

3,519,000 square miles, of which 3,379,000 square miles are land surface and 140,000 covered by water. It is claimed that this area embraces one-fourteenth part of the habitable earth. It is thirty times as large as the United Kingdom, and 500,000 square miles larger than the area of the United States without Alaska.

FREE Traders ask the farmers to surrender their home market for one thousands of miles distant, to abandon customers at their very doors who pay the highest prices, for those far distant who are already largely supplied at home with farm products and procure whatever additional supplies they require from the cheapest of the world's markets. Twenty years ago there were towns and villages enough in the United States to supply the farmers with all they required to buy, and it is not the growth of the country trade, but the increase of the industrial population that has built up the great cities of the West, and brought to the farmers a great accession of customers.—*Gazette*.

THE *Monetary Times* mentions the fact that the Farmers' Alliance and the United Labor Party of the United States were recently in joint convention in St. Paul, Minn., and that they passed resolutions denouncing the McKinley Bill; for a reduced rate of interest, and free coinage of silver as the means; for Government control of railroads, etc., and pays the following compliment to these political organizations:—"On the whole, it is impossible to recognize the Farmers' Alliance and United Labor party as safe counsellors of the legislature of a nation."

CANADA'S Great Industrial Fair at Toronto will be held September 8th to 20th. This announcement is sufficient to excite renewed interest in an event that always attracts hundreds of thousands of people to this city; and we are informed by the management that the attractions that will be presented this year are greater and more interesting than any that have ever before been shown. Already nearly all of the space allotted to machinery and manufactures has been assigned; and it is requested that if there are other manufacturers who desire accommodations on the grounds, they make application as soon as convenient to Mr. H. J. Hill, the manager.

THERE are five establishments in Canada engaged in the manufacture of railroad car wheels as follows:

St. Thomas Car Wheel Company, St. Thomas, Ont.
Messrs. John Harris & Co., St. John, N.B.
Montreal Car Wheel Company, Montreal.
Messrs. John McDougall & Co., Montreal.
Canada Iron Furnace Company, successors to Messrs. George McDougall & Co., Three Rivers, Que.

There are also four establishments engaged in the manufacture of malleable iron, as follows:

Oshawa Malleable Iron Company, Oshawa, Ont.
Smith's Falls Malleable Iron Works, Smith's Falls, Ont.
Walkerville Malleable Iron Company, Walkerville, Ont.
Massey Manufacturing Company, Toronto.

THE estate of Eastfield, Forfarshire, was sold the other day for £16,000. Only fifteen years ago this estate was bought for £31,500. That shows a depreciation in value of about fifty per cent. Yet Lord Derby declared the other day that the value of agricultural land had at last reached bottom.—*Monetary Times*.

The *Monetary Times* advocates Free Trade. The fiscal policy prevailing in England, where the estate above alluded

to is located, is that of Free Trade. The *Monetary Times* wants Canada to adopt Free Trade, recommending it specially to Canadian farmers as the panacea for all the ills that afflict humanity. It shows, however, that what was once a valuable farming estate in Great Britain has depreciated fifty per cent. in value in only fifteen years. Canadian Farmers do not want to encounter such depreciation, therefore they will not favor Free Trade.

THE funniest Reciprocity argument we have yet seen is that of the *Montreal Herald*. Hear it:—

"American farmers are worse off than those of Canada in proportion as their tariff is higher than ours. Any extension of commercial relations between the two countries, and consequent reduction of taxation, would give relief to and benefit the farmers of both Canada and the United States, and to that extent give a healthful impetus to trade."

American farmers are worse off than Canadian farmers, therefore Canadian farmers would be better off if they had free access to the American market. The placing of Canadian produce on the American market in addition to their own would benefit American farmers: and Canadian farmers, by having free access to the American market, where the American farmers are suffering from overproduction, would improve the condition of Canadian farmers. How silly!

A PHARASICAL "Practical Christian," writing to the *Mail* complaining of the inadequate compensation of girls working in Toronto factories, says that all the oppressors are not located on a certain street, but that "some are to be found on Front, Wellington, King and Yonge Streets, owning establishments reaching into the clouds, the mortar between the bricks of which was wet and mixed by the sweat of the young working girls of Toronto." This is a sweeping accusation, all the meaner and more venomous because the accuser in the first place hides his contemptible head behind a hypocritical *nom de plume*, and in the second place, to save himself a good kicking, fails to mention the names of the parties the bricks in whose factories were cemented with mortar wet with the sweat of young working girls of Toronto. This inuendo is characteristic of just such "practical Christians" as are too cowardly to tell their names or to name those whom they accuse of grave offenses. The *Mail* should be ashamed to lend its columns to such hypocritical snivelers.

ONE of the largest known bodies of iron ore on this continent is the property of Mr. Caldwell, M.P.P., and is situated in Gun-Flint Lake, near the boundary of Ontario and the State of Minnesota. Yet it is as valueless as though it were lying around the North Pole—partly because it has neither railway nor water communication—but chiefly because there is no market for it. The mines of the Vermillion range in Minnesota, seventy miles away, have an outlet of 500,000 tons of ore yearly.—*London Ont., Advertiser*.

It is exceedingly silly for the *Advertiser* to advance such an argument. The report on the "Mineral Resources of Ontario" shows that the profit in Ontario ores laid down in American markets, duty paid, averages three dollar a ton or more; and we presume Mr. Caldwell could realize a similar profit from his Gun-Flint Lake mines if he wanted to. Why don't he build a railroad for their development? The profit on three years' shipment of his ores, at 500,000 tons a year,