

which would be required to clothe our soldiers are being abandoned. But this is not so surprising when we consider our national habit of looking to the British navy—to whose maintenance we do not contribute a dollar—as something infallible, and when we recall the fact that it required two wars—the war of 1812 and the civil war of 1861-5—to teach the United States that its textile industries were a vital part of its scheme of national defence.

But supposing human nature suddenly changes and wars are never more heard of, does the average

Canadian realize the colossal magnitude of the textile industries of other manufacturing nations and what a gap would be left in the circle of our industrial activities if that branch of our textile trades, which above all others, is a really native one, is allowed to die of atrophy? The census of 1905 shows that United States textile manufacturers employed capital to the amount of \$1,343,324,605, and produced goods to the annual value of \$1,215,036,792. Of these, the capital invested in the woolen branches was over \$477,000,000 and the annual value of product \$517,000,000.

Summarizing the results of the United States census, Edward Stanwood, the Government expert, says: "In some respects the textile industry is the most important branch of manufacture carried on in this country. It provides the material for substantially the entire clothing of the people. . . . Moreover, it supplies articles of household use, such as carpets, towelling and bed coverings. In the grouping of industries by the Census Bureau, 'textiles' rank third, according to the value of products, the group of 'food and kindred products' being first, and 'iron and steel and their products,' second. But when the manufacture of clothing is taken into account the class so formed rivals the group of iron and its products; and in the number of wage-earners the textile and allied industries are far in excess of any other group. They reported the impressive number of 1,156,305, which is but a little below the number em-