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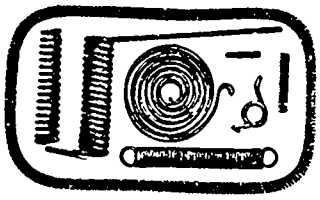

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SYDNEY, N S.W., May 8, 1900.

The Editor CANADIAN MANUFACTURER, Toronto.

DEAR SIR,—While in Canada somewhat recently I remember that in writing to your paper I laid stress on the transport connection between Canada and Australia as being one which should engage the attention of manufacturers.

It will interest your readers to know that the German line of steamers which have hitherto been running a four-weekly steamer service to this port have recently decided to increase the service to a three-weekly one. Doubtless this increase is on a tangible (Cash Receipts) basis and it is worth the consideration of manufacturers who wish to compete to devise means of transport which shall go near at any rate to place them on an equal footing in that respect.

For Canada to run a direct line of steamers open to carry freight as expeditiously and cheaply as the North German Lloyd Company run from Germany, may be written off as impossible at the present time, but if Canada wants to send goods here it has to be attended to in some way.

Conversationally, I urged, while in Canada, that perhaps the appointment, by the Dominion Department of Commerce, of a commercial man with a good knowledge of shipping in New York (through which port Canadian goods must principally filter), would be of great advantage.

Such a man with official and other expenses would probably cost $3,000 or $4,000 a year, and he could accomplish much

He would be entirely an official and paid sufficiently to be a trustworthy and disinterested man in the discharge of his duties which would consist roughly in —

1. Registering the names of manufacturers who enrol themselves (paying a fee of say $25 per annum), for the purpose of advising them monthly of sailings from New York. Rates of freight, etc

2. Being generally in a position to give advice and obtain information desired by manufacturers.

Details of some such scheme would be well worth working out I think and in a measure Canada could begin to control her own means of transport.

With the growth of Imperial feeling which is so apparent here and in Canada, there come the commercial opportunities which should not lose their legitimate weight and attention. Yours faithfully,

C. BOWES THISTLETHWAYTE.

The vinegar works of Messrs D H. Wilson & Co., Toronto, were damaged by fire, to the extent of about $5,000, on May 19

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