

the employment they were unable to obtain at home. The demand for their style of work being very small in the States they naturally came to Canada, and hence we find a class of goods made in Canada to-day, by skilled English workmen, which a few years ago we could not have produced at all, much less at a price which would have enabled them to compete on favorable terms against the imported article.

In proof of this we need only adduce the fact that with the exception of gold chains, and probably watch cases, the jewelry manufactured in Canada is mostly of English design and supplants goods of English and not of American manufacture.

For this state of affairs two things are responsible; first that English jewelry being much harder to smuggle than American, the duty levied on it is really more protection in effect, and second, that English jewelry employs comparatively little machinery in its manufacture as compared with the American, and its manufacture is therefore a very much less expensive undertaking.

With our present limited population, and a country divided from the United States for nearly two thousand miles by an imaginary line only, the facilities for smuggling are so great that any person who would undertake to erect and run an extensive jewelry factory upon the American system would need to have a good deal of both faith and capital to make the venture at all, and we doubt that even with plenty of each and experience thrown in, he could make his venture succeed.

The jewelry trade is at present at a critical period of its history; if properly fostered by efficient legislation, we think it will grow to large proportions, but if hampered, its growth will be slow if it grows at all. What is wanted is a wise and careful re-adjustment of the tariff, which while lowering the duty on certain lines will yet compensate for the reduction by giving a *bona fide* protection as far as it goes, and also by lowering the duty on the tools and raw material necessary to its successful carrying on. If this were properly carried out we think a great impetus would be given to the trade. If anything were wanting to prove our point that the present high tariff on fine jewelry is not protection but the contrary, the position of the silver trade would amply establish it. At the time the present tariff came in force, there was

but one factory in Canada for the manufacture of Electro-plated ware, which enterprise has since through mismanagement passed out of existence. To-day two of the largest factories in the United States have important and well equipped establishments in this country, and a Canadian company is at present erecting a third factory which will be equal to either in every particular. By the end of the present year there will be probably two hundred hands employed in those three factories, with an aggregate output of half a million dollars worth of manufactured goods. That this is a direct outcome of the National Policy, no one can doubt, and we unhesitatingly assert that if it had not been for the protection afforded by the present tariff not one dollar's worth of these goods would have been manufactured in this country. Domestic manufactures we had none, and the American manufacturers held almost undisputed possession of this market, from which after a short struggle for supremacy they had completely driven their English competitors.

This being the case, it is easy to see that if they had all agreed to remain at home and supply our market with goods manufactured in the United States we would still have been compelled to buy from them because we could not better ourselves. The high duty however, made it a paying venture to start branch factories here, even though it required an immense expenditure of capital to do it properly, and the result has been what we have indicated above. But does any one for a moment suppose that these factories would have ever been started if Electro-plated goods could have been smuggled as easily as jewelry. We think not; it is because the bulk of such goods is large compared with their value, that the duty levied is a real protection to the manufacturer.

On the whole as we said at the outset we think the present tariff has favorably effected the aggregate manufacture of jewelry and silver goods in this country. Now as regards the selling price, has the tariff been of any benefit? We think not, but on the contrary, that the contrary has been the effect. In the matter of jewelry it is a fact, without doubt that nearly every line of imported goods is sold as cheap if not more cheaply than before the rise in duty, while in goods manufactured in Canada the competition has reduced the prices in many cases far below the old prices of ant

N. P. days. Thus while the retail merchant and consumer has reaped a decided benefit by the tariff, it has affected the wholesale and manufacturer adversely in the matter of profits, although they have probably been fully recouped for this loss by the excess of business, caused by a better control of their home market. In the Electro-plated ware trade, although a duty of 87½ has really been collected, prices remain as low, if not lower than at any former period. This is to be accounted for by the competition amongst the Canadian manufacturers themselves, also by the fact that American houses that have not got branch factories here have been willing to pay the duty and compete with home manufactured goods in price, in order to keep their hold on this market and afford themselves an outlet for their surplus goods. In this line also, a judicious re-adjustment of the tariff would help our manufacturers largely, and it is to be hoped that the Government will see their way clear to offer all the encouragement they possibly can to these industries, which are not only new but well worthy of cultivation, inasmuch as they employ a large number of skilled workmen, who earn good wages and who are a source of strength to any country in which they live. It is by building up such industries as these, that Canada is to be made a country worth living in, and if we do not want for ever to remain mere hewers of wood and drawers of water to other nations we should see to it, that our young factories get all the real protection we can incidentally give them.

Selected Matter.

THE BRITTLINESS OF EMERALDS.

A case was decided in England a short time since which has considerable importance for those who are fortunate enough to possess valuable emeralds. Dr. Lynn, the well-known conjuror was summoned to make good the value of an emerald ring which had been entrusted to him at one of his entertainments by a visitor for the performance of a certain trick. Somehow or other the stone became broken and the allegation of the plaintiff was that the damage had been done by Dr. Lynn himself, while smashing with a hammer the egg in which the ring was finally found. Now it says much for the cleverness with which the trick