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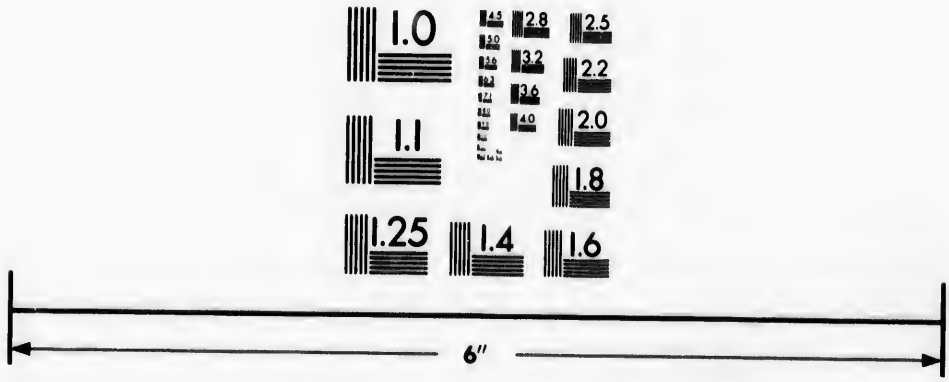

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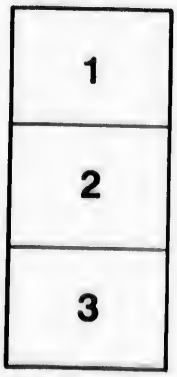

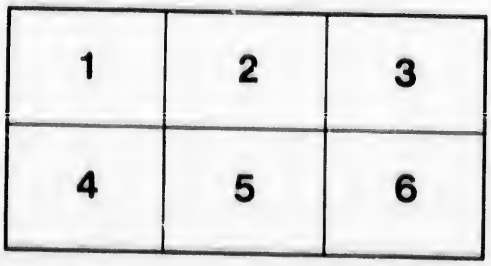

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No. 29.

ACTIVITY OF BUSINESS

UNDER THE NATIONAL POLICY.

HOW THE WOOL INDUSTRY HAS THRIVED.

MACHINERY UNDER THE NATIONAL POLICY

CUT NAILS, COTTON, FLOUR.

PUBLIC COMPANIES--DEVELOPMENT OF BUSINESS.

Imports of Raw Cotton for Home Consumption, Cotton Wool and Cotton Waste.

How our cotton industry prospered under the old and the present tariff.

Years.	Pounds Imported.
1873	2,752,302
1874	4,454,101
1875	4,782,156
1876	6,176,334
1877	6,501,296
1878	8,001,758
1879	9,720,708
1880	13,237,168
1881	16,018,721
1882	19,342,059
1883	26,777,071
1884	20,769,850
1885	24,727,525

The first cotton mill was established about twenty-five years ago. There are now twenty-four mills in Canada, with a capacity of 600,000 spindles. The number of hands employed in 1885 showed an increase of 80 per cent. over the number employed in 1880. It would be suicidal for the workingmen of Canada to put this industry in danger by supporting the enemies of the protective system. Mark the slow growth in 1875, '76, '77, '78, and note how business sprung up in later years under the National Policy.

The figures themselves do not show the whole benefit derived from the National Policy. Before the necessary protection was afforded the cotton mills only made the coarser kinds of fabrics. Since then the manufacturers have supplied themselves with machinery for the production of the finer qualities of goods. There is less consumption of the raw material in the manufacture of the finest varieties. It has only been during the past three years that the manufacturers have gone into the production of the better qualities, these requiring more skill. Under the National Policy the operative has a chance of making better wages by reason of the fact that the more skill he has the better he is paid. The National Policy, therefore, means greater chances for better pay, through doing finer work; as well as better pay, through more constant employment.

The opponents of the National Policy have expressly stated that the cotton tariff shall be changed if they get into power. The cotton manufacture is specially attacked by them.

Don't be led astray, but vote and use your influence for the friends of the National Policy. Whether it shall live or be strangled to death is the issue in the present elections.

FLOUR TRADE.

In 1877 the millers of the United States supplied Canada, for home consumption, with 845,510 barrels of flour and meal. After the new tariff was adopted they found they could not carry on the old game. In 1884 and 1885 they made a dead set on Canada, as their exports to Europe had fallen greatly. The Canadian millers, in alarm, set to work under the protection of the tariff, and the assurance of the Government that greater protection would be given if the existing amount proved insufficient. The returns for 1886 show that the energy of the millers and the promise of the Government saved the great industry from being snuffed out by the United States millers. In 1886 there were but 326,798 barrels of flour and meal imported. Without the assistance of the tariff, administered by its friends, the milling interest would have been in danger of destruction. The interest, according to the census returns, represented in 1881, a capital of nearly $14,000,000, and a pay roll of 6,500 employees. Under the fostering influences of the present tariff the mills have greatly benefited, the latest and best machinery has been set up, and the number of hands greatly increased, while the prices have very considerably decreased. In 1877 spring extra flour was quoted in Montreal from $5.10 to $5.80, and in 1885 from $3.40 to $4.00 per barrel. Spring extra was quoted January 11th, 1886, at $3.50.

CUT NAILS.

The history of cut nails illustrates the advantages given by a tariff that will aid home industries.

