

three or four, or half a dozen, die during the winter. It has been the custom to treat their wool like the tags. I think this is a most unqualified fraud. I don't want to use any milder term than that. The man who puts a bit of dead wool into the middle of a fleece commits the same crime in principle, although it is not the same in effect, as he who puts a stone there. Some men put stones in; but I think our people ought to abandon the practice of putting even dead wool in!

This matter of tying up wool is another thing to which I wish to refer. It is a disgraceful thing for any wool-producer to have a single fleece of his all twisted up with twine. We do up our fleeces differently from what they do in Germany. By the custom of this country you have a right to use three strands of moderate-sized twine round the wool; and then, if it bulges out considerably, it is a very common practice to put another around the other way. I do not see any objection to this, so long as the twine is visible. I don't believe there is any man within the sound of my voice—indeed, I know there is not—who does these objectionable things; but I think those of us who claim to be representative men in sheep-matters ought to despise the men who do such things, and teach others to despise them.

I am glad Mr. Kingsbury told us what kind of twine to use. We cannot use very small twine in tying up these large fleeces. The reason is, that no man's hands can stand it. You must have twine large enough to be drawn with some strength; and with the twine we now use, a man has to wear gloves, and, even then, the hardest and horniest hand gets sore in doing up fleeces one day. I want to know if there would be any objection to using common-sized twine, put three times round the fleece. If it is put round only twice, the fleece bulges, throws off the twine, and the fleece breaks to pieces. It is necessary, therefore, in order to keep the fleece in a compact form, to put the twine three times round. That makes seven or eight feet of twine. But there it is; you know what it is; and there can be no objection to it, if it is done in a workmanlike manner. It is under your eyes, and you can make such a deduction for it as you please.

Mr. H. BLANCHARD, of Connecticut. So far as I am concerned, I think the chief cause of complaint is the large twine that has been used, more particularly for the last three or four years, made from a kind of jute. In many cases that is full of fibrous particles, which are constantly coming off into the wool. There is a kind of twine that was used fifteen years ago in putting up our best fleeces, that is perhaps about two-thirds the size of a pipe-stem—a smooth, glazed twine which has no fibres to come off into the wool. I have never heard a manufacturer complain of wool tied up with twine of that kind, put three times round. But when tobacco twine is substituted for that—and that is used now about as much for tying up wool as tobacco—the evil is so apparent that I think the wool-growers must see the force of the objection to it.

Mr. RANDALL. If you can tell us where we can buy the twine you describe, we will get it and use it.

Mr. BLANCHARD. We buy it every day, almost.

Mr. RANDALL. I am ashamed to say that I had my wool tied up this year with the twine to which the gentleman objects; but it was because I could get no other. I went myself into every grocery and every store in my town, where I thought it possible to get twine; and I could find nothing but that rough, miserable stuff, made out of jute, I sup-

pose, which had slivers of the bark projecting from it; and when you draw it, you draw off those slivers into the wool, and either they have all got to be picked out, or the cloth will be injured in point of color.

Mr. N. KINGSBURY, of Connecticut. I still retain my idea that no string should be put on but a woollen string. It is very apparent to the manufacturers of this country that we are going to produce a different kind of goods from fancy cassimeres. Several mills are now working on goods which require a very fine face, and I am fearful this same difficulty will occur. My own opinion is, that woollen twine can be produced, if it will be used by the producers. There are mills enough, and they might as well go to work to make twine to tie up wool as anything else. Two pounds of woollen string, in my opinion, would tie up a thousand fleeces. [Voices: "Oh, no!"] You must bear in mind that wool string is only about half as heavy as hemp string, no matter how much you glaze the hemp string. But suppose it took four pounds to tie up a thousand fleeces. The wool would weigh, in an unwashed state, six or seven thousand pounds; washed, perhaps four thousand pounds. You will easily see that the expense of tying up your wool with woollen strings would be trifling, and this difficulty would be entirely removed, at a very small expense. It might cost somewhere in the neighborhood of \$1.75 a pound. Your four pounds would cost you \$7. The manufacturer would buy it back at the same price which he pays for the wool; and the extra expense, over and above what the wool-grower would get back, would be very small. It would be reduced to the very smallest fraction of a penny per pound.

Mr. BLANCHARD. I must take the liberty to differ from my friend in his estimate as to the quantity of woollen string that would be required, and also to the feasibility of carrying out his plan. I have had some acquaintance with the wool-growers of eleven different States, I may say; for I have received wool from that number of States, and handled it. I think we are not sufficiently advanced in this country to put into the hands of the wool-growers of the different States which now produce this wool, the material he speaks of. We can put into their hands, or they can obtain that kind of twine that has been formerly used; and I think, if we should attempt the plan he suggests, we should fail to carry it out. I think we ought not to sanction the trial of any impracticable measure; for it would be adopted by only a few men, and the object would not be attained at all.

Mr. POTTLE. I want to pledge the wool-growers upon a single point; and I know I am safe in making the pledge. We, with our friends the manufacturers, hold to the great law of demand and supply, which leads a man to sell where he can get the most, and buy where he can buy the cheapest. That law will regulate this whole matter of string. Now what I want to say is, that the wool-growers will tie up their wool in such a way as you will make it for their interest to tie it up—in the way that will bring them the greatest number of dollars and cents when they come to sell it. All theories outside of that will fail.

Mr. BLANCHARD. Allow me to say, in reply to that, that I think the gentleman, if we went through Nebraska or Iowa, or Wisconsin, or Illinois or Indiana, would meet with considerable difficulty in finding any class of men who would adopt a system that would be so difficult to carry out as that proposed by my friend, Mr. Kingsbury; and,

when their wools come into market, they become, of necessity, mixed up with wools that that gentleman (Mr. Pottle) sells; and how is the manufacturer to discriminate, and pay him for his wool a suitable advance on the price of the other? I understand his argument is based upon the fact that the manufacturer is to go to the wool-grower to buy his clip.

Mr. POTTLE. No, sir. Just say to the wool-broker, when he comes up with his wool, "here is a lot of wool done up with tobacco string; I shall deduct two cents a pound on that wool," and I will guarantee that the wool won't be tied up in that way next year. Away up in Nebraska and Iowa, they will have that kind of string which will enable them to get the most money for their wool.

Mr. BLANCHARD. To my mind, the plan does not seem practicable.

Mr. R. G. HAZARD, of Rhode Island. I am afraid, that, until we have some practical method of giving the wool-producers pay for these strings, we shall never meet the difficulty. I think it comes back to this: determine what is the best mode, and if a respectable number of wool-growers adopt it, in the nature of things they will get paid for it. They will get as much more for their wool as it is worth; and if it is worth more than enough to pay for the additional cost of the strings, there will be an advantage to those who adopt the practice.

Mr. W. F. GREER, of Ohio. I can bear witness to the fact, that there has never been a moment in our market when a man who chose to buy a good string, of the character described, and was willing to pay thirty-five or forty cents a pound for it, could not get it. I have used that kind of string myself for some years. I was led to do so from selfish motives, not knowing that the manufacturers objected to the cheap string. I tie up my own wool, and I have suffered from sore fingers in consequence of it; and any gentleman who thinks anything of his fingers would be perfectly willing to pay the extra expense necessary to procure a better article of twine. But still the large quantity that is bought in our neighborhood is sold for eighteen cents a pound; and, with wool at a dollar a pound, it affords a very very handsome profit.

The matter of washing tags is another subject that has been brought to our attention. I wish to confirm the remarks of my friend, Mr. Pottle, upon that subject. It was formerly the custom with our people to wash their tags in tubs, and extract all the filth they could, so that they were absolutely as clean as it was possible to make them by cold water. But, during the last two years, acting upon the advice of our principal buyers, they have changed the practice; and it is now the uniform custom to put the tags in the wool as they come from the sheep, unwashed. This has been done in accordance with the wish and at the request of the wool-growers. I think Mr. Pope can speak more advisedly in regard to the northern part of Ohio; but I believe the custom is becoming more and more prevalent in our State; and if there is any fraud or error in it, the regular buyers are the persons who are censurable for bringing it about.

Mr. GEORGE W. BOND, of Massachusetts. I wish to say, in addition to what the gentleman has just stated with regard to this practice which has obtained of late of putting dirty tags and dead wool into the fleeces, that when wool comes to market, and is offered for sale, if they are found rolled up in the fleeces, it is regarded as a fraud,

and the buyer is considered entitled to an allowance for any such foreign matter thus rolled up in the fleeces, and frequently a great deal of trouble arises from that cause.

I think Mr. Montgomery must have misunderstood the remarks of the gentleman who spoke with regard to the one-third discount. Mr. Kingsbury, to my surprise, did say, that he was not aware that there was any such fixed custom as that of deducting one-third on unwashed wool.

Mr. KINGSBURY. No, sir; I said I was not aware of any arbitrary rule of that kind.

Mr. BOND. Well, up to within eight or ten years the custom in our market was to deduct twenty-five per cent.; but, to conform to all the other markets, I should say that it had been the invariable custom for ten years past to deduct one-third. It was not necessary for a person to ask the question what allowance was made on unwashed wool. Unless there was a special stipulation for a different allowance, the party purchasing a lot of fleece wool was entitled to one-third discount on the unwashed fleeces.

Mr. BLANCHARD. You refer to the unwashed fleeces in a lot of washed wool?

Mr. BOND. Yes, sir. An entire lot of unwashed fleeces was sold according to its merit. But, I should say, that in a majority of cases the manufacturer would prefer leaving them, rather than to take them t one-third discount.

Mr. POTTLE. Before any new topic is entered upon, I desire an expression of opinion whether it is beneficial or not to wash tags. As high an authority as Senator Simmons, of Rhode Island, said he considered it a positive damage to tags to subject them to soaking in a tub, and then to put them into the fleeces; that he would far rather have them rolled up by themselves, and then sold with the fleeces. If he misled me, I wish you to put me right.

Then, with regard to unwashed tags being put up with washed fleeces. There is a little confusion, I think, in regard to this. If they are rolled up in washed fleeces, and the whole sold as washed wool, of course it is a fraud. I have known a dozen trials of such cases, and never one without a conviction, and never a conviction that was not followed by most exemplary damages. But if, following out the custom of any portion of the country, or in accordance with an understanding with the wool-buyers, a man puts his tags into his fleeces, and says to the buyer, "This is washed wool, but the tags are put in unwashed, in accordance with the custom of the country," there is no fraud on the part of the seller, though there may be on the part of the broker when he sells the wool to the manufacturer.

Judge COLBURN, of Vermont. I can give gentlemen my own conviction upon this subject. These tags should be put up by themselves in a sack and sold as unwashed wool, one-third or one-quarter off, just as seems to be proper.

Mr. POTTLE. That is the way we do it.

Judge COLBURN. I never in my life—and I have been growing wool forty year—put a tag in with my fleeces. I have kept the tags separate, and carried them to some factory and exchanged them for cloth. One year Mr. Bingham, a Boston dealer, came to my place, and, seeing the tags tied up by themselves, said, "I want to get one lot of wool without any tags, and I will give you three cents a pound

more for that wool than I would if it had tags in it." I believe that if we should get into the habit of keeping the tags entirely away from the fleece, and sell them by themselves, the manufacturers would pay us a price that would be remunerative. We should dispose of our tags for what they are worth by themselves.

Now, I wish to propound one question to the manufacturers, and that is, whether they have any objection to fleeces being split?

Mr. GEORGE KELLOG, of Connecticut. It seems to me that the object of splitting fleeces is to give the impression to the buyer that the wool is light wool. Light small fleeces generally have less coarse wool in them than large fleeces. Just cut in two a buck fleece, and it gives the impression to the buyer that there are two fleeces of light wool. I think it is a species of deception.

Mr. BLANCHARD. One word upon that point. In opening a fleece of wool for sorting upon the sorter's board, it is spread out, and the lower qualities in the fleece are taken off; and, if it is a well-bred fleece, in many cases the whole of the inside part of the fleece will go into one sort. If you cut the fleece in two, it is certainly more inconvenient for the sorter and the manufacturer than if the fleece is entire.

The PRESIDENT, (Mr. Bigelow in the chair.) Some six or eight years ago, after my fleeces got to be pretty heavy, a buyer came to look at them one day, and we began to talk of splitting. Said I to him, "Would there be any objection to splitting those fleeces?" "No," said he, "not if we understand it." "Supposing I give you notice I am going to split my fleeces?" said I. "I wish you would," said he. (He was not a manufacturer; he was buying to sell again.) Well, I directed my men to split some of the fleeces, and he marched off. He had not got more than a hundred yards from the barn before I began to consider why it was he was so very willing I should split my fleeces. I didn't have to think a great while; and said I, "Boys, put those fleeces together again just as they were; we won't have any split fleeces go from this barn." The object of splitting is to commit a fraud on somebody, and a highminded producer will not make himself, even indirectly, a party to a fraud. If I raise a ram fleece, I will keep it together and call it a ram fleece. Mr. Pottle says if I tell a man I am going to do it, it is no fraud. I don't suppose it is. If I tell a man I mean to do a dirty thing, and he don't object to it, it is no fraud. But if he, through my act, commits a fraud on somebody else, I am an accessory to the crime, if I don't commit it directly.

Mr. POTTLE. One word. Don't let us tread upon each other's toes here. My friend from Ohio [Mr. Greer] says it is the custom in his country to put the unwashed tags in with the fleeces. Now, in that case, when it is a recognized custom, can they be accused of fraud? It is a bad practice, I admit. I want to ask my friend if I understood him correctly.

Mr. GREER. Most certainly. But perhaps, in justice to our growers and myself, I ought to state that we have but a very small number of what are known here as full-blooded sheep. The universal practice is to tag them quite early in the spring, before they leave the stables. The matter of putting the tags up separately, just as my friend Mr. Kingsbury has described, was suggested to the buyers, and they objected to it. They said, "We want you to put that part of the wool which you think belongs to each fleece with each fleece."

Mr. A. POPE, of Ohio. My friend Greer referred to me when he was on the floor before, but I thought perhaps the president would come to his rescue and save the credit of Ohio wool-growers, for I really think they need some apology. I can only say that I do not think his statement applies to the whole of Ohio. It may to some neighborhoods, but as a general thing it is not the case in Ohio that they put up the tags without washing.

Mr. GREER. I trust my friend Mr. Pope and the convention understood me. I meant only that this was the case in my particular neighborhood, where the buyers have created the custom.

Mr. POPE. I will not dispute it. One of your buyers bought a lot of wool for me, and I must say it was the most extraordinary lot of wool that I ever had come from your neighborhood. I have bought wool in other sections where I have been served the same way, and I considered it a fraud upon me. It is so with strings also. Some of the strings are quite six feet long, and tied with a double bow-knot a foot long! If I had known what course this debate was going to take I would have brought a pocketful of those strings just to show you what they are. But then the string is all out in sight, and we make a calculation just as though there was a stone of a pound weight in the wool.

Mr. BLANCHARD. I am sorry to say, and I think every wool-dealer and manufacturer will justify me in the remark, that the character of Ohio wool has deteriorated within the last five years, in the estimation of eastern men, until it stands to-day no higher, the bulk of it, (there may be exceptions,) than Michigan wool. I certainly think I am safe in saying that it has declined, in the estimation of eastern men, from eight to ten per cent. I speak now of the wool of the State as a whole. There are many honorable exceptions.

Mr. POTTLE. There is just this which I desire to say, to be put right alongside of what the gentleman from Connecticut says. For the last three years you gentlemen manufacturers have not had a buyer out in the State of New York who has not met us constantly with this statement: "The reason why we don't give you as much for your wool as we do for Ohio wool is because your wool is not put up so well as the Ohio wool. Put up your wool as they do in Ohio and we will pay you as much as we do for Ohio wool." Now, how is that?

Mr. MONTGOMERY. If the convention will pardon me, I wish to add my mite to the information which is to be given here, that all may share in the benefits of this meeting. The remark is made by the gentleman from Connecticut that Ohio wool has depreciated in reputation at the east. Many of us understand that very well; and I may as well say to you that you will understand it better in four or five years than you do now, unless some other course is taken than the one you have pursued of late. I am not finding any fault with you; but you, as well as we, must submit to the natural course of things. It may be possible that there are gentlemen within the hearing of my voice who have known, by reputation, the clip of wool brought from Ohio as belonging to Cortland, Montgomery, and Brown. It may be that none of you have ever heard of it. It matters not whether you have or not. We had a very nice lot of sheep, taking in those three flocks. I question whether the State of Ohio had then, or ever had had before, or ever has had since, a better lot of wool for the manufacturer than that was. That wool, bred with the greatest

care that we were able to give it, kept in the nicest condition in which we were able to keep it, washed in the best manner that we knew how, taken late enough in the season for the water to be warm and comfortable, so that we need not be in a hurry, and when the river was clear, wet all over, and suffered to go back to the pen and stand perhaps an hour to soak, and then taken again to the river and washed by the hands of our hired men, the owner himself standing in the water, and every sheep passing through his hands before it could go out, put up with just string enough to hold it, and then offered in the market. During John Brown's time we made an effort to get some sort of compensation for that kind of wool, put up in that condition; and, for a year or two, that wool was brought eastward, assorted, and sold all along from forty-five to eighty-five cents per pound, which gave us pretty good satisfaction. But as it was Mr. Brown's misfortune, and perhaps our misfortune, that he was one of that class of men who run things until they run them into the ground, that arrangement was broken up, and we went back to the ordinary plan of selling our wools at home. Well, sir, after having pursued that course for some years, it occurred to us that it didn't pay very well. Those fleeces would weigh about two pounds and a half—a little more or a little less—and we could sell them for a few cents more than the ordinary wools of the country. Getting a little tired of that, I purchased some sheep that gave heavier wool; and the man who had bought wool of me, whose name was Brown, and who bought very largely in Ohio, came to my house and began to scold because I would let my nice light-wool sheep go down to raise that heavy wool. "Now," said I, "Brown, I would very much rather raise this nice wool, and I would very much rather put it up in fine condition; I am an enthusiast over it; I have done it for years, and I don't like to sacrifice it; but you will come along and give Tom, Dick, and Harry forty-seven and forty-eight cents for their wool, and will haggle with me for forty-nine and a half. I have done business for fun long enough; I am going to raise some wool that will pay. If you will give me seventy or eighty cents, or something that shall compensate me for my labor, I will raise the other kind of wool cheerfully; but if forty-seven cents buys ordinary wool, and forty-nine and a half buys this nice wool, we will change the programme." That is the reason why Ohio wools have deteriorated in value, and are bound to do so until some other course is taken and some other plan is adopted.

Mr. BLANCHARD. I did not mean to throw any disparagement on Ohio wool. I think that wool very desirable—more desirable than any other, except Pennsylvania wool.

The fourth subject for discussion was then taken up, to wit, the wool best adapted to the various manufactures, especially that of worsted.

The PRESIDENT. We should be glad to know what you do with our wools; what kind of wools go into what kind of fabrics. We should be glad of some practical information upon that subject.

Mr. HAZARD. The president of our association [Hon. F. B. Bigelow] has paid more attention to this subject, perhaps, than any other person, and I hope we shall hear from him upon it.

Mr. BLANCHARD. If the inquiry is with reference to worsted wools particularly, I think our secretary has some facts in regard to it that will be of interest to the wool-growers here. But, sir, in connexion

with that, if I may be indulged with the attention of the assembly for a few moments, I would like to express briefly some views of the different kinds of sheep which, in the estimation of manufacturers, it would be desirable to raise in this country.

There are diversified interests among the manufacturers. There is a great diversity of talent among them. One man, possessing a taste, a cultivated taste if you please, for fancy articles, will enter upon the manufacture of those fabrics that are styled fancy goods, and succeed in them admirably, and to the entire satisfaction of himself, as well as benefit to the community. Another man, attempting to produce the same article, would fail in business in less than six months. I know some men who have spent almost a lifetime in making black doeskins, until they have attained a perfection in the article that is almost unsurpassed by the Germans. Let those same men attempt to manufacture a cheap article and the probability is that they would fail to accomplish their object.

Now, I have thought that perhaps the same principle might apply to wool-growers. In my experience with the wool-growers of the country, I have sometimes found a man who would take a Saxony flock of imported sheep, retain all their excellence, and continue to improve on that flock, until he had secured perhaps one of the best in the United States. I have now in my mind one man in Washington county, of whom you may have heard; I mean Mr. Samuel Patterson, whose flock was, if not superior, at least fully equal, to any other in the State of Pennsylvania. He had a taste for it; and, by his knowledge of the habits of the Saxony sheep, he was enabled to cultivate them, and to cultivate them with success. Other men prefer to cultivate merino sheep; and, in the application of their minds to that branch of sheep culture, they have been eminently successful. Another class of men, living near large cities, who may go into Canada, or into some of the sections of the country where a large kind of sheep are grown, purchase their stock, take them to the vicinity of the large cities, put them upon their pastures, feed them until they become fat, and then take them to market and sell them for mutton; such men, though the wool that is upon these sheep is coarse wool, are successful in that branch of sheep husbandry. Hence, it seems that we need this diversified application of the talent of the country in the production of the raw material, as much as we need the diversified talent that exists among manufacturers in producing the various articles we want.

Now, if this is so, I make these remarks to throw the thought before the minds of the wool-growers, is it wise to abandon the Saxony wool? If I mistake not the public sentiment of the wool-growing community at the present time, it is that the grade of wool which is usually denominated merino is fine enough to meet the wants of all the manufacturers of this country. Let me assure you that it is not so. Unless you do produce the Saxony wool, we, as manufacturers, will be forced to resort to the foreign markets for a supply. There are certain fabrics manufactured to-day that cannot be made without that grade of wool which is denominated Saxony wool—fine wool—finer than any other that is produced in this country, (I use the words as they are practically used among farmers, without specifying the difference that exists between them.) If you wish to-day to make a very fine broadcloth, and if the object we have in view is carried out, that the manu-



facturerers of this country are to supply the wants of the country, you must have clean, fine wools to do it; such wools as the Australian, Cape of Good Hope, or German wools. If you don't you cannot make the article.

I will give you an instance, to show the difficulty of getting this fine wool, which illustrates the point I have in view. I am engaged in the manufacture of ladies' shawls. The consumption of our mill for the year is about 350,000 pounds. In the last six months I directed the sorters if they found what we term a "pick-lock" fleece to lay it aside. During these six months, they have only saved about 400 pounds of that quality. The next grade we use is what is ordinarily denominated the fine wool of this country. From that we have made an article, which, when taken to New York, was sold to a prominent importer at an advance of thirty-three and a third per cent. over any article of the kind ever made in this country, I believe, except, it may be, something that was made for exhibition at a fair.

I only allude to this to show that that kind of wool must be produced in this country, if we intend to supply the demand of this country for fine fabrics. If that be so, is it wise on the part of the wool-growers of this country to abandon the raising of fine wools? I know you may turn on me, and say, "You won't pay us for it;" but I say we will pay you for it, if you will sell it as cheap as we can get it from the foreign grower, and not without. That is plain common sense. I say we can pay you for it; and I say that if properly classified, and properly presented to the manufacturer, you can get your price for it. But you can't take your Saxony wool to the manufacturer of fancy cassimeres, who wants a medium grade of merino wool, and expect that he will pay you as much for it as the manufacturer of fine broadcloths, fine doeskins and fine shawls. Unless you can present that wool to the manufacturer who wants to use it, you can never get its value. If it is sold to the passing buyer, who is travelling round the country, he will give perhaps a cent and a half a pound more for it than for ordinary wools.

I simply call your attention to this matter, that you may think upon it, and act upon it as your judgment may dictate. I now renew my call upon our secretary, for facts in his possession in relation to worsted wool.

Mr. JOHN L. HAYES, of Massachusetts. I will respond with pleasure to the request of the gentleman from Connecticut, and submit to the convention some considerations bearing upon the importance of increasing the production of combing or worsted wools in this country; but, before addressing myself to that special subject of inquiry, I desire to call attention to some facts which will throw light upon the extent to which wool in general is used in the textile arts, and which will illustrate the demand in the markets of the world for this material, and the tendency of the age towards its increased consumption. There is no more interesting or practical question, to the producer of wool especially, than the inquiry, whether there is a demand for his product, and whether there will be such an increased demand as will continue prices, and justify him in expending capital for increased production.

In pursuing this inquiry, we are struck with the observation that nature is economical in the supply of the raw material, or rather in the varieties of raw material which are to be worked up by man. How

few are the great natural staples which make up the bulk of commercial commodities! But the uses of any raw material, which is found applicable in the arts, are infinite. We utterly fail to imagine the new applications to which such raw material may be made. Every improvement in the arts, in chemistry or machinery, each new step in the progress of civilization or luxury, increases the modes of application, and consequently the demand. The demand for a particular fabric or manufacture may cease through change of fashion, but the demand for the raw material never.

The demand for wool received its most important impulse in modern times at about the commencement of the present century, or, perhaps, the latter part of the last century, from the great improvements which were made in cotton machinery, which were applied also to wool. The improvements in the spinning jenny, the introduction of the power-loom, and the establishment of the factory system, multiplied the power of the manufacturer to such an extent that an unprecedented demand for wool began to arise. Then the increased use of other kindred fibres added also to the consumption of wool. It is a curious fact, that cotton, although it has always been regarded as the rival of wool, has added largely to its consumption. It is stated by English observers, that the use of cotton warps has added vastly to the extent to which wool is used in England. Entire factories are now engaged in the manufacture of cotton warp; and it is found that, by the use of this warp with woollen filling, cotton, instead of being a competitor, is the most important auxiliary of wool.

I will now refer to the statistics which illustrate the progress of the demand for this material. The increase in the consumption of wool is strikingly shown by a comparison of two periods in England no further apart than thirty years. The importations of wool into England thirty years ago were: from Germany, in round numbers, 74,000 bales; from Spain and Portugal, 10,000 bales; the British colonies, 8,000 bales; sundry other places, 5,000 bales. Total in 1830, 98,000.

Now, compare these imports with those of 1862 and 1864. In 1862 the imports from Australia were 226,000 bales; from Cape of Good Hope, 66,000 bales; from Germany, 29,000 bales; from Spain, 1,000 bales; from Portugal, 11,000 bales; from Russia, 40,000 bales; from the East Indies, 52,000 bales; from South America, 80,000 bales; sundry other places, 96,000 bales. Total, 585,000 bales. Then we come to 1864, and we find from Australia, as against 226,000 in 1862, 302,000 bales; as against 66,000 from the Cape of Good Hope in 1862, 68,000; as against 80,000 from South America in 1862, 99,000. In all, in 1864, 688,336 bales.

Comparing that with the importation only thirty years before, we have 688,000 bales as against 98,000. Australia now supplies more than three times the whole amount of foreign wool consumed in England a third of a century ago. The production of South America exceeds the whole consumption then. In this short period the consumption has actually increased seven-fold. The production of wool in England is 250,000,000 pounds; the imports, 184,000,000; the exports, 54,000,000—so that the total amount consumed in England is 380,000,000 pounds. Add to that the shoddy, of which 65,000,000

pounds are consumed, and we have the enormous total of 445,000,000 pounds of wool consumed in England alone.

Now, this increase of production and consumption is not confined to England alone: it goes on in the same ratio in other countries. In 1861, France exported woollen goods of the value of 188,000,000 francs; in 1863, 283,000,000 francs. The production of Germany, Russia, and Austria is increasing in the same ratio; so that we have now, it is estimated, a consumption in all the world of 1,600,000,000 pounds of wool, and yet hundreds of millions of people, as in China, are just beginning to appreciate the value of woollen fabrics. Even France has but just commenced to supply herself with carpets.

