

duty, was about 50 per cent. greater than the percentage of Canadian merchandise admitted into the United States, free of duty. The returns of both Governments show that the average rate of duty levied in Canada upon imports of raw products from the United States in 1891-92 was 8 1-2 per cent.; while the average rate of duty on like imports from Canada was 15 per cent. in the United States. The tariffs of the two countries show, that while the rates of duty levied in Canada upon manufactured goods from the United States were moderate and conducive to trade, the rates under the United States tariff on like goods from Canada were excessive and prohibitory.

The imports of raw products into the United States from Canada, taken for consumption, consisted as follows: timber, sawed lumber, logs and other unmanufactured woods, value \$10,500,000, or about 46 per cent. of the whole imports; produce of the farm, including animals and provisions, \$7,000,000, or about 31 per cent. of the whole imports; coal and ores, \$3,400,000, or about 15 per cent. of the whole imports; produce of the fisheries, \$1,700,000, or about 8 per cent. of the whole imports.

The imports of raw products into Canada from the United States, taken for consumption, amounted to nearly, \$24,000,000, of which, coal amounted to \$9,500,000; produce of the field, \$12,500,000; produce of the forest, \$1,000,000; produce of the fisheries, \$500,000.

In the exchange of raw products, the trade was about equal. In manufactured goods, the trade is almost wholly in favor of United States; Canada having purchased about \$24,000,000 from that country as against sales of less than \$1,500,000. Canada is the fourth largest foreign customer which the United States has for its manufactures, and its purchases amount to more than one-seventh part of all the foreign exports of manufactured goods from the United States.

The propositions for reciprocity in raw products, which were submitted by the Canadian Government to the late administration at Washington were eminently fair and reasonable, and in view of the actual position of the commerce between the two countries, the reason alleged by Secretary Blaine for rejecting them were untenable. The contention that reciprocity in raw products would be a one-sided arrangement in favor of Canada is contrary to the facts of the trade as now existing; the other contention as to the unfairness of the Canadian tariff towards American manufactures is disproved by the exhibit of the very large value of such articles imported into Canada. All the boastful talk about the superior advantages of a 65,000,000 people market over 5,000,000 is pure braggadocio, as investigation of the position shows that the 5,000,000 people have purchased during the last three years from the 65,000,000, about 64 per cent. more native products than they have sold to them. The extravagant estimate of the value of the privilege of free access to the American market appear very ridiculous when compared with the actual extent of the annual sales of United States products in Canadian markets. It is very evident that the rejection of the propositions submitted by the Canadian Government was not owing to commercial, but to political con-

siderations. The ulterior motives which prompted this rejection were fostered and prompted by Canadian emissaries, who, by their misrepresentations, induced the authorities at Washington to believe that the failure of the present Ministry at Ottawa would result in their defeat, and in the accession to office of a party which would accept reciprocity on any terms which the United States should be pleased to grant.

Canada is suffering from the iniquitous injustice of the McKinley Bill. It is waiting with patience and considerable hopefulness to ascertain the policy of the Cleveland Administration, which it is believed, will vigorously undertake the work of tariff reform. Canada feels that in her magnificent canal route, via St. Lawrence to the ocean, it has it in its power to grant to or withhold from the United States a privilege of greater value to that country than Canada can derive from a free market for its products in the United States. ROBERT H. LAWDER.

### PARIS LETTER.

The electoral campaign has commenced and promises to be lively all round. The general elections next October will be the most important that have taken place in France for many years. There will be three definite and distinct programmes, and to have them at last "definite" is an invaluable gain. Comte d'Haussonville is the political middleman of the Comte de Paris, that is to say, the standard-bearer of Orleanism in France. His official creed is: clear away the abominable Republic that has cleared away all the dynasties, and place the Comte de Paris on the throne. The latter, after issuing that rallying cry, must have indulged in a very strong snuff of his smelling bottle. M. Herve is a kind of Independent Orleanist, and is supposed to chime in with the views of the Duc d'Aumale. He feels as the Comte de Paris, but does not approve of "going at" the present constitution so bluntly.

Next comes the "bless ye my children" party, which has for its exponent, the present Prime Minister, Dupuy—it is best to name him, for prime ministers in France are here to-day and away to-morrow. He wants the Republicans of all shades—and their name is legion, to unite, to rally into a phalanx, and leave the rest to—the grace of God; to be all things to all men. All this is called the policy of "concentration." He would welcome in to the fold and press to his bosom the neo-Republicans, who assert that having been up to the twelfth hour ardent Royalists and persecutors of the Republicans, they are now thoroughly converted.

The last programme is that expounded by ex-Premier Goblet; he is now the leader of the Radicals; he wants all the promised reforms realized; detests royalists and concentrationists alike. The "plank" that will interest foreigners, who follow the game, is that insisting on a revision of the commercial tariff, which strangles the nation at home, and leaves her "out in the cold" abroad. Perhaps two-thirds of the coming Chamber will be new and sound members.

The deputies have at last taken up the subject of workmen's insurance against accidents. It is best to view the discussion as only an electoral sop; it, however, showed the tendency of the

legislators; naturally they are divided, but only over the point which forms the main question—who is to pay the premium—the artisan, the employer, or the State? As the law stands, if an accident happen to a workman, from defective or unprotected machinery, the owner will be held responsible; but the operative wants to be wholly relieved from paying any premium, whether directly or indirectly the cause of his injury, alleging that the progress of invention has augmented the risks of his calling. The employers reply, they are already ground down by taxes, and the State admits the Treasury is not in a position to accept new burdens. It is not unlikely the three parties involved will have to club together the annual premiums. That is the German plan. It is conceded that it is only by the principle of insurance that the relief for the worthy soldiers of industry, whether during sickness, accident or old age, can be met.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry has organized a Normal School at Chalons, for training masters for professional schools. The latter are intended to turn out alumni, scientifically prepared for commercial and industrial pursuits, to accord diplomas to the pupils after a standard examination and see that State certificates will ensure applicants the priority for employment. It is something similar to what already exists for the agricultural schools, but ostensibly it is intended to induce youths to settle in the colonial possessions. A certain number of the "big gooseberry" class of pupils will be sent to study for nine months in England, Germany or Spain, at the expense of the State, in order to acquire familiarity with the language of these countries. Only international good can result from this plan, by allowing Frenchmen to see that the universe is not confined to the Boulevard des Italiens.

M. de Mahy is deputy for the colony of Reunion, and has what may be described as "missionary on the brain." But there is a method in his madness, as he always aims to fasten on the English occupation of Egypt the sins of the "English Methodists in Madagascar." The Protestant missions in Madagascar are chiefly conducted by American societies, and really have accomplished excellent civilization work. The natives are very proud and very patriotic, and although they have conceded to France the exclusive right to negotiate their foreign affairs, they claim to possess their independence. England has released her interests in the island in consideration of France conceding hers in Zanzibar. M. de Mahy confesses that the more "the Bible is preached to the natives," the more anti-French they become, and demands that a check be placed on that state of affairs. When asked how it can be done, he replies, by sending out and subsidizing the Jesuits, the historical colonial pioneers. M. de Mahy then runs a-muck against the French Protestants, accusing them of sympathy with the success of the English mission work, and so lacking in patriotism. Though Gambetta was a materialist or an atheist, and demanded the separation of Church from State at home, France, he warmly defended and augmented the Catholic missions