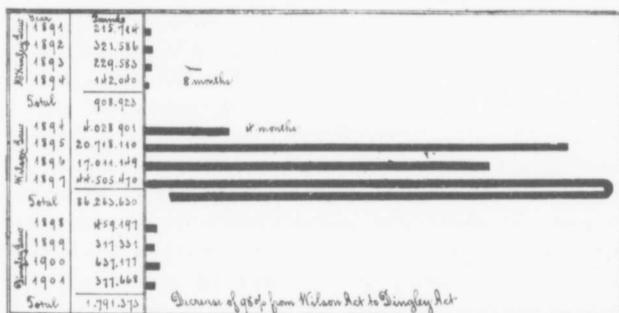


manufacturing interests when the two interests were divorced in the Grover Cleveland regime. When Cleveland was elected on the cry of tariff reduction the vortex of the discussion, on platform and in the press, centred round this very wool question. People wanted cheap manufacturers, but above all they wanted cheap clothing. The result was the Wilson tariff, in which raw wool was put on the free list and the duties on manufactured goods reduced to an average of about 50 per cent.—a still higher protection than we have in Canada to-day. The result was that worsted and woolen mills were closed in every direction, and those mills which struggled on through the possession of greater capital had to fight shoddy with shoddy, as seen by the diagram of imports of rags in that period. Like conditions of competition must produce like results in Canada. As for the effect on sheep-raising, Justice, Bateman & Co. describe it in these words: "During the last Cleveland campaign the farmers were told that if they had free wool they would get a higher price for wool than they

EFFECT OF FREE WOOL, ETC., ON SHODDY IMPORTS OF UNITED STATES.



A remarkable accompaniment of the free wool period in the United States under the Wilson tariff was the enormous increase in the imports of rags and shoddy. The Act came into force in 1894, and in the remaining four months of that year there was over four times as much shoddy imported as in the preceding eight months, and by 1897 the imports had mounted up to 44,505,000 pounds, an increase of over 9,000 per cent. (From a graphic chart prepared by Justice, Bateman & Co.)