The testimony taken before the House of Lords in 1828 shows that although less than 98,000 bales of wool were brought into England at that time, every warehouse was filled with wool, and stocks were lying on hand sometimes for five or six years; whereas, at the present time, as I am informed by an English gentleman of great intelligence, and a very large dealer in wool, Mr. Bowes, the warehouses are exhausted, and there are no stocks on hand. The demand is fully up to the supply.

The facts in relation to prices are not less interesting. In 1855, the price of English combing-fleeces was 1s. 1½*d.* In 1864, the price of the same wools was 2s. 4*d.* Australian fleeces averaged in 1855, 1s. 8*d.*; in 1864, 1s. 10*d.* Cape fleeces in 1855, 1s. 5*d.*; in 1864, 1s. 4*d.* Buenos Ayres, fair mestizo, in 1855, 7*d.*; in 1864, 8*d.* Cordova, in 1855, 8½*d.*; in 1864, 11½*d.*

Thus we see that fine wools have not declined: they have kept about the same ratio.

But the question still remains, will the demand for fine wools, relatively to other kinds, continue? In considering that question, it is worth while to look at the production of Australia particularly, and the facts which show the extraordinary increase in the ratio of production in the Australian colonies. In 1797 three merino rams and five ewes were carried there; but so slow was the introduction of the production of wool into those colonies, that it was not till 1807—ten years later—that the first bale of wool was carried from Australia to England. But the flocks of Australia did not originate from that source. The development of fine wool husbandry in these colonies was the result of an accident. Some English whalers captured in the south seas, about the beginning of the present century, a vessel proceeding to Peru to Spain in which there were three hundred merino rams and ewes. These sheep were carried to Australia and originated the fine merino wool, whose production is now estimated at 100,000,000 pounds; and are sold in special market at London, to which all the manufacturers of the world resort. The production of fine wool of La Plata is estimated at 100,000,000 pounds; and of the Cape at 50,000,000 pounds. And when you remember that only a portion of Australia has been developed, and that the vast and fertile interior still remains to be opened up, who can tell what shall be the production in the future? The pámpas of the Argentine republic offer even a more unbounded field for production. They present a vast uplifted alluvial plain, eight hundred thousand square miles in extent, presenting an ocean in verdure, where wool-growing in the production of fine wool called *mestiza*, or improved wool, is pursued with more vigor and profit than in any other part of the world, with

the single drawback that the value of the wool is greatly impaired by burrs derived from a species of clover peculiar to the vegetation of the pampas. In view of the fields for the production of fine wool, thus rapidly expanding, which are opened abroad, it is well to inquire whether it may not be desirable to turn our attention to some other of the various kinds of wool in which the competition of foreign wool is not so formidable.

In considering this matter, the producer of wool should not overlook the competition with clothing or merino wool of a material which was not known in manufactures until the present century. I refer to shoddy, or rather that variety of shoddy known in England by the name of mungo. The term shoddy, strictly speaking, is the name applied to fibre made from soft rags, from flannels and blankets, which were first used in manufacture of cloth. The use of this material originated at Batley, in England, in 1813. Mungo is the fibre obtained from hard rags of fine broadcloth, such as clippings from the tailors' shops. This was not introduced until later, and the manufacturers of Batley were quite incredulous of its being utilized. The Yorkshire man, who first conceived the idea of using the fibre of hard rags, obstinately replied to the objection that the material could not be introduced, "It mun go," (it must go.) It did go, and a new substance was introduced into the arts and a new word into the English language. Of shoddy and mungo, sixty-five million pounds are consumed in England more than our whole clip of wool in 1860. It is estimated that twenty-five thousand persons are employed in converting shoddy into cloth, and that the value of the product is five or six million pounds sterling. The fact, however, to which I wish to call attention is, that shoddy comes in competition with fine or cloth wool only. It is not used in the manufacture of worsted, and does not take the place of combing-wools.

When we look at the facts as to prices before given, we find that the English combing-fleeces were worth in 1855 only 1s. 1½*d.*; in 1864 they were worth 2s. 4*d.*; that is, they had more than doubled in ten years, while cloth-wools had just about held their own in respect to price. England is the only country which has devoted itself exclusively to the production of the long combing-wools required for the manufacture of worsted. She cannot, or does not, produce any fine wool. There are, in fact, no merino sheep in England. It is believed, however, that England has attained to the utmost production of this wool of which her limited territory is capable. The manufacturers of Bradford are already alarmed, and have already issued circulars to induce a greater supply of lustre wools. England is the only country which now produces the long combing-wools. It is found that in Australia the combing-wools cannot be grown; and they cannot be grown at the Cape. I have the authority of Mr. Bowes for saying that the experiment has been fully tried, and has signally failed; that Leicester, Cotswold, and Lincolnshire sheep have been repeatedly carried to Australia and the Cape, and every effort made to introduce the culture of long-wooled sheep; but it has been found that after a little while the wool is converted into hair, and it is now admitted that the long combing-wools cannot be grown in Australia or at the Cape. But the combing-wools can be grown in the United States. The fact of the fitness of this country for the growth of combing-wools is completely established by the success which has

attended the production of that kind of wool in Canada. The amount of combing-wools now produced in Canada is between five and six million pounds. The quality in the English market is not regarded as by any means equal to their own combing-wools, because the same care is not taken in its production, and the English complain that the wool is full of burrs. In England the most extraordinary care is taken. The fields are actually swept, that the fleeces may receive no injury from dirt. But our worsted manufacturers have found the Canada wools perfectly good substitutes for the English wools, and have paid as high as \$1 40 currency for wool worth five years ago only twenty-eight cents. The attempt has been made in this country to manufacture alpaca goods from this long combing-wool, for which, by reason of its lustre it is peculiarly fitted. There was some failure in the first experiment, and the manufacturers supposed that the wool was not suitable. They then sent to England, and imported a thousand pounds of the best combing-wool; and, upon a comparison of that with the combing-wool of Canada, it was found that the Canadian wool was equal to the English in every respect. I have some specimens of this fabric, which is called alapaca, because it is an imitation of the fabrics made from alpaca wool. (The speaker held up the specimens to the view of the convention.) This stuff is made of a filling of the long combing-wool of Canada with a warp of cotton. The fabric is equal in finish and lustre to any imported from England.

The question is eminently worthy of the consideration of our farmers, whether the long-wool husbandry may not be profitably introduced into this country. This is a question upon which we, as manufacturers, pretend to give no opinion. We can only assure the farmers of the United States that there is a growing demand for this material, that there will be less competition in the growth of this wool than in any other, and that the prices are certain to be higher than for any wool which can be grown in this country. To determine the question of profit it will be necessary that experiments upon an extensive scale be tried, and will be doubtless necessary that a system of husbandry should be developed in this country analogous to the four-field system in England, but fitted for the peculiar necessities of our soil and climate. I can conceive of no subject more worthy of the attention of the national association of wool-growers formed here to-day, or of the boards of agricultural colleges in the several States.

It may be said that the introduction of long-wool husbandry will interfere with that already established in this country. I see no force in this objection. It is probable that this kind of sheep husbandry can be profitably carried on only in those districts where there is a demand for mutton, and where the mutton will be as much an object as the wool. It seems to me, Mr. President and gentlemen, that the development of this species of sheep will not interfere with the branches of sheep husbandry which are now pursued, but will give an increased demand for the peculiar kind of merino wool now being produced by the intelligent skill of the Vermont breeders. Dr. Loring, this morning, quoted some remarks of mine in reference to the peculiar value of the American merino fleece. I am convinced that the fabrics to which the coarse merino wool that seems to be in favor here is best adapted have not yet been manufactured in this country to any extent. The class of goods to which that wool is peculiarly fitted are the fabrics somewhat analogous to the goods

called "coburgs," and the goods called "merinoes" and "thibets," the soft stuff goods for women's wear. Now, in that branch of manufacture, or that of stuff goods as distinguished from cloth goods, France employs three hundred thousand persons. In this country there were not five thousand employed in 1860. The remarkable development of that branch of industry in France is attributed to the peculiar qualities of the merino wool which the French possess. This wool is long in staple, the sheep are of unusual size, and the fleeces heavy, having, in fact, the very characteristic of the American merino. M. Bernoville, a very eminent manufacturer and a practical man, who has written a work on the combing-wool industry of that country, one of the most learned works that has ever been written upon any branch of the practical arts, describes these fabrics in detail, and gives the reasons why France has obtained such eminence in their production. The most important reason which he gives is in these words:

"The first fact that we ought to proclaim abroad is, that, without the introduction of the Spanish race into our flocks, and without all the skill of our agriculturists, we should still vegetate in dependence upon neighboring nations, and should be reduced to clothe ourselves with their stuffs. It is to the admirable revolution in the raising of ovine animals that we owe the beautiful industry of spinning the merino combing-wools. It is to this that we owe the splendor of the industries of weaving combing-wool at Paris, at Rheims, at Roubaix, at Amiens, and St. Quentin."

Now, I wish to enforce this position. In order that the worsted manufacture should be developed in this country—and by the worsted manufacture I mean the manufacture of stuff goods in their infinite variety for female apparel and furniture trimmings, &c., as distinguished from cloth goods—there must first be a supply of long combing-wool from sheep of the English breed. The development of the manufacture created by the supply of these wools will be the most certain means of creating the demand for the long merino wools for soft stuff goods, for which I have shown they are peculiarly fitted. We are as yet but in our infancy in our manufactures. The work before us, as wool-growers and manufacturers, is to clothe all the people of the United States with our wool and our fabrics. We have but just commenced the work; and when a full supply of raw material is furnished, and grower and manufacturer are encouraged by a *stable* system of protection, the imagination can hardly conceive the grand field which will be opened in this country in the industry of wool and woollens.

You will excuse me, Mr. President, for dwelling upon agricultural questions which do not strictly belong to my department. I am not a practical man in such matters. The only right to speak upon the subject of wool and sheep which I claim to have is the hereditary right which I derive from the fact, that my father, an extensive farmer in the State of Maine, was the introducer by his own importation of the first Saxony sheep into that State; and that, when a boy eleven or twelve years old, I have spent many a cold night in caring for the poor lambs, too tender for that excessive climate, born in the freezing nights of February. It is with no little pleasure that I find the interest connected with the association of my boyhood revived by the pursuits of maturer years, and strengthened by the instructive discussions to which I have listened to-day.

Allow me, before I sit down, to allude to a relic of aboriginal history which was vividly brought to my mind yesterday as I journeyed for the first time on my way to this place through the valley of the Mohawk. Some years ago, I visited some of the Indian tribes which still survive in the eastern parts of the State of Maine, and was struck with the singular tradition which I found remaining among them of the strength and ferocity of their ancient enemies, the tribe of Mohawks. The Indian mother, it was said, still quiets her crying child by breathing the terrible name of Mohawk. It is the way of ignorant and barbarous people to cherish the memories of ancient hatred. It is the triumph of civilization to do away with old enmities and prejudice. We sit here to-day, gentlemen, near the old council grounds of the departed Mohawks; and we, gentlemen, we of the eastern tribes, have come up to-day to meet you, gentlemen of the west, with no recollection of the old feud which has divided us so long. "We have," to quote the language of one of your letters, Mr. President, "washed off our war paint, if any yet remains." We have buried the hatchet; we have smoked the calumet of peace; and, in this first council of once hostile interests, we have founded an alliance which I trust will inaugurate a new and auspicious era in all our industries.

Mr. GEORGE W. BOND, of Massachusetts. In my position as chairman of the committee on raw materials, I have given some attention to this subject. Our annual import of worsted goods from Great Britain is about fifty million yards; besides a very large amount, of which we have no accurate record, from France. Those from France are principally of a character for which our long merino wools are admirably well adapted. We need to make all the varieties of goods that we consume in this country, of all the varieties of wool that we produce. Had I known, before I left home, that this question was to come up in this form, I could have prepared myself with an approximate statement of the quantity required of the different kinds of wool. In round numbers, we require some fifteen million pounds of carpet wool, in the state in which it generally comes to market. A little of the grade of wool such as it is unprofitable to grow here is grown on the plains west of the Mississippi; but the amount is trifling. The great bulk of the wool which we require is of the merino grade, which we use for our cassimeres, flannels, and delaines; and I trust, that, as we increase in the development of the length of the staple of the merino, the fabrics which the secretary has referred to will soon be added. Experiments are being made now which I think will lead soon to their extensive manufacture. The other great branch of manufacture is that of worsted goods, of which there is a great and immensely increasing consumption, requiring a class of wool, the value of which alone seems to have been increased by the advance in cotton. We have now no hindrance to that manufacture in this country, save a supply of the raw material. As has been stated, we have hitherto imported from three to five million pounds from Canada; and from that supply we shall be cut off, if the reciprocity treaty is closed the coming spring. What those concerns will then do who have embarked in the manufacture, I cannot foresee. We should readily and promptly consume in this country, I think, not less than twenty million pounds of such wools, if we had the supply.

Another class of wools for which we require, for our present consumption, the equivalent of ten or fifteen million pounds, at least, of washed wool, say twenty to thirty million pounds in the condition in which we receive it, are the finer wools grown in South America, Australia, and the Cape, for the manufacture of goods requiring a close filling and superior finish, which we have been unable to obtain hitherto from any considerable amount of wool grown in this country. Some of the wools grown in Virginia have had these qualities; and when Virginia and East Tennessee come to be settled by northern men, I hope we shall, from that source, and possibly from some parts of Texas, be able to obtain wools which are adapted to these uses. Until then we must depend upon foreign markets for our supply. But it is the earnest wish of all connected with the woolen and worsted manufacture, so far as I know, that the growth of these wools should be undertaken; that experiments should be made to ascertain what part of the country is best adapted to them; and that we should have a supply of our own growth.

While I am up, I would allude to a question, the importance of which I have felt for a great many years: that is, the necessity of careful study, scientific and practical, of the influence of climate and soil upon wool. All of us here present know that they have an immense influence. What that influence is, has never been settled, I believe, nicely, thoroughly, in this country or any other. In a country so extended as ours, with every variety of climate and soil, it is of more importance than it can be to any other nation in the world: When Professor Agassiz first established his Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, it was a part of his plan to connect with that institution the study of this important subject. The plan he laid out was so vast, that, in bringing it into practical order, he had not reached that when the war began. The war took off a number of young men upon whom he depended to enter with him upon this department of science, and it has thus been delayed. But I hope, when he returns, he will soon be able to take it up there; and the Institute of Technology, also, hopes to devote a part of its attention to the study of that and other matters connected with the practical arts.

Mr. R. G. HAZARD, of Rhode Island. When I was up on a former occasion, I referred to the direct interest the wool manufacturer had in the ability of the wool-grower to produce his wool in the cheapest and most economical manner. Perhaps the wool-grower has an equal interest in the ability and skill of the manufacturer to work up the raw material into goods of the greatest possible value. And upon this subject of worsted wools, I think the producer may find encouragement in the fact that the manufacturers are acquiring skill in that direction perhaps more rapidly than in any other. Some of them have alluded to that subject, and seem discouraged in regard to their ability to produce that kind of wool. But the experiments on which this opinion is founded were probably tried when such wools were very much lower in proportion than they are now. There is, however, an important consideration connected with that; and I think it very desirable that this subject should be seen in all its bearings. That consideration is, that those kinds of wools are grown upon large sheep. Now, in this country the mutton seems to be comparatively a small object. In Great Britain the mutton is the main object, and the wool merely an incidental production. I have no doubt that



many of their farmers, if they should hear of our keeping sheep merely for their wool, would appear as much astonished as some of ours are when they hear of Russian farmers keeping pigs for their bristles. That may affect the production of this kind of wool; but, when we become more a mutton-eating people, it may be more judicious for us to raise these large sheep.

Connected with that subject there is a merely theoretical view which I should like to state, and learn from practical men how far their experience bears out the theory in regard to this size of sheep, or any other animal. We are all aware that the surface upon which the wool grows increases as the square of the linear dimensions; while the carcass, which has to be sustained to produce that wool, increases as the cube. For instance, if you begin with the linear dimensions two, the square, being four, will represent the surface upon which the wool grows; the cube, which is eight, representing the carcass of the sheep which has to be sustained. Now, if you double the linear dimensions, instead of making them two, make them four, you have a surface upon which the wool grows of sixteen, and the cube will be sixty-four. In the one case, it is as one to two; in the other, as one to four. According to that calculation, it would seem that we ought to raise the greatest quantity of wool per acre upon small sheep.

Mr. WM. R. SANFORD, of Vermont. I would like to ask Mr. Hayes what length of wool is necessary to produce those fabrics of which he speaks?

Mr. HAYES. I understand that the greater the length the more advantageously it can be used; but that a length of two and a half inches to three inches will suffice. I am speaking of fine wools. The coarse wools—the English combing-wools—should be six or eight inches in length.

The PRESIDENT. I will answer Mr. Hazard's question. It is a fact universally recognized among practical producers, that small sheep have more surface in proportion to their weight than large ones.

Mr. BLANCHARD. One word in regard to this coarse wool to which reference has been made. Some gentlemen here may form their estimate of the value of coarse upon the price that prevailed six or eight years ago. Let me state one fact. The wool to which our secretary has referred is ordinarily sold to-day at seventy cents a pound. Six years ago it would not have brought over forty-five or fifty cents.

Mr. POTTLE. I desire to say to our friends who represent the manufacturing interests here, that from the very bottom of my heart I thank them for the courtesy with which they have listened to our inquiries, and the kindness and alacrity with which they have answered them. I would also say, in behalf of the producers, that we have, to the best of our ability, tried to ascertain the wishes of the manufacturers in regard to putting up our wools, and certainly mean to try to avail ourselves of the information we have obtained here.

On motion of Dr. LORING, it was

*Voted*, That the thanks of the convention be tendered to the city authorities of Syracuse for their courtesy in granting the use of the City Hall for its sessions.

On motion of Mr. POTTLE, it was

*Voted*, That the thanks of the convention be presented to Hon. H. S. RANDALL for the ability and efficiency with which he has presided over its deliberations.

The convention then, on motion of Mr. POTTLE, adjourned *sine die*.

*Joint report of the executive committee of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, and of the executive committee of the National Wool-growers' Association, addressed to the United States Revenue Commission, February 9, 1866.*

NEW YORK CITY, *February 9, 1866.*

SIR: The undersigned have been directed by the executive committees of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, and of the National Wool-growers' Association, assembled in convention at the city of New York, on the 17th of January, 1866, and finally adjourned on this day, to present to you, as the member of the United States revenue commission specially intrusted with the consideration of questions of revenue applicable to wool and woollens, the following report.

We have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servants,

R. W. MONTGOMERY,  
*President of the Convention.*

JOHN L. HAYES, *Secretary.*

HON. STEPHEN COLWELL,  
*U. S. Revenue Commission, Philadelphia.*

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The undersigned, members of the respective executive committees of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, and of the National Association of Wool-growers, submit that the above-named associations represent a large majority of the individuals and companies now engaged in the United States in the production and manufacture of wool. The undersigned, members of the committees aforesaid, have been empowered to present to the United States Revenue Commission the views of their respective associations, and together represent, as fully as would be practicable by any organization, the whole woollen interest of the United States. To avoid circumlocution in the following statement, the personal pronoun plural *we* will be used to designate the two executive committees above named, acting jointly in their representation of the woollen interest of the United States.

We would, in the first place, call the attention of the Revenue Commission to the important fact that the present is the first occasion in the history of this country when the woollen interest as a whole has been represented before any national body. The two great branches of this interest, agricultural and manufacturing, have been divided for fifty years, just as they were for a century in England. There were no opportunities for correcting mutual misunderstandings and imparting mutual information, so necessary for comprehending the real identity of both interests. The result was, that each branch of the woollen industry approached the national councils, in invoking legislation, from its own point of view. The legislation in relation to this industry vacillated, therefore, as each interest predominated; and instability became its most characteristic feature, and checked its legitimate progress.

The recent formation of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers presented the first opportunity to the manufacturers as a

body to open the way to a better understanding. The government of this association, in November last, instructed its executive committee to invite the several State organizations of wool-growers to meet them for consultation in relation to the interests which belong to them in common, and especially to consider what answers should be made to the inquiries of the United States Revenue Commission as regards the great wool-producing and wool-manufacturing industries.

This invitation was frankly accepted; and the representatives of both interests met in convention at Syracuse, New York, on the 13th day of December, 1865.

As the resolves and sentiments of that convention form the basis upon which it is hoped that the woollen interest, as a whole, is hereafter to be represented not only to the commission, but the national councils, we present to the commission copies of the resolutions passed unanimously by the convention, and a few extracts from addresses of officers and delegates, which were received without dissent, and which indicate, with great distinctness, the sentiments of both manufacturers and wool-growers as to the basis of their future relations.

Mr. E. B. POTTLE, of New York, chairman of the committee on resolutions, on presenting the report of the committee, said:

"It gives me great pleasure to say, that the series of resolutions which we shall report to this body have been agreed upon unanimously. Perfect harmony and unanimity have marked the proceedings of the committee from beginning to end. The committee report the following resolutions for the consideration of the convention:

*Resolved*, That, of the great industries with which the people of the United States can occupy themselves to advantage, the woollen interest is especially commended for combining and developing in the highest degree the agricultural and mechanical resources of the nation.

*Resolved*, That the mutuality of the interests of the wool-producers and wool manufacturers of the United States is established by the closest of commercial bonds—that of demand and supply; it having been demonstrated that the American grower supplies more than seventy per cent. of all the wool consumed by American mills, and, with equal encouragement, would soon supply all which is properly adapted to production here; and further, it is confirmed by the experience of half a century that the periods of prosperity and depression in the two branches of woollen industry have been identical in time, and induced by the same general causes.

*Resolved*, That as the two branches of agricultural and manufacturing industry represented by the woollen interest involve largely the labor of the country, whose productiveness is the basis of national prosperity, sound policy requires such legislative action as shall place them on an equal footing, and give them equal encouragement and protection in competing with the accumulated capital and low wages of other countries.

*Resolved*, That the benefits of a truly national system, as applied to American industry, will be found in developing manufacturing and agricultural enterprise in *all* the States, thus furnishing markets at home for the products of both interests.

*Resolved*, That it shall be the duty of the respective executive committees of the National Manufacturers' and National Wool-growers' Associations to lay before the Revenue Commission and the

appropriate committee in Congress these resolutions, together with such facts and statistics as shall be necessary to procure the legislation needed to put in practical operation the propositions therein set forth."

The president of the convention, Mr. RANDALL, a wool-grower, said:

This convention or conference will, I trust, mark the introduction of a new era in some of the important relations subsisting between two great industrial interests. The American wool-producers and manufacturers have entertained differences of opinion on the subject of the respective duties which should be imposed on imported raw and manufactured wool. Those differences have led to repeated and severe contests in Congress, in nominating conventions, and even at the polls. The whole history of our tariff legislation on this subject has been a history of sudden, and occasionally violent changes in measures, and even in policy. Having elsewhere attempted to trace the effects of our different woollen tariffs on the two interests most directly involved, I will not repeat myself here. But I will call your attention to one great and significant fact which has been clearly established amidst all these struggles and changes. It is, that when the government has protected the manufacturer at the expense of the producer, or the producer at the expense of the manufacturer, the injurious consequences have fallen not alone on the branch of industry discriminated against, but upon both. This was inevitable; for, in reality, their interests are indissolubly connected. Neither could possibly flourish without the other, under any circumstances which have occurred in our country, or which can reasonably be expected to occur for generations to come.

Mr. BIGELOW, President of the Manufacturers' Association, said:

As more than *seventy per centum* of the wool required for our vast and varied manufactures is of home growth, the interdependence of domestic wool-growing and wool manufacturing becomes apparent. Neither one of these industries can long prosper, unless the other prospers also. Taken together, they constitute an interest scarcely second in importance to any of the great industries which promote the welfare of the people and sustain the prosperity of the nation.

This great interest owes its present growth to national legislation, and is largely dependent on the same agency for its future success. Without the equalizing aid of discriminating custom duties, we can hold no successful competition with the accumulated capital and low wages of older countries. If the woollen interest of the United States is to continue to prosper, it must be maintained in a position to contend even-handed with the woollen interest of Germany, of France, and of Great Britain.

The only contest which can give success to our efforts lies not between ourselves as wool-growers and wool manufacturers, but between us and the wool-growers and wool manufacturers of other nations. This is a struggle that challenges our united forces, as between ourselves there is no real ground of antagonism. On the contrary, we are one in interest, and should be allied in purpose.

Dr. LORING, a wool-grower, said:

A recognition of the true relations which exist between the manufacturer of the east and the wool-grower of the west and south, can alone give firmness and prosperity to each. It needs no elaborate

argument to prove that the domestic market for American wool should be the best market. The same prosperity which has attended the growth of manufactures in other countries must attend their growth here. That great system of free trade which exists between the States demands for the foundation of our domestic commerce an equal development of each section, and energy, activity, and success in each special branch of business. New York and Boston, the two great centres of manufactures, the two great wool markets of the country, offer facilities for trade which can be found by us in no foreign port. Lowell and Lawrence, and all the manufacturing villages of the north, afford the American wool-grower his most convenient market. And it is upon the growth and vigor of this section that the wool-producing sections of the United States must depend for their largest and most reliable, sure, and constant profits.

On the other hand, where can our mills look for the raw material out of which to manufacture certain classes of goods, with more propriety and to better advantage than to our home production, so far as it goes? The styles of wool produced within the limits of the United States are adapted to those fabrics which we have succeeded thus far in manufacturing to the largest profit. And there is no reason why the American manufacturer should not patronize that territory included within the boundaries of his own government, by providing himself with the raw material from thence, and by availing himself, in return, of that market for his manufactured goods which is good in proportion to the sale it meets with for its agricultural products.

Mr. E. B. POTTLE, chairman of the committee on resolutions, and a wool-grower, observed:

I desire to say, in behalf of the committee who reported the resolutions now under discussion, that they reported them with the general expectation that we were entering upon a new era, so far as regards these two great interests, the wool-manufacturing and wool-producing interests; and I think I may add, that the general feeling all round the committee-room was, that by-gones should be by-gones. The past cannot be recalled; and whether the present tariff bears equally upon these two great interests or not, is a matter which can not be determined by a resolution, however carefully drawn. But we can agree upon certain principles, upon a common platform, where we can all stand; and on that common platform we can commence that work which we believe will be not only for our mutual interest, but for the benefit of all the interests of the country. That was the theory upon which we prepared these resolutions.

There can be no question—it does not argue common sense in any man to get up and maintain the contrary, upon the great principles of political economy—there can be no question, I say, that it is best for any country under heaven to produce the articles it manufactures, and manufacture the articles it produces, as far as possible. Any government that is a buyer of the products of a foreign government, when it can produce those articles itself, must of necessity be engaged in a miserable business, to the extent which it does it. As has been said by the friend who preceded me, the true wealth of a nation depends upon the products of the soil, and the labor that is bestowed in fitting those products for the use of man; and every dollar which we pay to encourage the labor of other countries, to

stimulate the production of other countries, is so much taken from our own and so much taken from the actual wealth of the country. Hence it should not be surprising that we, who claim to be at least possessed of common sense, representing these two interests—the wool-growing and wool-manufacturing interests of the country—should come here prepared to lay down, in the form of resolutions, a platform affirming simply the fact of the mutuality of these two great interests; that, looked at from a proper stand-point—looked at from the stand-point which every good citizen should occupy, a stand-point which compels him to ask, not only for that which is best for him, but which is best for the whole country—looked at from that stand-point, I say, no other conclusion could be come to than that which we have put forth in these resolutions; that is, that the interests of the manufacturer and the interests of the producer are but one great mutuality, and whenever one is unduly elevated at the expense of the other the country suffers.

