

# INDUSTRIAL WORLD

AND NATIONAL ECONOMIST.

DEVOTED TO DOMESTIC INDUSTRIES, COMMERCE, FINANCE, INSURANCE, RAILROADS, AND MINING

II—No. 35.

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1881.

\$3 PER ANNUM.

## Industrial World

AND NATIONAL ECONOMIST  
Published weekly, by the Industrial World Publishing Company.

Subscription, \$3.00 Per Annum.

OFFICE: MONTREAL, OTTAWA, TORONTO.

Advertisements, and all letters, must be addressed to INDUSTRIAL WORLD PUBLISHING CO., P. O. Drawer, 1010, OTTAWA, ONT.

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### BRITISH WOOLLEN MANUFACTURERS AND THE CANADIAN TARIFF.

Complaints of British manufacturers against Canadian tariffs, which were rather loud at one time, have been a good deal of late, since it is stated that our import trade with the Mother Country is thriving very well under the protection of the tariff. These prophets of evil, who felt certain that our trade would soon cease to be a customer for British goods, and might, therefore, just as well be cut off from the Empire, have not found their anticipations confirmed. In the event, strange to appear to them, Canada is actually a better customer for British goods now than she was two years ago. It is not expressed the full importance of the change, merely that the amount of our purchases, stated in sterling, has increased. Not only is there a better and healthier trade, but there is a better and healthier trade, and a less proportion of losses from compositions and debts. These are facts well attested by the total price in Canada; and we may be sure that a well known to British merchants and manufacturers having Canadian connections. One particular, however, that of the Yorkshire woollen manufactures in certain lines, is still up in arms against the Canadian tariff, as appears by the following which we copy from the *St. James Gazette* of the 4th:—

Canada and British Goods—A deputation from the committee of the Yorkshire Chambers of Commerce, by Mr. Sergeant Simon, M.P., Mr. Behrens, Mr. Smith, Mr. Staples, Leeds; Mr. T. H. Fox, Mr. South, Mr. Ormerod and Mr. W. H. Lee, Mayor of Leeds, had an interview last night with Lord Kimberley, Colonial Office, upon the subject of the specific duties imposed upon the heavy woollen goods of the Mother Country. They complained that the low woollen fabrics, the staple products of Yorkshire, composed of wool, and cotton, were subjected by the Canadian Government not only to a 50 per cent. ad valorem duty, but to a specific rate of 7½ per pound, the compound duty being 55 and 60 per cent., and in some instances 70 per cent. upon the value. Moreover, the duty imposed a differential tax, to the prejudice of the Mother Country, and was both unjust and unfair. Having asked the Canadian Government under the matter, with the view of allowing their reply had been received from Sir Leonard Tilley, who had deemed it advisable at the time to make any reply in the duties imposed on woollens. They preferred, that Lord Kimberley would make it known to the Canadian Government that the deputation considered the duties levied by the Dominion Government on woollens in favour of French and Belgian manufactures prejudicial to the Mother Country. That the Canadians should know what they were doing in imposing the Mother Country. They desired that the exports of Yorkshire wool to America had fallen during the past year, the exports to the United States had fallen 25 per cent., in reply, that he was powerless to actually do anything, would bring their representations to the knowledge of the Canadian Government. He supposed there was no objection in this country as to our lamenting the fact that Canada had taken with regard to its tariff, and could only be made to place before them the

bearing upon the effect of their tariff which might influence them and lead to its reform. The point of the differential duties favouring other countries was a very strong one, and one that would be likely to have some influence with the Canadian Government, and he recommended them to place their views on the subject forcibly in a memorandum, which he would cause to be forwarded to the proper quarters.

