

few barrels now remaining at Kingston, as the following advertisement of the 24th instant would indicate:—

FORWARDING, 1847.—The undersigned hereby give Notice, that on the opening of Navigation, they will Forward the Produce now in their stores at Kingston, subject to freight at one shilling and sixpence, per Barrel Flour, and other Property in proportion, together with the usual charges for winter storage and Marine Insurance; and that all other property forwarded downwards by them will be subject to such rates of freight as may be specially agreed upon, or as may be hereafter advertised.

MACPHERSON, CRANE & Co.
HOOKER, HOLTON & Co.
H. JONES & Co.

Montreal, March 24, 1847.

The publishing of the advertisement of 11th December last, did much to prevent an increase in the means of transport, which might have taken place had the rate of freight in spring been left in doubt; and as investments have been made in the interior, and property obtained on consignment, trusting in good faith to this published tariff, we trust that it is not yet too late for the parties interested to take the subject into consideration. At all events, as public journalists, we cannot allow so important a matter as the rise of freights to pass without notice, especially when attempted by such equivocal means.

REVIEW OF THE TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM,

WITH THE

OFFICIAL ACCOUNTS OF THE BOARD OF TRADE,

FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED JAN. 5, 1847, COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIODS IN THE TWO PRECEDING YEARS.

(From the London 'ECONOMIST'.)

We are now enabled to present our readers with the Annual "Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation," brought down to the 5th of Jan., and completing the year of those which we have been enabled to publish monthly as the year advanced, the last of which (to the 5th of Dec.) we published on the 16th ult. These accounts possess an unusual interest at this moment, when so many branches of trade are undergoing great changes, some from the effects of the recent important reforms in our tariff, and others from natural causes. Indeed, we may perhaps say, that there was never a period when such influential causes were in operation, both of a temporary and permanent character, to affect the course of our commerce. And these causes are operating so powerfully, that we look in vain to past experience for any parallel of circumstances which can aid us to form a satisfactory opinion of passing events and existing circumstances. Every man feels that he must look to, and reason from, existing facts, under an altogether new set of circumstances, to guide him at the present time. On the one hand we have the present lamentable deficiency of food, owing to the failure of the last potato crop as a powerful temporary disturbing cause—while on the other hand we have the great changes in our tariff, and the extraordinary influence of railway and steamboat communication, both exercising a very powerful influence on the commerce and the capital of the country.

It would be, indeed, difficult to conceive how prosperous would have been the present state of the country had the two latter influences been accompanied with abundant harvests; and it is equally difficult to conceive the extent of the mischief and suffering which must have been inflicted on the country, had the present scarcity of food been unaccompanied by the recent important modifications in our commercial laws, and the enormous facilities and economy afforded by railways; for the present dearth, unlike those of former years, extends over those countries on which, on former similar occasions, we were accustomed to look for aid.

A careful examination of these accounts will be found of the highest interest both to the merchant and the politician.

IMPORT OF LIVE ANIMALS.

A reference to the tables will show how enormously this branch of trade has increased, consequent upon the removal, by the new tariff of last year, of the duty imposed by that of 1842. The following table exhibits the progress of the import of the various kinds of cattle ever since the prohibition was removed in 1842. By this table it will be seen how much the number increased in 1845, compared with any former year, but how much more the importation of 1846 has increased compared even with 1845. The total imports of each year show an increase of four hundred per cent. on the immediately preceding one:—

CATTLE—Imported.

	Oxen.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Total of all kinds.
1842	3,165	1,046	76	684	415	5,380
1843	1,114	368	40	217	361	2,100
1844	3,710	1,154	53	2,817	269	8,007
1845	9,782	6,502	686	15,933	1,638	34,426
1846	17,121	22,994	2,447	91,667	3,443	140,572

By this table it will be observed that the total number of cattle imported in 1846 was 140,572, against 34,426 in 1845, 8,007 in 1844, 2,100 in 1843, and 5,380 in 1842; and yet, notwithstanding the

enormous imports of last year, there was never a period when the farmer at home commanded so good a market, or so good a price.

PROVISIONS.

The remarks which we have made with respect to cattle equally apply to provisions of almost every description.

