

Average  
prices,  
1873-1891.

252. The index numbers of the prices of 45 commodities calculated by Mr. Sauerbeck are, as usual, given below, and show the course of average prices for a series of years. (Statist, 2nd January, 1892):—

1867-1877.....	100
1873.....	111
1879.....	83
1880.....	88
1881.....	85
1882.....	84
1883.....	82
1884.....	76
1885.....	72
1886.....	69
1887.....	68
1888.....	70
1889.....	72
1890.....	72
1891.....	72

Prices, it will be seen, have slightly improved since 1887, and in 1889, 1890 and 1891 have apparently remained the same; but as a very close calculation would have made 1890 and 1891 slightly under 72, prices have in reality declined about half a point, as compared with 1889. The fall in 1891 would have been greater, but that the decline in prices of textiles and minerals was counterbalanced by the rise in the price of corn, rice, &c. The year 1887 closed a period in which prices reached their lowest level, and it seems quite possible that a period of gradually improving and firmer prices has begun.

Value of  
goods entered  
for consump-  
tion, duty  
collected,  
&c.

253. The next table gives the value of imports, exports and duty collected, per head of population, and the value of goods entered for consumption, in each year since Confederation:—

VALUE OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS PER HEAD IN CANADA, AND  
DUTY COLLECTED; ALSO VALUE OF GOODS ENTERED  
FOR CONSUMPTION, 1868 TO 1891.

YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE.	Value of Imports per Head.	Value of Exports per Head.	Goods Entered for Consump- tion.	DUTIES COLLECTED.			
				Imports.	Exports	Total.	Amount per Head.
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$ cts.
1868.....	21 78	17 07	71,985,306	8,801,445	17,986	8,819,431	2 61
1869.....	20 63	17 72	67,402,170	8,284,507	14,102	8,298,909	2 43
1870.....	21 66	21 29	71,237,603	9,425,028	37,912	9,462,940	2 74
1871.....	27 31	21 08	86,947,482	11,807,589	36,066	11,843,655	3 37
1872.....	30 86	22 88	107,709,116	13,020,684	24,809	13,045,493	3 61
1873.....	34 89	24 48	127,514,594	12,997,578	20,152	13,017,730	3 55
1874.....	33 52	23 36	127,404,169	14,407,317	14,565	14,421,882	3 77
1875.....	31 66	20 04	119,618,657	15,354,139	7,243	15,361,382	3 95
1876.....	23 60	20 50	94,733,218	12,828,614	4,500	12,833,114	3 25
1877.....	24 75	18 90	96,300,483	12,544,348	4,103	12,548,451	3 12
1878.....	22 82	19 44	91,199,577	12,791,532	4,161	12,795,693	3 13
1879.....	19 77	7 24	80,341,608	12,935,268	4,272	12,939,540	3 12