

are the best of reasons for believing that this variation has been going on at even a greater ratio since 1850. Such State statistics as we have been able to procure confirm it. But take the facts as they stand, and supposing the ratio has been going on the same since 1850 that it did from 1840 to 1850, and we have the true explanation of the rise in butcher's meat and butter and cheese. It is well known that where the supply of an article is simply equal to the demand at a given or fair price, a slight diminution in supply effects frequently a very considerable rise.

Let us look now at the average value of the exports of breadstuffs and of provisions for each five years, 1822 to 1856, inclusive :—

1822 to 1826.....	\$13,130,526	1842 to 1846.....	\$14,400,295
1827 to 1831..	13,178,553	1847 to 1851.....	38,446,020
1832 to 1836.....	12,176,277	1852 to 1856.....	47,773,264
1837 to 1841.....	18,106,335		

We see an increase of our exports in about sixteen years of four fold ; during which time there has been a very great decrease in production. These two facts—decrease in production and increase in exportation—affords us a logical and conclusive cause for the increase in the price of meat, butter and cheese.

There is another fact worthy of notice in this connection, as having an important bearing upon the manufacturing interests of the country. We refer to the agricultural products as compared with the manufacturing products, as shown by the census of 1840 and that of 1850 :—

	1840.	1850.
Agricultural products to each person.....	\$33 24	\$41 60
Manufacturing products to each person.....	25 72	45 18
Total.....	\$58 96	\$86 78

Here is one fact going to show that the manufacturing interest of the country, although it has not been as prosperous as it probably would have been under the tariff of 1842, has, on the whole, gained on agriculture.

We have taken a general view of the subject, as it relates to the prices of butcher's meat and butter and cheese ; and we will now take a somewhat local one. In the following statistics we embrace horses and mules, as throwing some light on the rise in the price of horses, and we also include neat cattle and sheep and swine, showing the number in 1840 and also in 1850 in New England :—

	Horses and mules.	Neat cattle.	Sheep.	Swine.
1840.....	269,660	1,545,273	2,822,307	748,697
1850.....	212,650	1,468,938	2,257,583	361,481

The aggregate of the former period was 5,383,938 ; of the latter was