

its industrial resources. The following are the figures for 1882, the latest at our command :—

COLONY.	IMPORTS.	EXPORTS.
Victoria.....	\$ 91,237,536	\$ 78,806,052
New South Wales.....	103,564,619	81,353,091
Queensland.....	30,748,800	17,200,411
South Australia.....	32,643,450	26,083,905
Western Australia.....	2,475,856	2,837,442
Tasmania.....	8,131,299	7,725,029
New Zealand.....	41,897,013	32,401,195
Total, 1882.....	310,698,573	246,407,125
Total, 1881.....	256,603,518	235,387,451
Increase.....	\$ 54,095,055	\$ 11,019,674

From the above statement it will be seen that the aggregate value of the commerce of Australasia for 1882 amounts to the grand total of \$557,105,698, but it must be borne in mind that this amount includes not only the foreign but the intercolonial trade, which amounted to 37 per cent. of the import and 36 per cent. of the export trade, which, correctly tabulated, shows the following figures :—

	IMPORTS.	EXPORTS.	TOTAL.
Foreign trade.....	\$216,287,149	\$162,764,220	\$379,051,369
Intercolonial trade.....	94,411,424	83,642,905	178,054,329
Total.....	\$310,698,573	\$246,407,125	\$557,105,698

In order that some idea of the class of goods which find a market in the colonies may be arrived at, we re-publish from the CANADIAN MANUFACTURER of January 15th, 1885, the manifest of the ship *Coldingham*, 1,059 tons, New York to Sydney, September 25th, 1885 :—

Nine cases forks, 3 cases picks, 27 cases lawn mowers, 62 cases agricultural implements, 14 cases shovels, 262 cases axes, 29 cases scales, 24 cases nails, 74 cases machinery, 114 packages stoves and ranges, 224 packages hardware, 14 packages pumps, 1 wheel, 39 axles, 12 rims, 75 shafts and poles and 127 packages carriage material, 206 cases sewing machines, 1 case oars, 200 oars, 45 packages blacking, 325 packages woodenware, 27 packages tubs and pails, 104 packages handles, 53 cases chairs, 21 cases dry goods, 66 cases duck, 15 packages leather, 34 cases organs, 88 cases clocks, 181 cases lamps and glassware, 965 cases canned goods, 121 cases paint and varnish, 200 cases lobsters, 100 cases oysters, 13 cases strips, 71 hogsheds tobacco, 20 cases oars, 269 cases drugs, 650 cases spirits of turpentine, 9,125 cases kerosene, 49 cases lubricating oil, 208 barrels resin, 779 barrels plaster, 103 parcels of 1,000 slates, 14m. feet shelving, 24 pieces hardwood, 126 cases furniture, 12 cases saws, 37 cases bolts, 5 cases rubber, 44 cases tools, 5 cases brushes, 130 cases gasoline, 11 cases shade rollers, 16 cases guns, 8 cases books, 6 cases lasts, 10 cases cutlery, 196 cases fruit jars, 9 cases toys, 11 cases soap, 14 cases confectionery, 17 cases paper, 14 cases tinware, 400 cases corn flour, 500 cases beer, 600 barrels beer, 5 barrels skewers, 17 cases wringers, 177 packages axle grease, 54 packages plated ware, 21 packages tills, 11 packages photograph material, 12 packages cages, 44 crates dairy material, 10 boxes toothpicks, 114 doors and sashes.

Amongst the items of the cargo of ship *Beaconsfield*, 1,450 tons, New York to Melbourne, October 8th, 1885, are found :— 2,521 cases axes, 125 packages carriages, 481 cases chairs, 189 packages wagons, 402 cases drugs, 473 cases glassware, 299 cases hardware, 54 cases plated ware, 163 cases sewing machines, 385 cases tobacco, 1,108 packages woodenware, 1,230 packages sundries, including 27 cases perambulators, 7 cases hose, 139 packages roofing material, 23 packages mast hoops, 819 packages box shooks, hair, sponges, cork, paper, and 92 reels barbed wire.

THE ELECTIONS AND THEIR MEANING.

THE result of the Dominion elections is a glorious triumph for the National Policy. So almost everybody says, or admits when pressed on the subject. But some there are from whom no such admission can be extorted—some who would rather admit *anything* than that the thing which they hate has gained the approval of the country. Sir John is sustained, they will say, but by a diminished majority. Which means that the Canadian people are turning against the N.P., and will soon kick it out altogether. But the elections, with their incidents and results all put together, tell a very different tale.

The most remarkable incident of the contest—and a very remarkable one it was, indeed—was Mr. Blake's change of front on the question of the coal and flour duties. After having for years maintained that these duties were wholly bad and injurious, and should be at once and forever abolished *sans ceremonie*, he astonished the natives of this wooden country, and not a few naturalized immigrants besides, with the admission that after all there were certain reasons why total abolition would not answer. He therefore proposed that they should not be abolished, but only reduced. One exception he *must* make, however; the duty on cornmeal would certainly have to go, he would not defend that by any means. At cornmeal he had decided to draw the line, and from that decision nothing should move him. Great leader of the Canadian Free Trade party!—in the name of the prophet, Figs! It will be admitted that the abolition of the cornmeal duty might, on the supposition of its being all paid by the consumer, mean several rows of pins per annum saved to the average Canadian family.

Beyond doubt Mr. Blake's change of front on the "odious coal tax and bread tax," heretofore so called, was the most significant admission yet made, from the other side, that the National Policy had public opinion at its back. For, remember that more than a few weak-kneed persons, who in the face of overwhelming public approval lacked courage to attack the system of Protection as a whole, and on principle—thought it a safe thing to keep spitting their trembling spite out against what they called the "coal tax" and the "bread tax."

It speaks volumes that Mr. Blake should have felt compelled to yield on this point of all others—exactly the point where the enemies of the N.P. thought it might most effectively be attacked. But the solid truth of the matter is that Mr. Blake had made the discovery that the farmers of Ontario would not hear of agricultural protection being abolished; and hence his remarkable turn-over at Malvern, in the East Riding of York and Province aforesaid, on Saturday, January 22, in the year of grace 1887.

Had Sir John's majority been on this occasion not merely reduced, but altogether swept away, it would not have been