

the danger of letting a bad shipment leave the country, as one or two of such might undo the work of years.

Cheese factories in Ontario and Quebec.

423. There were 817 cheese factories in operation in Ontario in 1890, which manufactured 79,364,713 lbs. of cheese, from 836,387,516 lbs. of milk, given by 304,584 cows. The value of cheese made was \$7,189,957. A large quantity of cheese is made in the Province of Quebec, where there are upwards of 670 factories, but no statistics are available.

The egg trade.

424. Considerable progress was made during 1891 in the establishment of a profitable trade in eggs with Great Britain, to take the place of the United States market, from which Canada has been practically shut out by the high tariff. The total number exported from Montreal during the season of navigation was 2,233,757 dozen, and the greater number of these sold at satisfactory prices. Some consignments, however, did not realize as well as was expected, owing generally to both ignorance of and carelessness in the mode of packing and carelessness also in selection. As a result of the year's experience, however, it seems tolerably certain that, with proper attention to packing, quality and selection, England will provide a remunerative market for all the eggs this country can send over.

Beet sugar

425. Considerable attention has been attracted of late to the cultivation of the sugar beet, and in order to encourage the industry the Government at present pays a bounty on all beet sugar produced; but though there is no doubt that many parts of Canada are well adapted for the cultivation of the beet, the art of producing sugar therefrom, with profit to the producer, does not appear at present to be understood in this country.

Exports of Canadian agricultural produce compared, 1890 and 1891.

426. The following table is a statement of the principal exports of the agricultural produce of Canada in 1891, compared, as to quantity and value, with those of 1890. There was an actual increase in total value of \$2,681,720, the whole of which, it will be seen, was due to increased quantities, for while there was a general appreciation in value of the large majority of the articles named, the decline in price of cattle and cheese was so heavy as to more than counterbalance it. This system of comparison shows how misleading deductions as to the state of trade, when based solely on values, must often be, and it is satisfactory to be able to show that in spite of a falling market as regards the two principal articles of export, there was an actual increase of nearly \$3,000,000, due entirely to increase in the volume of trade.