

Canada has not the same reasons for adopting it, the greater part of the trade of the world being regulated by the system already in use. Probably the metric system will become the International system, though the United States have practically the English system, and the Russian is in many respects similar to it. Without changing existing laws existing standards may be made to approximate closely to a decimal system. Thus the "Cental" of 100 lbs. is the only legal unit for expressing grain and other articles—and is identical with the hundred weight now in use.

An act was passed during the last session of Parliament for the inspection and stamping of casks containing certain fluids. It would be quite desirable that these should have distinctive names with a fixed measure of capacity, and the decimal system could be easily used for them. A puncheon now varies from 100 to 120 wine gallons. If it were always 100 gallons Imperial—then a Hoghead could be 50; a Barrel 25, Half-Barrel or Bawtel 10 and a Keg 5. A decimal division of the yard or foot

would be more difficult and seem hopeless but the decimal divisions of the inch are now marked on nearly all good lineal measures.

INSPECTION OF STAPLE ARTICLES.

Since the General Inspection Act of 1874 was passed, Boards of Examiners have been appointed and Inspectors selected. No complete returns had been received before the close of the fiscal year, as to the quantities of articles inspected.

Examinations for the outside excise service were resumed in 1873, but only for candidates already in service. On the Pay Rolls of the outside service, there are now 13 First Class Officers 42 Second Class, 52 Third Class, and 27 who failed in examination. There are 12 who refused to present themselves, and 12 not examined, making in all 73 Excise Officers on the Roll.

The total Revenue from this Department during the fiscal year was \$3,569,848, showing an increase of 2½ per cent as compared with the average of the previous years.

The expenditure of the Department for the year was \$385,106.

The following summary comparison shows the accrued Revenues for the years ended June 30th, 1868, 1871, 1872, 1873 and 1874, respectively.

	1867-68.	1870-71.	1871-72.	1872-73.	1873-74.
Excise	\$3,073,212	4,301,339	4,762,378	4,513,194	5,612,583
Revenue Public Works	\$86,811	579,122	502,961	636,798	672,120
Culling Timber	70,386	63,226	74,512	79,787	95,913
Bill Stamps	119,712	184,256	189,161	201,496	209,283
Total	\$3,755,621	5,128,004	5,619,012	5,431,255	6,569,848

STANDARD FOR ESTIMATING WEIGHTS.

	tons.		tons.
2,000 lbs. avoirdupois	1	Stone, 12 cubic feet	1
Per M. is per thousand feet		Do. 1 cord	7½
Per Mile is per thousand pieces		Whiskey, 4 barrels, or 215 gallons	1
Green fruit, 9 barrels are	1	Empty barrels, 10	1
Asbes, 3 do.	1	Barrel hoops, 10 Mille	1
Bark, 4 cords	1	Board and other sawed lumber, 600 feet board measure	1
Beef, 7 barrels	1	Boat knees, 4 pieces	1
Biscuit and crackers, 9 barrels	1	Firewood, 1 cord	3
Bricks (common), 1,000	2	Hop poles, 40, or 40 cubic feet	1
Butter, 22 kegs or 7 barrels	1	Shingles, 12 M. or bundles	1
Cattle, 3	1	Split posts and fence rails, 1 Mille	1
Cement and water lime, 7 barrels	1	Staves and headings (pipe), 1 Mille is	8
Fire bricks, 1,000	3	Do. do. (West India), 1 mille 4	
Fish, 7 barrels	1	Do. do. (barrel), 1 Mille	3½
Flour, 9 do.	1	Do. do. (salt barrel), 1 Mille	4
Gypsum and manganese, 6 barrels	1	Saw logs (standard), 1	1
Horses, 2	1	Square timber, 50 cubic feet	1
Lard and tallow, 7 barrels or 22 kegs	1	Telegraph poles, 10, or 40 cubic feet	1
Liquors and spirits, 215 gallons	1	Masts and spars, 40 cubic feet	1
Liquors, all others, 215 do.	1	Railroad ties, 16, or 60 cubic feet	1
Nuts, 9 barrels	1	All other woodenware, or partly manufactured wood, 40 cubic feet, as per Tariff	1
Oysters, 6 barrels	1	Traverses, 40 cubic feet, or 5 pieces	1
Pork, 7 barrels	1	Flots, 50 lineal feet	1
Salt, 7 barrels	1		
Seeds, 9 barrels	1		
Sheep, 20	1		

NOTE.—By the Weights and Measures Act of 1873, the following articles are to be estimated by the cental of 100 lbs., viz.: Barley, Beans, Charcoal, Corn, Oats, Peas, Potatoes, Rye, Salt, Seeds, and Wheat.