

the same time increased her's from £29,000,000 to £53,000,000 or 80 per cent. India has a tariff of low rates ; in fact it may be said her trade is practically free. English capitalists are working might and main to improve India's harbour accommodation, to increase her railway mileage (at present only 12 or 13,000 miles) and lengthen her canals. With such a large expansion of British enterprise it may confidently be predicted that at no distant day the exports of Indian wheat will be second only to those of the United States, and the pressure of competition will be severe and long on all who enter the wheat market. India will sow better seed, use better tools and before long will have cheaper modes of inland transit, and the American elevator with which to handle her grain. Both English and French houses are making a very light system of railway of from 20 to 30 inches gauge, which is very much used in countries south of the Equator. This system can be laid down at \$1,000 to \$1,200 per mile of 30 inch gauge. Much of it has been in use in Queensland on the sugar plantation, and it has also been introduced in India by private enterprise. The Department of Agriculture and Commerce has again been revived, so that nothing remains to complete the conditions of Indian success in this new branch of her industry. The outlook for wheat growers on this side of the Atlantic is, to say the least about it, not inviting.

AMERICAN FOREIGN COMMERCE.

The enormous productiveness and the splendid resources of the United States are made more manifest year by year. The variety of products of which the country is capable is so great, the field for their cultivation or manufacture so wide, and the market abroad or at home for her raw products has been so certain, that the general prosperity of the Union has been marked to a degree which is almost unprecedented. The adoption of a system of protection, which stimulated manufactures in some lines to the plethoric point, has not aided the country to obtain a hold in the markets of the world for her manufactures. We find that the exports of manufactured goods from the United States for the fiscal year 1882-3 amounted to only the small fraction of 2 per cent. of their total value in the census year. Furthermore, the policy of protection has not helped American shipping, whose share in her foreign commerce declined from 2,968,290 tons in 1881-2 to 2,834,681 tons in 1882-3. As far back as the year 1856, the American vessels doing her carrying trade from abroad constituted 71½ per cent. of the whole tonnage ; in 1868, three years after the war closed, the proportion fell to 44.26, and last year it was only 21 per cent.

The report of Mr. Nimmo, Chief of the Bureau of Statistics, upon the foreign commerce of the United States for the year ended 30th June, 1883, is a very interesting one. We gather from it that the aggregate value of the imports and exports of merchandise during the year was \$1,547,020,316, being larger than during any previous year in the history of the country. The exports of merchandise exceeded the imports of them in value by \$100,658,488, or 6.46 per

cent., as against a similar excess during the preceding fiscal year of \$25,902,683.

EXPORTS.

The value of the exports of domestic merchandise was \$804,223,632 in 1882-3 as against \$733,239,732 during the preceding year, an increase of \$70,983,900, or nearly nine per cent. The heavy crops of 1882, as compared with 1881, accounts for this mainly. The report dwells upon the growth of the export of agricultural products as being the most important feature in connection with their foreign commerce. In the fiscal year 1881, for example, particulars of domestic merchandise exported shew the following proportions : Bread and breadstuffs, \$270,332,000 ; provisions and tallow, \$158,328,000 ; cotton and manufactures, \$261,267,000 ; live animals, \$16,412,000 ; leather and manufactures, \$8,088,000 ; wood and manufactures, \$18,600,000. The total of these forms 82.12 per cent. of the whole export. Where cotton export has only increased 15 per cent. in ten years, (from 221 millions in 1871 to 261 millions in 1881) breadstuffs and provisions export nearly quadrupled in that period and live animals export became sixteen times greater. Where in 1850 the value of such exports amounted to only \$108,605,713, it had risen in 1860 to \$256,560,972, in 1870 to \$361,188,483, and in 1883 to \$619,269,449, as against \$552,249,819, during the preceding fiscal year. For many years the value of the exports of the products of agriculture has ranged from 72 to 83 per cent. of the total value of exports of domestic merchandise. Last year it was 77 per cent., as may be discovered from the following table comparing the value of products of agriculture, of manufacture, of mining, of forestry and of the fisheries during the last fiscal year :

