

offices where the orders could be obtained and cashed. The American Consul General in his last report represents a state of progress which is highly gratifying. The prejudice which has existed for centuries against the outside world is rapidly dying out. The Japanese are studying the systems of government and the customs of European nations, and their civilization is being gradually introduced. From missionaries, too, we have similar reports regarding the progress of the country.

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS

Leading American journals are demanding the introduction of the British Post Office Savings Bank system, which has been so successful in the United Kingdom and in Canada. Our neighbours across the line are justly celebrated for their enterprise—go-ahead-activeness, as they themselves would say, and therefore it is surprising that the Post Office Savings Bank system has not been adopted by their Government before this time. To illustrate the popularity of the most recent legislation on the subject it is pointed out that the new British Act, which came into operation on the 15th November last, authorizing the deposit of one shilling's worth of postage stamps in the Post Office Savings Banks has already been very successful. Within three months 131,000 new accounts had been opened. The average value of the deposits was two shillings and sixpence. The scheme to encourage investment in Government stocks, which also went into operation in November, has been very successful, no less a sum than £230,087 having been invested within the period named. The Post Office Savings Bank system under the control of the Government has done much in the encouragement of habits of thrift and economy among the industrial classes, both in the United Kingdom and Canada. Doubtless at an early day the system will be one of the institutions of the United States.

"OUR INDUSTRIES."

The following article is from a strong opponent of the policy now in operation. We refer to the Montreal Herald: "The return of prosperity throughout the world has had the effect of sending along with greater rapidity than ever the several iron foundries in our city. Nearly every one of them is at present working full time and with increased hands. A representative of the Herald, a few days ago, paid a visit to the extensive establishment of Messrs. H. E. Ives & Co., who have been in existence since 1839, as manufacturers of builders' and house furnishing hardware, iron railings, and general furnishing work. The works extend from King to Queen streets, taking up an entire block in front, and run back through Prince to Duke streets, and cover an area of 80,000 square feet. The extensive offices and warehouse are connected with the foundry and workshops by an ornamental iron bridge, which runs across Queen street, and is a marked feature of the works. The workshops on the west side comprise a four story brick building and a three story iron front building, in which are suitable and special machinery for finishing the great variety of iron work made by this firm, such as hardware, iron railings, iron bedsteads, etc. On the first floor are to be found the engine and boiler which furnish the motive power, also heavy grinding and polishing machines for producing the new famous 'Mrs. Pott's Cold Handle Smoothing and Polishing Irons,' and iron bedstead department and Japan rooms with steam ovens for baking the Japan. Behind these shops, and extending to Prince Street, is the large foundry, alive with busy workers. The foundry is 180x100 feet, and is complete in every essential, and is at the present fully employed in filling orders. Here can be seen the three large cupolas for melting the iron, the cranes for assisting the workmen in moving the heavy and light castings, etc., every facility being at hand for putting through with despatch and comfort the variety of work to be done. Under the firm name of Ives & Allen this concern won a high reputation in its past, which is still maintained, for making very superior castings, which castings were only previously manufactured in the United States. Last summer the firm, with their usual enterprise, added a new line to their business in the manufacture of 'American chilled mould board ploughs,' some two thousand of which were made to order for a western dealer. Returning to the warehouse, which is of four stories, we enter the first flat, in which are the large and commodious offices of the firm and storage room for heavy goods. On the second flat are arranged the sample rooms, which are filled with samples of shelf hardware, everything looking clean and bright, and of the best workmanship and design. On the third flat are also to be found all kinds of miscellaneous hardware, such as knobs, bolts, bed castors, etc., put together and riveted. The rear portion of this flat is also used for the storing of stock. The fourth flat is occupied by the Canada Wire Company, of which Mr. Ives is the President and manager. Here can be seen ingenious and complicated machines for making the 'Burnell Four Point Barb Galvanized Steel Wire Fencing,' which is coming into general use, and being shipped all over the Dominion, especially to the North-West, and also to foreign countries. We were informed that the Grand Trunk railway during last summer used over 100 tons of this wire for fencing, and find it most suitable for the purpose. They intend using it altogether. Architectural iron work is made a speciality. A portion of the extensive premises on King street is used for the grinding and polishing of ploughs, and the rest is occupied by Miller Bros. & Mitchell as machinists and manufacturers. There is a busy 'hum' going on all round, and the smiling faces of the men is proof of their contentment, not only with good times, but also with the liberality of their employer, Mr. Ives. There are between 200 and 300 men employed in these works, and we had every assurance from the proprietors that business was improving in their line. The establishment is well worth visiting by those interested in the growth of our manufacturing industries."