Mr. KINGSBURY, a manufacturer, said:

For one, I am rejoiced to find myself here face to face with the wool-growers of the country; and I rejoice to give to you, the wool-growers of the country, my pledge, that, in time to come, we, the manufacturers, will feel that our interests are mutual, and that we cannot sustain the one without sustaining the other. The wool-grower and the wool-manufacturer must go hand in hand; and if we will thus go hand in hand, I believe we can procure such legislation as shall be necessary to protect your interests, and such legislation as shall be necessary to protect our interests; so that the great wool-growing and wool-manufacturing interests of the country, now larger perhaps than any other interests, shall go on in a state of prosperity beyond even our highest expectations, and we shall loom up before the world as a people unsurpassed in our manufacturing interests.

Mr. HAZARD, a manufacturer, said:

“While I am upon this point of mutuality, which I think is one of the most important we have to discuss, I will merely remark, that perhaps, from a proper point of view, we may consider the wool-growers as the manufacturers of cloth. They are engaged in the first of a series of processes by which grass and grain are converted into cloth. There are other processes more or less divided in different countries and in different sections. Sometimes the spinning is done by one man, who transfers the yarn to another to be made into cloth; and, in England, it is quite common for the maker of the cloth to transfer it to the finisher, to be colored and finished. Now, I say we can no more separate the interest of the wool-grower and the wool manufacturer in this country than we can separate the interest of the spinner from that of the maker of the cloth, or that of the maker of the cloth from that of the finisher; they are indissolubly united together.”

In the spirit of these resolutions and sentiments we propose now to state the present condition and necessities of the woollen interest of the United States.

The number of sets of machinery or series of cards—a set forming the unit for calculation in woollen machinery—employed in the United States, reported to the Manufacturers' Association on the 25th of October, 1865, was 4,100. The estimated number in the United States, as all were not reported, is 5,000. The distribution

and weekly consumption of foreign and domestic wool appear in the following table:

Statement of aggregate results obtained up to October 25, 1865.—In reply to circulars of February 24, 1865, and May 30, 1865, addressed to wool manufacturers.

States.	Returns received.	Sets reported.	Weekly consumption of scoured wool in pounds.	Weekly consumption of domestic wool in pounds.	Weekly consumption of foreign wool in pounds.	Percentage of foreign wool.	Average weekly per set.	Mills to be heard from.
Maine.....	40	177	93,835	74,120	19,715	19%	530	11
New Hampshire.....	69	361	217,110	174,841	42,299	19½	601	28
Vermont.....	39	112	50,217	32,652	17,565	35	448	19
Massachusetts.....	186	1,467	857,496	560,396	297,100	34½	586	74
Rhode Island.....	61	340	188,775	152,967	35,808	19	555	15
Connecticut.....	88	452	252,880	125,486	127,394	50½	559	43
New York.....	154	576	236,510	174,536	61,974	26½	411	124
New Jersey.....	11	64	33,660	25,238	8,422	25	526	7
Pennsylvania:								
Philadelphia.....	24	68	88,200	68,650	19,550	22½	1,297	98
Remainder of the State.....	57	90	39,054	39,054			434	69
Delaware.....	6	15	14,050	13,050	1,000	7½	937	4
Maryland.....	1	8	5,400	2,700	2,700	50	675	2
West Virginia.....								1
Ohio.....	44	83	32,615	32,615			392	34
Indiana.....	47	103	51,200	51,200			497	41
Illinois.....	22	47	23,355	23,355			497	13
Michigan.....	20	26	9,660	9,660			372	12
Wisconsin.....	13	25	10,800	10,800			432	6
Minnesota.....	1	2	1,200	1,200			600	2
Iowa.....	15	43	17,658	17,658			411	6
Missouri.....	10	21	16,650	16,650			793	4
Kentucky.....	7	14	6,600	6,600			400	7
Kansas.....	1	3	1,620	1,620			540	2
California.....								1
Oregon.....	1	4	4,000	4,000			1,000	1
Nebraska Territory.....								
Total October 25, 1865.	917	4,100	2,252,545	1,619,038	633,497	28½	550	624

The value of the woolen manufacture is shown as follows:

Table showing the value of woolen goods manufactured in the United States for the year ending June 30, 1864. Calculated from official report of United States Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

States.	Manufactures of wool not otherwise provided for.	Cloths, and all textile, knitted, or felted fabrics of wool, before dyed, printed, or prepared in any other manner.	Manufactures of worsted not otherwise provided for.	Total.
Maine.....	\$3,238,098.67	\$238,385.00		\$3,476,483.67
New Hampshire.....	9,044,762.00	34,915.00		9,079,677.00
Vermont.....	3,145,933.67	562,788.00		3,708,721.67
Massachusetts.....	38,905,399.00	800,531.33	\$897,720.67	40,603,651.00
Rhode Island.....	2,963,154.33	7,668,531.67	261,014.33	10,892,700.33
Connecticut.....	11,873,763.67	3,913,965.00	78,912.33	15,866,641.00
New York.....	10,850,180.00	2,214,802.67	912,792.33	13,977,775.00
New Jersey.....	2,752,652.00	25,361.67	70.33	2,778,084.00
Pennsylvania.....	13,022,447.33	3,502,190.00	75,076.00	16,599,713.33
Delaware.....	548,134.67			548,134.67
Maryland.....	450,385.33	1,526.67		451,912.00
West Virginia.....	58,486.00	5,267.00		63,753.00
Kentucky.....	117,534.33	242,370.67		359,905.00
Missouri.....	72,980.00	2,364.00		75,344.00
Ohio.....	1,315,243.00	85,634.67		1,400,877.67
Indiana.....	545,128.33	11,794.33	1,692.67	558,615.33
Illinois.....	341,907.00	11,384.00	5,793.33	359,084.33
Michigan.....	118,094.00	33,754.33		151,848.33
Wisconsin.....	104,457.67	860.00		105,317.67
Iowa.....	102,815.67	15,489.67		118,305.33
Minnesota.....	8,696.00	450.00		9,146.00
Kansas.....	14,947.67			14,947.67
California.....	538,956.00			538,956.00
Oregon.....	128,620.67			128,620.67
Nebraska Territory.....	45.67			45.67
Total.....				121,868,250.33

This sum of about one hundred and twenty-two millions approximately represents the whole value of the wool product of the United States for the year stated, the whole being consumed in our mills; also, the wool imported, the labor of manufacturing operatives, the interest of capital employed in manufactures, the wear and tear of machinery, and the profits of manufactures. No argument is necessary to show the national importance of an industry represented by such imposing figures.

The country has not only gained by the addition of this large sum to the national resources, but has been greatly benefited by the superiority of American fabrics. In a class of fabrics entering perhaps more largely than any other into general consumption—that of flannels—the superiority, due principally to the admirable adaptation of the common wools of this country, their strength and spinning qualities, is so marked as almost wholly to exclude the foreign flannels. American fancy cassimeres compare favorably in finish, fineness, and strength with those imported. Our delaines, owing, again, in a great measure, to the excellence of our merino combing-wool, surpass the fabrics of Bradford at the same price. The excellence of American shawls was admitted at the Great Exhibition in London. The dealers in American and English carpets testify that the American carpets are preferred by the best judges. The worsted manufacture, although introduced within only six years, supplies yarns, braids, bindings, hosiery goods, alpaca fabrics, and curtain stuffs of such excellence as to startle even the Bradford manufacturers, and have attained, in the brief period of six years, a yearly value of ten millions. The broadcloth manufacture, although so long suspended, has been revived, and goods exhibited at recent mechanic fairs have been declared the rivals of the best German fabrics. It is asserted by the manufacturers, that with proper relief against foreign competition, and a due supply of raw material, we can pursue with success every branch of the manufacture of woollens and worsteds, and can supply at least nine-tenths of our own consumption.

To the development of the woollen interests in this country, in all its branches, we owe our independence of foreign nations, in the supply of the most important material to our army during the late war. By our own looms we furnished in one year not less than thirty-five million garments to our soldiers, and supplied cloths for the army and navy in three years, made in our own mills, which consumed two hundred million pounds of wool. Of the cloths thus furnished, an assistant quartermaster general of the army, in charge of these supplies, officially says: "It has been demonstrated that American army cloths are much stronger than those in use in the armies of Europe."

The sheep husbandry in the United States has partaken of the vacillations which have attended the woollen manufacture, and has exhibited a decided and stable progress only within the last five years. The number of sheep in the United States, as shown by the census of 1860, was 22,471,275, and the product of wool at that period was 60,264,913 pounds. The present number is estimated at not less than thirty millions; and the quantity of wool at present produced in the United States is estimated at ninety-five million pounds.

The development of a home production of wool has been regarded of paramount importance by all enlightened governments. It has



been the experience of all nations that the domestic supply of this raw material has been the first and always the chief dependence of its manufactures, and the peculiar character of this material has impressed itself upon the fabrics which each country has produced. Thus, in the fine wools of Saxony and Silesia, we have the source of German broadcloths; in the combing-wools of England, the worsteds of Bradford; and in the long merino wools of France, the origin of her thibets and cashmeres. The peculiar excellences of American wools has given origin to our flannels, our cassimeres, our shawls, and our delaines; and they give strength and soundness to all the fabrics into which they enter. In breeding sheep the American growers have made improvements which may be favorably compared to those of Bakewell and Elman, in England. They have converted the light-boned and imperfectly covered merinos, as they were when first imported from Spain, into large, round, low, strong-boned sheep, models of compactness and beauty. The excellence of the American breed has been recognized in Europe; sheep of the American improved merino breed having received at the international exhibition at Hamburg, among three hundred and fifty competing from Austria, Prussia, Germany, and France, prizes which placed them in the first rank of those exhibited. The manufacturers acknowledge that American wools, as a whole, waste less than foreign wools as now imported. While four pounds of Mestizo wool are required to make a pound of finished cloth, only two and a sixth pounds of American wools are required for a pound of finished cloth. Our domestic wools are sound, strong, and distinguished for their spinning qualities. They are variably preferred for the warp, upon which the strength of the fabrics mainly depend. The great majority of the manufacturers of this country use domestic wool alone. Of 4,073 sets, 2,171 are employed wholly on domestic wool. Of 931 mills, 767 used domestic wool principally, while only forty-six mills in the whole country used foreign wool alone.

Of all the scoured wool used in the woollen mills of the United States, over seventy per cent. is of home growth. Cut off the supply of American wool, and our mills are stopped as effectually as by turning the water from the wheels which move them. We declare, therefore, with the utmost emphasis, that American wools are eminently the foundation of the prosperity of our manufactories.

While giving this pre-eminence to the domestic product, it is our duty to remove the impression, prevailing to a considerable extent, that this country can now, or in a brief period, supply economically all the varieties of wool required in existing manufactures. Long, coarse, cheap wools, such as are not produced in this country, and cannot probably be raised with profit, are consumed in the manufacture of carpets. Combing-wools, required in the manufacture of worsted, are produced in this country only to a very limited extent. The domestic supply of very fine short cloth wools, required in the manufacture of broadcloth and face goods, is at present inadequate to the necessities of the manufacture; and a moderate supply of these wools, to be mixed with our own, would increase the consumption of American wools.

While it is admitted that the duties on wool should be at least sufficient to place the American producer upon equal terms with the foreign producer for wools competing with his own, it is our duty to

express the opinion that only moderate duties should be placed upon wools which do not compete with our own, and that absolutely prohibitory duties would be injurious to the manufacturer, and indirectly injurious to the wool-grower.

The resolutions which we are directed to submit to the commission declare, "that sound policy requires such legislative action as shall give them (the wool-grower and wool manufacturer) equal encouragement and protection in competing with the accumulated capital and low wages of other countries." We would, therefore, call the attention of the commission to some facts and considerations having a peculiar bearing upon our own industrious relations above indicated.

In the production of wool most directly competing with his own—the Mestiza merino wool—the farmer of this country, with all the demands upon him imposed by American civilization; with school, town, county, and United-States revenue taxes; with wages doubled by war; and compelled, by the rigor of the climate, to house and feed his sheep more than half the year—must compete with the flock-master of the pampas of La Plata, where food is furnished spontaneously during the whole year; where the sheep are never housed or fed by hand, where taxes are inconsiderable, and where wages are reduced to the mere demands of physical subsistence.

The manufacturer, on his part, has to contend chiefly with the looms of Belgium, Germany, and France, which supply the greater portion of our foreign woollen fabrics. M. Bernoville, in a very careful work upon the woollen industry of France, estimates the average pay of 320,000 workmen, employed in the woollen manufacture, at one franc twenty-five centimes per day for three hundred days' work, or twenty-five cents per day. The wages paid to the persons employed in manufactures in Belgium, as obtained from the "Statistique generale de la Belgique," are in the woollen manufacture, as follows:—Men average 32 cents per day; women average 18 cents per day; boys average 13 cents per day; girls average 12 cents per day. The hours of labor, twelve to fourteen per day.

The average rates of interest from 1846 to 1860, as shown in tables of admitted accuracy, in Europe and this country, are as follows: In England 3.90, in France 4.10, in the United States 9.12; the interest in this country being more than double the average on the other side. The cost of constructing a manufacturing establishment in Europe is shown, by reliable statements, to be one-half the cost of an establishment on this side. The cost of an establishment abroad being one-half, and the rate of interest less than one-half, the result is that the capital required for manufactures in this country is four times that required by our rivals in Europe.

We present these facts without any further argument as to the necessity of relief against foreign competition.

The question next arises as to our position under the present laws.

It is our duty to the Revenue Commission, as well as to the several interests which we present, to submit at length our views of the operation of the present tariff laws, in their application to the production and manufacture of wool.

In order to understand clearly the object sought for in adjusting the present tariff on wool and woollens, it will be necessary to consider the operation of the two preceding tariffs, viz., those of 1846 and 1857, each of which having proved to be defective in opposite direc-

tions, suggested changes which were necessary to perfect a system equitably adjusted to the two branches of the woollen interest.

The tariff of 1846 placed, in the main, a duty of thirty per cent. upon both wool and woollens; and in some cases a less duty upon the latter than upon the former. This arrangement was justified to popular opinion by its apparent equality. But the equality existed only in name. The grower of the wool had the full benefit of the protection of thirty per cent., without any drawbacks or neutralizing duties; and the arrangement would have proved most beneficial to him, at least, if the manufacturer had continued to consume his wool. But the manufacturer, being the consumer of wool, had to pay the whole of the duty of thirty per cent. by which the grower was protected, which, when deducted from the duty on the manufactured article, left him a protection so inconsiderable as to be unavailing.

Burdened with heavy duty, and receiving no equivalent, he had to contend with a foreign rival, who had the vast advantage of obtaining his wool without duty. Waiving argument upon the theoretical question of the equality or justice of this arrangement, it is sufficient to refer to the practical fact, that the system, whether sound or not in theory, proved most disastrous in its actual results to both interests.

The manufacturers, encouraged by the policy of the tariff of 1842, had attempted the branches of manufacture requiring the utmost skill, and demanding large capita and expensive establishments. No less than eighteen hundred looms were in operation in the manufacture of broadcloths. The wool-growers, encouraged by the demand for the finest cloth-wools required in this manufacture, imported Saxony sheep, and had made progress in the growth of the finest wools, distinguished in Germany as noble wools, which, if continued, would have placed this country at the present time on an equality with Silesia in the production of such wools. The manufacturers of fine cloths found it in vain to struggle against foreign rivals, who, in addition to cheap interest and cheap labor, had the crowning advantage of free wool. The higher branches of the manufacture were abandoned; soon every one of the eighteen hundred of the broadcloth looms in the country ceased work. The only branches of manufacture continued with activity were those like flannels, which were supplied by the common wool of the country—so superior in its spinning qualities as in itself to afford an advantage over the foreign manufacture. There was no longer a demand for any but common wools. The Saxon wool husbandry ceased with the manufacture of fine cloths, which had called it into existence.

When we consider the position which Germany now has in the growth of the finer wools and the manufacture of broadcloths—supplying the whole world with the products of her flocks and looms—and remember that the corresponding industries of this country, if not checked by unwise though apparently equitable legislation, would have advanced in a geometrical ratio, we must regard the blow which prostrated alike the wool-grower and the wool manufacturer as one of the most disastrous that has ever fallen upon the industries of our country.

Armed with arguments, derived from the state of things above described, against giving preponderating consideration to the wool-grower, the manufacturers, on their side, approached the national councils, and invoked legislation which should regard their interest

as the predominating one of the country. The result was the passage of the tariff bill of 1857, which imposed a merely nominal duty upon wool, and protected the manufacturer by a duty of twenty-four per cent. This tariff, although temporarily advantageous to the manufacturer, did not continue long enough in operation to furnish facts as to its effect upon both interests, such as a longer experience under the tariff of 1846 had afforded. The obvious disadvantage to the manufacturer of the policy of the tariff of 1857 was its inherent instability.

The manufacturer investing large capital in structures and machinery which cannot be diverted to other purposes, and which may not give returns until years of operation, demands, above all things stability of legislation. This he could never expect under a system which made the agricultural interest secondary to his.

Influenced by these considerations, and candidly acceding to the reclamations of the wool-growers, the manufacturers cordially responded to the proposal of the Committee of Ways and Means of the thirty-seventh Congress; and particularly of the sub-committee, presided over by the distinguished member from Vermont, whose name is identified with the policy mainly due to his influence, to so adjust the tariff upon wool and woollens as to give not merely nominal but absolute equality to both branches of the woollen interest.

Whatever may have been the practical working of the Morrill tariff, which is the basis of our present system, it is a matter of history that equality of adjustment was the main object of the provisions of that bill and the tariff bill of 1864, respecting wool and woollens.

The object sought in these bills was to give a sufficient protection to the wool-grower, and to place the manufacturer in the same position as if he had his wool free of duty. A duty supposed to be sufficient to protect the wool-grower against wools competing with his own was placed upon such wools, and such a specific duty was placed upon woollen cloths as was supposed to be sufficient to reimburse the manufacturer for the amount of the duty paid on the wools. The ad valorem duty on the cloths was added to reimburse to the manufacturer the expenses of carrying the duty on the wools, the internal taxes, the duties on drugs and other materials used in manufacture, and to furnish the required protection.

While recognizing fully the correctness of the principles upon which the present tariff laws are based, it is our duty to point out defects in their practical operation. It has been proved by official returns that, while it was the manifest intent of the law of 1864 that the minimum rate of duty upon the class of wools most directly competing with our own should be six cents per pound, the average rate of duty upon this class of wools actually paid has been less than five cents per pound. The American producer has been thus deprived of the intended protection.

In view of the facts above stated, and of the requirements of our manufactures for an increased supply of American wool, and in order to furnish a stimulus for such supply, and, at the same time, to secure "equal encouragement and protection to both interests," we recommend as a basis for the re-adjustment of the revenue laws applicable to wool and woollens the following propositions:

1. A provision to be inserted in the tariff laws requiring all wools now known as Mestizo, Metz, Cape, and Australian wools, to be sub-

jected to a duty of not less than ten cents per pound and ten per cent. ad valorem; said provision to be so worded as most effectually to prevent these and similar wools from being admitted at a less rate of duty; the rates of duty on all other wools to remain as they now are, with the exception of wools the growth of Canada, which, in the absence of treaty stipulations, shall be subjected to a duty of (blank) cents per pound.

2. All manufactures composed wholly or in part of wool or worsted shall be subjected to a duty which shall be equal to twenty-five per cent., net; that is to say, twenty-five per cent. after reimbursing the amount paid on account of duties on wool, dyestuffs, and other imported materials used in such manufactures, and also the amount paid for the internal revenue tax imposed on manufactures, and upon the supplies and material used therefor.

E. B. BIGELOW,  
T. S. FAXTON,  
EDWARD HARRIS,  
J. W. EDMANDS,  
S. W. CATTELL,  
H. KINGSBURY,  
THEODORE POMEROY,

*Executive Committee of the National  
Association of Wool Manufacturers.*

HENRY S. RANDALL,  
E. B. POTTLE,  
E. HAMMOND,  
R. M. MONTGOMERY,  
GEORGE B. LORING,

*Executive Committee of the National Wool-growers' Association.*

JOHN L. HAYES,  
*Secretary of the Joint Committee.*

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*Report of the executive committee of the National Wool-growers' Association relative to duties on wool, made to the United States Revenue Commission, April, 1866.*

In estimating the importance of sheep husbandry to our country, and the expediency of fostering it by all necessary and proper legislation, the following facts are to be kept in view:

1. Wool is an absolute necessary of life. In the climate of the United States it has, for the purposes of clothing, no attainable substitute.

2. Sheep furnish an animal food, the more extended use of which would promote the health of our people and diminish the expense of subsistence.

3. Sheep are generally conceded to be more profitable than other domestic animals in converting coarse vegetable products into the manure necessary to sustain the fertility of soils which are devoted to the cultivation of products consumed by man. Owing, in a good measure, to sheep husbandry, the wheat soils of England, after ages of tillage, produce more of the cereals than they did ages ago. Their average product of wheat is twenty-six bushels to the acre, double

that of the wheat soils of the United States. England has one sheep to one and three-quarters of an acre, while Ohio and Vermont has one to four and a half acres, New York one to six and a half acres, Iowa one to twenty-four acres, and the whole United States together one to fifty-seven acres. For the want of this, or some equivalent means of preserving fertility, the soils of some of our own older States, once highly productive, have degenerated almost below the point of remunerative cultivation; and the newer States are more or less rapidly deteriorating wherever arable husbandry is practiced.

Sheep also are far more efficient than any other domestic animal in improving lands which are too poor to be devoted profitably to other purposes than pasturage, and as they improve them, they actually lead to the spontaneous production of better grasses, thus saving the cost and injurious effects of ploughing them to seed down. On hill-sides subject to the washing of rains when ploughed, this is a consideration of particular importance. Sheep, too, are far the best cleaners up of new lands infested with the sprouts of the removed forest trees, briars, weeds, &c., thus rendering themselves powerful auxiliaries of the pioneer, and of all who have occasion to clear forest lands in regions where such vegetation follows clearing.

#### ADAPTATION OF THE UNITED STATES TO WOOL PRODUCTION.

The United States are capable of producing as good wool of every description as any countries the sun shines on. This has never been denied by persons who can pretend to any practical information on the subject, except in the case of fine broadcloth wools. In respect to these it has been claimed that American wools lack the softness and felting properties of certain foreign wools, even when the diameter of the fibre is the same, and that therefore they cannot be wrought into as perfect and finished fabrics.

Horatio N. Slater, of Webster, Massachusetts, the most experienced and extensive broadcloth manufacturer in the United States—who annually manufactures nearly 2,000,000 pounds of wool—recently declared to the chairman of this committee that wools of the higher grades of fineness, even up to the fineness of German “picklock,” were quite extensively grown in the United States, before the tariff of 1846 overthrew our broadcloth manufactures and the production of the wools adapted to them. He declared that he used and fully tested these wools, and that they were as good in every particular, worked into as perfect and finished cloth, as wools of the same fineness grown in any other country. He allowed this important testimony to be taken down in writing in his presence, with permission to use it as should be seen fit.

In regard to the special properties of American medium and grade wools, we have equally conclusive testimony. The following sentences are from a recent document signed by Erastus B. Bigelow and J. Wyley Edmands, of Boston, Massachusetts; Theodore S. Faxton, of Utica, New York; Edward Harris, of Woonsocket, Rhode Island; S. W. Cattell, of Philadelphia; N. Kingsbury, of Hartford, Connecticut; and Theodore Pomeroy, of Springfield, Massachusetts, now as distinguished manufacturers of different kinds of woollen fabrics as there are in the United States, and selected, on account of that eminence, to constitute the present executive committee of the “National

Association of Wool Manufacturers." After mentioning the amount of woollen goods manufactured in the United States for the year ending June 30, 1864, they proceed to say:

"The country has not only gained by the addition of this large sum to the national resources, but has been greatly benefited by the superiority of American fabrics. In a class of fabrics entering perhaps more largely than any other into general consumption—that of flannels—the superiority due principally to the admirable adaptation of the common wools of this country, their strength and spinning qualities, is so marked as almost wholly to exclude the foreign flannels. American fancy cassimeres compare favorably in finish, fineness, and strength, with those imported. Our delaines, owing again, in a great measure, to the excellence of our merino combing-wool, surpass the fabrics of Bradford at the same price. The excellence of American shawls was admitted at the great exhibition in London."

And they subsequently add:

"It has been the experience of all nations that the domestic supply of this raw material has been the first and always the chief dependence of its manufactures, and the peculiar character of this material has impressed itself upon the fabrics which each country has produced. Thus, in the fine wools of Saxony and Silesia, we have the source of German broadcloths; in the combing-wools of England, the worsteds of Bradford; and, in the long merino wools of France, the origin of her thibets and cashmeres. The peculiar excellences of American wools have given origin to our flannels, our cassimeres, our shawls, and our delaines, and they give strength and soundness to all the fabrics into which they enter."

In the class of very coarse wools—carpet wools—such as Donskoi, Cordova, and Valparaiso, the United States could unquestionably produce them in their greatest perfection, were it profitable for us to grow them. But it is not usual to raise rye on land which will yield an equal amount of wheat.

#### COMPETING WOOLS.

The principal wools, except combing-wools, competing with those of the United States, are grown in the Argentine Republic, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, and Russia. Those of the Argentine Republic are grown in Buenos Ayres, and are usually known, collectively, in commerce under the name of Mestiza wools. They are classed as merino and Mestiza, Nos. 1, 2, and 3. "Merino" ranks in fineness with our "Saxony;" Mestiza No. 1 and No. 2 with the two highest grades of American merino; Mestiza No. 3 with our grade and common wools. The Mestiza wools possess good felting properties, but all of them lack the soundness and strength of American wools. Some of our manufactures of cassimeres, doeskins, &c., use them exclusively, but more generally American wool is mixed with them sufficiently to compose half the warp, in order to make it spin and encounter the other processes of manufacture without breaking. In plain broadcloth, the whole warp is one-third; in twilled broadcloth, as forty-five to fifty-five; in doeskins, a little more than half.

While it is conceded that the intimate incorporation of the fibres which takes place in a thorough process of felting leaves the cloth less dependent upon the direct strength of its threads than in the

case with worsteds and like fabrics, it would be contrary to every principle of physics to suppose that a weak wool will make as strong cloth, or, other things being equal, one possessing as good *wearing* qualities, as a materially stronger wool. It is not claimed that Mestiza wool possesses any counterbalancing advantage over our wools. Mr. Slater's testimony is decisive on that point.

The South African or "Cape wools" are about as fine as Mestiza, and are sounder and cleaner. Fine wools are not, at present, imported in sufficient amounts from other countries to render a separate description of them important.

EXPORT OF COMPETING WOOLS TO THE UNITED STATES.

The following table gives the amount, value, and average price per pound of wool exported from Buenos Ayres to the United States from 1855 to 1865, inclusive:

Year.	Amount.	Value.	Price per pound.
	<i>Pounds.</i>		
1855.....	5,966,969	\$627,718	\$0 10.5
1856.....	5,672,939	588,403	10.3
1857.....	5,758,519	694,736	12.0
1858*.....	946,467		} † 13.0
1859*.....	1,274,172		
1860*.....	1,226,841		
1861*.....	1,787,334		
1862.....	5,786,868	838,850	14.4
1863.....	17,461,208	2,577,765	14.7
1864.....	23,951,506	3,618,431	15.1
1865.....	16,103,889	2,223,643	14.3
Total.....	120,969,698	16,404,470	13.0

\* Not returned, but estimated, from value returned, to amount for the four years to 40,267,800 pounds.  
 † Estimated.

The following table embraces the same particulars in relation to the wool exported to the United States during the same period from the British possessions in Africa:

Year.	Amount.	Value.	Price pr. lb.
	<i>Pounds.</i>		
1855.....	495,937	\$104,211	\$00 21.00
1856.....	206,045	39,408	19.12
1857.....	792,084	183,426	23.15
1858.....		536,118	.....
1859.....		587,014	.....
1860.....		1,023,436	.....
1861.....		1,010,111	.....
1862.....	3,920,257	665,480	16.97
1863.....	6,711,975	1,179,707	17.57
1864.....	13,717,900	2,415,145	17.60
1865.....	8,312,263	1,533,796	18.45
Total.....		9,277,852	19.12

COMPARATIVE COST OF PRODUCTION.

