gime, the restitution of prosperity has been more rapid than in the United States under the Dingley high protection law. In spite of heavy reductions of duty the customs revenue has increased from $19,478,000 in 1897 to $21,467,000 in the year ended June 30th last. The postoffice, railways and miscellaneous departments, which latter includes the Yukon, show heavy increases. The general expansion of Canada's trade has been unprecedented, increasing nearly $47,000,000 in the aggregate as compared with 1897. The national balance sheet of the last financial year shows a surplus of nearly $1,576,000. This kind of prosperity is being felt by every section of the community, every man appreciates it in his own pocket.

Interesting Trade Statistics.

The total trade for the year ended June 30th, reached the unprecedented figure of $304,091,720 as against $257,168,862, or an increase of nearly $47,000,000. In this grand total the imports were $140,305,950 and the exports $159,485,770, giving a balance to the latter of nearly $20,000,000. The balance is growing, for while the imports of 1898 exceeded those of 1897 by $21,000,000, the exports have grown to nearly $25,500,000. Upon this vast increase the duty collected increased $2,064,664, in spite of considerable reductions in the tariff.

The returns that have special reference to Great Britain show that this year Canada imported $32,872,000 as against $29,328,000 for last year. But while the imports from Great Britain were only $32,827,000, the goods she took from us ran up to $104,787,000, or a balance in our favor of nearly $72,000,000. With the United States the conditions were exactly the reverse, and in spite of artificial obstructions, the Dominion imported from south of the boundary $86,587,000, sending back in return only $41,122,000, or in other words, for every dollar the United States spent in Canada, Canada spent more than two dollars in return. And of this $41,122,000 mineral and lumber made up more than one-half, agricultural products and manufactured goods being only a small percentage.

That Great Britain is the market for Canada's vast agricultural supplies is most clearly shown by the fact that last year she took nearly $40,000,000 worth of animals, $37,688,000 agricultural products, $15,638,000 in products of the forest, $4,822,000 products of the fisheries; or a total of $97,782,000 out of a grand total of $101,787,000.

A comparison of the returns for the first ten months of 1898 with the corresponding period of 1897, shows large and gratifying advances in more than one of our chief lines of exports. For example, the value in the corn consumed in the English market has increased $3,464,430; bacon has increased $2,140,345; the value of flour exported has gone up $1,337,050; fish, $882,525; wheat, $758,335; butter, $529,210; and eggs, $186,605. In some other lines there has been a falling off, as for example, in cheese, which has decreased $1,341,540; live cattle, $1,309,605; horses, $306,450; sheep, $159,320; hams, $144,590; peas, $29,680. Timber must be added to the list of decreases, and sawn lumber also. These increases exceed the decreases, however, by nearly $6,000,000.

From these figures it will be seen that the tendency of trade is most perceptibly turning towards Great Britain and when it is remembered that the full force of the preferential tariff has only now become fully operative, it will be readily seen that this tendency must largely increase in the immediate future.

Some interesting figures were recently published, showing how a high restrictive tariff in the United States has cut down Canada's trade with the republic to less than one-fifth during the decade ending last year, while developing Canada's export business with Great Britain to nearly four and one-half times the original volume in the same period. Taking the five important items of horses, barley, eggs, hay and sheep, in 1897 Canada exported to the United States $10,930,124 and to Great Britain $973,967; but in 1897 the United States received only $2,103,135, while Great Britain took $3,014,846. As a further indication of the manner in which the British market has developed, it is worth noting that while in 1887 the total value of Canadian exports to Great Britain in cattle, butter, bacon and wheat was only $15,750,173 in 1897 it was $34,321,403, while, as already stated, the grand total of exports to Great Britain in 1897 was $104,787,000. Interim returns for the four months following the close of the last fiscal year to October 30th show a still more rapid increase, the month of October alone, according to the returns of the Imperial Board of Trade showing increases aggregating nearly $1,600,000 over the month of October, 1897.

Intercolonial Trade.

Intercolonial trade also shows a very