

ORGANIZATION.

The axiom "In union there is strength" commends itself to Canadian manufacturers with as much force to-day as it did thirteen years ago, when they first organized themselves into an Association for their mutual benefit and protection. Then there were but comparatively few manufacturing industries in existence in Canada, and a Canadian National Policy had not been brought into existence. Free Traders ruled the councils of the nation; and the alternative was forcing itself upon the people whether this should be and remain a distinctively agricultural country, and as such be and continue a hewer of wood and a drawer of water for Great Britain, with a strong and increasing tendency to bear similar relationship towards our near neighbor, the United States; or, by the adoption of a tariff system, similar to that which has advanced the United States to be the wealthiest and one of the strongest nations of the earth, achieve similar greatness for this Canada of ours.

Scattered and unorganized, the few men who represented the manufacturing industries of Canada up to thirteen years ago, wielded no political power, and had no political influence whatever. The Government was in control of free traders, and all applications for the adoption of some system by which their industries might be encouraged and protected were repulsed, and the applicants given to understand that their industries might survive or perish, but no governmental aid or encouragement might be expected.

This was a crisis that demanded prompt and organized action; and in defense of their interests a number of manufacturers