

No. 9.
INFORMATION FOR THE ELECTORS.

OUR IMPORT TRADE.

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH BRITAIN AS
AFFECTED BY THE TARIFF.

IMPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS—CONSUMPTION OF TEA AND
SUGAR—HOW THE NATIONAL POLICY HAS PRO-
MOTED HOME INDUSTRIES.

Opponents of the National Policy base much of their criticism upon the figures relating to the foreign trade of Canada. If they would deal honestly with the returns, there would be no cause for complaint, because interesting knowledge of the working of the present fiscal system can be derived from the statistics of our import and export trade. But the hostile critics ignore in all criticisms two material considerations: (1) the decline in the price of all commodities since 1878, which affects the aggregate value of foreign trade, and (2) the changes which have occurred in the character of our imports, to some of which latter we propose briefly to allude. The total value of imports into Canada during the five years of Liberal rule, and during the last five years of National Policy, has been—