

more plainly brought out by the foregoing comparative tables. The Imports for the year 1863-69 are greater than those of the preceding year by \$90,000,000, while the exports have decreased \$3,000,000, and the Imports moreover, exceed the Exports by \$93,000,000! How this immense adverse balance is to be liquidated we are at a loss to understand, especially, as it is not improbable, if the Imports continue to exceed the Exports during the current year.

**THE GORE BANK.**

THE adjourned meeting of shareholders of this Bank, was held in Hamilton last week to take into consideration a proposal of amalgamation from the Canadian Bank of Commerce, which had been accepted by the Directors subject to confirmation. The report of the proceedings was received too late to appear in our last issue, but will be found elsewhere in the present number.

The chief interest centred in the choice between the offer of the Bank of Commerce, already accepted by the Directors, and the offer made by Mr. King at the meeting on behalf of the Bank of Montreal. The offer of the former was to take over the Gore Bank, giving its shareholders £50. on the dollar of paid up capital, payable in Bank of Commerce stock at par. Mr. King offered 67. in Bank of Montreal stock at 100, and claimed that his offer was 20. better than that of his competitor. The meeting, however, could not see it in the same light, and on a ballot, decided by a vote of 1,498 to 423 to accept the offer of the Bank of Commerce. There now remains only to obtain the assent of the shareholders of that Bank, and the necessary legislation at the next session of Parliament.

That the decision of the meeting was a wise one in their own interests, we are convinced; and that it is better than that the capital and power of the Bank of Montreal should be still further augmented.

In calculating the comparative value of the two offers, several things have to be considered.

In the first place, we have to see what the shareholders of the Gore Bank would receive under the offers made, say for every \$100,000 of paid up stock.

They will receive from the Bank of Commerce, stock for.....	\$55,000
They would have received from the Bank of Montreal, stock for.....	\$3,625

In the second place, we must determine what would be the probable yearly dividends on these amounts, assuming that the Bank of Commerce continues to earn only 8 per cent., and assuming also that the dividends of the Bank of Montreal do not fall below 12 per cent., which can scarcely be counted upon.

8 per cent. on \$55,000 is.....	\$4,400
12 per cent. on \$3,625 is.....	4,275

Yearly gain under Bank of Commerce offer... \$ 125

In the third place, we have to consider what would be the present market value of \$100,000 Gore Bank stock under the two offers, Bank of Commerce stock at 100, Bank of Montreal at 100, the quotations of September 1st, in Montreal.

\$100,000 at 65 cents.....	\$65,000
6 per cent. prem.....	3,200
<b>Bank of Commerce offer</b> .....	<b>\$68,200</b>

\$100,000 at 57 cents.....	\$57,000
4 per cent. prem. on par. value \$33,625.....	1,225
<b>Bank of Montreal offer</b> .....	<b>\$58,225</b>

or only \$125, or 4 of a cent, on the dollar better for Mr. King than for Mr. McAllister, instead of 20. as claimed by the former.

In the next place, supposing that the stocks of the two Banks advance in value at the same rate, by which offer would the Gore Bank shareholders gain most? We have shown the present value. Let us now suppose that there has been an advance of 6 per cent. on both, although such is much more probable in the case of the Bank of Commerce. The case would then stand thus:—

Present value Bank of Commerce	\$68,200 00
6 per cent. on \$68,200.....	2,760 00
<b>\$70,960 00</b>	

Present value Bank of Montreal.....	\$58,225 00
6 per cent. on \$58,225.....	1,781 25
<b>\$60,006 25</b>	

of a gain for the former of \$943 76, or nearly 1 1/10ths of a cent on the dollar. And with every additional advance, there would be additional gain for the

Bank of Commerce as compared with the Bank of Montreal.