In January, 1873, cut nails were sold at wholesale at $5 the keg. In January, 1887, the price was $2.40 a keg. In the meantime a depressed industry, which struggled hard to maintain a precarious existence, has grown to great dimensions, employing a large number of hands, and profitable alike to capital and labor. Which would you sooner have? an industry dwindling every year, as it was under the old tariff, or an industry employing more hands every year and giving the product of their labor to the general public cheaper and cheaper? Since the National Policy cut nails have been coming down from $3.85 in 1880, to $2.90 in 1882, $2.60 in 1884, and $2.40 in 1886.

MACHINERY.

The development of Canadian industry is shown by the imports of machinery:—

Imported from 1869 to 1874, both years included	$10,768,811
Average each year	1,538,402
Imported from 1875 to 1879	5,233,965
Average each year	1,046,793
Imported from 1880 to 1885	14,809,964
Average each year	2,470,827
In twelve years under the old tariff the total imports of machinery were	$16,002,796
In six years under the protective tariff the total imports were	14,809,964

This machinery gave employment to mechanics within Canada. Without it many young and old, would have been obliged to seek their living outside of Canada.

WOOL.

Up to 1880 Canada exported large quantities of her native wools and imported manufactured woollens. The returns of 1885 show that the export of Canadian wool was only 989,925 pounds, a decrease of 2,600,000 pounds as compared with the export of 1880. Canada in 1885 imported 6,950,000 pounds of foreign wool, to which, for manufacturing purposes, there were added 7,685,500 pounds of home grown, making over 14,000,000 pounds worked up in Canadian mills.

The statistics of 1885 show that there were in Canada 450 carding and fulling mills; 90 hosiery factories and 1,300 tweed and other woollen mills, employing a total of 10,000 hands and producing goods to the value of $11,000,000 annually.

To place the enemies of the present tariff in power, by dispossessing its friends, would be to endanger this great and rapidly growing industry and to throw hundreds of employees out of work.

PUBLIC COMPANIES.

The business activity of a community may be gauged by the number of miscellaneous companies called into existence. Under the system in operation in Canada the Canada Joint Stock Companies act enables persons to become incorporated for purpose of transacting certain kinds of business. For other kinds of business, such as railways, banks, etc., special acts of incorporation must be obtained from Parliament direct. Everybody knows how many railway companies have been incorporated and set going throughout Canada during the past few years. Every provincial Legislature also grants acts of incorporation to companies limiting their business within the provincial boundaries. Neither the railway companies nor the provincial incorporated companies are included in the following statement:—

Companies incorporated under the Dominion Joint Stock Companies act:

Period 1874-1879	69 companies	Capital	$10,767,000
Period 1880-1885	304 "	Capital	51,830,000
Average per year first period	10 "	With capital	1,800,000
Average per year second period	84 "	With capital	8,600,000

The openings for young men by the formation of new companies are evident. Mr. Hadrill, the secretary of the Montreal Board of Trade, in the latest annual report says: The Canadian Pacific Railway employs 334 station agents, 269 telegraph operators, 791 other employees at stations, 2,583 employees in workshops, 375 locomotive engineers, 307 firemen, 233 passenger and freight train conductors, 189 brakemen and train hands and others, making a total of 14,551 employees. The Grand Trunk employs as many more. So when business is good companies are incorporated and all want managers, boys for messengers, and employees of different kinds. Under the National Policy, during six years, there have been 204 chances for every young man in the joint stock companies formed, against 69 chances under the old tariff, so greatly has the business activity increased. The young fellows have seven chances of getting employment under the new tariff where, under the old, they had only two chances.

Whether the National Policy shall be sustained or no, is the issue of the present elections. It comes right home to every family, to every father and mother, to every boy and girl in the land. It comes home to men's businesses and bosoms. The people cannot afford to take any risks in this matter. The best way is for every voter to make sure he votes for a National Policy candidate, and to make sure that every candidate he votes for will support the true friends of the present tariff. No one wants a return to the experiences of 1876 when there were only six companies incorporated under the act in the whole twelve months.

How mistaken Sir Richard Cartwright was when he said in his place in Parliament, March, 1880: "I pointed out then (1878) and I repeat it now, no more stupid act of folly was ever committed. In Canada, in every possible shape and way, we are at a disadvantage in adopting a protective system." How utterly he misjudged the effects of the National Policy, when he said:—"I tell the Government to-day that Canada is a country in which no man is free to sell or buy, to eat or to drink, to travel or to stand still, without paying toll to some extortioner or another. That is the position to which the Government have reduced us." How absurd his statement at Malvern on the 11th February last that "the National Policy is a tremendous blunder and mistake."

All the same, the people are better off, better clothed, better housed, better fed; the country has been provided with better mills, better factories, better machinery, and greatly increased deposits in the savings banks. Every workingman is free to buy cheaper than ever, with more money in his pocket and better pay for his labor. He can travel cheaper. He can stand still cheaper. He can eat and drink cheaper. He can buy and sell cheaper. And the "extortioners" (the manufacturers) whom Sir Richard condemned in such vigorous language in 1880, are being urged by Mr. Blake (who never in Parliament said nay to any one of Sir Richard's diatribes) to support and assist him. The "Robbers" and the "extortioners" who were enslavers of the people in Sir Richard's opinion the last time he spoke about them, are now told that they are the saviours of the country and that the astonishing results which have been produced by the National Policy have converted the one man who stigmatized the manufacturers, and all who live by manufacturing, as robbers and extortioners. The desire for power must glow with intense heat in the hearts of these long time opponents of the National Policy to cause them thus to eat their former opinions and swallow their principles.