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**Crops.** The official crop report for Nova Scotia recently issued, indicates favorable conditions for growth, and good prospects in reference to the returns from the labors of husbandry in that Province. The remarkably early spring has been succeeded by a summer favorable to the maturing of the principal crops. The hay crop is excellent. With the exception of Cape Breton, it is reported that the crop will be from 10 to 20 per cent. above an average, and in Cape Breton it will be little if any below an average crop. The grain crop also will probably be above an average, while potatoes and other roots promise well. In reference to the apple crop, it is too early yet to form a trustworthy estimate. It is said, however, that cold rains at the time of blossoming had a considerable effect in preventing the setting of the fruit and that the apple and pear crop is not likely to reach the average. In New Brunswick similar conditions as to weather have generally prevailed and the results will be much the same. The hay crop of the Province will be abundant, and the prospect for grain and roots appears to be generally very favorable, although it is reported from some parts of the Province that the crops have been suffering of late for lack of rain.

**The Carnegie Education Fund.** The first meeting of the trustees of the Carnegie Education Fund was held in Edinburgh, July 15. Mr. Todd Elgin presided and read a letter from Mr. Carnegie, announcing that he had signed the deed placing ten million dollars at the disposal of the trustees. The trustees at once made arrangements for setting the scheme in motion, Mr. Carnegie having promised that funds for the payment of students' fees should be made available when the next session opens in October. The provision made by the fund is expected to place a college education within the reach of every student in Scotland who is prepared to enter upon a college course. It does not appear that the trust is accompanied by any limitations as to those who shall participate in its benefits, but in a letter to the trustees Mr. Carnegie has expressed the hope that that honest pride for which Scotchmen are distinguished will prevent claims from those not requiring assistance.

**China.** Now that the foreign forces are withdrawing from China, the Chinese officials, according to the Pekin despatch, are making elaborate preparations "to save the Emperor's face" when he shall return to Pekin, for however great the disasters which have befallen the capital city, much will be gained according to the Chinese view of things, if the fact can be hidden from the imperial eye. Accordingly all evidence of the destruction wrought by the war along the streets to be traversed by the Emperor will be temporarily disguised. Great pagodas will be erected. The Chen Men gate which was nearly demolished by the bombardment will be repaired with wood and plaster, and other buildings will be similarly repaired. The foreign guards which are to remain permanently, will in accordance with the request of Li Hung Chang, be removed from the temples and palaces not later than August 15th. The American and British guards will probably encamp near the summer residence of the legations in the eastern hills, until their barracks are completed. According to Mr. I. N. Ford's view of the matter, the situation reached as between China and the Powers after many months of diplomatic controversy is far from satisfactory. "The foreign armies," he says, "are scuttling out, detachment after detachment, and nothing has been settled. . . . The civilized powers, after months of military occupation, vacillation and diplomacy, have obtained a vague and unsatisfac-

ory promise to pay the costs of war in the form of an indemnity, but no security has been offered for the redemption of the pledges. The chief instigators of the attack upon the embassies have gone unpunished, and have regained their influence (if they had ever lost it,) and there are strange reports about the organization of a fresh series of secret societies not unlike the Boxers. The powers have indeed completely failed in a trial of wits with the heathen Chinese. The European foreign offices have lacked the resources of patience required for continuous diplomatic action against the wily Orientals."

**The Demand for Workers.** We believe there is little complaint among our people as to lack of fairly remunerative employment. About the ordinary number of men are engaged in agriculture, lumbering, the fisheries, ordinary mining and other industrial pursuits while the remarkable development of the mining and steel-making business at Sydney, C. B., has created a very considerable additional demand for labor. During the next two months especially, no man in Canada who is able to handle a pitchfork need lack for employment. In these Maritime Provinces as well as in Quebec and Ontario the abundant crops to be gathered in will demand a large amount of labor, so that there will be little need for the men of these Provinces to go away from home in search of employment. Then there is Manitoba, needing it is said twenty thousand farm laborers to gather in the abundant grain crop which will soon be ready for the reaper. An eager call is being made for workers, and the Canadian Pacific is offering special inducements in low rates to those who are willing to go. It is stated that for ten dollars the C. P. R. will carry men to any part of the great north-western harvest field, and that on production of a certificate that they have worked in the fields they will be brought back for eighteen dollars. Even this would hardly be sufficient to induce many to go, except those who wished to see the North-west with a view to possible settlement in the country.

