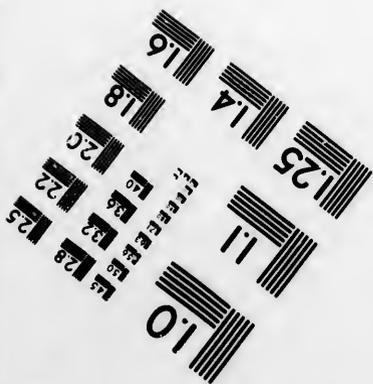
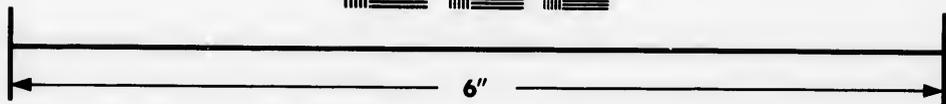
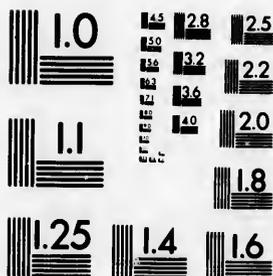


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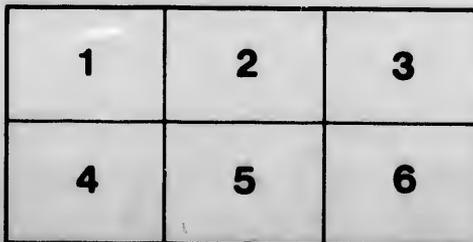
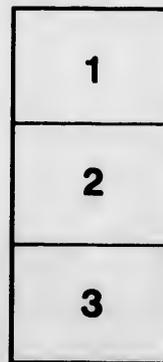
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STATE OF TRADE WITH BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN
PROVINCES.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

TRANSMITTING

*A report on the state of trade between the United States and the British
North American Possessions.*

FEBRUARY 4, 1871.—Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means and ordered to be
printed.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,

February 3, 1871.

SIR: I transmit for the information of the House of Representatives, the report of J. N. Larned, who was appointed special agent under a joint resolution of Congress approved June 23, 1870, to inquire into the extent and state of the trade between the United States and the several dependencies of Great Britain in North America.

Very respectfully,

GEO. S. BOUTWELL,

Secretary.

HON. JAMES G. BLAINE,

Speaker House of Representatives.

BUFFALO, *January 28, 1871.*

SIR: You intrusted to me, a few months ago, the task of collecting information in compliance with the joint resolution of Congress approved June 23, 1870, which directed that an inquiry should be made relative to the state of trade between the United States and the British North American Possessions. The subject is an important one, and I have endeavored to investigate it with as much thoroughness as the time allowed me would permit.

Between the United States and the British dependencies that lie adjacent to us upon our northern border, the intercourse of trade ought, in the natural order of things, to be as intimate and as extensive as the intercourse that exists within this Union between its States at large and any corresponding group of them. Indeed, the natural intimacy of connection between the provinces of the Dominion of Canada and our own

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Northern, Northwestern, and Eastern States, is such as exists between very few of the geographical sections of the Union. Through more than half the length of the cotermious line of the two territories, the very boundary of political separation is itself a great natural high-road of commercial intercommunication—the most majestic and the most useful of all the grand water-ways of traffic and travel with which nature has furnished the American continent. The lakes on which we border at the north link us with, rather than divide us from, the foreign border on their opposite shores; while the fact that the great river through which their waters escape to the sea diverges, at last, into that neighboring domain, only adds to the closeness of the relationship in which the two countries are placed. The territory of the Canadian peninsula between the lakes is thrust like a wedge into the territory of the United States. Across it lies the short-cut of traffic and travel between our Northwestern and our Eastern States. Geographically, in the natural structure of that energetic zone of the continent which lies between the fortieth and the forty-sixth parallels of latitude, the province of Ontario occupies, with reference to commercial interchanges East and West, what may fairly be described as the key position of the whole. The lower province of Quebec, through which the St. Lawrence passes to the Atlantic, is situated with hardly less advantage, and in some views, which take account of the commercial possibilities of the future, perhaps with even more. On the seaboard there is no natural distinction or partition to be found between the maritime provinces of the Dominion and our New England States. New Brunswick, as has been remarked, is but an extension of the State of Maine along the Bay of Fundy, and Nova Scotia is but a peninsula cleft from the side of New Brunswick. The island provinces that lie north of those, within or beyond the Gulf of St. Lawrence, are a little removed from the same intimacy of geographical and commercial relationship with our own national territory, and yet, to the extent of all the resources they possess, their most natural connection of trade is with the United States. As to the new colonial State into which the British settlements in the Northwest have just been rudely molded, and the older but thinly-populated province of British Columbia, on the Pacific coast, the conditions in which they are placed, relative to this country, may be considered more properly hereafter, perhaps.

THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

The four provinces of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, forming at present the confederation known as the Dominion of Canada, contain a now estimated population of about 4,283,000, divided as follows:

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Ontario | 2,136,308 |
| Quebec | 1,422,546 |
| New Brunswick | 527,800 |
| Nova Scotia | 396,449 |
| Total | <u>4,283,103</u> |

These estimates are based upon a census taken in 1861, ten years ago, and they assume for all the provinces the same rate of increase that was found in the previous decade. It is quite probable that the result of the new census, for which preparation is now being made, will fall

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short of this calculation in every province, except, perhaps, Ontario, and four millions, in round numbers, may more safely be set down as the existing population of the Dominion. The two insular provinces, of Newfoundland, (which includes Cape Breton,) and Prince Edward Island, which have thus far refused to enter the confederation, contain populations estimated, respectively, at 110,000 and 99,000.

RESOURCES AND CAPABILITIES.

Here, then, are about four and a quarter millions of people, not only living in the utmost nearness of neighborhood to us, but with such interjections of territory, and such an interlacing of natural communications and connections between their country and ours, that the geographical unity of the two is a more conspicuous fact than their political separation. Their numbers exceed by more than half a million the people of the six New England States, and about equal the numbers in the great State of New York. In the magnitude and value of the industrial and commercial interchanges that are carried on between the New England States and the other parts of this Union, we may find no unfair measure of the kindred commerce that would have existed, under natural circumstances, between those people and ourselves. Such equal conditions, indeed, would undoubtedly have given to the provinces in question a weight in the commerce of the North America continent considerably exceeding the present weight of the New England States. The average capabilities of their soil and climate are not inferior to the capabilities of the six States with which I compare them, while their general resources are greater and more varied. Ontario possesses a fertility with which no part of New England can at all compare, and that peninsular section of it around which the circle of the great lakes is swept, forces itself upon the notice of any student of the American map as one of the favored spots of the whole continent—as one of the appointed living places of industry, where population ought to breed with almost Belgian fecundity. A large section of Quebec is at least equal, in soil and climate, to its New England neighbors, while it rivals them in the possession of water power, which is furnished by every stream, and while it commands easier and cheaper access to the markets of the western interior. As for the maritime provinces, their possession of abundant coal gives them one of the prime advantages of industry over the contiguous States. Along with this parity, to say the least, in all that is essential to a vigorous development, the provinces forming the Dominion—even if we exclude that vast seat of future empire in the basin of Lake Winnipeg, which lies waiting for civilization to reach it—occupy a territorial area within which the population of New England or New York might be several times multiplied without increase of density. The area of Ontario and Quebec it is impossible to define with exactness, for the reason that they have no boundary on the north, except the limits to civilized settlement which the climate of the North imposes, wherever that may be. Practically, the limits of Canadian cultivation and settlement were marked, until a very recent period, by the Laurentian range of hills and the broken spurs that are thrown off from it across the head of the western peninsula. This barren, rocky ridge follows a line nearly parallel with the St. Lawrence on its northern bank, up to the vicinity of Montreal, where it strikes away in a western direction, indicated by the course of the Ottawa River, which is the conduit of the water-shed of the Laurentian elevation. A broad offshoot, however, of the same primitive upheaval is traced in a belt of

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forbidding territory, where swamp and rock are intermingled, from the Ottawa River to Georgian Bay.

Up to the present time these forbidding barriers have practically formed, in both provinces, the northern boundary of Canadian cultivation and settlement, which spread slowly and feebly, without the same impetus and momentum that characterize the pioneer movement in the United States. Within a few years past, however, it has been discovered, and now it seems to be a well-determined fact, that beyond the Laurentian belt there are large tracts of productive territory, capable of well sustaining no very scanty population, even when stripped of the timber which constitutes their first value. The officially published reports of surveys made during late years within those regions, which I have examined with a good deal of carefulness, show great inequality in the value of the lands, many districts of fertile soil being curiously intermixed with sections that are actually or almost incapable of cultivation. But these reports, if at all correct, leave no doubt that on the upper Ottawa, in the basin of Lake Nipissing, along the eastern shores of Georgian Bay, and even to some extent on the northern shore of Lake Superior, there are very considerable areas that will ultimately give support to a hardy and enterprising population. Large tracts of this new domain have been set apart by the provincial authorities as "free grant lands," to be given to actual settlers on terms very nearly like the terms of the "homestead act" in the United States, and under the stimulus of that wise policy their settlement has commenced with some activity and promise.

To what extent the mineral resources of the infertile Laurentian belt render that capable of giving life to industry and support to a population, it is impossible to say. Just enough has so far been discovered to indicate that the mineral deposits within and on the flanks of the range may prove to be quite an important element of the wealth of the Canadas. Both iron and lead mines have been opened and worked to some extent north of Kingston; very valuable deposits of plumbago have lately been found and opened; gold is extensively indicated throughout a wide region in both provinces, and, more than probably, will yet be found in profitable quantities; a beautiful marble is already being quarried; the copper mines on the north shore of Lake Superior are unquestionably of great future value, and recent developments go to show that the same region is remarkably rich in silver. Altogether, it may be assumed that the productive and habitable territory of the Canadas is not confined to their tillable lands.

COMPARATIVE AREA AND POPULATION.

The commonly stated area of the province of Ontario is 121,260 square miles, and of the province of Quebec 210,000 square miles. The actual area of habitable and productive territory belonging to them may be estimated, I think, at about 50,000 square miles for each. Within that area in Ontario the capabilities of development, making all due allowance for whatever inconsiderable differences of climate exist, would seem to be fully equal to the capabilities of the State of New York, and if Ontario had kept pace in its growth with New York, as there seems to be no natural reason why it should not have done, (if we exclude New York City from the comparison,) the population of that province would now have exceeded four millions instead of two. The province of Quebec may be fairly measured in the same manner with the States of New Hampshire and Vermont, whose capabilities are no greater,

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notwithstanding the somewhat more rigorous winter climate to which it is exposed. A population in Quebec proportioned to that of New Hampshire and Vermont would exceed by not less than half a million what the province now contains; while Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, populated in the same ratio as Maine, of which they are the counterpart, would contain to-day a million of souls.

CAUSES OF TARDY GROWTH.

That the four provinces of the Dominion do not at the present day exhibit a population of from six to seven millions of people, with corresponding wealth and corresponding activities of industry, is the very plain and unmistakable consequence of the fact that they have not received their natural share of the energies that are at work in the development of the American continent; and that fact is clearly to be traced to their isolation from the free interchange of activities, in a commercial way, which the rest of the Anglo-Saxon communities of America have secured by their national confederation. To the mere political distinction between the dependent British provinces and ourselves, or rather to such difference as exists between their form of popular government and our own, I should give no weight among the immediate causes of the slower growth that they exhibit. The political institutions of the ill-named Dominion of Canada are scarcely less republican, either in operation or in principle, than our own, and cannot reasonably be charged with exerting, in or of themselves, any disadvantageous influence upon the country. Even as concerns the influence of republican aspirations upon immigration from the older world, it may be seriously doubted whether practical considerations do not almost wholly control the choice which the immigrant makes of this country rather than of Canada. He has been led, and by good reasons, to expect that he will find in the United States greater activities, wider and more numerous opportunities, and the stir of a more vigorous life. The superior vigor, which appears patent to the outside world, is as simply explained as it is undeniable. From the immense diversity of resources and productive capabilities in the vast territory that we occupy, with its many zones of climate, its many variations of soil, its multiform structure, its triple seaboard, its inland seas and its great rivers, its prairies and its mountains of every mineral, we derive a certain mutual play of industrial forces, acting and reacting upon each other with unrestricted and perfect freedom, which is wonderfully cumulative and wonderfully stimulating—beyond anything, in fact, that has been known in the experience of the world before; and the secret of it all is the freedom of the diversified interchange. The effect halts where that freedom of industrial commerce meets with interference. The custom-houses of the national frontier paralyze it more than half; and we should find, if we could examine closely enough, that it is in just the degree that the neighboring provinces are cut off, by their political isolation, from the free circulation of the productive and commercial energies of the continent, that they have fallen behind their sister communities of the same origin and the same character in material progress.

I have placed the subject in this view for the purpose of suggesting the loss that we sustain, as a nation, from the unfortunate causes which have scanted the natural, or at least the otherwise possible, development of so large and so importantly related a section of the common domain of Anglo-America. If our loss is vastly less, even proportionately, than that of the provincial people, it is, nevertheless, a very serious one. It is the deprivation of what might have been and what might still

be fully one-eighth added to the accumulating momentum of the industrial energies by which we are carried forward. If the same interchange that exists between the States of the American Union had existed between those States and the neighboring provinces, we should now impart to them, it is true, the activities of forty millions of people, while they give back to us the responding activities of six or seven millions; but that is an inequality of exchange which we have found, between our Union at large and its several States, to be marvellously profitable.

In the extraordinary impulse of advancement that was given to the provinces, and particularly to Ontario, (then Upper Canada,) by the operation of the so-called treaty of reciprocity, during the eleven years of its existence, a marked and significant illustration was afforded of the magnitude of the influence which limitations put upon the freedom of commercial intercourse between their producers and ours exert *on them*. Unfortunately, we were not permitted, upon our own side, to learn as fully, from the experience of that treaty, the value to *ourselves* of a state of freedom in the interchanges of the two countries. As I desire to show presently, the adjustment of the partial free trade established by the treaty negotiated in 1854 was such as to render its operation very far from reciprocal or equitable, for the reason that the schedule of commodities covered by it, while it embraced on the one hand nearly everything that the provinces produce, included, on the other, but a limited number of the productions of which this country desires to extend its sale; and for the far greater reason that the commodities made free were almost wholly of a description for which the provinces could offer no market to us commensurate with the markets that the United States opened to them.

