the latter being $11,375,000, of which about one-third was coffee, one-third tea, and one-third wine.

The following were the principal imports into Great Britain of articles from Canada in past half year:—

Imports from Canada.	Jan. to July, 1899	Jan. to July, 1898	Increase or Decrease, 1899	
	$	$		$
Animals....	71,[illegible]00	40,700	inc.	31,800
Wheat, Flour and Corn	5,685,000	6,258,000	dec.	573,000
Bacon and Hams.....	1,792,600	2,068,600	dec	276,000
Cheese, Butter, Eggs..	3,140,700	2,702,700	inc.	438,000
Fish...............	2,106,500	3,098,800	dec.	992,300
Pulp...............	318,890	341,500	dec.	22,610
Wood...............	5,169,400	1,177,100	inc.	1,992,300
Total of above......	$18,284,590	17,687,400	inc.	597,190

The principal exports of Great Britain to Canada from January to July this year, according to British returns, were as below:—

Exports to Canada.	Jan. to July, 1899	Jan. to July, 1898	Increase or Decrease, 1899	
	$	$		$
Spirits..............	387,140	326,500	inc.	60,640
Wool and Woollens. .	2,552,700	2,525,800	inc.	26,900
Cottons, Linen, etc....	3,498,700	2,937,600	inc.	561,100
Iron and Steel goods,..	1,307,200	1,008,400	inc.	298,800
Lead and Tin.........	154,900	108,020	inc.	46,880
Ships, new...........	26,068,300	....	inc.	26,068,300
Apparel..............	895,800	1,022,200	dec.	126,400
Chemicals, etc.......	275,000	212,100	inc.	62,900
Crockery.............	322,290	411,320	dec.	89,030
Paper................	65,480	52,000	inc.	13,480
Gold.................	....	175,000	dec.	175,000
Silver...............	82,010	104,700	dec.	22,690
Total of above......	$35,609,520	8,883,640	inc.	26,725,880

The increase of exports to Canada this year over first half of 1898, apart from new ships, was $657,-580, which was $60,396 in excess of the increase of imports from Canada. As the total imports into Great Britain in the last half year were $1,183,684,-000, and the total exports, $800,146,000, the contributions to this enormous foreign trade made by Canada were so small in proportion to the whole as to have made no very material difference in the total. The total value of the yarns and textile manufactures exported from Great Britain between end of December, 1898, and end of June, 1899, was $239,208,000, the total of metals and articles made from metals, exclusive of ships, was $138,100,000, of which $47,683,-000 was for machinery. If we compare these figures with those representing the exports to Canada, we cannot but be impressed with the unreasonableness of expecting Great Britain to run any risk whatever of prejudicially affecting her vast foreign trade in order to gratify Canada. Great Britain, for years, has been buying from 60 to 70 per cent. of all the goods we have sent abroad, but we have been buying only from 25 to 35 per cent. from Great Britain of what goods we have bought abroad, and our total purchases in the markets of Great Britain have only been about 3 per cent. of the total of her sales to outside customers. Manifestly, the trade relations between the Mother country and this Dominion differ very widely.

So much has been said of late regarding the encroachments made by the United States on the trade of Great Britain, we turned to the Trade and Navigation Returns up to 1st July last with curiosity to see what traces there were of this inroad. We see no signs whatever. In the first half of 1898 the British exports of machinery and mill work were $8,514,816; this year, in first six months, they were $9,536,792, an advance of 12 per cent. In steam engines, locomotives, agricultural machines, sewing machines, mining machinery, textile machinery, the exports of Great Britain increased this year. The same remark applies also to Germany. The returns before us afford no ground whatever for the scare which has been excited over goods "Made in Germany," reducing the imports of British goods into that empire. We find the exports from Great Britain to Germany this year materially larger than in first half of 1897 in cutlery, implements, tools, hoops, sheets, tin-plates, cast iron goods, black plates for tinning, and steam engines. The total increase in the value of British products and manufactures exported in the past half year over the same period in 1898 was $70,062,100, which shows that in the battle for the world's trade victory still perches on the British standard.

THE RIVALRY OF THE PORTS.

The energy and enterprise of Montrealers and the expenditure of money in improving channels and terminal facilities and arranging for the rapid and economical handling of merchandize is incidentally made the subject of an interesting editorial in the New York "Commercial Bulletin" of Tuesday last. Under the above heading that excellent journal says:—

"The extended interview with Mr. Smith of the State Commerce Commission published by this paper is probably a pretty good forecast of the report the Commission will make so far as it deals with the existing situation. Mr. Smith avoids the recommendations which ought to be made; he may not have reached a conclusion himself as to this branch of the matter, but the more probable fact is that he does not feel at liberty to anticipate the recommendations of the Commission while the testimony regarding certain salient features of the situation is so clear and so unanimous that no consideration of official etiquette need restrain him from speaking of it; of course he states only his own impressions; he does not speak for his colleagues, but they can hardlly come to any different conclusion as to what the facts are, and we presume that Mr. Smith is not unwilling to have the public understand that so far as this goes he is foreshadowing the report. We have within a few days heard from another member of the Commission, Mr. Schieren, on one important branch of the subject under investigation. We do not attempt to extort from the interview with him a prediction of what the Commission will recommend as to the improvement of the canal; it is enough to observe the impression made upon him by the facts of the present and the past.