

This explains why, in spite of the patriotic ardor aroused by the war of 1812-15, the comparatively crude woolen industry of the Republic almost collapsed before the well-organized industry of Great Britain, producing much finer fabrics. By 1816 the imports of woolens and cottons into the United States from Great Britain mounted up to \$70,000,000, and merino sheep that during the war sold as high as \$1,000 could now be had for \$1 a head. In this strait the cotton and woolen manufacturers turned to Congress, and the result was a long series of tariff experiments, the study of which would be most illuminating to those who have had a hand in the woolen tariff legislation of Canada during the past quarter century.

Without attempting here to follow this legislation it will be enough to say that it required another war—that of the great civil conflict of 1861-5—to force home to the people of the United States the conviction that the production of its necessary textile fabrics must be an essential part of its national policy. “The war of 1861 recreated the American wool manufacture.” And this new policy began with adequate protection to United States wool, by which the production of the raw material should be first secured. The result of this to the farming interests was that the domestic wool clip, which in 1859 was reported at 60,264,000 pounds, grew to 106,000,000 in 1862, and has since then reached an average of over 300,000,000 pounds in recent years, in a grand total of 500,000,000 pounds consumed by the mills. This policy was carried out at a serious risk to the United States worsted manufacturers, who, under the reciprocity treaty of 1854 with Canada, had developed a large industry by using Canadian wools, then admitted duty free. The reputation of the worsted goods of the United States was first founded on the high quality of these Canadian wools, and, as the sheep of this class were not then raised in the United States, the worsted manufacturers there appealed to Congress for a special exemption to Canada wools. They pointed out