

terior is said to have had under consideration a bill to meet the case. In the Peace and Mackenzie River valleys the Indians, with their accustomed improvidence, are threatening with destruction the musk ox and the remnant of the wood buffalo. Two forms of protection have been suggested: a close season and the limitation of the number of pelts that may be secured by any one person in a year. The latter plan would be liable to evasion, while it would be next to impossible to enforce a close season in these distant wilds. The Indians here are deriving nothing from the Government under treaty, and they have to make their living for themselves. In the presence of a close season, it would sometimes become a question whether the Indian or the wild animal was to die, and there can be no question how it would be and for that matter ought to be answered. The suggestion that this distant region should be leased to responsible persons who would see to the preservation of the game, would, if entertained, open the vista to future Indian wars; and on that account it cannot be seriously considered. It is possible that something may be done to lessen the mischief that is being wrought, but it is doubtful whether any lasting preventive of improvident slaughter of these wild animals can be enforced. The experiment would be less hopeful in a region where the Indians are already indulging in over-destruction, than it would be in the North East of the Barren lands, in which similar danger has not appeared, and where the climate counts for something in the protection of the reindeer.

CANADIAN TRADE.

Our foreign trade continues to grow. Whatever may be proved true of the results of the trade with respect to lack of profit or other disappointing features, there is no reason for finding fault with the volume of foreign commerce done by the Dominion of Canada in the fiscal year 1893, as shown by official returns. The outwards and inwards trade of the twelve months ended with June last was the largest in the history of Canada, amounting as it did to \$247,638,620, which is six millions in excess of the aggregate trade of 1892, the largest previously recorded. Here are the figures of import and export for 1893:

Value of imports \$129,074,268
 " exports 118,564,352

Total trade, bullion included .. \$247,638,620

Compared with the previous fiscal year, the above showing is to Canada's advantage in that the ratio of increased domestic export was considerably greater than that of import. The total trade of 1892 amounted to \$241,369,443. In the year last past we imported \$1,668,000 more, but we exported of Canadian produce \$6,459,000 more. Our exports of foreign goods, however—mainly United States grain and dairy goods—were less by \$1,858,000. If we have regard to the shrinkage in values of commodities, it is probable that the showing denotes a still larger bulk of goods handled last year than the figures of value express.

One previous year of our history, 1883, exhibited a larger total import than last year. But prices of manufactured goods, as well as various raw materials, were higher then. The quantities of imported goods were, we have no doubt, larger last year than in any year since Confederation.

In no spirit of boastfulness, but rather of thankfulness, we remark that the foreign commerce of the United States for the same twelve months shows a falling off equal to \$102,489,124. According to the annual report of the New York Chamber of Commerce, there was a serious falling off in the business of that port. For the year ending June 30, 1893, the total imports and exports of New York were \$1,084,365,404, a decrease of \$26,855,474 from the previous year.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

The following table shows the extent of aggregate trade in 1893 and 1892 with the countries with which Canada mainly does business:—

	1893.	1892.
Great Britain.....	\$107,391,070	\$106,551,688
United States.....	108,981,978	102,957,064
Germany.....	4,515,451	6,314,080
Spanish West Indies	3,676,627	4,258,228
Newfoundland	3,246,913	2,675,710
France.....	3,111,142	2,816,741
British West Indies.	3,109,233	2,888,687
Spanish possessions in Pacific ocean..	2,204,584	1,949,945
Japan.....	1,531,861	1,947,097
China.....	1,279,403	1,885,013
Dutch East Indies..	1,041,244	444,474
Belgium.....	1,270,745	572,501
Holland.....	682,276	852,206
British Guiana....	625,705	650,284
Australasia.....	571,325	728,643
Brazil.....	548,479	502,912
Italy.....	504,451	487,443

The above figures show total imports and total exports. On the basis of goods imported and entered for consumption, and of goods exported, being the produce of Canada, the proportions are different, for Great Britain then stands at the head of the list instead of the United States. Here is the showing in the shape of a percentage summary:—

Country.	Per Cent. of Total Trade
Great Britain.....	44.69
United States.....	42.05
France.....	1.36
Germany.....	1.98
Other European countries.....	1.49
British West Indies.....	1.31
Other West Indies.....	1.64
Newfoundland.....	1.34
Other British possessions.....	0.90
Other foreign countries.....	3.44

Comparing these percentages with previous years, our trade with Britain is higher than for many years past, while that with the United States shows a slight falling off.

Dealing with imports, the Ottawa figures say that they were larger from twenty-six countries last year, but smaller from twenty-two. The largest falling off is with Germany, consequent upon the excessive importation of sugar from that country in the previous year, \$2,128,128 worth of that article being imported, as against only \$226,432 in 1893; other decreases were in imports from Japan, Newfoundland and the British East Indies, from which latter country sugar again was the cause of the decline. The large increases were imports from Great Britain and the United States, the increase in free goods

(raw material, doubtless, such as cotton and tobacco, and also anthracite coal), from the latter country having been upwards of \$6,000,000. The total value of imports from the United States was \$65,061,968, an increase of \$1,092,931; from Great Britain \$43,310,577, increase \$1,665,433; France \$2,847,095, increase \$397,893; British West Indies \$1,166,008, increase \$124,621; Dutch East Indies \$444,474, increase \$596,770.

The increase in the exports of Canadian produce, amounting to \$6,456,332, is represented mainly by shipments to Great Britain, United States, Newfoundland, Belgium and Argentina, the increased exports to the United States and Argentine Republic consisting very largely of forest products, those to Belgium of breadstuffs. The increase in our export trade with Great Britain amounted to \$1,367,314 in products of the forest, and of \$2,983,969 in animals and their products, while there were decreases of \$438,534 and \$659,734 in products of the mine and fisheries respectively. The net total increase amounted to \$3,460,551. In consequence of reduced shipments of fish and agricultural products, principally potatoes, the exports to the Spanish West Indies declined over \$300,000. The values of the respective divisions of our foreign trade were in 1892 and 1893 as follows:—

	1892.	1893.
Exports of Canadian produce....	\$ 99,338,913	\$105,798,257
Exports of foreign produce.....	14,624,462	12,766,095
	\$113,963,375	\$118,564,352
Imports.....	127,406,068	129,074,268

Aggregate trade... \$241,369,443 \$247,638,620

The total Customs duties collected last year amounted to \$21,161,711, an increase of \$611,129 over the preceding year.

TRADE IN QUEBEC PROVINCE.

In giving on another page a digest of the proceedings at the annual meeting of La Banque du Peuple, and the address of its cashier in full, we may truly say that the *resumé* given by this gentleman of the production and trade of the Province of Quebec is interesting reading. Mr. Bousquet considers that the trade of the province has been perhaps more satisfactory in 1893 than for a number of years past. The aggregate of failures, at all events, has been \$666,000 less. Notable features have been the increase of the make of dairy products, the good hay crop and the unprecedented demand for its export at remunerative prices, increased activity, indeed, in all branches of agriculture.

"Everything farmers have raised this year has yielded profits and given good results for their labor; therefore the value of the production of the year from that source has been increased, and for these causes the business of the community at large and its general trade, which directly depends for activity on the farmers' return, has been good. Farmers' budgets all around have been replenished. Country storekeepers have purchased freely, and remittances from the country have been satisfactory. The sales of wholesale houses have been maintained, and the volume of