

A HUNGARIAN miner has been found in Pennsylvania, says the Binghampton *Leader*, who lives on two cents a day. He was brought over and put in the place of an American miner by a mine-owner of Pennsylvania, who once in four years tells his men that war taxes must be maintained unless American labor is to be brought into competition with the "pauper labor" of Europe.—*Hamilton Times*. In a recent lecture by Mr. R. W. Raymond, secretary of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, he makes the statement that a detailed analysis of the pay-rolls of the Lehigh Coal Company for the eighteen months from January 1st, 1886, to June 30th, 1887, shows that every miner, good, bad or indifferent, skilled or unskilled, working by contract for the company during that period, averaged \$2.72 for every day worked. Professor Raymond is competent and reliable authority, and if the Hungarian miner alluded to by the *Times* has learned the art of living on two cents a day, he is probably laying up at the rate of \$2.70 a day from his wages. But is not two cents a day rather cheap living?

THE *Hamilton Times* says that unskilled labor in North Carolina is worth only sixty-five cents a day; that North Carolina "enjoys" a protective tariff, and wants to know why the remuneration of labor is so low in that portion of a "protected" country. Answer:—Unskilled labor in North Carolina is worth more than sixty-five cents a day; North Carolina practised a system of human slavery until Abraham Lincoln destroyed it, that discouraged any and all industries except those in which slave labor was engaged, and the Bourbon element in that State—the old slave-owners—don't seem to have yet heard that slavery has been abolished, and therefore there is no encouragement there for those who would engage in manufacturing enterprises. When the Free Trade Bourbons die out, and the aggressiveness of "Protection" captures the State, things will become changed, and North Carolina will take her proper place beside such wealthy and flourishing States as Alabama, Tennessee, West Virginia and Kentucky, where manufacturing industries abound, and where all kinds of labor is paid a fair reward for its success.

THE new water-works system of Newmarket, Ont., has recently been put into operation, and is working satisfactorily. The *Era*, speaking of the event, says:—"The underwriters have been notified that our system of water-works is now in perfect running order, and as soon as they set the day a public exhibition and test will be made, when Newmarket will show the world that she has one of the most complete systems of fire protection in Canada, composed of two independent pumps with enormous capacity, and nearly 5,000 feet of mains, coupled with an electric fire-alarm, four well-drilled hose companies, with a command of 2,150 feet of hose, and also an excellent hook and ladder company supplied with almost every modern appliance and convenience." The authorities of this enterprising town have shown great wisdom in thus providing against fires, that terrible foe that has almost swept so many Canadian towns from existence. In these days of improved pumping machinery, when any town can obtain an efficient water service at comparatively small cost, which is more than compensated by the saving on insurance on public and private

property, it is passing strange that all towns do not do just what Newmarket has done in this particular.

The female teachers of the Hamilton public schools have petitioned the school board for a change in the system of grading salaries. \* \* The minimum salary is \$250 a year. \* \* What they want is to be paid according to length of service. \* \* No doubt this is the fairer system. But it can hardly be introduced in Hamilton at present. It would enormously increase the annual expenditure. The salaries of many teachers would be raised at once fifty and even seventy-five per cent., and in some cases even more. It would not be advisable to lay such a burden suddenly on the taxpayers, especially at such a time as this, when it is absolutely necessary to expend about \$70,000 in providing additional school accommodation. \* \* We do not value sufficiently the services which are rendered by the teachers in our public schools. They are, as a class, a highly intelligent and refined body of young ladies.—*Hamilton Spectator*.

SURE enough. This "highly intelligent and refined body of young ladies" are supposed to become satisfied with the injustice done them through swallowing the *Spectator's* taffy. It would be awful to increase the salaries of these teachers at this time, when \$70,000 school houses are to be built in Hamilton, although the teachers starve in the meantime. "It would not be advisable," you know. But then these girls are not voters.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Toronto City Council, held last week, a petition was read from one of the largest manufacturing concerns in Canada, doing business in this city, proposing to establish an additional industry in Toronto which would give employment to a hundred or more hands, on condition that the proposed works be exempted, in whole or in part, from taxation for ten years. It was explained that there was but one similar works in Canada; that there was a large and growing demand for such goods, and that most of the supply was brought from abroad. Aldermen Carlyle and Johnson thought it was the duty of the city council to encourage the introduction of new industries. If the Local Improvement Act, as it at present existed, continued in operation—and they hoped it would—the effect would be to encourage the introduction of manufacturing enterprises into the city. Men who helped to build up the city should have special advantages afforded them. Aldermen Dodds and Gillespie opposed the application. The principle of granting exemption from taxation was wrong and very dangerous. Should this application be granted, and, a few months hence another concern, desirous of engaging in the same line of business, should also apply for similar exemption, would the application be granted? If the precedent was set it would have to be observed, and where would it end? Toronto, said Alderman Dodds, should have long since got beyond the point of giving bonuses or exemptions to persons who were consulting their own best interests in establishing industries in this city. The principle was a bad one, and dangerous as affecting trade and wholesome competition. How, he asked, could a company, not exempt from the ordinary taxation, compete with another company in the same line of trade which enjoyed exemption? It tended to create monopoly, and as such should be discountenanced. We see how this bonusing business works in other places in the Dominion, where they give