

elapboards and laths. But our wood production is already expanding into other equally profitable branches. We may mention that in the vicinity of the Houlton Road Station a manufactory of barrel, cask and hogshead hoops has been recently commenced. The proprietor pays land owners in the vicinity twenty dollars a thousand, United States currency, for the small poles from which the hoops are made, and employs eleven men in making them. He states, your committee are informed, that the wood of the County is of a superior quality for this purpose, and talks of establishing factories along the River, in order to afford central points in every section to which farmers and operators may haul in the poles. The market for this description of lumber is extensive enough for an enormous business. From hoops we shall proceed to staves; and having got to furnishing the wood for "heads," we may consider the barrel and cask business perfected. Of course the manufacture and exportation of all these would form an important branch of our West India trade.

On the trade of the County, and the exports and imports generally your Committee do not propose to dwell at much length, as their extent, importance and rapid increase, must be patent to the most cursory observer. In attempting to obtain statistics of the traffic and travel on this River they have met unexpected obstacles. The following figures, however, may be relied upon as coming as near the mark as necessary for practical purposes.

Importation of goods into Woodstock for retail trade, say	\$350,000 00
Freight paid on goods upwards from Fredericton, by steamer and towboat, say	50,000 00
Passengers fare on same route both ways, say	25,000 00
The imports into port of Woodstock, (as given by Deputy Treasurer) for year ending 31st December, 1863, were	
The exports from same port for 1862 were	50,617 87
While for the year 1863 they had increased to	122,069 60

Of course these amounts are but what appears on the Custom House books; but they convey some notion of the extent of the business now done at this port.

An important export from Carleton is that of Cattle and Sheep for the United States markets. Large numbers of cattle and immense flocks of sheep and lambs, are collected by drovers who pass through the County, from farm to farm. These are now driven over the Road to