

rejected, and the freight rates were increased. No such hindrance occurred with respect of goods shipped from Australia to Canada. In many lines of Australian produce, the returns show the Canadian demand has increased. Thus the Canadian importations of hides, skins, and horns increased by over half a million dollars from 1894 to 1897, while the exports from Australia only amounted in 1897 to five thousand dollars. British Columbia, our nearest Canadian market, increased its consumption of non-sparkling wines, and the United States has increased its exports to that province, but Australian exports appear to have fallen from \$1,802 in 1894 to \$107 in 1897. The same fact appears in regard to British Columbia in regard to butter, meat, etc., but with an increased demand the Australian exports fell from \$43,809 in 1894 to 13,764 in 1897.

The explanation for the difference between the two colonies can be accounted for only by the fact that Canada has made a direct and persistent effort to get into this market and has succeeded, while Australia has let the trade take its haphazard course, with the natural consequence that it has fallen off. Should not these figures give us a good practical lesson, and show those interested in the advance of Australasian commerce, the necessity of having a resident representative in the various foreign commercial centres, to look after our interests and push the introduction of our natural and national products?

CEMENT IN CHINA.

Cement is an article which deserves the special attention of our manufacturers, as the demand is very large for it in China, one firm here alone selling about 10,000 casks a month. Besides this, paper (cigarette paper especially), llama braid, cloth, wire nails, white metal and Gablonz wares could be profitably imported from Austria-Hungary.—Austro Hungarian Consulate at Hong-Kong.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS IN ENGLAND.

How comes it that the American makers have got such a grip on our rural districts with their agricultural machinery? Living a good deal in the rural districts of Derbyshire during the summer, it is my custom to look at the machinery and implements used on the farms. These usually are quite up-to-date, for, as a rule, the Derbyshire man is a poor farmer, and not at all prone to extravagance in buying new things in machinery. But what they do get appears to be American. During the present hay season this was particularly notice-