

bonuses to companies on condition that they establish industries and undertake to employ a specified number of hands—which they seldom do. These companies sometimes succeed, and sometimes change to other quarters, enticed by fresh bonuses. It is time that Toronto got out of this species of huckstering. The natural advantages which the city affords will attract manufacturers, and if it is to their advantage to come here, exemption from taxation won't keep them away. The application was referred to a sub committee.

The charges at Buffalo for discharging vessels are \$5.75 per 1,000 bushels, while \$1.50 pays the bill in all Canadian ports. This is not calculated to send grain down the Erie. The only wonder is that Montreal has not already supplanted New York.—*American Miller.*

The *Detroit Tribune* thinks it lucky that Free Trade is not the rule at present, as if it were not for the 20 cents duty on wheat the 2,000 carloads now lying blockaded on the Canada Pacific, between Winnipeg and Port Arthur, could be unloaded at our mills at a much lower price than our Western farmers could afford to sell their grain for, and in fact would lower the price of wheat in every wheat-growing state in the Union.

Some of our exchanges come tightly rolled in the shape of iron rods, and it requires more expertness and hard work to open them than it does to open an oyster, besides consuming far more time, patience and good nature. We do not know what the subscribers for these papers think about it, but as for us we always wish they (the papers) were in Halifax, or in some place far, far away. The persons who mail these papers were "cut out" for cigar-makers, and they should drop their present occupation at once and go to rolling the odorous "toby."—*American Manufacturer.*

The Dominion Board of Customs rendered the following decisions during the month of February:—Blacksmiths' bellows, 25 per cent.; bottle-washing machines, 30 per cent.; colored glazed paper, 35 per cent.; cotton tape printed for labels, 15c. per lb. and 25 per cent.; decorated tin plate in sheets, 25 per cent.; Elliott milk guage, a manufacture of iron, 15 per cent.; fire clay gas logs, 20 per cent.; gum senegal, free; gloy paste, one cent per lb.; lace collars, 30 per cent.; locks, made entirely of brass, 30 per cent.; Rough on Rats, 20 per cent.; rubber lap rugs, 35 per cent.; terra cotta panels, mouldings and cornices, 35 per cent.; type writing machines, 30 per cent.; window shade rollers, finished, but without the shade, 35 per cent.; the cloth shade dutiable at 5 cents per square yard and 15 per cent.; porous earthenware, known as terra cotta lumber, brickwood, cellular, pottery and holdstern or woodstone intended for making buildings fire-proof, 35 per cent.

THE LOBSTER TRADE.

THERE are between 350 and 375 lobster canning factories in operation in the Lower Provinces of the Dominion. The fishery officials estimate the actual investment in these factories at \$670,000. This investment is probably increased to \$1,000,000 by the cost of seines, traps, smacks, wharves, etc. Of the total number of factories 115 are in Prince Edward Island and 151 in New Brunswick, the rest being in Nova Scotia. Two years ago the production of these factories was officially stated as follows:—

Province.	Lbs.	Value.
Nova Scotia.....	6,805,000	\$1,000,000
New Brunswick.....	5,236,000	785,000
Prince Edward Island...	4,390,000	526,000
Total.....	16,431,000	\$2,311,000

It is estimated that the production of these lobster factories in 1887 was 225,000 cases, of which 75,000 cases were put up on the South Atlantic coast and 150,000 on the New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia shores of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. There are 48 one-pound cans in a case. It takes from three to twelve lobsters to fill a can, according to the locality in which they are taken. The average value of a case is \$5.50—or \$1,337,500 for the year's pack. Of the total production, 150,000 cases were exported from the port of Halifax.

Americans own and operate some fifty lobster factories in the Lower Provinces. Indeed, Maine men were the pioneers of the industry in Nova Scotia. The production of these factories last year was 60,000 cases, valued at \$340,000, the bulk of which was shipped to the United States.

The lobster season last year was from the 26th April to the 1st of August. The legal size of a lobster is 9½ inches. A very large proportion of those caught are undoubtedly under this size. Probably fifty per cent. of these are canned; the other fifty per cent. being returned to the sea. The pack at a factory runs from 500 to 2,000 cases during the three months—the production depending upon the locality. The fish are packed in cans by girls. One thousand boxes of tin are used in packing 9,000 cases of lobsters. A factory packing 1,000 cases would give employment to from twelve to twenty hands. It is estimated that between \$500,000 and \$600,000 are distributed for wages of fishermen and other laborers in connection with the factories during the season.

Newfoundland has about 2,000 miles of coast line, upon many portions of which the lobster fishing is said to be excellent. The fish are of superior quality, and the factories can be run much more cheaply and profitably in Newfoundland than in any part of the Maritime Provinces.

THE SONG OF THE SHIRK.

WITH fingers that never knew toil,
With nose-tip swollen and red,
A delegate sat in his easy chair,
Eating the laborer's bread;
"Strike—strike—strike!"
Nor dare return to your work!"
And still with his swaggering, insolent air,
He sang the "Song of the Shirk."

"Strike—strike—strike!"
Till the children are crying for bread!
Strike—strike—strike!"
Till the roof is torn from your head!"
It is, Oh! to have a king,
And dwell away over the sea,
Where knights and bosses are still unknown,
If this is liberty!

Shirk—shirk—shirk!
The duty we owe to man;
Shirk—shirk—shirk—
As only a delegate can!
Fine and assessment and due,
Due and assessment and fine,
Such is the stuff on which delegates live,
And swagger and drink and dine!

"Strike—strike—strike!"
The delegate passed this way!
"Strike—strike—strike!"
He orders, you must obey!
And ask not the reason why,
Nor murmur against their decree,
For none must work when they say "No!"
In this country of the free!

Oh! men with children dear,
Oh! men with daughters and wives,
It is not the rich you are starving out,
But your hungry childrens' lives!
Strike—strike—strike!
To please your masters still,
Ye are slaves to a band of plundering knaves,
Who will bleed you as long as ye will!

Shirk—shirk—shirk!
The duty you owe to man,
Shirk—shirk—shirk—
As only a delegate can!
It is strange that laborers choose
As champions of their cause,
Men who never were known to use
Anything save their jaws!

MR. W. P. SAYWARD, Victoria, B.C., has recently made considerable additions and improvements to his lumber mills. The main building has been added to 50x42 feet, the entire area now being 170x42 feet. New and improved machinery has also been added, included in which are a compensating balance gang saw, gang edger, automatic filing machine and swedging machine. The capacity of the mill is now 30,000 feet of lumber per day.