It was simply impossible that an arrangement of incomplete free trade so non-reciprocal, so one-sided in its operation, and so provokingly the result of the treaty of 1854 was, of a sharply-forced bargain on the fisheries question, could be allowed to continue beyond the term for which it was contracted. It was justly abrogated in 1866 by the act of this Government, with the very general sanction of public opinion in the country; and yet there are probably few among those who opposed the continuation of the reciprocity treaty of 1854, and who oppose its renewal in any similar form, who are not fully convinced that an intimate, unrestricted commerce with the neighboring communities would be of great benefit to this country, as it certainly would be an incalculable stimulant to the growth of those communities. The question is one of adjustments. Free trade, or any approach to naturalness of commercial intercourse between these quasi-foreign neighbors and ourselves, is impossible, unless the outside conditions and commercial relations of the two countries can be brought into harmony with each other. That is the important, and, in fact, the only point of inquiry in the matter. If the exterior relations of the two countries were so adjusted to one another as not to interfere on either side with a natural circulation of free trade between themselves, probably not one intelligent voice would be raised against the abolition of every custom-house on our northern frontier.

PRESENT TRADE WITH THE DOMINION.

The provinces confederated in the Dominion of Canada are two millions in population, as I am forced to believe, and several hundred millions of dollars in wealth, behind what they would now have exhibited had they enjoyed from the beginning free intercourse in trade with these United States. As they stand, however, they form a very import-

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ant body of producers and consumers for us to deal with. Last year, according to their own official statistics of trade, they were purchasers in the markets of the outside world to the amount of \$71,239,187, and they sold in the same markets productions of their own to the amount of \$76,081,192, (values in gold.) Of these transactions the Canadian statistics show less than 55 per cent. of the foreign purchases of the Dominion, against 51 per cent. of its foreign sales, to have been made in the United States. In reality, as will appear upon a further examination of the facts, the exports from the Dominion to the United States exceed the imports from the United States into the Dominion to the extent of a ratio even greater than that.

The following tables exhibit the commerce of the four provinces of the Dominion for the last two fiscal years, as represented in the official returns compiled by the commissioner of customs at Ottawa:

TOTAL IMPORTS OF THE DOMINION.

Statement of the value of articles imported into the Dominion of Canada and entered for consumption in the two fiscal years ended June 30, 1869 and 1870.

[From Canadian official returns.]

| | From Great Britain. | From United States. | From all other countries. | Total. |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| 1869. | | | | |
| Quebec | \$19,626,636 | \$6,168,804 | \$3,749,737 | \$29,545,177 |
| Ontario | 8,547,339 | 11,590,177 | 587,248 | 20,724,764 |
| Nova Scotia | 4,002,985 | 2,500,023 | 1,186,325 | 7,689,333 |
| New Brunswick | 3,587,510 | 2,154,701 | 640,685 | 6,382,896 |
| Total | 35,764,470 | 25,413,705 | 6,163,995 | 67,342,170 |
| 1870. | | | | |
| Quebec | 20,382,270 | 6,611,332 | 5,174,270 | 32,167,872 |
| Ontario | 9,837,885 | 14,031,340 | 661,232 | 24,530,457 |
| Nova Scotia | 4,337,125 | 2,258,079 | 1,352,227 | 7,947,431 |
| New Brunswick | 3,977,533 | 1,823,320 | 731,954 | 6,532,827 |
| Total | 38,535,813 | 24,724,071 | 7,919,683 | 71,239,187 |

IMPORTS FROM THE UNITED STATES.

Statement of the value of goods imported into the Dominion of Canada from the United States and entered for consumption, (exclusive of coin and bullion,) during the two fiscal years ending June 30, 1869 and 1870, distinguishing those which paid duty from those entered free of duty.

[From Canadian official returns.]

| | Dutiable. | Free. | Total. | Duties collected. |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| 1869. | | | | |
| Quebec | \$2,910,004 | \$3,144,629 | \$6,054,633 | \$678,684 |
| Ontario | 3,119,169 | 7,608,849 | 10,728,023 | 550,618 |
| Nova Scotia | 660,192 | 1,899,633 | 2,559,825 | 122,239 |
| New Brunswick | 1,104,383 | 1,050,318 | 2,154,701 | 214,633 |
| Total | 7,793,748 | 13,703,429 | 21,497,182 | 1,565,563 |
| 1870. | | | | |
| Quebec | 3,044,535 | 3,409,756 | 6,454,291 | 723,497 |
| Ontario | 3,912,368 | 7,249,179 | 11,161,547 | 674,271 |
| Nova Scotia | 763,846 | 1,494,233 | 2,258,079 | 119,768 |
| New Brunswick | 978,006 | 845,224 | 1,823,220 | 182,712 |
| Total | 8,698,845 | 12,998,392 | 21,697,237 | 1,700,248 |

From 1870 as near to present time as possible

Same as above

IMPORTS FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

Statement of the value of goods imported into the Dominion of Canada from Great Britain and entered for consumption, (exclusive of coin and bullion,) during the two fiscal years ending June 30, 1869 and 1870, distinguishing those which paid duty from those entered free of duty.

[From Canadian official returns.]

| | Dutiable. | Free. | Total. | Duties collected. |
|---------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 1869. | | | | |
| Quebec | \$11,563,286 | \$4,855,644 | \$16,418,930 | \$2,374,465 |
| Ontario | 7,954,779 | 592,560 | 8,547,339 | 1,215,221 |
| Nova Scotia | 3,281,836 | 741,149 | 4,022,985 | 593,968 |
| New Brunswick | 2,743,744 | 814,766 | 3,558,510 | 514,998 |
| Total | 25,483,645 | 7,003,119 | 32,486,764 | 4,799,752 |
| 1870. | | | | |
| Quebec | 14,563,737 | 4,766,195 | 19,329,932 | 2,362,809 |
| Ontario | 8,691,745 | 1,143,149 | 9,834,894 | 1,407,451 |
| Nova Scotia | 3,561,089 | 836,445 | 4,397,534 | 644,411 |
| New Brunswick | 3,293,386 | 774,167 | 4,067,553 | 624,341 |
| Total | 30,099,957 | 7,519,956 | 37,619,913 | 5,037,412 |

TOTAL EXPORTS OF THE DOMINION.

Statement of the value of goods, the growth, produce, and manufacture of the Dominion of Canada, exported from the several provinces, (exclusive of coin and bullion,) during the two fiscal years ended June 30, 1869 and 1870.

[From Canadian official returns.]

| | To the United States. | To Great Britain. | Total exports to all countries. |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1869. | | | |
| Quebec | \$5,627,276 | \$16,344,825 | \$21,972,101 |
| Ontario | 15,187,809 | 742,686 | 15,930,495 |
| Nova Scotia | 1,831,454 | 466,779 | 2,298,233 |
| New Brunswick | 994,600 | 2,431,548 | 3,426,148 |
| Total | 23,640,739 | 20,485,838 | 44,126,577 |
| 1870. | | | |
| Quebec | 6,880,446 | 18,538,842 | 25,419,288 |
| Ontario | 18,017,212 | 1,216,989 | 19,234,201 |
| Nova Scotia | 1,473,895 | 395,925 | 1,869,820 |
| New Brunswick | 2,400,759 | 1,009,231 | 3,410,000 |
| Total | 28,772,312 | 21,160,987 | 49,933,299 |

ANALYSIS OF CANADIAN FOREIGN COMMERCE.

An analysis of the foregoing tables of imports shows some facts which it is well to note in passing.

Of the imports of the Dominion, 53 per cent. in the fiscal year 1869 and 54 per cent. in 1870 were from Great Britain; 38 per cent. in 1869 and not quite 35 per cent. in 1870 were from the United States, and 9 and 11 per cent. in the two years, respectively, were the proportions of importation from all other countries.

The duty-paying imports from Great Britain into the Dominion formed 80 per cent. of the entire imports from that nation both in 1869 and 1870, and only 20 per cent. were of commodities admitted free; while but

36 per cent. in 1869, and 35 per cent. in 1870. The value of the imports from Great Britain and the United States in 1869, and 1870, respectively, were \$21,972,101 and \$49,933,299. In 1869, the value of the imports from the United States was \$8,809,464, and from Great Britain \$13,162,637. In 1870, the value of the imports from the United States was \$25,419,288, and from Great Britain \$24,514,011. The value of the imports from all other countries in 1869, was \$3,426,148, and in 1870, \$3,999,999. The value of the exports from the Dominion in 1869, was \$44,126,577, and in 1870, \$49,933,299. The value of the exports to the United States in 1869, was \$23,640,739, and in 1870, \$28,772,312. The value of the exports to Great Britain in 1869, was \$20,485,838, and in 1870, \$21,160,987. The value of the exports to all other countries in 1869, was \$3,426,148, and in 1870, \$3,999,999.

As the value of the exports to the United States in 1869, was \$23,640,739, and in 1870, \$28,772,312, the value of the exports to Great Britain in 1869, was \$20,485,838, and in 1870, \$21,160,987, the value of the exports to all other countries in 1869, was \$3,426,148, and in 1870, \$3,999,999. The value of the exports from the Dominion in 1869, was \$44,126,577, and in 1870, \$49,933,299. The value of the exports to the United States in 1869, was \$23,640,739, and in 1870, \$28,772,312. The value of the exports to Great Britain in 1869, was \$20,485,838, and in 1870, \$21,160,987. The value of the exports to all other countries in 1869, was \$3,426,148, and in 1870, \$3,999,999.

at Britain and
1 years ending
ed free of duty.

| | Duties col- lected. |
|---|------------------------|
| 0 | \$2,374,416 |
| 1 | 1,317,553 |
| 2 | 593,968 |
| 3 | 514,098 |
| 4 | 4,799,755 |
| 5 | 2,362,509 |
| 6 | 1,407,154 |
| 7 | 634,111 |
| 8 | 624,311 |
| 9 | 5,037,438 |

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Total exports
to all countries.

| |
|--------------|
| \$24,546,054 |
| 15,930,498 |
| 5,631,850 |
| 4,814,890 |
| 49,323,301 |
| 27,421,676 |
| 19,235,306 |
| 5,061,032 |
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| 56,081,182 |

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36 per cent. of the imports from the United States in 1869 and 40 per cent. in 1870 paid duty, and 64 per cent. and 60 per cent. in the two years, respectively, entered free.

The duties collected on the dutiable imports from the United States were at the average rate of 20 per cent. on the returned value in 1869, and 19.5 per cent. in 1870; while the duty collected on the dutiable imports from Great Britain was at the average rate of 16.8 per cent. in 1869, and 16.7 per cent. in 1870.

In other words, a much smaller proportion of the goods imported from the United States than of the goods imported from Great Britain were subjected to duty, but those among the former which did come under the Canadian tariff paid at a considerably higher average rate.

The very large proportion, however, of free goods from the United States that appears in the Canadian imports of 1869, and with a slight diminution in 1870, no longer exists. A new Canadian tariff went into effect on the 7th of April last, which imposes the following duties upon articles previously free, all of them being commodities of leading importance, in the not very extended list of productions that we barter with our provincial neighbors: flour, 25 cents per barrel; meal, 15 cents per barrel; wheat, 4 cents per bushel; all other grains, 3 cents per bushel; coal and coke, 50 cents per ton; salt, 5 cents per bushel; hops, 5 cents per pound; rice, 1 cent per pound. These duties, which leave a now quite insignificant free list of commodities, so far as American trade is concerned, were avowedly levied in retaliation for the protective rigor of the United States tariff, and, by the act which imposes them, the governor in council is authorized to suspend or to modify them, by proclamation, together with the duties on fish, meats, butter, cheese, lard, tallow, vegetables, and several other articles, "whenever it appears to his satisfaction that similar articles from Canada may be imported into the United States of America free of duty, or at a rate of duty not exceeding that payable on the same under such proclamation when imported into Canada."

THE STATE OF COMMERCIAL BELLIGERENCY.

As the case now stands, the two countries are in what might be described as an attitude of commercial belligerency toward one another, mutually repelling and discouraging the intercourse of trade and the profitable and convenient exchange of industries that are natural to their intimate neighborhood. Under the treaty of reciprocity there was a large excess of liberality on the side of the United States in the terms of trade, and the Canadian tariff grew steadily more illiberal and non-reciprocal. After the abrogation of the treaty, the conditions were reversed, and it must be confessed that the gates of trans-frontier traffic stood more open on the Canadian than on the American side from that period until the adoption of the retaliatory tariff of last April. Now, however, on both sides, the freedom of trade is about evenly interfered with, and the state of commercial repulsion between the two countries, whose interests so strongly attract them to intimacy, is as nicely adjusted, perhaps, as it could be. No one, I think, can contemplate this situation of things without feeling it to be a most unfortunate dislocation, which very seriously impairs the organization and operation of the industrial energies of the American continent. And a further investigation of the statistics of trade will not diminish that feeling.

STATISTICAL EXHIBIT FOR SEVENTEEN YEARS.

I have given the Canadian official statement of imports into the Dominion from the United States during the last two fiscal years. That exhibits one side of the commercial exchanges between the two countries, the other side of which is to be found in our own official statistics of imports into the United States from the provinces of the Dominion. It is proper to remark here that a great many contentious arguments relative to the trade between the two countries have been vitiated, by being based upon official returns, in one country or the other, of both imports and exports, as though the two were equally trustworthy statistics. The well-known fact, however, is that in no country, and certainly neither in Canada nor the United States, are the statistics of exports, compiled from the returns of clearances at the custom-houses, to be trusted for accuracy; for the simple reason that there is neither the same stringency of law nor the same watchfulness to compel an exact statement of outgoing shipments that is applied to secure true reports of the value of foreign commodities coming into the country. Chiefly as the consequence of this, the statistics of no two countries respecting their trade with each other will agree at all. The discrepancy between our own official returns and those of the Canadian government relating to the same trade is further widened by the mixed values (in currency and gold) that appear in the export and re-export statements of the former.

According to our own statistics, we bought from the four provinces of the Dominion, in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1870, commodities to the value of \$39,507,842, (in gold,) and sold them domestic commodities to the value (in currency) of \$19,365,771, and foreign re-exports to the value (in gold) of \$3,931,525.

According to Canadian statistics, our purchases from the Dominion, in the same twelve months, amounted only to \$28,772,312, and our total sales to it, of domestic and foreign goods, were of the value of \$21,697,237, all in gold.

