

of the world. No less than 148 pages of it was devoted to information about Canada. Of volume two, out of nine hundred pages, two hundred are devoted to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. From page 767, we learn that the total imports into Great Britain from the United States during 1900 were \$693,946,000, out of a total of \$2,067,722,000; while the exports from the United Kingdom to the United States were \$186,719,000, out of a total of \$1,261,748,000. So that the year's aggregate trade between the countries was \$880,665,000 or rather more than twenty per cent. of the whole.

#### FOR DRY GOODS DEALERS.

Mr. Arthur Everitt, formerly a prominent dry goods merchant of St. John, N.B., and recently a customs appraiser, died suddenly in that city last week.

Our correspondent's paragraph about furs in to-day's Montreal market report shows that at London sales skunk, sable, beaver, otter and red fox sold lower, and most other kinds of skins are higher than at the March sales.

We hear that a movement is on foot among the corset manufacturers of Quebec city to consolidate their manufacturing and business interests. It is believed that by this means may be effected an improvement in the styles and quality, and a lessening of cost.

—The Imperial Bank of Canada has opened a branch at North Bay, Ont., and will open one to-morrow at Regina, N.W.T.

—Mr. A. W. Haun goes to Dunnville this week to take charge of a branch of the Bank of Hamilton to be opened presently in that place.

—A branch of the Traders' Bank of Canada is being opened at Woodstock this week or next. The manager has not yet been appointed.

—The Standard Bank of Canada is about to open a branch in the basement of the Foresters' Building, Bay street, Toronto, under the management of Mr. J. K. Brodie. A branch of this bank is also being opened at Stratford, to be in charge of Mr. S. B. Gearing.

—The Canadian Bank of Commerce will in a short time open a branch at Sydney, C.B. It is not true, however, that the bank has already purchased an expensive piece of ground on which to erect premises for the purpose.

—The Bathurst, N.B., branch of the People's Bank of Halifax has been moved into new offices in the Robertson Block of that town. Their new quarters, while being very centrally situated, are most conveniently and neatly fitted, and compare favorably with any bank in the province.

—The Calgary, N.W.T., Board of Trade has been amalgamated with the Retail Merchants' Association of that place, under the title of the Board of Trade. The president is Mr. W. H. Cushing. Separate sections of the board will be established for manufacturers, wholesale merchants, retail merchants, civic improvements and financial men.

—A letter from Vancouver, dated 21st October, says: "Business is very brisk in the Coast cities this fall. In fact, during a seven years' residence, I have never known business to be so good here as it is now. Not a house or store is vacant either in Vancouver or New Westminster that is fit to be occupied, and all judicious and careful business men are making money. In fact, not a few professional men, as well as commercial men, are becoming wealthy. If you will keep your eye on Vancouver, you will before long see a monster city, whose dimensions and prosperity will surprise

many Eastern people, who are generally ready to run this country down because they had at some time foolishly invested money in mining prospects, which did not turn out according to their expectations."

—The Consumers' Gas Company, of Toronto, held their 54th annual meeting on Monday last. The directors stated in their report that during the year 2,314 new services were put in, and, including the Island, 11.45 miles of mains laid, making a total of over 268 miles. On September 30th last, there were in use 923 street lamps, and 30,812 meters, and the gas rental amounted to \$771,982.40, as against \$716,524.82 during the year 1901. The income of the company this year amounted to \$843,634.76, made up as follows: Gas rents, \$771,982.40; coke, \$50,868.31; tar, \$8,455.20; ammoniacal liquor, \$10,282.03; office and house rents, \$1,847.21. Of this \$175,000 was paid out in dividends, \$9,672.92 in interest, and \$153,246.97 charged to profit and loss. The expenditure was \$509,800.29. The assets of the company are in the report valued at \$3,320,919, the works and plant being placed at \$3,009,962. The liabilities are made up as follows: Capital stock, \$1,750,000; reserve fund, October 1st, 1901, \$789,855.05; profit and loss, Sept. 30th, 1902, \$153,246.67; plant and building renewal fund, October 1st, 1901, \$356,666.03; less repairs and renewals, \$117,196.36; transferred from reserve fund, 5 per cent. value of plant and buildings in use Sept. 30th, 1902, \$142,445.44; reserved for dividend No. 210, \$43,750; Dominion Bank, \$301,869.10; sundry accounts payable, \$42,728.58; total, \$3,320,919.37. The old board of directors was re-elected.

—In his characteristic address to Toronto people in Massey Hall last Monday night, Captain Bernier made his contention clear to his auditory that a radical error had been made by recent navigators bound for the north pole. They approached it from the direction of Greenland, with the result that (1) the prevailing winds, (2) the mass of water discharged from Siberian rivers steadily flowing around and over the pole, (3) the pressure of ice towards the Atlantic, which piled it up on the western shore of Greenland, were all against them. Now, said Bernier, I purpose approaching the pole from the direction of Siberia, and will place my vessel in the ice to be carried, as U.S. buoys and derelict articles have been carried, close to the pole. "In short, I will go *with* Nature, where other explorers and discoverers have gone *against* Nature, and I confidently expect to succeed if the Canadian people will give me the \$30,000 I still need to make the attempt." It is impossible, after hearing him, not to sympathize with the aims and plans of this zealous navigator, whose intimacy with the dangers and disasters of former polar expeditions seems only to make him the more resolute. He has probably the very qualities that fit a man for such an enterprise, pluck, endurance, enthusiasm, conjoined with common sense, and a thorough knowledge of navigation. Besides these he is *un de nous autres*, that is to say, a Canadian of the Canadians; and he is strong in his belief that there are rich geological possibilities in Baffin Land, and even in Grinnell Land, which it is one object of his proposed expedition to explore.

#### CLEARING HOUSE FIGURES.

The following are the figures for Canadian clearing houses for the week ended with Thursday, Oct. 30, 1902, compared with those of the previous week.

CITIES	Oct. 30, 1902	Oct. 23, 1902
Montreal	\$20,621,634	\$25,092,690
Toronto	12,834,408	19,092,978
Winnipeg	4,536,998	5,398,967
Halifax	1,517,493	1,764,595
Hamilton	828,222	1,032,089
St. John	779,585	1,007,064
Vancouver	1,123,978	1,368,635
Victoria	521,701	555,486
Quebec	1,392,261	1,591,584
Ottawa	1,860,184	2,121,364
London	724,339	814,937
	\$46,740,808	\$59,840,394
Aggregate balances, this week	\$7,356,577	last week \$9,736,283.