

We publish the following from the Coal Trade Journal. On the subject we have an open mind. To the RECORD, from one or two sentences, the article seems to be 'inspired'. The Coal Trade Journal is probably in error in asserting that "the Nova Scotia producers are in favor of the removal of the duty". The RECORD believes that some are indifferent, a majority opposed to it, and only one or two in favor of removal of duty. "Revision of the tariff on coal is earnestly desired by the manufacturers in Massachusetts and the other New England States. Nova Scotia produces quantities of Bituminous coal, and would like to ship it free of duty to New England, where manufacturers wish to buy cheaply in order to compete with their more favored rivals in the South and West. We exact 67 cents a gross ton on Bituminous coal, and Canada imposes the same tariff, but the coal operators of Ohio and Pennsylvania wish to export their Bituminous product free to the central manufacturing districts of Canada. Each country shoulders a needless burden on the other, which does both harm. The proximity of the New England center of population to Nova Scotia mines, and the cheapness of water carriage makes this locality a natural outlet for Nova Scotia coal. The same holds true of central Canada with respect to the coal of Ohio. Nova Scotia coal could be had in New England at \$2 per ton, "f. o. b.," for the coal, and 60 cents freight, last year. This is less than even the cheap coals from Virginia sold for.

Some months ago a movement took place in Ontario looking towards the abolition of the duty on coal. It was taken up by a number of boards of trade, until finally between 30 and 40 boards passed resolutions recommending the total abolition of the duty in Canada. The ground on which they asked that this duty be abolished was this: They contended that Montreal was the dividing line between the markets served by the Nova Scotia mines on the one side and the United States on the other—that the whole territory west of Montreal, between Winnipeg and Montreal, belonged to the latter, and, irrespective of the duty, that district of country was supplied from Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia, whereas from Montreal to the seaboard the territory was supplied from Nova Scotia.

Nova Scotia producers are in favor of the removal of the duty. A strong argument for their side is that their production has overtaken the demands of the domestic market. The population of the country supplied by Nova Scotia coal mines is about 2,000,000 of people. Therefore they must look to other markets; they look to New England. Manufacturers there want coal at as low a cost as possible, and by reciprocity this could be had. At the same time, the advantages to Ohio and other mining States in sending coal to central Canada would greatly advantage the industry in those districts.

The account stands thus: Entire production in all parts of Canada, from Nova Scotia to British Columbia, was 7,140,000 gross tons in 1903; the exports from the two provinces named, to places on our Atlantic and Pacific coasts, were 1,768,000 tons. In the same year the imports were put at 4,928,000 tons of coal of all kinds. By reciprocity,

therefore, the mines in the United States would be the gainers, for the tonnage to central Canada would increase and New England consumers would get such coal as they import from Nova Scotia at a less rate."

SAFETY LAMPS.

The velocity at which the lamps named below explode or pass the flame according to accepted measurements are as follows:—

Davy, 6 feet per second.

Stephenson, 13 feet per second.

Clanny, 8 feet per second.

Mueseler, (Naked), 21 feet per second.

Mueseler, (Bonnetted), 40 feet per second.

Marsaut, 40 feet per second.

Davy, (In a can), 40 feet per second.

The Mueseler lamp is a Clanny with two additions, namely, with a diaphragm and a conical funnel. By an inspection of the lamp it may be seen that the diaphragm supports the funnel, which is about one inch in diameter at the base, and three-eighths of an inch at the top. The air to feed the flame of this lamp first passes through the lower portion of the gauze cylinder, then through the diaphragm to the flame. When the gauze cylinder of this lamp is covered with a bonnet it is much safer than without it. The Marsaut lamp is also an improved Clanny lamp with two additions, namely, the gauze cylinder as in ordinary lamps is here double, one cylinder being inserted within the other, and in addition the gauze cylinder is covered with a bonnet.

The Boston Herald may have had some of our N. S. colliery operators, managers and superintendents in view when it inserted the following:—

"The merchant or manufacturer, the industrial or professional, the manager or operator, who assumes to 'get on' without the trade journals directly or collaterally bearing on his particular specialty, is seriously handicapped in the stress of competitive strife.—Wilfully, though perhaps not wittingly, he deprives himself of sources of information and material for progress and profit, lack of which must inevitably leave him in the lurch. The managing head of every 'house' no matter how large the 'concern' should above all things see to it that each department head, and so many of the working force as by their intelligent interest show that they would profit by technical and professional information—that all these men are provided with the trade journals best fitted to promote the advancement of each in efficiency. This at the expense of the firm of course, since the firm, in turn, cannot fail largely to profit by such policy.

A Dom. No. 4 correspondent says the jury at the inquest on young McDonald, killed in No. 3, found that death was caused by neglect of officials to properly timber. The other matters referred to the "organ" of the workmen ought first to speak.

The Vale worked only about half time in January.