The Pall Mall Gazette of the 16th inst. says: "The arrivals of live stock and fresh meat at Liverpool from the United States and Canada last week show a very large increase on those of the preceding week, the totals being, 733 cattle, 340 sheep, 8,988 quarters of beef, 2,275 carcasses of mutton and 1,477 pigs."

EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

On Monday of next week the work of taking the census in Canada will commence. Lord Bacon's remark has been very well and for some time hopes of his recovery were not entertained. He is reported somewhat better.

On Friday of last week Mr. Crozier was elected to the House of Commons as the representative of East Northumberland, Mr. Keirton deceased and in Carleton New Brunswick on Wednesday Mr. Evans was elected and Mr. Cogswell deceased.

The recent United States census shows that of the 50,152,882 inhabitants of that country 25,520,582 were males and 24,632,294 females. In thirty States and Territories the males are more numerous and in seventeen the females are in the numerical ascendancy.

A cable despatch announces the publication of Mayor Evelyn Baring's financial statement for India, from which it appears that the deficit for the year 1879-80 amounted to £1,183,000. Had it not been for the expenditure connected with the Afghan war there would have been a surplus of £4,607,000. The deficit for the current year is estimated at £2,269,000.

The New York Daily Indicator urges the improvement of the Erie Canal, pointing out in that connection that "extensive improvements are also being made in the comprehensive system of canals in Canada that threaten to direct, through the force of low rates and quick transit, no inconsiderable share of the grain trade of the North-West to Montreal and the St. Lawrence."

Jewellery, to the amount of some \$1,400, was seized some time ago from one Stein, of Brumal, of Toronto, for an infringement of the Customs laws. The goods were examined by the Excise Court, and a decision was given a few days ago condemning the whole confiscation. The Department is now efficiently managed. Evil does must pay the penalty of their attempts to defraud the revenue.

The St. John, N.B. papers contain accounts of the opening of the Bolt and Nut Company's factory. The building cost \$10,000. The capital stock is fixed at \$30,000. \$20,000 have been subscribed and paid up. At present, it is stated, the company's business will be limited to the heavier classes of work, such as railway track and bridge bolts, lag screws, fish plates, and other heavy work, but in time it is expected to add machinery to make carriage bolts and nuts for light work. Score another for the National Policy.

According to a return recently laid before Parliament the aggregate expenses of the candidates who contested British constituencies at the last general election amounted to over £1,737,300 sterling. This sum shows an increase of £750,000 over the expenses of the general election of 1874. In England and Wales the sum expended was £758,750 for the counties, and £681,700 for the cities and boroughs, Ireland, total, £98,640; and Scotland, £198,210. These figures represent only legitimate expenses. In addition to the sums named millions were spent on both sides in purchasing votes and otherwise corrupting the electorate.

In a favourable article on the Canadian Pacific Railway, on the 17th inst. The Liverpool Mercury says: "It, among other things, will revive the hopes of British Columbia by realizing one of the inducements which led that territory to enter the Dominion of Canada, namely, the promise of the construction of this very railway through it by the close of the present year. It is not surprising to be informed that all over the country the Canadians are counting on the opening of this line as the signal for a great emigration to the Dominion; while, if it be constructed on the colossal scale we have indicated, it must favourably affect a large number of industries, both British and American, for the next ten years."

A recent despatch from St. John, N.B., stated that the British Privy Council had decided against that city in the appeal case of the branch banks, which objected to paying taxes on income, holding that they were only liable to pay on net profits. The city would lose \$17,000, besides costs of court, by this decision. It will be remembered that the case of the Bank of British North America vs. the City of St. John came before the Supreme Court here last year, when four of their Lordships confirmed a judgment given by the Superior Court of New Brunswick in favour of the city, Justice Henry dissenting. The case was then taken to the Imperial Privy Council, the judgment of the Supreme Court being reversed, as above set forth.

We read as follows in the Pall Mall Gazette: "Protection continues triumphant in Canada. On Thursday last Mr. Edward Blake's Free Trade motion in the Dominion House of Commons was lost by 131 votes to 55. Perhaps that is the best thing that could have happened. Canada has not enjoyed the perilous blessings of a protective tariff long enough to have a thorough hatred of the system burnt into the hearts of the people. A good harvest or two in Europe might help to quicken her political intelligence." The motion referred to is that moved by Mr. Blake on the 10th of March, in amendment to the motion

to go to Committee of Supply. It is, not, as our London contemporary remarks, a Free Trade motion. In the strict sense of the term. But the nature of the motion itself, in the Pall Mall Gazette thinks Canada is going to abandon the policy inaugurated in 1857, is very much mistaken.

