

any capitalist fool enough to start any such would "end in a first-class collapse." The collapsing may be on the part of Mr. Cain and his Barrow-in-Furness iron and steel works, but certainly not of any such works in Canada.

A COUPLE of weeks ago, on the day on which the largest and most formidable iron clad war ship in the British navy was launched, a successful test of Lieutenant Zalinski's new dynamite gun was made at Fort Lafayette, in New York harbor. The test was made in the presence of the Secretary of the Navy and other United States officials and officers, and representatives of the Norwegian, Spanish, French, Danish, Swedish and Japanese governments. The target was an eighty-ton schooner, anchored at a distance of one and one fifth miles from the firing point, and when the exhibition was finished she was reduced to slivers that floated away on the tide. The gun used was 60 feet long, of 8-inch bore, carrying a projectile containing 50 pounds of dynamite, with an initial force of 600 pounds to the square inch. Six shots were fired, two of which struck the vessel, tearing her all to pieces. Lieut. Zalinski was congratulated by Secretary Whitney. Another gun is being constructed, which will hurl 600 pounds of dynamite at a charge.

THE Trades and Labor Congress in session in Hamilton last week adopted Mr. Jury's resolution in favor of the adoption of the George system of taxation, and the Hamilton *Times* champions the doctrine. The George system of taxation involves the abolition of all custom duties upon imports, whether imposed for protection or revenue, and the collection of public revenues by a tax on land values. The *Times* says that the speeches made in support contained no mystification on the subject; that all present understood what the resolution meant; that it was adopted unanimously, and that the workingmen are not going to be any longer fooled by the present methods of collecting revenues. Likes to the like. We are now prepared to see the *Times* denouncing the courts of Illinois anent the conviction and sentence of the bomb-throwing Anarchists. Speaking of the passage of this resolution the *Spectator* says:—"And so the Labor Congress has decided that Canada shall have the Georgian system of taxation. Of course this decision is not final: it will have to be confirmed by Parliament before Georgeism becomes the law of the land. As there are several people in this country who do not like the system, it is to be hoped that the labor people will not use their 'brute majority' in the legislative houses to force the new law into operation at once."

THERE is a legend current in some parts of the United States that a Fool Killer, named Jesse Jones, visits the country at stated intervals and kills off all the fools to be found. It is a big contract he has on hand, and we presume that he doesn't have time to do much except to attend strictly to his business. It is evident that he has not visited Canada recently, for we find the following in the Port Hope *Guide* :—

"A sewing machine factory at Fergus, after standing idle for a long period, has at last been sold—building and machinery included—for the paltry sum of \$2,500. It will be used as a storehouse for eggs, intended for shipment to the United States market. Thus while the manufacture of sewing machines in Canada decreases, facilities for the extension of

the egg trade are on the increase. No thanks to the men who, by the imposition of unnecessarily high taxes, have handicapped both industries."

An old proverb saith that "Fools build houses and wise men live in them," which may be modified so as to apply to some who embark in the manufacture of sewing machines. But it is not a fact that "the manufacture of sewing machines in Canada decreases," and it is not true that the imposition of tariff duties handicaps either the manufacture of sewing machines or "the extension of the egg trade." Eggs are not affected by any tariff duty whatever.

AN important meeting was held in Toronto last week by a number of local consumers of finished iron, and others interested in the iron trade, who propose to establish rolling mills in this city. Among those present were Messrs. H. A. Massey, of the Massey Manufacturing Company; John Ostrander, a capitalist, of Cleveland, O.; Thos. D. Beddoe, of the Hamilton Iron Forging Co., Hamilton; J. M. Loeser, of the Toronto Mill Stock and Metal Co.; James Worthington, of the Ontario Bolt Works, Toronto; J. Aikenhead, of Aikenhead & Crombie; Leo Frankel, of Messrs. Frankel Bros.; John Forster and Mayor Howland. Mr. Worthington was chairman of the meeting, and Mr. Loeser secretary. It was stated that the city would give a long lease at a nominal rent of any land possessed by the corporation for the purpose of establishing the mills; and that the total cost of erecting mills with capacity to produce sixty tons of finished iron per day would be about \$66,000. Upon a suggestion being made that there were rolling mills enough in Canada to supply all current demands for iron, and that the proposed works might encounter serious opposition, Mr. Massey said that he, for one, was determined to see such a mill in operation in this city—that there was no doubt that under the existing duties on iron and steel a rolling mill here would be a profitable investment. Such goods could be manufactured here cheaper than they could be imported. Mr. Worthington said, "We are bound to have a mill in Toronto." A committee was appointed to gather all necessary information relating to the scheme, to report to a subsequent meeting to be held at an early day.

MR. JAMES F. HOBART, of Boston, Mass., has assumed the editorial management of the *Manufacturer's Gazette*, of that city. Mr. Hobart is well known as a writer on mechanical and kindred subjects, and his accession to the editorial chair of our contemporary cannot fail to hold it in the front rank of trade journalism, where it has long been conspicuous.

REGARDING the Central Fair recently held in Hamilton, the *Spectator* of that city says: One thing that specially strikes the visitor is the display of manufactured goods of descriptions new to Canada. On every hand surprise is felt that this, that or the other article is of home production. Advocates of the National Policy will find many arguments at the fair.

MR. CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, in a letter to the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, suggests that in the case of railroad employees there should be, after a term of probation, an entrance into a permanent service, in which there should be regular promotion and stated increase of pay as the period of service increases, and a pension upon disability or superannuation.

STRIKES in the shoe trade during the last year have cost in wages from \$5,000,000 to \$6,000,000. Nearly half this sum is said to have been lost in the five months' strike in Worcester county, Mass. The Wilmington strike of morocco workers lasted seven months and cost \$225,000. The strike at Salem and Peabody, Mass., entailed a loss of \$3,000,000 in wages. Lesser strikes bringing up the total.—*Shoe and Leather Reporter*.