**A Great Strike.** The grand event of the week in the industrial world is the strike of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers against the great Steel Corporation lately organized under the leadership of J. Pierpont Morgan. After fruitless negotiations between representatives of the employers and the workmen, an order was issued by President Shaffer of the Amalgamated Association, calling out on July 15th, the employes in the mills of the American Sheet Steel Company, the American Steel Hoop Company and the American Tin Plate Company. This order has been quite generally obeyed, with the result that some 75,000 employes of these companies are on strike, and if a settlement be not reached shortly it is expected that the power of the Amalgamated Association will be exerted so as greatly to increase the number of the strikers. The reason for which the strike has been ordered is a remarkable one. The strike is not based on the demand for higher wages, or shorter hours, or better conditions otherwise for the workmen. It is a demand for the "unionization" of all the mills of the Sheet Steel, Steel Hoop and Tin Plate Companies. It is not complained that these Companies employ non-union men at lower wages than union men—which it appears they do not do—but it is demanded that union men only shall be employed and that every mill shall be "unionized" although the men employed in the mills may prefer not to be connected with the unions. The reason given for this demand by the Amalgamated Association is that, at times when work is slack a preference is given to the mills in which non-union men are largely employed. The

position taken by the workmen's association in the matter is certainly an extreme one. There will be a good deal of popular sympathy with the contention of the employers that such a demand is unjust and that they have no right, even though they were otherwise willing, to force their employes into union organizations. On the other hand there is a great deal of popular prejudice against the immense combination of capital and power represented in the gigantic Steel Corporation. The labor leaders no doubt feel that this consolidation of capital demands a corresponding consolidation of the power of labor in view of prospective conflicts. They desire therefore by unionization of all the mills to make their ranks solid, and they consider the present time, when the business of the corporation is profitable, and when opposition to the demands of the strikers would be popularly interpreted as indicating a disposition to oppress labor, as a time opportune for the gaining of their point in respect to the unionization of the mills. The progress of this conflict will of course be watched with great interest.

**The King's Titles.** There is said to be a desire on the part of the Imperial Government, in view of the prospective coronation of King Edward VII., to make some addition to the Sovereign's title which would give recognition to the colonies as a part of the royal domain. The expansion and substantial growth of the colonial possessions in Canada, Australia and South Africa during the past reign, their loyal attachment to the Crown and their importance to the strength and stability of the Empire make such recognition so appropriate and desirable that the question will be, it would seem, principally as to the form which it should take, or, in other words, what the addition to the royal title should be. The problem is how to make the title sufficiently definite and comprehensive without making it awkward and unwieldy. The Dominion Government is said to have been requested from Westminster to forward suggestions on the subject. The predecessors of Edward VII. used to proclaim themselves as Sovereigns of Great Britain, France and Ireland, but the claim to the French throne was dropped on the accession of George I, and no addition was made to the royal title until, on the initiative of Mr. Disraeli in 1877, the words Empress of India were added to Queen Victoria's titles. The affixing of the royal titles is certainly not the most important business of Empire. It is however a matter of some significance.

**China Apologizes to Germany.** It will be recalled that one of the conditions in the settlement of the dispute between China and the foreign powers, was that China should send to Berlin an ambassador of high rank to offer an apology on behalf of his nation to the German Government on account of the murder of the German minister, Baron Von Ketteler, in Pekin a year ago. This undertaking on the part of China is now about being fulfilled. Prince Chun, younger brother of the Emperor Kwang Su, has been appointed to this special mission, and his departure from Pekin on July 12th en route for Berlin, was an event to attract attention. A Pekin despatch says that Prince Chun came to the railway station in Pekin on horseback; he was gorgeously attired in the royal yellow, and followed by a long procession, composed of members of his staff, their servants and the luggage on carts. Here he was met by the present German minister to China, Dr. Mumm von Schwarzenstein, a German military band, and a guard of honor, and two of his brothers. Many Chinese had assembled at the station to bid the Prince farewell. Sailing from Shanghai for Genoa on the 20th, the Prince will proceed directly from the latter port to Berlin. Two German officials, formerly attached to the staff of General Von Waldersee, will personally conduct Prince Chun and his party to Berlin.