

THE MERRY EXHIBITION WAR.

A feature of the discussion which has been going on regarding the mismanagement of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition is a clash of arms between two gentlemen much interested in that institution. One of the combatants has published a letter in which he defends the course pursued by the Industrial Association, explains why exhibitors make displays of their goods there, how the manager and members of the board representing the Canadian Manufacturers' Association have always endeavored to induce manufacturers to exhibit, explains the causes of the meagre results of their efforts, lays much of the blame upon the trade and other papers because they obtain advertising patronage from the manufacturers, speaks of the large prize money, amounting to \$35,000 per annum, paid to exhibitors of horses, cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, farm products, horticulture, fine arts and ladies' work, but none to manufacturers; mentions the heavy cost incident to displays of machinery, and on these grounds sets up a claim that the newspapers should assist in obtaining the necessary aid—several hundreds of thousands of dollars—from the city of Toronto, the Provincial and Dominion Governments, to enable the Association to properly house and handle a grand Dominion exhibition in 1901. The other combatant argues that the manager of the Fair and the members of the board alluded to have not used due diligence to induce manufacturers to exhibit, and cites the fact that he holds hundreds of letters from manufacturers and others to that effect.

Let the war go on, but this wordy correspondence, and an editorial in this journal on September 21, when read in the light of facts recorded, show that some things are wrong that should be righted, and unless they are righted, and that without delay, it will be a vain effort to induce the city, the Province or the Dominion to give large sums of money to help promote a Dominion exhibition next year. These warring gentlemen, and all others interested, should understand that without the infusion of new blood into the Association, it is bound to collapse, and that quite speedily. Who and what is the Toronto Electoral District Society that it should have twelve members in the Industrial Association, and five members on its Board of Directors, while the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, the only representative of all the manufacturers of the country, should have but five members and two directors? One of the combatants unintentionally touches a keynote when he alludes to the expenditure of \$35,000 per annum in prizes and premiums to the interests he names. Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been expended by these representatives of the Toronto Electoral District Society and their associates, in the construction of stables, cattle byres, sheep and hog pens, an elegant two-storey dog house, grand stand, etc., to which no objection has been raised by the other exhibitors, but some money should have been expended in providing for the comfort and convenience of exhibiting manufacturers and in assisting in defraying their expenses, particularly where processes of manufacture are illustrated by machinery in motion.

In the opinion of many the influence of the representatives of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association is not very pronounced in the councils of the Exhibition Association. None

of them are exhibitors at the Fair, and at this time the Association has but two directors on the Exhibition Board, whereas, until quite recently, it had three. If the Association is wise it will demand that all of their five representatives be directors; and it should also insist that all of the separate guilds, connected with it or not, such as the Furniture Manufacturers' Association, the Piano and Organ Manufacturers' Association, the Carriage Manufacturers' Association, the Agricultural Implement Manufacturers' Association, the Iron Founders' Association, and others, should have adequate representation both in the Industrial Exhibition Association and upon its Board of Directors. And while such improvements are being made, it would be well if the Canadian Press Association be included. This should be done even if the pet nursery for would-be directors—the Toronto Electoral District Society—and its abnormal preponderating influence, were consigned to oblivion.

TRADE OF CAPE COLONY.

The Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette publishes some statistics showing the value of the imports into Cape Colony for the year ended June 30, 1900, as compared with a similar period of 1899. The following table shows the imports of articles into the colony for the two periods, distinguishing the principal categories of merchandise, articles imported for the use of the Colonial Government, and specie:

Categories of Merchandise	Year ended June 30, 1899.	Year ended June 30, 1900.
Provisions:— Butter; margarine; cheese; chicory, coffee; confectionery and cocoa; meats, salt and preserved; general provisions, oilmen's stores, etc.; rice, sugar, tea.....	£1,951,000	£2,277,000
Wearing apparel, etc.—Apparel and slops; haberdashery and millinery; hats.....	2,107,000	1,742,000
Cereals.—Flour; maize; oats; wheat.	887,000	1,018,000
Cotton manufactures.....	1,087,000	839,000
Hardware, cutlery and ironmongery...	896,000	692,000
Machinery and agricultural implements	1,255,000	688,000
Leather and leather manufactures:— Boots and shoes; saddlery, harness, etc.....	644,000	615,000
Wood, and manufactures thereof.— Wood, manufactured, planed or grooved; manufactured other than furniture; furniture and cabinetware	856,000	579,000
Beverages (alcoholic):—Ale and beer; spirits; wine.....	360,000	362,000
Books and stationery.....	452,000	359,000
Coal, coke and patent fuel.....	211,000	289,000
Woolen manufactures.....	330,000	241,000
Metals, manufactures of:—Iron, bar, bolt, rod and sheet, corrugated and galvanized; lead, bar, pipe, sheet, and shot.....	234,000	245,000
Drugs and chemicals.....	303,000	202,000
Other articles of merchandise.....	3,819,000	3,556,000
Total merchandise..	15,392,000	13,704,000
Imports of articles for Colonial Government.....	1,096,000	706,000
Specie.....	766,000	4,647,000
Grand Total.....	£17,248,000	£19,057,000

The Federal Council at Berlin has issued a notice extending favored-nations treatment to Great Britain and all of her colonies excepting Canada and Barbadoes.