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THE CANADIAN TEXTILE DIRECTORY

A Handbook of all the Cotton, Woolen and other Textile manufactures of Canada, with lists of manufacturers' agents and the wholesale and retail dry goods and kindred trades of the Dominion, to which is appended a vast amount of valuable statistics relating to these trades. Fourth edition. Price, \$3.00.

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INFLUENCE OF CLIMATE ON WOOL.

It is remarkable to what a degree climate controls the character of a sheep's fleece. We have seen how, under this influence, the merino sheep when taken to Australia soon surpassed even its own great European reputation for fineness of wool. We know how the same sheep when transplanted to the plains of South America produces a fleece of a good, yet quite different, character. Again every Canadian sheep farmer has found that the merino sheep when bred here begins to differentiate towards the lustre class of wool, unless the blood is constantly renewed with fresh importations to overcome the natural effect of climate. We are forced by the teachings of experience to the conclusion that, generally speaking, only one class of wool can attain the best results in a given climate. The Scotchman's phrase, "A' o' 'oo'", can be put into the

formula—One climate, one wool. Sheep of the Leicester and Southdown classes appear best suited to Canada, for wool growing qualities.

The framers of the present United States tariff, about four years ago, not only did away with free raw wool, but gave the Creator to understand that the above limitations should no longer be placed on the sheep or the climate of the United States. They gave Him three years within which the laws of Nature should be brought into harmony with the Constitution of the United States and the plans of the tariff committee, or it would be so much the worse for the universe. By this enactment Nature would be so far brought under the dominion of the United States tariff that in three or four years the great American sheep could be made to grow either camel's hair, goat's hair, rabbit's hair, mohair, Australian merino, spiders' webs or silk organzine, and all at an enormous profit to the American woolen industry. Four years have gone by, and the predicted results have not been attained, probably owing to the unreasonable refusal of the Almighty to remove sections of the climate of Egypt, India, Australia and Buenos Ayres to the United States, or otherwise change the functions of the hair follicles of American sheep to bring about the desired end without altering the meteorological conditions.

At all events the experience of the manufacturers is that the American wool grower is not able to supply the mills with all the different kinds of wool they require, and he never will unless the mills limit their lines of goods to what he can successfully grow. S. N. D. North makes this clear in a paper in the Bulletin of the Wool Manufacturers' Association, in which he says:

"There has never yet been a time, when the domestic wool production met the domestic needs. For forty years the American wool manufacturer has been wandering in the wilderness, so to speak, and he must continue indefinitely to wander, if he is to wait for the domestic grower to supply—not what is lacking in quantity, but the qualities which that lacking quantity represents. For it is the quality and not the quantity of the deficiency which is significant. No American manufacturer imports foreign wool, and pays the duty upon it, when he can accomplish the desired results in the fabrics he is making, and at the same cost, by the use of domestic wool. There are certain qualities in goods, to produce which, to the most satisfactory degree, requires certain foreign wools, and until the domestic clip supplies wools of these peculiar characteristics, in