On each side there is strong probability of the near accuracy of the import returns, and we may safely accept them as representing the commercial exchanges of the two countries. The following table is compiled in that view, from the official returns of imports in each country from the other, both representing values in gold. It shows the yearly amount of trade each way that passed between the United States and the old Canadian provinces from 1854 to 1867, both inclusive, and between the United States and the Dominion of Canada, since that confederation was organized. The exhibit is rendered faulty to a certain degree by the fact that the Canadian returns are made for the calendar year down to 1864, at which time the provincial government adopted the fiscal year ending June 30, to correspond with our own; but this does not affect the general showing of the state of the commercial exchanges represented:

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Fiscal year
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Fiscal year

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| Imported into the United States from Canada. | | Imported into Canada from the United States. | |
|---|------------|--|--------------|
| [From United States official returns.] | | [From Canadian official returns.] | |
| OLD CANADA. | | OLD CANADA. | |
| Fiscal year ended June 30, 1854..... | 86,721,539 | Calendar year 1854..... | \$15,533,090 |
| Fiscal year ended June 30, 1855*..... | 12,182,311 | Calendar year 1855*..... | 20,828,076 |
| Fiscal year ended June 30, 1856..... | 17,488,197 | Calendar year 1856..... | 22,704,508 |
| Fiscal year ended June 30, 1857..... | 19,291,834 | Calendar year 1857..... | 20,224,618 |
| Fiscal year ended June 30, 1858..... | 11,581,570 | Calendar year 1858..... | 15,635,565 |
| Fiscal year ended June 30, 1859..... | 11,208,717 | Calendar year 1859..... | 17,592,916 |
| Fiscal year ended June 30, 1860..... | 18,853,033 | Calendar year 1860..... | 17,273,029 |
| Fiscal year ended June 30, 1861..... | 18,645,457 | Calendar year 1861..... | 20,206,090 |
| Fiscal year ended June 30, 1862..... | 15,257,812 | Calendar year 1862..... | 22,642,860 |
| Fiscal year ended June 30, 1863..... | 18,670,773 | Calendar year 1863..... | 18,457,083 |
| Fiscal year ended June 30, 1864, (estimated)..... | 32,422,015 | First half of 1864..... | 7,952,401 |
| Fiscal year ended June 30, 1865..... | 30,547,267 | Fiscal year 1864-65..... | 14,821,577 |
| Fiscal year ended June 30, 1866*..... | 46,199,470 | Fiscal year 1866*..... | 15,212,234 |
| Fiscal year ended June 30, 1867..... | 26,397,867 | Fiscal year 1867..... | 14,061,155 |
| DOMINION OF CANADA. | | DOMINION OF CANADA. | |
| Fiscal year ended June 30, 1868..... | 25,064,858 | Fiscal year 1868..... | 17,600,273 |
| Fiscal year ended June 30, 1869..... | 30,353,010 | Fiscal year 1869..... | 21,397,182 |
| Fiscal year ended June 30, 1870..... | 39,597,842 | Fiscal year 1870..... | 21,697,237 |

* First and last years of the reciprocity treaty.
† The figures for the earlier years in this column I take from one of the reports of Mr. William J. Patterson, secretary of the Montreal Board of Trade.

From 1870

The prominent fact that appears in the above statement is the total change of current that took place in the trade between the United States and Canada in 1862. Down to the close of that year, when the derangement of currency, the inflation of prices, and the disturbance of industries produced by the war of rebellion in this country began to work their effects, we had been selling to the provinces largely in excess of what we bought from them. The aggregate of their imports from us during the nine years ending with 1862—eight of which were the years of the reciprocity treaty—was \$172,641,372. The aggregate of our imports from them in the same period was \$133,230,473. The balance of trade in our favor was \$39,410,899. But in 1863 the balance shifted to the other side, and ever since the preponderance against us has steadily and rapidly increased, until now, as the above figures show, we are exchanging commodities for little more than one-half that we buy from the British provinces. Indeed, the exchange of our own productions covers less than one-half of the amount that we are importing from the provinces, since the Canadian import statistics cited above include foreign commodities reexported from the United States to Canada, making no distinction between those and the domestic exports from the United States to Canada. Our own official statement of these reexports shows the following amounts going to Canada in the last two fiscal years: 1869, \$2,858,782; 1870, \$3,931,525. Making these deductions from the Canadian importation of goods out of the United States, the exchange of domestic productions (since we receive very few non-Canadian commodities through Canada) stands as follows for the last two years:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1869. | |
| From Canada to the United States..... | \$30,353,010 |
| From the United States to Canada..... | 18,638,400 |
| | 11,714,610 |
| | 11,714,610 |

1870.

| | |
|--|--------------|
| From Canada to the United States..... | \$39,507,842 |
| From the United States to Canada..... | 17,765,712 |
| | 21,742,130 |
| Balance against the United States..... | 21,742,130 |

Comment upon the unsatisfactoriness of this state of trade seems to be quite unnecessary. The adverse balance is vastly too great to be analyzed into commercial "profits," as an apparently adverse balance of trade often may be; and the mode in which it is here arrived at, by comparison of the import entries in each country from the other, excludes, moreover, almost all the elements of such an analysis.

WHAT WE SELL TO THE PROVINCES.

To show what commodities are chiefly exchanged between the two countries, and to exhibit at the same time the relative importance of each in this commerce, and the course it has taken relative to each during a considerable period of years past, I have compiled a series of tables, which may be examined with interest. The first table here following is a summary and analysis of the import statistics of the Dominion of Canada for the last two fiscal years, and shows what we have chiefly sold to the four provinces of the Dominion, severally and collectively, during those two years.

Statement showing the values of the principal commodities imported into the several provinces of the Dominion of Canada from the United States during the two fiscal years ended June 30, 1869 and 1870.

[Compiled from Canadian official returns.]

| | Quebec. | Ontario. | NovaScotia. | New Brunswick. | Total. |
|--|-----------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| 1869. | | | | | |
| Coin and bullion..... | \$114,171 | \$3,862,154 | \$198 | | \$3,976,523 |
| Sugar, molasses, and melado..... | 635,715 | 289,185 | 9,351 | \$57,080 | 991,331 |
| Meats, all kinds..... | 183,417 | 336,574 | 24,055 | 92,419 | 636,465 |
| Tea..... | 329,836 | 91,467 | 37,030 | 65,818 | 524,151 |
| Cottons..... | 120,855 | 149,606 | 26,751 | 146,178 | 443,330 |
| Hats, caps, &c..... | 137,484 | 94,758 | 22,921 | 22,757 | 277,920 |
| General hardware..... | 265,567 | 377,105 | 101,193 | 14,140 | 758,005 |
| Coal and coke..... | 187,443 | 607,934 | 21,847 | 30,105 | 847,329 |
| Flour..... | 417,255 | 217,334 | 1,033,892 | 400,790 | 2,069,271 |
| Grain, all kinds, except Indian corn..... | 105,363 | 3,054,510 | 6,176 | 64,597 | 3,230,646 |
| Indian corn..... | 172,446 | 1,342,846 | 80,346 | 58,519 | 1,654,157 |
| Cornmeal and oatmeal..... | 4,430 | 36,094 | 236,757 | 121,146 | 398,427 |
| Flax, hemp, and tow..... | 137,973 | 15,990 | 72,800 | 32,811 | 257,574 |
| Hides, horns, and pelts..... | 547,405 | 203,344 | 37,587 | 30,298 | 818,634 |
| Tobacco, unmanufactured..... | 646,843 | 154,120 | 62,717 | 14,830 | 878,510 |
| Wool..... | 147,463 | 278,825 | | 183 | 426,471 |
| Woolens..... | 98,156 | 86,153 | 26,799 | 140,091 | 351,199 |
| Glassware..... | 42,665 | 135,105 | 18,272 | 20,576 | 216,618 |
| Musical instruments..... | 50,772 | 111,599 | 8,286 | 22,900 | 193,557 |
| Books and other publications..... | 48,395 | 131,595 | 19,013 | 24,915 | 224,518 |
| Cotton wool..... | 60,037 | 235,129 | 433 | 49,041 | 344,640 |
| Salt..... | 1,801 | 147,138 | 1,160 | 2,057 | 152,156 |
| Machinery..... | 127,329 | 253,528 | 57,674 | 90,578 | 529,109 |
| Total, excluding coin and bullion..... | 4,467,650 | 8,340,942 | 1,905,960 | 1,501,838 | 16,226,390 |
| All other articles..... | 1,585,983 | 2,378,081 | 653,865 | 652,863 | 5,270,892 |
| Total imports from United States, except coin and bullion..... | 6,054,633 | 10,728,023 | 2,559,825 | 2,154,701 | 21,497,182 |
| Percentage of articles enumerated above..... | 74 | 83 | 71 | 70 | |
| Percentage of grain, flour, and meal..... | 11 | 43 | 53 | 30 | |

Coin and bullion
Sugar, molasses, and melado
Meats.....
Tea.....
Cottons.....
Hats, caps, &c.....
General hardware
Coal and coke
Flour.....
Grain, all kinds, except Indian corn
Indian corn
Cornmeal and oatmeal
Flax, hemp, and tow
Hides, horns, and pelts
Tobacco, unmanufactured
Wool
Woolens.....
Glassware
Musical instruments
Books, &c.
Cotton wool
Salt.....
Engines and machinery
Total, excluding coin and bullion
All other articles
Total imports from United States, except coin and bullion
Percentage of articles enumerated above
Percentage of grain, flour, and meal

One list of together, eight articles of the same rank be lame agriculturists skilled in neighborhood. I have comparative necessary for table of principal things the comparison 1868, 18

Statement showing the values of the principal commodities, &c.—Continued.

(Compiled from Canadian officials returns.)

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| | Quebec. | Ontario. | NovaScotia. | New Brunswick. | Total. |
|--|-----------|------------|-------------|----------------|------------|
| 1870. | | | | | |
| Coin and bullion..... | 157,041 | 2,869,793 | | | 3,026,834 |
| Sugar, molasses, &c..... | 444,681 | 401,593 | 21,426 | 61,948 | 931,648 |
| Meats..... | 101,868 | 338,834 | 19,311 | 60,672 | 520,685 |
| Tea..... | 684,895 | 178,875 | 29,443 | 79,803 | 973,016 |
| Cottons..... | 141,552 | 148,743 | 33,451 | 45,692 | 369,438 |
| Hats, caps, &c..... | 120,870 | 149,366 | 25,051 | 36,201 | 335,491 |
| General hardware and stoves..... | 300,221 | 423,931 | 124,520 | 27,348 | 876,020 |
| Coal and coke..... | 208,361 | 665,139 | 1,673 | 31,886 | 898,059 |
| Flour..... | 117,843 | 41,962 | 736,261 | 361,333 | 1,257,399 |
| Grain, all except Indian corn..... | 250,199 | 4,163,626 | 43,361 | 2,866 | 4,460,052 |
| Indian corn..... | 14,427 | 375,290 | 15,045 | 16,227 | 420,989 |
| Commeal and oatmeal..... | 409 | 11,522 | 220,740 | 53,293 | 228,970 |
| Flax, hemp, and tow..... | 139,882 | 25,223 | 332 | 21,752 | 187,189 |
| Hides, horns, and pelts..... | 694,496 | 306,493 | 51,616 | 67,740 | 1,120,345 |
| Tobacco, unmanufactured..... | 471,438 | 247,994 | 73,259 | 8,832 | 801,523 |
| Wool..... | 131,179 | 277,804 | 59 | 4,183 | 413,215 |
| Woolens..... | 57,977 | 56,672 | 19,956 | 60,813 | 195,418 |
| Glassware..... | 41,016 | 123,628 | 18,240 | 22,344 | 205,228 |
| Musical instruments..... | 54,541 | 99,236 | 6,959 | 30,807 | 191,543 |
| Books, &c..... | 43,636 | 148,159 | 23,540 | 26,525 | 241,860 |
| Cotton wool..... | 85,173 | 268,411 | 189 | 65,271 | 419,044 |
| Salt..... | 1,159 | 67,951 | 1,065 | 1,577 | 71,752 |
| Engines and machinery..... | 141,054 | 291,669 | 23,708 | 81,545 | 478,076 |
| Total, excluding coin and bullion..... | 4,249,877 | 8,749,127 | 1,495,305 | 1,168,661 | 15,662,970 |
| All other articles..... | 2,204,414 | 2,412,420 | 762,771 | 651,659 | 6,034,267 |
| Total imports from United States, except coin and bullion..... | 6,454,291 | 11,161,547 | 2,258,079 | 1,823,320 | 21,697,237 |
| Percentage of articles enumerated above..... | 66 | 78 | 66 | 64 | 72 |
| Percentage of grain, flour, and meal..... | 6 | 41 | 45 | 21 | 29 |

| wick. | Total. |
|-------|------------|
| ..... | \$3,976,52 |
| 050 | 991,33 |
| 419 | 636,46 |
| 818 | 524,17 |
| 178 | 443,38 |
| 757 | 277,96 |
| 140 | 758,00 |
| 105 | 847,28 |
| 790 | 2,069,27 |
| 597 | 3,230,61 |
| 519 | 1,654,45 |
| 146 | 398,46 |
| 811 | 259,55 |
| 298 | 818,68 |
| 839 | 878,21 |
| 183 | 426,47 |
| 091 | 351,19 |
| 576 | 216,61 |
| 900 | 193,53 |
| 915 | 221,25 |
| 041 | 344,08 |
| 057 | 152,15 |
| 578 | 529,10 |
| 818 | 16,220,29 |
| 863 | 5,270,75 |
| 701 | 21,407,18 |
| 70 | |
| 30 | |

One of the larger items (*i. e.*, the item of tea) in the foregoing list of twenty-two commodities or classes of commodities, which, together, make up three-fourths of our exports to the provinces, is a foreign article, simply conveyed through American hands, in bond, to the provincial consumers. Some part of other items in the list belongs in the same category of foreign re-exports. When these are allowed for, the range of the Canadian market for American productions appears to be lamentably limited and almost confined to the rawest products of agriculture, with hardly an appreciable opening for the benefit of our skilled labor in any department; and this, too, in the case of the nearest neighbors that we have upon the globe.

I have found it impossible to give, for the provinces at large, a comparative statement like the above, embracing any such period as is necessary for an historical exhibit of the course of trade; but the following table approximates that exhibit. It shows the value of a few of the principal articles imported into old Canada (Ontario and Quebec) during the fiscal year 1864-'65, the last full year of the reciprocity treaty, compared with the imports of the same articles in the fiscal years 1868, 1869, and 1870.

Statement of the values of a few principal articles imported into "old Canada" from the United States for several years.

| Articles. | 1864-'65. | 1867-'68. | 1868-'69. | 1869-'70. |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Coal | \$544,511 | \$791,998 | \$795,377 | \$864,500 |
| Cotton, wool | 88,786 | 213,194 | 295,106 | 553,561 |
| Flax, hemp, and tow, unmanufactured | 120,897 | 147,866 | 153,963 | 165,104 |
| Flour | 690,121 | 94,444 | 694,592 | 159,806 |
| Grain, all kinds | 3,581,405 | 3,605,998 | 4,675,165 | 4,413,882 |
| Hides, horns, and pelts | 265,000 | 1,071,999 | 750,749 | 1,060,988 |
| Indian meal and oatmeal | 36,622 | 47,865 | 40,524 | 14,111 |
| Meat, all kinds | 876,968 | 230,332 | 519,991 | 440,711 |
| Tobacco, unmanufactured | 277,007 | 456,288 | 809,973 | 722,111 |
| Wool | 174,071 | 254,736 | 426,288 | 460,988 |

WHAT WE BUY FROM THE PROVINCES.

