

which Mr. Freed is the editor; and Mr. Freed, the Labor Commissioner, therefore certainly knew of them. Our editorial regarding the matter was brought to Mr. Freed's attention through the comments thereon in another journal, to which he makes reply in the *Spectator* to the effect that he has been in "blissful ignorance" regarding the matter, and that he "dislikes worry and loss of sleep." It is not quite clear just what Mr. Freed means by this latter expression, but the object of his appointment on the Commission was to investigate just such circumstances as those to which his special attention was called, but concerning which he "dislikes worry." We presume Mr. Freed draws his salary as commissioner with great punctuality.

THAT staunch champion of American manufacturing industries, the late Henry C. Carey, of Philadelphia, in a series of letters written by him to Hon. Schuyler Colfax, who was at the time Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, demonstrated the proposition that in that country the question of maintaining a protective tariff was especially the farmers' question; that without a large development of the mining and manufacturing industries spread over the country as would bring a non agricultural population into agricultural districts, the people would degenerate into mere producers of bulky raw materials. Without such a diversification of employments, giving sympathy and solidity to productive pursuits, there would be no home market for cereals and other great agricultural staples, as every farmer would supply his own wants. Whereas mining and manufacturing reduce the number of farmers and give to the diminished number home markets for at least 90 per cent. of their staples, exclusive of cotton, and also make markets for milk, butter, cheese, poultry, eggs, veal, lamb, fruits, vegetables and other matter which pay well when sold in a near market, but which will not pay for or even bear distant transportation. These facts apply with equal force to Canada.

THE recent decision in the United States Court of Iowa affecting the validity of what are known as the barb wire patents, owned by the Washburn & Moen Manufacturing Company, of Worcester, Mass., does not seem to have completely assured the licensed manufacturers of that company of the final result of the question at issue, nor of the Washburn & Moen people themselves. There was a large meeting of these licensees held in St. Louis, February 15, at which several of the owners of the patents were present, which resulted in what will be considered a truce. Heretofore of late the licensees have been paying the licensors a royalty of fifteen cents per hundred pounds for all the barb wire manufactured by them; but at the St. Louis meeting a reduction of the royalty to five cents per hundred pounds was agreed to for a term, extending from January 1 last for six months. No conditions were required or imposed other than the payment of the five cents royalty, and it was understood that the future action of all concerned would depend upon the outcome of the pending litigation. Only one licensee refused to enter into the agreement, and they have transferred their barb wire manufacturing business to another concern, who will operate without license. Meantime the barb wire pool, or trust, otherwise known as the American Barb Wire Company, manage to control the output

of the article and to maintain prices, which are now quoted at distributing points at \$3.20 per hundred pounds for painted, and \$3.90 for galvanized, in car load lots. We understand that there are but two known "moonshine" or unlicensed barb wire factories in operation in the United States—both in St. Louis—and these quote prices five cents per hundred pounds below the above quotations.

Wide Awake is one of the most valued publications that comes to this office, and we hope that all of our readers have the opportunity of enjoying its monthly visits. We say *all*, because although the *MANUFACTURER* circulates chiefly among business men who find time precious, they will feel all the better after having read a magazine which, while intended primarily for the edification of young people, always contains information that is valuable to those of maturer years. The March number maintains the general high reputation for excellence long since achieved; and parents could not do better than to have it made a regular monthly visitor to their children. The D. Lothrop Co., Boston, Mass: \$2.40 a year.

SOME time ago we mentioned the fact that Mr. G. M. Fairchild, jr., vice-president of the Canadian Club of New York, was preparing a volume which would consist of a number of papers or lectures which had been read before the Club relating to Canadian persons, places and things, and which would be called "Canadian Leaves." The book has been published, and a copy of it is before us—a really handsome volume, beautifully illustrated by Mr. Thomas Willing, A. R. C. A. The essayists are Prof. Goldwin Smith, the Rev. Dr. Eccleston, the Rev. Principal Grant, the Hon. B. Butterworth, Prof. Roberts, Dr. Geo. Stewart, Mr. Erastus Wiman, and Messrs. Edmund Collins, J. W. Bengough, J. M. LeMoine, F. R. S. C., John McDougall, and John A. Fraser, R. C. A. Mr. Fairchild gives a sketch of the club which was founded on the 30th of April, 1885, and formally opened on the following Dominion day, Mr. Wiman being its first president. The subjects of the paper comprise our early and later history, our resources, scenery, romance, humor, literature, manufactures, commerce and national aspirations, and the treatment of them does us no discredit.

THE Customs Department at Ottawa made the following Departmental decisions in January:—Artotype engravings, 20 per cent.; Alhambra colored cotton quilts, colors woven, 25; bagatelle balls, when imported separately, 35; billiard balls, paper mache, when imported separately, 35; billiard balls, bone or ivory, when imported separately, 30; billiard balls, celluloid, when imported separately, 20; counterpanes or quilts, white, with woven colored border, 25; carpenters' tool baskets, 10c. each and 30 per cent.; composition buttons, 25; cocoanut pudding preparation, a mixture of cocoanut, rice, tapioca, etc., etc.; 8c. per lb.; cuticura resolvent in dry powder, 25 per cent.; coppered iron or steel wire, 15 gauge or coarser, 30; copper sheets or plates, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick, free; corn flour—when found to contain all the properties of the corn or corn meal, less the bran and other parts removable by bolting only, and not capable of being used as starch without further change, 20 per cent.; *Dental Journal*, illustrated advertising periodical, 6c. lb. and 20 per cent.; earthenware door knobs, 35; electric light apparatus—parts of, when imported separately, and which cannot be used for any other purpose, i.e., lamps, carbons, etc., 25; fire brick for building or repairing furnace for gas works, free; fruit tree seedlings, grafted, irrespective of age or size, to be rated according to their kind under items Nos. 473 to 479; gluten flour and special diabetic food, 20 per cent.; hats and caps, of linen or cotton cloth, 25; harness for cotton looms, manufactures of twine, 25; homeopathic alcohol, \$1.75 per proof gal.; homeopathic tinctures, \$2 per imp. gal. and 30 per cent.; lessive phenix, washing preparation, as soap powder, 3c. lb.; lap dusters, of cotton, with woven colored stripes or borders, but not embroidered, 25 per cent.; lap dusters, entirely of linen, plain, 20; patterns, of iron or brass, 30; pressed paper, in sheets, 35; plant bed muslin, a low grade of unbleached cotton, 1c. s. y. and 15 per cent.; raw hide pickers for cotton looms, 20 per cent.; sapolio, 3c. lb.; sugar disks and globules, $\frac{1}{4}$ c. lb. and 35 per cent.; sugar of milk, 20 per cent.; sugar of milk tablets, not further sweetened, 20; sappato gum, a crude mastic gum, 20; steel discs for harpooners, 35; "Traveller's Official Guide of the Railway and Steam Navigation Lines of the United States and Canada," 6c. lb. and 20 per cent.; wheat meal, as wheat flour, 50c. bbl.; waggon and cart bushes, 35 per cent.; watch keys, steel or brass, 30; Yaggy's anatomical study, 6c. lb. and 20 per cent.