

where the consumption is sufficient to warrant the establishment of such an industry, and a heavy protective tariff is justifiable, it is reasonable to suppose that works will be operated in close proximity to the then developed steel works, and at points which would have advantages in respect to transportation. * * *

"If a step should be taken in the direction of putting a sufficient tariff on tin plates which might reasonably be expected under existing conditions, to guarantee their manufacture in Canada, it would revolutionize the trade in general. It would increase the cost of innumerable products, seriously crippling many industries. It is likely that more items in the tariff would be affected by such a step than could possibly be affected by any other change."

To give backbone and strength to its argument, the pamphlet, from a manufacturer's standpoint, publishes a diagram of some campaign literature which was printed upon a piece of tin plate and generously distributed in the interests of Grover Cleveland when he was last a candidate for president of the United States. Its shape and size was similar to an ordinary letter envelope, upon which was stated that "This is the kind of tin plate in which the farmers' tomatoes, [peaches, peas, etc., and the fisherman's lobsters, oysters, fish, etc., are packed and preserved. The workingman's dinner pail, his cups, plates, dishes, wash bowls, saucepans and other household utensils are increased in cost by the McKinley tariff. This card is made of imported tin plate. It weighs 100 pounds per box, and sells in New York City for \$5.20. Out of this amount the United States Government receives \$2.20 by virtue of the McKinley tariff. Therefore without duty it is sold for \$3 per box. The consumer pays \$5.20 per box."

The quotations seem to exhaust the arguments of protected Canadian manufacturers against the establishment, by means of protection, of the much to be desired tin plate industry in Canada. It is surprising that protectionists should have advanced such arguments, well knowing that they are two-edged swords that can cut both ways; and it is also surprising that, being protectionists, they should have habilitated themselves in the worn out and rejected garments of the free-traders of the Cleveland stripe in the United States. Their arguments are neither new nor fresh, and are very misleading and unfair.

The objection to placing a duty on tin plate is that in some form or other they enter into the every day use of every man, woman and child in Canada, and that tin plates are not made in Canada, therefore it would be imposing an unjust burden on the people to tax tin plate. These free trade protectionists find their strong point in showing the slow and painful growth of the industry in the United States, and the improbability of an equally ultimately favorable result in Canada.

The population of the United States at the time of the going into effect of the McKinley tariff was, in round numbers, about 72,000,000. At this time the population of Canada is in round numbers, about 6,000,000, a difference of twelve to one.

In 1905 the imports of tin plates into Canada were 30,000 gross or 33,600 net tons, valued at \$1,751,507,

or 2.6 cents per pound. This amount distributed equally among the population of 6,000,000 would average a little less than 30 cents to each. If the imports had paid the McKinley duty of 2.2 cents per pound there would have been collected \$1,478,400, or 24 cents to each person, or 54 cents total. Would an additional tax of 24 cents per year to each person be a serious handicap to the prosperity of the country when it would mean the establishment of a tin plate industry which would make us independent of the world for the article?

We are also told that at the time the McKinley tariff came into effect, in 1891, there were no tin plates made in the United States, although the population at that time was 62,622,250, the importations of tin plate in foreign valuation amounting to \$25,909,305. This means that it cost each man, woman and child in the United States an average of 40 cents each for the tin plate used. This was 10 cents more per capita than it now costs Canadians.

After the going into effect of the McKinley tariff in 1891 the growth of the tin plate industry in the United States was phenomenal. Previous to that time census statistics regarding it were not separately collected, the production in 1890 being quite inconsequential. During the following decade, however, the development was remarkable, and in 1900 the United States had assumed a leading position in the production of tin plates, consuming over three-eighths of the world's estimated production of pig tin in that year. Mr. William G. Gray, of Philadelphia, was appointed expert special agent for collecting statistics for the census of 1900, and we are under obligations to him for many of the facts here stated. In his report he presented a series of tables relating to the subject, which show that in 1900 there was a capital of \$6,790,044 invested in the tin plate industry by the 57 active establishments reported for the United States. This sum represented the value of land, buildings, machinery, tools and implements, and the live capital utilized, but not the capital stock of any of the manufacturing corporations engaged in the industry. The value of the products was \$31,892,011, to produce which involved an outlay of \$291,323 for salaries of officials, clerks, etc.; \$1,889,917 for wages; \$236,456 for miscellaneous expenses, including rent, taxes, etc.; and \$26,728,150 for materials used, mill supplies, freight and fuel. That was the result achieved in eight and a half years after the going into effect of the McKinley tariff. In 1890 there was not one establishment in the United States that was engaged in the manufacture of tin plates. In 1891 the imports of tin plates into the United States from Great Britain was 327,882 gross tons with foreign value of \$25,900,305. The total quantity of the article imported into the United States in the twenty-four years from 1872 to 1895 was 4,823,992 gross tons, the foreign value of which was \$379,492,793. This immense quantity represented an aggregate of more than 100,000,000 boxes of 108 pounds each, or an average of more than 4,000,000 boxes per year. According to the Bulletin of the American Iron and Steel Association, the New York price of British tin plates declined rapidly after the ad-