

CONFEDERATION STATISTICS.

OUR Province was recently visited by Messrs. Anand and Hatheway, of the New Brunswick Government, and since by the Hon. Mr. Tilley, the able leader of the Liberal party in that Province. It is difficult to decide from the statements of these gentlemen whether the great question of Confederation is making progress in the Maritime Provinces or not, for the opinions expressed by them in Quebec were the opposite of each other. The burden of evidence, however, rather goes to support Mr. Tilley's view, that Confederation is becoming more popular, and the presence of so many distinguished men from the sister Colonies among us, as guests, must largely assist to dispel prejudices and jealousies which may have existed. We think the time opportune for laying before the readers of the REVIEW some statistics regarding the Provinces and Canada, which will serve to show the area, population, imports, exports, revenue and expenditure of each, and also of all taken together.

The size and population of the embryo Confederation would render it a power of no mean importance. Compared with the great Republic on our borders, we may appear to disadvantage in some respects. But contrasted with the forty-eight sovereign States of Europe, there are scarcely any larger in size, and only some eleven possessing more population. The last official returns give the area and population of the different Provinces as follows:—

	Area in sq. miles.	Population by last census.
Newfoundland.....	49,200	124,288
Nova Scotia.....	18,650	531,857
New Brunswick.....	27,105	252,047
Prince Edward Island.....	2,100	80,857
Canada.....	331,289	2,597,657
Total.....	419,315	3,295,705

Of the 419,315 square miles of territory, but a comparatively small portion is yet occupied. Up to the 31st December, 1863, the Crown had sold or granted 54,097,993 acres, leaving it still in possession of no less than 214,282,817 acres. A great deal of this country is doubtless unfit for agricultural purposes, but much of it is rich in minerals, and therefore large tracts of good land for settlers. The population to the square mile is: In Newfoundland, 3.41; Nova Scotia, 18.72; New Brunswick, 10.96; Prince Edward Island, 49.95; and Canada, 8.32.

The statistics of population given above are for the year 1861. At the present time, the united population must be close upon 4,000,000 souls. During the last decade, the rate of increase was 1.50 per cent. in Newfoundland, 1.82 in Nova Scotia, 2.69 in New Brunswick, 2.07 in Prince Edward Island, and 3.48 in this Province. According to this rate of increase, the joint population at January, 1864, was 3,628,151.

The imports and exports, and the duties levied by each Province, prove our commerce to be large. The following table is made up from the returns for 1863:—

	Imports.	Exports.	Duties.
	\$	\$	\$
Newfoundland.....	5,242,724	6,992,212	485,640
Nova Scotia.....	10,201,301	8,420,583	861,939
New Brunswick.....	7,764,824	8,934,784	885,988
Prince Edward Island.....	1,428,025	1,027,540	145,372
Canada.....	45,954,433	41,831,632	1,169,173
Total.....	70,991,450	66,847,133	7,493,162

The total revenue for the same year amounted to \$12,523,330, and the expenditure to \$13,350,832. The surplus expenditure was wholly incurred by Canada; the revenue of all the other Provinces exceeded their expenditure. This Province is the only one which seems to delight in "annual deficits." The annual revenue and expenditure averages about \$350 per head in all the Provinces—Canada being slightly the highest, and Prince Edward Island a little the lowest.

In the event of Confederation, the Central Government would start with a debt of about \$75,000,000. This cannot be considered excessive. This amount, however, will only embrace the "funded debt," certain floating liabilities still being chargeable against the parties to the compact. The following figures show the amount of the funded debts of each Province at January, 1863, less the amount of the sinking funds on

hand for their redemption, and also the amount of debt per head when divided among the population:—

	Funded Debt.	Debt per head
	\$	\$ c
Newfoundland.....	949,000	6 90
Nova Scotia.....	4,868,647	13 91
New Brunswick.....	5,502,901	20 91
Prince Edward Island.....	240,573	2 79
Canada.....	60,365,472	21 69
Total.....	72,105,583	Average 19 83

There is considerable divergence exhibited in the amounts of imports and exports and duty paid per head in each of the Provinces. Newfoundland, it will be observed by the accompanying table imports and exports more for each person of its population and each inhabitant pays more duty, than the inhabitants of any of the sister Provinces. The figures are for 1863:—

	Imports per head	Exports per head	Duties per head
Newfoundland.....	\$38 27	\$43 81	\$3 53
Nova Scotia.....	24 20	24 11	2 46
New Brunswick.....	28 46	32 83	2 81
Prince Edward Island.....	17 61	18 93	1 69
Canada.....	16 51	15 03	1 85
Average.....	\$19 18	\$18 42	\$2 04

These statistics are interesting, and abundantly prove that, if consummated, the new Confederation will make a very respectable start in the world. Its agricultural and mineral resources, the wealth of its forests, mines, and fisheries, must, under anything like good government, speedily render it a power of first-class influence. In point of area, population, wealth, and trade, it already surpasses many of the States of the Old World. When we also take into consideration our admirable system of railways, of canals, and the large shipping interests of the different Provinces, it is quite evident that the British American Confederation must eventually play no unimportant part among the nations of the world.

MAIZE SUGAR IN CANADA.

