

The import of the articles above enumerated is to-day about three times as great as twelve years ago. Apart from three items—settlers' effects, coin and bullion, and steel rails—every article mentioned has to undergo the process of manufacture in Canada before becoming ready for the market, in which operations tens of thousands of artisans are employed. The manufacturing business of Canada to-day, measured by the importations of raw materials, not a bad test, is about three-fold as large as when the Liberal party went out of power, a growth due almost entirely to the adoption of a protective tariff.

THE TEA TRADE.

The consumption of tea affords a good indication of the progress of Canada in wealth and population, and as the article has to be imported, the Trade Returns give us the exact figures bearing on the point. Here they are:—

IMPORTS OF TEA.

FROM.	1878. LBS.	1890. LBS.
Great Britain.....	4,680,690	7,905,830
United States.....	5,810,966	763,267
China.....	484,542	2,195,898
Japan.....	1,101,968	7,462,674
Germany.....	5,404
West Indies.....	50	127,011
Newfoundland.....	2,287
Total.....	12,085,907	18,455,280

Now it will be seen that:—

The consumption of tea has increased 6,400,000 pounds annually, or 53 per cent. since 1878.

The value of tea imported in 1878 was 23½ cents per pound for green and 24 cents per pound for black, while in 1890 the value of tea imported was 15½ cents for green and Japan, and 17½ cents for black.

This reduction in the cost of tea, by which every consumer in Canada saves money, has been brought about by the abolition of the duties imposed by the Liberal Government, six cents a pound