

In 1878, it took about 250 bushels of wheat to pay for a self-binder. To-day, 150 bushels will pay for it.

veloping that interest, a standing committee of the House of Commons on agriculture sits yearly during the session. It has taken much evidence from experts on a great variety of subjects of interest to the farming community of Canada. This evidence is published, the reports being widely distributed.

It will be seen from this short and far from exhaustive summary that nearly every department of the Government under the Liberal-Conservative leaders has energetically contributed its share towards aiding, encouraging and developing the greatest interest of the country.

Reduction of Taxation.

It has always been one of the first principles of the advocates of the National Policy to remove the taxation, as much as possible, from all articles that cannot be produced in Canada. Accordingly, in 1882, the Liberal-Conservative Government struck off entirely the duties on tea, coffee and tin; and from that period to the present time there has thus been saved to the people on these articles alone the following amounts:

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| On Tea..... | \$11,024,039 |
| On Coffee..... | 832,528 |
| On Tin..... | 1,465,103 |

\$13,321,670

Every dollar of this amount has gone into the pockets of the great mass of the consumers of this country.

Immigration.

SETTLERS' EFFECTS.—Total imports and exports to and from the United States and total imports and exports to and from all countries during the undermentioned years:—

| | Imported from U.S. | Exported to U.S. | Imported from all Countries. | Exported to all Countries. |
|----------|--------------------|------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1875.... | 869,330 | 651,513 | 1,358,926 | No returns. |
| 1876.... | 727,055 | 836,822 | 962,623 | No returns. |
| 1877.... | 718,165 | 777,490 | 886,864 | No returns. |
| 1878.... | 676,145 | 880,008 | 803,506 | No returns. |
| 1892.... | 1,651,672 | 1,155,653 | 2,024,918 | 1,227,998 |
| 1893.... | 1,602,795 | 1,303,379 | 2,223,269 | 1,357,046 |
| 1894.... | 2,055,899 | 894,749 | 3,822,499 | 1,019,579 |
| 1895.... | 2,065,848 | 984,117 | 2,540,681 | 1,046,288 |

From the above it will be seen that the settlers' effects exported to the United States last year amounted to but very little more

than they did in 1876 or 1878, while the imports of settlers' effects from the United States have grown to nearly three times what they were then.

The Value of Colonial Trade to Great Britain.

Mr. W. H. Mitchell, of Burley-in-Wharfedale, near Bradford, a good exponent of fiscal federation, says, in a pamphlet on that subject:

"If we take the statistics of trade between Great Britain on the one side, and the three countries from which we draw our chief foreign supplies of food and raw materials—the United States, France and Russia—on the other, we find that these countries do not take half as much from us as we do from them, or in other words, that they spend less than ten shillings with us for every sovereign we spend with them. But if we compare with this the trade between ourselves and our colonies and possessions, we find that they take from us nearly as much as we take from them; in fact, that for every twenty shillings we spend with them, they spend nineteen shillings with us. I need scarcely ask which of these trades gives the most employment to our people. Again, if we take the value to us as customers, of our fellow-subjects in the colonies, and compare it with the value of foreigners, man for man, we find that one Canadian takes more of our productions than three, one South African more than ten, and one Australian more than fifteen citizens of the United States, France and Germany.

Average Prices of Wheat, Oats, Pork and Bacon from April 1st to May 12th, 1896.

| | To- ronto. | Mont- real. | Chi- cago. | Bu- falo. |
|----------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| | c. | c. | c. | c. |
| Wheat per bushel... | 78 | ... | 63½ | 73½ |
| Oats..... | 27½ | 28½ | 19½ | 24½ |
| Pork (mess) per lb.. | 6½ | 7 | 4½ | 4½ |
| Bacon..... | 5½ | 5½ | 4½ | 4½ |

They were no sales or quotations of wheat at Montreal for the six weeks mentioned.

Pork Packing in Canada.

The following statistics of pork packing in Canada are published in the annual report of the *Cincinnati Price Current*, the chief authority on this subject on the continent:—

| Year. | No. of Hogs | Year. | No. of Hogs. |
|------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1875-6.... | 144,989 | 1886-7..... | 256,485 |
| 1876-7.... | 244,742 | 1887-8..... | 216,214 |

In 1878, it took three-quarters of a ton of the farmer's beef to pay for his buggy. To-day half a ton will do it nicely.