BUTTER AND CHEESE.—The quantity of butter imported and taken for consumption shows a considerable increase upon that of any former year; but in cheese the increase is enormous, caused chiefly by the extension of our trade in this article with America. The following table shows the quantities of butter and cheese which have been imported and cleared for home consumption in each year since 1841:—

	BUTTER.		CHEESE.	
	Imported. cwt.	Duty paid cwt.	Imported. cwt.	Duty paid cwt.
1842	176,197	189,490	179,748	179,568
1843	151,993	148,297	179,380	166,563
1844	185,511	180,965	213,850	212,903
1845	254,295	240,118	268,245	258,246
1846	257,777	235,130	336,185	327,490

ANIMAL FOOD.—Notwithstanding the extraordinary increase in the number of live cattle imported, the trade in animal food (provisions), instead of diminishing in consequence, has very rapidly increased, and especially during the last year, by the entire repeal of the duty chargeable thereon. The following table exhibits the quantities of animal food, of each kind, imported and taken for consumption in each of the last three years. In the cases where there is no duty chargeable, we have taken the quantity imported as that which has been taken for consumption:—

	Imported.			Entered for Consumption.		
	1844. cwt.	1845. cwt.	1846. cwt.	1844. cwt.	1845. cwt.	1846. cwt.
Bacon,.....	36 ..	54 ..	2,768 ..	36 ..	54 ..	2,768
Uxer, salted, not corned:—						
Of Brit. Possess.	20,250	3,283	174,475	4,014	2,361	174,475
Foreign.....	86,516	80,932	..	1,143	1,179	..
Fresh, or slightly salted	3 ..	3,273 ..	2,124 ..	24 ..	631 ..	2,124
Total Beef imported..	106,769	87,493	176,599	5,181	4,191	176,599
HAMS	6,732	6,462	11,252	3,568	2,603	8,385
Meat, not otherwise described.....	243 ..	437 ..	1,118 ..	56 ..	403 ..	1,118
PORK, salted:—						
Of Brit. Possess.	2,153	1,517	72,519	248	172	72,519
Foreign.....	23,627	34,128	..	1,073	1,289	..
Fresh.....	63 ..	133 ..	133 ..	63 ..	133 ..	133
Total of Pork	30,843	39,878	72,652	1,384	1,594	72,652
Grand total of animal food imported..	144,626	133,324	264,289	10,225	8,855	261,522

It will be observed that the animal food of all kinds imported in the present year has reached no less a quantity than 264,389 cwt., being about double the quantity imported in 1845, and the quantity retained for consumption at home has been even much larger in proportion. One of the most important and interesting questions affecting the prospects of this branch of trade, is the effect which the dearth in Ireland will exercise over it in the next year. There can be no doubt, from the concurrent testimony of many of the Government officers in Ireland, that the great bulk of the pigs which in usual years supply this market have long since been exterminated, and that to some extent the same has been the case with respect to cattle; and to a very large extent indeed with respect to poultry, which in Ireland always constituted a considerable item in the production of respectable farmers. We must, therefore, look forward for nearly an entire cessation of the supply of these kinds of provisions from Ireland.

GRAIN.

The accounts which we now publish refer probably to the most eventful year, with respect to the grain market, in the experience of the present generation—a year in which circumstances of so new a character, both as to the nature of the deficiency of food, and also as to its extent, that no precedent can be looked for in former years. When we consider the large number and the extent of those countries which have been obliged to draw extensive supplies from those which had either greater abundance, or were less able to retain the supplies they had, it cannot but be a matter of great surprise that the large quantities of grain imported into Great Britain, France, Belgium, and Holland, to say nothing of the various countries in the Mediterranean, most of which were deficient in their own crops, that those supplies have been obtained with so little comparative difficulty. And this is more surprising when we consider how small a portion of the entire quantity has been furnished by the United States, the great source to which all parties have looked for supplies. The following are the shipments of grain of all kinds and flour, from the United States, from the 1st of September to the 31st of December:—

	GRAIN, ALL KINDS.			
	Great Britain.	France.	Other Ports.	Total of Grain.
	qrs.	qrs.	qrs.	qrs.
New York.....	231,310	11,212	70,985	313,607
Boston.....	—	—	—	13,667
Philadelphia.....	35,029	2,636	—	37,665
New Orleans.....	—	—	—	53,939
Total grain.....				421,539