

into the carding and fulling departments. In 1827 there were ninety-one carding mills and seventy-nine fulling mills in Lower Canada, and in Upper Canada in 1842 there were 186 carding mills and 144 fulling mills. By the middle of the century there were in all Canada about 400 carding and fulling mills and 250 establishments where weaving was carried on by machinery, and besides these there were about 60,000 hand looms, producing over 6,000,000 yards of homespun cloth. The making of homespun cloth continued to increase with the growth of population down to 1871, when the product in all the provinces and territories now forming the Dominion was about 8,500,000 yards of cloth per year. From that date power machinery rapidly superseded the hand-spinning, weaving and knitting processes, and by 1891 the product of the handlooms in homespun and flannels diminished to 4,320,000 yards, of which a little more than half was made in the Province of Quebec. The census of 1891 gave Canada 377 woolen mills and 281 places where knitting was carried on, many of the latter, no doubt, being operators of hand-knitting machines, as the total hands employed in knit goods were only 2,143.

The more recent record of woolen cloth manufacturing in Canada is a record of decline and atrophy, accompanied by a corresponding decline in sheep-raising, and it will be interesting to the farmer to trace the connection between the two industries.

The Effect on Sheep-raising.

Of all the provinces, Ontario alone has kept a record of its live stock since 1881. The accompanying chart is, therefore, given of wool production and live stock raising of this province as typical of the changes that have been going on in these industries. It will be seen that so long as the old custom woolen mill remained the corner-stone of the business—say, till the decade of 1871 to 1881—sheep-raising held its own, because the interests of the farmer and manufacturer were mutual, the farmer supplying the wool and taking the finished product from the mill. The seeds of decay of both interests were planted when, with the development of the modern fac-