

"We are not able with any degree of success to import any unbleached cottons from the United States. Our Canadian cotton manufacturers regulate the price just so as to leave us no, or very little margin in importing from the States.

"From the enormous protection the Canadian manufacturers have (1 cent, say 1 cent per square yard, and 15 per cent. *ad valorem*) we verily believe that they have from five to ten times greater profit per cent. in selling cottons by the hundred bale lots to responsible wholesale men than we have in selling from one to five pieces to merchants of different standing all over the country.

"We know less about the relative values in United States and Canadian bleached goods than we do in unbleached. We know, however, that we import largely from England in bleached goods, and sell them side by side with the Canadian bleached goods at a much better profit than we can get on Canadian goods, and of course the Canadian manufacturer gets the difference in profit."

Now, Sir, I have shown you by this statement how unfair in the general is the basis of comparison upon which Mr. Gault's statement rests. I have shown from the testimony of numerous persons that the average of the goods he refers to cannot be properly referred to as a basis of comparison with the average comparison from sheetings manufactured in Canada. His comparisons, while he admits the average Canadian goods are about 3½ yards to the lb. include printed cloths, weighing 7 yards to the pound; Monadnock greys, weighing 5·30 yards to the lb. Newberry BB's, weighing 4·20; Continental K's, 4; Nashua R's, weighing 3·45, out of a very high count increasing the cost. The brands which may be most fairly taken in comparison with our very best are such as Adriatic Standard and Great Falls E. I have prepared a table showing cost abroad, rate of duty, and the cost duty added of Gault's samples, divided into two parts. I have not added freight and charges, an additional protection varying in amount according to the point of distribution, and therefore disputable, through the charge at Montreal may be taken at about 2 per cent. The table is as follows:—

	Yards to lb.	U. States cost per lb.	Rate of duty.	Cost duty added.
		cents.	per cent.	cents.
Printing Cloths	7·00	28·00	33·75	37·45
Monadnock Greys	5·30	30·475	29·49	39·46
Newbury BB's	4·20	28·35	29·81	36·80
Continental K's	4·00	27·60	29·49	35·74
Nashua R (High Count).....	3·45	26·737	27·10	34·20
Average	4·79	28·23	30·09	36·73

I have taken as a second part the remainder of Mr. Gault's table:

	Yards to lb.	U. States cost per lb.	Rate of duty.	United States cost duty added.
		cents.	per cent.	cents.
Massachusetts I.....	4·00	25·60	28·02	32·71
Atlantic V.....	3·70	24·97	27·31	31·80
Laurel D.....	3·15	23·62	28·30	30·32
Atlantic H.....	3·05	23·64	27·90	30·23
Adriatic Standard.....	2·84	22·72	27·5	28·96
Great Falls E.....	2·90	23·20	27·5	29·58
Average.....	3·27	23·96	27·76	30·60

Now, I do not admit that second part of the table itself to be a fair comparison with the average Canadian brands at all, but even assuming that it is, these are the results. Now, I have taken, as I have said, the five staple brands of Hochelaga, Cornwall and Dundas, and their weight is, as Mr. Gault says, about 3½ yards to the lb., and taking, in the
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first place, Mr. Gault's own statement of the cost at 29 cents, the result is this: Canadian cotton costs 29 cents; United States cottons at mills costs 23·96 cents; excess of cost of Canadian cotton cost, 5·04 cents, or 21 per cent. in excess. Then add cost of duty to United States cotton and it will be 33·60 cents, or 1·60 cents in cost of Canadian cotton, or about 5½ per cent.

Mr. FARROW. Is the hon. gentleman reading a letter or is it his own speech he is reading now.

Mr. BLAKE. I am referring to certain figures which I do not propose to carry in my head, even to please the hon. member for North Huron. I say that the excess of United States duty added is by these figures only 5 or 6 per cent., and if you take the average cost of Canadian, as it is at 29·60, the result is that the excess of Canadian over United States at mill is 23 per cent; and the excess of United States duty added only about 3½ per cent., and the truth is if you were to take a fair comparison, which even the second branch of this table does not give you, of goods of equal value, you would find, instead of being, as I have pointed out, 21 or 23 per cent., the mill cost of Canadian goods would be between 25 and 30 per cent. over the mill cost of United States goods of equal value. I have shown that Mr. Gault acknowledged, in effect, that they took 15 per cent. on the brown, but that, in truth, they took nearly 30 per cent. These figures prove another thing: By reference to the relative cost which is given for these goods at the three Canadian mills, it appears there is a practical understanding as to the rate to be charged, and there is not, except under particular circumstances, any competition. So much with respect to brown sheetings and Mr. Gault's statement in respect to them, and I once again reiterate that the statement which the hon. Minister attributed to Mr. Gault respecting brown sheetings is a statement which Mr. Gault does not make, but he confines himself, in that regard, to bleached shirtings, to which I am now about to refer. Mr. Gault admits that in white goods the comparison with United States goods "can't be made so clear" on account of the variety of styles and makes. He gives a list of United States goods. Low fine shirtings cost abroad, 5 cents, duty 30 per cent; Manantic E cost abroad 6½ cents, duty 28·9 per cent.; Chapman X cost abroad 7½ cents, duty 28 per cent.; Elerton VS, cost abroad 8½ cents, duty 27·09 per cent.; Hill Semper Idem, cost abroad 9½ cents, duty 25·42 per cent.; Dwight Anchor cost abroad 10 cents, duty 25 per cent.; Langdon, G B, cost abroad 11½ cents, duty 23·22 per cent.; Wamsutta, cost abroad 11¾ cents, duty 23·10 per cent. The average cost per lb., in the United States is 37·38 cents; average duty 26·34 per cent; average cost per lb., duty added, is 47·12 cents. Now, Mr. Gault compares these with Valleyfield goods, of which he says the average price is about 38 cents a pound. I have taken the brands of Valleyfield white cottons—X, XXX, O, OO and OOO—being almost the whole consumption of Valleyfield, and find the average cost 38·89 cents. There is no comparison whatever between these goods. It is true that Langdon, GB, and Wamsutta may be looked at, but they compare, if at all, only with Valleyfield brand, LLL, of which the consumption is insignificant. These are goods made in the protected United States. It is the low price of English bleached goods that has kept Valleyfield down. It is with them the competition is; and a fair comparison would be with them. Valleyfield has, however, increased seriously in price. The price of October, 1878, and January, 1879, was of the brands mentioned. Average per yard for October, 1878, and January, 1879, 6·80 cents; for May, 1879, 7·24 cents; for year 1879, 7·32 cents; for December 14, 1881, 8·475, an increase over October, 1878, and January, 1879, of 24·72 per cent.; over May, 1879, of 17 per cent.; over average of 1879, of 15½ per cent. The brand X presents the following results: Increase over October, 1878, 31·94 per cent.; over May, 1879, 21·08