

previous to the preference, our imports of "woolens" were valued at \$19,103,929, and in the subsequent period at \$25,571,661, an increase of \$6,467,732. This is a bad showing for the Canadian woolen industry. Previous to the preference Canadian mills produced about all the woolen goods the country required; and first-class Canadian-made blankets could be sold in London at same prices as British blankets. Now it is different. Our mills, many of them are closed, and Canadian operatives are in idleness or forced into other occupations; and this to please and benefit British textile manufacturers.

Mr. Johnson shows that in the three year period before the preference our imports of iron and steel goods were valued at \$6,330,134, and in the second period, \$13,704,947. This latter period is coincident with the boom in Canadian manufacturing and commercial industries which required large quantities of such goods, such as steel rails, mining machinery, etc., nearly all of which are in the free list. But another story may be told in this connection.

In THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURER of January 2, 1903, was published a tabulated statement showing in detail the values of 84 different manufactures of dutiable goods, chiefly of iron and steel, and some other products allied therewith, during the fiscal years 1898, 1900, and 1902, and the duties imposed thereon by the general tariff, a discount of 33½ per cent. being allowed upon the articles made in Great Britain. It should be borne in mind that 1898 was the first full year in which the British preferential tariff was in effect. The statement also showed in like detail the values of 45 different non-dutiable manufactures and products of similar character, and indicated the sources of origin of what, to large extent, was to Canadian manufacturers their raw materials.

The statement was intended to emphasize three things—first, the large values of Canada's imports of dutiable goods which, to a great extent, should have been produced at home; second, the relatively small imports from Great Britain, notwithstanding the preferential tariff in her favor; and, third, the great value of such imports from the United States.

It was undoubtedly an impulse of the heart rather than of the head that prompted the engrafting of the preferential tariff upon our fiscal system. It had been noticed that our imports of dutiable goods from Great Britain had been steadily decreasing, as Mr. Johnson so pointedly shows, and it was thought that were the duties lowered there would be an increase of them; but the idea was a mistaken one, for we find that as compared with our total dutiable imports, the matter has not been mended. It is true that the volume of our imports from Great Britain are showing a slight increase, but this is because of the general prosperity that pervades the country, and not attributable to the tariff preference, the increase of the imports of 1902 being less than one per cent. over the proportion shown in 1898.

The preponderance of imports of American manufactures into Canada over similar products from Great Britain and all other countries is due to several causes; and it should be observed that in the list of articles enumerated in our statement, every one of them is capable of being produced in Canada, and in Great Britain also. Among these causes may be mentioned the greater adaptability of American goods to Canadian wants, coupled with the fact that American manufacturers are liberal advertisers in Canadian journals.

The values of the 84 lines of dutiable goods imported into Canada from Great Britain, United States, and from all countries in the three years alluded to in the table, were as follows:

	Great Britain.	United States.	All Countries.
1893.....	\$1,506,499	\$10,148,788	\$12,564,797
Proportion	12.0 p. c.	80.7 p. c.	100.0 p. c.
1900.....	\$3,240,607	\$17,059,118	\$21,558,655
Proportion	7.0 p. c.	78.7 p. c.	100.0 p. c.
1902.....	\$3,047,812	\$18,738,148	\$28,528,516
Proportion	12.9 p. c.	75.3 p. c.	100.0 p. c.

The value of all merchandise, both dutiable and free, entered for consumption in Canada, was as under:

	Great Britain.	United States.	All Countries.
1898.....	\$32,500,917	\$78,705,590	\$130,698,006
Proportion	24.8 p. c.	60.2 p. c.	100.0 p. c.
1900.....	\$44,789,730	\$109,844,378	\$180,804,316
Proportion	24.8 p. c.	60.7 p. c.	100.0 p. c.
1902.....	\$49,206,062	\$120,814,750	\$202,791,595
Proportion	24.2 p. c.	59.5 p. c.	100.0 p. c.
1903.....	\$58,896,901	\$137,605,195	\$233,790,516
Proportion	25.1 p. c.	58.8 p. c.	100.0 p. c.

In THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURER of December 18, 1903, was published an enlarged tabulated statement showing in detail the values of a selected list of 200 different manufactures of dutiable goods, chiefly of iron and steel, imported into Canada in the fiscal year 1903, and the rates of duties imposed thereon under the general tariff, a discount of 33½ per cent. being allowed upon certain imports manufactured in Great Britain, admitted under the preferential tariff. The values of these 200 different lines was as under:

	Great Britain. Preferential Tariff.	U. S. General Tariff.	All other Countries. General Tariff.	Total.
1903.....	\$4,702,490	\$42,526,606	\$3,582,674	\$50,812,770
Proportion	9.3 p. c.	83.5 p. c.	7.2 p. c.	100.0 p. c.

The question of fealty to the mother country, as regards the preference, does not and should not enter into the consideration of our fiscal relationship, but if it did there is no good or sufficient reason why Canadian manufacturing industries should be sacrificed in favor of British manufacturers.

#### OUR ANGELS OF COMMERCE.

The weekly reports published by the Dominion Department of Trade and Commerce regarding the trade and commerce of Canada with other countries is filling a long-felt want, and are, or should be, of immense value to Canadian exporters. The Department invites correspondence upon all matters pertaining to trade, and will cause special enquiries to be made by the commercial agents of Canada into any subject of general interest when so desired. This is a most laudable imitation of the methods observed by the Department of Commerce and Labor of the United States Government, which is in close touch with the consular system of that country, and which sends out bulletins published on every lawful day, covering reports of consuls and commercial agents in all parts of the world. Similar reports are also published at about weekly intervals by the Governments of Great Britain, Germany, France, and perhaps some other countries; and it is a pleasure to note that, save in the instance of the United States, the Canadian publication of such information is up-to-date and in line with any of the others. A noticeable and valuable feature of these Canadian weekly reports is that they will be sent free upon application to the Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, to any who may be interested in either the import or export trade of Canada.

Another valuable feature of the methods of the Department is that the Canadian Commercial agents, whose addresses are here given, will answer correspondence relative to commercial