

THE London, Eng., *Canada Gazette*, discussing the immigration of Chinese into British Columbia, quotes Mr. Parmelee, Dominion Commissioner of Customs, who it declares to be an expert, as saying:

The people of the Pacific slope from Mexico to Alaska could not exist two weeks without the Chinese. They cultivate the vineyards and the farms, the market gardens and the fisheries, and, in great part, the mines and mills, not to speak of domestic labor. Without the labor of the Chinese it is evident there would be a famine in British Columbia and a crash.

The Chinese may be very useful in the occupations alluded to by Mr. Parmelee, but the people of the Pacific slope, particularly those of British Columbia, are not as hopelessly helpless as this expert Commissioner of Customs would lead people to believe. We do not believe that there would be either crash or famine there if the country were denuded of Chinese, nor would the British Anglo-Saxons, who have prospered in every other portion of the world, cease to exist without the presence of the Celestials. In fact, the whole of Canada would be better off if there were no Chinamen in it.

THE net debt of the Dominion of Canada at the end of the fiscal year for the past four years, has been as follows:

|      |               |
|------|---------------|
| 1889 | \$237,530,042 |
| 1890 | 237,533,212   |
| 1891 | 237,809,030   |
| 1892 | 235,910,173   |

During these four years large expenditures have been made on public works, and large subsidies have been given in aid of railway construction.

At the same time taxes have been remitted to a large extent.

What the Dominion Government is doing for the public is this:

1. The public service is being improved.
2. The expenditure is being lessened.
3. The taxes are being lowered.
4. The debt is being reduced.

Will some of our Reform friends tell us what better results of good government they can reasonably demand?—*Hamilton Spectator*.

The question is not propounded to us, but we venture to suggest that better results would have accrued to the people if the Government had:

1. Put free sugar on the poor man's breakfast table.
2. Put an export duty on nickel ore and matte.
3. Restored the export duty on saw logs.

THE fact that the mills at Fall River have paid more than \$325,000 in dividends for the second quarter's work of the current year, representing an average of 1.67 per cent. on capital as against 1.61 per cent. for the preceding year, does not show such a deplorable state of things in the Massachusetts cotton trade as many would have the public believe. At this rate the return on capital for the year would be nearly 7 per cent., and this it must be borne in mind, represents only a part of the net results in the way of profits from trade. As compared with last year, when the dividends declared amounted to about 5.7 per cent., the present showing is extremely satisfactory. At the same time, the present situation is favorable to a much better showing for the remainder of the year, for the mills are well stocked up with cotton which was purchased at the low prices prevailing some time ago, and the advance in the price of cloth makes the margin of profit to manufacturers still greater. The mills, too, are enjoying a season of great activity, and at the same time there is no accumulation of stocks, for the demand is sufficiently sharp to enable the mills to dis-

pose of their output as fast as it is produced. In addition to this, new mills of large capacity are being constructed, and the number of spindles extensively increased in many of the old establishments, which makes it plain that, so far at least as Massachusetts is concerned, there is no evidence of declining prosperity among cotton manufacturers.—*Philadelphia Manufacturers' Review*.

This shows what protection is doing for the cotton manufacturing industry in New England, and what it is probably doing in Canada. The raw material comes into this country duty free, and the cost of laying it down in Canadian mills ought not to materially exceed the cost in Massachusetts.

THE Victoria, B. C., *Commercial Journal* desires to have manufacturing industries established in that Province. Hear it:

The need of manufacturing industries in Victoria, and in the whole Province for that matter, fully manifested itself during the dulness incident to the visitation of smallpox. If manufacturing were carried on as extensively as it very well could be in this Province, the contraction would have scarcely made itself felt. The creation of wealth and the consequent prosperity of the people would have gone on, and therefore the purchasing power of the people would not have been perceptibly restricted. Although our manufacturing industries have increased rapidly and large amounts of money have been added to the capital employed in manufacturing, our cities are practically without industrial institutions, as compared with their importance and the opportunity presented for carrying on such works.

Certainly Victoria is not lacking in the wealth required to engage in such enterprises. It is doubtful if any city in Canada can produce men with such high ratings as are to be found here, and to the credit of many of them it can be said that they have in the past evinced a disposition to invest their capital in a manner beneficial alike to the city and Province. But there are others who have not done so, and are not likely to let a dollar get so far away from them that it cannot be pulled back with a string. These men are of no use to themselves nor to the community which is unfortunate enough to be their abode.

As has before been pointed out in these columns, the illimitable resources of this Province offer unprecedented inducements for manufacturing enterprises. Coal, iron, lumber, minerals and other raw products occur in endless profusion throughout the Province, and if judiciously developed would eventually build up a Province unexcelled for permanent prosperity and substantiality. It would be well for our business men to consider that, while railroads are an essential necessity to the prosperity of the Province, we must also have something here for them to do when they are built.

A SPECIAL telegram in the *Toronto Globe* a few days ago, from Halifax, N. S., related the following:

The Richelieu & Ontario Navigation Company, which is composed of leading Canadian protectionists, has just played a trick upon the Dominion Government that places the N. P. in a somewhat ridiculous light. Recently the company got a new steamer built at the works of John Roach, of Chester. She is named the *Columbian*, is of iron and her construction and equipment are of modern and expensive style, after the style of the magnificent Sound boats. Before the ship could be put under the Canadian registry the owners would have to pay twenty-five per cent. on the cost, which was \$200,000. To do the Government out of this duty the Company took the *Columbian* to Newfoundland and had her registered there under the British flag without any tax, and she is now on her way to Quebec to engage in passenger traffic on the St.