In Buenos Ayres a shepherd, with his dogs, and some occasional assistance from children, takes all the care, besides shearing, of one thousand sheep, summer and winter. His almost unvarying subsistence is hard biscuits and fried mutton. He does not even raise the materials for or make the former, but procures them from town



or city.\* He cultivates no esculent vegetables, uses no milk, butter, or any of the other simple luxuries to be found in every farmhouse in the United States. His house is a hovel of unburnt bricks, containing only the most scanty and primitive furniture. His fuel is dried dung from the bottom of the sheep-fold. The warmth and equability of the climate render his necessary clothing of little cost. In short, all his material modes of life are as rude and unexpensive as those of the semi-savage state. In a country without public or private improvements, and almost without established institutions, he contributes as little to the expenses as he shares in the benefits of civilization.

It is not here necessary to show the separate items of cost of wool production in Buenos Ayres. The article being grown exclusively for export, and without connexion with or benefit to any other husbandry, it may be assumed that its market price covers cost and a profit, or else the production would be abandoned. We have seen that the market price in the city of Buenos Ayres averages about thirteen cents a pound.

The average quantity and annual market price of wool in the United States from 1827 to 1861, inclusive—a period of thirty-five years—is made to appear, by a table prepared originally at the request of the chairman of this committee, by the late George Livermore, the eminent wool merchant of Boston, whose name is an ample guarantee of its entire accuracy. The average price of fine wool for the whole period was 50.3 cents per pound; of medium, 42.8 cents; of coarse, 35.5 cents—average of the whole, 42.8 cents. This supposes the wool in market, charges paid, and currency generally at the gold standard.

When the profits of a commodity are large compared with those of other commodities, its production is expected to increase rapidly. In what proportion did the growing of wool increase in the United States during the period above specified? We have not the number of our sheep in 1830. It appears by the census reports that the number in 1840 was 19,311,374; in 1850, 21,723,220; in 1860, 23,268,915. Sheep thus only increased twenty and a half per cent. in twenty years, while population increased between seventy and eighty per cent. The aggregate value of the imports of wool for ten years ending 1850 was \$10,063,609; for ten years ending 1860, \$30,428,157—an increase approaching to 200 per cent. We shall get a better view of the increase in the imports of woollens by going further back. Their aggregate value for—

Ten years ending 1830 was.....	\$86, 182, 110
Ten years ending 1840 was.....	129, 336, 258
Ten years ending 1850 was.....	109, 023, 152
Ten years ending 1860 was.....	282, 682, 830

Under this showing, it is proper to assume that, taking all the sheep of our country together, the market price of wools from 1827 to 1861 was not more than barely remunerative. But for the other uses of sheep besides wool-growing, which have already been described, they would have produced no profit to their owners.

The present decade has introduced a new era in the cost of all kinds of agricultural production. The price of labor and subsistence

\* "Sheep Farming on the Pampas," by Reverend G. D. Carrow, late superintendent of the missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church in South America. Report of Committee of Agriculture, 1864.

is now more than double the average from 1827 to 1860, and double what it was only ten years ago. It is made to appear by the concurrent testimony of leading wool-growers in our principal wool-growing States, recently drawn forth by inquiries made to them by this committee, at the request of the United States Revenue Commission, that a competent shepherd, or laborer on a sheep farm, now receives, on the average, \$300 per annum, and that his subsistence costs \$150. It requires one laborer, aided by the agricultural labor-saving machines now common, to take the summer and winter care of three hundred sheep in Ohio, New York, or Vermont; *i. e.*, keep buildings, fences, and implements in repair, sow and harvest the grain, mow and feed out the hay, and do all the other work necessary to be done on a sheep farm in the climate of those States. The expense of labor, therefore, for 300 sheep is \$450, or \$1 50 per head. The cost of ordinary sheep farms is about \$30 per acre, and such farms, including wood land and waste land, will support, taking one year with another, say two and a half sheep to the acre. It requires to work the farm a span of horses, harness, wagon, sleigh, mowing machine, horse-rake, plough, harrow, cultivator, fanning mill, chains, shovels, hoes, axes, scythes, pitchforks, and other articles, costing in all say \$581, and lasting on the average twelve years. This expense, including interest and taxes on the articles, feed of team, &c., appears somewhat disproportionate if made applicable to only three hundred sheep, because it would require but a trifling addition to it to meet the wants of six hundred sheep. But, on the other hand, it may be said of many of the articles that if used more they would not last so long.

It is an old estimate, and is generally esteemed a safe one, that flocks under every different variety of situation and treatment, subjected to all the ordinary and extraordinary casualties to which they are incident, do not, taking a term of years together, increase more than twenty-five per cent. per annum in value. State, county, and town taxes greatly vary, but we adopt what we believe to be a mean, when we place them at two per cent. on valuation. But the assessed valuation generally falls from twenty-five to thirty-three per cent. below the actual value. In estimating cost of transportation we have also been obliged to take a mean between places on railroads and near markets, and the interior of remote western States, where wool must be hauled many miles in wagons before it reaches railroad or water lines of communication with the market. In estimating the value of manure we have only credited the sheep with the surplus over and above that necessary to keep up the original fertility and consequently actual value of the portions of the farm devoted to the raising of grain, &c.

The average weight of fleeces in the United States in 1840, was 1.84 lbs.; in 1850, 2.42 lbs.; in 1860, 2.73 lbs. It appears by the census of 1860 that the six following States gave the subjoined averages:

	Weight of fleeces.
Vermont.....	4. 00 lbs.
Ohio.....	3. 47 "
New York.....	3. 22 "
Illinois.....	3. 19 "
Michigan.....	2. 77 "
Iowa.....	2. 52 "

The whole averaging within a fraction of 3.20 lbs. Nearly all the wool was washed.

The cost of producing wool per pound, and the counterbalancing advantages received from its production, may be estimated, on the basis of the data already presented, as follows:

	Cents.
To cost of labor and subsistence at \$450 per annum, per lb. of wool.....	46.86
Interest on land, 7 per cent., at \$30 per acre, per lb. of wool.....	26.25
Interest on sheep, at \$4 per head, per lb. of wool.....	8.75
Interest on team and implements, costing \$581, per lb. of wool.....	4.23
Wear and tear of team and implements, per lb. of wool.....	5.04
State taxes on valuation of land, say \$20 per acre, per lb. of wool.....	5.00
State taxes on valuation of sheep, say \$375 per head, per lb. wool.....	2.34
State taxes on valuation of teams and implements, \$435, per lb. wool.....	.90
Federal taxes on implements, per lb. of wool.....	.33
Cost of salt, one barrel to 100 sheep, per lb. of wool.....	1.25
Cost of tar, marking materials, &c., &c., per lb. of wool.....	.31
Transportation to market, commissions, insurance, &c., per lb. wool.....	4.00
	105.26
	105.26
CR.	
	Cents.
By improvement on flock, 25 per cent., per lb of wool.....	31.25
Surplus of manure, (\$50) per lb. of wool.....	5.20
	36.45
	36.45
Net cost of a pound of wool in currency.....	68.81
Premium on gold, \$1 25.....	13.76
	82.57
Cost of a pound of wool in gold.....	55.05
Pounds of wool in a pound of cloth.....	2 1-6
	118.60
Cost of wool for a pound of cloth.....	\$1 19.27

#### COMPARATIVE CONDITION OF AMERICAN AND MESTIZA WOOLS.

In comparing the market value of American with competing wools, their usual condition must be taken into account. The Mestiza wools are imported in the yolk and dirt, always large in amount in unwashed merino wool; and the mode of treatment and handling in Buenos Ayres mixes them, to some extent, with loose dirt or sand. They contain a hard bur, taken up from the trefoil, which is universal on the pampas, and which constitutes a portion of the winter feed of the sheep; and this can only be removed from the wool by processes which occasion considerable waste; and finally, the weakness of the fibre causes a constant, and, as compared with American wool, unusual loss of material in all the processes of manufacture.

Statements taken from the books of the "Proctorville Woollen Mill," in Vermont, and information from other reliable sources placed before us in authenticated and responsible form, show conclusively that it requires about four pounds of Mestiza wool to make a pound of finished cloth. The same amount was formerly made by two pounds of *washed* American wool; but washing is now less perfectly performed, and a small amount of our wool is brought unwashed into the market, so that taking the average of the whole, 2 1-6 pounds are required for a pound of cloth.

COST OF MESTIZA WOOLS.

The cost in this country of Mestiza materials for a pound of cloth, including the duty we propose, is as follows, in gold:

	Cents.
Average cost of wool, per pound.....	13. 00
Port charges, and export duty, per pound.....	2. 00
Expense of transportation, &c., 27½ per cent. per pound.....	3. 57
Proposed duty per pound 10 cents and 10 per cent. per pound.....	11. 30
	29. 87
Pounds of wool in a pound of cloth.....	4
Cost of wool for a pound of cloth.....	\$1 19. 48

PRICES OF WOOL UNDER TARIFFS OF 1861 AND 1864.

Assuming the present average duty paid on Mestiza wools to equal five cents per pound—though it is a trifle less—the actual cost in our market to the importer of these wools is, for the materials of a pound of cloth, 94.28 cents, or 25.12 cents less than the cost of producing the domestic materials. Under the tariff of 1861 the foreign wool had a still greater advantage.

The following table of wool prices in New York, from 1861 to 1865, inclusive, was prepared for us by Messrs. Tellkamp & Kitching, eminent wool merchants of that city:

Average prices of wool at New York.

For the years—	Gold rates.	Ohio.		New York.		Illinois.		Bue. Ayres.		Cape.	
		Currency.	Gold.	Currency.	Gold.	Currency.	Gold.	Currency.	Gold.	Currency.	Gold.
1861—First quarter...			41-43		40-42		39-42		19-23		23-29
Second quarter...			41-43		40-42		39-42		19-22		23-29
Third quarter...			34-40		34-38		32-35		18-20		22-26
Fourth quarter...			48-52		45-49		43-46		21-23		23-27
1862—First quarter...	103	50-55	48-53	47-52	45-50	46-48	44-46	22-24	21-23	24-28	23-27
Second quarter...	105	47-51	45-49	45-49	43-47	43-46	41-44	20-23	19-22	24-28	23-27
Third quarter...	117	52-55	44-47	48-50	41-43	47-49	40-42	21-24	18-20	26-32	23-27
Fourth quarter...	131	57-62	43-47	55-57	42-43	53-55	40-42	21-24	16-18	29-34	22-26
1863—First quarter...	154	73-77	47-50	69-72	45-47	63-67	41-43	28-33	18-21	35-41	23-27
Second quarter...	148	80-83	54-56	77-79	52-53	69-72	47-49	29-35	20-24	35-43	24-29
Third quarter...	130	72-76	55-57	70-73	54-56	63-65	48-50	26-30	20-23	30-40	24-31
Fourth quarter...	150	73-78	42-52	68-73	46-49	66-69	44-46	26-33	17-22	33-44	22-29
1864—First quarter...	160	75-79	47-49	70-74	44-46	67-72	42-45	27-35	17-22	35-46	22-29
Second quarter...	184	80-82	43-45	73-77	40-42	68-72	37-40	27-40	14-22	38-48	21-26
Third quarter...	249	101-107	41-43	94-100	38-40	87-96	35-39	38-54	15-22	58-72	23-29
Fourth quarter...	225	95-100	42-44	90-95	40-42	85-95	38-42	43-55	15-24	52-66	23-30
1865—First quarter...	198	95-104	48-53	90-97	45-49	83-99	42-50	36-47	18-24	50-64	25-32
Second quarter...	146	73-78	50-53	63-68	43-44	60-70	41-47	27-36	18-25	35-44	24-30
Third quarter...	144	70-75	48-52	60-65	42-45	50-65	35-45	26-37	18-26	35-43	24-30
Fourth quarter...	143	69-75	48-52	59-63	41-44	52-65	36-45	26-37	18-26	35-44	24-30

The tariff of 1861 took effect April 1 of that year, and the tariff of 1864 July 1 of that year. It will be seen that the gold prices of Mestiza wool, in 1864, averaged 18.87 cents per pound, and in 1865, 21.62 cents. This is slightly lower than our estimate of its cost in our market, making allowance for the difference in duties; and we learn from reliable sources that it was imported at a loss.

Taking New York wools, which occupy a medium place in prices, in the preceding table, between those of Ohio and Illinois, we find the annual prices per pound, in gold and currency, as follows:

	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.
Gold.....	<i>Cents.</i> 41.25	<i>Cents.</i> 44.25	<i>Cents.</i> 50.25	<i>Cents.</i> 41.50	<i>Cents.</i> 44.12
Currency.....		50.37	72.62	84.12	70.62

The average price per pound in gold, during the whole five years, was 44.07 cents, one cent and two mills higher than the average of 1861, and the thirty-four preceding years. The average per pound in currency for four years, was 69.42 cents, or 26.63 cents higher than the average of the thirty-five preceding years. But, in reality, New York wools are above the average quality of those grown in the States from which we have derived supplies since 1860. Taking all the American wools sold in our markets since that year, they have unquestionably sold at a lower gold rate than the average of the thirty-five preceding years.

Yet, in the face of these facts, the production of sheep and wool rapidly increased during these years. Estimates of their increase, furnished to us from the Department of Agriculture, are as follows:

Years.	Number of sheep.	Pounds of wool.
1860.....	23,268,915	60,511,341
1866.....	36,000,000	117,000,000

Much of this estimate is necessarily based merely on conjectural data, and we regard it as a very high one, although the increase was, doubtless, more rapid than at any preceding period, unless during the war of 1812, and the "Saxon" mania of 1824-'28. The stimulus to this extraordinary production was the war, or the state of things produced by it. After the business of the country recovered from its first depressing effects, wool bore a high price in currency. Ordinary men make no distinction in their minds, or in their practical pecuniary transactions, between gold and a legal-tender currency. It was believed, in the popular phrase, that "King Cotton was dead"—in other words, that this staple would never be cultivated to anything like its former extent, and that wool would supply its place. The flourishing condition and rapid increase of our woollen manufactures were thought to foreshadow a corresponding increase in the demand for the raw material. It was anticipated that the restoration of the Union, and the reopening of the southern markets, would still further promote the growth of those manufactures and of that demand. And, finally, it appeared inevitable that the immense accumulation of public debt would require an amount of duties to be levied on imports which would afford needed protection to all branches of industry. Influenced by such considerations, wool-growers increased their flocks as rapidly as possible. A strong desire to obtain improved animals prevailed, and extraordinary prices were paid for them.

The utter fallacy of the wool-growers' expectations has already become apparent, unless there shall be a prompt increase of protection. While Mestiza wools, multiplied in their production by our vast demand during the war, can supply our manufactories with all, or nearly all, the materials for many of our most important fabrics, such as broadcloths, cassimeres, doeskins, &c., and with a portion of the materials for many more; while these weak, inferior wools make fabrics as good in *appearance* as American wools; and while they can undersell American wools in our own markets at least twenty-five cents in the amount of wool necessary for a pound of cloth, it must be expected that the latter will find only unremunerating prices and an uncertain and languid market. And this is what is now being witnessed. Taking the period since the last clip together, the gold prices of American wool have not probably equalled those of the thirty-five years ending with 1861. And much of the clip has not yet gone to market. Regions which formerly swarmed with eager wool-buyers have, in many instances, scarcely been visited by one since the close of the war. This has occurred while the cost of the labor and subsistence employed in the production remains at double former rates.

At the request of the Revenue Commission, we recently addressed inquiries to many of the most experienced and intelligent wool-growers of the United States, to obtain their views in regard to the condition and prospects of sheep husbandry in their several localities. They concurred in the statement that an advance in duties on foreign competing wools is necessary to save this branch of industry from revulsion and extreme depression. The State, county, and town wool-growers' associations, spreading over the principal wool-producing States, and embracing a vast body of growers, have, in their public discussions, and, in many instances, in official resolutions, taken the same ground. Congress is now flooded with petitions on the subject. Most of these petitions ask legislation substantially concurring with the draught of the bill which, at the instance of the Revenue Commission, we shall herewith submit. None ask less duties than those named in the proposed bill. Should the present inadequate scale of duties remain in force, sheep will probably decrease as rapidly within the next five years as they have increased within the last five. Should the necessary relief be delayed even beyond the present session of Congress, discouragement will seize on the minds of the producers, and a tide of reaction will set in which, though it may be arrested hereafter, will produce most disastrous consequences to the wool-growing interest. It will lead to serious sacrifices, repress enterprise, and divert it into other channels, and chill that spirit of improvement which has been so rapidly increasing the value of our own sheep, and bringing the best sheep of every other clime to our shores.

We have aimed at moderation in the amount of protection which we ask. We would impose no unnecessary burdens on the consumers. We would introduce no overaction among growers. Stability in tariff legislation can only be attained by avoiding extremes, and stability in this particular is necessary to a healthy and steady growth of this and every other great protected interest. The proposed duties do not, as the figures have shown, leave any margin of actual profit to the growers of such sheep in the United States as yield only the average quantity of wool per head grown in Vermont, Ohio, New York, Illinois, Michigan, and Iowa in 1860, namely, 3 2-10 pounds.

Profits will have to be sought in improvement—in growing better producing sheep; and we are quite willing that such a condition to success should exist.

The grounds on which equal duties per pound are asked on combing-wools, which are imported principally from Canada, are different from the preceding. We do not here compete with essentially cheaper labor or subsistence, or more favorable situations in any particular, for growing wool. We ask these duties because these wools are highly valuable in the production of goods, and being used for light fabrics, the duties will not bear so heavily on the consumer; because such duties will foster an infant and important branch of sheep husbandry; and because, if the Canadian people are to enjoy the benefits of our market, we see no good reason why they should not share in the burdens attached to it.

The duties named in draught of bill on the coarse, hairy carpet wools, which compete with none grown, or which can be profitably grown at present in the United States, are proposed for revenue purposes only.

We have pointed out considerations which render sheep husbandry highly important to our national interests. There are others which are almost too obvious to require mention. The home production of wool is necessary to render us properly independent of foreign powers, in peace and war, in obtaining our supplies of an article on which the lives and health of all our people depend. It is necessary to national economy, for no great agricultural country can afford to import its most important and costly raw materials, especially from countries which take but little raw or manufactured commodities in return. It is necessary, in the already-quoted words of the executive committee of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, to furnish “the first and always the chief dependence” of our woollen manufactures. It is necessary to supply our people with strong, serviceable cloths, in the place of the comparatively weak and un-serviceable ones manufactured from much the larger portion of the cloth wools now imported. Finally, it is necessary to extend and complete the circle of diversified industry on which the wealth and independence of nations so much depend.

We submit to the Revenue Commission the following proposed draught or bill of duties on wool:

SEC.—. *And be it further enacted*, That from and after the passage of this act, in lieu of the duties now imposed by law on the articles hereinafter mentioned, there shall be levied and collected, on all unmanufactured wool, hair of the alpaca, goat, and other like animals, imported from foreign countries, the duties herein provided. All wools, hair, &c., as above, shall be divided, for the purpose of fixing the duties to be charged thereon, into three classes, to wit:

*Class 1—Clothing wools*: That is to say, merino, Mestiza, Mets or Metis wools or other wools of merino blood, immediate or remote; down clothing wools; and wools of like character with any of the preceding, including such as have been heretofore usually imported into the United States from Buenos Ayres, New Zealand, Australia, Cape of Good Hope, Russia, Great Britain, Canada, and elsewhere, and also including all wools not hereinafter described or designated in classes two and three.

*Class 2—Combing-wools:* That is to say, Leicester, Côtswold, Lincolnshire, down combing-wools, Canada long wools, or other like combing-wools of English blood, and usually known by the terms herein used; and also all hair of the alpaca, goat, and other like animals.

*Class 3—Carpet wools and other similar wools:* Such as Donskoi, native South American, Cordova, Valparaiso, native Smyrna, and including also such wools of like character as have been heretofore usually imported into the United States from Turkey, Greece, Egypt, Syria, and elsewhere.

For the purpose of carrying into effect the classification herein provided, a sufficient number of distinctive samples of the various kinds of wool, hair, &c., embraced in each of the three classes above named, selected and prepared under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, and duly verified by him, (the standard samples being retained in the Treasury Department,) shall be deposited in the custom-houses and elsewhere, as he may direct, which samples shall be used by the proper officers of the customs to determine the classes above specified, to which all imported wools belong. The duty upon wools of the first class the value whereof at the last port or place whence exported to the United States, excluding charges in such port, shall be thirty-two cents or less per pound, shall be ten cents per pound, and, in addition thereto, ten per cent. ad valorem; the duty upon wools of the same class the value whereof at the last port or place whence exported to the United States, excluding charges in such port, shall exceed thirty-two cents per pound, shall be twelve cents per pound, and, in addition thereto, ten per cent. ad valorem. The duty upon wools of the second class, and upon all hair of the alpaca, goat, and other like animals, the value whereof at the last port or place whence exported to the United States, excluding charges in such port, shall be thirty-two cents or less per pound, shall be ten cents per pound, and, in addition thereto, ten per cent. ad valorem; the duty upon wools of the same class the value whereof at the last port or place whence exported to the United States, excluding charges in such port, shall exceed thirty-two cents per pound, shall be twelve cents per pound, and, in addition thereto, ten per cent. ad valorem. The duty upon wools of the third class the value whereof at the last port or place whence exported into the United States, excluding charges in such port, shall be twelve cents or less per pound, shall be three cents per pound; the duty upon wools of the same class the value whereof at the last port or place whence exported to the United States, excluding charges in such port, shall exceed twelve cents per pound, shall be six cents per pound: *Provided*, That any wool of the sheep, or hair of the alpaca, goat, and other like animals, which shall be imported in any other than the ordinary condition as now and heretofore practiced, or which shall be changed in its character or condition, for the purpose of evading the duty, or which shall be reduced in value by the admixture of dirt or any other foreign substance, shall be subject to pay twice the amount of duty to which it would otherwise be subjected, anything in this act to the contrary notwithstanding: *Provided further*, That when wool of different qualities is imported in the same bale, bag, or package, it shall be appraised by the appraiser, to determine the rate of duty to which it shall be subjected, at the average aggregate value of



the contents of the bale, bag, or package; and when bales of different qualities are embraced in the same invoice at the same price, whereby the average price shall be reduced more than ten per cent. below the value of the bale of the best quality, the value of the whole shall be appraised according to the value of the bale of the best quality; and no bale, bag, or package shall be liable to a less rate of duty in consequence of being invoiced with wool of lower value: (*And provided further*, That the duty upon wool of the first class which shall be imported *washed* shall be twice the amount of duty to which it would be subjected if imported *unwashed*; and that the duty upon wool of all classes which shall be imported *scoured* shall be three times the amount of duty to which it would be subjected if imported *unwashed*.\*) The duty on sheep skins, raw or unmanufactured, imported with the wool on, washed or unwashed, shall be \_\_\_\_\_ per cent. ad valorem; and on woollen rags, shoddy, mungo, waste, and flocks, shall be twelve cents per pound.

HENRY S. RANDALL,  
*Chairman Executive Committee*  
*National Wool-growers' Association.*

HON. STEPHEN COLWELL,  
*Of the United States Revenue Commission.*

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*Statement of the executive committee of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, relative to proposed duties on wool and woollens, with explanatory key, addressed to the United States Revenue Commission, May, 1866.*

SIR: The duty having devolved upon you to report to Congress a project of a tariff upon wool and the manufactures of wool and worsted, the suggestion was approved by you, that the representatives of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers should meet the representatives of the several organizations of wool-growers, for the purpose of consultation in relation to the representations to be made and the facts to be presented respecting the wool-producing and wool-manufacturing interests before the United States Revenue Commission. In consequence of this suggestion, a convention of wool-growers and wool manufacturers was held in the city of Syracuse, New York, in December last. The result of this convention was a protracted conference, in the city of New York, of the executive committees of the national associations of wool-growers and wool manufacturers, and the adoption of a joint report recommending to the Revenue Commission certain propositions as a basis for the adjustment of the revenue laws applicable to wool and woollens. Subsequently the executive committee of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers had a full conference with you personally at Philadelphia in relation to the provisions of a tariff to be framed in conformity with the propositions recommended in the joint report above referred to. The provisions in relation to the duties on wool having been considered by you, it was proposed at the interview in Philadelphia to assemble representatives of the various branches of the woollen and worsted manufacture to furnish the information necessary to adjust the duties on manufactures. In response to

this proposal, you suggested that the manufacturers could be more conveniently assembled at the rooms of the national association; and that you would consider as the basis for your action and report, such facts and data as might be collected and arranged by the executive committee of that association. You also suggested that the executive committee of the manufacturers should prepare for consideration a draught of provisions in relation to the duties upon manufactures, founded upon such information as they might obtain, and the propositions before referred to.

In conformity with these suggestions, the executive committee of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers have called, from day to day, meetings of persons practically engaged in all the different branches of the woollen and worsted industry pursued in this country, without regard to membership of the association, and have pursued inquiries with express reference to adjusting a tariff upon manufactures in conformity with the principles jointly agreed upon by the executive committees of the wool-growers and wool manufacturers. The committee have encountered the difficulty familiar to all experienced in framing tariffs of duties, of adjusting all the practical details affecting complicated interests in strict conformity with any theory. They believe, however, that the provisions herewith submitted to your consideration as regards the great mass of the woollen and worsted goods manufactured and consumed are strictly conformable to the theory of the joint report; and that such exceptions as may be found have as close a conformity with the theory of that report as could be secured by practical legislation.

The committee have the honor to call your attention to the following draught of tariff provisions respecting manufactures of wool and worsted, and to a statement of the facts and considerations upon which the proposed provisions are founded:

*“And be it further enacted,* That, on and after the day and year aforesaid, the duties to be levied, collected, and paid on the importation of the articles hereinafter mentioned shall be as follows, that is to say: on woollen cloths, woollen shawls, and all manufactures of wool of every description made wholly or in part of wool, not otherwise provided for, fifty-three cents per pound, and, in addition thereto, thirty-five per cent. ad valorem; on flannels, blankets, endless belts, or felts for paper or printing machines, hats of wool, knit goods, balmorals, woollen and worsted yarns, and all manufactures of every description, composed wholly or in part of worsted, the hair of the alpaca, goat, or other like animals, except such as are composed in part of wool, not otherwise provided for, valued at not exceeding forty cents per pound, twenty-five cents per pound; valued at above forty cents per pound, and not exceeding sixty cents per pound, thirty-five cents per pound; valued at above sixty cents per pound and not exceeding eighty cents per pound, forty-five cents per pound; valued at above eighty cents per pound, fifty-three cents per pound; and, in addition thereto, upon all the above-named articles, thirty-five per cent. ad valorem.

*“On women’s and children’s dress-goods and Italian cloths, composed wholly or in part of wool, worsted, the hair of the alpaca, goat, or other like animals, valued at not exceeding twenty cents the square yard, six cents per square yard, and, in addition thereto, thirty-five per cent. ad valorem; valued at above twenty cents the square yard, eight cents per square yard, and, in addition thereto, forty-five per*

cent. ad valorem: *Provided*: That on all goods weighing four ounces and over per square yard, the duties shall be fifty-three cents per pound, and, in addition thereto, thirty-five per cent. ad valorem.

“On clothing ready made, and wearing apparel of every description, composed wholly or in part of wool, worsted, the hair of the alpaca, goat, or other like animals, made up or manufactured wholly or in part by the tailor, seamstress, or manufacturer, except knit goods, fifty-three cents per pound, and, in addition thereto, forty-five per cent. ad valorem.