Lastly, what are the chances of the two Banks in case of any financial troubles arising? The Bank of Montreal has secured a very large "Res.", \$2,000,000, equal to 33 per cent. of its present capital stock, and we may assume the actual value of its stock to be, say 124, (aside from its ability to earn dividends,) or 30 below its present quoted value. Anything which would injuriously affect its business, even while leaving its assets undeteriorated, would be sure to cause a decline equivalent to the premium paid for dividend earning power, in this case, 20 per cent., as we have shown. Applying the same rule to the Bank of Commerce, and ignoring the fact that it too has accumulated a considerable "Res.", the chances of loss under the supposed circumstances would be represented by only 6 per cent.

We should for the foregoing reasons undoubtedly consider Bank of Commerce stock at par a more desirable investment than Bank of Montreal at 100, by a much greater difference than the 20. offered by Mr. King; and we congratulate the Gore Bank shareholders on the decision of the meeting.

**TRADE AND NAVIGATION RETURNS FOR 1867-68.**

WE have received the "Tables of the Trade and Navigation of the Dominion of Canada, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1868." The Commissioner of Customs apologizes for the late date at which these Tables are presented, and explains the impossibility of their being prepared earlier. We hope it will not every year be necessary to make an explanation of this kind; and that sometime or other, we may be placed in possession of the annual statistics of trade and commerce before so long a delay shall have occurred as to render them almost valueless.

The tables in the bulky book before us are interesting, but quite useless for any practical purpose at a period when we begin to look for similar tables for a year later. It is true there are a great many of these tables which undoubtedly occupy much time in their preparation; but for these we could afford to wait. The information the country is most interested in is that which treats of the Imports and Exports; and this it could easily be furnished with within two months at latest of the close of the fiscal year.

We will now proceed to select from the mass of tables before us, such figures as will show in condensed form the trade of the Dominion for 1867-68, also giving in detail the Imports and Exports of a few of the leading articles.

The following is a statement of the Imports into the Dominion, for the year ended June 30, 1868:—

Durable Goods.....	\$43,655,698
Free Goods.....	23,429,520
Coin and Bullion.....	4,895,147
Reprints of Copyright Works.....	71,279,163
6,143	
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$71,855,368</b>

The following is a classified statement of Exports for the same period:—

Products of the Mines.....	\$ 1,446,877
Fisheries.....	8,337,510
Forest.....	18,222,170
Animals and their products.....	6,883,167
Agricultural products.....	12,671,663
Manufactures.....	1,672,648
Ships built at Quebec 82—22,722 tons at \$37.....	837,692
<b>Total produce of the Dominion.....</b>	<b>\$46,643,177</b>
Coin and Bullion.....	4,823,163
Goods not produce of the Dominion.....	4,150,821
Estimated amount short returned at Inland Ports in Ontario and Quebec.....	2,061,722
<b>Total Exports.....</b>	<b>\$57,678,883</b>

The following are some of the leading articles imported:—

Wine of all kinds, galls.....	658,625	\$61,005
Brandy, galls.....	357,679	463,193
Gin, galls.....	497,718	2,77,740
Rum galls.....	333,941	168,782
Whisky, galls.....	449,861	729,341
Oil—coal and kerosene, galls.....	233,747	116,831
Molasses—all kinds, lbs.....	87,874,072	752,260
Sugar—all kinds, lbs.....	57,322,736	2,588,505
Cane juice, lbs.....	9,370,693	216,963
Coffee—green, lbs.....	1,639,036	265,763
Cigars, 21.....	15,635	13,440
Tobacco and Mead, bris.....	131,671	975,178
Indian corn and grain, except wheat, bush.....	570,618	758,115
Meats—all kinds, lbs.....	4,625,273	885,424
Tea, lbs.....	9,422,420	3,37,711

