

They also enable the student of our trade and commerce to note the growth or decay of imports of each specific article, by observing the fluctuations in the import.

Thus, undressed hemp in 1877-79 was imported to the value of \$289,678 ; increased to \$554,585 in 1883-85 ; rose to 951,092 in 1889-91 ; fell to 836,804 in 1892-94, and was in 1895, \$622,396.

In 1883 there were 74,604 cwt. imported. In 1893 the import amounted to 198,200 cwt. ; in 1894 it dropped to 102,247 cwt., and in 1895 it rose to 173,439 cwt. So far as Canadian imports are concerned we have the life-history of undressed hemp showing curious ups and downs and suggesting further examination to show why these fluctuations take place, and if anything can be done to make the importations steadier, or whether there is such a connection between undressed hemp and the crop returns as to make the imports of the article an index of the degree of prosperity attendant upon the farming class.

Take raw hides : during the past 16 years we have imported \$29,458,411 of raw hides. In the same time we have exported 1,483,272 head of cattle. It will be an easy calculation for those interested in our cattle trade to make up the value of the hides which have been exported on the living beeve and thus throw light upon the actual effect upon our cattle trade of the scheduling of our cattle by the British Government, as well as suggest plans by which that effect, if injurious to us, may be reduced to a minimum.

The history of the ups and downs of the cotton manufacture of the country is embalmed in the two lines in Class B, cotton waste and cotton wool. The development of manufactures is seen in the totals of Class B and C, which together, in 1894, amounted to 38,916,663, and in 1879 to \$17,106,434.

The woollen industry has light thrown upon its condition by the study of the nineteen years imports of wool given in Class B, of woollen articles given in Class C, and of manufactured woollen goods given in Class D.

These tables are of use also in enabling persons interested in manufacturing to see to what extent there is a demand, in the event of their thinking of starting any manufacture in Canada.

801. Average annual value of merchandise, grouped according to degree of manufacture and uses, imported into Canada for home consumption, in three-year periods during the years 1877-94 and for the year 1895 :—