The return trade, or what we have chiefly bought from the provinces, can be exhibited more comprehensively, in history at least, as will be seen in the table following, which shows the values of the leading articles imported into the United States from all the British Possessions in North America during a series of years. The series cannot be made as complete as I should wish, for the reason that articles imported under the reciprocity treaty were not discriminated for several years in the official trade records of this Government.

Comparative statement for several years before, during, and since the reciprocity treaty, of the value of the principal articles imported into the United States from the British North American Possessions.

| | 1854. | 1855. | 1863. | 1865. | 1867. | 1869. |
|--|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Wood and manufactures of wood, (except cabinet wood) | \$754,103 | \$820,950 | \$3,263,906 | \$4,887,589 | \$6,421,058 | \$7,170,337 |
| Animals, living | 73,821 | 42,126 | 1,351,173 | 3,563,518 | 1,902,940 | 3,474,551 |
| Wheat | 2,069,070 | 1,441,307 | 1,059,403 | 1,694,916 | 3,222,859 | 1,673,021 |
| Flour | 1,792,789 | 1,849,109 | 2,137,610 | 2,970,348 | 1,765,285 | 446,600 |
| Barley | 5,562 | 30,822 | 1,524,221 | 4,093,292 | 2,012,547 | 4,624,311 |
| Oats | 37,108 | 19,075 | 1,418,723 | 2,216,722 | 257,085 | 114,011 |
| Rye | 202 | 32,001 | 12,577 | 72,999 | 149,361 | 157,731 |
| Products of fisheries | 1,001,168 | 833,361 | 739,549 | 2,213,084 | 2,034,646 | 1,505,252 |
| Cord | 254,774 | 243,794 | 757,094 | 1,223,981 | 925,447 | 758,551 |
| Provisions and tallow | 4,431 | 4,028 | 150,782 | 851,344 | 84,500 | 1,420,341 |
| Bricks | 128,811 | 84,733 | 326,631 | 668,917 | 648,102 | ..... |
| Wool, raw and fleeces | 69,010 | 13,890 | 781,867 | 1,527,275 | 291,043 | 715,311 |
| Hides and skins | 31,729 | 38,592 | 137,113 | 228,090 | 81,295 | 455,511 |
| Potatoes | 88,405 | 129,076 | 147,310 | ..... | 62,233 | 42,011 |
| Furs and fur skins | 13,920 | 5,977 | 143,133 | 214,622 | 133,404 | 239,101 |
| Gypsum, unground | 106,114 | 107,126 | 25,882 | 61,439 | 94,940 | 124,211 |
| Pig iron | 110,840 | 109,882 | ..... | 86,390 | 204,215 | 381,111 |
| Asbes ..... | ..... | ..... | 460,026 | 415,398 | 167,267 | 45,501 |
| Coin and bullion | 142,612 | 18,445 | 6,536,478 | 4,044,065 | 8,530,171 | 2,796,711 |

DISTRIBUTION OF THE TRADE.

The fact that in our trade with the provinces the interest of the Eastern and Middle States is almost wholly that of buyers, while the interest of the Western States is almost wholly that of sellers, could hardly escape the notice of any one who examines the foregoing tables. If we examine by customs districts the returns made for the last fiscal year, of imports from and domestic exports and foreign re-exports to the British American provinces, we find the distribution of the trade to be in the following proportions :

Vermont
Oswego
Niagara
Buffalo
Champlain
Boston
All other
Oswego
All other
Chicago
Milwaukee
Toledo
Port Huron
Vermont
Boston
Detroit
Cleveland
All other
New York
Portland
Boston
All other

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| 69. | 1869-70. |
|-----|-----------|
| 377 | \$864,500 |
| 106 | 353,500 |
| 963 | 165,100 |
| 592 | 159,800 |
| 165 | 4,413,800 |
| 749 | 1,000,900 |
| 524 | 14,400 |
| 991 | 440,700 |
| 923 | 722,400 |
| 288 | 400,000 |

| | Per cent. |
|---|-----------|
| Imports in— | |
| Vermont district | 27.1 |
| Oswego district | 17.6 |
| Niagara (Suspension bridge) district..... | 14.7 |
| Buffalo district..... | 8.7 |
| Champlain district | 6.0 |
| Boston district..... | 4.6 |
| All other New England districts..... | 4.6 |
| Oswegatchie (Ogdensburg)..... | 3.8 |
| All other collection districts..... | 12.9 |

| | |
|------------------------|------|
| Domestic exports from— | |
| Chicago | 13.5 |
| Milwaukee..... | 13.5 |
| Toledo | 9.5 |
| Port Huron..... | 9.9 |
| Vermont | 9.3 |
| Boston | 8.9 |
| Detroit | 6.1 |
| Cleveland | 5.9 |
| All other ports..... | 23.4 |

| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| Foreign re-exports from— | |
| New York | 51.9 |
| Portland | 23.6 |
| Boston | 13.6 |
| All other ports..... | 10.9 |

A COMMERCE OF CONVENIENCE.

To a remarkable extent our present trade with the provinces is what might be characterized as a pure commerce of convenience, incident merely to the economical distribution of products which are common to both countries. We exchange with them almost equal quantities of the cereals; and almost equal quantities, on an average, of flour. Except so far as concerns the barley that we buy from them and the Indian corn that we sell to them, this trade originates on neither side in any necessity, but is chiefly a matter of simple convenience, of economy in carriage, or of diversification in the qualities of grain. Similarly, and for the like reason, we exchange with them almost equal quantities of coal. We sell them a certain quantity of hides and skins, and buy half that quantity of the same articles back from them. On the other hand, they sell us provisions and wool, and buy our provisions and wool to half the amount in return. Not less than one-third, probably, of the trade now carried on between the United States and the neighboring provinces is of that character, and the fact that it is kept up with so little diminution, notwithstanding the imposition of duties on both sides of the frontier, is significant of the value of the advantages that are found in it.

THE RECIPROCITY TREATY.

The narrowness of the range of commodities within which the bulk of the traffic between the two countries is now restricted has already been pointed out as the conspicuous feature of this commerce in its present state. It goes very little beyond the rawest products of agriculture, (including animal food as such,) and out of this fact there follows, as an inevitable consequence, the inequality which we find in the exchanges—

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| 7. | 1869. |
|-----|-------------|
| 458 | \$7,170,300 |
| 900 | 3,471,500 |
| 520 | 1,673,000 |
| 235 | 446,000 |
| 517 | 4,654,200 |
| 085 | 133,000 |
| 361 | 157,100 |
| 646 | 1,505,200 |
| 437 | 753,500 |
| 500 | 1,429,300 |
| 192 | ... |
| 03 | 715,200 |
| 05 | 255,100 |
| 200 | 42,000 |
| 03 | 339,100 |
| 70 | 173,300 |
| 15 | 381,400 |
| 07 | 45,500 |
| 73 | 2,796,700 |

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the heavy excess of our importations from the provinces over what we export to them; since the trade, confined to an interchange of the same kind of commodities, must be pretty much in the ratio of forty millions of consumers on one side to four millions on the other. The old treaty of so-called reciprocity contributed nothing directly, and very little indirectly, to the rectification of this commercial inequity, and for that reason it was a fraud upon the United States. It established free trade between the United States and the British North American provinces in the following specified articles, and in those only:

Grain, flour, and breadstuffs; animals of all kinds; ashes; fresh, smoked, and salted meats; timber and lumber of all kinds, round, hewed, and sawed and unmanufactured; cotton, wool, seeds and vegetables; undried fruits, dried fruit; fish of all kinds; products of fish and all the creatures living in the water; poultry; eggs; hides, furs, skins, or tails, undressed; stone or marble in its crude or unwrought state; slate; butter, cheese, tallow; ores of metals of all kinds; coal; unmanufactured tobacco; pitch, tar, turpentine; fire-wood; plants, shrubs, trees; pelts; wool; fish oil; rice and broom-corn; barks, gypsum, ground and unground; wrought or unwrought burr and grindstones; dyestuffs; flax, hemp, and tow, unmanufactured; rags.

With two or three exceptions only, these are commodities which both countries produce, and with reference to which, of course, the freedom of the markets of the United States, containing ten times their population, was of vastly more value to the provinces than the freedom of their markets could possibly be to the rival producers of the United States. Moreover, the schedule of raw commodities covered by the treaty embraced, on the one hand, absolutely every product of the provinces for which they sought a foreign market, while it included, on the other hand, the products of but one department of the more varied industries of this country. How it operated, so far as our trade with the old Canadian provinces is concerned, may be exactly shown by comparing the statistics of free and dutiable imports in each country from the other during the period of the existence of the treaty:

Statement compiled from the official returns in the United States and in Canada, showing the imports of each country from the other, free and dutiable, during the existence of the treaty of reciprocity.

| United States imports from Canada. [From U. S. official returns.] | | | Canadian imports from the United States. [From Canadian official returns.†] | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|---|--------------|-------------|
| Fiscal year. | Dutiable. | Free. | Calendar year. | Dutiable. | Free. |
| 1855 | \$5,305,818 | \$6,876,496 | 1855 | \$11,449,472 | \$9,379,200 |
| 1856 | 640,375 | 16,847,822 | 1856 | 12,770,924 | 9,931,500 |
| 1857 | 691,097 | 17,600,737 | 1857 | 9,966,428 | 10,258,200 |
| 1858 | 313,952 | 11,267,618 | 1858 | 8,473,607 | 7,161,900 |
| 1859 | 504,969 | 13,703,748 | 1859 | 9,036,371 | 8,556,500 |
| 1860 | 434,532 | 18,418,501 | 1860 | 8,532,544 | 8,740,400 |
| 1861 | 358,240 | 18,287,217 | 1861 | 8,346,633 | 11,859,400 |
| 1862 | 227,059 | 15,030,753 | 1862 | 6,128,783 | 16,514,000 |
| 1863 | 425,135 | 18,245,638 | 1863 | 3,974,396 | 14,483,200 |
| 1864* | 1,161,981 | 31,260,034 | 1864, (first half) | 2,177,003 | 5,775,300 |
| 1865 | 748,374 | 29,798,803 | 1865, (fiscal year) | 3,994,226 | 10,829,200 |
| 1866 | 3,744,643 | 42,454,827 | 1866, (fiscal year) | 4,362,167 | 10,880,000 |
| Totals..... | 14,556,175 | 239,792,284 | Totals..... | 89,209,554 | 124,372,200 |

* Estimated Canadian proportion of trade with the British North American Possessions, not discriminated in the returns for 1864.
 † These figures are taken from a table compiled by the secretary of the Montreal Board of Trade, Mr. William J. Patterson.

The trade represented in the columns of free goods, on the two sides of the foregoing table, is, of course, the trade in which the operation of the reciprocity treaty is to be looked for. With the traffic in duty-pay-

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| | Free. |
|----|-----------|
| 72 | 89,379,2 |
| 24 | 9,333,5 |
| 28 | 10,258,2 |
| 07 | 7,161,95 |
| 71 | 8,556,54 |
| 44 | 8,740,4 |
| 33 | 11,859,0 |
| 84 | 16,514,0 |
| 06 | 14,483,2 |
| 03 | 5,775,3 |
| 26 | 10,820,3 |
| 37 | 10,880,6 |
| 54 | 124,372,2 |

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n duty-pay

ing commodities, which was carried on wholly outside of its provisions, the treaty had nothing to do, except so far as that independent com-
merce was indirectly stimulated by the activities to which the treaty
gave direct encouragement. The actual treaty trade, therefore, which
occurred between the two countries during the period of the existence
of the convention of 1854, shows an inequality of exchanges very nearly
in the proportion of two to one. Two hundred and thirty-nine millions
of dollars' worth of Canadian products found a free market in the United
States, under the provisions of the treaty, against one hundred and
twenty-four millions of American products for which the treaty opened
a free market in the Canadas. Of the total Canadian commodities sold
in the United States during the twelve years' period, 94 per cent. came
free and but 6 per cent. paid duty, while 58 per cent. only of the Amer-
ican commodities sold in Canada passed free to their market, and 42 per
cent., or about half, paid tribute to the custom-houses of the provincial
government. Moreover, the entire sales from this country to Canada—
free goods and dutiable goods, domestic products and foreign reëx-
ports—altogether aggregated less for the twelve years by \$26,000,000,
than the *free goods* which Canadian producers were enabled by the
treaty to sell in the United States.

This was certainly very far from being an arrangement of *reciprocal*
free trade, and no statistical ingenuity, even taking advantage of the
imperfect *export* showing of official returns in either country, could ever
make the treaty appear otherwise than a badly one-sided bargain so far
as its commercial stipulations were concerned. Whether the fishery
privileges and the freedom of the navigation of the St. Lawrence, which
were thrown as make-weights into the scale, approximately constituted
an equivalent for the excess of advantage in trade that was gained by
the provinces, is a question about which some differences of opinion
have existed. It is certain that the privilege of navigating the St.
Lawrence remained an almost unused privilege during the whole term
of the treaty. How far it might be made valuable, by an enlargement
of the Welland and St. Lawrence canals, I shall not undertake to dis-
cuss.

THE FISHERIES.

So far as concerns the fisheries, there can be no doubt that the greater
freedom which our fishermen enjoyed under the treaty, in British waters
and at the provincial ports, was of importance to them. But it may
seriously be doubted whether the worth of all that they gained, over
and above what justly belonged to them before, and what justly belongs
to them now, under prior treaties, was greater than the worth of the
freedom of the markets of the United States to the people of the mari-
time provinces alone. It would seem that a full equivalent for our fish-
ing privileges was given to those provinces to whom belong whatever
rights of proprietorship there are in the coast-fishing grounds, and
that all the enormous unreciprocated trading advantages given to the
Canadas in the bargain were a pure gratuity. Under the operation of
the treaty the maritime provinces increased the sale in our markets of
the products of their own fishing from \$1,004,468 in 1854 to \$2,213,384
in 1865. Neither their fishing industries nor their fisheries sustained
any detriment from the admission of American fishermen within the
three-mile inshore line, while they profited to no small extent from the
selling of supplies to them. How much of actual profit the New Eng-
and fishermen found in the privilege of the inshore fisheries, to offset
the accompanying competition of the provincial fishermen with them in

their own home markets, it is hard to estimate, since our statistics are lamentably deficient in facts bearing upon the subject. Apparently, however, the value of the treaty to them was found more in the relief that it afforded from the annoyance and harassing application of provincial regulations, than in the yield of the fishing grounds to which they were admitted by it. At all events, the records of the enrolled tonnage employed in the mackerel and cod fisheries show no stimulation of the business during the period of the reciprocity treaty, but unmistakably the reverse, as may be seen in the statement below, taken from official sources :

Statement of the enrolled tonnage employed in the cod and mackerel fisheries from 1852 to 1869, inclusive.

| Years. | Cod fishery. | Mackerel fishery. | Years. | Cod fishery. | Mackerel fishery. |
|--------|--------------|-------------------|--------|--------------|-------------------|
| 1852 | 102,650 | 72,546 | 1862 | 122,862 | 80,590 |
| 1853 | 100,227 | 59,850 | 1863 | 117,289 | 51,010 |
| 1854 | 102,194 | 35,041 | 1864 | 92,744 | 55,490 |
| 1855 | 102,927 | 21,624 | 1865* | 59,228 | 41,200 |
| 1856 | 95,816 | 29,886 | 1866 | 42,796 | 46,580 |
| 1857 | 104,572 | 28,227 | 1867 | 36,708 | 31,400 |
| 1858 | 110,806 | 29,551 | | | |
| 1859 | 120,577 | 27,069 | 1868 | 83,886 | |
| 1860 | 136,653 | 26,110 | 1869 | 62,704 | |
| 1861 | 127,310 | 54,295 | | | |

* After 1865 the stated tonnage is either partly or wholly by "new" admeasurement, which produces some apparent diminution that is not real.

