Cossitt and Bro., of Brockville, suggests that the law respecting trade-marks should be amended, so that foreigners could not get words as marks registered, when such marks have been in use in Canada for a number of years.

L. Sleeper, of Coaticok, suggests with respect to the Insolvency Act, that during its continuance it has operated very injuriously in the rural districts. If a bankrupt could not get a discharge unless he paid fifty per cent of his indebtedness, it would put a stop to a great part of the dishonest transactions now carried on under the law. (Of course he could obtain his discharge on any terms by the consent of all his creditors.)

Many parties leave the cities with a quantity of goods, commencing business in some of the villages, live on the proceeds of sales, get into debt all they can, then fail, pay a few cents on the dollar, and try again somewhere else.

American tariff, 35 per cent. Canadian, 17½ per cent.

CLOTHING.

Manufacturers of Clothing say that the business has been so unprofitable that in the wholesale trade of Montreal alone, more than one-half engaged in this business during the last ten years have failed.

This is an interest which gives employment to a great number of females who can get nothing else to do, and who, by means of what they are enabled to earn, help very materially to supply the table; but the introduction of the low-priced English goods into Canada take from this class the only style of goods they are competent to make.

The manufacturers suggest, under the circumstances in which they are placed, a duty of ten per cent extra on ready-made clothing, as this affords them all the protection they will even then have; they now having to pay 17½ per cent on the cloths, &c., which they must import, such as beavers, pilots, tweeds, buttons, canvas, thread, wadding, &c., &c., which to them is their "raw material." The present rate of duty does not therefore give any protection to this great branch of industry.

Clothing manufacturers complain further, that they cannot compete with the English manufacturer in the poorest classes of goods, as the latter are able to employ labour on that class much below that which the Canadian maker pays; and further, the great difficulty which is found in Canada in getting work-people, places our manufacturers under the necessity of having goods made six or eight months in advance, thereby causing a heavy loss on interest account.

American tariff, 45 cents per pound, and 36 per cent *ad valorem*. Canadian tariff, 17½ per cent *ad valorem*.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

The Boot and Shoe business is reported as being fairly profitable.

Recommends that no change be made in the duty on the materials used by the wholesale trade in this interest; but generally speaking the manufacturers in this branch are contented with the 15 per cent tariff.

With respect to the Patent Law, Joseph Woodley and Son, of Quebec, say: "That the old patent law was better for manufacturers, and wanted but little alterations."

The present Patent Law is unfavourable, but at present little felt, but when existing United States Patents have lapsed and new ones take their place, it will be very detrimental to Canada if she exports boots and shoes, as she certainly will. With sound legislation, if the present patents in existence in the United States were in existence here, the tax on the production of boots and shoes would be fully ten per cent, a fair wholesale profit. The MacKay Sewing Machine Company charges a royalty of two cents a pair on all sewed with their machine; this, on the quantity we manufacture, would be $9,000 a year. The net income of the MacKay Sewing Machine Company, in royalty, in the year 1873, was six hundred thousand dollars, for which they give nothing but the privilege to use their patent.

Direct steam communication between the Dominion and the West Indies and Cuba, would tend to stimulate this industry.

American tariff, 35 per cent. Canadian tariff, 17½ per cent.