“On Aubusson and Axminster carpets, and carpets woven whole for rooms, fifty per cent. ad valorem; on Saxony, Wilton, and Tournay velvet carpets, wrought by the Jacquard machine, seventy-five cents per square yard, and, in addition thereto, thirty-five per cent. ad valorem; on Brussels carpets, wrought by the Jacquard machine, forty-eight cents per square yard, and, in addition thereto, thirty-five per cent. ad valorem; on patent velvet and tapestry-velvet carpets, printed on the warp or otherwise, forty-four cents per square yard, and, in addition thereto, thirty-five per cent. ad valorem; on tapestry Brussels carpets, printed on the warp or otherwise, thirty cents per square yard, and, in addition thereto, thirty-five per cent. ad valorem; on treble ingrain, three-ply and worsted chain Venetian carpets, nineteen cents per square yard, and, in addition thereto, thirty-five per cent. ad valorem; on yarn, Venetian, and two-ply ingrain carpets, fourteen cents per square yard, and, in addition thereto, thirty-five per cent. ad valorem; on druggets and bockings, printed, colored, or otherwise, twenty-five cents per square yard; on hemp or jute carpeting, six and a half cents per square yard; on carpets and carpeting of wool, flax, or cotton, or parts of either, or other material not otherwise specified, forty per cent. ad valorem: *Provided*, That mats, rugs, screens, covers, hassocks, bed sides, and other portions of carpets or carpeting shall be subjected to the rate of duty herein imposed on carpets or carpeting of like character or description, and that the duty on all other mats, screens, hassocks, and rugs, shall be forty-five per cent. ad valorem; on oil-cloths for floors, stamped, painted, or printed, valued at fifty cents or less per square yard, — per cent. ad valorem; valued at over fifty cents per square yard, and on all other oil-cloth, except silk oil-cloth, — per cent. ad valorem.”

The proposition in relation to the duties on manufactures recommended in the “joint report” is as follows:

“All manufactures composed wholly or in part of wool or worsted shall be subjected to a duty which shall be equal to twenty-five per cent. net—that is to say, twenty-five per cent. after reimbursing the amount paid on account of duties on wool, dyestuffs, and other imported materials used in such manufactures, and also the amount paid for the internal revenue tax imposed on manufactures, and upon supplies and materials used therefor.”

The object of this communication is to show the reasonableness of this proposition, and the consistency therewith of the proposed tariff provisions above submitted.

The American manufacturer is engaged in a perpetual struggle with the manufactures of Europe for the possession of the markets of this country. In this strife the European wool manufacturer possesses the advantage, which would be overwhelming if not counteracted by special legislation, of having the raw material of his manufacture

free from duty. Great Britain, Belgium, the Zollverein, (including Prussia, Saxony, and twenty-one other States,) and the Netherlands, have totally abolished the duties on wool, while the duties in Austria and Russia are merely nominal. This policy has been adopted, in spite of the earnest reclamations of the agricultural interests in those countries, as an indispensable measure of protection to their woollen manufactures. A similar policy has been advocated in former times by the manufacturers of this country. But the commercial principles of Europe can never be safely applied, without qualification, to a country differing so essentially in its condition and interests as ours does from European nations. No measures of protection could materially increase the production of wool in the thickly settled countries of the Old World. England has one sheep to an acre of her land; France, one to three acres; while the United States, with a soil and climate adapted to the growth of every variety of wool, has only one to forty acres. The extension of sheep husbandry would be eminently beneficial to the agricultural interests of the country, and a sufficient supply of the strong and sound domestic wools would be invaluable to the manufacturer. The rapidity with which the production of wool can be increased by favoring circumstances has been illustrated during the last five years, the annual production having increased within that period from sixty to ninety-five millions of pounds. The manufacturers, therefore, admit that it is for their interest and the public benefit that duties should be imposed upon wool sufficient to place the American producer upon equal terms with the foreign producer of wools competing with his own.

The manufacturer is enabled to make this concession by the incorporation into our recent tariff laws of a principle which aims to make him independent of the duties on the raw material. This principle is, that, whatever may be the duties upon wool, the manufacturer, in addition to the usual duties for revenue and protection, is to be placed in the same position as if he had his wools free of duty. This principle has been adopted as a fundamental one, to enable the American manufacturer to contend with his foreign rival, who has his wool free of duty. This principle involves also a necessary readjustment of the tariff on woollens whenever a change is made in the duties upon wools. This principle was first incorporated in our tariff laws by the present chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, Mr. Morrill. It was contained in the bill known as the Morrill tariff bill, and continued in the provisions of the tariff bill of 1864, respecting wool and woollens.

The "joint report" of the wool-growers and manufacturers says, in relation to these provisions:

"The object sought in these bills was to give a sufficient protection to the wool-grower, and place the manufacturer in the same position as if he had his wool free of duty. A duty supposed to be sufficient to protect the wool-grower against wool competing with his own was placed upon such wools; and such a specific duty was placed upon woollen cloths as was supposed to be sufficient to reimburse the manufacturer for the amount of the duty paid on the wools. The *ad valorem* duty on the cloths was added to reimburse to the manufacturer the expenses of carrying the duty on the wools, the internal taxes, the duties on drugs and other materials used in manufacture, and to furnish the required protection."

The correctness of these principles is fully recognized in the "joint report" of the wool-growers and manufacturers.

It will be instructive to exhibit in some detail the manner in which this principle of placing the manufacturer in the same position as if he had his wool free of duty was applied in the tariff bills of 1861 and 1864.

In framing the tariff of 1861, it was admitted that the wools coming into competition with the American wool-grower, or displacing American fine wools in the manufacture of cloth, were a class of wools costing at that time, in 1861, from eighteen to twenty-four cents per pound, these wools consisting principally of the class known as Mestiza and Cape wools. The tariff acts of 1861, with the object of affecting the Mestiza and Cape wools, provided that, "On all wools unmanufactured, the value whereof at the last port or place from whence exported to the United States exceeding eighteen cents and not exceeding twenty-four cents per pound, there should be levied, paid, and collected a duty of three cents per pound."

It was the concurrent testimony of experienced manufacturers that four pounds of Mestiza wool, of the class coming within the prices designated, and paying a duty of three cents per pound, are required to make a pound of finished cloth. That all doubt might be removed as to the correctness of this statement, which furnishes the most essential element for calculating the amount of duties required for woollen cloths, the committee have sought to obtain memoranda of actual experiments made without reference to any discussion of tariff questions. They have obtained from the books of the "Proctorville Woollen Mill," situated in the State of Vermont, a statement of the semi-annual production of cloth, the consumption of wool in making such cloth, and the weight of each yard of cloth manufactured. From this statement, it appears that certain lots of cloth made in that mill from the first day of January, 1865, to the last day of June, inclusive—to wit, six months—and from the first day of July, 1865, to the last day of December, 1865, were manufactured wholly from Mestiza wool. The accounts of the mill show that there were manufactured in the mill, wholly from Mestiza wool, in the first six months, 77,320 yards of black cassimeres; that  $32\frac{4}{10}$  ounces of wool, as purchased in the market, were consumed in the manufacture of each yard of said 77,320 yards of cloth; and that the average weight per yard of the cloth was  $8\frac{2}{10}$  ounces; or, in other words,  $32\frac{4}{10}$  ounces of wool were required to make  $8\frac{2}{10}$  ounces of finished cloth. The accounts of the mill show that, in the last six months, there were manufactured, wholly from Mestiza wool, 79,606 $\frac{3}{4}$  yards of black doeskins; that the average weight of said doeskins was  $8\frac{2}{10}$  ounces per yard; and that  $31\frac{1}{10}$  ounces of wool were required to make  $8\frac{2}{10}$  ounces of such cloth.

The fact, then admitted, and since so fully corroborated, that four pounds of wool, paying a duty of three cents per pound, are required to make a pound of cloth, formed the basis of the tariff upon woollens in the bill of 1861. The main provision in that bill, in respect to woollen goods, was, that there should be levied, collected, and paid the following duty: "On woollen cloths, woollen shawls, and all manufactures of wool of every description, made wholly or in part of wool, not otherwise provided for, a duty of twelve cents per pound, and, in addition thereto, twenty-five per cent. ad valorem. This provision included the mass of woollens manufactured in this country, and all those manufactured from the class of wool referred to, competing with American wool. Three cents, the duty upon this wool,

multiplied by four, the number of pounds of wool in a pound of finished cloth, make twelve cents. A specific duty of twelve cents was, therefore, first given to the manufacturer as the precise amount (with the exception of charges to be hereafter reverted to) necessary to reimburse the duties he would have to pay for the protection of the wool-grower before he could take the first step to convert the wool into cloth. By receiving this specific duty, he was simply placed in the same position as if he had his wool free. The specific duty involved, therefore, not one cent of protection to the manufacturer; the sole provision for his benefit being contained in the clause giving him, in addition to the specific duty, an ad valorem duty of twenty-five per cent.

Notwithstanding the impulse given to the whole woollen interest of the United States by the passage of the tariff bill of 1861, it was found, in practical operation, that the duty on wool was placed too low to enable the American to contend upon equal terms with the foreign wool-grower. The duties on wool were therefore re-adjusted by the tariff bill of 1864, the one now in operation.

That bill was framed with the intention, that the class of wools before mentioned, competing with American wools, which, under the bill of 1861, paid a duty of three cents per pound, should pay a duty of six cents per pound, the duty being doubled. The main provision of this bill respecting wool were: first, that there should be levied on "all wool unmanufactured, the value whereof at the last port or place from whence exported to the United States, exclusive of charges in such ports, shall be twelve cents or less per pound, three cents per pound;" this provision being intended to apply wholly to the coarse long wools which do not compete with our own. Secondly, that the duty should be upon all wools "exceeding twelve cents per pound, and not exceeding twenty-four cents per pound, six cents per pound;" this provision being intended to apply to the washed coarse wools, and also to the wools before named competing with our own and forming the mass of the foreign wools used in the American manufacture of woollen cloths. To preserve the principle adopted in 1861, it became necessary to increase the specific duty to be given to the manufacturer. Four pounds of such wools entering into a pound of cloth—and six cents, the duty, multiplied by four being twenty-four cents—that sum was fixed at the specific duty to be given to the manufacturer, to reimburse him for the duty which he pays for the benefit of the wool-grower. The ad valorem duty, provided for the protection of the manufacturer, was raised from twenty-five to forty and forty-five per cent. The increase in the ad valorem duty was made upon the ground that the manufacturer was compelled to pay, besides the duty on wool, duties upon dyestuffs and other imported materials used in manufacturing, ranging from two to three cents per pound of cloth, and also the expenses of carrying these duties; and it was further contemplated that, by the provisions of the revenue bill under consideration at the same time with the tariff bill, that the manufacturer would have imposed upon him an onerous revenue tax not previously provided for. And it was estimated that, when the neutralizing duties upon dyestuffs, the expenses of carrying the duties, and the revenue taxes, should be deducted from the forty and forty-five per cent., the manufacturer would not, in fact, receive a greater protection than under the tariff of 1861.

The doctrine has thus been distinctly recognized by the legislation of Congress, that the manufacturer is to be fully reimbursed the duties imposed upon his raw materials, in addition to the usual duties for revenue and protection.

This is in substance the principle recognized in the proposition of the "joint report" in relation to manufacturers; and it involves the proposition before asserted, that a change in the duties on wool requires a readjustment of the duties on manufactures of wool. A material change in the duties on wool is now demanded by the wool-growers of the United States. The most essential change proposed by the wool-growers, and assented to by the manufacturers, is the imposition of a minimum duty of ten cents per pound, and ten per cent. ad valorem, upon all clothing wools, or the wools which enter into the composition of woollen cloths, shawls, flannels, blankets, knit goods, and the great bulk of the woollen manufactures of the country, with the exception of carpets and worsted goods. From statements furnished by importers of wool, it appears that the average price of Mestiza wools, which are the principal competing wools, may safely be taken to be fifteen cents per pound. The ad valorem duty upon this price would be  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cent, and the whole duty would be  $11\frac{1}{2}$  cents.

The provisions proposed by the committee, and rendered necessary by the proposed change in the duties on wool, aim to accomplish two objects: first, to fix the specific duties at rates which shall be simply compensatory for the duties on the wool and other material; and, secondly, to establish an ad valorem duty which, besides providing for the revenue tax on manufactures, shall leave the manufacturer simply a net protection of twenty-five per cent. With some exceptions, which will be specially explained hereafter, the ad valorem duty on manufactures of wool and worsted is fixed at thirty-five per cent., ten per cent. being fixed as an equivalent for the internal revenue tax of six per cent. on manufactures and on articles consumed in manufacturing, and twenty-five per cent. as protection to the manufacturer. That ten per cent. is not more than an equivalent for six per cent. revenue tax will appear from considering that, the customs duty being levied on the foreign value and the internal tax on the home value, a larger percentage of the former than of the latter will be required to make a given sum.\* To state a case for illustration, quite closely conformable to present home and foreign values: A yard of cloth sells in our market for 1 50, which would cost abroad only \$1 50. In that case, exactly ten per cent. customs duty would be required on the latter sum, to equal the six per cent. internal tax on the former. In the case stated, the ten per cent. would not be a full equivalent for the whole internal revenue tax, as such taxes must also be paid upon articles consumed in manufacturing.

To determine the amount of reimbursing specific duties which the manufacturer should receive as an equivalent for the proposed increased duty on wool, we must, in the first place, apply the rule adopted in the present and preceding tariff bills, and multiply the proposed duty on the wool,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  cents, by four, the number of pounds of wool to a pound of finished cloth, which would give 46 cents. To

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\* It has been found by careful calculations made since this statement was written, that ten per cent. on the foreign cost of all articles does not cover the amount of the six per cent. tax on their home value, as may be seen by reference to the annexed key, page 455.

this should be added the duties upon drugs, dyestuffs, and other imported materials, although these are provided for, in the present tariff, under the ad valorem clause. The duties are estimated, from authentic data, at an average of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents to a pound of cloth, making the whole direct duty on the raw material  $48\frac{1}{2}$  cents. But the manufactures are subject not only to this duty directly, but to charges and expenses in consequence of the duty. Six months at least must elapse from the time of paying the duty on the raw material, before payment is received for his finished goods. He is, therefore, entitled to interest for six months upon the whole duty upon the raw material, which, at seven per cent., the average rate of interest, would be  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. He is also subject to charges for commissions on sales and guarantees, which commissions are increased in amount in proportion to the amount of the duty. The average rate of these commissions, as determined by reliable statements, is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. The two items of interest and commissions on sales and guarantees together amount to ten per cent., which, upon the whole duty, is  $4\frac{8.5}{100}$  cents, which sum should be added to the direct duty on raw material to fully reimburse him.

The elements of the specific duties on woollen cloths and woollens would be as follows:

Duty on 4 lbs. of wool, at $11\frac{1}{2}$ cents per lb.....	46	cents.
Duty on drugs, dyestuffs, &c., per lb. of cloth.....	$2\frac{1}{2}$	cents.
Total duty on raw material.....	$48\frac{1}{2}$	cents.
Charges for carrying duty, at 10 per cent. on same.....	$4\frac{8.5}{100}$	cents.
Amount of reimbursing specific duties.....	$35\frac{3.5}{100}$	cents.

In the proposed tariff on woollen manufactures, the committee have placed the specific duty on "woollen cloths, woollen shawls, and all manufactures made wholly or in part of wool, not otherwise provided for," at 53 cents per pound, the specific duty on the same goods being 24 cents under the present tariff. Nothing less than a specific duty of 53 cents per pound on such manufactures will be sufficient to place the manufacturer in the same position as if he had his raw material free of duty—a position which he must demand as an imperative necessity for the preservation of his industry. The committee do not hesitate to affirm that, independently of considerations of general public policy demanding a duty on wool, the wool manufacturers of this country would prefer the total abolition of the specific duties, provided they could have all their raw material duty free, and an actual net protection of twenty-five per cent.

It will be observed that no provision is made in the tariff bill proposed for the admission of the class of goods under consideration at lower duties in proportion to the diminution of the foreign cost, as provided in other portions of the bill. The minimum principle has been expressly excluded from woollen cloths, for the purpose of shutting out those made of shoddy, mungo, and waste. Cloths costing less than 80 cents per pound must be made to a greater or less extent of these materials. Fabrics which the consumer cannot ordinarily distinguish from cloths composed of sound wool are made, containing as much as eighty per cent. of these substitutes for wool. These goods, if admitted at moderate duties, would take the place of our sound cloths; and the American manufacturer would be compelled to reduce the price of his cloths by fabricating them of the



same worthless material, or surrender the business to the foreigner. (By the provisions of the bill, on wools, recommended by the executive committee of the wool-growers, a duty of twelve cents per pound is to be placed upon shoddy, mungo, and waste, in lieu of the present duty of three cents.) The American manufacturer will thus have but little inducement to adulterate his cloths, if so disposed. It is but justice to the American manufacturer, and for the benefit of the wool-grower and consumer, that equally stringent duties should exist against shoddy cloths. If cheap cloths should be admitted under low duties, this country would be inundated by the wretched fabrics of Batley, twenty-five thousand workmen in England being employed in converting shoddy and mungo into cloths of an annual value of thirty million dollars, and consuming sixty-five million pounds of these materials—more than our whole clip of wool in 1860. American wool would have no competitor so formidable, if the barriers against shoddy goods existing in high specific duties should be removed.

The proposed bill next provides that the duty shall be:

“On flannels, blankets, endless belts, or felts for paper or printing machines, hats of wool, knit goods, balmorals, woollen and worsted yarns, and all manufactures of every description, composed wholly or in part of worsted, the hair of the goat, alpaca, or other like animals, except such as are composed in part of wool, not otherwise provided for, valued at not exceeding forty cents per pound, twenty-five cents per pound; valued at above forty cents per pound, and not exceeding sixty cents per pound, thirty-five cents per pound; valued at above sixty cents per pound, and not exceeding eighty cents per pound, forty-five cents per pound; valued at above eighty cents per pound, fifty-three cents per pound; and, in addition thereto, upon all the above-named articles, thirty-five per cent. ad valorem.”

The system of minimums, or a series of the lowest valuations to which certain specific duties can be applied to given ranges of goods, is proposed for the articles above enumerated, for the purpose of adjusting the specific duties, as nearly as is practicable, to the proportions of wool paying the increased duties which the enumerated article may contain, in order that the specific duties on the goods may be merely compensatory for the duties on the wool. While this system could not be adopted for cloths, for the reasons before given, there are no such objections to its application to the last enumerated articles, as, within the valuations mentioned, shoddy, mungo, and waste will not enter into their fabrication. The highest minimum is fixed at eighty cents per pound; flannels, blankets, hats of wool, and knit goods costing above this value, must be composed of clothing wool, paying a specific duty of  $11\frac{1}{2}$  cents per pound, and requiring four pounds to a pound of finished goods. It is clear that the re-imbursing specific duty upon these goods should be fifty-three cents, at which they are fixed in the proposed bill. It is considered that cotton, or wool paying less duty, will enter somewhat into the composition of the woollen goods costing less than eighty cents per pound and more than sixty cents; therefore, a lower specific duty, viz., forty-five cents, is given to these goods. As the valuation diminishes, it is supposed the proportions of cotton, or wool paying the lowest duty, increase, and the specific duties are proportionally diminished. The lowest minimum is fixed at forty cents per pound. In the tariff at present in operation, the lowest minimum on blankets

is fixed at twenty-eight cents per pound. The exclusion of this minimum is advocated as a necessity for the blanket industry of this country. England possesses a great advantage in competing with the American manufacture of blankets in commanding the waste of her worsted wool: English blankets costing less than forty cents per pound are composed of this material, while lower grades are composed of shoddy from coarse woollens, waste cotton, and jute. A high minimum for the exclusion of these worthless goods will benefit the consumer no less than the manufacturer, as the American manufacturer will be restricted in the use of shoddy and waste by the high duties proposed on those articles.

The objection is made to the system of minimums, that they are unequal in their operation between the different points of valuation, and that they afford a temptation to the importer to invoice goods at a lower price than those of the class to which they properly belong. To meet the latter objection, it is necessary to fix the valuations sufficiently high to give the limitation intended. This system, upon the whole, is the only one which can be devised to meet the object earnestly sought for in the proposed tariff, the adjusting of specific duties on woollen manufactures approximately to the duties paid on the raw material. Its operation is illustrated in the case of blankets. The highest-priced American blankets, being made of clothing wool, will have the highest specific duty. The lower-priced blankets, being composed more or less of wool paying the lower duty, will correspondingly diminish specific duties, while those with warps of coarse wool, and filling of fine wool paying a higher duty, will pay the intermediate rates.

It is believed that the provisions under consideration operate more equitably than those of the present tariff in respect to a most important and rapidly developing industry—that of knit goods. Under the present tariff, the duty on shirts, drawers, and hosiery of wool, or of which wool shall be a component material, not otherwise provided for, is fixed at twenty cents a pound, and in addition thirty per cent. ad valorem; the specific duty being four cents and the ad valorem duty being ten per cent. less than upon woollen cloths. The wool which enters into a majority of these goods is fine American fleece, and, if wholly composed of wool, they would be clearly entitled to the same duty as woollen cloths. A large class of knit goods, including the fancy hosiery, a rapidly advancing and peculiarly American industry, furnishing goods of great beauty and taste, and consuming the most expensive aniline dyes, is made wholly of American clothing wool. These goods, which would cost more than eighty cents per pound, would bear, under the bill proposed, a specific duty of fifty-three cents, and the same ad valorem duty as is provided for other goods. Another class of knit goods has a portion of cotton, which is introduced to prevent shrinkage. It would be impracticable to separate the goods composed wholly of wool from those partially composed of cotton, by placing a less duty on the latter, as all foreign competing goods, whatever their value, would have some cotton placed in them to bring them within the lower duty. The distinction is sufficiently provided for by the minimum scale of duties. It is desirable that the specific duties on the knit goods should be sufficiently ample to secure full compensation, as the waste in hosiery goods from cutting, trimming, and fitting is greater than in other woollen fabrics, while there is a large consumption of trimmings,

such as bindings, tape, spool cotton, silk, buttons, linen thread, &c., on which duties are paid. The industry of knit goods is entitled to special consideration from the national importance which it has already attained. The number of sets of machinery employed upon this class of goods is estimated by a committee of the National Association of Knit Goods Manufacturers at 400. The number of hands employed, men, women and children, is estimated at 10,000. The aggregate amount of wages paid is set down at \$3,000,000 per annum. The amount of wool consumed, at 6,500,000 pounds per annum. The production of the 400 sets is estimated at \$19,200,000 per annum, paying a revenue tax of \$1,152,000.

Worsted yarn, and manufactures composed wholly or in part of worsted, are provided for in the section of the proposed bill now under consideration, with certain manufactures of wool, no distinction being made in the specific duty proposed. It is admitted that, in proposing the same specific duties for worsted as for woollen goods, the specific duties on the worsted manufactures will be more than compensatory for the duties on the wool of which they are composed, as two pounds of Canada combing or worsted wool are required to make a pound of worsted goods. A portion of the specific duty on worsteds will, therefore, be protective to the manufacturer, as shown by the following statement:

The duties on Canada combing-wool, of which worsteds are made, as provided in the proposed tariff on wool, will be, at 45 cents per pound, the present average price of Canada wool, 12 cents specific, and ten per cent. ad valorem, or  $16\frac{1}{2}$  cents per pound. Two pounds of wool being required for a pound of worsted goods, the amount of duty on the wool for a pound of worsted goods, paid by the manufacturer, will be 33 cents. To this is to be added 10 per cent. for charges on the duty, as before explained, making  $36\frac{3}{10}$  cents as the sum the manufacturer would require to reimburse the duties on the wool. The specific duty proposed on worsted goods, valued at over eighty cents per pound, is 53 cents; deducting from this sum  $36\frac{3}{10}$  cents, there would remain  $16\frac{7}{10}$  cents per pound as protective above the compensatory duty. The amount of the protection afforded by the specific duty would vary from eight to fifteen per cent., according to the character and value of the goods; but, added to the net ad valorem, protection would be in some cases less, and in no case more, than the amount of net protection under which the present worsted manufacture was called into existence.

This exception to the general policy of the bill proposed is advocated on grounds of public expediency, and would appear to be vindicated by the peculiar conditions and necessities of the worsted manufacturers in this country. The recent extraordinary development of the worsted manufacture in this country is due to two causes: the command of long-combing wools of Canada, free of duty under the reciprocity treaty, such wools being used almost exclusively, to the extent of about four millions of pounds annually; and the duty under the Morrill tariff of 50 per cent., the whole of which, after deducting the duties on dyestuffs and the revenue tax, was operative as a protection, and was peculiarly effective during the war. Under this stimulus the worsted manufacture, which has grown up almost wholly within six years, now supplies yarns, braids, hosiery, alpaca fabrics, and curtain stuffs of such excellence as to equal the English manufacturers, the yearly value attained being not

less than ten millions of dollars. With the high duty now operating upon Canada wools, the manufacturers have already largely succumbed; and it is evident that, even a compensatory duty on the wool will not sustain the industry, unless the whole amount of net protection originally afforded under the present tariff is continued; no more is now asked for. The same measure of protection afforded to well-established industries, like those of woollen goods, cannot be sufficient for an interest just struggling into existence. It has been the established policy of this, as well as of all other industrial nations, to give ample protection to manufactures in their infancy. That the fostering influence of the government is still imperatively demanded by this interest, so hopefully commenced and now checked so disastrously, will be apparent from the following passages from a report of a committee appointed to represent the present condition and necessities of this manufacture:

“The manufacture of worsted yarns and braids, &c., has come into existence during the past four or five years, but mostly during the past two or three. We estimate that there are now forty establishments in the business, representing a capital of from four to five million dollars, and employing five or six thousand hands.

“These concerns are not large corporations on the scale of many cotton and woollen companies, existing previously to the war, but mainly small mills with moderate assets and quick capital, and especially dependent upon close economy and attention for success. These small mills are introducing into the country in the best way the worsted manufacture, educating workmen, and gaining experience for the future growth of this manufacture in all the varieties now flourishing in England and Germany.

“Nearly all the permanent investments in factories and machinery have been made during the highest range of rates of gold and exchange, most of the expensive combing and spinning machinery having been imported. Having no existence before the war, it is impossible to compare this manufacture with others whose history and conditions are totally different, and whose mills, machinery, and experience have been paid for before with gold at par. In consequence of starting a new business with a lack of skilled workmen, and under high prices, we believe that up to this time the worsted business has not averaged a profit of five per cent. upon the capital employed—less, in fact, than the government has received from it through the internal revenue tax—while some have lost largely.”

The encouragement of the worsted manufacture is further recommended by considerations of public policy, such as its relations to agricultural interests in developing the culture of the long-wool and mutton sheep, so important to the agricultural wealth of England. Without enlarging upon this topic, the committee beg to refer to the accompanying “statement of facts relative to Canada wools and the manufactures of worsted” for full details illustrative of the national importance of this industry.

The proposed bill next provides that the following duty shall be levied and collected:

“On women’s and children’s dress goods and Italian cloth, composed wholly or in part of wool, worsted, the hair of the alpaca, goat, or other like animals, valued at not exceeding twenty cents per square yard, six cents per square yard, and, in addition thereto, thirty-five per cent. ad valorem; valued at above twenty cents the square yard,

eight cents per square yard, and, in addition thereto, forty-five per cent. ad valorem: *Provided*, That on all goods weighing over four ounces and over per square yard the duties shall be fifty-three cents per pound, and, in addition thereto, thirty-five per cent. ad valorem."

