mines; the mining operations being carried on all the year round. Our argument was that while Mr. Ledyard could, by the payment of wretchedly small wages, mine his ores at a cost of one dollar per ton, this sum including a "profit to the mine owners;" the owners of the Lake Superior mines paid their miners an average of $1.60 per ton net, at which price the miners could and did earn an average of $2.10 per day, the year round.

According to the *Globe*, Canadian miners are now receiving higher wages than they could possibly hope to receive under Reciprocity, but how much the reduction would be that paper does not say; and we call the attention of Canadian miners to the fact that even now, without Reciprocity, Mr. Ledyard declares that he can mine his ores at a cost of a dollar a ton, including a profit to the mine owners, while the best the *Globe* can promise them is that under Reciprocity they could not obtain as much.

Mr. Ledyard's is not the only company owning iron mines in a country foreign to the United States that wants the American duty removed for the sake of enjoying free access to that market. The Pennsylvania Steel Company, who have recently erected extensive furnaces on tidewater near Baltimore, have valuable iron mines in the Island of Cuba; and they, like Mr. Ledyard, say that they can mine their ores and put them on shipboard there at a cost of one dollar a ton. If there was no duty they could lay their ores down at their furnaces at a cost of a dollar a ton, plus the freight, just as Mr. Ledyard says that he could lay his Canadian ores down at American consuming points at a dollar a ton, plus the freight, under Reciprocity. Mr. Ely is also authority for the statement that the average cost of explosives, tools, timber, etc., required in his mining operations during the past eight years was seventy-two cents a ton. Our argument was and is that the wages of Canadian miners should be measured by the compensation paid to American miners rather than by that paid for slave labor in the Island of Cuba. According to the Pennsylvania Steel Company, their Cuban ores can be delivered f.o.b. ship at one dollar a ton; and according to Mr. Ledyard, his Canadian ores can now be delivered f.o.b. cars at one dollar a ton, although the *Globe* promises that under Reciprocity the cost would be less. No one doubts that the most systematic economy prevails in the working of the Lake Superior mines; and that it would be impossible for Mr. Ledyard to operate his Canadian mines at less cost for explosives, tools, timber, etc. This cost Mr. Ely places at seventy-two cents a ton. It would certainly cost Mr. Ledyard quite as much, and it probably costs the Pennsylvania Steel Company quite as much in their Cuba mines. Both Mr. Ledyard and the Pennsylvania Steel Company declare their ability to deliver their ores f.o.b. at one dollar a ton, and this at 'a profit to the mine owners.' The difference then between the one dollar a ton cost delivered and the seventy-two cents a ton cost of explosives, tools, timber, etc.—say twenty-eight cents—would be the measure of wages paid the miners for doing the work, and out of this ridiculously small pittance Mr. Ledyard says there would be "a profit to the mine owners." This "profit" could scarcely be estimated at less than three cents a ton, leaving but twenty-five cents a ton net for the miner.

Perhaps twenty-five cents a ton may be the usual compensation paid for slave labor in Cuban iron mines. Perhaps it is convict labor; and that the negro convicts there are farmed out after the Georgia style, where accused negroes are supposed to be guilty of some offence until they can prove their innocence; and where all the contractor can get for his convict slaves is clear money. Does Mr. Ledyard propose to dig out the ore from his Canadian mines in a similar manner? It could not be done in any other way for the money. Free Americans, as we have shown, receive $1.60 a ton for mining ore, and Canadian miners should not be expected to work for less.

Meantime we suggest that Canadian miners are not to be gulled by the invitation to compete with negro slave labor by mining Mr. Ledyard's ores at twenty five cents a ton.

DUTY *vs.* BONUS.

RECENTLY in discussing the wonderful increase in the manufacture of pig iron in the United States since the duty on iron ore was raised from twenty per cent. ad valorem to seventy-five cents per ton, we enquired, "Why should not Canada, under similar influences, become equally independent?" We ventured the assertion that Canada has within herself all the requisites for the manufacture of iron, and that what we need is blast furnaces and iron and steel works—"enough of them right now to produce at least 300,000 tons a year." In answer to this the *American Economist* says:

> What Canada needs is not blast furnaces and iron and steel works, but common sense on the part of her Legislators, a greater knowledge of markets, and less regard for maxims.

The *Economist's* argument is that Canada might have these works and then not be able to furnish herself with the iron and steel she requires The United States had blast furnaces and rolling mills in 1846, but on the withdrawal of Protection the fires went out in them, and were not again kindled until the renewal of Protection. The United States has had protective duties on pig iron, as high as $9 a ton, and that country is now entirely independent of the world in that respect. Canada, however, has only recently attained a duty as high as $4 a ton; and her supply of iron is merely being transferred from British to American hands. The indictment is a true bill. Owing to some unaccountable theory, or because of timorousness in this direction, the Dominion Government have never shown any vigorous desire to have the iron industry in its different branches established in Canada. Owing to some peculiarly favorable local circumstances, and with the aid of a bonus upon the output, the Londonderry Iron Company have been able to operate their furnaces on a limited scale: but besides this the $4 duty on pig iron has been and is a tariff for revenue only, and not for Protection.

The pig iron industry in Canada is in very similar condition to the tin-plate industry in the United States. The duties upon these yield large revenues to the respective countries, but thus far they have not served to induce the extensive manufacture of the articles. Under a duty of $4 a ton, the successful manufacture of pig iron in Canada seems to be an impossibility; while if that duty was considerably increased, making it at least equal to that of the United States, no doubt Canada would soon be in a condition to manufacture all the