

States was £86,545, and it showed no signs of increase until 1880, when it was £105,000. The total value of the domestic exports in 1883 was £6,855,244.

Of the principal articles of domestic produce exported wool was valued at £3,014,211 in 1883; wheat to the value of £1,067,309 stands next; the export in 1874 was £236,354. Gold has fallen off to £892,445. The export of oats has risen to £170,542. Kauri gum, valued at £336,600, was exported; and frozen meat is shown to have been shipped for the last two years of the value of £118,328 in 1883, and £119,339 in 1882, of which the whole in 1883 came to the United Kingdom. Of the total export £905,119 was due to the mine; £11,220 to the fisheries; £499,827 to the forest; more than half, £3,783,751 to animals and their produce, chiefly wool; more than one-fifth to agricultural products, principally wheat; £98,894 to manufactures.

The total number of vessels engaged in the foreign trade entered was 805, with a total register of 494,926 tons in 1883; the entries in 1882 were 795 vessels, with a total of 461,285 tons. Of the tonnage entered in 1883 nearly 88 per cent. was British. The clearances in 1883 were 851 vessels, with an aggregate of 507,565 tons, and in 1882, 769 vessels and 438,551 tons. Of the tonnage cleared in 1883 rather under 88 per cent. was British.

#### COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' ASSOCIATION.

The eleventh annual meeting of the Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada was held at their rooms in the Free Library Building, Toronto, on Friday last, 26th ult. Capt. McMaster, the president, in the chair. The annual report was read by the Secretary, Mr. James Sargent, and adopted. It appeared from the report that the net result of the financial year had been a gain to the funds of the Association of \$13,561, the surplus funds now amounting to \$86,698. Receipts during the year were \$26,107; expenditure, \$12,567. The membership showed an increase of eighty-eight over last year, the total number now being 2,202. The mortuary benefit for next year was increased by \$100, making it \$1,100.

The Treasurer, Mr. R. H. Gray, read his report, showing the assets to be \$89,537.55, with liabilities \$2,838.85, surplus therefore \$86,698.70. The report was adopted. A vote of thanks was then given to Mr. Wm. McCabe, F. I. A., for the active interest he had shown in the mortuary scheme of the Association.

The election of officers being next proceeded with the scrutineers reported the following officers elected for the ensuing year:—President, Hugh Blain; 1st Vice-President, Jas. C. Black; 2nd Vice-President, F. H. Maulson; Treasurer, R. H. Gray. Board of Directors—W. G. H. Lowe, A. S. Hart, C. C. VanNorman, C. E. Kyle, T. P. Hayes, W. S. Crone, A. A. Allan, John Burns, and R. H. Mitchell.

At the afternoon session, votes of thanks to the retiring president, the retiring board, the secretary, and treasurer for their valuable services during the past year were carried *nem con*. The president-elect, Mr. Hugh Blain, upon being called to the chair was received with loud applause. He thanked the members of the Association for the manner in which they had elected him as their president, and he would do all in his power to make the Association as great a success as it had been in the past.

The banquet at the Rossin House in the evening was a very successful affair, as such gatherings of this sociable guild always are. The chair was occupied by Capt. W. F. McMaster, the retiring president of the Association, while Messrs. J. C. Black, first vice-president, and E. A. Dalley and W. G. Reid, of Hamilton, occu-

pled the three vice-chairs. The Hon. Jno. Beverly Robinson responded to the toast of his health as Lieut.-Governor. The commercial and manufacturing interests was replied to by Mr. H. W. Darling, president of the Board of Trade. Hon. James Patton proposed the toast The Association of Canada and Kindred Associations, which was ably responded to by the chairman and Mr. Hugh Blain, the president-elect.

#### NOTES FOR DRY GOODS PEOPLE.

Buyers for Boston and New York houses agree with those of Canadian firms who have returned, in the conclusion that orders for dry goods have been placed in the European market with unusual caution this season. The staple fabrics are generally steady in value at the centres of European production.

Respecting silk, cable advices of the 29th December announce firmness in European markets for raw, and advanced prices in the Asiatic markets. Prices on this side the water are as yet unchanged, it appears.

The purchases made at Manchester in October at lowest rates, especially of yarn for home and export, are much larger than was supposed at the time, many contracts running into May, and several beyond July next; but as a large proportion of the trade is rapidly running out of order, unless there be a chance for the better, about a third of the cloth production will soon be compelled to stop or run short time. Such is the statement made in a Manchester cotton circular of the 12th December.

Advices from the cotton-growing districts still point to a short crop from India and the United States, but as the receipts at American ports to date show 100,000 bales more than this time last year 100,000 bales more than 1882 3, 300,000 bales over 1881-2, and 290,000 bales more than 1880-81, both merchants and producers are waiting to see whether there will be a rapid falling off in receipts. The highest week appears to be the last week in November, since when the receipts have been a little smaller.

