

of \$39,200, and boots and shoes, harness and leather goods of \$33,500; making a total of \$1,652,323 in these four branches.

On the other hand the grain and milling business shows an increase of \$562,932; groceries and provisions of \$243,500; dry goods of \$5,450, and miscellaneous lines of \$458,400, giving a total increase of all lines of \$1,280,282.

A very slight study of the events of the past year will furnish somewhat of a key to the above figures. The outbreak of rebellion in March last had a staggering effect upon trade of every kind in this city, and although some of the branches quickly recovered, those connected with building operations suffered severely for a long time, and it was only with the return of our victorious volunteers, when midsummer had passed, that attempts were made to carry out a few of the building contracts, which, early in the year, it was the intention to have entered upon. It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that there has been such a marked decrease in the lumber and hardware branches. The whole building operations carried on in the city during the past year had a value of not more than \$190,000, and if we add the full contract price of the new post office, somewhere about \$125,000, we have an aggregate of only \$215,000, the smallest for the city since 1880.

The decrease in farm machinery, and the improved state financially of our farmers, compared with a year ago, can only be reconciled by a reference to that legislative monstrosity, the new exemption law, which has curtailed the farmer's credit, and benefited only the dishonest in the Province.

Before entering upon the retail or manufacturing interests, we shall refer to the export trade of the city, which has received special attention in the compiling of this report, and has been as closely sifted as the opportunity for securing facts and figures would allow.

As a matter of course wheat is our leading article of export, and during the year houses in this city sent out 2,220,600 bushels at a value of \$1,422,690. The export of oats reached 110,500 bushels at a value of \$42,330. The exports of barley, flax and other grains and seeds reach an aggregate value of \$49,200. The year's exports of flour reached 210,765 bags at a value of \$416,600,