

protective tariff should act the part of wet nurse to these languishing babes, and nourish and strengthen them during the trying period of their infancy." We fail to see how articles on the free list could be brought into the category of "protected industries," for if they could be brought in duty free they certainly were not "protected." Some of the articles regarding which legislation is asked are: Wire ropes for ships, now free, to be made dutiable. When this article was put on the free list it was not manufactured in Canada, but there are now works in Canada where such rope is made, and therefore entitled to protection. To place a duty on rennet extract: This is a new industry and entitled to protection. To increase the duty on certain plushes used as linings for boots and shoes: This is to protect a new industry, not to "pamper" an old one. To place a duty on rubber clothing, now free: This article has never before been manufactured in Canada. To admit mining machinery free into British Columbia is not to "protect" the manufacture of such machinery in Canada; and to remove the export duty on logs is not to show any great favoritism to Canadian saw mills.

REPRESENTATIVE Baker, of Rochester, N. Y., has presented a bill in the United States House of Representatives, which aims to regulate commerce between that country and Canada. It is intended to be a retaliation measure, to punish Canada for arranging her tariff laws to suit herself; and the *Mail* and some other annexation papers publish the bill in full, and give lengthy editorial comments regarding it. There never was a more silly waste of printer's ink and paper than in publishing the stuff; and only those who desire to deceive and frighten credulous readers pretend to attach any importance to it. No matter how much anti-Canadians might desire to have the United States Congress commit such a foolish act as to pass such a law, they know, or ought to know, that the very importance of it would demand and receive more time for discussion than there were days intervening between the time the bill was offered and the close of Congress by limitation on March 4th.

THE Canadian Furniture Manufacturers' Association, which was organized at Guelph, Ont., January 11th, held an adjourned meeting in Galt, Ont., on February 12th, and again adjourned to meet in Toronto, March 5th. The meeting on February 12th was held with closed doors, but it is understood that among the more important matters discussed were that of closer discrimination in giving credits; shortening the time on credits, etc. Also regarding an effort to induce the railroads to allow more favorable transportation rates on the cheaper products of the factories. The by-laws of the Association are to be printed and distributed to the trade, who are to be requested to co-operate with the Association. An invitation is to be extended to all Canadian furniture manufacturers to be present at the March meeting in Toronto. Among the manufacturers present were Messrs. R. Darling, Harriston; T. C. Burr, Guelph; J. Hay, Woodstock; Jas. Whiting, Bowmanville; Thos. Bell, Wingham; M. T. Box, Seaforth;—Baird, Plattsville; Mr. Klippert, Waterloo; Wm. Snyder, Waterloo; E. F. R. Zoelner, Mount Forest; H. A. Simpson, Berlin; Guggisberg Bros., Preston; Mr. Ellis, Hault Mnfr. Co., Ingersoll.

A BILL has been introduced into the California Legislature appropriating a sufficient sum of money with which to purchase jute machinery and erect suitable buildings for the manufacture of jute goods at the California State prison at Folsom. It is argued in behalf of the scheme that a large saving can be made in the cost of production by utilizing the labor of the convicts; and the support of the farmers of the State is asked in urging the measure. There is a jute mill at Oakland, that State, in which a large amount of money is invested, and which produces an excellent article of goods, which is sold at only a small advance upon prime cost, these works giving employment to about four hundred hands. If the California humanitarians carry out their scheme to manufacture jute goods within the walls of the State prison, and by convict labor, no doubt the four hundred free hands at the Oakland factory will be discharged and the works become valueless. It is a repetition of the old, old, story—starve free labor, and make paupers and criminals of them for the sake of teaching manual trades to cut-throats and murderers, so that they may be useful citizens by and by. All the spokes of the wheel are alike.

*The American Manufacturer*, of Pittsburgh, Pa., tells of the arrival in that city of Mr. Edward James, of the Hope Iron and Tin Plate Company, of Tipton, England, who states that the tariff agitation in the United States over the tin plate industry had disturbed the trade in the old country to a great extent. He thought that in the event of the Senate Tariff Act becoming law the concern in which he was interested would be wound up, and his business in the United States was to select a place in which to begin the manufacture of tin plate. He states that in the event of the passage of the proposed Tariff Act, and the establishment of tin plate works in the United States, large numbers of the skilled workmen now employed in the business in Great Britain would seek employment in the new works on this side the water. Speaking of the industry, he said that there are at present 203 mills in Great Britain, where the plates and fine iron are manufactured, and twenty-two mills are idle. He did not care to be quoted on the number of men employed at these mills, but he believed that fully 100,000 are engaged. Most of these men would come to the United States for employment if the industry is shut off by the tariff.

A GRAND opportunity to secure a good billet is offered to Canadian railway men. The Parliament of Queensland recently passed an Act placing the whole construction, maintenance and management of railways under a board of three commissioners. The Government of that colony is desirous of receiving applications from gentlemen competent to fill the positions of chief commissioner, and one of the other commissioners. Full particulars are given in the *Canada Gazette* as to the nature of the duties required. The commissioners will hold office for seven years. The annual salary of the chief commissioner will be £3,000, and of the other commissioner, £1,500. The commissioners are not to engage, during their term of office, in any employment outside the duties of the position. The Government railways will be invested absolutely in the commissioners, and the expenditure of money for railways appropriated by Parliament is to be under their direction and control.