

Leather goods.....	35,676	25,438
Paper goods	27,314	29,119
Wood manufactures	15,284	10,360

We find the increased value of exports mainly in items under the head of animals and their products, such as horses, cattle, meats, wool, in field products and in manufactures. Among the manufactures we find books, leather goods, machinery and wooden ware. The totals under the different headings are the produce of Canada :

EXPORTS.		
	Jan. 1887.	Jan. 1886.
The Forest.....	\$ 2,867	\$ 3,502
Animals and products....	42,930	68,797
Field products	107,354	115,250
Manufactures	42,740	28,515
Miscellaneous	4,424	474
Total	\$248,303	\$216,115

RECENT LEGAL DECISIONS.

One Moir insured his premises in the Sovereign Fire Insurance Company. In the application, his description stated that they were occupied as a spool factory. The policy contained the following provisions :—

"In case the above described premises shall, at any time during the continuance of this insurance, be appropriated, or applied to, or used for the purpose of carrying on, or exercising therein any trade, business or vocation denominated hazardous or extra hazardous unless otherwise specially provided for, or hereafter agreed to by this company in writing, or added to, or endorsed on this policy, then this policy shall become void."

"Any change material to the risk, and within the control or knowledge of the assured, shall avoid the policy as to the part affected thereby, unless the change is promptly notified to the company or its local agent."

While the policy was in force a part of the insured premises were used for the manufacture of excelsior (wood shreds or shavings, for upholsterers' use) but the fact of its being used for this purpose was not communicated to the company. The buildings were burned and the company refused to pay the insurance moneys, on the ground that the manufacture of excelsior on the premises avoided the policy under the above conditions. An action being brought to recover the insurance monies, the jury found that the manufacture of spools was more hazardous than the manufacture of excelsior, and that the risk was not increased by adding the manufacture of the latter in the building. The Supreme Court supported the plaintiff's right to the insurance moneys, but the Supreme Court of Canada held, reversing this judgment, that as the manufacture of excelsior was in itself a hazardous business, the introduction of it into the building insured would avoid the policy under the first of the clauses above set out, even if the jury were right in their finding that it was less hazardous than the manufacture of spools; and also that the addition of the manufacture of excelsior to that of spools, in the premises, was a change material to the risk, and avoided the policy under the second clause above recited.

In the case of the Pictou Bank against Harvey, the defendant, who had for four years sold hides to one J. L. of Pictou, on the fourth of July, 1884, forwarded a lot to him, the bill of lading showing that they were to be carried to Pictou station. An invoice accompanied the goods, and L. returned a note for the amount, as was the custom, the question of

quantity being adjusted afterwards. This lot was put off at Pictou Landing, where it remained till August 5, on which day L.'s lighterman being there and seeing the lot took it to L.'s tannery. Next day L. being made acquainted with the fact, removed the hides to the store of D. L. whom he told to keep them for the parties who sent them, and telegraphed H. the same day, "In trouble. Have stored hides. Appoint some one to take charge of them." He had other hides at the time in the store of D. L. H. came immediately to Pictou and expressed himself satisfied with what had been done, did not take possession of the hides but left them where they were stored, on L.'s assurance that they were all right. L. afterwards executed a bill of sale to the bank on all his hides in the store of D. L., and the bank, on indemnifying D. L., took possession of the hides so shipped by H. and stored with D. L. In a suit by H. against the bank and D. L., the Supreme Court of Canada held that the contract of sale between L. and H. was rescinded by the action of H. in refusing to take possession of the goods when they arrived at his place of business, He handing them over to D. L. with directions to hold them for the consignor, and in notifying the consignor who acquiesced and adopted the act of L. whereby the property and possession of the goods became vested in H. there was consequently no title to the goods in L. on the day when the bill of sale was made to the bank.

NEW INVENTION IN FLAX SCUTCHING.

