

figures will show how protection robs the American farmer by increasing his expenditure and diminishing his increase :—

	1860.	1870.	Decrease per cent.
Western wheat flour, per brl.....	\$5 29	\$4 02	24
Michigan wheat per bushel	1 50	1 28	14
Hay, shipping, per 100 lbs.....	1 19	70 ¹ / ₂	36
Hides, per lb.....	24 ¹ / ₂	22 ¹ / ₂	10
Tobacco, Kentucky, per lb.....	12	10 ¹ / ₂	10
Wool, Saxony, per lb.....	54c @ 58c	38c @ 45c	26
Wool, No. 1 pulled, per lb.....	28c @ 30c	20c @ 24c	24

These prices, I may add, are taken from the United States Treasury reports. Let us now look at the value of agricultural produce at the two periods, as measured by its purchasing power against manufactured commodities. In the following table is shown what a given quantity of produce could procure, by way of barter, in 1860 and 1870 respectively :—

	1860.	1870.
	Would buy	
100 bushels of Western Corn.....	23 brls corn meal	22 brls.
100 lbs. of hides.....	13 1-7 prs. men's boots	6 ¹ / ₂ prs.
100 lbs. of Kentucky tobacco	50 lbs. man'fd. tobacco	22 lbs.
100 bushels corn.....	5 ¹ / ₂ brls. mess pork	3 ¹ / ₂ brls.
100 lbs. Saxony wool.....	37 ¹ / ₂ yds. cloth	24 yds.
100 lbs. merino fleece.....	14 ¹ / ₂ pairs blankets	8 ¹ / ₂ prs.
100 lbs. common wool	41 ¹ / ₂ yds. carpet	35 ¹ / ₂ yds.

Instances of this kind might be multiplied *ad libitum*, but no man of ordinary intelligence will require to be assured that a fiscal system which raises the cost of manufactured articles and of all imports fifty per cent., for the benefit of a million and a half of people employed in mills, mines, and factories, cannot fail to be disastrous to four times that number engaged in the cultivation of the soil, and who annually export produce of the value of \$561,933,286. Indeed, it would be difficult to find terms strong enough to employ in condemnation of so iniquitous a state of things in the United States, or of the conduct of those who advocate and defend similar acts of spoliation in Canada. Three-fourths of the produce of American industry are derived from the cultivation of the soil, and yet all the great interests comprehended under the general head of husbandry have been compelled to witness the confiscation of a large proportion of the fruits of their labour by the most stupendous system of legalised robbery which was ever devised by inordinate selfishness and established by audacious corruption. "Under high tariffs," observes an American writer, "certain pet interests have been invested with the tape-worm's faculty of feeding upon the vitals of all other industries; and while under this infliction our industry as a whole has suffered, these favoured interests have grown, like the tape-worm, not in self-sustaining vigour, but only in useless length and destructive voracity."

Reviewing the history of agricultural prices in the last half century we find, as might rationally be expected, that the prosperity of the