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July 4, 1872.

THE MONETARY TIMES, AND TRADE REVIEW.

TORONTO, CAN. FRIDAY, JULY 12, 1872.

OUR TRADE WITH TROPICAL AND OTHER COUNTRIES.

By far the greater part of our commerce, as is well known, is carried on with Great Britain and the United States. Of our total exports of \$74,173,618 shipped last year, we sold \$24,950,925 to Great Britain, and \$32,984,652 to our neighbours across the lines. Our importations are also principally obtained from the same two great nations, the mother country, however, selling us considerably the larger share of our purchases.

The remainder of our annual trade is carried on with the West Indies, British, Spanish and Danish, Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island, France, Germany, South America, Spain, Belgium, China, and about twenty other countries. The total extent of our transactions with these different countries is not large—in fact, the value of the exchanges in some cases is trifling—but the character of this part of our commerce renders it important and highly deserving of every encouragement which our Government and people can give. We propose to place before our readers the names of these countries, and the extent of our transactions with them during 1870-71, but before doing so we would call attention to the following table, which shows what were the principal articles which swelled our importations of last year (\$86,661,145) to such a large amount:—

Silks, Satins and Velvets.....	\$1,282,132
Hats, Caps, &c.....	632,088
Teas.....	3,646,977

Sugars—all kinds.....	3,618,304
Molasses.....	1,429,275
Cane Juice, Melado, &c.....	549,898
Woollen Goods.....	6,893,424
Cotton do.....	7,270,927
Linen do.....	768,828
Fancy do.....	1,426,460
Glass and Glassware.....	549,029
Hardware.....	2,335,391
Iron.....	1,786,647
Railroad, Bars, Axles, &c.....	917,283
Pig and Scrap Iron, &c.....	1,134,001
Coal and Coke.....	1,455,936
Wines and Spirits.....	1,557,339
Leather and Leather Goods....	612,264
Small Wares.....	1,475,921
Carpets and Rugs.....	436,408
Cotton Wool.....	427,479
Wool.....	799,944
Machinery.....	317,436
Stationery of all kinds.....	537,868
Watches, Clocks and Jewelry..	368,602
China, Crockery, &c.....	431,525
Prepared Oils.....	346,455
Tobacco, un-manufactured....	799,944
Salt.....	540,557
Unenumerated Articles.....	674,434

The foregoing is quite a formidable list, and shows that for a young country, Canada has a good many wants for the supply of which she looks abroad. The tendency of the times is well indicated by the outlay during 1870-1 for silks, velvets and satins, wines and spirits, fancy goods, small wares, &c. Cottons and woollens continue to be the two largest items in our imports, and it is rather surprising, considering the large quantity of excellent woollen goods now made in the Dominion, that we continue to purchase abroad so largely in that line. There are not a few articles in the above list which we have facilities for manufacturing among ourselves, and there is an excellent chance for investment in some of these lines of goods, for nothing is required but the necessary skill and capital, to render the manufacture of them in the Dominion successful.

The greater part of our trade with the West Indies and other tropical and foreign countries, is done through the port of Montreal. The City of Halifax has a considerable traffic with the West Indies, which we hope to see largely increased in the future; but, taking all foreign countries, by far the largest portion of our trade with them is done by Montreal merchants. No doubt there would be a large increase in this part of our commerce, if we had regular steam communication between Canada and the countries to which we refer, and we hope the day is not far distant when one or more steamship lines will be established. But now with the means of transportation we have at our command, the value of the trade is very considerable, and although the increase is not as fast as we would like to see it, still there is a considerable increase. On comparing the figures as contained in our trade and navi-

gation returns for 1870-71 and those given for the City of Montreal alone, it is not a little suggestive that we find the latter in most cases to be the larger of the two. Probably the Customs officials could tell the cause of this discrepancy. But, however this may be, we shall give the Montreal returns of trade with different foreign ports, which we doubt not is the nearer correct of the two. The value of the goods received in Montreal during the last year from the places referred to was as follows:

Rotterdam.....	\$378,975
Cadiz.....	249,600
Oporto.....	40,600
Antwerp.....	858,373
Charente.....	1,090,320
Marseilles.....	827,373
Malaga.....	390,192
Bordeaux.....	201,544
Denia.....	258,192
Havana.....	140,980
Barbadoes.....	372,060
Algoa Bay.....	1,420,000
Cienfuegos.....	116,465
Bremen.....	293,725
Hamburg.....	86,880
Maceio.....	54,860
Palermo.....	51,660
Shanghai.....	1,052,700
Other Ports.....	329,250

The total value of the goods imported from these ports into Montreal last year is set down at \$8,213,840. The value was \$5,915,430 in 1869-70, so there was an increase in twelve months of nearly 39 per cent on the gross amount. We find that, as compared with the previous year, at fourteen of the above ports their trade with Montreal increased, and at only five of them was there any falling off. This fact is exceedingly gratifying, and plainly indicates how much our annual dealings with these countries might be extended with judicious encouragement.

The five ports which figure for the largest amounts in the above list are Algoa Bay, Charente, Shanghai, Antwerp and Marseilles. Our imports from Algoa Bay consisted entirely of wool and sheepskins. Charente makes up her contributions almost exclusively of brandies and other liquors, and the same may be said of Bordeaux. From Shanghai we last year imported over one million dollars' worth of teas of different kinds and qualities. It is to be hoped that hereafter China will always figure in our trade returns, and that last season's transactions are only the beginning of a large direct trade in teas with the "celestials." From Antwerp we received principally glassware, with a moderate quantity of German hardware, gin and brandy, and Marseilles sent us chiefly French groceries and wines. Our purchases from Cuba and the British West Indies consisted mainly of sugars, the direct importation of which to Montreal, fell off