

ould naturally look to this town, from the pioneer port of the upper lakes, as products of the great North-West, as products which could not come into our port, via Buffalo and American lines of steamship, entirely the commerce thus diverted. urged upon several members of the Board the great need for the immediate improvement of the Government has caused some of giving us 20 feet of water in the harbor and which we were led to expect we should not have to pay a considerable portion of the cost. It has gone on with, and it is to the prospect that the best energies of this Board and the public mind during the year of 1894.

SHIPPING.

yearly becoming a greater wholesale port by the additions that are being made to the shipping lines making this port their head-quarters. There was only one small freight and passenger port; now there are nine commodious ports, some of them equal, in all respects to the best, and any Canadian fresh water steamers.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

1893, as entered in the Customs Department, amount is, of course, only for foreign trade at this port, and does not include the trade of other ports in Canada, and handled by a small per centage in value of the total part of the goods handled in recent years and are therefore not included in the total.

The Collingwood consular district for the year 1893 compared with our foreign trade is found to be in a healthy condition.

FINANCE.

Canada in the world has suffered more or less severely from financial panics, and is particularly free from any feeling of distrust. Canadians have been always able and willing to carry on the legitimate business of the country, clearly indicate the soundness and stability of the country than its finances, and those of

Canada have shown that we are not trading beyond our capital, notwithstanding the steady increase in the business of the country, as shown by the imports and exports.

AGRICULTURE.

The past year has been a fairly prosperous one in this part of the country with farmers, all their products, excepting wheat alone, having brought good average paying prices. The time has arrived when perhaps Boards of Trade can give useful hints to farmers in their vicinity as to what they may produce with a good prospect of profit. I, therefore, venture to suggest to our farmers to go more into the growing of fruit, as our climate and soil are most suitable for it. The production of good apples cannot be overdone, and the apples from this vicinity were the best at the World's Fair. I would also suggest more extensive stock and hog raising, and leaving the production of wheat in large quantities to our prairie friends. Land thus employed along the base and slope of the mountain should be worth at least \$100 per acre.

AUSTRALIAN TRADE.

At present there are good indications that the intercourse between Canada and Australia will be of the most friendly nature, and that therefore, with a direct line of steamers between the two countries, as we have now, a large and mutually profitable reciprocal business is almost certain to follow. Already certain manufacturers of this country have opened up business with Australia with good results and excellent prospects.

WORLD'S FAIR.

Every visitor to the World's Fair must have been filled with amazement at beholding the White City, and admiration for the minds that designed such complete, comprehensive and magnificent accommodation for the exhibits and visitors. But in passing through the various departments, the Canadian exhibits throughout showed greater improvement since the Centennial Exhibition in 1876, and especially so in the manufactures, fruit, cheese and cattle, than any other country in the world. So marked was this that every Canadian could not help feeling a just sense of pride in the advancement of his country. Even in the railway exhibits, the general opinion was that for practical purposes the Canadian Pacific train was the best.

MINING.

The various Legislatures of the Dominion should earnestly and promptly consider the best means of developing our vast mineral resources, and offer such inducements as would enlist capital in that great industry. Such a policy would tend to rapidly increase the population of the country, without burthening the emigration department with uncertain expenses.