

CHAPTER VIII.

Countries with which Canada deals.—Census Returns.—Trade and Commerce.—Manufacturing Development.—Analysis of Trade during the Reciprocity period.—Changed conditions since the Abrogation of the Treaty.—History of the Reciprocity Treaty of 1854.

No. 2.—THE UNITED STATES OF NORTH AMERICA.

379. The United States of America consist of 44 states, 6 territories and the District of Columbia. Thirteen of these states constituted the original union, the constitution having been ratified first by Delaware, 7th December, 1787, and last (of the 13) by Rhode Island, 29th May, 1790.

380. The gross area of the United States (land and water surface) is 3,025,000 square miles, exclusive of Alaska, which has an area of 531,000 square miles. According to the census of 1890 the population of the United States was 62,622,250.

381. This population was divided into urban, 18,284,385, and rural, 44,337,865. During the century the city population has increased from 3·35 in each 100 people in 1790 to 29·20 in each 100 in 1890. The accelerated tendency of the population of the United States towards city life is seen from the fact that during the decennial period, 1880-90, the increase was 7·63 per 100, leaving only an average increase of 2·14 per 100 for the previous nine decades.

382. The number of cities having a population of more than 8,000 increased from 6 in 1790 to 286 in 1880, whence it leaped to 448 in 1890.

383. The North Atlantic division, comprising the States of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, contain 9,015,384 of the urban population, or about 49·3 per cent. The North Central division comprising Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North and South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas, contain 5,793,896 of the city population, or 31·70. So that these 21 states, out of 51 states and territories, contain 81 per cent of the city population.

In the North Atlantic division, 51·81 per cent, or more than one-half of the entire population of the division, is contained in cities having 8,000 or more inhabitants.

384. The rapid increase of the urban element of this division is due to the equally rapid extension of manufactures and commerce requiring the aggregation of the inhabitants into compact bodies.