

the energetic work of the United States Consul at St. John's, who reports to Washington every new opening for trade in the island. The question is, why should Canada have commercial agents in countries ten thousand miles away, and neglect to have a representative in a splendid market at her front door here, among a people with whom we should be in closest and most constant touch politically and commercially?

The trade returns of the colony in former years have had a very simple classification, which within the past two or three years is being made more elaborate, but the following items will be suggestive to dry goods merchants and manufacturers of textile fabrics in Canada:

Canvas.

	1888	1897	1903
Canada		8,799	7,545
Great Britain.....	15,508	10,158	7,420
United States.....	40,170	15,404	23,441

Cordage.

	1888	1897	1903
Canada	1,982	8,765	5,819
Great Britain.....	36,289	12,784	37,818
United States.....	10,247	3,924	5,254

Dry Goods.

	1888	1897	1903
Canada	14,761	41,007	64,438
Great Britain.....	660,075	791,616	595,836
United States.....	27,548	33,633	87,456

Hair Cloth.

	1888	1897	1903
Canada			4,298
Great Britain.....			601
United States.....			363

Hats and Caps.

	1888	1897	1903
Canada			3,447
Great Britain.....			47,148
United States.....			3,203

Nets and Netting.

	1888	1897	1903
Canada			10,249
Great Britain.....			4,589
United States.....			13,722

Oakum.

	1888	1897	1903
Canada		175	609
Great Britain.....	3,374	1,686	444
United States.....			15

Oiled Clothing.

	1888	1897	1903
Canada		9,329	14,467
Great Britain.....		635	1,538
United States.....		11,182	13,729

Ready-Made Clothing.

	1888	1897	1903
Canada	3,140	3,143	12,044
Great Britain.....	114,726	140,759	140,850
United States.....	16,403	5,160	24,452

Twine.

	1888	1897	1903
Canada			658
Great Britain.....			1,342
United States.....			211

Window Shades.

	1888	1897	1903
Canada			368
Great Britain.....			669
United States.....			854

Yarns.

	1888	1897	1903
Canada	37	26	105
Great Britain.....	14,477	15,813	19,199
United States.....			47

Hemp, Yarn, etc. (Free).

	1888	1897	1903
Canada			52,282
Great Britain.....			110,936
United States.....			

Lines and Twines (Free).

	1888	1897	1903
Canada			4,683
Great Britain.....			16,383
United States.....			34,292

Wool (Free).

	1888	1897	1903
Canada		310	1,342
Great Britain.....		99	120
United States.....			296

THE WOOLEN TARIFF CHANGES.

The budget announcements, that have been so anxiously looked for by the Canadian woolen manufacturers, were made at Ottawa on the 7th inst., and, as will be seen by extracts from the Finance Minister's speech, the minimum duty to be imposed upon fabrics "composed wholly or in part of wool, worsted, the hair of the alpaca goat (excepting wool blankets, flannels, bed comforters and counterpanes), is now 30 per cent., instead of the 23 1-3 per cent. heretofore ruling. The woolen manufacturers had hoped for a specific duty on the pound weight of goods imported, as this would have kept out more effectually the cheap, shoddy goods which too often are palmed off on the consumer as Canadian made, while the finer makes of Canadian tweeds, etc., are often sold over the counter as foreign. Though the manufacturers believe that a specific duty on low class goods would have been more effectual, while not having the effect of raising the price to the consumer; they recognize that the new duties, if they do not restore to the home manufacturer the advantages he had under the former tariff, will at least give him a chance for his life. It will, of course, take time for the water-logged ship to right herself, if the history of the Wilson tariff of the United States is to be repeated in Canada, but if the development of the West continues, that period of recuperation may not be so long and tedious.