It appears from the foregoing statement that an actual and considerable decline in the number of American vessels engaged in the mackerel fisheries occurred during the first six years of the reciprocity treaty, and that, with the single exception of the year 1862, the business never employed so much tonnage throughout the whole period of the treaty as it had employed in the two years before the treaty was negotiated, while the tonnage previously employed in the cod fisheries was barely kept engaged until 1863, and after that likewise declined.

These facts are certainly very far from sustaining the prevalent idea particularly prevalent and much cherished in Canada, that the concessions added to our fishing rights on the British North American coasts by the reciprocity treaty greatly promoted the New England fishing interests, and were of such weighty value as to counterbalance the uneven sharing of the commercial privileges negotiated in the same contract. The importance with reference to these fisheries that came to be attached to the treaty of 1854, undoubtedly grew out of the welcome experience of relief from unfriendly laws and harassing officials which the American fishermen enjoyed under it, and the welcome quietness that it gave to quarrels and questions which were constantly giving rise to dangerous national controversies. Now that the treaty has ceased to exist, it is the recurrence of those same annoyances, and their consequence of blood, far more than the loss of the "inshore fisheries," or the disputed definition of the "inshore line," that gives seriousness and importance to the fisheries question. That they have been revived in the most troublesome forms that can be given to them—as they were made troublesome to the fullest extreme before the treaty of reciprocity was negotiated, for the politic purpose of heightening the importance to this country of some compromise that will end them—there is little room for questioning. Nor does it appear very doubtful that this policy originates at the same source from whence proceeded the shrewd diplomac

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by which, in the treaty of 1854, the maritime provinces were made to furnish the consideration for privileges in trade from which the Canadian provinces drew the lion's share of profit.

As between the United States and the maritime provinces, which are chiefly the parties in interest, the fisheries question could probably be settled very easily. Those provinces would gladly exchange the freedom of their fishing grounds, and every desired landing and harbor privilege, for free access to American markets with their fish, their oil, their coal, their gypsum, their lumber, their grindstones, and other products, and the best side of the bargain, so far as actual dollars and cents' worth is concerned, would be theirs at that. Indeed, so apparent to the people of the maritime provinces are the advantages of such an adjustment of things, that the sentiment in favor of securing it by actual annexation of themselves and their fisheries to the United States has strength enough to be boldly outspoken, and to support at least two prominent organs of its public expression in the province of Nova Scotia. Had an effort been made, at the termination of the inequitable treaty of reciprocity, to negotiate a settlement of the fisheries question on the basis of free trade with the provinces to whom the chiefly valuable fisheries belong—then separate as the since confederated provinces were—the situation of affairs in British North America might now have been considerably different.

from 1852 to

| | Mackerel fish ery. |
|----|-----------------------|
| 82 | 80, 50 |
| 89 | 51, 01 |
| 94 | 55, 40 |
| 98 | 41, 30 |
| 96 | 46, 58 |
| 98 | 31, 40 |

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32, 704

IS RECIPROCAL FREE TRADE PRACTICABLE?

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It is made plain enough by the showing of the facts presented in this report that abundant reasons exist for a strong desire on our part, as well as on theirs, to bring about an adjustment of our commercial relations with all the British colonial states that are in neighborhood to us, and especially with the Canadian provinces, upon a more liberal and more natural footing. But it is made equally plain that the United States can never, in justice to themselves, effect that adjustment upon anything like the bases of the old treaty of reciprocity. We want a more free and a more extended intercourse in trade with the four millions of people whose territory, in so many respects, is the geographical complement of our own; but we want that freedom of intercourse to take a range considerably beyond the raw productions in which the two countries are mere competitors of each other, and with reference to which our markets are necessarily of far greater value to the provinces than theirs to us. We want, not merely to exchange breadstuffs, and provisions, and coal, and hides and tallow with them, but to sell them our cottons, our boots and shoes, our machinery, and our manufactures generally, in trade for their lumber, their live stock, their ashes, their plaster, their furs, their minerals, and the general products of their farms. We want, in fact, such an adjustment of the trade that the provinces shall not sell what they have to sell in the United States and buy what they have to buy in Great Britain.

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Is the arrangement of a reciprocal free trade extended to that range of commodities practicable? Apparently it is not, under present conditions. If the free admission of American commodities is suggested in the provinces, there arises at once the objection that their relations with Great Britain forbid it; that they cannot discriminate against that country in favor of this, and that their revenue necessities will not permit the removing of duties from the products of both. Nor could we on this side afford the introduction of a state of free trade between our territory and the provinces, with the circumstances of the two countries

remaining as they are; with high prices and high wages prevailing upon one side of the line, and low wages and low prices prevailing upon the other; with the industries of the two people toned, if we may so express it, in widely different keys. To obliterate the boundary line, commercially speaking, while these contrasts of circumstance and the causes behind them existed to still define it in every industrial respect, would simply invite the removal of a good part of our manufacturing establishments across the frontier, to enjoy the cheap scale in making and the dear scale in selling their products. Of course, time would finally level all the differences existing at first, but the process would assuredly be an expensive one to the United States.

A ZOLLVEREIN.

It appears, therefore, that an intimate freedom of commerce between this country and its northern neighbors, which is so desirable for both parties, cannot be contemplated except in connection with a material change in the conditions of the foreign relationship that the provinces sustain toward us. It involves, of necessity, an entire identification of the material interests of the two countries, by their common association, in some form or other. If the provinces do not choose to become one with us politically, they must at least become one with us commercially before the barriers are thrown down which shut them out from an equal participation with us in the energetic working of the mixed activities of the new world, and which deprive us, in a great measure, of the reinforcement that they are capable of bringing to those activities. The alternative of annexation is the zollverein, or a customs union, after the plan of that under which the German states secured free trade among themselves and identity of interest in their commerce with the outside world.

A majority of the people of the British provinces may not yet be prepared in feeling (though many of them are) for an arrangement which probably involves the disjoining of their political attachment to Great Britain, and the assumption for themselves of a state of political independence; but the time cannot be very distant when the persuasion of their interests will overpower the hardly explainable sentiment by which it is opposed. Perpetually made conscious, of late years, that the parental nation to which they have loyally clung is more than ready to dismiss them to an independent career, with a hearty God-speed, and that they are far more endangered than protected by their anomalous connection with Great Britain, their feeling with reference to that connection has confessedly undergone a great change. At the present time the inhabitants of the provinces appear to be in a doubtful, wavering, transition state of opinion and sentiment, with regard to their future policy as a people; much affected, on the one hand, by dissatisfaction with their relations to England, and, on the other hand, by a mistaken belief that it is the ambitious policy and fixed purpose of their American neighbors to coerce them into a surrender of themselves and their territory to the United States. That it is alike against the political convictions and against the manifest interest of this nation to covet the forcible absorption into its body-politic of any unwilling, alien, discontented community of people, so large as that of the British provinces and that their accession to it is only desirable, and only desired, if the come by free choosing of their own, is a fact which they will probably discern when their reflections have become more deliberate.

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them which it ought not to be difficult for the people of the provinces to understand. It is the unwillingness of a reasonable jealousy, and of a just, prudential selfishness, to extend the material benefits of membership in the American Union, without its responsibilities and reciprocal obligations, to communities with which the certain relations of an independent friendship cannot be cultivated or maintained; which are controlled by a distant foreign power, and which are at all times liable to be placed in an attitude of unfriendliness or hostility to this country by causes outside of themselves, or through events in connection with which they have nothing on their own part to do. Between two equally independent and responsible nationalities, homogeneous in blood and character, and with every interest in common, situated as the United States and their northern neighbors are toward each other, it would be as easy to settle the relations of intimate fellowship upon an enduring basis, as it is made difficult to do so in the case of these provinces, by reasons of their dependent status.

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The circumstances which make the common boundary of the two countries an actual barrier instead of an imaginary line, are under their control, not ours. It is for them to determine which affects them most importantly, their political association with Great Britain, or their commercial and industrial association in interest with the United States, and which shall be yielded to the other, since the two are unquestionably in conflict. There is no apparent evasion of the choice that they must make.

THE TRANSIT TRADE.

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In every commercial respect the dependence of the provinces of the Dominion of Canada—especially of the old Canadian provinces—upon the United States, is almost absolute. To say so is not to make an arrogant boast, but to state a simple fact. Restricted as the intercourse between the Canadas and this country unhappily is now, they derive from it almost wholly the life which animates their industry and their enterprise. The railroad system which gives them a circulation of energies, and by which their resources are being developed, is the offspring of the East and West traffic of the United States. Its trunk lines are supported, and were made possible undertakings, by the carrying business that they command from point to point of the American frontier, across intervening Canadian territory. American commerce instigated the building of their Welland and St. Lawrence Canals, and furnishes the compensation for the cost of both. American commerce is the instigator to, and the guarantor for, every similar enterprise that is now contemplated in the provinces.

These are not exaggerated representations. They are borne out by the returns of the traffic of the chief Canadian railways and canals.

The following is a statement, in tons, of the property transported through the Welland Canal in 1869, showing the proportions of American and Canadian commerce employing the canal:

| | Up. | Down. | Total. |
|---|---------|---------|---------|
| From American to American ports..... tons.. | 277,065 | 411,635 | 688,700 |
| From American to Canadian ports..... tons.. | 5,843 | 210,008 | 215,851 |
| From Canadian to American ports..... tons.. | 78,480 | 56,455 | 134,935 |
| From Canadian to Canadian ports..... tons.. | 16,666 | 178,751 | 195,417 |

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The following is a statement of the freight traffic of the Great Western Railway of Canada, for the year ending July 31, 1870:

| | Cattle. | Sheep. | Hogs. | Grain. | Other freight. | Receipts. |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|--------|-----------|----------------|------------|
| | Head. | Head. | Head. | Bushels. | Tons. | £ s. d. |
| Foreign traffic, eastward.. | 33,329 | 129,784 | 99,061 | 2,597,042 | 213,739 | 203,499 11 |
| Foreign traffic, westward.. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 136,825 | 90,662 9 |
| Total foreign traffic... | 33,329 | 129,784 | 99,061 | 2,597,042 | 350,564 | 303,162 1 |
| Local traffic, (both ways).. | 37,495 | 77,648 | 26,593 | 2,330,555 | 324,585 | 194,191 14 |

I have been unable to procure a statement of the traffic of the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada, the management of which appears to pursue a policy of concealment with regard to its business; but very much the same state of facts would undoubtedly be shown on that road as on the Great Western. The extent to which the Grand Trunk Railway share in the flour and grain trade of the United States, appears in the following statement of the quantities of those articles which were shipped upon it from its two western frontier termini, Sarnia and Goderich, in the year 1869:

| | Flour. | Wheat. | Corn. | Other grain. |
|--|----------|----------|-----------|--------------|
| | Barrels. | Bushels. | Bushels. | Bushels. |
| From United States to United States, in transit..... | 451,830 | 225,900 | 1,692,134 | 183,6 |
| From United States to Canada..... | 90,112 | ..... | 670,230 | 48,8 |

The foregoing figures supply their own commentary and fully sustain the remark with which they were introduced, that the main railway and canals of Canada owe their existence and their support to the commerce of the United States, in the transportation of which they share.

On the other hand, a large portion of the commerce between the old Canadian provinces (Ontario and Quebec) and foreign countries, other than our own, is carried on through the United States. This is made necessary by the winter closing of the St. Lawrence, and by the fact that no railroad connection between the Canadian interior and the seaport of the maritime provinces exists, and that one can be formed only by taking so wide, costly, and inconvenient a circuit that its commercial usefulness when realized will be very slight. According to the "Trade and Navigation" tables published by the government of the Dominion the foreign goods passing through the United States under bond to the Canadian importer, in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1869, amounted in value to \$6,825,165. This is exclusive of foreign goods purchased in the United States market, in bond, to the value of \$1,701,965.

According to the returns compiled in the Bureau of Statistics at Washington, the foreign commodities carried through the United States to Canada in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1869, amounted to the value of \$14,843,620, (more than double the quantity appearing in the Canadian statistics,) and the Canadian commodities shipped through the United States to countries abroad aggregated \$5,794,197. In the fiscal year ended June 30, 1870, the goods shipped through the United States to Canada were of the value of \$16,519,637, and from Canada, \$6,932,690. The greater part of this *in transitu* trade is to and from Portland, Maine over the Grand Trunk Railway, as appears in the following statement of it for 1870, made by districts:

Portland
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| Receipts. | |
|-----------|------------|
| £ | ¢ |
| 739 | 203,499 11 |
| 825 | 90,662 9 1 |
| 504 | 303,162 1 |
| 585 | 194,191 14 |

| Districts. | Received from Canada. | Shipped to Canada. |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Portland | \$1,273,773 | \$10,768,800 |
| Vermont | 3,455,740 | 2,562,014 |
| Detroit | 119,572 | 111,270 |
| Port Huron | 59,017 | 7,975 |
| New York | 12,093 | 2,861,150 |
| Passamaquoddy, Maine | 7,701 | 7,701 |
| Milwaukee | 2,409 | |
| Boston | 2,388 | 260,127 |
| Total | 6,932,693 | 16,519,637 |

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No one will question that we find convenience and advantage in the use of Canadian channels for the passage of our commerce between the Eastern and Western States, nor that we find profit in acting as the carriers of so large a part of the commerce of Canada with the outside world. Both these arrangements of trade are of important value to this country, and its interests would suffer materially from any suspension of either; but the difference in the situation of the two countries with reference to them is very marked. To the Canadian provinces their importance is nothing less than vital, since, on the one hand, the very sustenance of the arterial system of the Canadas is derived from the American commerce which circulates through it; while, on the other hand, their own commerce with the world abroad can only be conducted at exceeding disadvantage, if at all, for five months of the year, otherwise than across the territory of the United States, and by the privilege of the customs regulations of the American Government. The contemplation of such a state of facts must make it a very serious question to the Canadian people whether they can afford to let their relations with the United States remain in a precarious state, subject to disturbance by causes that are totally foreign to themselves.

| Other grain |
|-------------|
| Bushels |
| 183,000 |
| 48,800 |

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The proposed arrangement of a commercial union, or Zollverein, with no tariff between the States and the independent provinces that become parties to it, and a common tariff for all outside trade—dividing the common revenue collected from customs duties upon equitable terms—is an arrangement which would place the provinces in the utmost security of interested relationship with this country, and which, beyond all question, would yield great advantage and profit to both people. There are obstacles and apparent objections, to be sure, in the way of such an arrangement, but they are less serious in the reality than in the appearance. The objection raised, on the other side, upon the score of the wide difference that has existed of late years between the tariff policy of the United States and the tariff policy of the Dominion, is an objection which a few years more seem likely to remove, in any event. While the tendency in this country is toward a moderation of the extreme protection duties that were caused by the necessities of the war, the tendency in Canada, with reference to duties, is a steadily advancing one. Opinions favorable to a pronounced policy of protection are manifestly gaining very decided strength in the Dominion, and some, at least, of the prominent public men now in office, including the premier of one of the provinces, are among their advocates. Within the last year, the Congress of the United States reduced and abolished duties in the American tariff, estimated at the sum of \$26,000,000 per annum, while the parliament of the Dominion, at its corresponding session, made considerable

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additions to the Canadian tariff. Within the past twelve years the average rate of the Canadian tariff has at least doubled. In the last fiscal year, the duties collected in the Dominion amounted to 21 per cent. on the dutiable commodities imported. In the same year, it is true, the duties collected in the United States averaged 46 per cent. on the dutiable commodities imported, but the current fiscal year will probably show a falling of the latter rate to less than 40 per cent. and an advance in the former rate to perhaps 23 or 24 per cent. The wide difference by which the two countries have been apart in their tariff policy is certainly destined to disappear in no very long time, whatever their relations to each other may be.

