

In connection with all this, the *Belleville Intelligencer* speaks up briskly for its own district, as follows:—

By the people of this city, which is the natural seat of the iron manufacturing industry, and by the residents of the extensive region over which the deposits of iron ore are known to extend, this official announcement that the Government have come to our aid in so handsome a manner, will be received with enthusiasm. The contention of those who have engaged in the various schemes for the establishment of smelting works in this city has been that the duty of \$2 per ton which the present Government imposed on foreign iron was not sufficient to warrant their entering into the business; but the exceedingly liberal offer of a bounty of \$1.50 per ton on all the iron produced during the first three years after the 1st of July next, and of \$1 per ton on all produced during the next three years, ought to be sufficient to establish amongst us this most important of all industries. Belleville is, as we have said, the natural seat of iron manufacture, and we trust that the City Council will at once take some action to secure for the City, in such manner as shall to them seem most desirable, the full benefit of the Government's new and most liberal policy.

Something has been done for the development in Canada of that right arm of national strength and prosperity, the production of Iron. We are getting forward by degrees. But it is to be regretted that the Finance Minister did not see his way to the taking of still another step—the placing of a good round export duty on iron ore sent out of the country. However, public opinion is probably not enlightened enough yet to warrant the Government in doing this. The day is coming when it will be looked upon as a marvel of folly that any civilized nation should ever have permitted the export of a single ton of iron ore to any foreign country, on any consideration.

#### TENTATIVE PROTECTION.

How the Government is feeling its way in the matter of building up Canadian industries, and protecting them against unfair foreign competition, is thus set forth by the Minister of Finance in the Budget Speech:—

I desire to call the attention of the House, before I take up the expenditure of 1883, to the changes that are proposed in the tariff to be submitted in committee shortly. I may say that these propositions are submitted with the view in the first place of relieving the country of a million or a million and a quarter taxation, and in the second place they are submitted so as to give, wherever we can, what we felt we could not give in 1879, because it was an experiment. In 1879 an article that was raw material to a manufacturer in some cases was subject to a duty of 10 per cent., though it was not produced in the country. We did so because we were not quite sure that the operation of the tariff would be satisfactory, that it would give us all the revenue we desired, but now, finding that it gives us all the revenue we desire, and more than we desire, proposed last session, and now we continue that policy, to take off the articles that bore 10 per cent. duty, or duties analogous to that, and that are not manufactured in the country, and we give the raw material to the manufacturer free, in order that he may have the benefits and advantages of this. We would have taken that course in 1879 had we felt quite certain as to the effect to be produced. But, more than that, we found that our enterprising neighbors to the south of us have made up their minds, if such a thing is possible, that they will have for their manufactures the market of Canada at any price. *We find now that circulars are being distributed with reference*

*to certain articles, and stating that if they could crush these manufactures out for a year or two they would have the market for themselves, and they are making an effort to get it.* Therefore it is that, wherever we find from past experience that the competition is sufficient amongst our own manufacturers to give us an article as cheap or cheaper than it was before, we propose to ask Parliament that the market of commerce shall be retained to these manufactures. We have taken some time to consider certain cases, and we can afford to wait a year or two in order to ascertain the results with reference to some of the industries, and in regard to these we are not prepared to ask the House to make a change at present; but in others, where we are satisfied that we have produced an article in the past at a lower price, or at as low a price, as they were produced before this tariff came into operation, we propose to ask Parliament to protect these men.

#### TRADE WITH BRAZIL.

Mr. W. D. Bentley, Brazilian Consul for the Dominion, was in Ottawa this week pressing the Government for an increased subsidy to the line of steamships running between Canada and Brazil. The present grant is \$50,000, and there also appear in the estimates two grants of \$24,000 as subsidies from Antwerp and Bremen, respectively. Mr. Bentley proposes to amalgamate these services, running from German ports to Belgium and France, thence to Canada. On the line between this country and Brazil he wishes to obtain permission to make Boston a port of call, urging as a reason that present trade between the Dominion and Brazil is not sufficiently developed to make fortnightly trips remunerative. Those opposing this step do so on the ground that it will be tantamount to subsidizing an American line; but Mr. Bentley thinks that as the Allan line are allowed to call at American ports his line should receive a similar permission. From a letter of Mr. Bentley's recently published we take the following comparative table of figures, showing Canada's imports from Brazil for the years 1880-81 and 1881-82:—

	1881.	1882.
Tapioca.....	Nil.	6,591
Coffee, before duty taken off, lbs.....	410,134	352,929
Coffee, after duty taken off, lbs.....	.....	511,666
Drugs, V.....	\$ Nil	\$81
Sugar, above No. 14, D.S., lbs.....	Nil	1,245
Do. 9 and not above 14 lbs.....	564,924	1,308,744
Do. below No. 9, lbs.....	23,035,951	35,295,288
Melado, lbs.....	Nil	269,955
Molasses, gals.....	Nil	473
Hides, No.....	Nil	2,377
Cotton, wool, lbs.....	Nil	8,133
Gutta Percha, lbs.....	Nil	263,142
Total value of imports from Brazil....	\$1,325,320	

Mr. Bentley writes:

"I must draw your attention to the fact that these returns are made up only to the 30th June, 1882, and practically give the six months' results of the benefits of direct communication, the first steamer arriving from Brazil on the 1st January, 1882. You will perceive that in coffee alone the increase has been about 180 per cent. In sugar, taking all grades, the increase has been 50 per cent., while such products as tapioca, drugs, melado, molasses, hides, cotton and gutta percha have been imported direct for the first time, and I may add that the importers are so satisfied with the articles and price that they have continued their orders.