

CANADA'S FOREIGN TRADE.

Having already exhibited the trade done by Canada with Great Britain and the United States, the salient features of which have special interest in relation to current discussions, the following will be devoted to a general view of the foreign trade of Canada, which has highly important features apart from those presented in a previous article.

The following table gives the total imports in periods of three years each, from 1868 to 1890, which divides up 33 years into 11 equal terms, also the total exports for the same years, and the average percentage of duties collected:

Years.	Total Imports.	Total Exports.	Average Duty- Per cent. on total imports.	Duty pr. head.
	\$	\$		
1868-1870.....	218,689,000	191,616,000	12.15	2.60
1871-1873.....	335,534,000	246,603,000	12.30	3.51
1874-1876.....	344,494,000	248,205,000	12.37	3.66
1877-1879.....	274,379,000	226,690,000	13.99	3.12
1880-1882.....	311,240,000	288,340,000	17.45	4.19
1883-1885.....	357,592,000	278,730,000	17.46	4.65
1886-1888.....	328,211,000	264,971,000	19.53	4.61
1889-1891.....	354,051,000	284,355,000	20.13	4.95
1892-1894.....	379,955,000	350,052,000	16.07	4.11
1895-1897.....	348,012,000	372,603,000	16.66	3.76
1898-1900.....	492,710,000	514,944,000	15.58	4.81
Aggregate for 33 years.....	3,747,864,000	3,267,116,000	Ave. 15.80	...

*The amount of Customs duty paid per head of population is estimated, the exact population in any one year not being known.

The calculation of the average duty per cent. paid on the total imports in the several groups of three years each is based, as is stated, upon the "total imports," a term which includes those entered free of duty. This was a necessity, as the official returns do not afford the data required for giving the percentage of the duty paid in each year on the dutiable imports. Were the official tables of Trade and Navigation to comprise column giving, "the percentage of duty paid on dutiable goods entered for consumption," it would enable a comparison to be made in regard to the effect of the different tariffs in operation in past years, a point which, under present conditions, is quite obscure. Looking at the gross amount of the imports in each of the triennial terms in above table, we find little evidence of the inflow of imports being materially affected by variations in the tariff. The rise in the average percentage of duty between 1878 and 1883, "paid on goods entered for consumption, dutiable and free," was from 14.03 per cent. in 1878 to 18.82 in 1883, and the imports entered for consumption rose from \$93,081,787 in 1878, when the lower duties prevailed, to \$123,137,019 in 1883, when the duties were higher on an average by 4.79 per cent. The average duties went on increasing until 21.65 per cent. was reached in 1889, which was the maximum rate of duty in 33 years, yet, in that year the imports for consumption were \$109,673,447, as compared with \$71,782,349 in 1880, in which year the average rate of duty was 19.70 per cent., as compared with 21.65 per cent. in 1889, when the imports were

more than 50 per cent. larger. Between 1893 and 1895 we find the imports to have fallen from \$121,705,030 to \$105,252,511, a decrease of \$16,452,519, whereas the average duty in 1893, when the imports were as large as 17.38 per cent., and only 16.99 per cent. in 1895 when the imports fell off so heavily. The average percentage of duty on imports in 1900 was 15.98, which is 1.93 per cent. higher than in 1878, when the higher duty prevailed the imports were \$189,622,513, while, in 1878, when the lower duty was imposed, they were only \$93,081,787, which is less than one-half the total of 1900. It would be easier, indeed, to prove from the official trade returns that high duties stimulate imports than the contrary, though both theories would suffer seriously were they considered more exhaustively.

The following table gives the imports of Canada by countries in 1886, 1891, 1896, 1900, by which is exhibited the changes made therein in successive periods of five years:

CANADA'S IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION BY COUNTRIES IN 1886, 1891, 1896, 1900.

Countries.	1900.	1896.	1891.	1886.
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Great Britain.....	44,789,730	32,979,742	42,047,526	40,601,199
United States.....	109,844,378	58,574,024	53,685,657	44,585,639
France.....	4,368,502	2,810,942	2,313,143	1,975,218
Germany.....	8,383,498	5,931,459	3,804,090	2,155,523
Spain.....	560,701	361,778	488,807	379,465
Portugal.....	72,785	46,596	70,537	56,477
Italy.....	144,573	230,917	241,809	166,697
Holland.....	579,582	299,852	389,791	301,972
Belgium.....	3,223,918	920,758	655,448	510,907
Newfoundland.....	660,678	551,412	751,003	384,321
W. Ind. Indies.....	1,105,829	1,896,426	3,238,156	3,144,472
South America.....	992,887	567,027	719,778	1,100,995
China and Japan.....	2,381,144	2,671,418	2,123,311	2,432,585
Switzerland.....	529,176	332,120	244,319	205,085
Other countries.....	3,166,935	2,413,009	2,572,749	1,391,739
Totals.....	180,804,316	110,587,480	113,345,124	99,602,694

The following gives the exports of Canada for 1886, 1891, 1896, 1900, showing the increases made in three periods of five years each:

CANADA'S EXPORTS BY COUNTRIES, 1886, 1891, 1896, 1900.

Countries.	1900.	1896.	1891.	1886.
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Great Britain.....	107,736,368	66,690,288	49,280,858	41,542,629
United States.....	68,619,023	44,448,410	41,138,695	36,578,769
France.....	1,374,770	581,540	253,734	434,363
Germany.....	1,715,903	757,531	532,142	253,298
Spain.....	86,456	83,814	67,110	53,075
Portugal.....	115,016	41,666	120,611	245,450
Italy.....	260,456	56,759	90,999	108,601
Holland.....	188,199	139,828	14,741	7,587
Belgium.....	1,197,798	98,031	72,672	6,565
Newfoundland.....	2,144,070	1,782,309	1,467,908	1,754,980
West Indies.....	2,870,343	2,810,817	3,122,770	2,121,570
South America.....	2,148,499	1,496,118	1,063,172	1,010,034
China & Japan.....	368,615	668,011	78,791	63,118
Austria.....	1,626,441	517,258	589,100	259,960
Other countries.....	1,442,766	841,472	523,993	811,315
Totals.....	191,894,723	121,013,852	98,417,296	85,251,314
Imports.....	180,804,316	110,587,480	113,345,124	99,602,694
Total foreign trade of Canada.....	372,699,039	231,601,332	211,762,420	184,854,008
Increase in each period of five years.....	141,097,707	19,838,912	26,908,412	...
Decrease.....	5,048,399

In the next table the gross amount of duty col-