The provision for goods not exceeding twenty cents per square yard has express reference to such as compete with delaines, a most important and characteristic branch of our manufactures, and consuming the fleece of the American merino, the sheep at present most in favor with the wool-growers of this country. The price of all the wool in delaines will be affected by the proposed change of duties on wools. Delaine fabrics require, therefore, a compensatory specific duty of 53 cents per pound. The specific duty of six cents is closely adjusted to effect this compensation.

The wool part of sixteen running yards of a cotton warp delaine, 22 inches wide, weighs one pound, which is equivalent to one pound for 10 square yards; 53 cents, the duty on a pound of wool, is equal to  $5\frac{3}{10}$  cents per square yard, which sum would be exactly compensatory for the duty on the wool. To this must be added the duty on drugs and other imported materials, and the proposed duty on cotton, which would be more than  $\frac{7}{10}$  cent. The duty of six cents per square yard proposed will be scarcely sufficient to reimburse the amount paid for duties and charges on all the materials. The ad valorem duty proposed is the same as on woollen goods. Delaines constitute at present the great bulk of the stuff goods manufactured in this country; and it will be perceived that the duty proposed for them is in exact conformity with the principle agreed upon in the joint report.

The provision as to dress goods, valued at above twenty cents the square yard, relates to alpacas, some Italian cloth, coburgs, merinoes, and similar stuff fabrics, involving great skill and much labor in their fabrication. Some of these fabrics, such as coburgs, are made of the finest American merino fleece and Mestiza wool, to which the 53 cents specific duty should be applied. Others, as the alpacas and Italian cloths—the latter fabric extensively used for linings, and for making which extensive machinery has been very recently put in operation—are made of Canada wools. It would be impossible, in fixing the specific duties on these goods, to apply strictly the rule adopted for delaines and woollen goods. The duties, both specific and ad valorem, applied to the articles now under consideration, have been determined, after deliberate consultation with those engaged in making these goods, with reference to the absolute necessities of the manufacture. The remarks made generally in relation to the necessity of encouraging the worsted manufactures apply with peculiar force to these special manufactures. These manufactures, so auspiciously commenced, and opening the most promising of the undeveloped fields of American textile industry, employing in England and France more capital and labor than all other branches of the woollen interest, will inevitably die out unless favored by national legislation.

The proviso in relation to all goods weighing four ounces and over per square yard is inserted to prevent cloakings and heavy goods, which should pay duty as cloth, coming in at a less duty as dress goods, because adapted to women's and children's wear.

It is unnecessary to urge the propriety of placing the same specific duty on ready-made clothing as on cloth, as the maker of such clothing will be compelled to pay the whole amount of the increased duty on cloth consequent upon the duty on clothing wools. A higher ad

valorem duty upon clothing is recommended from considerations of public policy not directly affecting the manufacturer of cloth. The proposed ad valorem rate on ready-made clothing is ten per cent. higher than that upon cloth. The higher rate is recommended by the increased labor in that manufacture, by the great loss of material in cutting and fitting, and more especially by the consideration that ample protection of this industry is necessary to afford employment to the needy sewing women in the large towns and cities, who depend chiefly upon this industry for their subsistence.

The provisions in relation to carpets, comprising the only remaining portions of the proposed bill to be considered, are as follows:

“On Aubusson and Axminster carpets, and carpets woven whole for rooms, fifty per cent. ad valorem; on Saxony, Wilton and Tournay velvet carpets, wrought by the Jacquard machine, seventy-five cents per square yard, and, in addition thereto, thirty-five per cent. ad valorem; on Brussels carpets wrought by the Jacquard machine, forty-eight cents per square yard, and, in addition thereto, thirty-five per cent. ad valorem; on patent velvet, and tapestry velvet carpets, printed on the warp or otherwise, forty-four cents per square yard, and, in addition thereto, thirty-five per cent. ad valorem; on tapestry Brussels carpets, printed on the warp or otherwise, thirty cents per square yard, and, in addition thereto, thirty-five per cent. ad valorem; on treble ingrain, three-ply, and worsted chain Venetian carpets, nineteen cents per square yard, and, in addition thereto, thirty-five per cent. ad valorem; on yarn, Venetian, and two-ply ingrain carpets, fourteen cents per square yard, and, in addition thereto, thirty-five per cent. ad valorem; on druggets and bockings, printed, colored, or otherwise, twenty-five cents per square yard; on hemp or jute carpeting, six and a half cents per square yard; on carpets and carpeting of wool, flax, or cotton, or parts of either, or other material, not otherwise specified, forty per cent. ad valorem; provided that mats, rugs, screens, covers, hassocks, bed-sides, and other portions of carpets or carpeting, shall be subjected to the rate of duty herein imposed on carpets or carpeting of like character or description, and that the duty on all other mats, screens, hassocks, and rugs, shall be forty-five per cent. ad valorem; on oil-cloths for floors, stamped, painted, or printed, valued at fifty cents or less per square yard, — per cent. ad valorem; valued at over fifty cents per square yard, and on all other oil-cloth, except silk oil-cloth, — per cent. ad valorem.

The position of the carpet manufacture under the present revenue laws is fully set forth in a “statement of facts addressed to the United States Revenue Commission,” early in January last, by the representatives of five of our large carpet-manufacturing companies, a copy of which is herewith transmitted. This statement, made under oath, was prepared with great care from the books of the companies represented, and may be relied upon as strictly accurate. It shows that with gold at par, and with the present “advance in wages and expenses consequent upon the war,” this branch of manufacture receives an average net protection of less than seven and a half per cent. Excluding from the table, on page sixth, of the statement just referred to, the item of “advance in wages and expenses,” which is more or less contingent upon the financial condition of the country, even then, on the basis of cost which existed before the war, the percentage of present protection does not exceed sixteen per cent. The proposed duty on Canada wool will reduce this percentage still lower on fine carpets;

for one-fifth part, at least, of the worsted required for tapestry Brussels velvet, Jacquard Brussels, and Wilton carpets, is necessarily made of that or similar wool, subject to pay a like duty. The duties on carpets, therefore, necessarily require revision, and they have been adjusted in the proposed bill on the same basis as the duties on woolen goods; that is to say, the specific duties per square yard have been fixed at rates which will scarcely countervail the amount to be paid on account of the duties on the material used, while the ad valorem rate is the only part of the duty which can be regarded as protective in any degree, and by which the internal revenue taxes are to be reimbursed. The following table shows the amount of the neutralizing duties on the materials required for a running yard and for a square yard (the ingrain being a yard wide and all the others three-fourths of a yard wide) of each of the standard qualities of the principal varieties of carpets made in the United States, and the charges to which the manufacture is subjected on account of such duties. By a comparison of the specific duties proposed upon carpets, in the draught of the bill submitted, with the totals of neutralizing duties and charges per square yard, as exhibited in the table, it will be seen that the specific duties proposed are in all cases less than such duties and charges.

Table showing the amount of duties and charges on the materials used in the manufacture of a running yard and a square of the leading varieties of carpets; the fractions of cents and of ounces being expressed by decimals.

Items.	Ingrain carpets.		Tapestry carpets printed on the warp.		Carpets wrought by the Jacquard machine.	
	Two-ply.	Three-ply.	Brussels.	Velvet.	Brussels.	Wilton.
<i>Neutralizing duties and charges, viz:</i>	<i>Cents.</i>	<i>Cents.</i>	<i>Cents.</i>	<i>Cents.</i>	<i>Cents.</i>	<i>Cents.</i>
*Duties on the wools used.....	11.70	15.23	11.80	17.71	24.92	39.36
*Duties on the linen or tow yarn.....			6	8	6	8
Duties on drugs and other imported materials.....	2	2.50	3	4.50	3	4
Totals of neutralizing duties.....	13.70	17.73	20.80	30.21	33.92	51.36
†Charges on account of duties, 10 per cent.....	1.37	1.77	2.08	3.02	3.39	5.13
Totals of neutralizing duties and charges per <i>running</i> yard.....	15.07	19.50	22.88	33.23	37.31	54.49
Totals of neutralizing duties and charges per <i>square</i> yard.....	15.07	19.50	30.50	44.31	49.75	75.32

\* The mode of computing these duties is explained in the annexed key.

† The basis of the charges on account of duties on materials is explained on page 14.

The committee have not deemed it incumbent upon them, in the present communication, to discuss any general considerations relating to the tariff policy. They have aimed only to show that the measures commended to the attention of the commission contemplate, with the exceptions distinctly pointed out, simply a compensatory specific duty, and a net protection barely sufficient to equalize the disparity in the rates of wages and interest on capital in favor of our foreign competitors. They would observe, in conclusion, that the duties the law, the full amount is rarely collected. In your report upon "the relations of foreign trade to domestic industry and internal revenue" you have shown the depressing effect which foreign trade, as now organized, is exerting upon American industry. You have

shown that "the factories, workshops, and workmen are in Europe, while the warehouse is in New York;" that "goods intended for the warehouse are invoiced at the factory cost, and are entered at our custom-house at that price;" and that foreign "commercial parasites" co-operate in New York "to debauch and mislead our officers, and nullify the laws pertaining to our commerce and industry." No class suffers more severely from these illicit attacks upon our industry than the wool manufacturers of this country. The rendering of grossly fraudulent invoices is systematically practiced and openly vindicated by the manufactures of Germany, Austria, and France, who principally supply the foreign woollen goods consumed here. It is well known that goods cannot be purchased in the markets of those countries at the prices at which they are invoiced. Foreign factories are now running night and day to flood the United States with woollen goods fraudulently invoiced, while our mills are being stopped and our workmen thrown out of employment. These are not the only disadvantages which the American manufacturer suffers. The surplus stocks of foreign goods are thrown upon our markets irregularly, thus producing fluctuations of prices, and disturbing the steady pursuits of industry. The American manufacturer must contend, besides, against the unpatriotic prejudice in favor of foreign goods unhappily so prevalent among consumers, a prejudice persistently fostered by dealers, because they can obtain larger profits on the foreign article than on the domestic, the cost and quality of the former being less generally known than of the latter. Nothing less, therefore, than imposed on manufactures should be ample, as, through evasions of the full measure of protection asked for in the bill herein proposed can sustain the woollen industry in full vigor and active operation, and enable the American wool-growers and wool manufacturers to perform their part in bringing our country to its maximum of wealth, power, and dignity; for, to use your own words, "no nation can maintain a real independence and suitable self-respect, make due progress in civilization, and attain accumulation of capital needful to progress in the useful arts, unless it produces its own food and clothing, builds its own houses, makes its own furniture, provides for defence by maintaining sufficient military and naval power, develops its own mines, and maintains a system of internal transportation and intercourse adequate to all the wants of its inhabitants, and unless by such means it affords employment to all its laborers, and full scope for all the mental and physical activities of its people."

We have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servants,

E. B. BIGELOW,  
T. S. FAXTON,  
EDWARD HARRIS,  
S. WILEY EDMANDS,  
N. KINGSBURY,  
THEODORE POMEROY,  
S. W. CATTELL,

*Executive Committee of the National  
Association of Wool Manufacturers,*

JOHN L. HAYES,  
*Secretary.*

HON. STEPHEN COLWELL,  
*United States Revenue Commissioner.*



## EXPLANATORY KEY.

The following key or appendix to "the statement of the executive committee of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, relative to proposed duties on wool and woolens," addressed to the United States Revenue Commission, in April last, is intended to exhibit more in detail the data from which the amount of the neutralizing duties and taxes on the leading articles of woollen and worsted manufacture were derived; also the comparative amount and percentage of duties on the same articles under the present and proposed tariffs, distinguishing the proportion of the whole duty respectively paid on account of duty on wool, duties on other imported materials, the internal revenue tax, and protection to the manufacturer. The reader of the following tables and memoranda will please bear in mind that fractions of cents and of ounces are expressed by decimals.

To ascertain the actual position of the more important branches of the woollen manufacture under the present tariff, the government of the "National Association of Wool Manufacturers," at a meeting held in the city of New York on the sixteenth day of January, 1866, appointed a committee to obtain fabrics for a foundation of a statement of the present amount of protection on American woollen goods, and gave the said committee the following instructions.

1. Get samples of fabrics which will be a fair representation of classes to which they belong, both foreign and American.
2. Ascertain their weight per yard.
3. Their price, or cost, in gold abroad.
4. The amount of duty paid on said fabric.

In conformity with these instructions, the committee obtained samples of fancy cassimeres, black doeskins, and broadcloth, which have been preserved, and are herewith exhibited; of which samples the weight, cost, and present duty appear by the following tables, to wit:

FANCY CASSIMERES.—(Duty at 40 per cent. ad valorem, and 24 cents per pound.)

Samples.	Weight.	Cost in gold.	Duty.
	<i>Ounces.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Cents.</i>
Sample No. 1.....	7.25	.95	48.87
" 2.....	8	1.00	52.00
" 3.....	7.50	1.00	51.25
" 4.....	5.50	.45	26.25
" 5.....	6	.52	29.80
" 6.....	8	.95	50.00
" 7.....	8	1.00	52.00
" 8.....	15	1.25	72.50
" 9.....	14	1.15	67.00
" 10.....	14	1.10	65.00
Average.....	9.33	93.70	51.47

BLACK DOESKINS.—(Rate of duty as above.)

Samples.	Weight.		Cost in gold.	Duty.
	Ounces.	Dollars.	Cents.	
Sample No. 1.....	8.50	1.12		57.55
" 2.....	8.50	.65		38.75
" 3.....	8	.70		40.00
" 4.....	9	1.00		53.50
" 5.....	8.50	1.05		54.75
" 6.....	8.50	.87		47.55
" 7.....	7.50	.61		35.65
" 8.....	8	.90		48.00
" 9.....	10	1.12		59.80
Average.....	8.50	89.10		48.39

BROADCLOTH.

Sample No. 1.....	16	1.75	94
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These samples having been examined by members of the association present, comprising many of the best-informed manufacturers of woollens in the United States, were pronounced to fairly represent the goods of the classes to which they belong, imported into and manufactured and consumed in the United States. From the preceding data the following table A was then constructed, which table furnishes the basis for the construction of the succeeding table B, showing the operation of the present and proposed tariffs on manufactures of wool as affecting the consumer:

A.

Table showing the foreign cost of a running yard of cassimeres, black doeskins, and broadcloths; the amount of custom duties imposed thereon; the amount of the neutralizing duties and taxes, and of the advance in wages and expenses consequent upon the war; the amount of the custom duties remaining as protection, after deducting the neutralizing duties, taxes, &c.; and the percentage of the same on their foreign cost; the fractions of cents and ounces being expressed by decimals.\*

Items.	Cassimeres.	Black doeskins.	Broadcloths.
Average weight per yard.....	9.33 oz.	8.50 oz.	16 oz.
Average cost per yard abroad.....	93.70 cents.	89.10 cents.	175 cents.
Custom duties on foreign cost, exclusive of charges.	51.47 "	48.39 "	94 "
<i>Neutralizing duties, taxes, &amp;c., viz.:</i>			
Custom duties on the wools used.....	13.99 cents.	12.75 cents.	24 cents.
Custom duties on the drugs and other materials...	1.46 "	1.33 "	2.50 "
Internal revenue tax on manufactured goods†...	10.12 "	9.62 "	18.90 "
Advance in wages and expenses consequent upon the war‡.....	16.33 "	14.77 "	28 "
Total.....	41.90 "	38.47 cents.	73.40 cents.
Deducting said totals from said duties, there remains as protection per yard.....	9.57 cents.	9.92 cents.	20.60 cents.
Which, on the foreign cost, is only.....	10.21 per ct.	11.13 per ct.	11.77 per ct.

\*The statements in this table, including the valuation of the articles on which the internal tax is computed, are based on *gold at par*.

†In fixing the value of the articles, for the purpose of estimating the amount of this tax, it is assumed that the value of the home article will not fall below the cost in gold of importing a similar article; and, as the present duty and expenses of importation amount to about 80 per cent. on the foreign cost of the goods, the foreign cost of the goods, with 80 per cent. added, is taken to be the proper valuation of the articles for taxation.

‡This item embraces the advance in wages, the internal taxes on domestic materials used in manufacturing and in repairs, the increased cost of transportation, and the increase of State taxes and other expenses consequent upon the war.

WOOL AND MANUFACTURES OF WOOL.

B—Table showing the operation of the present and proposed tariffs on manufactures of wool, as affecting the consumer; distinguishing the proportions of the whole duty respectively paid on account of the duty on the wool, the duty on dyestuffs and other imported materials, the internal revenue tax, and the protection to the manufacturer; and also the increase of duty under the proposed tariff.

Examples.—Specification of articles.	Quantity of goods.	Weight of goods.	Cost abroad, exclusive of charges.	Duties and taxes under present tariff.						Duties and taxes under proposed tariff.						Increase of duty under proposed tariff.			Difference in the percentage of net protection to the manufacturer under the proposed tariff, as compared with the present tariff.
				Duty on wool.	Duty on dyestuffs and other materials.	Charges on account of duties, 10 per cent.	Internal revenue tax.	Manufacturers' duty.	Total.	Duty on wool.	Duty on dyestuffs and other materials.	Charges on account of duties, 10 per cent.	Internal revenue tax.	Manufacturers' duty.	Total.	Percentage of increase on foreign cost of wool.	Percentage of increase on foreign cost of manufacture.	Total amount of increase.	
Cassimeres: One yard of average weight and quality.....	1	9.33	93.70	13.99	1.46	1.54	10.12	24.36	51.47	26.82	1.46	2.83	10.85	21.74	63.70	36.66	13.05	12.23	2.80, less.
A suit of clothes made of the above (coat, pantaloons, and vest) will take 74 yards.....	74	69.98	702.75	104.92	10.95	11.59	75.90	182.66	386.02	201.15	10.95	21.21	81.40	163.04	477.75	36.66	13.05	91.73	2.80 less.
Black doeskins: One yard of average weight and quality.....	1	8.50	89.10	12.75	1.33	1.41	9.62	23.28	48.39	24.44	1.33	2.58	10.28	20.71	59.34	36.66	12.29	10.95	2.88, less.
Pantaloons and vest made of the above will take 34 yards.....	34	27.62	289.57	41.44	4.32	4.58	31.26	75.67	157.27	79.43	4.32	8.37	33.39	67.34	192.85	36.66	12.29	35.58	2.88, less.
Broadcloths: One yard of average weight and quality.....	1	16.00	175.00	24.00	2.59	2.65	18.90	45.95	94.00	46.00	2.59	4.85	20.11	40.79	114.25	36.66	11.57	20.25	2.95, less.
A coat made of the above will take 24 yards.....	24	36.00	394.00	54.00	5.62	5.96	42.52	103.40	211.50	103.50	5.62	10.91	45.25	91.78	257.06	36.66	11.57	45.56	2.95, less.
One yard of high-cost broadcloth.....	1	16.00	300.00	24.00	2.50	2.65	32.40	97.45	159.00	46.00	2.50	4.85	32.34	72.31	158.00	36.66	Less.	1.00, less.	8.38, less.
A coat made of the above will take 24 yards.....	24	36.00	675.00	54.00	5.62	5.96	72.90	219.27	357.75	103.50	5.62	10.91	72.76	162.71	355.50	36.66	Less.	2.25, less.	8.38, less.
Delaines: Ten square yards of cotton and wool delaine.....	10	16.00	192.00	24.00	4.50	2.85	20.74	45.51	97.60	46.00	4.50	5.05	22.52	49.13	127.20	36.66	15.42	29.60	1.88, more.

It will be seen, by inspection of the Table B, that fractions of cents and of ounces are expressed by decimals. In fixing the value of the articles for the purpose of estimating the amount of the internal revenue tax, it is assumed that the value of the home article will not fall below the cost in gold of importing a similar article, and with the present duty and expense of importation will amount to about 80 per cent. on the foreign cost of the goods. The foreign cost of the goods, with 80 per cent. added, is therefore taken to be the proper valuation of the article for taxation. This is the mode by which the amount of the internal revenue tax on the various articles is determined under the present tariff. It is assumed, that, under the proposed tariff, the home value of the articles will be increased in proportion to the amount of the proposed increase of duty. The internal tax, therefore, under the proposed tariff, will be increased in amount equal to the rate of the internal revenue tax on the increase of duty. In the statement of the executive committee, ten per cent. on the foreign cost of the article is assumed to be sufficient to cover the internal revenue tax of six per cent. on the home value. But on the basis of calculation above given it will be insufficient. For example: the home value, under the present tariff, of a cassimere costing 93 cents abroad, with 80 per cent. added, is 167.40 cents. Six per cent. of that amount would be 10.04 cents. Ten per cent. upon the foreign cost would be 9.30 cents. Under the proposed tariff, 12.23 cents, the amount of increase of the duty, would be added to the present home value, 167.40 cents, making the home value under the proposed tariff 179.63 cents. Six per cent. of that amount would be 10.77 against 9.30; showing that ten per cent. upon the foreign value is not equal to six per cent. upon the home value by 1.47 cent, without providing for the internal tax upon the domestic materials.

In estimating the increase of duty on wool under the proposed tariff, set down in the table at 36.66 per cent. on foreign cost, Mestiza wools, which are the principal competing wools, are assumed to average fifteen cents per pound, as indicated on page 12 of the "Statement of the Executive Committee," &c.

It will be seen by the table, that the percentage of protection to the manufacturer, under the proposed tariff, upon cassimeres, doerskins, and broadcloths, constituting the bulk of woollen goods imported into and manufactured in this country, is less than under the present tariff; and that upon high cost broadcloths, in consequence of the ad valorem duty being reduced from 45 to 35 per cent., the protection is over 8 per cent. less. It appears by the table, that in delaines, by far the most important manufacture of dress goods in this country, the protective duty under the proposed tariff is slightly increased. If full allowance were made, in adjusting the proposed duty, for the proposed duty on cotton, the percentage of protection would be less than under the present tariff, as will be seen by reference to page 22 of "Statement of Executive Committee," which shows the manner in which the duties were adjusted.

The preceding Table B shows that the cost of goods to the consumer is enhanced by the duty less than is generally supposed. It will be seen, that on the cloth required for a full suit of clothes made of fancy cassimeres, which suit at present prices would not cost less than fifty dollars, the whole duty under the present tariff is 386.02

cents, being 7.72 per cent. of the cost. Of this, 104.92 cents is the duty on wool; 10.95 cents, the duty on dyestuffs and other materials; 11.59 cents, the charges on account of duties; 75.90 cents, the internal revenue tax; and 182.66 cents remains for the protection of the manufacturer.

The table shows that, under the proposed tariff, the whole duty will be 477.75 cents; the duty on wool will be 201.15 cents; the duty on dyestuffs and other materials, 10.95 cents; the charges on account of duties, 21.21 cents; and the internal revenue tax, 81.40 cents. The whole amount of duty on a suit of clothes, by which the manufacturer is to be sustained, will be only 163.04 cents, or 3.26 per cent. of the whole cost of a suit of clothes. By comparing the duties and taxes under the present and under the proposed tariff, as exhibited in the table, it will be seen that the total amount of increase of duty on a suit of clothes will be less than one dollar.

#### CARPETS.

The amount of neutralizing duties and charges on the materials used in the manufacture of the leading descriptions of carpets is exhibited in the table on page 27 of the "Statement of the Executive Committee" before referred to.

The data from which these amounts were respectively derived are contained in the following memoranda:

*Ingrain carpets.*—The duty on the *washed* wools used in the manufacture of ingrain carpets is six cents per pound, and on the *unwashed* wools three cents per pound. 100 pounds of the washed wools will make, on an average, 64 pounds of finished carpets; and of the unwashed, 32 pounds. Now, if we divide \$6, the amount of duty paid on 100 pounds of washed wool, by 64, the number of pounds of carpets which said 100 pounds of wool will make, the quotient will be 9.375 cents; showing that the duty on the wool in the finished carpets is 9.375 cents per pound, which is equal to 0.585 cents per ounce. \$3, the duty on 100 pounds of unwashed wool, divided by 32 pounds of carpets, gives the same result: we may therefore take the average amount of duty on the wool in ingrain carpets to be 0.585 cents per ounce.

Two-ply carpets of standard quality weigh, on an average, 20 ounces per yard; which, multiplied by 0.585 cents, the duty per ounce, gives 11.70 cents as the amount of duty on the wool required for a yard of two-ply carpet.

Three-ply carpets weigh, on an average, 26 ounces per yard; which, multiplied by 0.585 cents, the duty per ounce, gives 15.23 cents as the amount of duty on the wool required for a yard of three-ply carpet.

*Tapestry carpets, and carpets wrought by the Jacquard machine.*—The wools of which these carpets are made consist, on an average, of one part of Canada combing-wool to four parts of Cordova, or other similar wool paying a like duty; the Canada wool being required for certain colors.

The duty on Canada wool is twelve cents per pound and ten per cent. ad valorem, which is equal to 16.50 cents per pound; and as two pounds of wool are required for one pound of worsted, it follows

that the duty on the wool in the worsted amounts to 33 cents per pound.

The duty on Cordova and other suitable wools is 6 cents per pound; and as three pounds\* of such wools are required to make one pound of worsted, it follows that the duty on the wool in the worsted amounts to 18 cents per pound. Now, as four pounds of this worsted are used to one pound of the Canada, the average amount of duty paid on the wool in the worsted used is as follows:

4 lbs. of Cordova, &c., worsted, at 18 cents per lb.....	72 cents.
1 lb. of Canada worsted, at 33 cents per lb.....	33 cents.
	105 cents.
5 lbs. divided into.....	
Gives.....	21 cents per lb.

Average duty on the wool for one pound of worsted, 21 cents per pound, is equal to 1.312 cents per ounce.

Tapestry Brussels carpets, of standard quality, require 9 ounces of worsted per running yard, which multiplied by 1.312 cent, the duty per ounce, gives 11.80 cents as the amount of duty on the wool used for a yard of tapestry Brussels carpet.

Tapestry velvet carpets, of standard quality, require 13.50 ounces of worsted per running yard, which multiplied by 1.312 cent, the duty per ounce, gives 17.71 cent as the amount of duty on the wool used for a yard of tapestry velvet carpet.

Brussels carpets, five-frame, of standard quality, wrought by the Jacquard machine, require 19 ounces of worsted per running yard, which multiplied by 1.312 cent, the duty per ounce, gives 24.92 cents as the amount of duty on the work used for a yard of this kind of carpeting.

Wilton carpets, five-frame, of standard quality, wrought by the Jacquard machine, require 30 ounces of worsted per running yard, which multiplied by 1.312 cent, the duty per ounce, gives 39.36 cents as the amount of duty on the wool used for a yard of this kind of carpeting.

*Duties on the linen yarn.*—Linen yarn, of the quality used in the manufacture of the carpets above designated, costs abroad, on an average, 23 cents per pound, on which the 30 per cent. duty amounts to 6.90 cents per pound; and if, in addition to this, we make the usual allowance for the waste of the yarn in working it, the amount of the duty on a pound of linen yarn in the carpets will be, at least, 8 cents per pound. Now, as tapestry velvets and Wilton carpets each require one pound of linen yarn per running yard, the duty on the linen yarn for these carpets will be eight cents per yard; and as tapestry Brussels carpets, and Brussels carpets wrought by the Jacquard machine, each require only three-fourths of a pound of linen yarn per running yard, the duty on the linen yarn for these carpets will be 6 cents per yard.

