

ers' Association, the Secretary was instructed to ask the Government to modify the Patent Act to the extent that in applying for patents, applicants should not be required to produce models of their inventions unless the Commissioner of Patents should deem the same to be absolutely essential; and that the duration of the term for which patents may be granted should be extended to a period of seventeen years or more. We are pleased to state that a bill has been prepared having these changes in view; that it meets the approbation of the officials of the Patent Office, and that it will most likely receive the support of the Government when it is presented in the House.

A COMPANY has been formed at Havre for the manufacture of nickel. It is having a factory constructed on the Tancarville Canal, and has concluded an important contract with the government for nickel-plating Lebel rifles. The mineral used has hitherto come from New Caledonia, but is henceforth to be imported from Canada.—*Cleveland, O. Iron Trade Review.*

Please notice these facts. A French company having a large contract with the French Government for nickel-plating rifles, abandons drawing supplies of nickel from the French island of New Caledonia, and depends upon Canada for the article. And yet there are those who say that it is possible for New Caledonia to depreciate the value of Canadian nickel. Why not use this nickel club to force agreeable commercial arrangements from disagreeable neighbors?

A BILL has been introduced into the Dominion Parliament prohibiting the importation of aliens under contract into Canada. It is framed upon the same general lines as the American Act, and seems to be in the nature of retaliation for the exclusion from the United States of Canadians who go to that country seeking employment. The bill should never pass. Canada needs the presence of immigrants, particularly skilled artisans and able-bodied workmen and their families. It is claimed that the bill is in the nature of protection to Canadian workmen; but this is not the way to protect them. The way to protect them against American competition is to increase the duties upon such things as can be made to advantage in Canada but are imported in large quantities from the United States. This is the sort of protection Canadian workmen need.

A TELEGRAM from Pittsburgh, Penn., a few days ago, stated that Messrs. Carnegie, Phipps & Co. were working full blast night and day, endeavoring to fill orders for nickel-steel plate, but notwithstanding their immense capacity they have been compelled to secure the assistance of the Cleveland Iron Works. Government experiments with nickel-steel armor have been much more satisfactory than has yet been published, and in consequence those who have the advantage of high official information are endeavoring to secure control of the world's supply of nickel. For some days it has been rumored, and it is now publicly charged, that a gigantic nickel trust is being organized which will be of greater importance than the now defunct Standard Oil Trust. Two prominent senators with tremendous influence in Congress are said to be interested. And so a gigantic trust is being formed in the United States to control the output of Canadian nickel, and still the Dominion Government dally with the question of imposing an export duty on the article. Impose the duty.

ONE of the most important changes which it is to be hoped the Government will make in the iron schedule of the tariff at the present session of Parliament should be to raise the duty on wrought scrap-iron to seven or eight dollars per ton. The duty is now only \$2 per ton, and under it Canada has failed to establish a puddled bar-iron industry. In fact, such an industry is entirely impossible with the duty on scrap-iron as low as it is. No concern can afford to manufacture pig-iron or to import it to be made into puddled iron, when much cheaper and inferior iron made of scrap would confront it at all times. The imports of wrought scrap are immense, and the scrap piles of all Europe are drawn upon to supply the demand. No rolled iron made of this stuff is imported, because the duty of \$13 per ton keeps it out; but our imports of puddled bar are large because, for many purposes, only iron of the best and most reliable character can be used; and for the reasons stated, such iron is not made in Canada. Scrap-iron from Europe can be delivered at rolling mills in Montreal and the Maritime Provinces at about the same, or less, charge for freight as the railroads charge for similar service between Montreal and Toronto; and the only rolling-mill concern in Ontario, having no competitors, buys domestic scrap at exceedingly low prices. How, then, can we expect to have iron furnaces and puddled iron? The duty upon wrought scrap should be increased.

IF the Government listens to the appeals constantly being made to them regarding the imposing of export duties on certain Canadian products, they will do a good thing for the country. A few days ago some of the largest manufacturers in Canada waited upon the Government and urged that an export duty be laid upon spruce logs and also upon pulp wood. Included in the delegation were Messrs. John MacFarlane of the Canada Paper Company, E. B. Eddy and W. H. Rowley, of the Eddy Paper Mills, and Mr. Scott of the Napanee Paper Company. The deputation pointed out that the United States, while reducing the duty on pine lumber to \$1 per 1,000 feet did not reduce the duty on spruce logs, which still remains at \$2 per 1,000. In consideration of the reduction on the one quality of lumber Canada had taken off the export duty on both pine and spruce logs. The United States had imposed a duty on ground wood pulp of \$2.50 a ton, a rate which amounted to about \$1.25 a cord, and in that way, spruce being largely the substance from which wood pulp is made, their tariff practically prohibited the importation of that article into the United States. The deputation asked for the imposition of an export duty upon spruce pulp wood as well as upon spruce logs. They represented the magnitude of the industry, and the extent to which the country was being denuded of these woods in those localities which were near facilities for carriage, and urged the Government to take action without delay. Mr. Abbott, in reply, said that the Government had already been considering the matter of the export duty on logs. Impose the duty.

DISCUSSING what we recently said regarding the Canadian canning industry and the injury it would sustain under unrestricted reciprocity with the United States, alluding to this journal the *American Artisan* says: