

## TORONTO TRADE FIGURES.

Both the outward and inward trade of the port of Toronto for November last was much larger than that of November, 1886. More free goods and as many dutiable were brought in, but an unusually large item was that of specie, \$430,870. The aggregate imports and exports amounted to \$2,805,089 as compared with \$1,897,940 in Nov. 1886. Imports were \$1,936,353 in value, exports \$868,736. In the previous November the value of exports was \$562,307 and of imports, \$1,335,633. These figures are taken from the Board of Trade Returns. We give below our usual comparative list :

	Nov. '87.	Nov. '86.
Books and pamphlets.....	\$ 61,832	\$ 61,495
Coal, hard.....	126,717	126,717
do soft.....	67,363	32,444
Drugs and medicines.....	21,875	20,175
Fruit, green and dried....	69,019	49,102
Glass and glassware.....	32,330	31,957
Hops.....	4,694	19,967
Iron and steel goods.....	131,293	137,413
Jewellery and watches....	38,758	26,249
Leather goods.....	27,858	33,176
Musical instruments.....	23,290	15,258
Paper goods.....	38,696	39,157
Wood goods.....	17,272	13,845
Cotton goods.....	28,758	46,377
Fancy goods.....	25,937	18,422
Hats and bonnets.....	6,441	10,222
Silk goods.....	39,794	27,923
Woollen goods.....	76,001	96,029

Total dry goods ... \$176,931 \$198,973

Last month's exports were larger than usual, barley being the heaviest item. 803,719 bushels of that commodity were shipped, at a stated value of \$688,216. The only considerable items were lumber, dead meats, green fruits and seeds. We append a comparative statement of the Canadian products exported:

	Nov. '87.	Nov. '86.
The Mine.....	12	.....
" Fisheries.....	.....	6
" Forest.....	67,301	33,922
Animals, &c.....	67,330	149,673
Field products.....	712,391	330,069
Manufactures.....	21,086	32,814
Miscellaneous.....	.....	968
	\$863,120	\$547,452

## THE METALS TRADE.

Activity in certain lines of metals, principally copper and tin, is very marked, the advance being equal to fifty per cent. This has, in a great measure, checked consumption; but as stocks are small they are being rapidly reduced and buyers must, it is said, go in at present figures. But the policy will be of a hand to mouth nature. It is well known that there is an undercurrent of speculation at the bottom of the rapid advance, yet many regard it as partially legitimate as the low figures that have ruled for some time past in copper, lead and zinc, the last two named being also affected, have made the production very unprofitable to smelters and manufacturers. The advance in foreign lead and copper is attributed by some to the foreshadowing of the American tariff, which provided for the free entry of those ores, the effect of which must be to increase the price of foreign at expense of domestic. There is very little general business doing although a number of buyers are anxious to book for forward delivery. The trade, however, is not disposed to respond as manufacturers will not quote ahead. All Canadian, English and American manufacturers of tin, brass, copper and zinc have

withdrawn quotations, and figures on manufactured goods vary from 12½ to 17½ per cent. advance. Money is anything but easy.

## THE SHARE MARKET.

A large failure in Toronto and a second one in London frightened some holders of bank shares and brought about free selling of this class of securities on the Toronto Stock Exchange since our last. The usual crop of rumours affecting other houses accompanied the decline, but, except in one instance, there was no appearance of any panicky feeling. From the worst there was a very decided recovery of confidence and a rapid appreciation of this stock, and of others which had been depressed to a less extent. On the whole though, bank shares have fallen off for the week. Toronto has been an exception, advancing 4% in bids, to 184. Standard, Merchants' and Hamilton have been about steady at the old prices, but Montreal dropped 4% to 202, closing at 204. Ontario sold down to 107, then up to 108. Commerce fell to 111 now offered, Imperial to 128; but in Federal quite a decline took place. From 89 on Friday, through the forcing of some investment shares off, regardless of the price, it touched as low as 76 on Saturday, rose again to 82½, then fell to 77½, then advanced to 85, at which it closed. Although some lots of Dominion were thrown on the market, it was well supported by inside brokers and closed with a fall of 1%. Buyers have declined 3% for British America Assurance, to 89, while Western was much firmer, and rose 1½. Consumers' Gas was strong at 176, but Canada North West Land declined 2%. Very little has been done in the shares of the loan societies, but the quotations have been fairly steady, considering the general tendency of the market. Call money can be had at 7 per cent. still, but lenders are more inclined to discriminate in accepting securities offered.

—Archbishop O'Brien, of Halifax, suggests to the local authorities a method by which he thinks shipping can defy the dangers of approaching that city in the densest fogs. He proposes a line of electric light buoys from the inner harbour down to the automatic whistle buoy which he thinks would solve the difficulty. The project is, however, scouted by well informed newspaper correspondents, who shew that steamers are seldom kept out of Halifax by fogs and that the cost of the apparatus necessary would be enormous. Moreover, the contrivance would be useless by day, and it is doubtful if even an electric light would penetrate a dense Atlantic fog by night. We would suggest a double line of bell buoys, whose ringing would mark out the channel much better than electric lights besides being inexpensive.

—Certain of the trains on the Intercolonial Railway are dispensing with the ordinary bell rope and are using electric alarm bells instead. There is a button in each car, similar to an ordinary call bell, and it rings in the locomotive. Connection is made between the cars by a rope having wire imbedded therein. All the express trains are being fitted with the contrivance which works satisfactorily.

—The directors of the London and Ontario Investment Company have declared a dividend for the current half-yearly period, at the rate of seven per cent. per annum.

—A satisfactory result from the deposit of young fish from the Government hatcheries, is already seen in the increased catch of white fish in Detroit River and at the west end of Lake Erie. It has this season been, says the *Windsor Record*, largely in excess of several preceding years. Most of the fish now caught are young and of uniform size, which reminds us that the "planting" of the young fish was done in 1884.

—Maritime Bank affairs are reported to be more promising, and the outlook for holders of the bank's notes is that they will be paid in full in time. Depositors have little or no prospect of receiving anything. The list of stockholders has been fixed, and an order of the Court has been obtained to call upon the unfortunate shareholders for the double liability.

—The National Investment Company declares a dividend for the current half year at the rate of six per cent. per annum.

—A dividend of three and a-half per cent. is declared for the half year by the Ontario Industrial Loan Co.

## CUSTOMS' AND EXCISE RETURNS.

CITY.	Nov. '87	Nov. '86	Inc or De.
Montreal customs.	\$685,415	\$528,333	157,082 I
do. excise ..	154,668	172,588	17,920 D
Toronto customs.	266,792	253,470	13,322 I
do. excise ..	79,626	48,992	30,634 I
Halifax customs.	148,948	126,865	22,083 I
do. excise ..	22,319	19,743	2,576 I
St. John customs.	62,172	71,332	9,160 D
do. excise ..	25,399	25,174	225 I
Hamilton customs.	67,599	61,451	6,148 I
do. excise ..	28,292	32,200	3,908 D
Quebec customs ..	.....	52,094	.....
do. excise ..	.....	48,321	.....
London customs.	34,111	35,599	1,488 D
do. excise ..	.....	27,232	.....
Ottawa customs.	23,249	19,856	3,383 I
do. excise ..	21,799	22,401	602 D
Kingston customs.	16,256	11,524	4,732 I
do. excise ..	9,670	12,637	2,967 D
Winnipeg customs	39,950	27,236	12,614 I
do. excise ..	19,171	.....	.....
Brantford customs	8,628	9,580	952 D
do. excise ..	5,897	9,020	3,123 D
Belleville customs.	5,038	3,102	1,936 I
do. excise ..	.....	.....	.....
Guelph customs.	6,506	6,389	117 I
do. excise ..	14,886	16,682	1,796 D
Moncton customs	34,512	32,370	2,142 I
do. excise ..	.....	.....	.....
St. Catharines....	9,113	6,432	.....
do. excise ..	2,328	.....	.....

## FIRE RECORD.

ONTARIO.—Port Stanley, Nov. 18.—The stores of Messrs. Moore & Mays were destroyed by fire. Loss \$3,600, fully insured in Lancashire, Northern, L. & G.; building insured for \$600.—Paris, 18.—A fire destroyed the brick dwelling of George Angus. Loss \$3,000, insurance \$2,600.—Brighton, 18.—Singleton's vacant dwelling burned, fire spread to Proctor's brick block, J. C. Kemp's grocery, J. B. Thayer's brick store, F. W. Austin's brick building, G. McDonald's restaurant and sundry barns and outbuildings. The loss is heavy, probably \$35,000; insurance partial.—Toronto, 19.—Philip's coffin factory partly burned; loss stated at \$1,500; covered by insurance in various companies.—Trenton, 20th.—Gilmour's shingle mill nearly destroyed; loss \$6,500; probably covered by insurance.—Forest, 21.—Queen's hotel burned; insurance on building \$1,800, on contents \$500.—Penetang, 21.—English church parsonage burned, very slight insurance; furniture much damaged, partly insured.—Preston, 21.—S. C. Martin's Speedville Woollen Mill burned, loss \$8,000; insured for half this sum.—Huntsville, 22.—J. G. Henderson's hotel at Hoodstown burned; loss \$700 on building, \$800