

creased \$12,925 from 1881 to 1891, and \$20,307 in the ten years from 1891 to 1901.

The following statistics are given to illustrate the relative production of the chief centres of manufacturing:

Montreal stands first. Her value of manufactured products in 1901 was \$71,099,750; number of establishments, 932; capital employed, \$57,148,661; number of employees, 44,633; wages, \$17,810,356.

Toronto second. Value of products, \$58,415,498; number of establishments, 847; capital employed, \$52,114,042; number of employees, 42,515; wages paid, \$15,505,466.

Hamilton third. Value of products, \$17,122,346; number of establishments, 230; capital employed, \$13,494,953; number of employees, 10,106; wages paid, \$4,054,592.

Quebec fourth. Value of products, \$12,779,546; number of establishments, 255; capital employed, \$9,588,739; number of employees, 9,384; wages paid, \$3,103,518.

Winnipeg.—Value of products, \$8,616,248; number of establishments, 103; capital employed, \$4,673,214; number of employees, 3,155; wages paid, \$1,810,845.

London.—Value of products, \$8,122,185; number of establishments, 120; capital employed, \$6,824,574; number of employees, 5,075; wages paid, \$2,249,186.

Ottawa.—Value of products, \$7,638,688; number of establishments, 208; capital employed, \$10,358,711; number of employees, 6,886; wages paid, \$2,414,822.

The cities next to these as manufacturing centres are in order of their importance, Halifax, Saint John, Brantford, Vancouver, Guelph, and Victoria. Of the larger towns the figures will appear later.

#### THE LUMBER TRADE.

It is a striking commentary on the era of progress and prosperity on which Canada, in common with several other countries, seems to have entered, that, in spite of the growing use of substitutes for lumber, the demand for white pine is increasing without cessation, and that prices are continually becoming firmer. Houses are now more and more being made of cement; old wooden sidewalks are being replaced by either that material or any one of a dozen others; wooden beams have given place to steel girders. Yet the call for lumber becomes even more insistent. The cause for this, of course, apart from the generally prosperous state of trade and industry is not far to seek. Pine has to be sought further and further away, and the extra expense arising from this fact, together with the high cost for labor and supplies, have put an enhanced value on the product. In the face of this, then, and the firm tone of the market, due to the large demand for building and general purposes, any decline in prices in the future, certainly in the near future, would appear to be out of the question. Since our last report, while there has been little actual advance in quotations, the tendency along this direction in certain grades has been quite marked. Laths, for instance, while still obtainable at the prices quoted a month ago can generally only be had at a 50c. advance. Of other lines, too, in less measure, the same can be said.

The above refers more particularly to Ontario conditions. In Quebec, conditions are not very different. The British Columbia manufacturers of lumber are

engaged somewhat intensely in tariff arguments, while they seem to be enjoying a good market for their product. In New Brunswick the conditions are not promising, as our St. John letter of Tuesday shows. Low water has caused many of the mills to shut down. However, the prospects for spruce deals seem to be brightening in sympathy with a better demand from Great Britain.

As to the latter country, a recently received circular from Liverpool states that business at that centre for the past month was more encouraging, the consumption having considerably exceeded imports, and stocks now, generally speaking, being within moderate compass. Some lines have advanced in value, though increased freight rates have partially been instrumental in bringing this result. The arrivals from Canada last month were 25,290 tons register, and from all countries 390,852 tons, or about 9,000 tons in excess for the same period of last year.

The circular, which is from Farnworth & Jardine, then goes on to speak of Canadian lumber thus:—

Pine Timbers.—Of waney a fair quantity has been imported to both Liverpool and Manchester, largely on contract; the consumption has been satisfactory; stocks are ample, but not excessive; values firm. Square pine has been imported to a nominal extent, and as the consumption has also been very limited the stock remains practically unaltered; prices unchanged. Red pine has not been imported, but as there have been no enquiries for this wood, the stock remains unchanged. Oak logs.—The import has been 25,000 cubic feet, and as the demand has been very limited the stock has increased, but remains within moderate compass; values unaltered. Elm.—The consumption during the past month has about equalled the import, consequently stocks are still on the light side, and values rule at a high point. Pine deals have been imported to about an average extent; there has been a fair consumption with slight fluctuations in values. Red pine deals are not in much demand. Birch logs have only been imported on a small scale, stocks are light, values firm. Planks have again been imported freely, but the consumption has more than kept pace. British Columbian and Oregon pine has not been imported; there has been a fair consumption, stocks are firmly held, values unchanged.

#### MR. LARKE ON TRADE WITH AUSTRALIA.

It has been said that no nation ever became great without an export trade. The remark renders particularly interesting the address of Mr. J. S. Larke, the Canadian Trade Commissioner to Australia, before the Halifax Board of Trade, because it was devoted to giving suggestions as to the building up of trade between Nova Scotia and Australia. The products of our Maritime Provinces, which, in Mr. Larke's opinion, would be the ones most likely to appeal to Australian taste or need are fish and fish products, cement, and plaster. The consumption of fish in Australia is about \$1,500,000 per year, of which Canada sends only about one-tenth. Mr. Larke thinks that Canada loses a deal of trade with the Island Continent through the absence of direct steamship connection between the two countries. Another suggestion which he made was in favor of a great Canadian exportation company, with a capital of at least \$250,000, which could regulate shipments, and take advantage of dull times when manufacturers would be willing to sell at a low price to keep their employees at work, and their machinery in motion. This, of course, is looking to the future, for our manufacturers are not now even

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