

# CANADIAN Journal of Fabrics

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## Canadian Journal of Fabrics

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### THE CANADIAN TEXTILE DIRECTORY

A Handbook of all the Cotton, Woolen and other Textile manufactures of Canada, with lists of manufacturers' agents and the wholesale and retail dry goods and kindred trades of the Dominion, to which is appended a vast amount of valuable statistics relating to these trades Fourth edition now in hand.

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## Editorial.

### THE COTTON TARIFF.

A discussion of much interest to the cotton manufacturers, and the shirt and collar trade took place recently in the House of Commons, at Ottawa. On motion to go into supply, Mr. Monk (Jacques Cartier), called attention to the treatment which has been meted out to the shirt, collar and cuff industry under the present tariff. Mr. Monk claimed that the duty on the raw material is the same as that paid upon the finished product. The cotton manufacturers have every advantage while the kindred industry called into existence under the late Government

is being driven to the wall. It has been compelled to reduce the wages paid to operatives and is having a hard fight to make both ends meet. The importation of colored cotton by the trade is upwards of a million dollars, and in addition to this half a million dollars worth of Canadian cotton is used. The Finance Minister reported that at this late stage of the session it would be difficult to re-open the tariff question. The case of the collar and cuff manufacturers has already been very fully laid before the Government. That they are placed at some disadvantage in comparison with other industries there is no question. These difficulties, however, seem to be magnified, and there did not appear to him any reason why the shirt men should not still make reasonable profits in their business. The Government had last session attempted a measure in relief of the shirt manufacturers in allowing them to bring in their cotton at a reduction of ten per cent., but this plan did not seem to work out and appeared to favor the larger manufacturers, and was afterwards dropped. He was sorry that there did not appear to be any relief possible.

The result of this decision on the part of the Government is the announcement that the shirtmakers of the Dominion have decided to reduce the wages of their employees 10 per cent., beginning on July 1st. On the present duty they claim that the United States makers can undersell the Canadian makers, and unless they cut down expenses they will be driven out of the market. The Employers' Association is a strong one, extending all over the Dominion. The workers are also well organized in the Province of Quebec, but there are not very many in Ontario and the organization is weak.

### HOW TO REDUCE SECONDS IN A KNITTING MILL.

Seconds, which are caused by gross carelessness, accidents, etc., are something which require much thought and watchfulness to avoid them.

1st. The mill should be well lighted and well heated in winter, for when the machines are chilled they will work badly. See that the machines are in good order, that no imperfect needles are used, for if the machines are working properly then you can reprove the operators for making imperfect work, in which case they will be more careful. On the other hand, if the machines are not in good working order the operators will get careless and pass through work that will not be detected by the most watchful eyes.