight	Yield of Lard
1864-5	330,000	201	24 1-5
1865-6	364,079	239 19-31	32 13-25

In whole numbers, the average increase of weight of hogs over last season is nearly 19 per cent. and in lard 37 per cent.

Reduction of the United States Whisky Tax.

The Internal Revenue Commission on distilled spirits, as a source of revenue, in their report to Congress, advocate a reduction of the tax to \$1. per gallon. This will undoubtedly have the effect of stimulating production in the United States, thereby increasing the revenue, and checking smuggling by diminishing the temptations to carry on an illicit traffic.