

Some class of goods, some raw material, put into the manufactured goods in England, and the same put into your goods here, what rate of duty would you require to protect you from that?—Don't want any protection if you will only get away the shoddy. We shall then be satisfied with the fifteen.

Can you manufacture these shoddy goods?—No; it would spoil our markets. We have never had a pound of shoddy about our mill.

But your machinery could do it?—Not adapted to it.

You need a separate establishment for it?—Separate machines are wanted.

And the Canadian market is not extensive enough to warrant that?—No; it is not the class of goods wanted by the country.

What rate of duty would enable you to compete with England?—Twenty and twenty-five per cent. on goods costing 2s. and under. That would give us a larger field.

Is the home market sufficient for the consumption of all the woollens you manufacture?—We have had no difficulty in selling our manufacture.

The supply would not be more than equal to the demand?—No.

Are there any woollens exported?—None of any consequence. Had application from Chicago, but the duty prevented it.

The shoddy goods are imported in very large quantities?—Yes; they enter largely into the clothing of the people. They are cheap and nice to look at. They are, however, really dear.

Where are they chiefly sold?—Generally throughout the Dominion.

Supposing they were included in the duty, the persons now buying them would be compelled to buy the high class goods sold by your firm?—Yes.

Would the price of goods be higher?—It would be dearer at the first glance, but would be cheaper in the end.

Could you manufacture more goods than you do if you had the market?—Yes, by extending the mill.

Is your selling now equal to your present rate of production?—Yes.

The demand on your goods shows there are two classes to supply, the one wearing high-class cloths, the other buying shoddy. How does that class compete with yours?—By false trade-mark, passing shoddy off as Canadian goods.

Is it because your manufacture is unusually good, that the English manufacturer adopts your trade-mark?—I suppose so.

Would a law inflicting a penalty for such offence affect your price?—I think it would. The vendors here who sell the shoddy represent it to be Canadian manufacture. It is quite common in London to see goods marked "Canadian" tweeds and cloths, which are not so.

How many hands are there in your employ?—One hundred and fifty.

Is it not a fact that your goods are sold as English?—Not aware. The goods are peculiar to this country, and would not suit any other.

Your business is growing largely?—It has increased with the increase of the country.

Has it kept pace with the increase of the country?—As far as our capital would allow us to extend it.

This Streetsville mill, then, has been for thirty years a reasonably prosperous undertaking?—Up to six or seven or eight years ago; but in the American War the price of the goods did not advance in proportion to the advance in wool and to the advance in the price of labour.

The Americans were not supplying you at all then?—No, not at all. The price of wool has been enhanced since the war from 22c. to 27c.

The grower of Canadian wool has been largely benefiting, then, by your expenditure?—Of course.

He has been thriving, although you have been reduced to a certain extent?—Yes. The price of sheep and wool has gone up.