

CANADIAN TRADE OPPORTUNITIES.

Mr. Malcolm C. Fenwick, resident in Kobe, Japan, and formerly Canadian trade commissioner to that country, thinks a lucrative trade might be built up for Canadian manufacturers if an office were secured temporarily in each port or large city of Japan, where samples could be shown, and advertisements published in the native and foreign newspapers. Japanese dealers are now making great efforts to deal direct with manufacturers, independently of the foreign commission merchant. He expresses the opinion that the Canadian Pacific should offer greater inducements than its present through rates. During the past season, he has sold goods in the following lines: Food-stuffs, including canned fruits and vegetables, bacon, butter, cheese, condensed milk; dry goods, such as furs, cotton fabrics, underclothing, furs, etc.; and sundries like soaps, jewelry, cutlery and sewing machines.

The Canadian Manufacturers' Association are discussing the establishment of a commercial office in the Old Country and the Dominion Government will be petitioned to appoint a trade commission, with headquarters in London. The idea is that an office should be established there under the management of men conversant with Canadian commercial affairs, where information on trade matters can be given, and where samples of Canadian manufactures can be at all times seen.

Mr. J. S. Larke, Dominion commissioner in Australia, reports some improvement in the trade in Canadian leather and boots, also in steel ceilings and linings for houses. The carriage trade, he remarks, promises to change from finished goods to buggies in the white and in parts. This change will probably be hastened by the Federal tariff.

A firm in South Africa writes to the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, saying it requires about half a million feet of dressed lumber, also quantities of packing-box material and doors. And a prominent English carriage manufacturing concern, which at present purchases large amounts of unfinished parts of vehicles from the United States, expresses to the secretary of the same association a desire to transfer this trade to Canada.

Mr. J. Enoch Thompson, Spanish Consul in Toronto, who has just returned from a trip to Spain, says that many prominent people there are interested in the promotion of a direct trade between that country and Canada. Several business houses wish to appoint agents here for the sale of Spanish products.

A London firm asks to be placed in communication with Nova Scotia dealers in, and shippers of salted and dried cod fish, packed in drums of 128 lbs. each. Particulars may be learned at the High Commissioner's office, London.

NEW BRUNSWICK WOOD TRADE.

The wood trade of the Miramichi valley for the year just closed is reviewed by the circular of J. B. Snowball, which asserts that the winter operations on the river are on a reduced scale, assumed to be 20 to 25 per cent. less than last season's production. Shippers from Chatham, N.B., are unable to keep pace with the cheaper productions from Nova Scotia and the Bay of Fundy ports, as the latter largely escape the high stumpage taxes to which lumbermen in the northern portions of New Brunswick, are subject; and in view of the fact also, that cheaper supplies and labor are available for their operations. The stock of merchantable spruce and pine wintering at Chatham is 33,000,000 feet, as compared with 32,000,000 feet last year, and 40,000,000 feet in 1898. The proportion of pine is 4,500,000 superficial feet, which is much less than last year.

Spruce export for 1900 was only moderately profitable. Spruce deals, nine by eleven by three, are scarce. The logs for making these dimensions are limited in quantity and diminishing. Shipments of lumber from the Miramichi for ten years were as follows, beginning with 1891, viz., 72 — 95 — 83 — 96 — 82 — 106 — 102 — 113 — 129 — 122 millions of superficial feet. Ninety-seven per cent. of this quantity went to Great Britain and Ireland, three per cent. to Spain France, Africa, and South America. The principal receiving ports were Liverpool, Fleetwood, Glasgow, Belfast, Dublin, London, and Londonderry.

A comparative table thus gives New Brunswick lumber and timber shipments for two years:

Ports.	Sup. ft. deals, etc. 1900.	Timber (tons.)	Sup. ft. deals, etc. 1899.	Timber (tons.)
St. John	236,459,838	5,922	184,192,435	5,990
Miramichi	121,542,971	100	128,802,030	352
Moncton	41,509,444		27,858,508	
Shediac	11,055,531		10,411,578	
Dalhousie	24,060,224	51	27,240,080	
Campbellton	20,968,145		18,146,988	
Bathurst	18,669,103		9,627,308	51
Richibucto and Buc-touche	4,462,000		9,285,900	
Sackville	10,361,892		10,683,583	
	489,089,148	6,073	426,248,410	6,393

The shipments from Nova Scotia for 1900 reached the total of 146,294,110 superficial feet, which is a larger quantity than for any of the last ten years, except 1897 and 1898. All this wood went to twenty-one ports in the United Kingdom, and fifteen ports on the continent of Europe. Halifax was the largest shipper, sending 64,107,000 superficial feet, followed by Parrsboro with 30,000,000, Pugwash with 21,000,000, Yarmouth, Ship Harbor, Liscomb, Hubbard's Cove, Pictou, Sheet Harbor, and Mahone Bay. There was also sent from Pictou 1,600 tons of timber. The J. B. Snowball Co., Limited, continue to be the largest New Brunswick shippers, followed in order by F. E. Neale, W. M. MacKay, D. & J. Ritchie, and the Wm. Richards Co., and half a dozen others. Only a hundred tons of timber went from Miramichi together with 3,949,000 superficial feet of spool-wood and shooks.

FOR GROCERS AND PROVISION DEALERS.

The London currant market has been passing through a very trying time. Considerable quantities purchased by outside speculators for shipment from Greece on the usual 90-day bankers' credits owing to the maturity of the bills and the inability of the receivers to meet their engagements have been sold without limits by the bankers, and enormous losses have resulted. The failure of the speculators has reacted upon consignees of various parcels of merchandise from Greece, who, seeing the market tumbling, have been forced to sell in order to realize the advances made against shipments; the demoralization, appears to be complete. The market in Greece remains steady and at latest reports was slightly higher than the London level.

Last season's output of sugar in Queensland reached 29,304 tons, as compared with only 2,099 tons in 1895. The price realized for the sugar during the past five years, has averaged £9 per ton, which left but a small margin over expenses for profit.

At the seventh annual meeting of the Canadian Jersey Breeders' Association, held last week in Toronto, the following officers were elected: Wm. Rolph, Markham, president; R. J. Fleming, Toronto, vice-president; R. Reid, Berlin, secretary-treasurer; Executive Committee, D. O. Bull, Brampton; W. E. H. Massey and George Davies, Toronto; David Duncan, Don, and H. J. Clarke, Lambton. Mr. R. Reid was appointed judge to the Toronto and the Manitoba and the Northwest Fairs; Mr. H. J. Clarke, judge for London, and Mr. D. Duncan for Ottawa.

—We understand that the Ontario Government will soon make a new estimate of the timber resources of the province, based on the reports of exploration parties and of the regular forest rangers of the Government. In 1893, when the last estimate was made, ten billion feet was under license and twenty-six billion feet was standing on the lands of the Crown. The new estimate will cover a wider territory, and it is expected that it will not fall far short of previous estimates despite the heavy cut of recent years.