

instance, at the time this question came up in 1890 or 1891 the matter was investigated, at the company with which I am connected was selling its nickel matte at that time in Germany and in Great Britain; and I wish to say at the present moment we are offered by a very prominent Englishman—a man who has very great wealth and who has a process of refining this nickel—a market for every pound of nickel matte we have—every pound of it. We have preferred to have this work done in this country. We have preferred to give our people the benefit of it; and inasmuch as our institution is absolutely an American institution in every respect, an Ohio corporation with Ohio stockholders, and the property over there owned in fee simple—and we are treated exceedingly well by the Canadians so far as I have any reason to know—we do not see any special use of practically destroying as far as possible the investments of Americans in Canada. Of course if a duty should be put upon nickel ore or nickel matte why, that is the end of its coming to this country.

The Globe reviews the question very neatly and points out that the charter of the Canada Copper Company contains a clause over which there is a dispute as to whether it compels refining in Canada. Then, instead of advocating the imposition of an export duty which Messrs. Thompson and Burke have been kind enough to recommend as an effectual remedy for the export of nickel matte from Canada it reaches the sapient conclusion that,

The whole subject is one of great interest.

On January 6th last, The Mail and Empire used three-quarters of a column of its valuable editorial space in proving that Canada had nickel, that there was a demand for it, and that Canada had every national facility to supply that demand. It asserted at length that nickel refineries should be established in Toronto and devoted eight lines to the necessity for the imposition of an export duty on ore and matte. Again on June 10th it felt called upon to deliver a lecture on nickel. During the four days that had elapsed since its first article it evidently realized where the gist of the whole matter lay, and accordingly it devoted itself to pointing out reasons for the enforcement of the export duty clause. It is to be hoped that other leading journals will take up the matter and insist on action by the Government to establish nickel refining in Canada.

The production of nickel from the mines of this district last year was about 3,900,000 pounds, an increase over that of 1896 of nearly 250,000 pounds, and the copper in the ore was about 3,750,000. The price of nickel in the United States during the year kept steadily at thirty-three to thirty-eight cents, and in England at twenty-six to thirty-two cents a pound. A little more than half of the nickel was consumed in the United States, and the rest was sent to Europe where the market for nickel has expanded very considerably of late.

Thus says The Sudbury Journal. It supplements this by an estimate of expenses, etc., which we do not quote, inasmuch as we have it on authority of Judge Burke and Mr. Simpson that the amount they expend in Canada is only about one-half that given by The Journal. Nevertheless The Journal's figures as to the production and its value in the market form a remarkably apt argument to prove the value of the gift we are annually making to the United States. It is scarcely to be wondered at that Judge Burke grew humorous when he thought how "exceedingly well" Canada treated his company. By way of emphasizing the importance we place on having this export duty imposed, and to show that our course has been consistent and continuous we make the following quotations:—

A Canadian export duty upon ore and matte would establish the refining industry here, and most probably our American friends would be quite glad to remove their duties, which now discriminate so severely against us, as an inducement for us to modify our export duty on nickel.—CANADIAN MANUFACTURER, January 1, 1892.

Considering the situation and our opportunities, it is to be hoped that our Government will take prompt and effective action to secure to Canada the benefit of her nickel wealth. Without the expenditure of a dollar, by imposing an export duty hundreds of thousands of dollars can be covered into the Dominion treasury every year.—CANADIAN MANUFACTURER, February 5, 1892.

We may never hope to see the manufacture of nickel steel a prominent industry in Canada until we check the export of nickel ore and matte, and encourage by the imposition of duties or the bestowment of bounties, the establishment of the industry.—CANADIAN MANUFACTURER, March 18, 1892.

It would mean the immediate investment of millions of dollars of foreign capital in Canada, in the establishment of nickel refineries and works for the manufacture of all descriptions of nickel steel. It would mean the manufacture in Canada of the armor plates now about being made in the United States for the Russian navy; and not only for that navy, but also for those of other countries, probably even of Great Britain and the United States. Suppose we try it. Impose the duty. Give us a nickel manufacturing industry.—CANADIAN MANUFACTURER, July 7, 1893.

We trust that no question, great or little, will be allowed to delay the imposition of an export duty on nickel. We believe that persistence in the present course is foolish. We believe that it is nothing less than criminal carelessness in managing the affairs of this country. We believe that Canadians are opening their eyes to the situation, and realize that they are being unnecessarily deprived of millions of dollars yearly. We believe that this country would endorse and appreciate Government action to put an end to such needless sacrifice of Canadian interests. We believe that it will not endorse a Government that takes no action in the matter. The manifest absurdity of present conditions should cause immediate change. To sum up we quote from The Mail and Empire of Jan. 10th:—

All, however—profits and wages—would be kept in Canada by an export duty. Whatever other parts of the Act, therefore, are held in abeyance it is to be presumed that the Government will be willing to set free that part of it which relates to nickel. Canada can then trust to its own unequalled supply and to the world's immense demand to do the rest. A nickel refinery would be the first creation of an export duty. That in itself would be a huge industry, and would be the nucleus of several others that would soon form around it—industries using nickel as a material.

#### SCORE ONE FOR VANCOUVER.

The Vancouver Board of Trade has established an agency in Seattle to afford information of Vancouver's advantages over the United States cities, in supplying outfits for the Klondike at lower prices and of a more suitable character. The result has been so detrimental to Seattle outfitters, as miners realized the saving they would effect by outfitting in Canada, besides getting their miners' license before starting for the north, that the newspapers of Seattle are calling on the city council of that place to impose a heavy license fee on any representatives of Canadian cities who may go there. It is realized here that this is a significant admission on Seattle's part that she cannot compete for the trade, a fact which is amply confirmed by comparison of Canadian and United States invoices of outfits and supplies, the duty on United States outfits being about thirty per cent.