

by-products. When that time comes Ontario and Quebec will be in a position to operate blast furnaces economically with mineral fuel, the product of Nova Scotian mines, thereby adding another link to strengthen the Confederation of the Canadian provinces.

For the immediate future the charcoal iron industry offers the best and surest field of operation and investment to the provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

A full and unbiased investigation into all the facts concerning the successful establishment of the iron industry in other countries, and of the circumstances attending the work already done in Canada, leads to the following conclusions: First.—That the Canadian iron industry has greater and more just claims to the good will and support of the Government and people of Canada than, perhaps, any other of the great industries of the country. In tobacco, sugar and cotton, splendid progress has been made, yet these industries, whilst of unquestionable benefit to the country, all contribute more or less to the labor of foreign countries, by using raw materials of foreign growth, for which nature has not fitted Canada. The iron industry is altogether different, being purely Canadian from raw material to finished product. Nature has richly endowed Canada with everything that goes to make success in this special line of enterprise. It rests with the Government and people of the Dominion to foster the industry to a perfect development.

Second.—The Dominion Parliament must immediately adopt a course that will give confidence to investors, by demonstrating that the protective tariff and bounty will be well maintained for some time to come. The Government must rectify judiciously any errors that may have arisen, and must seek, at least approximately, *to grant a uniform protection to labor, in whatever branch of the industry it may be employed*, be it at the mines, furnace, rolling mill, iron foundry, or machine shop.

Third.—The Provincial Governments must take steps immediately to encourage, by every reasonable concession, the development of the iron industries now within their respective borders.

In Quebec and Ontario, every facility should be granted by the Provincial Governments in the way of privileges for the clearing of hard and soft woods from Crown lands. This course will not only strengthen and build up the charcoal iron industry, but will bring about a rapid settlement of Government lands.

Hitherto settlers have avoided the forest lands of the East in favor of the more easily cultivated prairies of the West. Establish the charcoal iron industry in Quebec and Ontario, and the settler will find a sure and profitable return for labor expended in clearing the wood, and the inducement will make the bush lands of these provinces more attractive than the prairies of the West.

The section of the different provincial mining laws, providing for a proper expenditure in the development of mining locations within a given time, should be strictly enforced, and if possible the obligations made even more stringent than at present, so as to ensure a fair amount of work being done promptly, and prevent as much as possible the "locking up" of valuable mines by speculators.

Where the owners of locations are too poor to carry on the work of development in a proper manner, then the Provincial Government should do so by some

equitable arrangement with the owner. For this purpose the Provincial Legislature should vote in each year's supplies a reasonable sum of money. This would serve to bring about a business-like development of some very valuable mines that now lie dormant, and must in time bring a very profitable return to the Government by the settlement of Crown lands.

Further it would tend to prove to capitalists that the ore supplies are all that they are claimed to be, and ample for all requirements.

The Provincial Governments require to deal with the whole question in a business-like manner, strictly enforcing laws that will tend to an early development, but at the same time they must be heartily in accord with the Dominion Government in granting every legitimate encouragement and facility that will tend to build up so valuable an industry.

Fourth.—Canadian bankers, capitalists, and men of affairs generally will do well to give the native industry more attention in the future than they have in the past. An industry that is peculiarly Canadian in every branch, drawing all its wealth from Canadian soil, is surely worthy of their legitimate support. The fact that the earlier iron industries of this country failed to succeed under the most adverse circumstances, is no reason why, under existing conditions, undeniably more favorable, the industry cannot be made a thorough success, not alone affording a great field for safe investment of capital, but indirectly benefiting other existing Canadian industries and interests, aiding towards increased population and national wealth.

Let the Canadian Government and people go steadily onward, and by every energy and sympathy build up great national industries and interests, neither doubting themselves nor their resources, but rather cultivating in every department of trade and commerce and in the hearts of the people that national pride in national products so characteristic of Englishmen and Americans. Following such a course, Canada must soon develop, not only in her iron industries, but in every department of national life.

SOME arrangements have lately been made for the convention of the National Association of Fire Engineers, to be held in Montreal from August 14th to 17th. The Victoria Rink will probably be used as an exhibition building, and the meeting will be held in the Windsor Hotel. Between three and four hundred delegates are expected to attend, and arrangements have been made with the hotels and railroad companies. This is stated to be the first convention held out of the United States. Henry A. Hills, Cincinnati, is secretary to the association.

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Per A. W. LAW, Sec.-Treas.

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