It is not true that Canada imposes a differential tariff against British woollens, the same rates being levied on all such goods, without any distinction as to countries whence imported. True enough, it is, however, that the duty of 7½ per pound presses harder upon the coarse, heavy stuffs so extensively made in Yorkshire, than it does on the merinos and fine cloths which are specialities with France and Belgium. Here we might answer Lord Kimberley's Traders with their own arguments, and advise them that all they need to do to be even with the French, as far as trade with Canada is concerned, is to put in the same machinery, work up with it pure, true wool, and produce the same kind of goods that they do in France. It is the orthodox Free Trade doctrine that, if any particular manufacture cannot compete in open market, on even terms, those engaged in it should drop it and betake themselves to something else. But we know for certain that the Yorkshire manufacturers, with all their devotion to Free Trade, are of too practical a turn thus lightly to change their hand out of devotion to a theory. Those among them who feel their Canadian sales affected by the new tariff might perhaps turn their energies to the making of fine goods instead of heavy shoddy, but they will not do anything of the kind, they will stick to the particular trade to which they were brought up. Where the trouble lies is easily explained, but the explanation will not help the case for the complainants. Certain fine woollen fabrics, in the production of which France and Belgium excel, are not made in Canada at all, and therefore our importation of them is not greatly affected by the tariff; besides which, the goods being of fine, light texture, the specific duty per lb. is not much on the value. But in Canada many woollen factories, large and small together, are producing cheap goods for the every day wear of the people, which come in direct competition with cheap Yorkshire goods; while upon the latter, besides the specific duty per pound is a heavy percentage on the value. In Canada the poor man certainly gets better value for a dollar through the compulsion put upon him to buy a good bargain of home manufacture rather than a poor one of imported stuff. But we make shoddy in Canada, too, it will be said; shoddy is still sold to buyers of moderate means, after all. So it is, indeed, but the home made shoddy is a decidedly better article than the imported, and this advantage attends, besides, that in case of goods not being up to the mark, the home manufacturer is at hand and can be held responsible for defects in quality, in goods not coming up to specifications. The manufacturer over the sea is, however, beyond our reach, and how important this difference is in practice those in the trade well know. If the exports of certain goods composed, as is above stated, of "wool, shoddy and cotton" to Canada have decreased, this is not true of woollen goods generally, as the following figures will show. In the *London Economist* of February 12, the exports of woollens to British North America are given as under for the years ending 31st December, 1879 and 1880 respectively (in pounds sterling):—

	1879	1880.
Cloths, etc.	£12,940	£20,748
Worsted stuffs	3,825	47,847
Carpet	91,050	1,250
	£105,815	£70,845

In the items of blankets, flannels and small wares the exports to British North America are not given separately in the *Economist's* tables, and therefore we cannot at present include them. But the fact that in the classes of goods the amounts of which are given, and which make up the great bulk of the whole, the export to these provinces has increased *on the whole*, puts an extinguisher on the contention that the new tariff is decreasing our purchases of woollens from Britain. If in some particular lines there is a decrease, the increase in other lines more than makes up for it. That we should under protection and progress in manufactures import less of such articles as we make at home is natural enough. English axes and chisels can scarcely be sold at all in Canada now, but we get our axes and pickaxes from Sheffield, as before; and in their respective lines British woollen manufacturers may read the same lesson as to the peculiar aptitude of Canadian manufacturing enterprises. After all, however, we still remain valuable customers to the Mother Country. From the latest available return of the sort, which was published early last year, we take the following figures of British

goods imported annually per head of the population in the countries named:—

Australia	£ 12 9
North American Colonies	10 0
France	8 0
United States	7 0

The consumption of British goods in Australia is remarkable, more per head than in Britain itself, in fact. Those "Britishers" who think that the Empire would have a good vantage were Canada annexed to the States should ponder the fact that, according to the proportion above shown, four million people in the Dominion buy and pay for as much British goods as twenty-four millions in the Republic. We hold it is fairly shown that the complainants have really no case to come into court with

