

At the present time, when all Canada is wondering what great things the Pacific Railway is going to do next, *Bradstreet's* letter from San Francisco, which we copy on another page, will be interesting. The writer is fertile in suggesting reasons why the Canadian company should find it impossible to do a paying American business. But let us note one main fact which he himself partly admits. Transcontinental rates have so far been enormously high—the highest in the whole United States, we think it would be correct to say. On these very high rates there is a big margin for cutting into, and this, it appears, the Canadian Pacific is going to do. Read over well the letter of the San Francisco correspondent, and you will get the impression that, while saying there is no cause for fear, he is still very much afraid.

REFERRING to this year's rise in wool prices, the *United States Economist* recently said:—Those who saw the wisdom of buying Cape and Montevideo at 45c. to 50c. for the scoured pound, while money sought shelter in safety at the lowest interest rates known to the oldest merchants, acted wisely and well. When Montevideo wools got down to 22c. to 24c. a pound, we almost begged of the mills not to let the opportunity slip, but very few listened to our counsel, and to-day they greatly regret it. No good or choice Montevideo can be secured in New York or Boston short of 28c. to 30c. a pound duty paid. Mostly all the foreign clothing wools, Cape and South America, here, Newport, and in Boston, have been re-shipped or bought for Canada or foreign countries at 15 to 25 per cent. higher prices than current values in the United States.

An American contemporary thinks that many strikes might be avoided if the course just pursued in the Hanway mills at Cohoes, N.Y., were generally adopted. The men wanted more pay, but the company told them squarely and frankly that they could not afford an advance, and that they were already paying as much as mills in their line at Fall River and elsewhere. The men did not believe it, whereupon the manufacturers offered, if the men would select a reliable man to travel about the mills and look up the subject of wages, to pay all his expenses, and to raise the wages if they were not as high as paid elsewhere. A boss weaver has been on the inquiry mission, and has returned to Cohoes with the statement that the wages there are as high as any paid in the country, and that his fellow-workmen have no cause to complain.

BOOK NOTICES.

CANADA—STATISTICAL ABSTRACT AND RECORD. Published by the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, 1886.

In bringing out this valuable Abstract and Record, the Minister of Agriculture has done the country good service. To give our readers an idea of what is aimed at, and the large design which it is intended to follow up, we cannot do better than copy the introduction:—

This work is intended to furnish information respecting the Government, population, finances, commerce and general statistics of the Dominion, and to form an authentic reference book for all persons interested in such matters.

The sources of the information used in this work, in so far

as relates to Canada, are official; and, for the most part, from Departmental reports. The tables have all been carefully prepared, and most of them are entirely new; much of the information contained in them not having before been published in Canada. Great care has been taken with the calculations, which have all been made in the Statistical Office of the Department of Agriculture, and it is believed they will be found correct. But it is possible that in so many figures, errors may have crept in, typographical or otherwise; and it is hoped that if any such should be detected, they will be reported to this office.

There being no means in Canada by which the changes in the population between the census years can be ascertained with any degree of accuracy, no attempt has been made to estimate such changes, except for the purpose of certain calculations, and for this the population of the Dominion has been logarithmically estimated for each fiscal year since Confederation. The figures thus obtained, as given on page 104, are those which have been used in all calculations throughout the book. The populations of the several Provinces since 1881 have been estimated in the same manner.

The financial, commercial and most of the other tables are brought to the close of the fiscal year, 30th June, 1885. On some subjects, however, information is given to 31st December, 1885, and with reference to the Canadian Pacific Railway, to 2nd June, 1886.

The figures relating to the United Kingdom, British Possessions, and foreign countries, have in most cases been taken from the Statistical Abstracts prepared by Mr. Robert Giffen, of the Imperial Board of Trade. Reference has also been made to the Statesman's Year Book, Victorian Year Book (published by Mr. H. H. Hayter, the Statist of the Government of Victoria, Australia, the method of which has been largely followed, as well as that of the Canadian Year Book, formerly published), the American Almanac, and Whitaker's Almanac.

It is proposed, in future yearly additions, still further to elaborate the tables, and other modes of presenting information in this work, in such a way as to present in, if we may so speak, a digested form and plain to be seen at a single glance, facts of importance respecting Canada, which can now only be found in numerous Blue Books and Departmental Reports, not always conveniently or easily accessible to all.

First come Preliminary Remarks of a general character. Then sixteen chapters, under the following heads:—Legislative, Population, Finance, Trade, Railways and Canals, Post Office and Telegraphs, Criminal Statistics, Immigration, Marine and Fisheries, Militia, Arts and Agriculture, Dominion Lands, Banking, Insurance, Mortuary Statistics, Loan Companies. Lastly, a copious Index makes the whole very convenient for reference.

PROFIT SHARING BETWEEN CAPITAL AND LABOR.—Six essays by SEDLEY TAYLOR, M.D., late Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, England. Price 15 cents, by mail. J. Fitzgerald, Publisher, 108 Chambers St., N.Y.

The question of the division of the profits of industrial enterprises commands attention everywhere, as probably affording the true solution of the problems involved in the relations between Labour and Capital. The work before us, written by a well informed student of political economy, gives a very full account of the methods of dividing the profits between employer and workman in several departments of industry—manufacture, agriculture and commerce. This valuable book will be read with profit by every one, and its exceedingly low price places it within the reach of all. Sent post free by the publisher on receipt of price.