this was being done, the prescient manager of what is now the Consolidated Lake Superior Power Co., was on the lookout for productive purposes to which this power might be applied.

Having regard to the existence of quantities of spruce in the neighborhood, plenty of pure water and abundant power, it was determined to build a mechanical pulp mill. And accordingly a huge building was erected of the red-and-white sandstone found in plenty upon the spot. Before long the company was sending to the paper mills of this continent great supplies of their principal raw material, wet pulp. Soon it was resolved to make dry pulp—hitherto regarded as an impossibility—and mill No. 2 for the making of dry pulp was added to mill No. 1. A better grade of paper can be made by the use of sulphite pulp, produced by treating the chopped wood by an admixture of sulphur. Thus arose the extensive sulphite mill. Needing more sulphur than could readily be obtained, Mr. Clergue bought a nickel mine or two at Sudbury and got all the sulphur he wanted by treating the nickeliferous pyrrhotite of that district by a process invented by the experts of the company. Of course the nickel is not wasted, for the company has evolved a standard process for making nickel steel. Then ensued the founding of an alkali plant and chemical works, in which, by the Rhodin process, the salt of Windsor and Seaforth is converted into sodium and chlorine gas, and the bleaching powder of commerce is evolved, while the lime water is used for bleaching pulp.

Step by step these ingenious people have gone into the production of various materials of commerce, surrounding themselves with experts drawn from various countries, and having constantly in mind the economical producing of articles of well-nigh universal use in the arts and sciences by means of cheap power and abundant raw material. It will be remembered that at a gathering of the Toronto Board of Trade a year or more ago, Mr. F. H. Clergue paid a tribute to the mineral and other riches of Northern Ontario by declaring that he and his assistants had never looked for any substance that was needed in the development of these varied industries, but they had found it in the Algoma district. In the wonderful Helen Mine at Michipicoten they have millions of tons of red and brown hematite and limonite ore, containing an average of 60 per cent. pure iron, which is being sent to the Midland and Hamilton furnaces, and in the Josephine mine are undetermined quantities of red hematite running 64 per cent. Then for the manufacture of charcoal iron the forests of the Goulais Valley and beyond furnish vast quantities of birch, which will be brought to the Sault by a railway of which thirty miles are already built, and which is eventually to reach Hudson's Bay. In a year or less the steel works now being erected will be turning out hundreds of tons per day of nickel steel.

Another paper will be needed to describe the villages that have already sprung up around their widely extended industries—for they employ 7,400 men—their railways and ore-docks, their brick plant, their foundry and machine shop employing 300 hands, their fleet of steamers, their exploration parties and map-making rooms, their laboratory, and lastly their power canal, 1½ miles in length, building on the American side of the Sault Ste. Marie river, with a power-house having 86 turbine chambers of 500 horse-power each.

Meanwhile enough has perhaps been said to show that it is no slight task to answer with anything like brevity the cheerily flippant question, "What did you fellows see at the Soo ?"

J. H.

Toronto, 5th October, 1901.

MATTERS IN QUEENSLAND.

We have letters by the steamship "Aorangi" this week from both New South Wales and Queensland. A gentleman in the latter colony, a Brisbane merchant of experience, dwells upon the service which has already been rendered by The Monetary Times through its two Special Australian Editions to the cause of increasing trade between Canada and Australasia. "It is," he says, "through the medium of such a commercial publication as yours that Canada and the manufacturers who advertise in your journal can come into contact with the merchants of Australasia." He goes on to give his opinion upon future trade between the countries, thus: "Canada has advantages which we have not; and I feel safe in contending that in the very near future Canadian manufacturers will take a position second to none in exporting to the states of this confederacy. I have watched the trade develop, and have had experience both here and in New South Wales, hence my assertion. I had the pleasure of meeting the representative of a firm which manufactured enamelware of your city or Montreal, I forget which. Brisbane I fear was too heavily stocked at time of his visit for his doing very much business in this line. The Anglo and German lines of such goods are usually stocked here. But with perseverance Canadian manufactured goods will sell, it is only a question of time, for you are popular so far. Chairs imported, I know for a fact, sell well in our state, but of course not so extensively as in the southern states.

Brisbane, after all, is only a place of some 142,000 people. The population of Queensland being approximately 500,000. The commonwealth is at the moment almost at a standstill, as far as business is concerned, in fact the deadlock in business due to tariff uncertainty becomes daily, if anything, more apparent. Lines of merchandise the merchants are anxious to clear retailers decline to stock, except for daily requirements, while on the other hand, holders are unwilling to part with the few descriptions of merchandise that the imposition of the uniform tariff will cause to advance in value. The various bonded warehouses throughout the states are full of goods liable to duty. We have a heavy duty on a large number of kinds of goods in this state at present, but Melbourne, or rather I mean Victoria, is the most protected at the present moment. New South Wales is a free trade state, as you of course know.

"I should add that extreme grief has been felt on this side of the Equator at the attempted assassination of President McKinley. It is sincerely hoped he will recover, but I am afraid the danger will not be passed until another week has elapsed. I am writing this on 12th September, and it should reach you early in October."

Brisbane, Queensland, 1901. * * *

A MEAGRE DIVIDEND SHEET.

Insolvents' statements are usually interesting, in a peculiar sort of way, to their creditors. Sometimes they are of a nature which makes them interesting to the commercial public. But here is a little estate whose story is "queer" enough to interest even the ordinary reader. We received this week from Montreal copy of a dividend sheet (first and final) just issued by Messrs. St. Amour & Doucet, curators to estate of Adelard Binette, of Lachine, tinsmith and plumber, insolvent. It shows the following interesting figures of Adelard's circumstances:

Assets, from sale of goods, rolling stock, book debts..		$490 19
Used as follows:		
Curators' disbursements and fees..............	$181 49	
Advocate's fees for putting into insolvency and contestation of the "Bilan," and stenographer's account	100 71	
Another advocate, contesting the same	60 75	
Rent of premises	110 00	
Taxes	5 64	
		$458 59
		$31 60

Leaving a balance of $31.60, which is divided to four claimants for salary at 22½ per cent. on their united claims of $142.67; and not a cent for the "ordinary" creditors. The gentleman who sends us this, a merchant and presumably an ordinary creditor, says not a word by way of comment upon the document. His feelings may not have been under control at the moment, and hence perhaps he refrained. We do not see that we need comment, either. The figures speak for themselves.