An anti-tenant rabble league has been formed in New York. A meeting was held in that city on Friday evening for the purpose of considering what action should be taken in view of the fact that rents were to be increased. Some strong Communist talk was indulged in. A Mr. Gustav Marchal said that society might be divided into two classes, robbers and those of whom they robbed—the capitalists and the labourers. A Mr. Walker remarked that it was natural that landlords should try to squeeze as much as possible out of their tenants, but it was also natural that the tenants should fight their oppressors. A committee composed of twenty-one persons, was selected to devise means for resisting the demands of the landlords. It was agreed that on the first of May tenants should refuse to pay rents, if raised.

Messrs Allan & White, of Chicago, have prepared a table showing the average yield in the principal grain producing countries of the world, from which we call the following figures: United States, 400,000,000; France, 200,000,000; Russia, 230,000,000; Germany, 125,000,000; Spain, 110,000,000; Italy, 111,000,000; Canada, 17,000,000; Egypt, 17,000; Roumania, 31,000,000; Austria-Hungary, 105,000,000; Great Britain, 104,000,000; Turkey in Europe, 43,000,000; Belgium, 24,000,000; Algiers, 20,000,000; Australia, 18,000,000. And the same authorities point out that among the above named countries the United States, Austria-Hungary, Turkey, Australia, Canada, Algiers and Egypt have a surplus for export. France, Germany and Spain in an average year raise sufficient for home consumption. Great Britain usually imports about 100,000,000 bushels. The wheat crop of the United Kingdom has decreased nearly 1,800,000 acres, or one-fourth of its area, within the past ten years. In 1880 Australia had about 260,000 acres sown to wheat, being twice the area sown some years ago, and France had sown in wheat about 17,500,000 acres.

A number of farmers living in the township of York recently held a meeting in the Masonic Hall, Eglinton. They were addressed by Dr. Scheldtweiler, who referred to the growth of the sugar beet root. He said that where the soil was adapted to the growth of that root from 25 to 60 tons per acre could be raised. The doctor was of the opinion that a good deal of the land throughout the township would answer the purpose, and urged on the farmers to give it a trial. He was considering the advisability of establishing a sugar refinery in the township, and if he did so he would require about 60,000 tons of sugar beet per annum. The refinery, he said, would give employment to 400 workmen, and he, no doubt, would purchase a large quantity of land near the establishment whereon to erect dwellings for his workmen. When fitted up for the manufacture of sugar, the building would cost \$300,000. He promised to supply the farmers with seed the first season, and if it could be grown to advantage he thought that there would be no difficulty in having a refinery built, possibly at Eglinton. Several of the farmers present expressed their willingness to give the experiment a trial.—Mail

Messrs. Chown & Cunningham have commenced to make the improvements in their foundry, corner of Queen and King streets. The capacity of the whole establishment is to be enlarged fully one-third, at a cost of something over \$6,000. The improvements to be made to each department are as follows: The fitting shop is to have an addition of 75 feet square, a portion of which will be used as a show room. The moulding shop is to be enlarged to twice its present capacity, an entirely new blacksmith shop will be built, and the carpenter shop somewhat altered. The work of enlarging is expected to be completed about the first of August, when a large number of men will be employed. At present there are sixty men employed in the foundry, but before the summer closes this number will have been increased to 100 or more. It is proposed to increase the number of lines of stoves manufactured, and take in cooking ranges, etc. The average output of stoves per week will be increased to 90. Messrs. Chown & Cunningham have not been so busy for a number of years as they have been this spring, the orders coming in as fast as they can be filled. It was usual to shut down during a portion of the year, but this year work will proceed right through.—Kingston News.

CANADA'S MANUFACTURES.

The Cornwall Reporter says that the pay roll of the Stormont Cotton Company, when the extension of the mill is completed, will embrace about seven hundred names.

The Maritime Agricultural Implement factory is to be established at Hantsport instead of Windsor. This is an entirely new branch of industry in the Maritime Provinces. The capital to be employed is \$150,000.—Moncton Times.

The Chatham, N.B., North Star announces the arrival of the Jessy (of Bristol (G.B.), from Arctibo, P. E., 24 days, with a cargo of 400 hogheads of sugar (257 tons) for the Nova Scotia Sugar Refining Company.

The contract for the erection of the Campbellford Woolen Mills was during the past week awarded to

Mr. Thomas Russell, of Morrisburg. The plans for the erection of the factory, dwelling house and manager's residence, the whole completed by the 1st of August next. The cost of the building is \$20,000.

Several handsome new freight cars for the Central Railway have recently arrived from the Ontario Car Works, London, where they were constructed. They were built specially for the transportation of iron ore and are of 40,000 pounds capacity, and of them came into the yard this morning.