Products of—	Value.	p.c. of total.
Agriculture	\$619,269,449	77.00
Manufactures	111,890,001	13.91
Mining (including mineral oils)	51,444,857	6.40
Forestry	9,976,143	1.24
The fisheries	6,276,375	.78
All other commodities ..	5,366,807	.67
Total	100.00	

Of the field products, cotton shows the greatest money value, and is still "king," as the phrase goes, breadstuffs next, then meats and tobacco. The value of exports of cotton during last year was \$247,328,721, as against \$199,812,644 during 1882 ; exports of bread and breadstuffs, reached \$208,040,850, as against \$182,670,528 ; exports of provisions amounted to \$107,388,287, as against \$120,655,701 ; exports of tobacco and manufactures thereof amounted to \$22,095,229 as against \$21,430,869 during the preceding fiscal year. It may be worth while to place side by side the proportions of the different classes of products exported by the United States and Canada. Lacking Canadian figures for the later years, we have to use those of 1882 for Canada. Mr. Nimmo does not separate, as our official figures do, "animals and their produce" from "agricultural or field products," hence we add these two items together for the Canadian proportion below :

	U. S. 1883.	Canada. 1882.
Products of the field	77 p.c.	57.18 p.c.
" " forest	1.24 "	26.65 "
" " fisheries	.78 "	8.53 "
" " mine	6.40 "	3.34 "
Manufactures	13.91 "	3.70 "
Miscellaneous	67 "	60 "
Total	100.00	100.00

The value of the exports of mineral oils during the last fiscal year amounted to \$44,913,079, as against \$51,232,706 during the preceding fiscal year.

A comparison of the value of American manufactured products exported last year with previous years shows according to the report that it was greater last year than during any previous year in the history of the country. The value of the exports of products of manufacture amounted to only \$45,658,873 during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1860. It rose to \$103,132,000 in 1881-2 and to \$111,890,000 last year. This indicates the growth of the exportation of manufactured articles.

We now come to an important and growing industry, that of mining. Mineral exports were valued at \$51,419,149 last year, as compared with \$56,278,887 during the preceding fiscal year. The export value of products of the forest was \$9,976,143 last year, as against \$9,138,934 during the preceding year, and the value of the exports of products of the fisheries was \$6,276,375, as against \$6,197,752 during the fiscal year 1881-2.

IMPORTS.

While the exports of the Republic increased, as we have seen, her imports diminished slightly during the year. The value of the imports of merchandise into the United States during the last fiscal year was \$723,180,914, as against \$724,639,574 during the preceding twelve months, showing a falling off equal to \$1,458,660. The most important items of import may be mentioned in order of amount, thus :

Sugar and molasses were brought in to the value of \$99,326,395, of wool and woollen manufactures \$55,224,183. Silk and silk goods rose in two years from 42 millions to \$50,807,000. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and medicines from the respectable total of \$43,126,287 in value. Imports of coffee were in value \$42,050,513, iron and steel and manufactures thereof \$40,796,007 ; and the value of the imports of cotton goods was \$36,853,689.

The proportion of the total foreign trade done by the States with the British Islands continues to be about the same. In 1881, it was 42 per cent. ; to-day it is about 40 per cent., reaching the sum of \$614,046,793. Fifty-one and a half per cent. of the imports were from, and twenty-six per cent. were to that country. The United Kingdom took 60.53 per cent. of the value of exports of cotton, 62 per cent. of wheat and wheat flour, 71.45 per cent. of corn and corn meal, 64.39 per cent. of the provisions and 77.76 per cent. of the live animals from the United States. The value of commerce with France was \$156,671,387 ; with Germany \$123,547,657 ; with the West Indies, \$121,609,923 ; and with British North America it was \$91,321,120. We presume that the official phrase "British North American Provinces" includes Newfoundland ; and when that province joins the Dominion we shall probably find the heading changed. The proportion of American trade done with Canada, which in 1881 was 5.02 per cent. is now about 6. Next after the Dominion in extent of commerce with the States, probably ranks the Empire of Brazil.

On the subject of "direct trade between