By comparing the foregoing results with the respective amounts of duties on the wool and on the linen yarn used in the various kinds of carpets, as exhibited in the table before referred to on page 27 of the statement of the executive committee, they will be found to corre-

\* The waste of Cordova wool in working is now much more than it used to be. Formerly 2.60 pounds of wool would make a pound of worsted, whereas now fully three are required.

spond. The amounts of the duties on the wools used, as given in this table, exceed those given in a similar table on page 6 of the "Statement of the carpet manufacturers." As respects fine carpets, viz., tapestry Brussels, tapestry velvet, Jacquard Brussels, and Wilton carpets, this excess is due to the proposed duty on Canada wool, no allowance, as will be seen by referring to page 7 of the manufacturers' statement, having been made for this duty. As respects two-ply and three-ply ingrain carpets, the slight excess is due to different bases of calculation; the proposed specific duty on the carpets, however, being within the amounts given in the manufacturers' statement. In adjusting the specific duties on carpets, no allowance is made for the loss on the noils consequent upon the duty on wools, as explained on page 4 of the manufacturers' statement.

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*Statement of facts relative to Canada wools and the manufactures of worsteds.*

NEW YORK CITY, *February 9, 1866.*

SIR: The undersigned, members of the executive committee of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, have the honor to submit to you, as the member of the Revenue Commission specially intrusted with the consideration of the questions of revenue applicable to wool, woollens, and worsteds, the following "Statement of facts relative to Canada wools and the manufactures of worsted," prepared by the secretary of the association above named, and to commend the facts and views therein presented to your special attention.

We have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servants,

E. B. BIGELOW,  
T. S. FAXTON,  
EDWARD HARRIS,  
J. W. EDMANDS,  
N. KINGSBURY,  
THEODORE POMEROY,  
S. W. CATTELL,  
*Executive Committee, &c.*

HON. STEPHEN COLWELL,  
*U. S. Revenue Commission, Philadelphia.*

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOOL MANUFACTURERS,  
OFFICE, 55 SUMMER STREET,  
*Boston, Massachusetts, January 18, 1866.*

*To the Executive Committee of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers:*

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to call your attention to a statement of facts in relation to the demand for consumption in American manufactures of the class of wools known as "combing-wools," as distinguished from card or cloth wools.

The former class are wools specially fitted for the process of combing by hand or machinery, which consists in drawing out the fibres so that they may be straight and parallel; the shorter portions, called

“noils,” being removed by this operation. The fibres having been rendered straight and parallel, are twisted, and the yarn is called worsted. The ends of the fibre being covered by the process of spinning, the yarns are smooth and lustrous.

Card or cloth wool is wool fitted for being carded. By this process the fibres are placed in every possible direction in relation to each other, adhering by the serratures of the fibre, which are more numerous in the wool fitted for carding. They are thus fitted for felting, and the ends of the fibre are free to be drawn out into the nap. While card wools are required to be fine, short in staple, and full of spiral curls and serratures—qualities possessed by wools of which the merino and Saxony wools are types—the combing-wools, on the contrary, must be long in staple, from four to seven inches in length, comparatively coarse, having few spiral curls and serratures, and possessing a distinct lustre. These qualities are possessed in perfection by the English sheep of the Lincolnshire, Leicester, and Cotswold races, and, in a less degree, by the Cordova wools of the Argentine Republic and the Donskoi wool of Russia. Comparatively long fine wools of the merino race, from two and a half to three inches in length, are combed for making delaines and similar fabrics, but they are not classed in the trade as combing or worsted wools.

An unprecedented demand for these wools has arisen in all manufacturing nations within the last ten years, and the prices have more than doubled in that period. This is due, first, to the vast improvements in combing by machinery made within the past fifteen years; secondly, to the late scarcity of cotton; and thirdly, to the introduction of fabrics from alpaca wool, and the discovery that by the use of cotton warps, with a filling of combing-wool, an admirable substitute might be made for alpaca fabrics. There is an immense demand for these fabrics for female wear.

The goods manufactured from combing-wools, or worsteds, are alpaca fabrics, poplins, grenadines, and an infinite variety of fabrics for female wear, the consumption of which is constantly increasing. The contexture and pattern of the fabrics can be changed indefinitely to suit the caprices of fashion, and they constitute the great bulk of the class known as “novelties;” furniture goods, moreens, damasks, reps, mohairs, &c.; hosiery goods, such as zephyrs, nubias, &c.; braids, bindings, bunting, webbing for saddlery and suspenders. Carpets are made from coarse and cheap combing-wools, the white yarns being made from Canada wool. It is the opinion of manufacturers that the finer classes of carpets could be made wholly of Canada wool with advantage.

The vast variety of fabrics included in the worsted manufacture is illustrated by the following list of goods professed to be made by one firm in Bradford, the seat of the worsted manufacture in England:

Amiens.	Mixed crapes.
Alpaca lustres.	Grandville crapes.
Figured lustres.	Cotton warp cubicas.
Buntings.	Crape coatings.
Camlets—Mexican make.	Cobourgs.
Dutch make.	Shawl cloth.
East India and China make.	Plain backs.
Camletees.	Worsted stockinetts.
Worsted crapes.	Worsted damasks.
Union crapes.	Union damasks.



Merino damasks.	Worsted serge de berrie.
Worsted dobbies.	Union serge de berrie.
French figures.	Shalloons.
Worsted full twills.	Plain shotts.
Cotton warp twills.	Figured striped shotts.
Grograms or Russell cords.	Says, stout make.
Plain and fancy gambroons.	Says, merino make.
Linings.	Mixed stockinetts.
Italian crapes.	Grandville stockinetts.
Worsted lastings.	Webbings.
Moreens.	Summer cloths.
Mohair figures.	Stout orleans.
Lustre orleans.	Denmark latteens.
Figured orleans.	Wildbores.
Cotton warp orleans.	Tammies.
Worsted princettas.	Tournay cloths.
Alepines.	Chipa cloth.
Queen's cloth.	Pellionies.
Worsted figured Russells.	Ponchos and mantas.
Union figured Russells.	Yergas.
Silk warp figured Russells.	

The importance of the manufacture is evinced by the fact that the worsted manufacture employed in England, in 1856, 87,794 persons; while the card-wool manufacture employed only 79,091. In France this industry employed, in 1851, 300,000 persons. In this country, in 1860, less than 3,000 were employed. Worsted goods constitute the largest part of our importations. Of sixty millions of woollens and worsteds, forty millions were of worsted alone.

The manufacture of worsteds, which is just beginning to have an important development in this country, owes its existence to the reciprocity treaty, which admitted, free of duty, the wools of Canada. The farmers of Upper Canada, of English and Scotch descent, naturally prejudiced in favor of the sheep husbandry which prevails at *home*—as England is still called in the colonies—and having a taste for English mutton, imported sheep of the Leicester, Cotswold, and Down races, which have thriven admirably on the naturally rich limestone soils of Upper Canada. The present production of wool from these sheep in Canada is about six millions of pounds. The Canadians have no fine-woolled sheep. Protected by a tariff, they consume about two millions of their own wool in the manufacture of coarse cloths, including tweeds, which have been imported largely into the United States, notwithstanding the duty on cloths, and we use the balance of from three to five millions.

I have before me an approximate estimate, made by a worsted manufacturer in June, of the amount of combing-wools required for our principal mills, which is as follows:

	Pounds.
Pacific Mills, Lawrence, stuff-goods, grenadines .....	300,000
Other mills in Lawrence .....	200,000
Hamilton Company, Lowell, stuff-goods .....	300,000
Lowell Carpet Company, stuff-goods .....	250,000
Abbott Worsted Company, yarns .....	200,000
James Dugdale, Lowell, yarns .....	150,000
Rhoades, Lowell, yarns .....	100,000
John Saydan, Lowell, yarns .....	75,000
Craven & Moore, Westford, yarns .....	110,000
American Braid Company, Pawtucket, R. I., yarns and braids .....	100,000
Goff & Son, Pawtucket, R. I., yarns and braids .....	75,000
Valley Worsted Company, Providence, R. I., fancy hosiery and braids .....	250,000
Kalmia Mills, Connecticut, worsted damasks, brocatelles, &c. ....	150,000

	Pounds.
John Yewdell, Philadelphia, yarns.....	100,000
Samuel Yewdell, Philadelphia, yarns.....	150,000
Thornton, Troy, N. Y., yarns.....	50,000
Aberdeen, near Paterson, N. J., yarns.....	50,000
Bigelow Carpet Company, white yarns.....	100,000
Manchester Print-Works, for stuff-goods bought last year.....	300,000
	2,900,000

The amount ascertained to have been used in other mills not included in this estimate will carry the present yearly consumption of Canada wools to at least four million pounds.

As the American production of worsted combing-wool is not sufficient to supply one mill, if the treaty should not be renewed, or some provision be made for the free admission of Canada wools, the worsted manufacturer will be compelled to pay the *whole* of the present high duty on wools, of the class consumed by him, from which his foreign rival is exempt.

The wool adapted to the worsted manufacturer cost now in Canada, in gold, from forty to forty-five cents. The duties, under the present tariff, are on wools over thirty-two cents, twelve cents and ten per cent. ad valorem. If the present tariff should operate on Canada wools, the duties on wools commonly used at present prices would range from forty to thirty-seven per cent. It is shown by the sworn statements of manufacturers, submitted herewith, that these duties on the raw material, together with other neutralizing duties, such as the internal revenue tax, would reduce the nominal protection of from thirty-five to fifty per cent.; the duty on foreign worsteds to an actual protection ranging from zero to only four per cent. It is vain to suppose that worsted manufacture can be continued or increased under such disadvantages.

A duty on Canada wools would crush an industry which has already assumed a truly national importance, and has advanced with a rapidity unexampled in any branch of our textile manufactures. It is shown by the statements under oath of four leading manufacturers, herewith submitted, (see statement of Samuel Fay and others,) "that worsted yarns, of the finer grades, were made in this country only to a very limited extent prior to 1860 or 1861, except for delaines. The introduction of the manufacture of the finer worsted yarns is due to the command of Canada wools, admitted free under the reciprocity treaty. We estimate the capital now employed in the manufacture of the various kinds of worsted goods at eight million dollars, and the yearly value of the product at not less than ten million dollars. We do not hesitate to say that, in our opinion, the whole of this manufacture is dependent upon the supply of Canada wool, and that if Canada wool should be subjected to duties ruling under the present tariff the greater part of this manufacture would be suspended.

Mr. Morse, a leading manufacturer of braids, says, in his sworn statement, herewith submitted: "The first manufacture of worsted braid in this country was commenced, in 1860, with sixteen English machines. We estimate that three thousand machines for braiding worsted are now in operation in this country, that the operation of these machines requires a capital of one million of dollars, and that the annual value of the product is three millions. With the present

supply of yarns, and the present machinery, it is impossible to supply the demand. We have orders to-day for a hundred thousand dozen of braids ahead of our production. The existence of this manufacture is wholly dependent upon the supply of Canada wool."

If the manufacture of a single article of the hundreds which may be made from these combing-wools is so important, there can be no doubt of the correctness of the estimate made by one of the most experienced observers of the American wool market, Mr. Bond, who stated, at the Syracuse convention, that "we should readily and promptly consume in this country not less than twenty million pounds of such wools, if we had the supply."

The adoption of a policy which would overthrow this most promising of all our textile manufactures can be warranted only by unquestionable countervailing advantages to American producers—the wool-growers, for example.

Excluded as the wool-growers of the west especially have been from communication with eastern manufacturers and uninformed, like most others in the community, of the peculiar uses to which these wools are applied, it is quite natural that their first impression should be unfavorable to the free admission of Canada wools. It is believed, however, that a candid consideration of the facts will convince even our western farmers that no possible advantage to the wool-growers of the United States can accrue from a duty on Canadian wools. They do not, in fact, compete with the wools now produced in this country. It is safe to say that not 300,000 pounds of combing-wools are produced in the United States, and we export to Canada for her mills a much larger quantity of our fine wool. That this estimate is large is shown by the statistics of Ohio, the largest sheep-growing State in the Union, and furnishing about one-sixth of our whole production. The whole number of sheep in Ohio in 1862, as shown by the agricultural reports, was 4,448,227. The number of Cotswold and Leicester sheep, producing combing-wool, is set down for 1863 at only 3,324, which, at 7 pounds per fleece, produced 23,268 pounds of wool. This multiplied by six, the proportion of sheep in the rest of the United States to Ohio, would make the whole product of combing-wool 139,592 pounds.

It is believed that combing-wools can be grown with great advantage in this country, particularly since the enormous relative increase in price of these wools, and it is believed that much incidental benefit will accrue to the country from the improvement in mutton and lambs which will be effected by the culture of long-wooled sheep. But the inducement for growing this wool must come principally from the demand of our manufacturers. Check the worsted manufacture, and there will be no hope of introducing this species of sheep-husbandry, which is one of the most important sources of the agricultural wealth of England.

The American producer of fine wool may need protection against the fine wool of Australia and La Plata, produced by cheaper labor. But the cost of production of combing wools in Canada and similar districts of the United States would be nearly equal, the cost of labor being nearly the same. The American who goes into the production of combing-wools near the great cities, the only situation where this wool will be likely to be raised, will have the advantage in having his wool, mutton, and lambs nearer the market. The American produc-

tion of combing-wool will probably never be repressed by Canadian competition, while the Canadian supply will keep the mills running, which will make a demand for wool for both the Canadian and American. Canadian sheep-husbandry will not compete with American fine-wool husbandry, for the latter differs from the former as much as it does from pork-raising. Fine-wool husbandry is adapted to the prairies of the west and the hill-sides of the Alleghanies, where sheep are raised for wool principally, in flocks of a thousand or more, and the sheep are not killed until they are old. The long-wool husbandry is adapted to stall-feeding or high farming in the neighborhood of the great markets, where there is a sale for fat mutton and early lambs, the wool being only the accessory. The sheep are kept in small flocks, and are killed as soon as they reach maturity.

The encouragement of the worsted manufacture by means of free Canada wool would, in fact, benefit the American wool-growing interest by increasing the demand, and consequently the price, of the kind of wool at present most in favor with the American producer; I mean the heavy Vermont merino fleece. This wool, on account of its strength and superior length, is admirably fitted for soft stuff-goods for female wear, the manufacture of which is carried on in England and France, in the same establishments which work the combing-wools; for the products, being fitted for the same consumption, can be put on the market together. The mills in this country which have lately introduced the manufacture of alpaca fabrics from Canada combing-wools have at the same time introduced the manufacture of Cobourgs—a kind of soft stuff-goods from the American merino fleece. I can point to the establishments of the Lowell Manufacturing Company and the Pacific Mills, where both classes of fabrics are made. To introduce the manufacture of stuff-goods into this country, now our greatest necessity, the supply of both kinds of wool is necessary, and the demand for the long combing-wools will certainly create an increased demand for the peculiar wool of the American merino. It is working exactly so in England at the present time. The price of English combing-wool is now unprecedented, while that of cloth wools remains stationary. At the last quarterly sales, in December, Australian merino combing-wools, analogous to Vermont merino wools, advanced fourpence a pound.

If these views are correct, there remains but one argument for imposing a duty on Canadian wools—the necessities of the revenue. But it is evident that the American manufacturer cannot import and pay the onerous duty which will be operative under the present tariff; and it is equally evident that the loss to the internal revenue by diminishing the manufacture will be greater than any gain from a duty on wool.

The imposition of duty on Canadian wool would, therefore, be a suicidal act, justified by no possible advantage; and would be a concession, not to our farmers, who would suffer by the act, but to mere popular prejudice. It would be an act of bad faith to the manufacturers who have erected expensive establishments, and imported costly machinery, upon which they paid a duty of over forty-five per cent. in gold upon the faith that treaty stipulations would have a permanence not expected in legislative provisions

It is true that Canada derives great benefit from selling her wools in this country at fifty cents a pound; but how much greater benefit do we derive from employing them to nationalize a great manufacture in this country! It was a benefit to the English wool-growers for two or more centuries to send all their combing-wool to Flanders; but Flanders, by the command of the wool of England for her manufactures, became the richest commercial nation in Europe. In the supply of wool Canada is to us what England was to Flanders before the time of Edward III, who kept his wool at home; and what Ireland is to England now, and what England desires all the world to be to her besides. We wish to apply to Canada the lesson which England has taught us; and it is not our fault that Canada is also pressing for the freedom to export her raw material, and is blind to the obvious fact that such a policy will always keep her impoverished and dependent.

These views are presented with the conviction that the American producer of wool will derive no possible advantage from a tax on Canadian wools; and they are presented with the distinct admission that, if the American wool-grower can furnish reasonable evidence that a duty on Canadian wools will aid his production, he has a right to demand it, and we are bound to concede it.

The American consumers of Canadian wool do not desire to complicate the matter in which they are specially interested with the question of the termination or renewal of the reciprocity treaty. But, in case of its termination, they feel justified by the foregoing facts in asking that Canadian wools, by a special legislative provision, may be admitted free of duty. Such a provision for admitting combing-wools only would be objectionable on account of the practical difficulty at the custom-house in determining what are combing-wools; for portions of some fleeces may be selected for combing, while other portions may be used for carding. But so little carding-wool will be received, the Canadians not producing enough card wool to supply their own mills, that it would be better to submit all Canadian wools to the same provision.

The above proposition is made upon the consideration that the simplest mode of preserving the worsted manufacture is to continue the system under which it has grown up. But the popular prejudice against any form of free trade with the British provinces, and the consideration that the advocacy of the above plan may be an apparent abandonment of the principle of protection, suggest another mode of affording relief to the worsted manufacturer. The alternative plan is therefore suggested, if a duty shall be imposed upon Canadian wools, of placing an additional duty upon manufactures of worsted sufficient to be countervailing against the duty on wool. This plan would be in harmony with the principles upon which the present tariff laws are based. It is believed that such an additional duty would not materially check importations, and would add largely to the revenue. I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN L. HAYES, *Secretary.*

## APPENDIX.

*To the United States Revenue Commission:*

The undersigned representatives of ——— companies engaged in the manufacture of worsteds, viz: Samuel Fay, superintendent of the Lowell Manufacturing Company; Allan Cameron, agent of the Abbott Worsted Company; O. H. Moulton, agent of the Hamilton Manufacturing Company, respectfully submit the following statement in regard to the manufacture of worsteds:

Worsted yarns of the finer grades were made in this country only to a very limited extent, prior to 1860 or 1861, except for delaines; the yarns manufactured prior to that being principally designed for carpets. The introduction of the manufacture of the finer worsted yarns is due to the command of Canada wools admitted free under the reciprocity treaty. Yarns for the weft of worsted stuff goods are made of long, lustre, combing-wools, such as are grown upon sheep known as Leicestershire, Cotswold, and similar breeds, raised in England and Canada.

Other worsted fabrics are made with warps manufactured from wool described above, and weft made from the longest merino wool. Machinery specially adapted for manufacturing worsteds from long combing-wools has been imported from England, and is adapted for no other purpose; so that, if the raw material is wanting, the machinery must be idle. The Canada wools used for making worsted in this country are fully equal to the English combing-wools; and the fabrics made in this country are equal, in all respects, to imported fabrics. There is a demand for all that can be manufactured from the present machinery.

We estimate the capital now employed in the manufacture of yarns and the various kinds of worsted goods at \$8,000,000, and the yearly value of the product of worsted goods at not less than \$10,000,000—this exclusive of manufacture of delaines, in which American merino wools are used with the shorter Canada wools.

We do not hesitate to say that, in our opinion, the whole of this manufacture is dependent upon the supply of Canada wool; and that, if Canada wool should be subjected to duties ruling under the present tariff, the greater part of this manufacture will be suspended.

SAMUEL FAY,

*Sup't Lowell Manufacturing Company.*

O. H. MOULTON,

*Sup't Hamilton Manufacturing Company.*

JOHN C. MORSE & Co.

ALLAN CAMERON.

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS, *County of Suffolk, ss:*

Sworn to and subscribed before me the 13th day of January, 1866.

FRANCIS S. DYER, *Notary Public.*

*To the United States Revenue Commission:*

The undersigned, John C. Morse & Co., of Massachusetts, respectfully represent that we are engaged in the manufacture of worsted braids, at Attleborough, Massachusetts. We have employed at our establishment an average of five hundred machines all the time. With that quantity of machinery running, we can manufacture braids of the value of \$800,000 per annum, which value we are, in fact, now manufacturing; and we expect to manufacture a value of \$1,000,000 per annum. These braids are made of worsted yarns spun from Canada wool. The machines for braiding which we use are of American invention, made expressly for manufacturing worsted braids in this country, and are great improvements upon English machines; being simpler, and costing about half the price, and taking but half the power to work them.

The first manufacture of worsted braid in this country was commenced in 1860, with sixteen English machines. We estimate that three thousand machines for braiding worsted are now in operation in this country; that the operation of these machines requires a capital of one million dollars, and that the annual value of the product is three millions. With the present supply of yarns and the present machinery, it is impossible to supply the demand. We have orders to-day for 100,000 dozen of braids ahead of our production.

The existence of this manufacture is wholly dependent upon the supply of Canada wool. The American yarns made of Canada wools are superior for the manufacture of braids to the English yarns.

JOHN C. MORSE & Co.

STATE OF MASSACHUSETTS, *County of Suffolk, ss:*

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13th day of January, A. D. 1866.

FRANCIS S. DYER, *Notary Public.*

*The carpet manufacture.—A statement of facts addressed to the United States Revenue Commission.*

GENTLEMEN: The undersigned, representatives of five of the large carpet manufacturing companies of the United States, employing an aggregate capital of \$6,600,000, viz: George Roberts, treasurer of the Hartford Carpet Company, Connecticut; E. S. Higgins, partner of the firm of E. S. Higgins & Co., New York city; Samuel Fay, superintendent of the Lowell Manufacturing Company, Lowell, Massachusetts; M. H. Simpson, president I oxbury Carpet Company, Roxbury, Massachusetts; and Charles A. Whiting, treasurer of the Bigelow Carpet Company, Clinton, Massachusetts, in response to your inquiries in relation to the condition and wants of the great industries of the country, with a view of reporting to Congress upon the subject of raising revenue by taxation, respectfully submit the following statement in regard to the carpet manufacture:

The carpets manufactured in this country consist largely of three varieties, viz: two-ply and three-ply ingrain carpets; tapestry Brussels and tapestry velvet carpets, printed on the warps; and Brussels and Wilton carpets, wrought by the Jacquard machine. Venetian and other descriptions of carpets are also made here, and

likewise mats and rugs, but the peculiar condition and wants of this important branch of industry can be fully understood by a consideration of the facts applicable to the three varieties of carpets above designated.

In the manufacture of carpets no domestic wools are used, for the reason that they are not only too costly, but too fine to make a serviceable fabric. Canada combing-wool is used to a limited extent, but the main supply comes from Russia, Asia, and South America.

The wools used for carpets are subjected to the process called combing, whereby the long fibres are separated from the shorter ones, the former being called worsted and the latter noils. In ingrain carpets the worsted forms the warp, and the noils the filling; whereas in tapestry carpets and in Jacquard wrought Brussels and Wilton carpets only the worsted is used, flax or tow being used for the filling and a part of the warp, thus leaving the noils to be disposed of for other purposes. The market price of the noils is usually considerably below their cost, subjecting the manufacturer to a loss on the sale of them, which loss increases in a ratio greater than the cost of the wools from which they are made increases; consequently, the greater the duty on the wools the greater the loss on the noils.

For carpets, both washed and unwashed coarse wools are used. The washed wools, such, for example, as Donskoi, Cordova, Montevideo, Rio Grande, and Persian, pay a duty of six cents a pound, and together produce an average of sixty-four per centum of their weight of finished goods; and the unwashed, such as Smyrna, Chilian, Valparaiso, and other South American wools, pay a duty of three cents a pound, and average to produce thirty-two per centum of their weight of finished goods—that is, one hundred pounds of the various washed wools will produce an average of sixty-four pounds of finished goods, and one hundred pounds of the unwashed, thirty-two pounds of finished goods.

For particular colors in fine carpets, Canada combing-wool is indispensable; and if, after the expiration of the reciprocity treaty, it shall be subjected to the tariff of twelve cents a pound, and ten per centum ad valorem, the manufacture of such carpets will be very seriously embarrassed.

According to the English custom-house returns, the “declared value” (the value in England) of British carpets and druggets exported to the United States in each year, from 1860 to 1864, inclusive, was as follows, viz: In 1860, £360,140; in 1861, £126,934; in 1862, £237,204; in 1863, £268,318, and in 1864, £280,442, showing a decline during the last year of the war, as compared with the year previous to the war, of only £79,698.

From the best sources of information accessible, we estimate the present annual value of the carpets manufactured in the United States at \$15,000,000, the capital employed therein at \$10,000,000, and the number of persons who derive their means of support therefrom 10,000, more than 5,000 being actually employed in the mills and workshops.

Though the existing duties on carpets may appear to be high, apart from the premium on gold, they afford very little protection to the manufacturer, for the reason that they are so largely neutralized by the duties on the wools and other imported materials used, the internal taxes, and the advance in wages and expenses consequent upon the war.



The following table shows the sterling cost in England of a running yard (the ingrain being a yard wide, and all the others three-fourths of a yard wide) of each of the standard qualities of the three varieties of carpets before designated; the amount of the customs duties imposed thereon; the amount of the neutralizing duties and taxes, and of the advance in wages and expenses consequent upon the war; the amount of the customs duties remaining as protection after deducting the neutralizing duties, taxes, &c.; and the percentage of the same on their foreign cost.

Items.	Ingrain carpets.		Tapestry carpets, printed on the warp.		Carpets wrought by Jacquard machine.	
	Super two-ply.	Super three-ply.	Brussels.	Velvets.	Five-frame Brussels.	Five-frame Wilton.
Cost of carpets in England . . .	3s. 2d.	4s.	3s. 2d.	5s. 2d.	5s.	7s. 5d.
Duties on carpets . . . . .	35 cts.	40 cts.	37½ cts.	40 cts.	40 cts.	50 per cent. ad valorem.
<i>Neutralizing duties, taxes, &amp;c.:</i>						
Duties on the wools used . . . . .	10½ cts.	14½ cts.	10 cts.	15 cts.	21 cts.	33 cts.
Duties on the linen and tow yarn . . . . .			6 cts.	8 cts.	6 cts.	8 cts.
Duties on drugs and other foreign materials . . . . .	2 cts.	2½ cts.	3 cts.	4½ cts.	3 cts.	4 cts.
Internal taxes on carpets . . . . .	7½ cts.	9¼ cts.	7½ cts.	12 cts.	11½ cts.	18 cts.
*Advance in wages and expenses . . . . .	6¼ cts.	7¾ cts.	8 cts.	12 cts.	10 cts.	15 cts.
Totals of neutralizing duties, taxes, &c. . . . .	26¼ cts.	34 cts.	34¼ cts.	51½ cts.	51½ cts.	78 cts.
Deducting said totals from said duties on carpets, there remains as protection, per yard . . . . .	8¾ cts.	6 cts.	3¼ cts.	8½ cts.	8¼ cts.	14½ cts.
Which, on their cost in England as above given, is only . . . . .	11½ per ct.	6 per ct.	4½ per ct.	6¼ per ct.	7 per ct.	8 per ct.

\*This item embraces the advance in wages, the internal taxes on domestic materials used in manufacturing and in repairs, increased cost of transportation, and the increase of State taxes and other expenses consequent upon the war.

The statements in the above table, including the valuation of the carpets on which the internal tax is computed, are based on *gold at par*. They show that under the present adjustment of the tariff and internal tax laws, with gold at par, the three principal varieties of carpets made in the United States—after deducting from the amount of customs duties imposed on the manufactured article the amount of the neutralizing duties, taxes, &c.—receive an average actual protection of less than seven and a half per centum, the highest rate on any one description being eleven and a half per centum, and the lowest four and a half per centum.

In deducing these results, no allowance is made for the impending duty on Canada wool, nor for the increased loss on the *noils* consequent upon the existing duties on other wools, as above explained.

