

In reference to the effect of large exportations of farm products on the general prosperity of the farmers and people generally, we submit the following comparison of exports from the Dominion of Canada of agricultural products, including animals and their products :

1871	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$22,436,071
1872	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,795,175
1873	-	-	-	-	-	-	29,238,457
1874	-	-	-	-	-	-	34,269,312
1875	-	-	-	-	-	-	29,958,865
1876	-	-	-	-	-	-	34,657,319
1877	-	-	-	-	-	-	28,909,993
1878	-	-	-	-	-	-	32,028,611
1879	-	-	-	-	-	-	33,729,068
1880	-	-	-	-	-	-	39,901,905
1881	-	-	-	-	-	-	42,628,545

It will be seen that in 1871, 1872 and 1873 the exports were much below the subsequent years, from 1874 to 1878 inclusive, yet business was prosperous in the former period and depression existed in the latter. Since the Tariff came into operation our people have not only supplied the additional home market of \$12,029,131, given by the exclusion of American farm produce, but have also exported very largely, which would lead to the conclusion that the protective Tariff had stimulated and encouraged the production of farm products.

The home demand and prices obtained for meat stuffs, butter, poultry and eggs, as well as fruit and vegetables, has been demonstrated by the evidence to be largely increased, as a result of the Tariff stimulating manufacturing industries and improving the condition of the mechanic and laboring man, as well as by the exclusion of American competition in many of these articles. Fruit growing has been especially benefitted and stimulated by the operation of the Tariff excluding foreign fruit which competed with Canadian grown. A wider area of land is yearly being devoted to fruit culture, and Canadian nurserymen find a much larger demand at profitable prices for fruit trees of every description which thrive in Canada. Indeed, from the rapidly increasing demand for fruit in Manitoba and the North-West, and from the fact that fruit trees do not thrive in that territory, it is evident that fruit growing will become more and more an important and remunerative branch of husbandry in the older Provinces.

The evidence before your Committee also shows that the interest on money frequently required to carry on farming operations is much lower since 1878 than perhaps was ever known formerly in Canada.

That the burden of taxation upon the farmer is relieved under the Tariff is evidenced by the amount of duties paid by the American people for the privilege of using our markets for farm produce, and by the fact, elicited by the evidence, that the foreign manufacturer gives a greater discount to the Canadian importer, equal very frequently to the amount of increased duties on manufactured goods. The general prosperity among all other industrial classes and the more constant employment at higher wages given to artisans and laborers tends to make these classes larger contributors to our revenue, and proportionately relieves the farming population.

The greater bulk of evidence taken shows that the price of manufactured goods in common use amongst farmers is increased to a barely noticeable extent; and that in many lines they are actually reduced in consequence of competition within the country and the improved facilities for manufacturing incident to the wider home market obtained by the manufacturer.

Witnesses were examined and other information obtained as to the Manitoba market, and it was apparent to your Committee, that previous to the present Tariff coming into operation, farm products of every description were largely imported from the United States, and injuriously affected the farmers of that Province as well as