

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Prince Edward Island is about 140 miles in length, and 34 in greatest breadth. Its coasts are so much indented by bays that no part of the Island is more than 10 miles from salt water. Its area is 2,100 square miles. It has a greatly undulating surface, no part being in any way mountainous; and its soil is all arable, no part being rocky. Its climate is not quite so cold in winter or warm in summer as that of the Province of Quebec. All the coarse grains grow well; wheat with difficulty; corn does not ripen.

The population of the Island was, in 1861, 40,880 males, and 39,977 females; total, 80,857. There are now, probably, about 93,000 people residing there.

For details of the expenditure and revenue, trade and debt of the Island for a series of years past, the *Year Book* of 1867 and 1868 may be consulted.

The "Balance against the Colony" (Debt), 31st January, 1868, was £129,469 14s. 9d., Island currency which, as £3 make \$10, is about \$431,580.

The revenue for the year ending at that date was £78,025 18s. 9d. (\$260,080), and the expenditure £73,962 15s. 10 1/2. (\$246,540.) Of the revenue, £51,390 19s. 0d. (\$171,300), was from Customs.

The following statement of the trade of 1867 shews the quantity of the leading articles imported. We are not in possession of the exports, which are chiefly ships, oats, fish, eggs, &c., &c.

Amount of duty paid on each description of goods:—

SPECIFIC DUTIES.

Articles.	Quantity.	Duty.	
		£	s. d.
Tea -	338,447 lbs.	5,640	15 8
Sugar - - -	4,629 cwt.	1,620	5 2
Refined	31,545 lbs.	394	6 4
Coffee, Green	6,597 "	54	19 6
" Roasted	1,766 "	22	1 6
Tobacco, manufactured	73,897 "	1,847	8 7
" Leaf	110,203 "	1,377	10 9
Dried Fruit -	98,385 "	409	18 9
Sole Leather -	82,960 "	345	13 4
Confectionery -	22,335 "	372	5 1
Chocolate and Cocoa	479 "	5	19 9
Almonds - - -	262 "	3	5 6
Onions - - -	21,490 "	32	4 9
Cheese - - -	50 cwt.	12	12 7 1/2
Bread - - -	76,433 lbs.	38	4 2 1/2
Molasses	152,721 galls	2,545	7 0
Spirits - - -	45,818 "	5,553	11 5
Brandy -	6,864 1/2 "	1,548	1 7
Gin - - -	25,650 "	4,963	15 1
Whiskey	4,588 "	964	19 10
Value.			
Wines - - -	23,775 £1,2-8 6 10	539	17 6
" Light 240 13 9	60	3 5
Ale and Porter	9,536 1/4 galls.	198	13 7
Cider - - -	128 "	2	13 4
Syrups and Cordials	537 1/2 "	26	17 6
Spirits from Grain -	3,268 "	81	14 0
" Molasses	4,036 "	102	3 0
Kerosine - - -	29,458 "	920	10 4
Flour and Meal	18,811 "	1,410	16 6
Total		£31,096	15 7

AD VALOREM DUTIES.

Articles.	Value.		Duty.
	£	s. d.	
Merchandise			£ s. d.
Do.	352	11 2	105 15 0
Do.	177	12 6	44 8 1
Do.	187	13 0	37 10 7
Do.	11,817	13 4	1,477 4 6
Do.	168,414	2 10	16,841 7 8 1/2
Do.	11,371	15 3	568 11 7
Do.	24,644	11 5	492 17 6
Do.	5,541	11 3	55 8 0
Total			£19,623 2 11 1/2
			31,096 15 7
			£50,719 18 6 1/2

The tariff of Prince Edward Island is given in another part of this work. It is moderate, for the Colony has built no railways, and no public works of any kind except lighthouses. It is indeed difficult to see what pecuniary advantages the Colony could reap from entering the Canadian Union, unless, indeed, the Dominion were to undertake the settlement of its land tenure question, which appears to be beyond its own resources. The lands are chiefly owned by absentee proprietors, and the rents they exact are paid grudgingly, if at all, often giving rise to popular tumult. A leading industry of Prince Edward Island is ship building, for details of which see our last *Year Book*, page 56. About 100 vessels, averaging 250 tons each, are annually built. The timber is chiefly purchased in New Brunswick.

The Colony is governed by a Governor and two Houses.