

trade show unusual activity. These returns exhibit, among other things, a comparative statement of the value of imports entered at each port for 1863 and 1864. The imports, when we compare them, shew a remarkable state of increase in the trade and prosperity of the country. In 1862, the imports were \$8,445,042; in 1863, \$10,201,391; in 1864, \$12,604,642. The revenue derived from the imports up to Sept. 30, 1864, exhibits also a marked and steady increase. Here let me say that the house will understand that in consequence of an order of this house the financial statement exhibits the general trade up to the 30th of Sept., and therefore includes only nine months of 1864. I shall be able, however, before I close the few remarks which I intend to make, to exhibit a pretty accurate statement of the whole revenue receipts of the year up to 31st December.

To continue, the imports were \$12,604,642. Excise and Customs duty for the nine months of 1864, was \$692,818.70, against \$564,956.56 in 1863, being an increase of \$127,860.14. The light duty, within the same period, shows an increase of \$7,712.65—the amount in 1863 being \$38,163.20, and in 1864, \$35,875.85. The Imports, it will be perceived from these papers include trade in various parts of the world, and I have endeavored, to classify them in as small a compass as possible, giving the countries from which the imports came. In 1863, the importations from Great Britain were \$3,875,693, and in 1864, \$5,407,843, or an increase of \$1,550,150. From the British American Colonies, the amount in 1863 was \$1,216,621, and in 1864, \$1,189,066, or a decrease of \$972,445. From the British West Indies, the amount in 1863 was \$286,280, and in 1864, \$440,767, or an increase of \$154,487. From the United States the amount of imports in 1863 was \$3,857,765, and in 1864, \$4,303,026, or an increase of \$445,261. From this it will be seen that the amount of imports from the States this year is about one million of dollars less than that from Great Britain. The amount of importations from other countries, reaches the sum of \$1,263,950, or an increase of \$298,118 over 1863. Adding the amounts I have given, you get a sum total of \$12,604,642, against \$10,201,391 for 1863, or an increase of \$2,403,251.

The exports from the country exhibit something like the same ratio of increase. In 1863 the exports were \$6,546,488 against \$7,172,816 in 1864, showing an increase in favour of this year of \$626,328. The amount, however, does not show all the exports sent out of the country, but it is as near the exact sum as it was possible to shew with the information at hand. It is noteworthy, however, that all through these returns, inaccurate as they seem in some respects, there was evidently a regular and consistent increase. In 1863, the exports to Great Britain were \$320,340, and in 1864, \$330,523, or a slight increase of \$10,183. It is hardly possible, I think, from the nature of things, that that sum represents the total of the property exported to the mother country from Nova Scotia. If it were true, then, we would have something like \$1,500,000 to pay for in cash or exchange. The exports to the B. A. Colonies was in 1863, \$1,851,043, against \$1,707,717, or a decrease of \$146,926 in 1864. To the B. W. Indies in 1864 it was \$1,899,031 or an increase of \$184,675 over 1863. To the United States in 1863 we exported \$1,869,772, and in 1864, \$2,-

446,770, or an increase this year of \$576,998. So that it will be perceived we export much more largely to the States than to any other country in the world. To other countries we exported in 1864, \$788,775 against \$787,377 in 1863, or an increase of \$1,398. Hence the total amount of exports is \$7,172,816 or an increase of \$626,328.

It is not necessary that I should go through all the items in the returns, but I may state that gentlemen on looking over them will perceive that a change has been introduced which had been instituted under the direction of the gentleman who last year so ably filled the position I now occupy. It makes a distinction in the entries, stating the duty on the total imports, and that portion of our importations that actually paid duty—that is the goods entered for home consumption. There is also in connection with the trade returns a financial statement, giving among other things a general return of the warrants drawn on the treasury during the nine months ending the 30th Sept.; an abstract of articles imported into and manufactured in this province, on which duty was collected during the same period; a general abstract of the returns of the excise duties collected at the different ports of the province; a comparative statement of the amount of excise duties collected at the different ports; a comparative statement of the quantities of articles subject to duty imported into, and manufactured in this province; a comparative statement of the amount of excise duties collected on articles imported into, and manufactured in this province; a comparative statement of the amount of light duty.

Then comes the Receiver General's account to the end of the financial year, showing a balance in hand of \$225,150.96. On the Customs and Excise duties there is an increase of \$127,860.14; on light duties of \$7712.65; on the railway revenue of \$15,126.57; on the gold fields of \$14,984.33; on the Crown Land Revenue of \$13,200.10; on the Post Office Receipts of \$5,868.00—making an increase from these sources for 9 months of \$184,751.79. There are other items in connection with our public resources which manifest an equally decided improvement in commercial relations. The royalty upon coal, for instance, I have been unable to get a detailed statement of the 12 months of 1863 and 1864, but have been obliged to content myself with the first nine months of the latter year. The royalty upon coal in the 12 months of 1863 was \$36,001.19; in the 9 months of 1864, it was \$37,867.10, or an increase of over \$1800. The Hospital for the Insane gives in the nine months of 1864 \$14,894.96, against \$17,420.31 in the 12 months of the previous year. The licenses to search for and work mines was \$5,040.00 in 9 months of 1864 against \$1,690.00 in the whole of 1863.

The Excise revenue as I have stated was \$692,818.70. As hon. gentlemen know this is collected in shape of specific and ad valorem duties. The ad. valorem duties in the period of 9 months appear to have considerably increased, whilst the specific have not increased in the same ratio. The specific duties in 1863 including Excise duty on Ale and Tobacco, amounted to \$294,539.44, whilst in 1864, they are \$313,582.18, being an increase of \$18,042.74. The ad valorem duty in 1863 was \$299,419.12 against \$379,236.52 in 1864, or an increase of \$169,817.40.