

can be changed indefinitely, to suit the caprices of fashion, and they constitute the great bulk of the class known as "novelties;" furniture goods, moreens, damasks, reps, mohairs, &c., hosiery goods, such as zephyrs, nubas, &c.; braids, bindings, buttoning, webbing for saddlery and suspenders. Carpets are made from coarse and cheap combing wools; the white yarns being made from Canada wool. It is the opinion of manufacturers, that the finer classes of carpets could be made wholly of Canada wool with advantage.

"The importance of the manufacture is evinced by the fact, that the worsted manufacture employed in England in 1856 87,744 persons; while the card-wool manufacture employed only 79,091. In France, this industry employed, in 1851, 300,000 persons. In this country in 1860, less than 3,000 were employed—Worsted goods constitute the largest part of our importations. Of sixty millions of woollens and worsteds, forty millions were of worsted alone."

"The manufacture of worsteds, which is just beginning to have an important development in this country, owes its existence to the Reciprocity Treaty, which admitted, free of duty, the wools of Canada. The farmers of Upper Canada, of English and Scotch descent, naturally prejudiced in favour of the sheep husbandry which prevails at home,—as England is still called in the colonies,—and having a taste for English mutton, imported sheep of the Leicester, Cotswold, and Down races, which have thriven admirably on the naturally rich limestone soils of Upper Canada.

"The present production of wool from these sheep in Canada is about six millions of pounds. The Canadians have no fine woolled sheep. Protected by a tariff, they consume about two millions of their own wool in the manufacture of coarse cloths including tweeds, which have been imported largely into the United States, notwithstanding the duty on cloths, and we use the balance of from three to five millions.

"As the American production of worsted combing wool is not sufficient to supply one mill, if the treaty should not be renewed, or some provision made for the free admission of Canada wools, the worsted manufacturer will be compelled to pay the whole of the present high duty on wools, of the class consumed by him, from which his foreign rival is exempt.

"The wool adapted to the worsted manufacture costs now in Canada in gold from forty to forty-five cents. The duties under the present tariff, are on wools, over thirty-two cents, twelve cents, and ten per cent ad valorem. If the present tariff should operate on Canada wools, the duties on wools commonly used at present prices would range from forty to

thirty-seven per cent. It is shown by the sworn statements of manufacturers submitted herewith, that these duties on the raw material, together with other neutralizing duties, such as the internal revenue tax, would reduce the nominal protection of from thirty-five to fifty per cent.; the duty on foreign worsteds, to an actual protection ranging from zero to only four per cent. It is in vain to suppose that worsted manufacture can be continued or increased under such disadvantages.

"A duty on Canada wool would crush an industry which has already assumed a truly national importance, and has advanced with a rapidity unexampled in any branch of our textile manufactures. It is shown by the statements under oath of four leading manufacturers herewith submitted,—"that worsted yarns, of the finer grades, were made in this country only to a very limited extent prior to 1860 or 1861, except for delaines. The introduction of the manufacture of the finer worsted yarns is due to the command of Canada wools, admitted free under the Reciprocity Treaty. We estimate the capital, now employed in the manufacture of the various kinds of worsted goods, at eight million dollars; and the yearly value of the product, at not less than ten million dollars. We do not hesitate to say, that in our opinion, the whole of this manufacture is dependent upon the supply of Canada wool; and that if Canada wool should be subjected to duties ruling under the present tariff, the greater part of this manufacture would be suspended."

It is not as bearing upon the Reciprocity treaty that we desire to call attention to these statements, but rather on account of the suggestive hints which they furnish to our own farmers and manufacturers. Hitherto we have allowed ourselves to be fleeced in order that American backs might be clothed and American manufactures nursed. When will there be enterprise enough to bring the grist to our own mill? Let it not be supposed that the Americans have the benefit of an old established manufacture. The first manufacture of Worsted Braid in the States was commenced not farther back than the year 1860, yet 3000 braiding machines are now in operation, producing annually 3 millions of dollars value in manufacture, and the industry is rapidly growing.

In the Western States long-wooled sheep are not raised. Ohio had in 1862, four and a half millions of sheep, only three thousand of which produced combing wool.

But we must conclude our lengthy notice. Let us do so by quoting the following paragraph, which seems to ring out a warning sound:—

"It is true that Canada derives great benefit from selling her wools in this

country at 50 cents a pound; but how much greater benefit do we derive from employing them to nationalize a great manufacture in this country! It was a benefit to the English wool-growers for two or more centuries, to send all their combing wool to Flanders; but Flanders, by the command of the wool of England for her manufactures, became the richest nation in Europe. In the supply of wool Canada is to us what England was to Flanders before the time of Edward III., who kept his wool at home; and what Ireland is to England now, and what England desires all the world to be to her besides. We wish to apply to Canada the lesson which England has taught us; and it is *not our fault* that Canada is also pressing for the freedom to export her raw material, and *is blind to the obvious fact that such a policy will always keep her impoverished and dependent!*

POOR CANADA! POOR NOVA SCOTIA! It is not the American's fault that you are seeking free trade, but it is his misfortune that you do not get it!

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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