### PROTECTION AND THE IRON TRADE.

The theory that protection does not protect does not stand well in accord with facts. Some very limited and partial experiences there have been which give it an air of plausibility, but the large, and thorough and long continued test it will not stand. In the latter part of 1879 American railway companies appeared to have realized, all in one day, that necessary renewals and repairs neglected or postponed during the five years of hard times preceding had grown to such gigantic accumulation that further delay was out of the question, in view of the large increase of traffic then coming on. A panic of demand for iron ensued, and the excitement of buyers almost matched the dead apathy of the time, then very recent indeed, when there was next to no demand at all. A craze to buy at any price, however high, succeeded to the panic to sell at any price, however low. But four or five years dullness and nothing doing had caused a great slackening in the iron making business in the States, stocks had been allowed to run down, and furnaces and rolling mills had been allowed to drop into a state of suspended animation, comparatively, except, perhaps, in the Bessemer steel manufacture, which kept constantly expanding. All the iron works in America could not fill the orders that were offered in the time named, and then what followed? Why, this simply, that the English iron masters, having piled up and in store the accumulations of years back, instantly seized upon the advantage given them, sent iron over in immense quantities, and had the market supplied, and over supplied, ere the American iron companies had time to realize what the situation was. American production lulled to sleep by several years of no demand, was not able on the instant to meet the sudden rush of orders, and there was no accumulation of old stocks to fall back upon. But in England a tremendous accumulation of stocks had been going on during all the dull years; there iron in immense quantities lay ready for shipment at a moment's notice to any quarter of the globe, from China to Peru, or from Canada to Australia. The rush of importation of English iron into a country having high protective duties on that article gave renewed vigor to the cry that protection does not protect, and it was confidently affirmed that in the iron trade American Protection had proved a failure. But by-and-bye it began to appear that the American tariff was really protective after all, and that much of the English exportation business to the States had been done at a loss—by somebody. When the excitement had cooled off, it was discovered that the enormous importation from England had been the accident of a day, merely, something that could not possibly be continued, if the American tariff were not lowered. As the truth became better known, American iron makers gained courage, and acted upon it. The result is now seen in statistics published in the *Philadelphian Bulletin*, showing a wonderful increase in American iron production for 1880. The *Bulletin* gives full details in tabular form, but from its condensed statement we take what will most readily convey an idea of the expansion of iron production in the States under the long-continued Protection:—

