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HOME MANUFACTURES, vs. IMPORTED  
ARTICLES.

One of the advantages of our annual Provincial Exhibitions, consists in placing before the public eye, where they may meet with the greatest share of attention, those articles of general consumption which might be largely manufactured in the Province, if due encouragement were given to home industry in all its branches. We imported, for instance, in 1861, 321,084 lbs. of starch, yet the raw material from which starch is manufactured,—namely, grain,—chiefly wheat and Indian corn,—together with potatoes, are staple productions. Of china, earthenware and crockery, we imported to the value of \$274,369. This branch of industry is altogether in its infancy in the Province, and is one which offers an ample field for enterprise. At the last Provincial Exhibition, there were some good specimens of native art in the coarser varieties of crockery, which will no doubt be much improved on at our next exhibition. Of glass and glass-ware, we have hitherto had no representation; and this industry is not even referred to in the prize list; yet last year we imported to the value of \$344,527. Sandstone for glassmaking exists at Williamstown, Beauharnois, and was used for the manufacture of glass some years ago at St. John's and Vaudreuil, but it was found difficult to compete with foreign importation. The rock from which this excellent sandstone is obtained is called geologically the Potsdam Sandstone. We may yet look for the introduction of glass-making in Canada. The raw materials are present in abundance, and it is a mere question of time as to the extensive manufacture of all common articles of glassware as soon as a beginning is once made and public attention directed to the subject. Of the different varieties of candles, we imported to the amount of \$36,227; and yet we now possess within our own resources, much material for the manufacture of common wax, and paraffine candles. Our consumption of tallow is enormous; in 1861, the total importation amounted to no less than 3,045,122 lbs., valued at \$242,474. It is clear that the demand for the raw material is far beyond the resources of the country to supply, and as it enters the Province free of duty, we may assume that it

is consumed chiefly in the manufacture of candles, on which there is an *ad valorem* duty of 20 per cent. The Petroleum refineries should now supply as much of the crude material as we require for the manufacture of paraffine candles, which are superior to wax; and thus a new branch of industry may shortly spring up in our midst. Salt belongs to the class of free goods; it is an absolute necessity of life, and last year we consumed 1,697,314 bushels, valued at more than \$300,000. Salt is one of those articles which form a very important source of profit to private enterprise, and is in many countries a lucrative source of revenue to government. In the State of New York, the celebrated Onondaga salt springs have reached an astounding development within the last few years. The amount of salt inspected in 1861, on the Onondaga Salt Springs Reservation, in and adjacent to the city of Syracuse, N. Y., was 7,200,391 bushels, being equivalent to 1,440,000 barrels, of 280 lbs. each. The duties collected by the State amounted to \$72,003, although the duty is only one cent a bushel. The disbursements for the support of the salt springs amounted to \$45,000, and the dividend paid to the lessors of the salt vats reached 20 per cent. annum. The salt trade of Syracuse is already enormous. This important article constitutes a large share of the return freight to the boats on the Erie Canal, and the vessels engaged on the great lakes in the transportation of grain and other western productions. The quantity of salt shipped from the Reservation, not forty miles from Oswego, amounted in 1858 to four hundred and twenty millions of pounds, or equal to the load of four thousand canal boats, with cargoes from fifty to one hundred tons. This quantity would ballast one thousand four hundred sailing vessels, with one hundred and fifty tons each. Canada obtains much of her salt from importations *via* the St. Lawrence from Britain, but there is ample field and opportunity for manufacturing salt within our own boundaries. The shores of the lower St. Lawrence, or of the Bay of Chaleurs would probably, says Mr. Hunt of the Geological Survey, afford many favourable localities for the establishment of salines; the heat of our summers, which may be compared to those of the south of France, would produce a very rapid evaporation, while the severe frosts of our winters might be turned to account for the concentration of the water by freezing, as is practised in Northern Russia. Although we import salt to an amount exceeding \$100,000 from Britain, yet the United States' salt drains us of nearly two hundred thousand dollars per annum. A Salt spring was formerly worked at St. Catherines (1835), but al-