

munities and contrary to the spirit in which each part of the Union should regard all the others.

WE PAY OUR OWN TAXES.

Among our largest imports from Canada, timber is probably on the whole the one most necessary to our citizens. It forms a part of every house in city and country. It is directly or indirectly a part of almost every manufacture, and the cost of the home of every workman in the manufacturing parts of our country depends upon its price. Considered with regard to the tariff and its "protective" character, lumber is unlike any other article. Our iron-ore being inexhaustible, the production of that metal may be stimulated to any extent. The more there is made of it the more can be made. The same is true of manufactures of wool and cotton, or of those articles themselves. Looms, sheep, and cotton plantations can be almost indefinitely multiplied. But, for all intents and purposes, a high price for lumber is not only a tax on the people, but stimulates present production with the absolute certainty of speedy, spendthrift, exhaustion of the supply. By duties on Canadian lumber we simply exhaust our resources and pay for drawing what we need from places remote or difficult of access when we might get it easier elsewhere. It would be even more reasonable to dig holes and fill them up again than to indulge in this delusive and extravagant legislation.

There has been a too common belief that by duties on the productions of Canada we make her people pay our taxes. Perhaps the fallacy yet lingers in some minds. The fact that we have destroyed our importations of wheat and flour from Canada, and that she now sends her surplus together with much of our own to other markets, may convince of their error some of those who have imagined she must depend upon us for the sales of her productions. It was argued when the treaty was repealed and a duty was imposed on Canadian timber that we should buy it as cheaply as ever. Instead of this consummation, it has been found that our importations became nearly threefold as large as before, and that the prices in Canada doubled, showing clearly that we pay the duty and injure every branch of industry in which northern timber is a material.

The well-known fact is that we are rapidly exhausting our supplies of timber in the Northern States. The demand for it increases at the rate of 25 per cent. a year, and even those who are interested in high prices and immediate sales of what is left of it admit that in twenty years building timber will be extremely scarce, and that in many parts of the country, yet supplied in part from their own soil, it will have entirely disappeared. It is stated on good authority that no less than 63,923 establishments, employing 393,378 persons and using material to the value of \$310,000,000 a year, were engaged in 1869 in manufacturing articles entirely from wood, in addition to 7,439,840