An important economy in the treatment of flax fibre is claimed to be reached by the new French machine, for fibre-cleaning. Testimony as to the efficacy of this machine is borne by Mr. H. Dunbar McMaster, (of the well-known thread works, Gilford, Ireland), who went, together with Messrs. Barbour, Combe and other experts in thread making from Belfast and Lisburn, to see the operation of the Cardon machine last year at Lille, France. Retted flax straw which yielded, by other machines, 17½ per cent. of full scutched fibre and of scutching tow 7 per cent when treated at Lisburn, Ireland, by former methods, yielded 24 per cent. clean scutched fibre and 3 per cent scutching tow when treated at Lille by the new machine. The quality of the fibre scutched by each kind of machine was the same, but the tow from the Cardon machine was rather dirty.

The experts in flax manufacture whose names are mentioned above, maintain that this machine must prove an important factor in the linen trade. Many tests have shown the increased yield from its use is not less than 25 per cent., and in some cases 35 per cent. Measuring the advantage to Ireland alone, it is ascertained that the increase in yield of Irish flax for 1885, had the Cardon machine been used, would have reached 7,000 gross tons which at £50 per ton means probably £300,000. A feature of the machine, it is alleged, is that it can be attended by youth or lads instead of men, as in the old system, and that but little skilled labor is needed in connection with it. To Americans, where wages are high, this must prove an important invention. It was evidently so regarded at the annual convention of flax and hemp growers and spinners, held at Greenwich, N. Y., last month.

The *Journal de Lille* predicts that henceforth spinners will buy flax in the straw state and scotch it at their own factories and that

this machine will stimulate flax cultivation in France. Mr. McMaster declares that it will put money in the pockets of American agriculturists, and adds, "As an Irish farmer I can assure American agriculturists that for the past two years flax has been almost the only crop which has left some margin of profit to the tiller of the soil across the ocean, that too without our being able to turn the seed to account, as far as Ireland is concerned. In the great flax seed raising States, such as Indiana, Iowa, Illinois, Kansas, Ohio, or Minnesota, if suitably cultivated, the fibre of their flax crop should be worth more than the seed. By sowing a little more seed of good quality per acre than western farmers have been accustomed to do, say 1½ bushels in place of 3½ pecks, a large weight of fibre will be raised without deficiency of seed yield."

MANUFACTURERS' NOTES.

The importance of the musical instrument industry in Germany, and especially Berlin, is shown by the following extract from *Kuhlow*: "During the year 1885, musical instruments having a weight of about 10 million kilogrammes, and valued at 35 million Mk., (over \$8,000,000), were despatched to various foreign countries. The brunt of the export trade falls upon Berlin. Pianos are credited with half the total. During the last six years keyed instruments have been exported to the value of nearly 88 million mks. Great Britain appears to be our best customer; a good part of the total export, besides, is despatched to that country, intended for transshipment to North and South America. Other important sale districts are Australia, Mexico, Central America, Brazil, Argentine, &c."

Messrs. Fuller & Hill, of Bolton Center, Que., are turning out all the butter tubs that is possible for them to make. They have an order from Scotland for two car-loads of tubs per week. A car contains from 1,800 to 2,000 tubs.

According to the *Ontario Gazette*, six of the Patterson family, viz., two each from Westfield, N. Y., Woodstock and York county, Ont., will apply to be incorporated in this province under the name of Patterson & Brothers (Limited) to make agricultural implements and machinery, in Woodstock, with a capital stock of \$750,000.

The Ames Sword Company, of Springfield, Mass., will henceforth make no more sword-blades for the U. S. government, but will import them from Germany, that course being cheaper.

Mr. Wm. Hobbs, of Montreal, having had some difficulty of accounts with a Cotton company which he organized, sued the concern for \$1,700, composed of salary, shares confiscated, commission, &c., &c. The company pleaded a counter claim. The court awarded him 64 shares with dividends, whatever it may all amount to, and \$711 cash, with a counter account of \$1,300 on the part of the Company, their right to recover which is reserved. But then, the costs, with the exception of those at *enquete*, went against the defendant.

The welding of copper, a thing supposed to be impracticable, has been accomplished, it is claimed, by a mechanic named Burns in Pittsburg, who uses a certain liquid mixture which he carried round in a bottle and which is his secret. Pipes may be made in the same way, under this method, being welded instead of worked out of the solid. Mr. Burns has even made a copper boiler for a small engine by his welding—something unheard of. "In the pro-