

## CHAPTER IX.

### FOREIGN TRADE.

#### IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF WEARING APPAREL.

No separate statistics regarding the amount of muslin underwear imported into the United States are available, because the statistics of importation group together wearing apparel made wholly or in part of lace or embroidery, without specification as to whether it was outer apparel or underwear.

Under the tariff act of 1909, the duty on cotton wearing apparel made in whole or in part of lace or embroidery was 60 per cent ad valorem; if the lace was made on the Lever or Gothrough machine, the duty was 70 per cent. These rates of duty were the same as on cotton laces or embroidery. In the fiscal year ending June 30, 1913, the value of the imports of cotton wearing apparel made in whole or in part of lace or embroidery, entered for consumption, was \$1,943,450, which included apparel trimmed with lace made on the Lever or Gothrough machine amounting to \$63,788.

Under the tariff act of 1913 the duty on cotton wearing apparel made in whole or in part of lace or embroidery is 60 per cent, regardless of whether the lace was made on the Lever or Gothrough machine. This rate of duty is the same as on cotton laces and embroideries.

In the fiscal year ending June 30, 1914, the value of the imports of cotton wearing apparel made wholly or in part of lace or embroidery, entered for consumption, was \$1,580,019 (including wearing apparel valued at \$20,492, trimmed with Lever or Gothrough lace, imported from July 1 to October 3, 1913, under the old tariff law).

During all of the fiscal year of 1913 the old tariff was in force. During the first three months of the fiscal year 1914 the old tariff and during the last nine months the new tariff was in force. The importations of \$1,580,019 during the fiscal year 1914 were \$363,431, or 18.70 per cent, less than the importations of \$1,943,450 during the previous fiscal year.

While the statistics of imports do not show the imports of lingerie separately, it is estimated by an appraiser in the New York custom-house that the imports of such garments amounts to about \$300,000. The remainder of the cotton goods made in whole or in part of lace or embroidery included such articles as dresses, shirtwaists, collars, cuffs, and infants' caps.

Nearly all of the lingerie imported is hand embroidered, while practically none thus embellished is made in factories in the United States. Much of the lingerie imported is made by hand, but none is made by hand in the factories of this country.