

A CORRESPONDENT of the *British Trade Review* says that "Spain seems to be waking up after its long sleep. If a man wants to see what the world was like three hundred years ago he will find it in parts of Spain. And yet in some places the very latest inventions are freely adopted, and these places give evidence of great activity and bustle of commerce and the most modern ideas. The throng of wayfarers on the Rambla at Barcelona or in the streets of Madrid is as great as in Market street, Manchester. The picturesque costumes are changing for English and French fashions, and the old bits of coloring and memories of the past will soon be gone with the improvements that are beginning to manifest themselves on all sides. I find the commercial shipping of Spain stands fourth among the list of nations. After travelling through the country from the Pyrenees to Gibraltar, from Cadiz to Barcelona, with its 17,000,000 inhabitants, one cannot return without feeling that there is still a future for Spain of prosperous self-development."

SECTION 6 of the Customs Act, of 1879, reads as follows:

Any or all of the following articles, that is to say, animals of all kinds, green fruit, hay, straw, bran, seeds of all kinds, vegetables (including potatoes and other roots), plants, trees, shrubs, coal and coke, salt, hops, wheat, peas and beans, barley, rye, oats, Indian corn, buckwheat, and all other grain, flour of wheat and flour of rye, Indian meal and oatmeal, and flour or meal of any other grain, butter, cheese, fish (salted or smoked), lard, tallow, meats, (fresh, salted or smoked), and lumber may be imported into Canada free of duty, or at a less rate of duty than is provided by this Act, upon proclamation of the Governor in Council, which may be issued whenever it appears to his satisfaction that similar articles from Canada may be imported into the United States free of duty, or at a rate of duty not exceeding that, payable on the same under such proclamation when imported into Canada.

This offer on the part of Canada to the United States for reciprocity in natural products has been standing ever since March 15, 1879—more than twelve years. Reciprocity on any other basis will never be considered by Canada, that is as long as the National Policy prevails.

REAR ADMIRAL BELKNAP's survey of parts of the Pacific preparatory to the laying of the proposed transpacific telegraph cable indicates that extraordinary difficulties will be encountered. "His soundings," says the *Engineering and Mining Journal*, "shows the existence of a trough or basin of extraordinary depth and extent along the east coast of Japan and the Kurile Islands, and under the Kuro Siwo, or Japan or Black stream. The basin exceeds any similar depression yet found in any other regions of the great oceans. In a run of thirty miles after leaving the coast of Japan the waters deepened more than 1,800 fathoms, and upon the next cast of the lead the wire broke after 4,643 fathoms had been run out without bottom having been reached. Thermometers specially constructed for deep-sea sounding were wrecked by the unprecedented pressures. The depth of the deepest cast—5½ miles, the deepest water yet found—is sufficient to hold two mountains as high as Japan's great Fusiyama, one on top of the other, and then the summit of the highest would be nearly two-thirds of a mile under water."

It is noticeable that none of the daily papers of Canada on either side of politics have ever yet taken a decided stand on

the nickel question, and declared whether they were in favor of imposing an export duty upon nickel ore and matter or not. One set seems to be afraid and the other "dassent." Meantime thousands of tons of this mineral wealth is being taken out of the country, and Canada has nothing to show for it but the hole in the ground from which it is taken. Impose the duty.—THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURER.

This is a very remarkable statement. Down here they frequently advertise for men to go to the mines, and always profess to give the highest rate of wages. Then when companies are formed to take over any of these mining properties prospectors always talk of almost fabulous profits. Is our friend one of those illogical parties who want to have the cake and eat it too? As to the daily papers not advocating an export duty on nickel—well, they have sense enough to leave that asinine work to THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURER.—*Montreal Herald*.

In the absence of intellectual capacity to comprehend a plain proposition, and inability to observe the amenities of journalistic life, the *Montreal Herald* finds ready refuge behind its usual mud fort of billingsgate and blackguardism.

THE wheel of Time has again revolved, and in a few days Toronto's Great Industrial Fair for 1891 will be open to the public, and people will be again flocking to it from all parts of Canada and the adjoining States. The harvest has this year been good, and the attendance of visitors to the great Fair may therefore be expected to be very large. The entries in all departments are sufficient to completely fill every building on the grounds, as well as the new ones that have been erected during the summer. The Dominion and Experimental farms are each sending very important exhibits, showing the result of practical tests in the various departments in which the farming community are specially interested. British Columbia and Manitoba are also sending much larger exhibits than heretofore. The live stock exhibit will be very fine. The list of attractions as announced in the official programme issued by the Association is a very long one, and cannot fail to please the visitors, as there will be something of interest to see every minute of the day and every day of the Fair. The Fair will be opened by Major-General Herbert on September 8th, and closes on the 19th. The usual low rates and special excursions will be given on all the railways.

THE Canadians are indignant because the English charitable societies and humanitarians gather up the pauper children and infantile outcasts of the great cities and ship them into the Dominion, where they are farmed out in the agricultural communities. This system has been followed for many years past. "Without exception these waifs are tainted with either physical or moral leprosy, or both," comments a Canadian trade journal which has been outspoken in its condemnation of the injustice thus perpetrated upon the country's hospitality. Our Canadian neighbor is certainly right in objecting to be made a dumping-ground for this degraded human element, which promises to sow the seeds for a future crop of subjects morally contaminated by hereditary taint. The evil is one of a kind similar to that which we have ourselves suffered for years at the hands of English parochial officers, who have been in the habit of getting rid of their worn-out paupers by paying their fares and delivering them like merchandise at Castle Gardens to become a charge to our people. We can therefore sympathize with Canada in her indignation even while we may wonder how it comes about that a people of such perfervid loyalty are not willing to bear in a proper