

country by the duties imposed on them of \$2 per 1000 feet of lumber, and 30 cents per M. on shingles.

It is a recognized fact that the extension of this market and consequent increase of the volume of business done, assists the manufacturer in reducing the cost of production, and it is to this that we look for an improvement in our condition if our own markets are protected from invasion, but it can never be attained under present existing circumstances.

While we have to compete with our neighbors to the south in the markets of the world common to us both, a considerable portion of our product not suited to foreign trade must be disposed of at home, and this our mills cannot do, so that in foreign trade also we are handicapped, as the lumber produced for that branch of the business has to bear to some extent the loss on the other, and producers find themselves loaded with an ever increasing surplus for which it is impossible to find a sale.

On the other hand, the manufacturer in the United States has the markets of the world at large and of Canada open to him on the same terms as ourselves, and in addition has his large home market from which we are practically debarred.

We are not afraid of competing with the United States manufacturer on even terms, that is to say, on the terms of free lumber between both countries, but we must denounce in the strongest terms the unfairness of the one sided relations which now exist.

Instead of the manufacture increasing in our own country, the tendency is towards establishing new plants in adjoining United States territory, and this has already been done, the raw material being derived from British Columbia, manufactured in the United States, and thus has the advantage of both United States and Canadian markets. The inducement towards such a course must be so evident that we trust your Government will see the advisability of taking measures to obviate Canadians being driven to such an alternative.

We would respectively again urge the propriety and necessity of imposing a duty on lumber and shingles entering Canada from the United States equal to that levied by the United States on the same products when entering the United States from Canada,