The premium on gold, of course, gives a protection additional to the percentages above given, in the ratio in which the gold cost of the imported carpets exceeds the gold cost of the imported materials used by the home manufacturer, and at its present rate (forty-five per centum) makes the aggregate amount of protection ample. But this form of protection is fluctuating and unreliable, and will wholly cease when gold falls to par. With a decline in gold, wages and expenses may decline somewhat, but not at once, nor can they ever fall to the standard which prevailed before the war, while the cost of the articles of subsistence is so largely enhanced by taxation. From

the foregoing facts it must be obvious to all acquainted with the conditions of manufacturing success in the United States, that, though the carpet manufacture, by reason of the premium on gold, is now amply protected under the existing revenue laws, it will nevertheless be exposed to a ruinous foreign competition whenever the protection afforded by the gold premium shall be withdrawn.

The carpet manufacture requires more complex, and consequently more costly machinery, in proportion to the value of its product, than that used in the manufacture of woollens, and some branches of it are of comparatively recent growth. Considering these facts, and the advantages which low wages, abundant capital, long-established and widely-extended business connexions give to our foreign competitors, no specific duty on carpets amounting to less than twenty-five *per centum ad valorem*, above all neutralizing duties and taxes, would equalize these conditions and place us on a fair basis of competition with them. In view of the large amount of capital invested in the carpet manufacture, and the great number of persons dependent upon it for their support, we would express the hope that in any re-adjustment of the tariff and internal revenue laws which may be made, due consideration may be given to its peculiar necessities.

Very respectfully,

SAMUEL FAY,  
*Superintendent Lowell Manufacturing Company.*

M. H. SIMPSON,  
*President Roxbury Carpet Company.*

CHARLES A. WHITING,  
*Treasurer of Bigelow Carpet Company.*

GEORGE ROBERTS,  
*Treasurer of Hartford Carpet Company.*

E. S. HIGGINS,  
*of the firm E. S. Higgins & Company, New York.*

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, *County of Suffolk:*

JANUARY 12, 1866.

Then personally appeared the above named Samuel Fay, superintendent of the Lowell Manufacturing Company; M. H. Simpson, president of the Roxbury Carpet Company, and Charles A. Whiting, treasurer of the Bigelow Carpet Company, and severally made oath that the foregoing printed statement, by them subscribed, is, according to their best knowledge and belief, true.

Before me,

A. W. ADAMS, *Justice of the Peace.*

STATE OF CONNECTICUT, *County of Hartford:*

JANUARY 13, 1864.

Then personally appeared George Roberts, treasurer of the Hartford Carpet Company, and made oath that the foregoing statement, by him subscribed, is true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Before me,

ROBERT E. DAY, *Justice of Peace.*

CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW YORK, ss:

On this 18th day of January, 1866, personally appeared before me Elias S. Higgins, of the firm of E. S. Higgins & Co., and made oath that the foregoing printed statement by him subscribed, in accordance to his best knowledge and belief, to be true.

H. FAY, *Commissioner of Deeds.*

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*Letter exhibiting the condition and necessities of the knit goods manufacture, addressed to Hon. Justin S. Morrill, chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, May, 1866.*

SIR: The undersigned have been appointed by the National Association of Knit Goods Manufacturers a committee to present to you a statement of the present condition and necessities of the hosiery business in this country. In the brief time allotted to us, largely occupied by current engagements, it has been impossible to collect full statistics as to the business; and we shall aim to do nothing more than to present such facts as will serve to give a general impression of the national importance of this industry, and of its claims to the fostering care of the national legislature.

The knitting industry is employed in the manufacture of goods which are classed under the general denomination of hosiery, consisting chiefly of stockings, socks, shirts, drawers, braces or suspenders, gloves, caps, shawls, &c., made of wool, cotton, or silk, an elasticity being given to the fabric by knitting, which is not found in woven goods. The knitting industry is quite recent in its origin compared with that of weaving. It dates back no later than the invention of the stocking frame by the Rev. William Lea, of Cambridge, England, in 1585. Previous to this time, women, even of the superior classes of society, wore cloth hose—cloth fitted, and sometimes rudely so, to the leg, and either gartered (as in the case of the countess of Salisbury) or laced or buttoned—while for men, wearing breeches reaching to and fitting the foot, the use of stockings was unnecessary. The knowledge of the art of knitting by hand was confined to few persons; and it is related that a pair of knit silk stockings, manufactured in Spain and presented to Queen Elizabeth, were worn by her as an article of rare luxury. Lea failed to introduce his machines in England, and carried them to France, from whence they were brought by his workmen to Nottinghamshire, in England, where the manufacture was successfully established and still flourishes, as well as in the counties of Derbyshire and Leicestershire; this trade employing in England upwards of eighty thousand individuals, the entire manufacture being estimated by Mr. Simmonds, in 1860, at £4,000,000 annually; the value of declared exports in 1858 being £1,015,693.

The manufacture of knit goods, scarcely known in this country before 1844, and at that time having a value not exceeding forty thousand dollars, received the great impulse to which it owes its recent development during the late war, from the scarcity of goods and the high prices of gold and exchange, which gave a protection inever before enjoyed. Capitalists and manufacturers were thus induced to attempt the production of the finer classes of hosiery, never before undertaken. Prior to the war the business of knitting

was confined almost exclusively to low-priced heavy goods and to fancy hosiery, in which the superiority of American taste, and the adaptation of goods to the peculiar wants of our consumers, and to the ruling fashions, gave us the control of our own market. Still the trade was limited, and exhibited nothing like a national importance. Manufacturers were few and scattered, and failed to represent their condition and necessities before the proper committees in Congress and the national legislature; consequently, the tariff provisions were inadequate to give the encouragement which a new industry required, and which was afforded to other branches of manufacture.

At the commencement of the war the government became the largest purchaser of the heavier and staple classes of hosiery goods, such as shirts, drawers, blouses, and stockings. This demand on the part of the government was so great that our own workshops were not only put under requisition for additional machinery, but the enterprise and energy of our manufacturers and capitalists became thereby excited to transfer more fully to our shores, and to develop to a still wider extent, a branch of industry which had hitherto subjected us to a heavy tribute to England and Germany. With this view a large outlay of capital has been incurred in importing from those countries looms, knitting frames, and a variety of auxiliary machines adapted to the manufacture of the finer descriptions of goods, accompanied by skilful operatives to work and to teach others to work them here; whilst the genius and skill of our own machinists have been successfully exerted at the same time to the achievement of new triumphs (as the records of the Patent Office will show) in the various important inventions and improvements recently made in this particular class of machinery.

Of the industrial developments produced during the war, nothing was more striking or interesting than the beneficent effects of this new manufacture. Lucrative employment was given to a large number of hands, mostly American women, thus affording sustenance and comfort to many families whose protectors and supporters were fighting the battles of the Union, and materially contributing to that prosperity at home which sustained the hearts of the north in the great struggle.

The manufacture of knit goods by machinery is extensively carried on in the States of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, and has been recently introduced into Ohio and Illinois; and, with proper encouragement, will doubtless be extended into the western States.

There is field enough for the manufacture, if we can supply our own markets. The use of knit goods, particularly of under-clothing, of a firm and substantial quality, requiring the best American wool, is rapidly extending among the laboring classes, women and children.

The following conjectural estimate of the consumption of knit goods in this country is not regarded as exaggerated by persons familiar with the trade. With a population of thirty-five millions, we may suppose that there are eight millions who, from poverty, mildness of climate, or other causes, do not wear stockings, leaving twenty-seven millions, who will use at least three pairs per annum, requiring eighty-one million pairs, or six million seven hundred and fifty thousand dozen, the

value of which, at \$3 per dozen, which is considered a fair estimate at present prices, would be \$20,250,000. Estimating that there are eighteen million males, one-half of whom will wear knit shirts and drawers, and allowing one shirt and one pair of drawers to each of the nine million males per annum, one million five hundred thousand dozen will be required, at \$12 per dozen, of the value of \$18,000,000. Estimating that there are seventeen million females, one-quarter of whom will wear under-vests and drawers, and allowing only one garment to each, three hundred and seventy-five thousand dozen, at \$12 per dozen, of a total value of \$4,500,000, will be required, making the whole value of the above staple goods alone, required for American consumption, \$42,750,000.

It is the peculiar characteristic of the manufacture of knit goods by machinery, as compared with most other of our textile manufactures, that, while a vast saving over goods knit by hand is effected by the use of machinery, there still remains a large portion which requires to be finished by hand, and that by the very best class of hand workmen, and particularly workwomen; so that the labor upon this class of goods suffers most severe competition from the cheap hand labor of Europe. While one of the great public advantages of our manufacture is that it gives extensive employment to females in their own homes, affording profitable occupation for time not required for ordinary domestic duties, the necessity for such hand labor is one of the great difficulties with which we have to contend. These features, as well as the other peculiarities of our manufacture, will be best exhibited by considering more in detail several distinct branches of our industry.

We estimate that there are twenty sets of cards employed for preparing the material for what is known in the trade as all-wool Shaker socks, distributed in small mills having one or two sets each. There are required for each set of cards in the mill ten hands, producing about thirty-five dozen per day for each set. The goods are made by machinery, with the exception of the heels and toes, which require to be supplied by hand. This is all done outside the mill, giving employment to operatives at a distance of twenty miles or more from the mill. A woman can heel and toe four pairs per day, giving her whole time to the work. Thus there is required the labor of one hundred and five women all the time for each set, or of two thousand one hundred to finish all that are produced by the twenty sets. But this work gives partial employment to a much larger number of individuals, as much of the work is done by them while partially employed in household duties. In certain districts of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont nearly the whole female population, within a radius of twenty miles from the mill, may be seen at work at their own homes in finishing the goods partially fabricated by machinery. In these goods the main fabric is knit by power, while the heels and toes are finished by ordinary hand knitting; this peculiar construction of the fabric being an original American idea.

Another branch of the knit-goods manufacture is that known as hand-seamed hose and hand-seamed shirts and drawers. In this class of goods the knitting is wholly done by machinery and the seams are closed solely by hand. Each set of cards in a mill turning out goods of this class will employ about twenty-five hands per set in the mill, producing sixty dozen of hose per day, and will employ

eighty hands outside for seaming. The whole number of sets occupied in this branch of manufacture cannot be accurately given, but cannot be less than eighty. Thus, six thousand four hundred hands will be constantly employed outside the mill in this branch of manufacture. The following is an accurate statement of the operation of a mill of this class in Massachusetts for six months ending January 1, 1866:

Cost of hosiery manufactured in six months.....	\$32,510
Cost of material, on which an excise tax has been paid independently of the duties on wool.....	4,740
Cost of labor.....	7,520
Number of hands employed in mill, 26.	
Number of seamers constantly employed outside, 85.	

A distinct class of knit goods is known as fancy hosiery. This manufacture is pursued in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and New York; but most extensively in Philadelphia and vicinity, where it gives employment to many thousand hands.

The articles manufactured comprise, in part, ladies' hoods, shawls, sontags, jackets, victorines, nubias, scarfs, comforters, afghans, leg-gings, gloves, mits, basques, balmorals, &c.

All of these articles are made of the best American fleece wool, no other being used, with the exception of some Canada wool for worsted goods. They require the finest and most expensive dyes, which were formerly imported from Europe; some of the aniline dyes costing as high as \$50 per pound. Fortunately they are largely replaced by equally good aniline dyes of American manufacture, an incidental result of the establishment of the hosiery business in this country, for which these dyes are principally used. A manufacturer of fancy hosiery states that, in using the product of four sets of cards after the yarn is made, his establishment gives employment in knitting, weaving, croqueting, seaming, knotting, rough-mending, finish-mending, sorting, putting up, boxing, and packing, to four hundred and fifty individuals—men, women, and children. The principal part of the labor in the fancy-hosiery manufacture is performed by a class of American women who would shun employment in an ordinary cotton or woollen mill, but find in this healthful, cleanly, and tasteful manufacture an attractive occupation.

The most important part of knit fabrics is that known as machine-made goods, in which the webbing is wholly made by power, and the sewing done by machine. This, however, does not make the finished article; after machine work, hand labor is required, for rough-mending, bleaching, and dyeing, boarding, pressing, finish-mending, making, stamping, tacking, tying, and boxing—all distinct operations, requiring a large number of hands. The number of hands employed in machine work is estimated at ten thousand.

This branch of the knit-goods manufacture has attained its greatest development in the State of New York. It is as characteristic of Cohoes and its neighborhood as the fancy hosiery is of Philadelphia and Germantown, and the peculiar woollen manufactures are of certain old towns in England.

We will barely mention, without dwelling upon them, other branches of the manufacture, such as those of hand-frame and full-fashioned goods, stockinets, rubber-boot linings, nets, &c., and call your attention to a branch of the manufacture of recent development, which is capable, with proper encouragement, of vast extension in this country. We refer to cotton hosiery.

The manufacture of cotton ribbed goods has been carried on in this country some twelve or fifteen years, and, with the exception of some hand-frame stockings, constituted the whole of our cotton hosiery up to the year 1863. The same causes which strengthened the production of other knit goods during the war induced the employment of capital and skill in the production of classes of cotton hosiery never before attempted in this country.

Indeed, essays have been made in the production of all kinds of cotton hosiery, and with the most promising results as to the attainment of the necessary skill and the acquisition of the most efficient machinery, much of which has been wholly original. Machines are in operation knitting three hundred rounds per minute. The machinery had hardly been put in operation, with the investment of capital of at least a million and a quarter of dollars, when, with the close of the war, the flood of foreign importations deluged the country. The agents of foreign manufacturers, to whom we had shown our goods, and who had watched the rising manufacture with alarm, openly declared, for we give their very words, "We are bound to kill you if we can." The system which England has invariably pursued, of attempting to control the manufactures of other countries in their infancy, was put in the most active operation. Foreign goods were poured into the country at prices below the cost of production, and made still lower by fraudulent devices in invoicing. The American manufacturer of these fabrics has been engaged, since the first starting of his mills, in a desperate struggle to keep his own market at the sacrifice of his goods; while at the same time he has had to encounter all the difficulties of acquiring skill and machinery, and educating workmen, bearing at the same time the heavy burden of the internal revenue tax, and receiving comparatively no relief from the nominal ad valorem duty of merely thirty-five per cent. upon foreign goods, no specific duty being provided under existing laws.

The result of these new enterprises thus far has been, that the manufacture of cotton hosiery has been invariably carried on at a *loss*, and must inevitably die out, unless relieved by a sufficient specific, in addition to the ad valorem, duty.

The variety of fabrics in the knit-goods manufacture is so great, and the proportions and kinds of raw material which they contain are so variable, that it would be impossible to present by specific data—as might be done for the mere staple manufactures of cassimeres and flannels, or woven goods generally—the operation of the present tariff laws upon our industry, or the cost of manufacture of hosiery goods in this country, in comparison with imported goods of a similar kind. We must confine ourselves to reiterating the statements concurred in by all of our manufacturers, that, with the increase of prices of labor since the war, and the addition of State and government taxes rendered necessary by the war, the protection intended for this industry is at present unavailing. No class of manufacturers suffers more than we do from this system of fraudulent invoices; and as these frauds will always exist under the system of ad valorem duties, it is an imperative necessity, for the very existence of our industry at home, that the duties should be as far as practicable specific, and that the specific duties should be sufficiently high to fully cover the neutralizing duties on raw material used in our manufacture.

It is believed that no branch of manufacture in this country is more in need of protection to place it on equality with the productions of cheap European labor. Although this perhaps has been sufficiently demonstrated by the facts already presented, it is further illustrated by the statement given in a late address before the Association of Knit-Goods Manufacturers by its president, that "the item of labor is much greater in a hosiery mill than in a flannel mill, while the production of the latter is larger than the former." He says: "In evidence of this fact, I am permitted to state that the actual production of a three-set flannel mill, running on fancy shirtings, for six months, was \$145,034 80, and the cost of labor was \$16,300; while the production of a three-set hosiery mill, running on all-wool socks, hand heeled and toed, was \$87,463, and the labor account \$23,580, for six months."

We are permitted to submit the following statement of the comparative cost of the principal operations in the manufacture of hosiery, prepared by a practical English manufacturer recently established in this country:



*Manufacturing prices of American and English hosiery.*

	Weight.	Weaving.		Cutting.		Stitching.		Wetling.		Mending.		Rib top.		Leg.		Heeling.		Footing.		Turning off.		Seaming.		Bleaching and boarding.		Folding.		Box.		American cost.		English cost.		Difference.	
		American.	English.	American.	English.	American.	English.	American.	English.	American.	English.	American.	English.	American.	English.	American.	English.	American.	English.	American.	English.	American.	English.	American.	English.	American.	English.	American.	English.	American.	English.				
B	1.0																																		
30	1.3	4	3	1	1	5	2	1	1	4	4													25	10	1	1	9	51	16	41	28			
600 x	1.1	5	4	1	1	5	2	1	1	4	4												25	11	1	1	10	54	24	30	17				
1500	2.1	5	4	1	1	5	2	1	1	4	4												25	11	1	1	10	54	24	30	17				
26 S	2.6	5	4	1	1	5	2	1	1	4	4												25	11	1	1	10	54	24	30	17	13			
30 S	2.2	3	2	1	1	7	4	1	1	6	6												30	16	1	1	10	4	27	103	101	2			
1	1.5	3	2	1	1	7	4	1	1	6	6												13	3	1	1	10	4	11	46	47	1			
3	1.6	12	8	1	1	3	3	3	3	3	3												25	10	1	1	10	4	13	58	57	1			
4	1.6	12	8	1	1	3	3	3	3	3	3												30	10	1	1	10	4	14	53	53	0			
1.12	1.12	10	7	1	1	3	3	3	3	3	3												30	10	1	1	10	4	13	57	57	0			

NOTE.—The prices above are estimated per dozen and in cents.

The preceding statement, as to the prices of labor on English hosiery, is confirmed by testimony furnished by Mr. Simmonds, in his history of the progress of the manufacture in England since 1836. He states certain facts elicited with regard to the earnings of stocking weavers in a trial for libel in the court of exchequer in December, 1859. The evidence of the foreman of the plaintiff, a hose manufacturer, was as follows: "The plaintiff lets out between two and three hundred frames. He charges 1s. per week for the narrow frames, and 2s. per week for the broad frames. The largest sum ever paid for a man and his wife tending a frame was from £1 to 22s. per week at the narrow frame. The men are paid from 5s. per week upward to 7s. 6d., to 8s., and 9s.; from the gross earnings we deduct for the rent of the frame. If a man earns 10s. per week, he will have to pay from 3d. to 6d. for seaming the stockings, and 1s. for the rent of the frame." For the defence, Mr. H. James said he should prove that the average earnings of the poor men were 3s. 6d. per week. The manufacturers provided their work people with frames with which to work, at a rent of 1s. per week, and prohibited them from purchasing frames on their own account. A frame cost about £3, and the master charged £2 10s. a year for rent to the workman. Isaac Abbott, who was not in the plaintiff's employ, deposed: The earnings of narrow-frame knitters average between 6s. and 7s. per week, liable to deductions of 1d. per shilling for scouring the stockings, candles, needles, &c., in addition to 1s. per week for the rent of the frames, leaving from 5s. 6d. to 5s. 9d. to live upon. It would require fifteen hours' work a day for five days, and eight hours the sixth day, to earn 12s. per week. From that there would have to be deducted 1s. for the frame, 1s. for scouring; it would cost 4d. to 5d. for candles at this time of year, and there would be an expense for needles. Other weavers give similar evidence.

How striking the contrast with the wages paid in an American hosiery mill, as exhibited in the following statement, not prepared for the purpose, but taken at random from the actual current reports of the mill!

*Average wages paid in an American hosiery mill for the five weeks ending April 14, 1866.*

PAID MALE OPERATIVES.

Employment.	Time.	Average time.	Amount.	Average wages per day.	Average wages through the mill per day.
Wool spinning.....	113	4	\$188.62	\$1.70	}
Overseer wool carding.....	30	1	75.00	2.50	
Wool picker.....	29	1	45.92	1.58	
Strippers.....	88	3	139.50	1.58	
Others.....	161	6	132.91	.82	
Cotton spinners.....	32	1	96.00	3.00	
Cotton carding.....	310	11	478.34	1.53	
Others.....	338	12	265.20	.80	
Overseer knitting.....	32	1	105.62	3.25	
Hand knitters.....					
Rotary knitters.....	90	3	207.31	2.30	
Others.....	313	11	527.13	1.68	
Overseer finishing.....	62	2	195.93	3.00	
Boarders.....	600	21	1,027.81	1.71	
Bleachers.....	273	9	424.24	1.51	
Others.....	120	4	201.91	1.54	
Dyer.....	29½	1	118.00	4.00	
Others.....					

*Average wages paid in an American hosiery mill for the five weeks ending April 14, 1866—Continued.*

## PAID FEMALE OPERATIVES.

Employment.	Time.	Average time.	Amount.	Average wages per week.	Average wages through the mill per week.
Cotton card.....	434	16	\$388.00	\$3.15	\$4.55
Wool card tenders.....	88	3	67.18	2.67	
Wool spinners.....	390	14	290.07	2.35	
Cotton spinners.....	358	12	308.84	2.89	
Knitters, circulars.....	817	28	963.77	4.83	
Knitters, footers.....	433	15	455.19	4.00	
Winders.....	887	30	887.57	3.75	
Ravellers.....	208	7	215.65	3.93	
Day hands.....	387	13	420.74	4.41	
Stitchers.....	1,737	58	2,222.16	5.49	
Hand sewers.....	280	10	315.38	4.50	
Rough menders.....	697	24	921.45	5.67	
Finish menders.....	297	10	404.58	5.85	
Cutters.....	260	9	326.96	5.31	
Wetling, day hands.....	167	6	141.19	2.79	
Mating, stamping, &c.....	230	8	254.60	4.41	
Crocheting, linking.....	258	9	327.21	5.25	
Folding.....	303	10	368.67	5.07	
Boarding.....	135	5	191.08	6.21	
Seaming.....			557.77		
Others.....					

It becomes now our duty respectfully to suggest such provisions in the contemplated revision of the tariff laws as will place our industry on an equality with other American manufactures; will reimburse the duties and taxes paid upon materials used in manufacture, and for the internal revenue; and give us some assistance in competing with the low wages and accumulated capital of other countries, and in preserving that liberal compensation for labor demanded by the necessities of American civilization.

In respect to the duties upon foreign-knit goods, composed in whole or in part of wool, we commend to your attention, and express our approval of, the provisions contained in the proposed tariff on manufactures, recommended by the executive committee of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers in a statement addressed by them to the United States Revenue Commission. The provisions in relation to knit goods recommended by that committee were adopted after full consultation with the leading knit-goods manufacturers in the country, and were cordially approved by the latter. The views hereafter expressed in the statement referred to are fully in accordance with our own, and the placing the manufacturer of woollen knit goods upon an equality with other manufacturers would remove much soreness existing in relation to the inequality of present provisions; an inequality, however, mainly attributable to the want of proper representations by our own interest.

The portion of statement referred to, respecting knit goods, is as follows:

"It is believed that the provisions under consideration operate more equitably than those of the present tariff in respect to a most important and rapidly-developing industry, that of knit goods. Under the present tariff the duty on shirts, drawers, and hosiery of wool, or of which wool shall be a component material, not otherwise provided for, is fixed at twenty cents a pound, and, in addition, thirty

per cent. ad valorem, the specific duty being four cents, and the ad valorem duty being ten per cent. less than upon woollen cloths. The wool which enters into a majority of these goods is fine American fleece, and, if wholly composed of wool, they would be clearly entitled to the same duty as woollen cloths. A large class of knit goods, including the fancy hosiery, a rapidly advancing and peculiarly American industry, furnishing goods of great beauty and taste, and consuming the most expensive aniline dyes, is made wholly of American clothing wool. These goods, which would cost more than eighty cents per pound, would bear under the bill proposed a specific duty of fifty-three cents, and the same ad valorem duty as is provided for other goods. Another class of knit goods has a portion of cotton, which is introduced to prevent shrinkage. It would be impracticable to separate the goods composed wholly of wool from those partially composed of cotton by placing a less duty on the latter, as all foreign competing goods, whatever their value, would have some cotton placed in them to bring them within the lower duty. The distinction is sufficiently provided for by the minimum scale of duties. It is desirable that the specific duties on the knit goods should be sufficiently ample to secure full compensation, as the waste in hosiery goods, from cutting, trimming, and fitting, is greater than in other woollen fabrics, while there is a large consumption of trimmings, such as binding, tape, spool-cotton, silk, buttons, linen thread, &c., on which duties are paid. The industry of knit goods is entitled to special consideration, from the national importance which it has already attained. The number of sets of machinery employed upon this class of goods is estimated by a committee of the National Association of Knit-Goods Manufacturers at four hundred. The number of hands employed, men, women, and children, is estimated at ten thousand. The aggregate amount of wages paid is set down at \$3,000,000 per annum; the amount of wool consumed, at six million five hundred thousand pounds per annum. The production of the four hundred sets is estimated at \$19,000,000 per annum, paying a revenue tax of \$1,152,000.\*

With respect to the duties upon foreign-knit goods of cotton, we have only to commend to your attention, as fully in accordance with the views of the manufacturers of cotton hosiery, the statements presented and provisions recommended in the report made by the National Association of Knit-Goods Manufacturers on the second day of May last, by a committee consisting of Amos A. Lawrence, Henry V. Ward, George C. Bosson, S. G. Weston, and Thomas Appleton, which is as follows:

"The committee appointed by the National Association of Knit-Goods Manufacturers respectfully represent: that, after a careful inquiry into the causes which operate to create the present depression and disaster in cotton fabrics of this description, they have become convinced that any reliance for protection on the present tariff of ad valorem duties is misplaced; that the rate of thirty-five per cent. ad valorem is nominal; that the real rate is much less.

"We do not know why this important branch of industry, conducting so much to the comfort of the whole body of our people,

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\* This estimate was derived from statistics obtained from one locality, and from only one branch of the manufacture. From more recent information, we estimate the whole number employed in all branches at not less than 40,000.

should not receive, during its infancy, the same care of the government which has been extended with such happy results to other departments of labor.

“Already we have made great progress in transferring from Europe the machinery and the skill which has heretofore laid us under heavy tribute. Our production is reckoned by millions, and, coming into competition with the foreign importations, it has caused a heavy reduction in the price of all these articles of domestic use. Meantime, it has added another impulse to the energy and ingenuity of our people, and has opened a new avenue to the employment of capital; but the internal taxes, and the practices of foreign agents, have rendered nugatory the protection which it was designed to grant us, and which is now essential to save us from serious and, with many of us, from ruinous loss.

“On an article manufactured here, similar to a foreign fabric, costing at the place of exportation one hundred cents, the excise duty under the proposed law would be ten cents, the tax on cotton ten cents, and the excise and other taxes on the materials used in the manufacture five cents and upwards, making in all twenty-five cents, thus leaving only ten cents instead of thirty-five, which it was the desire of Congress to grant.

“This rate of duty is altogether inadequate to afford us encouragement or protection, (even if its influence were not destroyed by the undervaluation of foreign goods for custom-house entry,) nor will it meet the wants of the government for revenue.

“The committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following schedule of duties:

“On hosiery, shirts, and drawers, composed wholly of cotton, valued at a price not exceeding one dollar per dozen, twenty cents per pound; valued at over one dollar, and not exceeding two dollars per dozen, thirty cents per pound; valued at upward of two dollars per dozen, forty cents per pound, and, in addition thereto, thirty-five per centum ad valorem; and on all knit goods made wholly of cotton, not otherwise provided for, thirty cents per pound and thirty-five per centum ad valorem.”

Commending the whole subject to your favorable consideration, we have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servants,

CHARLES H. ADAMS.  
GEORGE C. BOSSON  
I. R. SCOTT.

HON. JUSTIN S. MORRILL,  
*Chairman of Committee of Ways and Means,  
United States House of Representatives.*