note that the United States exported to France no less than 634,000,000 francs ($127,000,000) of goods, against 209,500,000 francs of goods sent to the United States by the French Republic. The chief items of the United States exports to France last year were 267,000,000 francs of corn and flour, and 159,000,000 francs of cotton. French exports to the United States were naturally chiefly manufactured articles.

It is certain, according to the London Economist, of 28th July, that agricultural produce is one of the articles relative to which France has made no concession. That journal understands that, generally, the United States will receive under this treaty the most-favored-nation treatment, but no reductions are made on any articles of the minimum tariff of 1892, as was done for Switzerland. The Americans hope under the new treaty to obtain a larger share in the importations of manufactured goods into France than hitherto. A diplomatist is reported to have remarked that America undersells England in cotton goods in China, and will be able to do so in France also.

But a small proportion of the American products imported into France have been manufactured articles. In the year 1897 the proportion was only $4,000,000 worth, out of a total of $87,500,000. On the other hand, the greater part of the French exports to the United States consisted of manufactures, that is to say, $32,000,000 out of $45,000,000. It is natural that the French should hope for an expansion of this export trade, seeing that reduced duties are a feature of the treaty just completed.

STRENGTH IN DRY GOODS.

The dry goods trade was surprised to receive this week information of a general advance in cotton goods. The fact that the position of values was very strong has been appreciated for some time past, and an advance before the Fall was not unexpected. It was generally thought, however, that no advance would be made until the Spring samples were shown, which event was looked for about the first week of September. The rise in prices taking place from the 16th inst., the wholesale houses have not had an opportunity to stock up in anticipation of the rise, and the mills will obtain the full advantage of the higher prices. The Canada Colored Cotton Mills Company has led in advancing prices. In denims and tickings the new schedule of prices is five per cent. higher than that previously existing. The X line of awnings has made a like advance. Apron ginghams, shirtings and galateas are also dearer by five per cent. Flannelettes, which have never been raised to a normal level since the "war" in prices a year or so ago, hve been advanced about five per cent. to a range of 3¾ to 8¾ cents per yard. Ten lines of dometts, 517 to 526, are dearer than they were a year ago by five per cent. Shakers have been advanced ¼ cent per yard, which in the lowest grades is equal to 7½ per cent. Saxonys have shared in the general movement, and are dearer by from five to almost eight per cent. The mills have had an excellent demand for blankets; the usual advance of five per cent. has been made in this line. On yarns the manufacturers have been allowing a five per cent. discount to the trade, but this has been withdrawn. These advances, which we have thought it in the best interests of the trade to refer to by percentages, as compared with previous prices, apply to Autumn goods, and it is understood that all goods for the Spring of 1899 will be opened on this basis of price.

Not only are values in the cotton trade firm, but strength is also found in the woolen market. Most of the domestic woolen mills are very busy, and many of them have been working over time for some months. The material for tweeds, dress goods, hosiery and generally all fine woolens, has materially advanced in price, and these manufactured products are now worth about 10 per cent. more than they were a year ago. The better grades of worsteds are exceedingly dear. In the mohair branch of the Bradford trade it is impossible to place contracts for reasonable delivery at prices which have prevailed during the past season. Although the Canadian textile manufacturers are not making much ado about the increased imports of English and Scotch woolen fabrics, they are cognizant of the fact that large quantities of these goods are coming into the market which could not be imported if it were not for our preferential tariff. If, perchance, anything should happen to diminish the present consumption of textile fabrics within the Dominion, we can expect to hear a strong advocacy of higher duties. From British Columbia, Manitoba and the North-West Territories come bright reports of the activity of trade. Railway construction is helping to make business in the West active, but both mining and farming are giving remunerative returns, and as a wholesale merchant puts it, "trade in the West is good mainly because the Westeners are getting more out of the ground than formerly."

FINANCES OF QUEBEC PROVINCE.

In the Quebec Official Gazette appears a statement of the receipts and expenditure of the province for the fiscal year ending 30th June last, as required by resolution of the Legislative Assembly. It shows the ordinary revenue to have been $4,176,482. In this sum no account is taken of a still larger sum received, being the proceeds of inscribed stock, issued in conversion of the debt. Ordinary expenditure during the same period was $4,161,392, leaving, according to the Provincial Treasurer, a surplus of $15,180 for the year. The items are as under:

RECEIPTS.

Dominion of Canada	$1.320,137
Lands, forests and fisheries	1,043,245
Mines	4,125
Administration of justice, law stamps, fees, etc	246,316
Licenses—Hotels, shops, etc. (net)	550,740
Direct taxes on commercial corporations	172,626
Tax on transfers of property	277
Manufacturing and trading licenses	7,347
Duties on successions	287,995
Direct taxes on certain persons	686
Maintenance of insane	46,872
Reformatory and industrial schools	19,677
Quebec Official Gazette	18,544
Legislation	9,349
Registration stamps	68,850
Interest on price of Q.M.O. & O. Railway	300,827
Interest on loans and deposits	18,847
Railway subsidies tax	2,734
Minor revenues	25,268
Total ordinary revenue	$4,150,471
Trust funds and deposits	26,010
	$4,176,482