

The returns laid before Parliament for the fiscal year ending 30th June 1870 show a very considerable increase in the general trade of the country.

The gross value of goods imported during that year was \$74,814,339; the goods entered for consumption during the same period, \$71,237,603; and the value of exports \$73,573,490, giving a gross aggregate sum of \$148,387,820 as the value of the trade of the Dominion with countries outside its boundaries.

We slightly condense the following further

	<i>Entered for Consumption.</i>
1869-70 ....	\$71,237,603
1868-69 ....	67,402,170
<b>Increase in 1869-70....</b>	<b>3,835,433</b>

This increase in the inward and outward trade, and consequent increase in the duties—the latter being partially attributable also to the changes in the tariff—is observable under all the various classifications of the tariff, which is certainly indicative of a general and satisfactory commercial progression.

If we consider the imports with reference to the countries from which the imports were made, we find that the largest actual increase has been in importations from Great Britain; the value of goods entered for consumption from that country having risen from \$35,764,470 in 1868-69 to \$38,595,433 in 1869-70—showing an increase of \$2,830,963, or about 8 per cent. From British and Foreign West Indies the ratio of increase is considerably larger, the returns showing an increase of 23½ per cent. in the amount of imports last Fiscal Year over the year preceding. There is also some increase in our imports from France, and from the Provinces of Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island.

With the United States, whilst the sum total of the trade in imports and exports has increased by upwards of \$4,300,000, the whole of this increase has been in our exports to that country, the imports from it having, on the contrary, fallen off. The comparative statement of imports from and exports to the United States, for the years referred to, is as follows:

	1868-9.	1869-70.	<i>Decrease.</i>
Imports..	\$25,477,975	\$24,728,166	\$ 749,809
Exports..	27,846,461	32,984,652	<i>Increase.</i> 5,138,191

The returns would thus show that our trade with the United States has not been materially, and certainly not injuriously, affected by the abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty. The aggregate amount of the trade between the two countries has been pretty steadily maintained—indeed, increased—whilst the relative positions as importers and exporters have been reversed; the United States, under the Reciprocity Treaty, having, as a general rule, been the larger exporters to the British North American Provinces, whilst Canada has, since the abrogation of the Treaty, imported less from the United States, and exported to that country considerably more.

As regards exports generally, the returns furnish evidence of the rapid development of the natural and industrial resources of the country. The percentage of increase, as regards value, in each of the six classes into which the products of Canada are divided in the tables, is (omitting fractions) as follows:

Of the products of "The Mine," the most remarkable increase is in the exportation of

facts in reference to this trade from the Report of the Commissioner of Customs.

In comparing the year 1868-69 with the year 1869-70, we find the following results:—

*Increase in 1869-70 over 1868-9.*

1—Products of the Mine - -	19 per cent-
2— do Fisheries - 11	“
3— do Forest - - 6	“
4—Animals and Products of - -	38 “
5—Agricultural Products - -	12 “
6—Manufactures - - - - -	21 “

	<i>Duties Collected.</i>	<i>Value of Exports.</i>	<i>Shipping aggregate. Tons inw'rd &amp; outw'd.</i>
1869-70 ....	9,462,940	73,573,490	11,415,870
1868-69 ....	8,298,909	60,474,781	10,461,044
<b>Increase in 1869-70....</b>	<b>1,164,031</b>	<b>13,098,709</b>	<b>945,826</b>

Mineral (or Earth) Oil, the quantity in 1868-9 being only 690,553 gallons, against 4,748,557 gallons in 1870. The exportation of Copper, Copper and Iron Ore, and Coal, has considerably decreased.

The falling off in the amount of coal exported stands sufficiently explained by the increased consumption at home of the products of our Nova Scotia Mines.

Under the head of Fisheries, the exports showing the largest increase are those of fresh and smoked Salmon; Fish, preserved and spiced; Fish, salted, dry and wet; and Furs and Skins, the produce of creatures living in the Sea. The exports of Fish Oil have fallen from 271,762 gallons, to 87,043 gallons.

The Exports of Timber and the products of the Forest generally were rather less during the last Fiscal year, than the year previous. The only exceptions of any note are to be found in the articles of Planks and Boards, and of Saw Logs, viz:—

	1868-9.	1869-70.
Planks and Boards	\$6,690,956	\$8,256,599
Saw Logs (dutiable)	53,092	158,252

The tonnage engaged in carrying on this trade—including in such tonnage the vessels engaged in the inland trade with the United States was:

<i>Entered inwards.</i>	<i>Entered outwards.</i>
5,796,125 tons.	5,619,745 tons.

Rather more than two-thirds of which consisted of British vessels. The Duties of Customs for the Fiscal Year amounted to \$9,462,940.

The amount of duty collected on the Saw Logs exported last year was \$37,912 28.

Horses, Horned Cattle, Bacon, and Hams are the principal articles that have yielded the large increase in the percentage of exportation. The value of Bacon and Hams exported in 1869-70, \$1,553,323, as against \$869,746 in 1868-9, is deserving of notice, as evidence of the growing importance of the pork-packing trade, for which facilities have been given by the regulations sanctioned by the Privy Council, under the Law for Slaughtering Hogs in Bond.

The exports of Wheat, which in 1868-69 amounted to rather more than 2,800,000 bushels, rose in 1869-70 to upwards of 3,700,000 bushels! The coarser grains show an aggregate excess of 3,800,000 bushels exported during the last, compared with the antecedent Fiscal Year.

The increase in the quantity of Hops exported is somewhat remarkable:—

Exports in 1868-9 - -	Lbs. \$411,842
do 1869-70 - -	“ 1,194,379

Equal to 190 per cent.