

of workingmen the farm hand is always left out. Farm wages are decreasing and necessarily so, because farm profits are vanishing. After a while the non-agricultural people of this country may have the idea lodged in their heads that there can be no healthy and permanent prosperity while the farmers, forty per cent. of the people, grow continuously poorer.

Mr. Laurier, the Premier to be, cannot be considered an enthusiastic admirer of protection. In a speech made by him in Montreal on January 22, 1895, speaking of two of our most important industries, he said:—

But there are two articles which are the raw materials of every manufacturer, and these articles are coal and iron, and are they free? If you have a revenue tariff, the object will be to develop the country, and all raw material should be free under such a tariff.

Mr. Laurier does not seem to have it settled in his mind just what "raw materials" really are, but he seems fully determined to have a whack at our iron industry. The Spectator, alluding to this industry, says:—

During the past three or four years there has been a marked increase in the production of Canadian pig iron. Canada now produces 49.44 per cent., or virtually one-half of the total pig iron consumed by her manufacturers, and the percentage is increasing every month. We consume about 100,000 tons of pig iron a year, of which we make 50,000 tons ourselves. At the present time considerably over 3,000 men find employment in this industry, either at the furnaces or at the mines getting out the ore, or in the forest making charcoal. The production of steel in Canada, made from Canadian pig iron amounted in 1895 to 16,200 tons. For 1896 the output will be considerably larger, as a new steel-producing plant has been in operation in Hamilton since the first of the year. In this department of our industry a large number of men are employed, mostly skilled mechanics, making good wages. The rolling mills of Canada employ 2,557 men at the present time, being an increase of 541 over the number employed in 1891, according to the census of that year. The previous census returns show that in 1881 only 700 men were employed in Canada's rolling mills. To the N.P. must be credited the great development that has taken place in the various industries concerned with iron production in Canada. We ought not to lose sight of the fact that the majority of the men employed in these industries are married and have families. If all the people who are supported by the Canadian iron industries were brought together they would form a city larger than Hamilton. Yet this is the very industry that Mr. Laurier promises to wipe out of existence.

In a special telegram in the Globe from Bowmanville, Ont., it is stated that at a recent meeting there Mr. John W. Alexander, president and general manager of the Dominion Organ and Piano Co., of that place, assented to the publication of his views upon the tariff policy best suited to Canada, which included the following statement: (1) That he would not support any Government adopting a revenue tariff as low as 17½ per cent. (2) That any manufacturing concern which cannot live and prosper under a twenty-five or thirty per cent. tariff over the outside world should be allowed to retire from business. (3) That Mr. McConnel, a member of the company, had waited upon Mr. Laurier and asked him what was his policy upon the business in which they were engaged, and Mr. Laurier replied that organs and pianos, being luxuries, would be highly taxed under any tariff he would frame, whilst the tax upon the raw materials entering into the manufacture

of the instruments would be reduced. (4) That a policy of this kind would be more beneficial to him as a manufacturer than the present tariff. Without doubt a tariff arranged as above outlined would well suit Mr. Alexander and any and all other manufacturers of organs and pianos in Canada. Being luxuries, says Mr. Laurier, they are to be highly taxed, while the duty upon "raw materials" entering into their construction is to be reduced. Raising the duty would give Mr. Alexander the opportunity to correspondingly advance the price of his goods, thereby increasing his profits, and reducing the duty on his raw materials would give him a further opportunity to still further increase his profits. Mr. Alexander knows, if Mr. Laurier does not, that he has no foreign competition in his special lines of products—that there are enough organ and piano factories in Canada to supply the entire demands of the country, and that a concern with which he was at one time associated do a very large export trade in these articles. All of these concerns are earning fair returns upon their investments; and if Mr. Laurier really intends doing what Mr. Alexander says he has promised, their profits will be larger than ever. Mr. Alexander, it will be observed, does not promise increased pay to his skilled workmen when the Laurier regime comes into power.

LITERARY NOTES.

The Methodist Magazine and Review for July enters upon its forty-fourth volume with vigor. Its articles on "Anglo-Saxon Supremacy," and on "The Mennonites of Manitoba," have quite a Dominion Day flavor. Mr. Chant, of Toronto University, contributes a paper on "Michael Faraday," the eminent scientist. There are also finely illustrated articles on "Our Indian Empire," "Dalmatia and Its Memories," "Trades and occupations in Bible Lands," and a address on Arbitration by Lady Henry Somerset.

Scribner's Magazine for July contains a most readable article by Julian Ralph on Coney Island, illustrated by Henry McCarter. Coney Island is unique and peculiarly a New York production. Mr. Ralph calls it "our sun-bath and ice-box combined, our extra lung, our private, gigantic fan." He sketches its development from the early seventies down to its present complex and impressive charms—a resort which eight million people have visited in one year. The illustrations by Henry McCarter reveal what a man with a genius for seeing the picturesque finds in such a glaring mixture of the bright and ugly as exists at Coney Island.

The Ladies' Home Journal for July opens with a sumptuously illustrated article on Joan of Arc and her home, by Emma A. Hopkins, who entertainingly writes of the childhood and religious life of the Maid. Hezekiah Butterworth tells a Brook Farm story, "The Wife of Ben Bow," and Alice W. Rollins humorously romances of "A Town Bicycle." A trio of poems of the field, framed in a drawing by W. H. Gibson, and a musical composition—"The Lyndon Polka," by Mrs. Frances J. Moore, are page features. Ex-President Harrison discusses the Department of State, bringing into review, also, the diplomatic and consular service, and the Great Seal of the United States. In "Feeding a City Like New York" John G. Speed makes some astonishing statements, presents surprising figures, and asserts that New Yorkers could live comfortably for four months in case of a siege cutting off all their food supplies. The Curtis Publishing Company, Philadelphia; one dollar per year, ten cents per copy.

Outing for July is an ideal summer number. It opens with a valuable article on "The Trotting and Pacing Champions of To-Day," by E. B. Abercrombie. This is profusely illustrated with portraits of the equine wonders which promise to this season shave the two-minute mark. The fiction is unusually strong, including "Two Handicaps," a fascinating story of the turf, from the pen of Caroline Shelley; and "My Match With Eileen," by L. O. Robbins, an adventure in Ireland, in which the wheel plays a conspicuous part. Other notable features are "The Twenty-Raters," by R. B. Burchard; "Swimming," by Ed. W. Sandys; "The Cruise of the Snark," by G. A. Warder, and "A Night With White Goats," by Mary Trowbridge Townsend. The numerous portraits of famous horses and yachts in this number are alone worth many times the price of Outing.