

regretted that its production is not cultivated on a larger scale.

Decrease
in exports
of butter.

361. The decrease in the exports of butter has been very considerable, amounting to 63 per cent., and is attributable almost entirely to carelessness on the part of the farmers in not producing an article of sufficiently high quality to obtain a ready sale in the English market. It has been said that the deterioration in quality and decrease in quantity are largely due to the establishment of cheese factories, which absorb the new milk; but be that as it may, there is plenty of room in Canada for the production of large quantities of first-class butter as well as of cheese, and as the export of this article could be made a source of considerable profit, it is a subject well worthy the attention of agricultural societies throughout the Dominion.

Imports of
butter
into
United
Kingdom.

362. The total quantity of butter imported into Great Britain in 1887, according to British Customs returns, was 169,471,008 lbs., and of this quantity only 3,659,376 lbs. came from Canada. The Australasian Colonies, particularly New Zealand, are turning attention to shipping butter and cheese to England, and are meeting with considerable success, the shipments of butter from New Zealand having increased from 71,129 lbs. in 1886 to 776,944 in 1887, and it is evident that if these colonies can make this trade remunerative, how much more so could Canada, when the gain in distance and consequently in freight charges is considered.

Exports of
cheese.

363. The exports of cheese have steadily increased, and in 1884 were 250 per cent. more than in 1874. It almost all goes to the United Kingdom, and it will not be long before more cheese will be imported into that country from Canada than from anywhere else. In 1887 the largest amount supplied was by the United States, viz., 85,223,040 lbs., Canada coming next with 70,883,232 lbs.