

general merchandise through agents and dealers in New York and Boston.

It is necessary to revert to present trade with the colonies.

To ascertain the vast field that opens for a steam communication such as that which has been adverted to, it becomes necessary to show, at some length, not only the trade between the United Kingdom and British America, but also the trade between these possessions and other countries, especially the United States, because whatever gives an impulse to internal movements and improvements (which foreign trade certainly does) tends to add to the prosperity and advancement of such a communication as the one now in view. The details of all these things are carefully collected from British, Canadian, and American official documents.

It is important, however, to premise that the British official trade returns give the value of imports, including all charges; but they give the value of the exports without the charges, and these charges, consequently, remain to be added to the declared value of the exports. As regards the American trade returns, the charges (at least for exports) are, we believe, not in either case included in them. With these observations, we proceed to place before the reader the details of the vast traffic in question.

Population of colonies.

The population of the British North American Colonies is at present nearly 3,500,000. Of these, 1,400,000 are in Upper Canada, and 1,050,000 in Lower Canada. The population of Upper Canada has increased from 900,000 in 1851, to 1,400,000 at the beginning of 1856; or $55\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in four years.

Trade with the United Kingdom.

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	Exports to.		Imports from.	
	1854.	1855.	1854.	1855.
Canada	£1,606,121	£4,138,232	£2,296,277	£4,007,056
New Brunswick	908,977	578,278	2,079,674	1,379,053
Prince Edward's Island	111,868	86,759	80,057	57,903
Nova Scotia	628,617	486,130	252,030	162,982
Newfoundland	389,281	418,874	563,410	598,236
Add for charges	£3,544,864	£5,708,273	£5,271,448	£6,205,230
Totals	£4,054,053	£6,507,431	£5,271,448 Add values ships built and ex- ported for sale	£6,205,230 650,000

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Other

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