

\$100,000. The *American Wool and Cotton Reporter*, in a recent issue, headed its leading editorial, "Are we a Race of Perjurers?" It would be impolite to answer the question save in the negative, but how is it that income tax returns for New York showed such an alarming and progressive impoverishment of the citizens? But we have no doubt the Canadian tariff duties, however imposed, will be honestly collected. It is also claimed that while the specific duty excludes, or almost excludes, the lowest grade of the classes of goods on which it is levied, such exclusion is in the best interest of the consumer, because he has not skill enough to detect the worthlessness of these wares, and would buy them if they were admitted, to his subsequent loss. If this were the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, it would be in the best interests of Canadian manufacturers to admit the poorest goods, for the consumer who had once bought such goods, "made in Germany" or elsewhere, would at his next purchase demand the more expensive Canadian goods. But the truth is that the exclusion of low grade goods only stimulates over-production on those lines and price-cutting. The result is that the general public believes Canadian wools to be coarse or worthless goods, and demands the "imported" weaves of which such a very large proportion are made in our own mills. The specific duty helps to create the demand for imported fabrics, and feeds that demand where it does already exist.

**Touches the Farmer Too.** Now, while in some branches of the textile trades, such as cotton, cordage and binder twine manufacturing, the raw materials of cotton, manilla, sisal, etc., are foreign products and do not touch any home agricultural interest, the woolen industry is bound up with the interests of the farmer. The total annual weight of the native Canadian wool clip has averaged over 11,000,000 lbs. for the past ten or fifteen years. The destruction of the woolen industry would be a serious thing for the Canadian farmer, as he would then be dependent entirely on the American market for his exports of wool. It is true that Canadian goods are not all made from Canadian wool. Considerable quantities of merino wool are imported from the Cape, Australia and South America to mix with the native product, and the result is a cloth which in the main has borne a high reputation. The fibre of Canadian wool is probably stronger than that of any wool in existence, and when made into an unadulterated cloth—such, for instance, as the original Halifax tweed—cannot be surpassed for wearing qualities. It is a lamentable fact that the Canadian tweed of ten or twenty years ago has suffered corruption by the insatiable demands of the wholesale trade for something "cheaper" and "cheaper"; but this process has gone on against the universal wishes and good judgment of the Canadian manufacturer. It will be still more lamentable for the country if an unfair tariff policy gives a further and perhaps final blow to what was once a splendid industry.

**A Great Industry.** The woolen and other textile factories are not alone to be considered in making tariff changes, for there is a host of other industries whose prosperous existence is interwoven with the spinning and weaving establishments who supply the raw material in the shape of fibre, yarn and cloth. We give below a partial list of such establishments taken from the last census. The reader who is versed in textile manufacturing will see that there are evident mistakes in classification made by the census reporters, but making due allowance for these, it will be seen that these industries are of great magnitude, and have many ramifications that affect the general prosperity of the people.

	No. of establishments.	No. of employees.	Capital.	Annual Value of Output.
Bag factories.....	2	52	\$ 141,090	\$ 265,800
Cordage, rope and twines..	21	819	2,370,395	1,723,534
Flax and scutch mills....	50	1,521	489,663	709,115
Net making.....	43	101	812	11,021
Sail making.....	55	166	68,031	244,940
Tents and awnings.....	32	206	119,410	425,902
Dyeing and scouring....	72	292	355,186	345,504
Mattress making.....	42	197	78,569	286,053
Quilting factory.....	1	3	7,000	10,000
Hair-cloth factories.....	2	21	55,500	37,000
Blanket making.....	1	12	21,000	75,000
Braid and elastic.....	3	67	89,950	100,000
Button factories.....	5	455	169,050	277,500
Carding and fulling mills..	441	791	716,223	1,047,259
Carpet making.....	557	915	301,518	548,619
Corset factories.....	32	955	459,890	850,500
Cotton mills.....	22	8,502	13,208,121	8,451,724
Cotton duck factory..	1	133	173,000	290,000
Dressmaking and millinery	7,066	17,197	3,044,190	11,111,510
Embroidery ..	1	33	10,000	150,000
Fringe and tassel works..	2	50	12,500	37,000
Hat and fur establishments	192	2,518	2,047,881	5,004,941
Gloves and mitts ..	44	647	422,018	747,732
Horse blankets ..	2	56	133,000	165,000
Hosiery factories.....	58	642	370,970	579,421
Knitting.....	223	1,501	969,686	1,337,626
Mat and rug factories....	6	43	30,820	43,200
Oiled cloth and oil clothing	29	202	247,440	349,684
Regalia making.....	3	42	21,325	48,000
Shirt and collar factories .	157	3,058	1,394,607	2,640,091
Shoddy mills.....	2	15	8,600	18,000
Silk mills ..	3	322	520,000	585,000
Suspender factories.....	6	64	53,700	169,600
Clothing and tailoring....	3,982	23,234	8,264,422	22,648,583
Thread reeling.....	2	41	110,151	180,060
Umbrella and parasol... .	16	105	47,475	170,862
Underwear.....	26	123	23,890	65,630
Wadding.....	4	58	302,650	205,700
Weaving (hand).....	2,085	2,445	269,793	631,399
Woolen mills.....	377	7,156	9,357,658	8,087,871
Wool yarn.....	1	26	28,000	33,000
	15,669	95,589	\$45,483,684	\$60,709,002

The total annual wages paid out in these industries was over \$16,500,000. These are very large totals, and according to the census returns they have doubled since the census of 1881.

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