

Now, coming from Japan to San Francisco, in ballast, at \$2 per ton, it costs at its home port \$16.75, or at least \$6 or \$7 a ton less than it could now be bought for in Alabama and transported to San Francisco. When it is remembered that the intervening years have been of unprecedented production of iron, this incident enables one to appreciate the improving conditions that have since come about.—*New York Financial News.*

Sir Charles Tupper is a more potent influence in Canada than any one of the Ministers. He examined the first attempt of Mr. Fielding to make a tariff and pronounced it ruinous. Mr. Fielding thereupon withdrew his tariff and substituted another, which, although imperfect, was better, and for this reason was permitted to pass muster. Sir Charles declared that the so-called British preference would not work until the German and Belgian treaties were removed, and advised the ministers to appeal again and get these treaties out of the way. He was right, and the treaties had to be dispensed with. Sir Charles insisted that the British preference instead of being left open to all nations, should be made exclusive to Britain. The Ministers had to fall into line. Sir Charles demanded action on the Pacific cable. The Ministers did as they were advised. Sir Charles instructed the Ministers to equip a Canadian contingent. They offered objections and quarrelled over the matter; but they had to come down and permit Canadians to go.—*The Mail and Empire.*

According to this showing Sir Charles is a power behind the throne greater than the throne itself, with this advantage in his favor, that, not being in power, he is not accountable to the people as the Ministers are. Whatever Sir Charles says seems to go, according to *The Mail and Empire*. The Ministers really do not seem to have much to say in running the government, unless Sir Charles consents.

At the International Commercial Congress recently held in Philadelphia, Mr. James G. Allen, a delegate of the Toronto Board of Trade, read a paper on our canal system, at the conclusion of which he moved a resolution calling for reciprocity in the use of the canal systems and inland waters of the two countries. The resolution was passed unanimously. That, however, will not prevent New York State from keeping its canals practically closed to Canadian vessels. Mr. Allen also said that the navigation laws of the United States should be liberalized towards Canada.—*Mail and Empire.*

Mr. Allen should know that the Erie Canal, that traverses the State of New York, is the sole property of that State, and over which the United States Government has no control whatever. At the time when Canada was according the free use of Canadian canals to American shipping, the United States agreed to undertake to influence the State of New York to accord a corresponding privilege to Canadian shipping desiring to use the Erie Canal, but good faith was never kept in the matter.

The Toronto Globe's full-faced boom articles have reached Hamilton, and this great manufacturing center gets much the same space as Owen Sound and other back-woods villages. The full-faced artist makes a very good showing for Hamilton in the few concerns he deigns to mention; but he entirely ignores such new enterprises as the new steamship company, the new stock yards, the new steel plant to be added to the blast furnace. It may be that these were omitted because Toronto proposes to go into similar lines of business.—*Hamilton Spectator.*

The trouble, or we might say one of the troubles of *The Spectator* is jealousy. Jealous because *The Globe* has made a

big scoop in publishing *Growing Time* articles from dozens of Canadian industrial centres. Who ever heard of *The Spectator* publishing such items? *The Spectator* seems to think that *The Globe* publishes *Growing Time* articles because its political party is in power, but who ever heard of the representative papers of the other party publishing such items when their party was in power? It was either because there was no conspicuous growing time to write about, or that they did not think enough of it to give prominence to it.

LITERARY NOTES.

The November number of *The Methodist Magazine* and Review contains six illustrated articles. Among those of special interest is a graphic account of the Boers and their stormy history, by Rev. J. T. Pitcher; a beautiful tribute of personal recollections of "Queen Margherita of Italy," by Mrs. M. E. Lauder; "Methodism at Gibraltar," by R. W. Allan; an account of the successful "Indian Mission at Metlakatla," and a sketch of Albert Durer, the famous painter, by Dr. Lubke, the distinguished art critic. Several stories, the *World's Progress*, etc., complete an admirable number. Toronto: William Briggs. \$2.00 a year.

Brilliant as the autumn tints of the woods and fields it loves so well are the pages of *Outing* for November. The buck of the northern hills, the bear of the Rockies, the moose of Maine, the grouse of Michigan, duck on Lake Champlain, sport in Tennessee and the wild yak in far-away Thibet, all yield their tribute of enthusiasts writing for their kind. Football has its prophet in Walter Camp, lawn tennis its historian in James P. Paret, golf its chronicler in Charles Turner, and "Travel in China," "A Race 'Round the Horn," and "Yachting in White Bear Lake" are described by well-known pens. The illustrations are remarkable, even for *Outing's* high standard of sporting pictures, and the Editorial Review of the month's pastimes is by the foremost sportsmen in their respective lines.

Variety and excellence are qualities that have not been lost sight of in making up the November Ladies' Home Journal. There are contributions by Ian MacLaren, Sir Henry Irving, by the author of "In His Steps," Clifford Howard, Mrs. Burton Kingsland and others. There are innumerable pictorial features, and practical, useful and helpful articles. The Curtis Publishing Company, Philadelphia. One dollar per year.

Mr. Sylvester Baxter tells the story of "The Great November Storm of 1898," in the November Scribner's. One of the most destructive storms ever known on the New England coast, it was the occasion for many stirring incidents associated with the irresistible power of the wind and sea. Mr. Baxter gives a vivid impression of the development and climax of the storm, with many details, and of the gradual realization in the public mind of the great loss of life and property involved. The illustrations by H. W. Ditzler are from sketches made on the coast during the week following the storm, and convey a spirited and realistic idea of many of the scenes along the shore and at sea. President Hadley of Yale College, one of the best known authorities on the subject in the United States, writes an article of the most timely interest on "The Formation and Control of Trusts." He gives a very clear statement of the motives and conditions that lead to their organization, and points out with reassuring emphasis some of the causes that are already tending toward their limitation as mere speculative enterprises. He believes that the question of state ownership or control will become less and less acute as a political issue.

Mr. George Johnson, Dominion Statistician, has sent us *The Statistical Year Book of Canada, for 1898*. This, we are told, is the fourteenth year of issue of this most important publication, and it will be readily conceded that it is a source of the most valuable information to all who may be interested in the history and industrial growth of Canada. It consists of two parts, first the "Record" and second the "Abstract." The "Record" contains a short history of Canada, the country's physical features, constitution and government, treaties, lands and land regulations, events of the year, and bye-elections of 1898. The "Abstract" furnishes an abundance of statistics relating to agriculture, mines, fisheries, trade and commerce, currency and banking, railways and canals, marine, post-office, finance, insurance, telegraphs and telephones, militia and social and other matters. In addition to the foregoing, there is a list of senators, one of members of the House of Commons, one of members of the provincial legislatures, and a copious index.