

years the distribution exceeded the crop, and this would have occurred also in two other years had not the deficiency been made up by increased imports.

Consumption of wheat per head in various countries.

449. The consumption per head is higher in the Australasian colonies than in almost any other country, as shown by the following table:—

CONSUMPTION OF WHEAT PER HEAD IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Countries.	Bushels.	Countries.	Bushels.
United Kingdom .....	5·9	United States.....	4·7
France.....	8·1	Canada.....	5·5
Germany.....	3·0	Australasia.....	6·3
Russia.....	2·1	New South Wales.....	6·5
Austria.....	2·9	Victoria.....	5·0
Italy.....	5·4	South Australia.....	6·5
Spain and Portugal.....	6·4	Queensland.....	6·0
Belgium and Holland.....	5·0	Tasmania.....	6·7
Scandinavia.....	1·4	New Zealand.....	7·1
Turkey.....	6·1		

Consumption of wheat in Canada.

450. The consumption of wheat in Canada, no doubt, varies in different parts. In Manitoba, the official estimate a short time ago was 6 bushels per head, and that is probably not over the mark, both for that province and some parts of the Territories. In Ontario and Quebec it has been reckoned at not over 5 bushels, and in the Maritime Provinces, wheat is to a certain extent displaced by cornmeal. On the whole, therefore, until more accurate data are available, an allowance of  $5\frac{1}{2}$  bushels per head seems to be, as nearly as possible, the correct amount. The consumption in the United States was fixed in 1878 at 4·7, and no subsequent attempt has been made to change the estimate; the consumption of rice and cornmeal being important factors in this calculation.

Imports and exports of wheat and other breadstuffs, 1868-1892.

451. 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. During the years 1868-1872, inclusive, there being no duty and no return of exports of foreign produce, the figures for home consumption cannot be given. Between 1873-1879, inclusive, the exports of foreign produce have been deducted from the imports in order to arrive at the amount retained for home consumption:—