

competitor on Canadian soil. But that is their business ; they must take the N.P. with all that it implies in the way of probable increased competition *at home*. The N.P. is designed to give protection to home manufactures, but these home manufactures, on Canadian soil, are open to anybody having capital and enterprise enough to engage in them. It has been prophesied that protection will ere long lead to over-production, and the cotton manufacture, which has quadrupled within four years, is cited as a special instance. We can only say, let competitors drive ahead as they please. The purpose of the N.P. is not to create scarcity and monopoly, but abundance and competition. Very evidently it is having this effect, in the sewing machine trade as well as in others. When English or American manufacturers complain of Canadian duties on their goods, we have a standing reply to all such. Set up your shops and your machinery in Canada, and then you will have no duty to pay at all. That is the ready way of getting rid of the Canadian duty. As for the alleged loss to the Dominion revenue, there are two ways of looking at it, both of them highly satisfactory from the point of view of Canadian interests.

From an account of the operations of the Singer Company, given in another article, it appears that the company's new works near Glasgow, Scotland, the building of which was only commenced in May last, now employ *five thousand* men. That means that some 20,000 or 25,000 people—men, women, and children together—get their living from the works. If they do anything like this in Canada, the gain to the revenue, counting only a few dollars per head, will over-balance the alleged loss several times.

We may look at it, again, in the light of the fact that ever since the N.P. began to operate we have been making surpluses of revenue, instead of deficits as formerly. According to the free trade theory this should not be, but somehow or other the thing does not work to suit that theory, but exactly the other way. And we may note that the American N.P. appears to work the same way, only a good deal more so, as is shown by the financial statements sent out from Washington. Canadian sewing-machines entering the United States must pay 45 per cent., and the rules for valuation there are even stricter than ours are as yet. We would like our esteemed New York contemporary to say, boldly and bravely, whether it believes that the old one-sided system should continue of free trade in Canada and protection in the United States.

THE SINGER MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

In connection with the establishment of a branch of the Singer Company's manufacturing business in Canada, now soon to take place, we have learned some facts relating to this gigantic concern. That it is among corporations having large capital is generally known, but few will be prepared to hear that its capital is actually twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000.) At the beginning of last year the employees of the Company, in all parts of the world, numbered 25,000 persons, about 6,000 of whom were engaged in the purely commercial branch of the business, making sales, the remainder being engaged in the actual making and production of the far-famed Singer Sewing Machine. It was in 1850 that Mr. Singer, then a working mechanic, commenced making sewing machines, struggling

hard to keep going at a business which required what he had not—money, to wit. At last he made the acquaintance of Mr. Edward Clark, a lawyer, who joined him in the business, and afterwards the company was formed. This combination between the practical mechanic and the business man turned out the right thing exactly, though not until after many years of trial, with many discouragements encountered. Mr. Clark, it may be mentioned, is still the President of the Company, the Vice-President being Mr. George R. McKenzie, a Scotchman by birth, but long resident in the United States. A few years ago, on occasion of a visit to New York by Mr. George D. Woodruff, the General Manager in London, the project of establishing a branch factory in Glasgow was considered by the Directors. A beginning was made, very cautiously and in a small way, at first, but so rapid was the growth, and so conspicuous the success of the Glasgow venture, that on the 18th May last the building of an immense new factory was begun on a site of forty-five acres near to the city, and to-day five thousand hands are there employed.

Having determined to start manufacturing in Canada, the Singer Company take speediest method of getting to work. Not having had time as yet to fix upon a permanent site, they have rented a large building in Montreal, where manufacturing will very shortly begin, with six hundred persons employed. The Company's Superintendent of Factories will make a tour of the Province of Ontario, in order to examine and decide as to the best location for a large, permanent establishment. The Glasgow enterprise, begun on a far smaller scale than the Canadian beginning in Montreal, now employs 5,000 men, and if the expansion here be in anything like the same proportion the gain to Canadian industry will be large. Owing to its superior facilities for cheap transportation, both by water and by rail, Toronto does appear to be the most eligible site that could be pitched upon for the permanent establishment ; and it may be hoped that this view of Toronto's advantages will yet prevail with the company. It might be in order for some of our leading citizens to bestir themselves in this matter, and to lend a hand towards getting the new enterprise permanently located in the Queen City.

STATISTICS OF MANUFACTURES.

To the Editor of the Canadian Manufacturer.

SIR,—In attempting to collect statistics of the manufactures of Ontario I find one difficulty in the way to be—the fear that in giving values of materials and products the profits of manufacturers may become known. But in making a calculation of profits there are other data scarcely less essential. We must know the cost of rent, local taxes, management, running expenses, insurance, commissions, &c., none of which are asked for in the schedule. Some districts and interests are well represented in the returns already received, and others very imperfectly. As doubtless many copies of the Report will be sent abroad, it is desirable that the manufacturing interests of our Province should make a good showing as well as the agricultural. Every industrial centre will be judged largely by the exhibit it makes, and this depends entirely now on the readiness with which manufacturers respond to the Circular. All returns of schedules should be mailed in time to reach the Bureau not later than the 15th instant.

Bureau of Industries,
Toronto, Jan. 3, 1883.

A. BLUE,
Secretary.