Messrs. Wm. Finley, W. D. McKay, W. J. McLean and T. A. McLean, ask the Legislature to incorporate the Charlottetown Woolen Company for the purpose of manufacturing woollen goods. Messrs. C. A. Hyndman, L. H. Davies, J. R. B. and W. Hyndman, asking for the incorporation of a P. K. Island Pottery Company.

The St. John N.B. Daily News says: The vessel forwarding the sugar from the ship Atlanta, at the Ballast Wharf to the Moncton Refinery via Intercolonial Railway, is proceeding rapidly. Forty carloads have now been despatched and fifty carloads are to be sent. The vessel had all told 860 tons of Butea sugar aboard, packed in casks or baskets, weighing about 675 lbs. each.

The agricultural works of Mr. Simpson Mermer, one of the institutions of New Hamburg, and one of the most flourishing of the kind in this part of the country. Mr. Mermer largely devotes himself to specialties, such as the New Hamburg Reaper, the Duffin Mower, the Hamburg Self Dumping Harrow, and the Oliver Patent Chilled Plough, all of which have an enviable reputation and are in great demand. In addition to this, he also carries on a commission business in the general supply of agricultural machinery and implements. In the counties of Waterloo, Perth and Oxford the Hamburg agricultural works have a very extensive business, and shipments to distant parts of Canada are not uncommon.—Guelph Reformer.

Mr. Main's flouring mills at Victoria, Pictou County, are running night and day. Mr. Main keeps a fine class article of flour from home grown wheat constantly on hand, in which he can give better value than can be had from the imported. Now that our farmers are going into wheat growing and it has been proved that flour from home grown wheat is quite as wholesome as any other, it would be no more than fair that the merchants in the towns and cities should ascertain what demand there is for it by keeping it on sale and advertising it. Mr. Main also keeps ground buckwheat on hand and for sale. He is an enterprising gentleman and is deserving of all encouragement.—Moncton Times.

The establishment of a brush factory at Portsmouth is being discussed by residents of that place. Mr. H. P. Lindsay, who had a factory of this kind some time ago, but which was purchased and taken to Napanee some time ago, is the leading spirit in the movement. For some time Mr. Lindsay was manager of the brush factory at Napanee, and is therefore a practical man. He is of the opinion that about \$10,000 would be all that was required. A meeting was held last night of several gentlemen, all of whom seemed anxious to see the contemplated project go ahead. The names mentioned in connection therewith are Messrs. H. P. Lindsay, H. Dods, H. A. Betta, and A. Cameron. It is to be hoped the affair will have a successful issue.—Kingston News.

NEW BRUNSWICK LUMBER PROSPECTS.

In the course of a few weeks all the saw mills around the mouth of the river St. John will have commenced the season's sawing. By next week of the week following, and upon the first arrival of logs from up river, several of them will be running. When so many men were going to the woods last fall there was a prospect of a very heavy season's sawing this year, but the state of the English and American markets is not nearly so reassuring now as then, and the bright prospect of last autumn has become considerably shaded. The spring season having commenced a month earlier than usual the lumbermen have had a shorter time in the woods than was anticipated they would, and consequently the number of trees felled is not nearly as large as anticipated. The present indications are that the froshet will not be so good for bringing the logs down as would be desired. Still there seems no reason to doubt but a very much larger amount of lumber will be cut during the coming season than was sawed last year, and more than for several years past. To ascertain what extent is likely to do this year, and also the feeling of manufacturers on the lumber outlook, a Globe reporter sent each firm a call, with the following results:—

Messrs. Randolph & Baker's mill, Green Head, will commence sawing next Monday. Mr. Baker informed the reporter that they had sawed as much as 22,000 feet of lumber in their mill last year, and calculated on doing a little better than that this year, if possible. Last year they sawed spruce lumber for the English, French and Australian markets, and they will probably saw for the same markets this year, though principally for the English market. Their lumber is already largely contracted for.

Mr. S. T. King, of Messrs. S. T. King & Sons, whose mill is at Mosquito Cove, stated that he considered the prospect rather dull for the season, and not nearly so good as six weeks ago. "I have not the slightest idea what we will cut this year," at all depends upon the market," said he. "If I cannot turn over a new dollar for an old one, I will shut the mill down." He said that 1,000,000 feet of lumber went into New York from Portland, Me., last week, and he was afraid that by rushing stock upon the market in that way the effect can only be to break the market down.

Mr. Alex. Barahill's mill, opposite Indiantown, will be ready to start as soon as the up river logs are down. Mr. B. stated that he would cut from 6,000,000 to 7,000,000 feet this season for the English market. His stock has mostly all been contracted for.