"We have received from the manufacturers full returns of the production of pig iron in the United States in 1880, and here we give you the details to our readers. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1880 was 4,205,414 net tons, as against 3,835,191 gross tons in 1879. The increase is 9.6 per cent. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1879 was 3,835,191 gross tons, or 3,400,000 net tons, as against 2,811,000 net tons in 1878. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1878 was 2,811,000 net tons, as against 2,375,000 net tons in 1877. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1877 was 2,375,000 net tons, as against 2,000,000 net tons in 1876. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1876 was 2,000,000 net tons, as against 1,700,000 net tons in 1875. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1875 was 1,700,000 net tons, as against 1,500,000 net tons in 1874. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1874 was 1,500,000 net tons, as against 1,300,000 net tons in 1873. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1873 was 1,300,000 net tons, as against 1,100,000 net tons in 1872. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1872 was 1,100,000 net tons, as against 900,000 net tons in 1871. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1871 was 900,000 net tons, as against 700,000 net tons in 1870. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1870 was 700,000 net tons, as against 500,000 net tons in 1869. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1869 was 500,000 net tons, as against 300,000 net tons in 1868. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1868 was 300,000 net tons, as against 100,000 net tons in 1867. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1867 was 100,000 net tons, as against 50,000 net tons in 1866. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1866 was 50,000 net tons, as against 20,000 net tons in 1865. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1865 was 20,000 net tons, as against 10,000 net tons in 1864. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1864 was 10,000 net tons, as against 5,000 net tons in 1863. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1863 was 5,000 net tons, as against 2,000 net tons in 1862. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1862 was 2,000 net tons, as against 1,000 net tons in 1861. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1861 was 1,000 net tons, as against 500,000 net tons in 1860. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1860 was 500,000 net tons, as against 200,000 net tons in 1859. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1859 was 200,000 net tons, as against 100,000 net tons in 1858. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1858 was 100,000 net tons, as against 50,000 net tons in 1857. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1857 was 50,000 net tons, as against 20,000 net tons in 1856. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1856 was 20,000 net tons, as against 10,000 net tons in 1855. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1855 was 10,000 net tons, as against 5,000 net tons in 1854. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1854 was 5,000 net tons, as against 2,000 net tons in 1853. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1853 was 2,000 net tons, as against 1,000 net tons in 1852. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1852 was 1,000 net tons, as against 500,000 net tons in 1851. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1851 was 500,000 net tons, as against 200,000 net tons in 1850. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1850 was 200,000 net tons, as against 100,000 net tons in 1849. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1849 was 100,000 net tons, as against 50,000 net tons in 1848. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1848 was 50,000 net tons, as against 20,000 net tons in 1847. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1847 was 20,000 net tons, as against 10,000 net tons in 1846. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1846 was 10,000 net tons, as against 5,000 net tons in 1845. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1845 was 5,000 net tons, as against 2,000 net tons in 1844. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1844 was 2,000 net tons, as against 1,000 net tons in 1843. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1843 was 1,000 net tons, as against 500,000 net tons in 1842. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1842 was 500,000 net tons, as against 200,000 net tons in 1841. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1841 was 200,000 net tons, as against 100,000 net tons in 1840. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1840 was 100,000 net tons, as against 50,000 net tons in 1839. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1839 was 50,000 net tons, as against 20,000 net tons in 1838. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1838 was 20,000 net tons, as against 10,000 net tons in 1837. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1837 was 10,000 net tons, as against 5,000 net tons in 1836. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1836 was 5,000 net tons, as against 2,000 net tons in 1835. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1835 was 2,000 net tons, as against 1,000 net tons in 1834. 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The production of pig iron in the United States in 1818 was 5,000 net tons, as against 2,000 net tons in 1817. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1817 was 2,000 net tons, as against 1,000 net tons in 1816. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1816 was 1,000 net tons, as against 500,000 net tons in 1815. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1815 was 500,000 net tons, as against 200,000 net tons in 1814. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1814 was 200,000 net tons, as against 100,000 net tons in 1813. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1813 was 100,000 net tons, as against 50,000 net tons in 1812. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1812 was 50,000 net tons, as against 20,000 net tons in 1811. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1811 was 20,000 net tons, as against 10,000 net tons in 1810. 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The production of pig iron in the United States in 1730 was 20,000 net tons, as against 10,000 net tons in 1729. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1729 was 10,000 net tons, as against 5,000 net tons in 1728. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1728 was 5,000 net tons, as against 2,000 net tons in 1727. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1727 was 2,000 net tons, as against 1,000 net tons in 1726. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1726 was 1,000 net tons, as against 500,000 net tons in 1725. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1725 was 500,000 net tons, as against 200,000 net tons in 1724. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1724 was 200,000 net tons, as against 100,000 net tons in 1723. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1723 was 100,000 net tons, as against 50,000 net tons in 1722. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1722 was 50,000 net tons, as against 20,000 net tons in 1721. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1721 was 20,000 net tons, as against 10,000 net tons in 1720. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1720 was 10,000 net tons, as against 5,000 net tons in 1719. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1719 was 5,000 net tons, as against 2,000 net tons in 1718. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1718 was 2,000 net tons, as against 1,000 net tons in 1717. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1717 was 1,000 net tons, as against 500,000 net tons in 1716. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1716 was 500,000 net tons, as against 200,000 net tons in 1715. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1715 was 200,000 net tons, as against 100,000 net tons in 1714. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1714 was 100,000 net tons, as against 50,000 net tons in 1713. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1713 was 50,000 net tons, as against 20,000 net tons in 1712. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1712 was 20,000 net tons, as against 10,000 net tons in 1711. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1711 was 10,000 net tons, as against 5,000 net tons in 1710. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1710 was 5,000 net tons, as against 2,000 net tons in 1709. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1709 was 2,000 net tons, as against 1,000 net tons in 1708. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1708 was 1,000 net tons, as against 500,000 net tons in 1707. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1707 was 500,000 net tons, as against 200,000 net tons in 1706. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1706 was 200,000 net tons, as against 100,000 net tons in 1705. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1705 was 100,000 net tons, as against 50,000 net tons in 1704. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1704 was 50,000 net tons, as against 20,000 net tons in 1703. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1703 was 20,000 net tons, as against 10,000 net tons in 1702. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1702 was 10,000 net tons, as against 5,000 net tons in 1701. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1701 was 5,000 net tons, as against 2,000 net tons in 1700. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1700 was 2,000 net tons, as against 1,000 net tons in 1699. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1699 was 1,000 net tons, as against 500,000 net tons in 1698. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1698 was 500,000 net tons, as against 200,000 net tons in 1697. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1697 was 200,000 net tons, as against 100,000 net tons in 1696. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1696 was 100,000 net tons, as against 50,000 net tons in 1695. The production of pig iron in the United States in 1695 was 50,000 net tons, as against 20,000 net tons in 1