

WILLIAM DARLING & CO.,

IMPORTERS OF

*Metals, Hardware, Glass, Mirror Plates,
Hair Sealing, Carriage
Makers' Trimmings and Curled Hair.*
Agents for Messrs. Chas. Ebbinghaus & Sons, Manu-
facturers of Window Cornices
No. 30 St. Sulpice, & No. 379 St. Paul Streets

MONTREAL.**A. & T. J. DARLING & CO.**

**BAR IRON, TIN, &C.,
AND SHELF HARDWARE.**

CUTLERY A SPECIALTY.

FRONT ST., East.]

TORONTO.**PATERSON BROS.,**

IMPORTERS.

MILLINERY

AND

FANCY**DRY GOODS****58 & 60***Wellington Street West,***TORONTO.****22 ST. HELEN ST.,****MONTREAL.****The Journal of Commerce**

FINANCE AND INSURANCE REVIEW.

MONTREAL, FEBRUARY 4, 1881.**TRADE RETURNS.**

The trade and navigation returns for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1880, are well deserving of close attention, although owing to the exceptional amount of duty paid in the last quarter of the previous year, in anticipation of the increase in the tariff, too much reliance cannot be placed on any comparison with statements in preceding years. Before advertizing to the returns, it may be proper to state, that the Commissioner of Customs, under whose supervision they are prepared, calls attention in his letter to the Minister to the fact that "an entire change has been made in the form of compilation of the principal statements herein." There will, we apprehend, be a general concurrence of

opinion with Mr. Johnson, as to the change being an improvement. There are no longer separate tables for each Province, but under the general head is found the aggregate imports and exports, with the proportion imported from each country into each Province of the Dominion. The dutiable goods imported into the Dominion amounted to \$54,182,967, against \$55,430,012 in 1879, and the aggregate duty was \$14,133,483, against \$12,938,140. In 1877 and 1878 the imports were \$60,916,770 and \$59,773,039 respectively, the duty collected having been in the former \$12,511,567, and in the latter \$12,791,532. In 1875 the amount of dutiable goods was \$78,138,511, and the duty \$15,354,099. It must be constantly borne in mind in studying these figures that there has been a very considerable decline in the value of goods of late years, and that one of the inevitable consequences of a large expenditure of foreign capital on public works is to swell the imports. Of the total dutiable goods imported last year, amounting to \$54,182,967, paying duty, \$14,133,483, about forty millions, paying nearly ten millions of duty, consisted of the following twelve leading articles, which we shall put in rotation according to the revenue derived from each: sugar, cottons, woollens, iron, tea, silk, coal, breadstuffs, leather, hats and caps, flax and hemp, fruits and nuts. Of these the four first-named articles yield about 70 per cent. of the ten millions. As it would scarcely be practicable to notice all the various articles imported, we propose to examine the leading articles and the course of trade during the periods to which we have called attention.

THE SUGAR TRADE.

In 1875 the imports of sugar and molasses were \$5,834,697, and the aggregate duties \$2,424,571, or about 41½ per cent. In 1877 the imports were \$6,033,847, and the duty \$2,451,018, or about 40 per cent. In 1878 the imports were \$7,038,342, and the duty \$2,802,975, or about 40 per cent. In 1879 the imports were \$6,509,703, and the duty \$2,758,833, or about 42 per cent. In 1880 the value of imports was \$4,586,471, and the duty \$2,151,925, or nearly 47 per cent. The loss of revenue by sugar has been, it will be observed, about \$600,000 in 1880. In 1879 the sugar duty collected in Ontario, amounted to \$1,313,349, in Quebec to \$876,731, in Nova Scotia to \$256,418, and in New Brunswick to \$195,356. In 1880 the duties collected in Ontario were \$388,136, in Quebec \$1,354,398, in Nova Scotia \$208,561, and in New Brunswick, \$117,040. The bulk of the duties is derived from three classes of sugar, viz.,

that above No. 14 Dutch Standard, that equal to 9 and not above 14, and that below No. 9. In the higher class the aggregate duties were \$477,563, of which \$310,000 were on sugar from Great Britain, and \$61,000 from the United States, and about \$100,000 from the Spanish and British West Indies, chiefly the former, and imported by Nova Scotia. Of the duties on imports of sugar from Great Britain, Ontario paid \$138,000, and Quebec \$66,000, while the largest customer of the United States was British Columbia which paid \$38,000 of the \$61,000, while Ontario paid \$15,000, and Quebec \$1,000. In the next class, 9 and upwards, the aggregate was \$977,000, of which Quebec paid \$725,000, Ontario \$170,000, and Nova Scotia \$61,000. Rather over \$800,000 was paid on imports from the Spanish and British West Indies, and Dutch East Indies, chiefly from the former. About \$150,000 was paid on sugar from Great Britain and the United States, Ontario paying nearly three-fourths of that class of duties. The duties on the lowest class, amounting in all to \$440,000, were paid by Quebec to the extent of \$421,000, Ontario paying \$12,000, and Nova Scotia \$6,000. The foregoing statistics exhibit an extraordinary revolution in the sugar trade even in a single year. We have greatly extended our trade with the Spanish West Indies, and have increased that with the British West Indies, but there is a fearful loss of revenue, and whatever may be the ultimate result of the beet cultivation, there can be no doubt that it will affect the principal article on which revenue is obtained to a considerable extent.

TEA TRADE.

We proceed to notice the change in the tea trade. Comparing the years 1879 and 1880, it will be found that there was a loss of fully \$100,000 of revenue in the last year, which there can scarcely be a doubt was owing to entries having been made in the early part of 1879, in anticipation of an increase of duty. In 1879 the entries of black teas for consumption were 5,238,426 lbs., value, \$1,185,667, duty, \$251,600; of green and Japan, 8,316,595 lbs., value, \$1,825,714, duty, \$492,316. In 1880 the black tea entered for consumption from countries other than the United States was 4,656,804, value, \$1,035,139, duty, \$198,633. The green and Japan was 4,616,511 lbs., value, \$1,086,772, duty, \$247,164. From the United States, black tea, 644,656, value, \$143,609, duty, \$40,995. Green and Japan, 2,050,286 lbs., value, \$464,940, duty, \$154,438. The aggregate imports of black tea do not materially differ in the two years, but in green there