

1857	167,063	
1858	126,357	
1859	193,381	2,301

Much of our present importations might be saved by a more economical expenditure on the part of the public, and by paying more attention to the manufacture of articles of necessity and convenience. Our imports far exceed our exports: in addition to £233,685 worth of flour imported in 1859, we pay £50,000 for articles of mere luxury, such as liquors, tobacco, silks, satins, &c.; £27,824 for various kinds of farm products, and £242,950 for clothing, haberdashery, sleighs, &c.

It is only necessary to examine the table under the head of "ordinary revenue," in order to point out the years of commercial prosperity and adversity, and the fluctuations of trade. The year 1854, when the revenue rose to £203,054, was a year of great prosperity, but it did not last long; for the following year the revenue fell one-fourth this amount. In that year, it will be seen that the number and tonnage of ships built, far exceeded that of any year before or since. The table of imports and exports, the former nearly doubling the latter, shew also to the same effect.

The great demand, in the British market, for ships, was one of the principal causes of this year of prosperity; nearly three hundred of the vessels owned by the Province were sold during that year, in the markets of the mother country. Besides, Merchants imported far beyond the requirements of the Province. The low price of ships in the British market at present, and for the last two years, is a great drawback to the interests of New Brunswick, which has such great facilities for shipbuilding, and depends so much upon this branch of industry, to keep the two sides of her balance sheet properly balanced.

These tables teach us the necessity of cultivating more land, and cultivating it better. To do this, we want a better system and more labour. £233,685 is a large sum for New Brunswick to pay in one year for flour alone. This large importation of flour does not, by any means, indicate a healthy state of agricultural operations. If properly farmed, this country ought to supply its own wants in this respect.

Notwithstanding the numerous emigration schemes, and the large expenditures in behalf of emigration, made by the Province, during the last ten or fifteen years, and the inducements offered through the means of our Railway operations, still, emigration to the Province of New Brunswick is on the decline; and many of those who do arrive in the Province, only remain a short time, when they leave for Canada or the States. One of the prominent reasons, we believe is, that our emigration schemes are based upon selfish principles; the emigrant finds too much machinery to pass through before he can procure a title to a lot of land; and what is worse still, the price is too high. Ten pounds sterling is far too high a price for wilderness land.