

number of women thus reported is 17,427, and is from six to seven per cent. of the whole number engaged in the classes of work under investigation.

The work of investigation has been carried on for the most by women employed for the purpose, and difficulties encountered may be realized from the fact that there is a reluctance on the part of working women to give the desired information, and it was only obtained by a personal interview with each of the 17,000 reported.

While the work is necessarily and undeniably incomplete, it is, nevertheless, of more or less value upon the subject, and throws considerable light upon the condition, circumstances and surroundings of that class of wage earners obliged to support themselves by manual labor.

A large portion of the work is given up to tabulated statistics, which cannot be noted at length or separately. The average weekly earnings in all the cities mentioned is put at \$5.24. The average lost time of those reporting is given as thirty six days per year.

As above mentioned, the work is very incomplete, as many of the more important industries are either entirely omitted or only incidentally noticed, and the number of workers reported shows but a small proportion of the whole number of working women employed in manual labor in the country. In order to have the report of full value, all these should be included, and would probably make a very different showing in the statistical tables. The subject is one of great interest and importance, when fully considered. There is probably no country where women are held in higher esteem, or their condition in life less difficult and degrading than there, still, notwithstanding our boasted progress and advanced civilization, the facts brought out by an investigation of this character go far toward showing that even in America woman's condition and surroundings, socially, morally and intellectually, are far from what they should be, and not in keeping with our nineteenth century ideas of civilization and morality.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A LAW has been enacted by Chili, to take effect January 1st, 1890, abolishing import duties on machines and tools for use in agriculture, mining, trades and industries.

SOME of our St. Louis contemporaries may think we are doing a rash thing to offer to find a pair of Canadian snowshoes sufficiently large to fit the feet of a Chicago belle; but we can't take "back sass" from any Free Trader.

A COMPANY has been formed in London, Eng., for the purpose of erecting a tower in that city on the Eiffel plan. The tower is to be 1,250 feet high, and £500 is offered as a prize for the best design for the work, and £250 for the second best design. The competition is open to the world.

A FEW days ago the employes of the Toronto Brewing and Malting Company, this city, demanded that they should be allowed six pints of beer each daily while at work. They declared they would go out on strike if their request were not granted. They got the beer. It is awful how capital oppresses

labor, and how hard labor has to struggle to obtain and maintain its "rights"

At a recent interview of delegates from the Toronto Trades and Labor Council with the special committee of the City Council, anent the enactment of a scaffolding by law, Mr. John Armstrong, one of the delegates, not being satisfied with the slow haste being made in the matter, declared to the committee, "If you do not look out the Trades and Labor Council will have to come down and run the whole civic machinery."

THE Illinois Steel Company, of Chicago, announce that they possess a mine capable of producing tin ore in paying quantities, and that they will at once enter upon the construction of works for the development of the industry. The company believe in the feasibility of the enterprise to the extent of \$5,000,000, the amount they propose to put into it. Will our esteemed friend, the *American Artisan*, take notice of this fact?

EIGHT or nine years ago—about the time Mr. Garfield became President of the United States—the price for high grade plate glass at Pittsburgh, Pa., was \$2.25 per square foot. Now a very superior quality of the article is sold there at 80 cents per square foot. Up to about the time mentioned nearly all the plate glass used in that country was imported. Under protection plate glass works have sprung up in different parts of the country, with the result as shown. Protection is a great thing where the production of plate glass is concerned.

At the rate of gain shown during the last three years in the manufacture of pig iron in the United States, within the next five years that country will make more pig iron than any other country in the world. If the production now going on there should cover the entire year, the total output will reach 7,900,000 tons. As it is, the total output for 1889 will certainly reach 7,750,000 tons, or about 1,300,000 tons more than in 1888. And this, too, in the face of a protective duty of \$6 per ton, which is fifty per cent. higher than the Canadian duty on pig iron.

For the fourth time in five years and the second time this year, pending a strike conducted by D. A. 49, K. of L., of New York, dynamite has been resorted to; and as yet none of the dynamiters have been convicted. The last occasion was on Oct. 3rd, when Scanlan's slaughter house and wool-pulling establishment in that city, was wrecked by dynamite. The Scanlan's place has been boycotted by the Edison association of wool pullers and members of D. A. 49, K. of L., since February last. The new men went out on strike then, and the Scanlans have since refused to treat with them. Time bombs have been used in all the explosions that have occurred in 49's boycotts.

It is highly desirable that the manufacture of pig iron in Ontario should be encouraged. At present there are only two points in Canada where pig iron is made from the ore—Londonderry, N.S., and Three Rivers, P.Q. The establishment of furnaces certainly places the iron industry on the proper basis.