

ment, the curtailment of operations at a number of mines, including several important producers, and the bar to the shipment of unsold ore, or to the mining of any considerable quantity of it. It is fair to reckon that monthly payments on ore sold were bringing three times as much money into Cleveland a year ago as is now being received on ore account. Curtailment goes on steadily at the mines. Of the 24 Gogebic shippers of 1892, only ten have shipped ore thus far. In the Crystal Falls district on the Menominee, there is a decided cutting down of force. The suspensions at the Dunn and Claire, both Schlesinger properties, are to be followed, it is reported, by curtailments at the Sunday Lake, on the Gogebic, and at the Buffalo group on the Marquette.

How about the "rejoicing in Canada?"

An excellent opportunity for attracting the attention of Canadian investors to the desirable securities offered for sale in many parts of the South is presented in a bill now pending in the Canadian Parliament. This measure requires that all securities in which the savings banks can invest must be described and listed. The idea is to prevent the money of any savings institution being put into unknown or "wild-cat" securities. Mayor Latrobe, of Baltimore, with his characteristic energy, advised the Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament of the excellent character of Baltimore bonds, with the request that they be included on the authorized list. This would seem an excellent example for other corporation officers to follow.—Baltimore Manufacturers' Record.

Of course it is a wise measure to require that all securities in which our savings banks can invest should be properly described and listed; and it is a wise thing for the Canadian Parliament to do; but a wise thing which our law makers have not done is to impose an export duty on nickel ore and matte, and saw logs, and to require the railroads to pay a duty upon their steel rails. If these were done money would become so valuable in Canada that it would remain at home and become invested here in manufacturing enterprises.

The daily papers report the arrival in Toronto of a train load of machinery intended for the equipment of a rolling mill to be erected in this city; and we are told that the Canadian market will absorb all the iron that could be rolled in it. We are always glad to note the establishment of a new industry, and we hope that the promoters of this one will be abundantly recompensed for any investment they may make. Whether it will prove a success depends somewhat upon the quality of iron it will produce. There are already three rolling mills in operation in Ontario, and it is said that they have capacity to turn out much more iron than what they actually make. These mills make iron of scrap; and while their product is well suited to many of the purposes to which it is put, there is a constant demand for a quality of iron which they do not produce, and which, of course must be met by imports from abroad. For all ordinary purposes the iron rolled in Ontario mills is good enough, but for some other purposes it will not answer at all. If the proposed new mill will produce a first-class refined iron, uniform in strength and tenacity, there should be a demand for it which would keep the mill in full operation all the time. If it is intended to work over scrap and to produce nothing better than what can now be had from other mills, the success of it may not be as unbounded as its projectors hope for. Existing mills have capacity to make all the iron for which there is any demand—that is, iron of common qualities. The addition of another mill, if built to produce only such qualities, could but discourage the trade and result in disappointment. The fact is, as long

as the duty upon wrought scrap is only \$2 per ton, and the foreign supply of the article holds out, no puddled iron will ever be made in Canada. Heating scrap and rolling it into bars does not constitute manufacturing iron.

According to the latest report made to the English Board of Trade and covering the year 1891, strikes in Great Britain are more extensive and costly in proportion to the population than in this country. During the year mentioned there were 883 strikes, affecting 4,500 establishments and about 300,000 workmen, and 13 lockouts, affecting 48 establishments. Of these strikes, 156 affected the cotton spinners and 120 the colliers, the engineers participating in 33, the ship builders in 41, boot makers in 35, and a large part of the remainder were in the building trades. The London tailors had 20,000 men on strike, the cotton spinners in a single county turning out 27,000 strikers. More than half the labor troubles were over the question of wages, only 3 per cent. being undertaken for shorter hours and 1 per cent. against non-union labor. In one strike at Cardiff, extending over five weeks, 5,000 laborers were concerned, and at about the same time 2,000 dockmen at Liverpool were engaged in the struggle. In all, 369 strikes, affecting about 70,000 workmen were successful. Less than 200 strikes were partially successful. The unsuccessful strikes were 263 in number, but concerned over 90,000 employees. The attempt to secure reliable statistics concerning the direct monetary gain or loss to the strikers has not been entirely successful, as many estimates disagree noticeably. But one-third of the establishments furnished data. If the proportion would hold good for the others, the capital which was temporarily paralyzed amounted to about \$140,000,000; while the actual loss incurred in the mere stoppage and resumption of work alone reached \$160,000; the loss of the workmen's wages during the strikes was at least \$8,000,000, and perhaps exceeded \$10,000,000. During the year 1892 it is probable that these figures were largely exceeded. The Lancashire cotton strike alone, which lasted for twenty weeks, it is estimated, cost the operatives alone more than \$7,000,000 in wages, while the loss to manufacturers must have been at least as great and probably much more serious, for business recovers but slowly from such stagnation as followed the strike. One benefit, however, has been gained, and that is the establishment of a system of arbitration, which was provided for in the agreement between the manufacturers and employees by which this great strike was settled. It is not improbable that if it proves successful in settling disputes between labor and capital, the system will be generally adopted by other trades, and thus many of the disastrous consequences of these widespread and bitter contests will in future be avoided.

According to an old English report, there is a curious item in the Public Records, which is dated February 7, 1737, and runs as follows: "Jane Vanet, of the Parish of St. Anne, Westminster, widow, hoop petticoat maker. The specification describes a new invented hoop petticoat, with foldings, whalebone and metal joints and strings for contracting the compass of a petticoat from four yards in circumference to two yards, and thereby causing less inconvenience to the wearer in churches, assemblies, coaches and chairs." And yet, in view of the crinoline revival, somebody suggests the invention of a collapsible crinoline as a new idea.