Tobacco and Snuff, lbs.....	1,630,636	24,188
Carpets and Hearth Rugs.....	294,157	294,157
China Ware, Crockery, &c.....	423,721	423,721
Clothing or Wearing Apparel.....	162,223	162,223
Cordage and Canvas.....	219,613	219,613
Cotton.....	7,559,443	7,559,443
Dried Fruits and Nuts.....	727,147	727,147
Drugs.....	318,247	318,247
Fancy Goods and Millinery.....	963,849	963,849
Glassware.....	461,281	461,281
Hats, Caps and Bonnets.....	479,621	479,621
Hosiery.....	199,311	199,311
Iron ware and Hardware.....	2,371,674	2,371,674
Jewellery and Watches.....	82,203	82,203
Leather.....	67,821	67,821
Linen.....	791,177	791,177
Manufacturers of Fur.....	109,770	109,770
Leather, &c.....	234,110	234,110
Hoots & Shoes.....	113,792	113,792
Musical Instruments.....	218,235	218,235
Paints and Colors.....	213,046	213,046
Paper and Paper Hangings.....	323,147	323,147
Silks, Satins and Velvets.....	1,628,223	1,628,223
Stationery.....	250,197	250,197
Small Wares.....	1,481,621	1,481,621
Woolens.....	7,607,325	7,607,325
Iron.....	668,660	668,660

The following are the Exports of the leading articles:—

	Quantity	Value
Copper ore, tons.....	5,440	370,293
Coal, tons.....	265,533	440,498
Fish and Fish oil—all kinds.....	—	8,297,710
Ashe, bris.....	22,103	719,613
Other Products of the Forest.....	—	17,012,574
Horses, No.....	7,176	1,629,557
Horned Cattle, No.....	44,434	1,629,557
Shoon, No.....	162,439	253,660
Bacon and Hams, cwt.....	94,483	289,432
Beef, cwt.....	24,246	209,252
Butter, Cheese and Lard, lbs.....	17,653,810	2,427,682
Eggs, dozen.....	1,894,872	265,011
Fare—dressed and undressed.....	—	239,463
Pork, cwt.....	31,394	239,463
Wool, lbs.....	1,005,665	444,485
Barley and Rye, bush.....	4,054,872	3,183,520
Flax, cwt.....	16,124	113,468
Flour and Meal, bris.....	833,341	2,629,520
Oats, bush.....	1,733,441	764,561
Peas, bush.....	2,131,817	1,858,581
Wheat, bush.....	2,284,702	8,618,581
Hardware.....	—	169,411
Leather.....	—	112,034
Sugar Boxes No.....	1,063,350	489,460
Extract of Hemlock Bark, bris.....	23,000	23,000

**WOLVES IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING.**

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

MISCHIEVOUS is the only word which, in our opinion, properly describes the conduct of those journals which persist in discussing the relations of the Dominion to the Mother Country with a view to separation. We have heretofore preserved silence on this question, not desiring to increase such a mischievous agitation; but if certain of the press persist in forcing the issue upon public attention, it becomes those who have the real interests of the Dominion at heart, to warn the public against the suspicious and dangerous course they are pursuing.

That a change has taken place in the policy of the Imperial Government towards our Colonies during the past few years, is a fact which is patent to the whole world. That this new colonial policy meets with approbation, to a greater or less extent, among British politicians, whether Whig, Tory or Radical, is also undeniable. And a third fact is, that in the case of Canada, in consequence of our being the wealthiest and most powerful colony, the new policy is to be first and most fully acted upon.

Now, what is the new imperial policy? It mainly consists in allowing the colonies more complete control over their own destinies, of training them to habits of self-reliance, and in the case of the older ones, of preparing them to take a place in the family of nations when circumstances require it. This is one side of the policy. The other is the relief of the imperial treasury from the large colonial expenditure which now falls upon it, and the consequent decrease of the burden of taxation which so presses upon the struggling millions of the British Isles.

We may go further in speaking of the imperial policy towards this country, Canada may be regarded as England's second son. The eldest became of age nearly one hundred years ago, and by the obituary and toll of George III. and Lord North, quashed the family roof in anger, strife and blood. The wise and patriotic statesmen who now guide the destinies of the mother country, do not wish to repeat the sad experience of 1776. They know that ever-declining time must inevitably bring the day when the connection which exists between England and the British American colonies must cease, and they are determined to take such measures in time as will not only render