CANADA AS A "CHEAP COUNTRY."

It was remarked not long since, by a prominent Canadian gentleman, that the policy of the Dominion was to make a cheap country. That policy has undoubtedly been successful in realizing its object; but whether "cheapness," as an ultimate end, is a wisely-chosen object of public policy may be questioned.

WAGES AND THE COST OF LIVING.

To ascertain how labor stands affected by the cheapness that prevails among our northern neighbors, I have procured a representative statement of wages and of the prices of articles that enter most into the cost of living, taken at several points in Ontario, in the two chief towns of New Brunswick, and in the city of Quebec. The mean average between the four points represented in Ontario is, I think, a fair one for that province, which is by far the most active and prosperous section of the Dominion; that between the two towns reported from in New Brunswick is, no doubt, something above the general average of wages, and, possibly, of prices, in the province. How nearly the summer average of wages in the city of Quebec represents the same in the province of Quebec I am not now able to say, though it is certainly indicative of the prevailing state of industry.

These figures are placed, below, in comparison with similar figures representing the mean average of wages and prices in the States of New York and Maine, the latter of which are derived from the elaborate tables upon the subject compiled and published within the past year by the Bureau of Statistics at Washington. The New York and Maine report is for the year 1869, while the Canadian statement presents the average prices of labor and of commodities that prevailed during the summer of 1870; but, so far as the difference in time affects the accuracy of the comparison, it is rather to the advantage of the Canadian side, since prices in the United States have declined to some extent during the year past.

Wages in Ontario, in New Brunswick, and in the city of Quebec, during the summer of 1870, compared with wages in New York and in Maine, during the year 1869.

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Wages in Ontario, in New Brunswick, and in the city of Quebec, during the summer of 1870, compared with wages in New York and in Maine, during the year 1869.

| Occupations. | Province of Ontario. | | | | Province of New Brunswick. | | | United States. | | Ratios. | | | | |
|---|----------------------|-----------|------------|----------|---------------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|---|
| | Ottawa City. | Hamilton. | Brantford. | Chatham. | Average in (in- tario, 1870. | St. John's. | Fredrickton. | Average in N. Brunswick, 1870. | City of Quebec, 1870. | Average in New York, 1869. | Average in Maine, 1869. | Ratio of wages in Ontario to wages in New York. | Ratio of wages in New Brun- wick to wages in Maine. | Ratio of wages in city of Que- bec to wages in New York. |
| Blacksmith..... daily.. | \$2 00 | \$1 75 | \$1 50 | \$1 75 | \$1 75 | \$1 50 | \$1 37½ | \$1 44 | \$1 25 | \$2 74 | \$2 79 | 1 to 1.57 | 1 to 1.94 | 1 to 2.19 |
| Bricklayers or masons..... daily.. | 2 50 | 2 75 | 2 25 | 2 00 | 2 57½ | 2 50 | 1 37½ | 1 94 | 1 62½ | 3 50 | 3 36 | 1 to 1.47 | 1 to 1.73 | 1 to 2.15 |
| Carpenters..... daily.. | 2 00 | 1 75 | 1 50 | 1 75 | 1 81 | 1 75 | 1 50 | 1 62½ | 1 00 | 2 97 | 2 76 | 1 to 1.61 | 1 to 1.69 | 1 to 2.07 |
| Painters..... daily.. | 1 75 | 1 62½ | 1 50 | 1 62½ | 1 62½ | 1 70 | 1 50 | 1 60 | 1 25 | 2 94 | 2 73 | 1 to 1.81 | 1 to 1.70 | 1 to 2.34 |
| Shoemakers..... daily.. | 2 25 | 2 25 | 2 25 | 2 00 | 2 19 | 2 36 | 1 50 | 2 00 | 1 82½ | 3 60 | 3 50 | 1 to 1.64 | 1 to 1.73 | 1 to 2.30 |
| Shoemakers..... daily.. | 1 50 | 1 55 | 1 55 | 1 55 | 1 31 | 1 00 | 1 37½ | 1 19 | 1 90 | 2 38 | 2 36 | 1 to 1.81 | 1 to 1.96 | 1 to 2.64 |
| Tailors..... daily.. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 31 | 1 50 | 1 37½ | 1 44 | 1 72½ | 2 47 | 2 61 | 1 to 1.68 | 1 to 1.61 | 1 to 2.19 |
| Wheewrights..... daily.. | 2 50 | ..... | 2 50 | 1 75 | 2 25 | 1 50 | 1 17 | 1 34 | 1 50 | 2 97 | 2 34 | 1 to 1.32 | 1 to 1.71 | 1 to 1.98 |
| Ordinary farm laborers... per month, with board.. | 12 00 | 12 00 | 15 00 | 15 00 | 13 50 | 12 00 | 12 50 | 12 55 | 9 00 | 18 31 | 15 00 | 1 to 1.36 | 1 to 1.71 | 1 to 2.04 |
| Other common laborers... per day, without board.. | 1 00 | 1 00 | 1 00 | 1 00 | 1 00 | 1 00 | 1 00 | 1 00 | 90 | 1 90 | 1 61 | 1 to 1.30 | 1 to 1.71 | 1 to 2.11 |
| Female servants..... per month, with board.. | 6 00 | 6 00 | 5 00 | 5 00 | 5 50 | 6 00 | 4 50 | 5 25 | 90 | 9 75 | 9 75 | 1 to 1.11 | 1 to 1.11 | 1 to 2.11 |

Mean ratio of wages in Ontario to wages in New York, in employments named above..... 1 to 1.65
 Mean ratio of wages in New Brunswick to wages in Maine, in employments named above..... 1 to 1.78
 Mean ratio of wages in city of Quebec to wages in New York, in employments named above..... 1 to 2.38

If we reduce the wages paid in the United States to their equivalent in the currency with which Canadian workmen were paid, by calculation of the current premium on gold in 1869, (which averaged about 32 per cent., we shall find that wages in New York average 25 per cent. more in the gold value than wages in Ontario, and 80 per cent. more than in the city of Quebec, and that the gold value of wages in Maine is 35 per cent. greater than in New Brunswick.

But the fairer comparison of the earnings of labor in the two countries is to ascertain the purchasing value of each, or their ratio in each country to the cost of living. This we do in the table subjoined, which exhibits the prices of the principal articles of common consumption and the ordinary rates of board and house rent, in the same localities that are cited in the foregoing table, and for the same periods of time:

Prices in Ontario, in New Brunswick, and in the city of Quebec, during the summer of 1870, compared with prices in New York and in Maine during the year 1869.

Prices in Ontario, in New Brunswick, and in the city of Quebec, during the summer of 1870, compared with prices in New York, &c.—Continued.

| Articles. | Province of Ontario. | | | | Province of New Brunswick. | | City of Quebec, 1870. | | United States. | | Ratios. | | |
|---|----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|---|---|--|
| | Ottawa City. | Hamilton. | Bramford. | Chatham. | Average in Ontario, 1870. | St. John's. | Frederickton. | Average in New Brunswick, 1870. | Average in New York, 1869. | Average in Maine, 1869. | Ratio of prices in Ontario to prices in New York. | Ratio of prices in N. Brunswick to prices in Maine. | Ratio of prices in city of Quebec to prices in New York. |
| GROCERIES—Continued. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sugar, yellow, "C"..... | \$0 08 | \$0 12½ | \$0 11 | \$0 11 | \$0 11 | \$0 11 | \$0 11 | \$0 11 | \$0 15 | \$0 15 | 1 to 1.45 | 1 to 1.36 | 1 to 1.45 |
| do..... | | | | | | | | | | | 1 to 1.53 | 1 to 1.36 | 1 to 1.36 |
| Coffee, "B"..... | | 10 | 12 | 11 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 12½ | 17 | 17 | 1 to 1.57 | 1 to 1.02 | 1 to 1.57 |
| Syrup..... | 60 | 1 00 | 75 | 75 | 77½ | 95 | 1 00 | 97½ | 1 18 | 1 00 | 1 to 1.57 | 1 to 1.33 | 1 to 1.71 |
| Soap, common..... | 04 | 06 | 07 | 10 | 07½ | 09 | 09 | 07 | 12 | 12 | 1 to 1.71 | 1 to 1.33 | 1 to 1.71 |
| Starch..... | 07 | 12½ | 12 | 12 | 11 | 16 | 7 | 17 | 13 | 16 | 1 to 1.18 | 1 to 0.94 | 1 to 1.18 |
| FUEL. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Coal..... | 6 00 | 7 50 | 8 00 | 7 00 | 7 12½ | 5 50 | 6 00 | 5 75 | 8 10 | 11 20 | 1 to 1.14 | 1 to 1.95 | 1 to 0.95 |
| Wood, hard..... | 3 50 | 6 00 | 5 00 | 2 50 | 4 25 | 5 25 | 3 50 | 4 37½ | 6 00 | 6 00 | 1 to 1.48 | 1 to 1.37 | 1 to 1.48 |
| do..... | 1 50 | 3 00 | 3 00 | 1 75 | 2 31 | 3 00 | 2 50 | 3 00 | 4 12 | 3 15 | 1 to 1.78 | 1 to 1.26 | 1 to 1.37 |
| LIGHT. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Oil, coal..... | 40 | 25 | 30 | 30 | 31 | 40 | 50 | 45 | 46 | 49 | 1 to 1.48 | 1 to 1.09 | 1 to 1.15 |
| DOMESTIC DRY GOODS. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Shirtings, brown, 4-4, standard quality..... | 10 | 11 | 12½ | 10 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 14½ | 18 | 17 | 1 to 1.64 | 1 to 1.17 | 1 to 1.20 |
| do..... | 12½ | 15 | 12½ | 13 | 13 | 18 | 21 | 19½ | 20 | 17 | 1 to 1.54 | 1 to 0.87 | 1 to 1.11 |
| Sheetings, bleached, 4-4, standard quality..... | 19 | 28 | 24 | 25 | 24 | 28 | 28 | 28 | 40 | 21 | 1 to 0.87 | 1 to 0.57 | 1 to 0.52 |
| do..... | 24 | 50 | 50 | 41 | 41 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 21 | 1 to 0.68 | 1 to 0.42 | 1 to 0.56 |
| Sheetings, bleached, 8-8, standard quality..... | 17 | 19 | 22 | 16 | 18½ | 22 | 30 | 29 | 31 | 28 | 1 to 1.51 | 1 to 1.14 | 1 to 0.99 |
| Cotton flannel..... | 26 | 23 | 33 | 20 | 25½ | 28 | 30 | 29 | 34 | 33 | 1 to 1.14 | 1 to 1.14 | 1 to 1.31 |
| Tickings, good quality, wide..... | 11 | | | 12½ | 12 | 15 | 18 | 16½ | 11 | 14 | 1 to 0.91 | 1 to 0.85 | 1 to 1.31 |
| Prints..... | | | | 70 | 67 | 55 | 55 | 55 | 67 | 70 | 1 to 0.91 | 1 to 0.85 | 1 to 1.31 |
| Satinets and tweeds, medium quality..... | | | | 4 00 | 3 37½ | | | | 4 00 | 4 83 | 1 to 1.30 | 1 to 1.27 | 1 to 1.10 |
| Boots, men's heavy..... | 2 75 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| HOUSE-RENT. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Four-room tenements..... | 2 50 | 5 00 | 4 00 | 5 00 | 4 12½ | 2 00 | 4 50 | 3 75 | 8 40 | 4 45 | 1 to 2.04 | 1 to 1.19 | ..... |
| Six-room tenements..... | 4 00 | 8 00 | 6 00 | 8 00 | 6 50 | 3 00 | 5 50 | 4 25 | 11 20 | 6 45 | 1 to 1.72 | 1 to 1.52 | ..... |
| BOARD. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| For men..... | 3 00 | 3 00 | 3 00 | 3 00 | 3 00 | 4 00 | 3 25 | 3 62½ | 4 50 | 3 72 | 1 to 1.50 | 1 to 1.03 | 1 to 1.50 |
| For women..... | 2 00 | 2 50 | 2 50 | 2 00 | 3 25 | | | | 3 50 | 2 70 | 1 to 1.55 | 1 to 1.03 | 1 to 1.50 |

Mean ratio of prices in Ontario to prices in New York, from the list of articles named above..... 1 to 1.54.
 Mean ratio of prices in New Brunswick to prices in Maine, from the list of articles named above..... 1 to 1.42.

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| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|----------|------|------|----------|------|-----------|
| Four-room tenements..... | 2 50 | 5 00 | 4 00 | 5 00 | 4 12 1/2 | 3 00 | 4 50 | 3 75 | 3 00 | 1 to 1.19 |
| Six-room tenements..... | 4 00 | 8 00 | 6 00 | 8 00 | 6 50 | 3 00 | 5 50 | 4 55 | 3 00 | 1 to 1.19 |
| For men..... | 3 00 | 3 00 | 3 00 | 3 00 | 3 00 | 4 00 | 3 25 | 3 62 1/2 | 3 00 | 1 to 1.03 |
| For women..... | 3 00 | 2 50 | 2 50 | 2 00 | 3 25 | 4 00 | 3 25 | 3 62 1/2 | 3 00 | 1 to 1.50 |

Mean ratio of prices in Ontario to prices in New York, from the list of articles named above..... 1 to 1.54.
 Mean ratio of prices in New Brunswick to prices in Maine, from the list of articles named above..... 1 to 1.42.

