

Drugs and medicines	32,106	22,950
Earthenware, stone and china.....	35,586	44,359
Fruits and nuts	11,019	16,567
Furs, manufactures of	14,571
Glass, manufactures of	35,777	22,611
Jewelry and watches	31,883	34,657
Leather, and manufactures of	39,682	33,156
Musical instruments	13,673	9,855
Oil	11,886	17,303
Paints and colors	9,600	7,950
Paper, envelopes, etc	41,731	37,636
Spirits and wines	8,176	5,131
Wood, and manufactures of	11,630	5,862

An increase in metal goods imported is quite clear, and in every department of dry goods imports have been larger. Coal, too, shows an increase. Drugs, glass, leather, paper and books are among the commodities more largely purchased from abroad.

In exports, the increase shown is exclusively under the head of produce of animals. Horned cattle were exported to a smaller extent than in August, 1898. Forest products, too, were less. Dead meat to the value of \$405,910 is the great item in the export list.

	August, 1899.	August, 1898.
Produce of the mine.....	\$ 838	\$ 38
Produce of the fisheries	392	6
Produce of the forest	30,841	86,270
Produce of the field	18,726	18,664
Animals and produce	511,526	398,117
Manufactures	90,339	112,253
	\$652,662	\$615,348

AMERICAN AND CANADIAN GRAIN CARRIAGE.

Both the Canada Atlantic via Parry Sound, and the Grand Trunk Railway via Midland, are carrying large quantities of grain from the West for export. That active competition from these quarters is hurting the grain carrying trade at Buffalo is made evident by statistics recently made public. For the month of August, the receipts of flour at Buffalo were 1,380,707 barrels, as against 1,529,703 barrels last year, a decrease of 28,996 barrels. Grain receipts for the month at that port were 15,561,211 bushels, as against 20,174,988 bushels last year. From the opening of navigation to date the receipts of grain were 77,974,454 bushels, as against 107,257,626 bushels last year, a decrease of thirty million bushels. The receipts of flour also decreased 600,000 barrels. When the St. Lawrence canals enlargement is completed, and this event is not to be long deferred, we may expect a further decline in the Buffalo carrying trade. Under present conditions the St. Lawrence route has been a comparatively small factor in the grain trade this year. Quite possibly, the excessive anxiety of vessel owners to take advantage of the present very high freights on iron ore from Lake Superior has taken away some steamers which would otherwise have carried grain.

A PROMISING COMPANY.

As a part of the machinery of commerce, no unimportant position is taken by the modest little documents known as counter check-books, by which we mean the books from which a retail clerk, after having pencilled your purchase, tears off a slip which registers the same in duplicate or triplicate. The Carter-Crume Company of Niagara and Toronto has been making these sales books and autographic registers for years. Indeed, the building up of the Carter-Crume Company is another example of the energy and ability of Canadians. It is some sixteen years since the manufacture of counter check-books was commenced in Toronto under the direction of Mr. S. J. Moore, the present general manager of the company, and since that time this book has become indispensable to business men. Mr. Moore was active in establishing factories in the United States, in London, Eng.; Berlin and Melbourne. The establishment at Niagara Falls is said to be the largest check-book manufactory in the world.

So greatly has this business grown throughout the world that it has been resolved to offer to the public a part of the in-

creased stock of the concern. An Ontario incorporation has been secured, and the company will manufacture under patents procured in the United States in 1882 and 1889. The prospectus says that on August 1st there were on hand orders for more than six million check books, with more than 25,000 customers' names on the regular list. The profits of the business, as certified to by a well known firm of chartered accountants, have for five years averaged \$127,000 per annum, which justifies the arrangement by which \$750,000, bearing 7 per cent., is put aside as preference stock; and of this \$200,000 is taken by the directors, who are among our best known business men. It is stipulated that Mr. Moore shall continue to manage the company, which has built up an enormous business in a staple article. The sum of \$550,000 of the preference stock is now offered for subscription, under such conditions as make it appear a good investment. The new concern is to acquire all the assets of the Merchants' Sales Book and Autographic Register business of the Carter-Crume Company of Niagara Falls.

FINANCIAL MATTERS.

Bank deposits in Alabama, according to official reports, show an increase of 50 per cent. This statement of what the people are doing under a Republican administration, says The Bankers' Monthly, must be disheartening to the more-money delusionists of that State.

There is some discussion now as to the wisdom of establishing Government supervision and inspection of the banks in Canada, says a New York financial journal. Judging by our experience in this country [the United States], we should say, that Government supervision is a broken reed and more provocative of blind faith and blasted hopes than of public advantage.

The appeal of the Napanee bank clerk, W. H. Ponton, for a new trial of his \$50,000 suit against the Dominion Bank for alleged false arrest in connection with the robbery of the bank's branch at Napanee, has been dismissed by the Divisional Court with costs. The appeal was from the decision of Mr. Justice Street, who refused to postpone the case at Cobourg, and dismissed it.

It is stated by The Montreal Gazette that Mr. G. Deserres, accountant, last week concluded a transaction with the Banque du Peuple, buying for cash, \$460,000, the deposable assets of the bank. For this M. Ovid Dufresne deserves credit, as it is \$3,500 in excess of what was estimated by the three valuers who made their report after permission for the sale had been granted by the Government. The following is the summarized statement: Sale of assets, \$460,000, promised by directors. 190,000, balance to be paid by directors, \$50,000.

The winding-up of the Pictou bank, which has been going on for twelve years, is completed. Elsewhere we give the report of Mr. McGregor, the chairman of the liquidators. All lawful claims presented against the bank have been paid; but of the capital of the bank, which was \$250,000, no less a sum than \$161,970 has been lost, the proportion of 29½ per cent. having been returned to shareholders. The loss of capital was occasioned mainly through misfortunes of persons engaged in shipping, and through the failure of the Logan tannery. The following resolution was passed unanimously by the shareholders of the Pictou Bank at their final meeting in Pictou, N.S., on 5th September, 1899: Resolved, That this final meeting of the shareholders of the Pictou Bank dissolves the said bank and abandons the charter thereof, from, on and after the thirtieth day of September, A.D. 1899, and it is so ordered and directed by this meeting.

The preliminary investigation of W. Weir, president; F. W. Smith, director, and F. Lemieux, accountant, of the Banque Ville Marie, began a week ago before Judge Choquet. The complaint against them states that the bank's report was deceptive with regard to the circulation, placed at \$261,870, the highest for one day being \$280,410. Whereas representatives from 18 banks deposed they held notes of the Banque Ville Marie to the amount of \$457,365. It is besides alleged in the complaint that deception was practised with respect to the Rest, for there was none, that the June return overstated the specie and the call loans, as well as other assets. It was agreed to adjourn for one week to allow the defense to reply.