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Well, here is the
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wholesale trade to furnish a wide extent of the interior of the country, in which are a number of flourishing towns and villages. I was much struck with the extent and handsome appearance of many of the stores, over which the proprietors most politely showed me. Shops are often called "stores" in the colonies; but these I speak of are enormous warehouses, containing goods of every possible description—groceries, ironmongery, woollen and cotton manufactures, wines, books, cordage, silks, shoes, hats, and clothing of every description—indeed, when a customer enters, he expects to find everything he requires. Some only supply the shop-keepers in the smaller towns and villages in the interior, while others retail a pound of sugar, a paper of pins or a penknife. Among others, I went over the stores of Messrs. R. Jenson and Co., lately erected, with a very handsome stone front, as also another still larger belonging to Mr. Buchanan, late member for Hamilton. Mr. Kerr, Mr. Bemmer, Mr. Osborne, and Mr. McLaren, most politely showed me over their very flourishing establishments. Mr. Buchanan took me through every department, which, though under the same roof, is kept perfectly separate, each floor having its peculiar line of trade. The wines and spirits were under-ground, the groceries and iron-manufactures on the ground-floor, the woollen on the first floor, the cotton on the next, and the silks and ribbons on the next. I had never seen anything in England at all to be compared to these colonial general stores. By degrees, however, trade is dividing itself, and wine-merchants, and hardware merchants, and woollen merchants, are making their appearance in the larger commercial cities.

The inhabitants of Hamilton are very proud of their