Imports of dry goods at New York last week were valued at \$1,440,528 as compared with \$1,495,900 the same week of previous year and \$2,862,957 in the like week of 1882.

The market for print cloths at Fall River is steady, production for the week 135,000 pieces, deliveries 140,000 pieces, sales 113,000 pieces, stock 349,000, a decrease of 5,000 ps. in stock on previous week.

A decline is shown in the imports of foreign wool at the large United States ports, and the like seems to be the case with receipts of domestic. At New York for example, the imports of foreign wool for 1884 up to Dec. 27 were 83,668 bales where last year they were 88,214. Receipts of domestic were 153,657 this year against 157,846 last year.

#### BUSINESS IN THE STATES.

The condition of business in the United States is well indicated by the record of transactions kept by the Clearing Houses. The *Financial Chronicle's* tables give figures up to 19th December. Out of twenty-seven cities reported, only four (Boston, Providence, New Orleans, Kansas City and Memphis) show an increase over like periods of last year. Twenty-two cities shows a decline; New York, for example, shows 25 per cent., Pittsburg (iron trade) 30, Lowell (shoe trade) 33, Philadelphia 21, Baltimore 17, Chicago (pork and grain) 9, Milwaukee and Cincinnati 12 each, Louisville and St. Louis 14 and 15, respectively, during the second week of this month, and up to

19th instant the returns from New York Philadelphia, St. Louis, and Baltimore still showed much smaller clearings than same time 1883. The returns will be found grouped below. Outside New York the total reported was \$264,032,000, as against \$294,425,000 in the second week of December, 1883, a falling off equal to 10.3 per cent. The aggregate decline, however, is 21½ per cent. Even this, however, is pronounced to be "a decided improvement on the conditions of six weeks ago."

	-Week ending December 13.-		
	1884.	1883.	Per Cent.
New York.....	\$558,994,373	\$753,467,825	-25.8
Sales of—			
(Stocks...shares).	(1,801,401)	(2,240,352)	(-19.6)
(Cotton...bales).	(1,000,901)	(573,000)	(+74.7)
(Grain...bushels).	(35,869,717)	(59,345,000)	(-39.6)
(Petroleum bbls).	(50,009,000)	(73,014,000)	(-31.5)
Total N. England...	\$81,497,360	\$81,278,150	+0.3
Total Middle States.	61,049,248	77,938,300	-21.7
Total West'n States.	70,719,991	79,125,479	-10.6
Total South States.	41,071,223	42,664,085	-3.9
San Francisco.....	9,764,314	13,419,253	-27.2
Total all.....	\$823,026,509	\$1,947,691,191	-21.4

#### GRAIN INSPECTION.

A special meeting of the Toronto Board of Trade was held on Wednesday last to discuss the changes proposed by the Government in the inspection of grain. Mr. W. Galbraith, First Vice-President, occupied the chair and there were present:—Messrs. W. Stark, W. M. Oates, W. Taylor, W. D. Matthews, W. D. Matthews, Jr., J. Sproule, J. F. McLaughlin, J. Young, R. W. Strickland, A. Nairn, J. D. Laidlaw, G. A. Chapman, M. Thwaite, W. J. McKay, R. Spratt, J. Carriek, J. Goodall, J. L. Spink, R. Steele, M. McLaughlin, G. M. Rose, J. Lund, W. Jones, W. Isaac, and N. Weatherston.

A letter from the Commissioner of Internal Revenue giving the changes in the gradings proposed by the department was read by the Secretary, also the report of the Board of Examiners. The main objections raised by the examiners are in relation to spring wheat, the Board asking that the weight be one pound more than that proposed by the department and that "Canada Hard" and "Canada Spring" be used instead of "Manitoba Hard Spring" and "Northern Spring."

The president called upon Mr. G. A. Chapman, Chairman of Examining Board, who explained the difference. In the first place they objected to the name "Manitoba" as not including other places where hard wheat could be raised. As this was a Dominion law it should be broad enough to cover the Dominion. It would be no injustice to Manitoba, for the wheat would sell as well under one name as under the other. The examiners objected to the grade "Extra No. 1." That was unnecessary. Number one wheat ought to be "No. 1." 61 lbs. No more grades should be established than were necessary, as they tended to confusion. Respecting the grade "Northern wheat," that was evidently, as the Department stated, an attempt to assimilate to the Duluth standard. All the grain from Duluth was now found to come in graded "Northern," but it was no better than what came in as "hard" wheat last year. The extra grade was unnecessary, and experience, he believed, proved that the former grades were the better. Respecting goose wheat, the Department proposed that it should be all classed as "rejected," but they knew as a matter of fact that this class of wheat was an article of commerce, and the man who grew and marketed a good article should get the benefit. The trade in goose wheat extended even so far as to the shores of the Mediterranean, for in Italy this wheat was largely used to make macaroni.

Mr. W. D. Matthews, Jr., endorsed Mr. Chapman's views. Respecting the name "Manitoba"