According to the mean ratios obtained from the foregoing tables, the wages of the average workman in New York are 65 per cent. greater than the same wages in Ontario, while the cost of his living is but 58 per cent. greater; leaving a clear excess of 7 per cent. in his favor.

The wages of the average workman in Maine are 78 per cent. greater than the same wages in New Brunswick, and the cost of his living is but 42 per cent. greater; leaving a clear excess of 36 per cent. in his favor.

Between New York and the city of Quebec the difference is almost incredible: wages 138 per cent. higher in the former, and the cost of living but 43 per cent. higher, leaving 95 per cent. clear excess of earnings to labor in New York.

It may be doubted, however, whether a just ratio of prices is obtained by calculating the mean rate between prices in so miscellaneous a list. A more accurate calculation may be made by another method. Taking on each side equal quantities of the various articles quoted, in an estimate of the probable consumption of an ordinary family, I arrive at the following results: That which cost \$100 in gold in Ontario cost \$162 in currency in New York, or \$122 72 in gold; while for every \$100 of wages that the average workman received in Ontario, he was paid \$165 in currency in New York, or \$125 in gold. Excess of purchasing value in New York wages over Ontario wages, 2.28 per cent., gold measurement.

That which cost \$100 in gold in New Brunswick cost \$141 in currency in Maine, or \$106 82 in gold; while for every \$100 of wages that the average workman received in New Brunswick, he received \$178 currency, or \$134 84 gold in Maine. Excess of purchasing value in Maine wages over New Brunswick wages, 28 per cent., gold measurement.

That which cost \$100 in the city of Quebec, cost \$152 currency in the State of New York, or \$115 15 in gold; while for every \$100 of wages that the average workman received in Quebec, he was paid \$238 currency, or \$180 gold, in New York. Excess of purchasing value in New York wages over wages in the city of Quebec, 64.85 per cent., gold measurement.

In other words, by the same labor and with the same living, the average workman can make and save \$2 28 (gold), out of every \$100 of earnings, more in New York than in Ontario; \$28 more in Maine than in New Brunswick, and \$64 85 more in New York than in the city of Quebec.

It is certainly plain enough that labor gains nothing, but loses very seriously, from the state of cheapness prevailing in the Dominion.

THE SAVINGS OF INDUSTRY.

The state of a country with reference to the accumulating energy of its productive industries, and the general prosperity of its people, is indicated with tolerable certainty now-a-days by its savings institutions. The savings on deposit throughout the Dominion at the close of 1869, in the post office savings banks, in trustees' savings banks, in chartered banks, and in the hands of building societies, was estimated by the compiler of the "Canadian Year Book" at \$9,168,150. At the beginning of the same year the deposits in the savings banks of the State of New York, drawn from the earnings of but a little larger population, were returned at \$169,808,678, equivalent to about \$127,000,000 in gold, or fourteen times the total sum of savings in the Dominion. The savings deposited in Massachusetts at the same period, by a people numbering about one-third the population of the Dominion, were \$95,000,000, equiva-

lent to about \$71,000,000 in gold; and the latest published returns from the savings banks in all the New England States show as follows :

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Massachusetts..... | \$112, 119, 01 |
| Connecticut..... | 47, 904, 83 |
| Rhode Island..... | 27, 067, 07 |
| Maine..... | 10, 490, 36 |
| New Hampshire..... | 18, 759, 46 |
| Vermont..... | 2, 037, 93 |
| Total New England..... | <u>218, 378, 65</u> |

ACCUMULATED WEALTH.

Statistics from which to calculate the actual wealth of the provinces are not at present attainable. Even the assessed valuation of real and personal property for purposes of taxation I have been able to procure only for Ontario, and there no later than 1867. The comparison of property, as assessed in Canada and the United States, must be a tolerably just one, since the under-valuation cannot be far from alike in both cases. Ontario is by far the wealthiest of all the provinces, both actually and proportionately, and its official statement of the assessed value of real and personal property for three years is as follows :

| Years. | Assessed value of real estate. | Assessed value of personal property. | Total. |
|-----------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1865..... | \$292, 782, 016 | \$25, 357, 829 | \$258, 139, 845 |
| 1866..... | 238, 201, 657 | 26, 295, 087 | 264, 496, 744 |
| 1867..... | 212, 888, 435 | 23, 963, 077 | 236, 851, 512 |

* The fact that the assessed values of property were lowered to the extent of \$28,000,000 the year following the abrogation of the reciprocity treaty is certainly not without significance.

In Massachusetts, with not more than seventy per cent. of the population of Ontario and twenty per cent. of its occupied territory, the assessed valuation of real and personal property in the same three years was as follows :

| Year. | Assessed value of personal property. | Assessed value of real estate. | Total. |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 1865..... | \$386, 079, 955 | \$605, 761, 946 | \$991, 841, 901 |
| 1866..... | 430, 272, 298 | 651, 043, 703 | 1, 081, 316, 001 |
| 1867..... | 457, 728, 296 | 702, 165, 117 | 1, 165, 893, 413 |

These of course are valuations in a depreciated currency. In 1867 the average premium on gold was thirty-nine per cent. Reduced by that, the assessed valuation of property in Massachusetts was \$838,772,239 in gold, or about \$655 per capita, against \$236,851,512, or about \$131 per capita in Ontario.

In Ohio the assessed valuation of real and personal property, in 1866 was \$1,143,461,386, or \$816,758,132 in gold, equivalent to about \$35 per capita. Taking the Northern States of the Union together, they undoubtedly exhibit on the average more than double the value of property per capita that is shown in Ontario, where the proportionate value of property must largely exceed that in Quebec or in the maritime provinces.

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BANKING CAPITAL AND CIRCULATION.

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| \$112, 119, 00 |
| 47, 904, 83 |
| 27, 067, 07 |
| 10, 490, 36 |
| 18, 759, 40 |
| 2, 037, 93 |
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| 218, 378, 68 |

The capital employed in banking amounts to but \$32,753,242 in the entire Dominion, of which \$30,363,842 is in Ontario and Quebec, \$2,060,400 in Nova Scotia, and \$329,400 in New Brunswick. An active, vigorous, and enterprising state of business in so large a community of people is clearly impossible with that limited sum of capital in banking—a sum equal to but about \$8 per capita. In the nineteen States north of the Potomac and the Ohio and east of the Missouri, with a population of about 26,000,000 people, there is a capital of \$418,000,000 in national banks alone, or \$16 per capita, besides the capital of banks still doing business under State charters, which amounts to \$15,000,000 in the one State of New York. In the New England States the national bank capital is \$37 per capita, and in New York the total capital in chartered banking is \$28 per head.

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The currency in circulation, bank notes, and Dominion treasury notes, has rapidly swelled within the past year, from \$15,982,165 on the 1st of January, 1870, in Ontario and Quebec, to \$25,514,169 in the same provinces on the 1st of October last. At the first-named sum—less than \$5 per capita—the money in use (making full allowance for gold and silver in circulation) was as much too restricted for an energetic state of business as the inflated volume of currency in the United States is too stimulating. The process of inflation that has commenced so rapidly in the Dominion, however, bids fair in the end to more than remove all contrast in that particular.

| | |
|----|---------------|
| ue | Total. |
| 29 | \$258, 139, 8 |
| 87 | 264, 496, 7 |
| 77 | 236, 851, 5 |

PUBLIC DEBT.

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On the 30th of April, 1870, according to a statement from the auditor general, the public debt of the Dominion, deducting cash and banking accounts, was \$99,584,807. Apparently, however, this statement did not include the outstanding Dominion treasury notes in circulation, of which \$7,450,334 had been issued in October last. Relatively to population, this debt of the Dominion, amounting to about \$26 per capita, appears trifling in comparison with the debt of the United States; but relatively to the wealth of the two countries, their resources, and energies, it may be questioned, from the indications heretofore given, whether the disparity of the burden of debt is so great as many in the provinces imagine. Whatever the disparity may be, it will certainly disappear in the accomplishment of the policy of expenditure which the government of the Dominion has laid out, with reference to political necessities that grow wholly out of an anomalous situation—such, for example, as the building of the Intercolonial Railway and the projected railway across the continent to British Columbia, parallel with the line of the American Northern Pacific, to neither of which undertakings does the commerce of the continent offer any encouragement.

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| Total. |
| \$991, 841, 9 |
| 1, 081, 316, 6 |
| 1, 165, 893, 4 |

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IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION.

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If no other facts existed to show that the conditions of life in the Dominion of Canada, with its cheapness and its lighter taxes, as compared with the United States, are not conditions to be intelligently preferred ther, they w by those who are free to choose, the facts of immigration and emigration show it strikingly. Out of 74,365 foreign immigrants to the New World, who landed at Canadian ports in 1869, only 18,360 paused to seek homes in the Dominion, and 57,202 passed on to our Western States. In 1868 the number

reported as making a settlement in the Dominion was but 12,765, again in 1868 going through to the United States. For the year just closed at 10,000 the statistics of immigration into the Dominion at large are not yet attainable. Within a few days, however, the Ontario Commissioner of Agriculture, who has charge of immigration, has published his report from which it appears that the measures adopted in that province have attracted settlers from Great Britain, and to assist their removal, have largely increased the arrivals in Ontario during the past twelve months. The commissioner reports the number for the year ending December 31, 1870, at 25,290. Although to a great extent this does not represent the natural movement of immigration, but is the result of systematic efforts that are being made in England by various societies to deport some of the more suffering classes of the poor population of that country, so far as concerns Ontario, it produces a considerable change in the face of the heretofore existing. But if Ontario is making some gain of population from foreign immigration, that province, in this as in most matters, is a favored exception. Without much reasonable doubt the other provinces and especially Quebec, are steadily losing more by emigration to the United States than they gain by immigration from abroad.

I am indebted to Mr. Young, Chief of the Bureau of Statistics, for the following statement, compiled from returns made of immigrants arriving in the United States from the British North American possessions for the eleven years past:

| Years. | Number. | Years. | Number. |
|-----------|---------|------------|---------|
| 1860..... | 4,514 | 1867..... | 6,100 |
| 1861..... | 2,069 | 1868..... | 10,000 |
| 1862..... | 3,275 | 1869..... | 30,000 |
| 1863..... | 3,464 | 1870..... | 40,000 |
| 1864..... | 3,036 | | |
| 1865..... | 21,586 | Total..... | 158,000 |
| 1866..... | 32,150 | | |

But these are more than doubtful statistics; nor does it appear possible to secure any trustworthy enumeration of the persons who come into the United States from the British provinces with intent to make this country their home. The figures given above are obtained, I believe, from returns made by the officers of customs, in connection with the entering of household goods, which are admitted free as "settlers' effects." If exact to that extent, they would only represent the class of immigrants who come with families and household effects, wholly omitting the perhaps larger class of young men from the provinces who, at a seek their fortunes in the United States, and who, as they cross the frontier, are in no way to be distinguished from ordinary travelers. But even for what they purport to exhibit, I fear that our statistics of provincial emigration are not to be trusted. I have reason to know that some of the returns of immigration from frontier crossing points are almost entirely, if not wholly, founded upon careless guessing on the part of railway agents and clerks, as to the number of persons likely to have accompanied a given quantity of "settlers' effects." Perhaps these are exceptional cases, but more probably not, since there is nothing to compel the taking of the trouble which accuracy would require. It is possible, too, that the aggregate result of such estimating may be not far from the true fact, but that is a matter of no certainty.

As for the large class of immigrants of whom no account can possibly be taken when they cross the frontier, Mr. Young, who has been gathering

* 39 re.

12,765, againering information on the subject, thinks they may be safely estimated or just closeat 10,000 for the past year.

are not yet a All definite statements, however, with regard to this emigration from ommissioner the provinces must be made and received with considerable doubt. It ned his report can only be said with certainty (and that no one at all acquainted with t province the facts will dispute) that the annual movement from the Canadas and removal, has from the maritime provinces to the United States is very large. The welve month Dominion suffers in no respect more seriously than in the loss of the en- December terprising young men who are being constantly enticed away from it to ot represent seek wider opportunities in the United States than their own country tematic effort affords; some of them to return after a time, but the greater part to eport some establish permanent ties and make permanent homes in "the States." country, st Such are to be found everywhere in the Union, and no adopted element ge in the fac in the American population contributes more to its stock of energy or of populatio of greater value. During the late war many thousands of Canadian st matters, is young men volunteered in the Union army and shared our national ther provinces struggle with us, the larger proportion of the survivors of whom are gration to th probably citizens to-day under the government for which they fought.

d. From the province of Quebec, where the circumstances of the general atistics, for th population are growing less prosperous rather than improving, emigra- rants arrivin tion across the line into New England and elsewhere has assumed such possessions th proportions within the past two or three years as to become a very serious subject of discussion in the journals of the province. It is exceedingly unfortunate that we have no trustworthy data from which to calculate its extent. There are two migratory movements from Quebec, one periodical and temporary, the other permanent. Large numbers of the French Canadian laborers and small farmers leave their homes on the approach of winter, cross to the United States, find winter employment here, some even in the Southern States, and return to their homes again in the spring. How this number compares with those who permanently remove themselves to the United States it is impossible to say. That the latter have greatly multiplied during late years we know, from the importance which the French Canadian element is

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it appear possuming among the operatives in the New England factories, and from us who com what is acknowledged by observers in Quebec. Intelligent French tent to mak Canadian gentlemen in that province estimate that there are already obtained, I more of their race in the United States than at home. Said one of the nnection with ally newspapers of Montreal in October last: "Statistics tell us, and e as "settlem any one who has traveled in the United States will confirm the fact, ut the class that we annually suffer a heavier loss through native persons leaving , wholly om the country than the total figure of the immigration returns. There rovinces whre, at a low computation, half a million native-born Canadians now ey cross thomiced in the United States. They are established in the republic, ary travelers because they prefer that form of government, but because the spirit statistics of enterprise seemed to have died out on this soil, and there was no son to kno ed opened to skilled industry." The same newspaper, in an article a ossing point weeks previous, had stated the fact that "our farmers realize very s guessing oit e more for their hay and oats than they did thirty years since, and persons like the consequences are that farm lands are declining in value in the pro- s." Perhaps e. The returns, minus the labor, are smaller; the margin of profit here is not eaining to the farmer at the end of the year, after paying and feeding ould requir men, is less." It was said in a public address by one of the promi- ating may be public men of the province of Quebec a little more than a year ago: nty. "The emigration of common laborers to the States is something actually can possibly ming; and it could not be otherwise, for our water-powers are s been gather ected, our mines are closed, and we have no means of furnishing

employment to our people." Within a few weeks past, to cite one authority, the leading newspaper of the city of Quebec, the *Daily Chronicle*, made the following statement, which has a two-fold significance: "Unfortunately it is a truism, and requires no demonstration that ship-building, formerly the main industry of Quebec, has almost ceased to exist, and that consequently our laboring population, the bone and sinew of the body politic, were commencing to seek in the adjoining republic that employment which was no longer to be found here. Too many, indeed, already, we fear, have removed permanently from our province."