"Men of science, manufacturers, and speculators, are seeking eagerly for new sources and improved modes of manufacturing sugar. Maize, or Indian corn, is one of the productions which it is hoped will compete with the sugar-cane, beet-root, sorgho, and other plants. Dr. Pallas, Physician at the Hospital of St. Homer, in France, published a work in 1837, in which he related his success in obtaining sugar from the stems of the maize, and a few years later the Academy of Sciences of Paris appointed MM. Bron and Soubeiran to test the opinions of Dr. Pallas, by experiments on maize grown at the Jardin des Plantes, and having reduced the stalks to pulp, and submitted the latter to the action of the hydraulic press, they obtained from 60 to 63 per cent. of juice from the mass. From sixty litres of this juice they succeeded in getting nearly fourteen pounds of crystallised sugar, or about 9 or 10 per cent. on the gross weight of the maize stalks reduced. It is said that New Orleans maize yields 17 per cent. of sugar, while the sugar-cane gives 20 per cent. But a crop of sugar-cane takes fifteen or twenty months to arrive at maturity, while maize requires only three or four; and the inference, therefore, is that there is every probability that eventually the production of sugar in America and elsewhere from maize will render it a very formidable rival to the sugar-cane."

WE clip the above from the London Grocer. Our contemporary does not seem to be aware that sugar can be made not only from the maize or corn stalks, but from the grain itself likewise. By reducing it to starch, and putting it through some further processes, an excellent grade of sugar can be profitably extracted. The enterprising and wealthy firm of J. H. R. Molson & Bro., of this city, who are just completing an extensive sugar refinery, will manufacture sugar from corn, and from experiments already made under their own supervision, have no doubt of making an excellent article at a low price. We are sure they have the best wishes of the public for their success. We notice that Messrs. Berthold, Thompson & Co., of St. Louis, a wealthy and old established house, have also commenced the manufacture of sugar from corn, and we believe a similar establishment in Buffalo has been in successful operation for some time.

For wool, the demand in New York continues active for both domestic and foreign. Full prices continue to be realized. The demand appears to be purely legitimate, there being little or no speculative enquiry, and the purchases are confined almost wholly to manufacturers. We notice sales of Canada at 72½c. currency.

NEW CHANNELS.

WE are gratified to notice the increase in trade between Canada, New Brunswick, and other Lower Provinces. We understand that the purchases of flour and other products for St. John, New Brunswick, Halifax, Nova Scotia, and even for St. John's, Newfoundland, have within the past five weeks amounted to considerable; and now that the United States markets are in so unsettled a condition, owing to excessive speculation, there seems no reason to doubt that Canadian produce may find its way direct to our fellow Colonists in the East, without being handled by our American cousins, whose profits must be paid either by the consumer or producer.

The enterprise of Mr. Brydges, of the G. T. Railway, in contracting to carry flour from Montreal to St. John, N.B., via Portland at 60 c. per barrel is most commendable. It cannot fail to result in the building up of a most important trade; and if, as we understand, this rate is to continue through the winter, great good must result from so liberal a policy. In view of the possible repeal of Reciprocity, the inception of this trade at the present time has an important bearing on Canadian industry, indicating, as it does, new markets for the products of the country.

Discovery of a Coal Mine at Lewis.

It appears that specimens of bituminous coal have been discovered by the workmen employed on the fortifications on the hill overhanging the Grand Trunk Railway Station, Lewis. There is not a shadow of doubt that it is coal, and coal of a very fine kind, but whether it can be obtained in sufficient quantity to become profitable, is another question. The vein is said to be about nine inches in thickness, and runs through the rock at an angle of forty-five degrees, giving evidence of a rich deposit below the surface. The Messrs. Worthington, the contractors, who, it is stated, have used it in their forges for several days past, have closed it up, and forbid strangers to visit the spot.

If this coal deposit turns out all that it is expected, what is to become of Sir William Logan's theory that there is no coal in Canada?

Cattle for the American Market.

Notwithstanding the very great demand for cattle for the American market during the last six months, and the large drain upon our stock, which at one time so seriously affected the general condition of Canadian markets, and rendered meat so excessively high, we hear even yet of shipments of stock for the United States. It is reported that a very large number of cattle passed through Perth some few days ago, which had been secured by American dealers. Indeed the quantity of stock which they have taken from that section of country must be very considerable; and quite a nice sum has been realized by our farmers upon these transactions.

Boots and Shoes.

The trade in Boots and Shoes is now very extensive, and more than usually brisk. As we predicted in our last issue, an advance has taken place in all descriptions of this class of goods, yet the demand is very heavy for articles of a strong substantial quality, suitable for fall and winter wear. During this and the next two months we may expect a strong demand for articles of this kind. See quotations in our Prices Current, on another page.

Leather Market.

There has been more active demand in all kinds of stock, and prices have an upward tendency. Spanish sole is having an advance, and cannot now be quoted, for prime B. A. No. 1, at less than 25. Slaughter sole has participated in this advance, and is particularly brisk. Harness leather is scarce, and heavy weights are wanted. In Calfskins the demand has entirely ceased, the market being cleared of anything desirable, for fall trade, and heavy weights would sell at highest quotations.

Stock Market.

There has been very little business done in stock this week, and prices generally are dull at quotations, the demand having fallen off considerably the past two weeks. Bank of Montreal is heavy at 112½. City Bank is in demand at 98. Ontario Bank has been sold at 101. Merchants Bank at 103½. Government currency five at 86.

Sterling is firmer, the rate for Bank bills being from 109½ to 110½.