

marble quarries would receive a great impetus towards the development of Canadian enterprise.

Respectfully submitted by

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CARRIAGES.

Manufacturers can successfully compete when goods are sold at the regular prices of competitors, but not when slaughtered by manufacturers in the United States when their markets are dull, and so long as our market is open to them at a rate of duty not exceeding 15 or 20 per cent., while Canadian manufacturers have to pay 35 per cent.

The business has been profitable until last year. From the year 1867 to the fall of 1872, were behind with orders; since which time United States manufacturers have thrown large quantities of carriage materials on the market.

In reply to the question relative to the Patent Law, J. B. Armstrong, of Guelph, recommends the following changes, viz. :—

That a term of *two* years be given (to perfect the invention) before the patentee is obliged to manufacture to hold good his patent. Also, that an employer, or any one engaging skilled labour to produce improvements and inventions, should be entitled to obtain patents, although they may not personally have executed the details of the improvement, but have furnished the means and in part the ideas to produce the same. Further, that "*Design Patents*" be granted for the term of 15 years, as in the United States, and that the fee be raised in proportion.

American tariff, 35 per cent. *ad valorem*. Canadian tariff, 17½ per cent. *ad valorem*.

TANNERS AND LEATHER BELTING.

Tanners ask a protection equal to American manufacturers, so as to be placed upon an equal footing; also ask for a duty (export) on hemlock bark. When leather was 20 per cent., large investments were made in this business, with a fair prospect of supplying all our own market at a paying profit. In a short time the tariff was reduced to 10 per cent., before the industry was fairly established; consequently, many establishments shut down, while others reduced their staff of workmen, causing a great loss of men and money to this country. They also complain of the wholesale destruction of our hemlock forests.

Suggest that an export duty of \$1.50 per cord be put on hemlock bark, which would afford a considerable revenue to the Government.

Heath & Northey, of Montreal, say, that if the markets of the world were open to them, they would then be able to compete successfully with the foreign tanner, and recommend that the duty on sole leather be raised to 20 per cent. The business was prosperous from 1868 to 1871.

American tariff, 15 per cent., 20 per cent. and 31½ per cent. *ad valorem*. Canadian tariff, 10 per cent. and 17½ per cent. *ad valorem*.

STOVES.

Manufacturers can produce and sell castings as cheap as imported goods are usually offered, *but not cheaper*, and the result is our market is divided between Canadian and foreign manufacturers. Our market is open to them to sacrifice their surplus stock in. Increased duty would increase the demand for Canadian goods, and thereby enable Canadian manufacturers to profitably employ the capital already invested. Business has been most profitable from 1868 to 1873. The great reduction in price of pig and other iron in the United States places the ironworkers of this country at a greater disadvantage than formerly, as now the Americans have as cheap stock as ourselves, a large market which renders extensive manufacturing facilities highly profitable, and a high protective tariff which renders exportation of Canadian goods an impossibility, all of which (in the event of over-production with them) renders them formidable and very unfair competitors. Until the present time our stock and labour has been cheaper than with them. Stove manufacturers were, in the regular course of trade, during the American war, able to