

IRON BEDSTEDS IN CANADA.

Under this heading U. S. Consul Martin recently reported to his Government as follows:—

"I desire to call the attention of manufacturers of iron and brass bedsteads to the opportunity offered in Canada for the establishment of one or more factories for their manufacture. Many of the dealers throughout Canada are at present sent buying their iron and brass goods in the United States, and paying the duty of 30 per cent., while the iron and brass from which they are made are free of duty under item 617 of the Canadian Customs Act of 1897, viz.:

"Tubes, rolled iron, not welded or joined, under 1½ inches in diameter; angle iron, 9 and 10 gauge, not over 1½ inches wide; iron tubing, lacquered or brass covered, not over 1½ inches in diameter—all of which are to be cut to lengths for the manufacture of bedsteads, and are to be used for no other purpose; and brass trimmings for bedsteads, when imported by or for manufacturers of iron or brass bedsteads to be used for such purposes only in their own factories, until such time as any of the said articles are manufactured in Canada."

There are good openings in Canada for the manufacture of iron and brass bedsteads. There are several such factories engaged in this line. Yet a large number of bedsteads are imported both from the United States and the Mother Country. We know of some good up-to-date factories recently established in Ontario, and as no duties are paid on material entering into the construction, there is no reason why such goods should not be made in quantities sufficient to supply our home market, and also to furnish a very nice item of export.

ELECTRIC MACHINERY WANTED IN FRANCE AND EGYPT.

From the New York Journal of Commerce we quote:—

"Some foreign capitalists representing large street railway interests in France and Egypt are now in Cleveland, O. The members of the party are M. Montagne, of Paris, a representative of the Enterprise and Electric Company, of Paris and Brussels, and M. Cahen, of Alexandria, Egypt, representing the Alexandrian Tramway Company. They came to the United States for the purpose of buying rolling stock for electric street railways in France and Egypt. Through an interpreter M. Montagne said: 'We intend to place orders for at least \$1,000,000 worth of equipment while we are in America. American made electrical supplies are the best in the world, and are exclusively used in Europe.'"

This shows that the same demand will come to Canadian manufacturers whenever they desire to supply the goods wanted.

MANUAL TRAINING IN CANADIAN SCHOOLS.

Prof. Robertson, the Dominion Commissioner of Agriculture, states that arrangements are being made for the establishment of manual training in Canadian schools, which has been made possible by the generous offer of Sir William C. Macdonald of Montreal, as announced by Prof. Robertson a few weeks ago. Mr. Jerome Wallace of the south of Scotland, a well-known Scottish expert on manual training, has been engaged to come to Canada and take charge of the department in the Ottawa public schools for three years. Mr. Wallace was sent by the County Council of Dumfriesshire to Sweden to study the Sloyd system, and afterwards lectured on it in his country. He will arrive in Canada about the end of the month, and it is expected the training will be undertaken by him, with two assistants, in the Ottawa public schools in January or February. Prof. Robertson is also in negotiation with a Canadian who has been engaged in manual training in the United States for eight years, with a view to having him return and take charge of another school, possibly at Quebec. A third teacher may be secured in the person of

a Liverpool gentleman, and from the three different systems represented by these three men Prof. Robertson hopes that Canada may evolve a successful system suited to our needs.

ENGLISH PAPER MANUFACTURERS TO VISIT CANADA.

English manufacturers of paper to the number of about sixty will, it is said, make a journey to Canada next year. In the course of their trip they will visit Quebec, Montreal and Toronto. It is understood that arrangements for their reception are being made by the Governments of Quebec and Ontario, and the Canadian manufacturers will co-operate in entertaining them. The itinerary has been arranged by Mr. S. Charles Phillips, who represents about eight different English publications devoted to the interests of paper pulp and paper manufactures. Mr. Phillips was in New York a few days ago on his way back to England after an extended tour of Canada and the United States. England's demand for Canadian pulp is growing enormously. Three years ago it imported annually about 5,000 tons of ground pulp from this country. To-day the importation from Canada amounts to over 200,000 tons, and there seems to be no limit to the expansion of the trade.

POSSIBILITIES OF TRADE IN PORTO RICO.

It would seem that Canada will benefit in the near future through an increasing trade with Porto Rico, especially in the lines of salt fish and other food products, lumber, etc. The New York Journal of Commerce publishes a telegram from Washington to the following effect:—

The War Department makes public a statement of exports and imports at the five principal ports of Porto Rico for the months of May, June, and July, 1899. The report shows a slight balance of trade in favor of these ports of \$347,832. The total of imports into the ports named for the three months is \$2,572,618. The exports during the same period were \$2,920,500. There was exported to the United States during the three months \$871,671 worth of merchandise, and there was imported from the United States \$973,545.

From this it will be seen that only one-third of the total imports went from the United States.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TORONTO, Dec. 6, 1899.

EDITOR, THE CANADIAN MANUFACTURER.

As a native Australian and having, thus, much interest in common with Canadians as part of the British Empire, it has given me a great deal of pleasure to visit your Dominion and to have become comparatively familiar with the general conditions which obtain here.

Though my visit has been almost exclusively of a business nature, the kindly disposition of your people—which it has been my uniform experience and pleasure to enjoy—has enabled me to make many friends during my travels in different sections of the country.

I want, however, to write somewhat of matters which will be of interest to your manufacturing readers.

It is, of course, well-known that Australia is one of the greatest fields, if not the greatest single outside field, for the manufacturer of all nations to seek a market, more especially perhaps in the case of my colony of New South Wales for the simple reason that "manufacture" has not been the principal end and aim of legislation.

Practically, we buy everything from abroad, but, that we can buy more is fully illustrated by this fact, that our last year's statistics show imports (N.S.W.) £24,453,560; exports, £27,648,117. Our exports have increased at a much higher percentage than the rate of import. For purposes of figuring on prospects, it will be interesting to Canadian