

Ontario. What has built up Sheffield, Manchester, Leeds? Was it not that the merchant marine of England traversed the whole globe and gathered cocoons from the south of France and India, and woods and dyes from various countries and brought them to England, where the skill of the English artisans made them into goods which commanded the approval of the world? We have surely intelligence enough to take our timber and make it into manufactured goods instead of sending it to the Old Country and having it manufactured there. We surely have intelligence enough to take our own raw wool and make woollen goods of it. We surely have intelligence enough to convert our wheat into flour and send the manufactured product abroad, and in the same way why not take our nickel, or copper, or iron ore, and encourage the manufacture of these into the finished article?"

This is just such an enlightened and progressive view of the crying needs of the country and the obvious practical duty of the administration as entirely coincides with the opinions which have always been voiced by THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURER, and were we to withhold our cordial approval and support of a policy entered upon in this spirit, we should be false to the principles we have at heart and the interests we represent. It has been the misfortune of Canada that too many of those entrusted with power, or possessing the means of making their influence felt upon public opinion, while professing to make the progress and prosperity of the country their first consideration, have regarded all measures put forward for the development of our material interests from the narrow standpoint of faction, and viewed such proposals solely with regard to their effect upon the chances of their party in gaining or keeping office. It is to be hoped that broader and more patriotic views may prevail in a matter so vitally affecting the interests of Canadian industry, as the forward movement now initiated by the Provincial Government of Ontario, and that measures so wisely calculated to place the Province in the position Nature destined her to occupy, as a wealthy, progressive and populous community, will commend themselves to the support of the Legislature, as they certainly must to the approval of the public-spirited and enterprising men interested in promoting home manufactures.

#### PARCELS POST FACILITIES.

The British Post Office Department appreciates the commercial value of a domestic and foreign parcels post system, and has recently made extensive additions to it, and this incites American Trade, which is published under the auspices of the National Association of Manufacturers of the United States, to remark that it would be an exceedingly good thing for the United States to establish a similar system which would enable that country to be in a position to enter more largely into conventions with other countries.

Our esteemed contemporary discusses the matter as follows:—

The Duke of Norfolk, Postmaster-General of Great Britain, has taken considerable interest in the extension of a foreign parcels post by giving equal advantages to the British colonies and other nations in return for extended facilities offered by them. The foreign and colonial parcels post has recently been extended by England to Russia, Formosa, the Banks and Santa Cruz Islands, the Comoro Islands, Kiaochau in China, Nigeria, Guatemala, and Bolivia. England has also recently extended the system under which the senders of parcels can take upon themselves the payment of the customs duty levied in the country of destination to their service with France and the French possessions, Sweden and the Leeward Islands.

In his last annual report, dated March 31, 1899, the Duke of Norfolk gives an account of some recent extensions with the colonies, which is a hint to the United States as to the commercial advantage of a parcels post. The Duke of Norfolk states:

An important step has been taken towards simplifying and making uniform the postage on parcels exchanged between the United Kingdom and other parts of the Empire. I took the opportunity of the meetings held by the Imperial Postal Conference to bring forward a scheme for adopting, whenever possible, a scale of—

1s. for a parcel weighing not over 3 lbs

2s. for a parcel weighing over 3 lbs., but not over 7 lbs.

3s. for a parcel weighing over 7 lbs. but not over 11 lbs.

The proposal met with wide approval, and since the beginning of the present year the scale has been brought into operation in the parcels post with the undermentioned places:

Antigua.	British East Africa.
Ascension.	British Guiana.
Bahamas.	British Honduras.
Barbados.	Beyrout.
Ceylon.	Niger Coast Protectorate.
Constantinople (by direct steamer).	Niger Territory (Nigeria).
Cyprus.	St. Helena.
Dominica.	St. Kitts.
Falkland Islands.	St. Lucia.
Gambia.	St. Vincent (West Indies).
Gibraltar.	Sarawak.
Gold Coast Colony.	Seychelles.
Grenada.	Sierra Leone.
Johore (via Singapore).	Smyrna (by direct steamer.)
Lagos (Africa).	Straits Settlements.
Malta (by direct steamer).	Tobago.
Montserrat.	Tortola.
Nevis.	Trinidad.
Newfoundland.	Zanzibar.

The simplicity in the scale and the reduction in the postage on heavy parcels which it involves, seems likely to give a great impetus to the parcel post with the colonies.

The report states that the total number of parcels sent to and received from places abroad during the year was 2,243,865—an increase of about 8 per cent. in the number in the previous year. The parcels received from abroad increased in a considerably larger ratio than those sent abroad, owing chiefly to the fact that a very large growth took place in the number received from France, Germany, and Italy. Other large increases were in the service with British East Africa, Canada, Hong Kong, India, and South Africa. On the other hand, there was a falling off in the number of parcels sent to Colombia, Spain, and the West Indies. According to the Board of Trade returns the value of the goods exported and imported by parcels post during the last two years was as follows:

	1897-98.	1898-99.	Increase.
Exported . . . . .	£2,070,417	£2,200,773	£130,356
Imported . . . . .	1,124,724	1,265,623	142,899
Total . . . . .	£3,195,141	£3,466,396	£273,255

The total number of foreign and colonial parcels insured shows an increase of over 20 per cent., being 141,475 (59,392 despatched, and 82,083 received) as against 117,545 in the previous year.

Such parcels post facilities as England enjoys, both at home and abroad, would be of infinite value to the manufacturers, the merchants and consumers in the United States.

F. H. Clergue, Esq., president of the Sault Ste. Marie Pulp and Paper Co., writing to the editor of THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURER, says: "We think all Canadian manufacturers should support your excellent journal." Kind words can never die.