

Increase in area under cultivation 349. There was an increase as compared with 1887 (there are no figures for 1888) in the area under wheat cultivation of 44 per cent., in that under oats of 41 per cent., and in that under barley of 43 per cent.

Crops elsewhere in Canada. 350. The Department of Agriculture, Quebec, reported the crops of hay and grain to be good, and the only weak crop, and that on account of rust, to be potatoes. No returns are collected of the yield of the respective crops. In the Maritime Provinces reports were generally good, but in this case also no returns of quantities are collected.

Wheat crop of Canada, 1888. 351. The total wheat crop of Canada in 1888 probably did not exceed 33,000,000 bushels, and if the amount of wheat and flour imported for home consumption, viz., 1,179,826 bushels, be added, the total quantity available would have been 34,179,826 bushels. Of this quantity 1,081,169 bushels were exported, and at the rate of 2 bushels to the acre 4,600,176 bushels were retained for seed, leaving 28,498,481 bushels available for home consumption, being at the rate of 5.67 bushels per head of population. The consumption in the previous year was calculated to be 6.31 bushels per head, but the quantity of wheat may have been rather over-estimated, and it is likely that the figures for 1888 more nearly represent the consumption. The consumption per head in the United States varies in different parts, but an average of  $4\frac{2}{3}$  bushels per capita has been fixed by American statisticians for the whole union. The consumption in the United Kingdom is about  $5\frac{1}{2}$  bushels per head.

Imports & exports of wheat and other breadstuffs 1868-1889. 352. The following tables give the values and quantities of imports for home consumption and exports of Canadian produce of wheat, flour and other breadstuffs, and also the total imports and exports of the same articles in each year since Confederation:—