General evidence of the magnitude of the emigration that goes on from the Dominion to the United States is abundant, though the statistics to represent it in defined numbers, with tolerable exactness, are lacking. What is true of Quebec is undoubtedly true to not much less extent in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and if Ontario does not lose population in equal numbers it loses very considerably from a class where young blood is the life force of a country. Against these losses there is no equal offset or exchange. (Emigration from the United States to the provinces is limited, though valuable to the latter, because chiefly confined to men who go there with a definite enterprise in view, and generally with capital, to engage in lumbering, or mining, or salt making, or oil producing, or general speculation and trade. Under different conditions, the number of these would unquestionably be multiplied to a very great extent.)

PARTIAL PROSPERITY IN THE DOMINION.

I hope I shall not be accused of having labored to make a representation of circumstances unfavorable to our northern neighbors. I give facts as I have found them, in seeking, without preconceived notions, to ascertain the relative situation of affairs in the two countries, which came, as I have viewed it, a necessary part of the subject submitted to me for investigation. I group these facts here to show, as I think I do show, that if that which appears to be the only practicable arrangement under which a natural state of trade between the United States and the British provinces can be established, involves a change in conditions that prevail within the latter, assimilating them to the conditions existing in the United States, the change cannot be one to the detriment of the people of the provinces, and cannot form a forbidden obstacle to the arrangement.

I know and I do not contradict the claim to prosperity that is asserted in considerable portions of the Dominion. Prosperity, upon a moderate scale to which everything is adjusted in the provinces, exists throughout most of Ontario, in the city of Montreal, and in several small manufacturing towns that have grown up in the lower provinces to a degree of prosperity quite in contrast with the aspect of affairs, generally speaking, in Quebec, and for the most part prevailing in the maritime provinces. The people of Ontario are very comfortable; many of the towns show more life than they formerly did, are adding to their industries, and are slowly growing. One branch of manufacture, the woolen manufacture, has obtained quite a root, and has risen to considerable magnitude within a few years past; so much so as to diminish the importation of woolens nearly a million of dollars in 1869 from the importation of 1868. In railway enterprise there is a noticeable stimulus, life, stimulated in great part by the American transit trade, the

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partly directed toward the development of the "back settlements" of Ontario.

COMMERCIAL GROWTH OF MONTREAL.

But nowhere and in nothing else is the display of really energetic forces equal to that at Montreal. The city of Montreal has certainly made an astonishing advance in commercial importance within the last few years. The conspicuous feature, and, perhaps, the conspicuous cause connected with its commercial rise, has been the establishment and remarkable success of the splendid line of ocean steamers which single Canadian firm has placed afloat, connecting Montreal with both Liverpool and Glasgow by regular direct lines. Commencing in 1856 with four steamers and a capacity of 6,536 tons, this great fleet of the Messrs. Allan & Co. now numbers eighteen steam vessels, among the finest on the seas, with a total capacity exceeding 2,000 tons. The rise of this flourishing Canadian mercantile steam navy is a more notable fact by reason of its contrast with the decline of the ocean steam shipping of the United States.

DIVERSION OF AMERICAN GRAIN TRADE.

Perhaps it is owing chiefly to the organization of operations in commerce incident to the effect of the establishment of such lines of foreign connection, that Montreal began, two years ago, to accomplish a powerful diversion of the movement of our Western cereals away from New York. The very extensive sudden transition, particularly in the movement of wheat, which occurred in 1869, claims serious attention.

It appears in the following statement of flour and grain passing through the Welland Canal, from Lake Erie to Lake Ontario, the quantity stated as going "to Canada" being almost wholly destined for Montreal:

Quantities of flour and grain passing into Canada from the United States; also quantities in transit to ports in the United States during four years past.

| Year. | FLOUR. | | WHEAT. | | INDIAN CORN. | | OTHER GRAIN. | |
|-------|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| | To Canada. | Transit to United States. |
| | <i>Barrels.</i> | <i>Barrels.</i> | <i>Bushels.</i> | <i>Bushels.</i> | <i>Bushels.</i> | <i>Bushels.</i> | <i>Bushels.</i> | <i>Bushels.</i> |
| 1866 | 8, 102 | 866, 314 | 14, 963 | 5, 032, 071 | 488, 401 | 4, 250, 232 | 26, 168 | 20, 425 |
| 1867 | 4, 401 | 1, 073, 686 | 23, 804 | 5, 148, 714 | 295, 726 | 5, 448, 144 | 3, 128 | 323, 719 |
| 1868 | 63, 546 | 1, 455, 947 | 87, 223 | 7, 151, 612 | 526, 731 | 5, 680, 996 | 18, 502 | 845, 020 |
| 1869 | 105, 963 | 1, 306, 054 | 5, 458, 692 | 7, 996, 233 | 1, 186, 947 | 7, 024, 835 | 65, 835 | 1, 248, 470 |

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The statement for the last season I have not yet been able to procure, but there is reason to believe that the proportion taken to Montreal, compared with that passing to Oswego, Ogdensburg, and Cape Vincent, for shipment by canal and rail to New York and Boston, has increased rather than diminished.

But, noticeable as the commercial progress made by Montreal during few years past may appear, it obviously has not placed her, and gives no promise of placing her, at the height of importance which naturally belongs to the chief port of the great St. Lawrence outlet. For Montreal

occupies a position where, under conditions of equal rivalry with New York, Philadelphia, Boston, and Baltimore, there would unquestionably have risen, to-day, a great metropolis of not less than half a million souls, instead of a thriving city of one hundred and forty or fifty thousand people.

FAVORING CIRCUMSTANCES.

The moderate degree of prosperity that exists in the most favored section of the Dominion affords evidence, not to be disputed, in proof that the Canadian people suffered less from the abrogation of the reciprocity treaty in 1866 than they apprehended or than others expected. The expiration of the treaty happened at a most fortunate time for them, when several circumstances combined to break the effect of the suspension of free trade. The state of business in this country was just beginning to settle into composure after the upheaval and disturbance of the civil war. During the war, and for some time after, the exaggerated and incalculably fluctuating premium placed upon gold by the mad gambling that was rife, deprived our currency to some extent of its due purchasing power in the Canadian market, and introduced so much daily and hourly uncertainty of exchangeable value between American and Canadian money, that transactions in the Canadian markets by American purchasers were made difficult and hazardous. This had interfered seriously with the selling of Canadian products to the United States during the last half of the free trade period and when, otherwise, the marketing of those products in the United States would have been enormously stimulated. At times it had no doubt formed more of an obstruction to trade from the provinces than the duties since imposed have formed. But the one obstruction, of a fluctuating and uncertain purchasing medium, was disappearing, when another obstruction, of revived customs duties, arose, and it is clear enough that the immediate commercial effects of the latter occurrence were very considerably neutralized by the former; so that the people of the provinces did not feel the sudden loss of free trade with the United States as they otherwise would have done. Moreover, the Southern States began about the same time to become purchasers again of lumber, fish, &c., from the provinces, which, for five years before, had had the part of their American trade entirely cut off. These circumstances, taken account, I think, for the otherwise singular appearance of the fact that our importations from the provinces have rather increased, on the average, than declined since the termination of the reciprocity treaty.

LUMBER AND BARLEY.

Referring to the comparative table heretofore given, which shows the extent of our annual importation of several of the chief staples of Canadian production, we find that the two articles of lumber and barley together formed one-third of the entire purchases of the United States from the Dominion in 1869, and that these two articles, more than all others, have exhibited a total indifference to the terms upon which they are admitted to the United States. In both cases the undoubted fact is, that this country has need of the foreign supply. The sources of our own lumber supply are rapidly receding from the great markets in which it is consumed, and are rapidly being exhausted. Every year is making it more a necessity that the Eastern and Middle States should buy lumber and timber from the provinces. Under such circumstances, and in view of the fact that this country would seem to have more interest

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the conservation of its fast-disappearing forests than in the encourage-
 ment of their consumption, it may be well to consider, without reference
 to the general question of reciprocal policy, whether it is not due to
 American consumers that the present high duty of 20 per cent. on Cana-
 dian lumber should be modified, taking another step in the direction
 which was taken at the last session of Congress, when the duties on
 saw-logs and ship-timber were removed. Much the same considerations
 apply to the article of barley, for which the consumers in this country
 are, to a considerable extent, dependent upon a country whose climate
 and soil are better adapted than most of our own territory to its pro-
 duction.

TRADE WITH THE NON-CONFEDERATED PROVINCES.

With this imperfect discussion of them, I submit the main facts which
 I have collected. Within the time allotted to my inquiry I have been
 unable to extend it, except very superficially, beyond the provinces em-
 braced in the Dominion of Canada.

Our trade with the three provinces of Newfoundland, (including Cape
 Breton,) Prince Edward's Island, and British Columbia, which remain
 outside the confederation of the Dominion, (although British Columbia
 seems to be at the point of becoming joined with it,) is represented for
 the last two years in the reports of Commerce and Navigation, compiled
 in the United States Bureau of Statistics, as follows:

| | 1869. | 1870. |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Imports..... | \$1,737,304 | \$1,581,959 |
| Domestic exports..... | 2,703,173 | 3,204,668 |
| Foreign re-exports..... | 446,661 | 347,360 |

Relatively to its extent, this trade appears much more favorable to
 the United States than our trade with the Dominion, and relatively to
 their population and commerce the non-confederated provinces are far
 the better customers of this country. The subject of our relations with
 them, moreover, is made the more interesting and important by reason
 of the unwillingness that their people manifest to attach themselves to
 the British colonial confederation, and it claims an examination which
 I regret that I have not been able to give to it.

In the United States official statistics of late years, only a distinction be-
 tween the "Dominion of Canada" and "all other British possessions in
 North America" is made, so that our trade transactions with the several
 provinces cannot be discriminated. Attempting to procure returns from
 the several customs districts with such a discrimination made, I suc-
 ceeded but partially, and with a result too imperfect for use, except in
 one or two particulars.

NEWFOUNDLAND AND PRINCE EDWARD'S ISLAND.

Out of twenty-eight collection districts from which I have been fur-
 nished with statistics relating to the last fiscal year, only five report
 transactions with Newfoundland and Prince Edward's Island, as follows:

Imports in certain districts from Newfoundland, Cape Breton, and Prince Edward's Island during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1870.

| Districts. | Products of the forests. | Products of agriculture. | Products of the mines. | Animals and their products. | Products of the fisheries. | Miscellaneous. | Total. |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Boston | \$621 | \$21,767 | \$1,537 | \$41,167 | \$79,073 | \$10,431 | \$154,606 |
| New York | 373 | 5,877 | 121,520 | ..... | 81,373 | 5,447 | 214,590 |
| Providence, R. I. .... | ..... | ..... | 2,530 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2,530 |
| New Bedford, Mass. .... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 29,096 | ..... | 29,096 |
| Total | 993 | 27,644 | 123,587 | 41,167 | 189,541 | 15,878 | 400,710 |

Domestic exports from certain districts to Newfoundland, Cape Breton, and Prince Edward's Island during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1870.

| | |
|---|-----------|
| From Boston to Newfoundland | \$299,000 |
| From Boston to Prince Edward's Island | 105,000 |
| From Wilmington, N. C. (lumber to Newfoundland) | 2,000 |
| From New York | 1,000 |
| Total | 407,000 |

The foregoing returns no doubt represent most of the trade carried on during the past fiscal year with the insular provinces named.

MANITOBA.

Our present trade with the great central region of British America formerly known as the Red River country, but now politically organized and incorporated with the Dominion of Canada, under the name of the province of Manitoba, is imperfectly shown by the following statement which is furnished to me by the collector of customs at Pembina, Minnesota. It exhibits for the last two fiscal years the imports entered and the exports cleared from the customs district of Minnesota, through which the trade between the United States and the Manitoba country necessarily passes:

1869.

IMPORTS.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Imports entered for immediate consumption | \$60,402 |
| Imports entered warehouse | 151,645 |
| Total imports | 212,047 |

EXPORTS.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Export of goods the growth, produce, and manufacture of the United States | 174,913 |
| Exports of foreign dutiable goods | 14,548 |
| Total exports | 189,461 |

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IMPORTS.

| | |
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| Imports entered for immediate consumption..... | \$34,199 29 |
| Imports entered warehouse..... | 186,142 57 |
| Total imports..... | 220,341 86 |

EXPORTS.

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Exports of domestic merchandise..... | 152,596 00 |
| Exports of foreign dutiable goods..... | 20,133 47 |
| Total exports..... | 172,729 47 |

| | |
|----------------|-----------|
| Miscellaneous. | Total. |
| \$10,431 | \$154,000 |
| 5,447 | 214,000 |
| | 2,000 |
| | 20,000 |
| 15,878 | 400,000 |

Prince Edward

The special deputy collector at Pembina, Mr. N. E. Nelson, who furnishes this statement to me, writes that the entire amount of exports to Manitoba, through Minnesota, is not represented in it, for the reason that large quantities of domestic goods, such as tobacco, sugars, sirups, gunpowder, matches, liquors, &c., are entered for exportation in bond at other districts, free of the internal revenue tax, and, simply passing in transit through the Minnesota district, do not appear in its returns. The same is true of a large quantity of foreign goods reexported to Manitoba. The United States imports from that province, which consist almost wholly of raw furs and buffalo robes, are probably all entered in the Minnesota district, since the large shipments made by way of Hudson's Bay go abroad.

trade carried named.

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 Pembina, Minn
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Our present trade with that vast new region of richly productive territory in the basin of Lake Winnipeg, which the pioneer forces of civilization are just preparing to invade, is inconsiderable; but its future possibilities are beyond calculation. The time is approaching very near when it is clearly destined to give a new phase to the question of relations between this country and British North America, and when it will bring to bear upon that question the pressure of an inexorable geographical necessity, that will compel it to some solution.

CONCLUSION.

In concluding my report, it is proper that I should acknowledge the extreme courtesy with which I have been assisted in procuring information by the members of the Canadian government, and by all of its officials, as well as by those of this Government, to whom I have had occasion to apply.

Respectfully submitted.

J. N. LARNED.

Hon. GEORGE S. BOUTWELL,
Secretary of the Treasury.

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| \$60,402 |
| 151,645 |
| 212,047 |
| 174,913 |
| 14,548 |
| 189,461 |

