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## A GOOD BUSINESS OPENING MINING MACHINERY.

A FOUNDRY concern in Cornwall, England, manufacturing stamps, engines and other mining machinery, are making enquiries regarding the present or prospective trade in Canada for that line of goods, the object being to discover the feasibility of either establishing agencies here for the sale of their products, or of transferring a portion of their plant and workmen to this country, and manufacture such machinery here.

The mining industries of Canada are of great and growing importance, and they call for the use of large quantities of mining machinery. An imaginary line dividing Canada from the United States, in crossing the Rocky Mountains and the West Coast ranges, does not affect the deposits of precious metals in those regions, and it is known that such rich deposits as are being and have been so successfully worked in California, Colorado, Nevada and other Mountain States on that side of the line, are not confined to those localities, but exist in equal richness in the mountains of Canada. Of course reduction machinery is absolutely necessary in extracting the precious metals from their enclosing gangue, and while there are numerous establishments in the United States which make a specialty of manufacturing such machinery, we are not aware that there are any such in Canada. Therefore, we think Canada offers a good field for the sale of such machinery, whether it be made in the country or elsewhere. The duty on such machinery when imported into the Dominion, is 35 per cent. *ad valorem*.

The opening is a good one for the establishment of such a concern in this country. Already the mining industry of Canada, as developed in the far western mountains and elsewhere, is large, valuable and important, and the demand for such mining machinery as is here alluded to is correspondingly large. Such machinery could be manufactured here so as to afford a gratifying profit, and we would be glad to learn that such an enterprise was soon to be established.

## REGARDING THE STRIKE OF THE STOVE MOULDERS.

A FEW days ago the telegraphic despatches announced that the International Stove Moulders' Union had determined to demand an advance in moulders' wages varying from ten to fifteen per cent., to affect all stove foundries in Canada as well as in the United States. Mr. Fitzpatrick, president of the Union, and the General Board are said to have submitted a proposition to all the local unions affiliating with the International Union concerning the advance, to be voted upon by them, the results of which have not, of course, developed as yet. But

the Cincinnati Union, to which Mr. Fitzpatrick belongs, has already voted upon the proposition, and it was negatived by a large majority, the Union preferring to continue at work at the rates agreed upon last spring rather than make a demand which would not likely be complied with, and which would result in either a strike, lockout or back-down "retreat," as it is called by the Toronto striking carpenters.

Regarding the feeling of the stove manufacturers in the United States in the matter, the *American Artisan* reports a prominent manufacturer of Chicago as saying that he hoped a strike would be avoided. "We tried to raise prices this season so we could make at least interest on our capital, but the retailers would not let us do it. Prices for stoves rule lower this year than last, and we are paying a great deal more for iron. There is no stove manufacturer in the United States who made any money last year, and I shall be glad if we come out even at present prices at the end of the year. What I am telling is honest, candid truth, and there is no use of denying it. We have to make a show of business, but capital invested in stove-making made no money last year, and cannot this year." Another Chicago manufacturer, upon being asked what answer his firm would make if a demand for an advance were made, replied: "We should be obliged to refuse any demand for an increase in wages. The crop of stoves is large and the wheat crop is light. Although we were closed down by a strike last spring for nearly two months, we are in a position to shut down again for ninety days. The other manufacturers are in the same condition. I am inclined to believe that the men will be foolish enough to strike. With the men now at the head of their organization they are liable to do almost anything. The trouble seems to have started at Cincinnati. Now, when the recent strike was declared off, the moulders there made a contract with the manufacturers that was to stand for one year. They now propose to strike for an increase in wages—an action that is a flagrant violation of their agreement. That is to be expected, however, for the same thing has been done several times in the last three years."

In view of the recent adjustment of the trouble between the stove manufacturers and stove moulders in Canada, it is to be presumed that the question of any further advance will not be discussed at present.

## ANOTHER MARE'S NEST.

THE anti Canadian newspapers of Canada are indulging in an excessive amount of cackling over another mare's nest, the egg contained therein this time being denominated "The Sugar Combination." The cackination grows out of the fact that the owners of the sugar refineries in Canada have advanced the price