

pors would be of greater value if they would give fuller details. But, in the first place, it is not always possible to do so, and in the next place, it is not always expedient. Giving these full details prematurely sometimes loses a town a valuable industry which it otherwise would have secured.—*Peterborough Review*.

INFORMATION from various parts of the country is to the effect that immense areas of valuable farming lands were cleared by the recent bush fires. Thousands of acres of beaver meadows and alder bushes were burnt over so that they are entirely cleared, and people are commencing to plough them just as if they were prairies. Thousands of acres of fine swamp land, too, are laid flat that will undoubtedly ere long make the finest valley farming land. The fires have not proved an unmitigated evil.

A MEETING of the directors of the Oatmeal Miller's Association was held in this city last week, and the proceedings were supposed to be entirely secret. The association is said to embrace every oatmeal miller in Ontario except three. This is the first official meeting of the directors since the organization of the association, which occurred in Toronto, October 13 and 14; an account of which has already been published in this JOURNAL. The meeting held last week was for the purpose of putting the combination in working order and effectively controlling output and prices.

IN connection with the fisheries protection service of the season just terminated, it is not generally known that the Dominion cruiser *Vigilant* is none other than the quondam United States fishing vessel *Highland Light*. That vessel was seized in September, 1886, for fishing within the three mile limit. No defence was entered and she was condemned and ordered to be sold by the Vice-Admiralty court at Charlotte-town. At the sale she was bought by the Dominion Government, and this year, has done effective service in preventing that for which she was condemned a year ago.

THE *Paris Review* is the only newspaper in Canada that keeps standing at the head of its editorial columns a brief description of the geography and business history of the town; its social advantages, and a more or less complete list of the leading manufacturing industries of the place. With a copy of the *Review* in hand any one can, at a glance, learn who the leading manufacturers there are and their respective lines of business. We wish that other local newspapers would adopt the same or similar methods of imparting such information concerning Canadian industrial establishments.

Two young men who were convicted of setting fire to buildings in Kingston have been sentenced, in one case to imprisonment for life in the penitentiary, and to twenty one years in the other. We will await further developments and see if the Hamilton Bricklayers' Union conspirators, who are interfering with the work being done in that city, and are trying to have the labouring man Buscombe forced away from his work because he will not suffer himself to be blackmailed by them, will meet with similar justice. There is plenty of work within the Kingston penitentiary walls awaiting just such fellows, and they ought to be put at it without delay.

MR. GOLDWIN SMITH issued a circular notice last week calling a meeting of those who are favorable to Commercial Union, to be held in this city on the evening of Nov. 3, for the purpose of organizing. Vigorous efforts are being made to keep some show of life in the movement, but it is up-hill work. The next session of the United States Congress assembles just a month hence—on December 7—when Mr. Butterworth promises to do wonders in the direction indicated. But Commercial Union has received quite a number of staggering blows recently, and the prospect is, so far as the United States Congress is concerned, that it will "die a bornin'."

DURING the year 1886 there were distributed from the office of the *Bulletin* of the American Iron and Steel Association, Philadelphia, 364,500 tariff tracts and 40,000 tariff cards, and thus far in this year there has been distributed 173,282 tariff tracts. The *Bulletin* is prepared to respond promptly to a still larger demand for this sort of literature, and invites Protectionists to avail themselves of the facilities it possesses for educating the people correctly on the tariff question. The tracts are sent free of cost to clubs and individual applicants. This is the way American Protectionists are protecting their National Policy from the assaults of the Evil One, but what are Canadian Protectionists doing in this direction?

ANENT the relative merits of Canadian and American illuminating and lubricating oils, in a certain community in Canada where two years ago but 2,500 barrels of one and 50 barrels of the other of Canadian make were consumed, this year, we are informed, the consumption has reached 8,000 barrels of illuminating and 2,000 barrels of lubricating. It is confidently asserted by many who are in a position to know that the best quality of Canadian illuminating oil is fully equal to any made in the United States. The prejudice against the domestic article is fast wearing away, and consumers who are wise do not pay several cents a gallon more for Yankee oil than they are charged for an equally good article of home production.

The State of Illinois will soon be called upon to legislate against the use of water gas. The number of "accidents"—rather murders—that occur in Chicago from the escape of this vile poison is awful. The Dominion, or the Provinces, or both, should take up the subject in Canada. The forbidding of the use of water-gas would merely reduce illegitimate profits a little.—*Toronto Globe*.

THE *Globe* is constantly berating monopolies and crying out for greater freedom for the people, but this little editorial squib is a dead give-away. Water gas, so-called, is no more dangerous in any respect than any other illuminating gas, but is much cheaper than that commonly used made from coal, and the *Globe's* call for legislation forbidding its use is clearly in the interest of the old gas companies.

AT a meeting held in the Mayor's office in this city on October 27, of which Mr. James Worthington was chairman, and Mr. J. M. Loeser secretary, and which was adjourned pursuant to call of chairman, a committee was appointed to investigate and report on matters pertaining to the establishment of iron rolling mills in Toronto. That committee have announced that they were ready to report, and the presence of interested