

# Canadian Journal of Fabrics

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Textile Trades of Canada.

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## Canadian Journal of Fabrics

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### THE CANADIAN TEXTILE DIRECTORY

A Handbook of all the Cotton, Woolen and other Textile manufactures of Canada, with lists of manufacturers' agents and the wholesale and retail dry goods and kindred trades of the Dominion; to which is appended a vast amount of valuable statistics relating to these trades. Fourth edition. Price, \$3.00.

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### INTER-IMPERIAL POSTAGE AND INTER-IMPERIAL TRADE.

It speaks volumes for the insight of the men who compose the Montreal Board of Trade that while they are all purely commercial men they have a statesmanlike perception of the influence of literature upon trade, and hence they were the first important organization to congratulate Sir William Mulock, the Postmaster General, on reducing the postal rates on newspapers and printed

matter going to Great Britain to the level of our domestic rates. For four or five years Sir William Mulock has at various times asked the British Postmaster General to make the same reciprocal arrangement between the Mother Country and Canada, as has existed between Canada and the States ever since Confederation, under which arrangement printed matter is exchanged through the post-office at the domestic rate of each country, but the Canadian offer has always been met by that attitude of inertia which calls up Tennyson's characterization of "the stony British stare." However Sir William persevered and in the case of letter postage was able at last to get a mutual reduction to the penny (two cent) rate which has become a memorable postal reform by being extended to nearly all parts of the Empire. And now the fence that has barred out literature from easy circulation between the two countries has been partly broken down by the British office consenting to the admission of Canadian papers, books, catalogues, etc., at the domestic rate of Canada. We join the Montreal Board of Trade in congratulating Sir William Mulock on this step in advance, which is destined to have a momentous influence on the literary, social and trade relations of Canada and the Empire, because it is now only a question of a short time when cheap postal rates from Great Britain to the Colonies will follow as in the case of Imperial penny postage and the freer circulation of British literature over the British world will make itself felt in all phases of life.

A few Canadian editors having personal knowledge of the extent to which cheap newspaper and book and catalogue postage was being made the instrument of promoting the trade of United States manufacturers and merchants with Canada, and how this trade is maintained in spite of the preferential tariff in favor of British goods, took up the matter in the Canadian Press Association three years ago, and that association has done something to strengthen our Postmaster General's hands each year since.

The editor of the JOURNAL OF FABRICS was asked recently to make a statement of the case for cheap postage as it bore on the trade of Great Britain with Canada. As the subject is of real importance to British and Canadian manufacturers we make a few quotations from this article, which appeared in *Britannia*, of London and Glasgow, a magazine devoted to the closer union of home country and Colonies:—

"Taking the term 'press' to mean not merely news