

originated with the woollen manufacturers for the new tariff will bear much more severely on them than on the cotton manufacturers. Of course the specific duty of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  cents per lb. will be very heavy on the cheaper description of goods, such as tweeds, flannels, and blankets, and these are supplied to us almost exclusively by England, whereas the cheaper descriptions of cottons, on which the specific duty bears heavily, are chiefly imported from the United States. It was stated by Mr. Behrens, a delegate from Bradford, that, out of a total export of between £800,000 and £900,000, between £600,000 and £700,000 consisted of low-priced and heavy goods. This statement is startling. The entire exports of woollens are stated to be £1,500,000 sterling, so that, if we are to believe the statement made to the Secretary of State more than the half of the exports are low-priced and heavy goods which are manufactured in Canada to a considerable extent. We know that the total value of tweeds, blankets and flannels was about £275,000 sterling, but the trade returns do not give the number of yards in the higher-priced woollens, so that there are no means of judging as to their value; but we own that we doubt very much the correctness of the statement that so large a proportion of the exports from the United Kingdom consists of the low-priced and heavy goods which alone Canada manufactures. In his reply Sir Michael Hicks-Beach assured the deputation that Canada was more disposed to favor England than otherwise. This was in reply to an extraordinary statement made by the deputation that the specific duty "would be in effect a differential duty as against England and in favor of France and other countries." We cannot conceive the ground for such an assertion. The Huddersfield Chamber of Commerce has passed a resolution to memorialize the House of Commons to appoint a select committee "to consider the relations of the Mother Country and her colonies, with a view to steps being taken to place those relations upon a more satisfactory basis." There is doubtless a good deal of irritation on the subject of the tariff, which need not surprise us much in Canada, when we read the inflammatory articles which have been fulminated against the Governor-General with immeasurably less cause. Fortunately the masses of the people will give no countenance to the extravagance of those who would create dissension between the Mother Country and the colonies. We notice that the principal spokesman of the Yorkshire delegates was requested to

put his statements in such a form as would enable the Secretary of State to make representations to the Government of Canada.

#### CANADIAN IRON INDUSTRY.

In a late number it was stated that coal and iron were two of the products of Canada that seem, under the new order of things, destined to acquire an importance heretofore impossible. The future prospects of the development of the Canadian collieries have been examined. It remains to estimate the probable results of the future working of the iron ores of the Dominion.

It is useless to expatiate on the mineral wealth of the country as regards iron ores, the Geological Survey reports show that iron deposits exist in every Province; the specimens of our various ferruginous minerals have at every exhibition held in Europe attracted general attention and compared favorably with the richest foreign deposits. Yet, the iron industry of a country admitted to be so rich in minerals had in 1878 a production amounting only to 15,000 tons of pig iron, of a value of \$200,000, while Belgium, with a territory of one forty-fifth the size of the five older Provinces, had a production of 418,366 tons, of a value of \$5,857,124.

The consequences of neglecting the working of our inexhaustible beds of iron are easily pointed out by the yearly importations of foreign iron and steel products which, under more favorable circumstances, the enterprise of the Canadian people might have, in some measure, restricted to the finer class of articles.

Importations of hardware, iron, steel and their products into the Dominion from 1872 to 1878:

Year.	Value.
1872	\$12,291,908
1873	20,202,753
1874	18,878,411
1875	15,783,960
1876	11,600,897
1877	9,330,982
1878	8,298,517

Total.....\$96,387,428

The decrease in value is not to be attributed to a decrease in imports; the quantities have remained about the same, as no domestic production has taken their place in the consumption of the country; the decline in the value of iron since 1874 alone accounting for the seeming decrease in imports.

Adding to this large amount of \$96,387,428 the duties, freight and commission, the lack of encouragement to incite the

working of her own wealth has cost Canada a heavy share of the public earnings. Every one seems now apparently alive to the importance of encouraging the home manufacture of iron. The manufacturers of Ontario, who are the largest consumers of iron in the country, have, through their association, asked that duties on pig iron be imposed; the consumers of the other provinces are, also, generally favorable to the imposition of protective duties, and the action of the Government in that matter, in imposing \$2 per ton on pig, has been approved. It is evident that if the value of an industry to the country in which it is established depends upon the extent to which it affords employment to labor, none can present a stronger claim to consideration than the manufacturer of iron, the whole cost of the article produced being practically for wages, as the ore, coal, lime and other materials used possess in themselves no value while lying in the bowels of the earth; and further, that, as the manufacturer of iron requires the employment of strong, able-bodied men almost exclusively, it sustains a far greater population than most other industries, in which women and children are largely employed.

The paltry duty of \$2 per ton on pig seems rather small when compared with the duty of \$7 the United States imposed on the same article in 1864, and to which is due the enormous extension of their production, that, from 947,607 tons in 1863, went up in ten years to 2,868,278 tons. But the price of pig iron is every where so low that the actual duty of \$2 per ton will do much for the protection of the home industry. The duties on manufactured iron and steel will also give an impetus to the enterprise of the country.

The result of the encouragement afforded to coal and iron, heretofore so neglected, will probably be, without closing the doors to foreign imports, to create among us large centres of industry, calling into activity many dormant energies of the nation, and affording to agriculture a larger market for its produce.

#### WHAT EDUCATION IS OF MOST VALUE.

If already the loss from want of science is so frequent and so great, still greater and more frequent will it be to those who hereafter lack science. Just as fast as productive processes become more scientific, which competition will inevitably make them do; and just as fast as joint-stock undertakings spread, which they certainly will; so fast will