

CURRENT NOTES.

(Boston Manufacturers' Gazette.)

CHIEF ARTHUR, of the Locomotive Brotherhood, enunciates a fact and a principle of profound importance when he says that "there is room enough for every man in a country like this, and every man disposed to work must be allowed to find the chance." Organization is a good thing, but it must not be allowed to destroy individual freedom.

THE other day a steamer sailed from New York loaded with agricultural implements, hardware, machinery, nails, cutlery and manufacturing iron for Buenos Ayres. This is the first extensive shipment to that country. The demand for North American manufactured products in Central and South America could be largely developed if our manufacturers and mechanics had a capital to trust long enough, and the time to go there and see exactly what was wanted.

THIRTY years ago 150,000 people in England were employed in the silk industry; now the number is not more than 60,000. An investigation was recently made by the British Parliament, and the replies received from the silk-manufacturing towns were that the withdrawal of protection and the free importation of French and German goods had caused the decline in the industry. The withdrawal of protection is what our so-called American tariff reformers are constantly demanding.

THE purchasing power of the community is greater now than for several years, from the effect of the enforced economy of the past few years. If 50,000,000 people should save but \$20 a year apiece, the aggregate would be a round billion of dollars. This economy, continued for several years, adds to the power of the individual, and hence of the whole mass, to increase his outlays. Of course that enforced economy which is the result of lack of employment does not subserve the same good purpose. But it is always noticeable in days of depression that those people practice the most economy who need it the least.

THE result of the Fall elections will have a wonderfully stimulating effect upon general manufacturing business. When such tariff reformers as Speaker Carlisle, Mr. Morrison and Mr. Hurd are defeated for Congress, it is reasonably certain that Free Trade theories have received a check that will relieve our vast manufacturing interests of the uncertainty in the policy of Congress in matters of the tariff. New enterprises will be inaugurated and present facilities enlarged, with a reasonable certainty that our own manufacturers may enjoy the trade of the United States without that competition from the pauper labor of Europe which the adoption of a Free Trade policy would invite.

THE most foolish as well as the most defenceless of all the strikes this year is that in eastern New York, under which 25,000 spinners in cotton mills are now out of work at the beginning of winter. The employers in one mill had promoted a young man, who had shown unusual capacity. The spinners' union struck against the promotion. The Knights of Labor endorsed the strike and ordered the young man back to his old place under penalty of expulsion from their order. The young man naturally resented this tyrannical edict, and as his employers stood by him the Knights ordered all their members to stop work. All the spinning factories suspended, but some have resumed with a full complement of non-union men. All the factories will be kept closed until the right of employers to manage their own business in hiring or discharging men is fully established. Present appearances indicate that the Knights must back down.

(St. Louis Age of Steel.)

THE returns from last Tuesday's general election point significantly to the co-operative tendencies of labor in politics as well as industry. But, despite this fact, we have an abiding faith in the permanence of American institutions, political and otherwise.

COL. MORRISON, ex-Congressman from Illinois, does himself no credit in calling John Jarrett "the triplate emissary of Pennsylvania," and ascribing his defeat to "the hiring and bribing of voters" by that gentleman. Those who know Mr. Jarrett will only laugh at the angry and unwarranted aspersions of a badly discomfited politician, smarting under the rebuke of his fellow citizens.

IT is evident from the result of the recent election that there is greater hostility to tariff reduction in 1886 than in 1884. The defeat of Morrison in Illinois, Hurd in Ohio, and the narrow escape of Carlisle in Kentucky, will not be without its lessons to other politicians who insist upon disturbing the business conditions of the entire country for the sake of a little cheap personal notoriety.

As showing the progress of Protection in England, a vote taken in the Manchester Chamber of Commerce last week is pregnant with meaning. On a resolution declaring for Protection, a majority of only one was thrown against it. And yet our English contemporaries would persuade us that Protection is really a bad thing for us.

AMERICAN PATENTS TO CANADIAN INVENTORS.

THE following patents were granted to citizens of the Dominion of Canada, bearing date November 9th, 1886. Reported expressly for this paper by Louis Bagger & Co., Mechanical Experts and Solicitors of Patents, Washington, D.C.:-

Davidson, George, and W. W. Clay, Paris, Ont.,	
needle-cylinder for circular-knitting machines...	352,399
Gerhardt, John, Montreal, Que., compensation pendulum	352,461
Huttemeyer, G. C., Toronto, Ont., manufacturing a confection to contain medicine	352,466
Marcheter, Henry, Wallaceburg, Ont., self-acting safety gate for swing-bridges	352,251
Reed, W. T., Winnipeg, Manitoba, spark arrester	352,353
Robertson, W. H., Toronto, Ont., adjustable head-rest	352,354
Rowe, J. T., Aylmer, Ont., adjustable organ pedal	352,267

TRADE MARK DECISION.

A MANUFACTURER of blacklead in England put up his blacklead in a dome shape and had registered as his trade mark a picture or representation of the peculiar shape in which the blacklead was put up for sale. In an action in which he sought an injunction against an infringement of the trade mark, Mr. Justice Pearson decided that a picture of the object sold could not be a trade mark. This decision has just been overruled by the English Court of Appeal, which has held (Re James' trade mark) that the plaintiff was entitled to have the shape of a dome registered as his trade mark in whatever shape he might make up his blacklead. The court held that such a picture was a "mark," and was "distinctive" within the meaning of the act of 1883. The plaintiff, the court said, could have no monopoly in the actual shape of his blacklead, but the mark selected by him was none the less a "distinctive mark," because the article was sold in the shape of the mark itself, and it might equally be used for articles sold in any other shape.