

Republic must mainly reach the consumers through domestic channels, and the only question is whether the surplus will, as a matter of necessity, follow the same channel. Mr. Cooley asserts that the canal-borne traffic follows this law. If this be found on examination to be true, with only such exceptions as prove the rule, the chief fruit of this convention will be in the conviction which this law will carry to the minds of the members and of those of the people of the two countries, of the truth of the Cooley law.

The Conference recognizing that no great work like the proposed canal enlargement can be carried out without a permanent organization for its promotion, took steps looking to the creation of the necessary machinery for that purpose. On one point the resolutions vary from the general trend of the speeches. The speakers generally spoke of a 20-foot canal; the resolutions call for nothing less than a basis of 26 feet, should the smaller depth prove inadequate. In recommending the Governments of Canada and of the United States to arrange for determining the mutual cost of the work and for international co-operation in its execution and operation, the convention did about all that could be expected from its members.

Besides appointing as leader Mr. Joseph Haycock, the Patrons have issued a post-election manifesto. If this document differs in any respect from the ante-election deliverances, the variation cannot claim the sanction of the electors, and represents only the individual views of the members. The declaration that the acceptance of a pass from a railway or steamboat company by a member of the Legislature ought to be treated as a violation of the independence of Parliament, we have not noticed before. The notion probably comes from the Revision Convention of the State of New York, which proposes to insert a provision of this kind in the constitution. Members of the legal fraternity are threatened with a withdrawal of all special privileges, which means, we take it, that men without legal education may assume the privileges of the bar; so that besides the proverbial privilege of having a fool for a client, a client may have an incapable man for counsel. The power said to be possessed by the Medical Council of annulling the certificate of any physician certified by a chartered college, is denounced. The language employed does not say that this power ought not to be exercised by anybody else. It is invidious that the Medical Council should be left to prosecute unqualified practisers of medicine, and it would be better if this duty were transferred to some one else. The suggestion that charges of fraud or wrong-doing against medical practitioners should be tried by the ordinary courts, is reasonable. The principle of payment by fees, against which so much was said in some quarters before the elections, is approved by the Patrons. To this the condition of paying officers by a fixed salary is attached, the surplus, when there is any, being paid over to the municipalities. The only thing new about this is the fixed salary, which most officials would prefer to uncertain and fluctuating gains.

In dealing with Government House, the Patrons throw out hints which might produce a revolution of methods at Ottawa any Washington, as well as at Toronto. They object to the Governor having a free residence or servants paid by the Government. Apparently they intend that he should be his own copying clerk, since they object to his being supplied with assistance of that kind. And as he is to be denied supplies of any sort, it is to be presumed that he is to be required to purchase stationery to be used in the public service. Even when clerks are required to work all day and most of the night, they are to get no gratuities of any kind. This is not in accord with the ordinary rules of

remuneration for services in commercial or manufacturing life, or with the principles for which labor advocates contend. The Patrons, in binding themselves to act as a solid body on questions which a majority of them may declare to be Patron questions, divest themselves of the liberty of individual judgment and action. As has happened in Great Britain, France and Germany, so here the multiplication of parties will add to the difficulty of governing.

### TRADE WITH AUSTRALIA.

The report on his mission to Australia made by the Hon. Minister of Trade and Commerce, printed as a Blue Book, and the report of Mr. J. G. Carter Troop, published recently in the *Globe*, of his visit to that colony, afford a basis for some reflections upon the prospect of our increasing trade with those distant provinces. It is to be remarked at the outset that both reports indicate a friendliness on the part of merchants and statesmen on the other side of the water which is not an unimportant feature in the establishment of commerce. And the more they are perused the more the possibility becomes apparent of a much increased trade intercourse between Canada and Australia.

The first enquiry of the manufacturer or merchant will be, "What can we sell over there, and what can we buy in return?" And he will find no lack of information in either report. The Blue Book gives lists of the goods imported by the various colonies, and pages 54 to 65 are occupied with a very valuable table giving the customs tariff of the colonies on every item. By the colonies is meant not only the subdivisions of the Australian continent, but also Tasmania, New Zealand and the Fiji Islands, whose total inward and outward trade reached £84,651,000 in 1891, which means \$423,000,000, and represents a foreign trade of more than \$100 per head of the inhabitants. Of this trade 75 per cent. is done with Great Britain, 18½ per cent. with foreign countries, and 6¼ per cent. with British possessions. These foreign countries were chiefly the United States, France, Germany and Belgium. The total trade was pretty evenly divided between imports and exports. Taking first the largest colony, New South Wales, we may indicate the main items of import such as Canada might send, the value of articles which are now imported annually, and the tariff charged by that colony upon them. The figures relate to 1892:—

Articles.	Value.	Tariff.
Drapery .....	£2,086,000	10 p.c., except cotton in piece, free.
Wearing apparel.....	1,146,900	free.
Boots and shoes .....	455,700	10 p.c.
Drugs and medicines ..	171,200	crude free.
Flour .....	509,985	1s. per cental.
Furniture .....	101,800	10 p.c.
Hardware .....	634,600	10 p.c.
Hats and caps .....	183,373	10 p.c.
Pianos and organs .....	80,700	15 p.c.
Whiskey .....	194,439	14 s. gal.
Machinery.....	309,000	10 p.c.
Malt .....	100,900	free.
Matches.....	58,200	free.
Paper, printing.....	146,600	free.
" writing .....	43,800	plain, free; fancy, 10 p.c.
" brown & wrapping.	27,000	3s. per cwt.
Soap .....	41,000	2s. per cwt., toilet; 3s. per cwt. other.
Preserved fish .....	82,500	1d. per lb.
Timber, rough .....	357,000	1s. 6d. per 1,000.
" dressed .....	55,700	3s.
Doors .....	18,040	2s. each.
Tobacco, manufactured ..	98,200	3s. per lb.
Cigars and cigarettes ....	123,000	6s. per lb.

Other items are blankets, bags and sacks, bicycles, brushes, candles, carpets, carriages, cheese, confectionery, cordage and rope, bedsteads, leather, jams and jellies, plated ware, saddlers' goods, paints and colors, pickles and sauces.

Mr. Troop has gone more into detail with respect to