

All of which shows that as wise a statesman and as shrewd a politician as Mr. Wood is, he does not seem to have ever caught on to the fact that it was the deliberate intention of the people of Canada to adopt protection as a permanent policy; and that the Empire is always ready to toss up its hat and hurrah for any speaker for its party, whether he talks sensibly or not. It is ridiculous to say that it was never intended that the National Policy should be permanent. It is here to stay.

Mr. H. C. JONES, M.A., of this city, has an interesting and useful article in *Minerals*, a New York monthly, regarding the nickel mines of Canada. He points out the great want of a customs smelter for the Sudbury district. Such a smelter he likens to a mill in a wheat-growing district. Of what avail is it to grow wheat if there be no mill to grind it? As one illustration of the promising future that is in store for nickel, the writer quotes from *The Engineering and Mining Journal* of a recent date, in which it is announced that "the contract for over 10,000 tons of hull and protective deck-plate, for the new warships, Brooklyn and Iowa, has been awarded to the Carbon Steel Co., of Pittsburgh, Pa. The protective deck-plating is all to be nickel steel, the percentage of nickel to be about 3 or 4 per cent. The value of the work approximates about \$1,000,000. In order to fill that contract they will have to come to Sudbury for the nickel: 10,000 tons of plate would require 400 tons of nickel, equal to 800,000 pounds at 62 cts., or \$496,000. It would require about 12,000 tons of ore, reckoning the nickel at 3 per cent. The Ontario Government is censured for its do-nothing policy in regard to the development of a mineral that is bound to play an important part in the commerce of the world, in spite even of the Government's masterly inactivity.—*Toronto World*.

Why censure the Ontario Government alone? It is true Mr. Mowat has declined to assist, as he might do, in developing our mineral resources—our nickel mines; but those mines would be most wonderfully developed, and we would also have smelters for reducing the ore to matte, and works for separating the nickel from the other metals contained in the matte, and for refining the nickel, making it available for commercial uses, if the Dominion Government would but lay an export duty upon the nickel contained in the ore and matte equivalent to what the United States levies upon imports of refined nickel, that is, ten cents per pound. According to the *World* two Yankee war ships now building will require 800,000 pounds of nickel for their armour. On this quantity alone the export duty of ten cents per pound would put \$80,000 in the Dominion Treasury; and the enforcement of such a duty would enable the Government to pay a large bounty upon the production of Canadian made nickel steel. If the *World* is so anxious to have our mineral resources developed, why does it not demand some adequate action on the part of the Dominion Government?

EX-UNITED STATES Senator Henry B. Payne, Judge Stevenson Burke and others, of Cleveland, are erecting a plant for the reduction and refining of nickel and copper from matte that will be brought from the Sudbury district of Canada. At present nearly all the nickel is refined at Swansea, Wales. The McKinley Act made nickel matte free of duty, and hence this refinery that will give employment to a large number of American workmen. The nickel mines of the Sudbury district are the richest in the world, so far as known, and are owned largely by capitalists of Cleveland and Akron, Ohio.—*Tin and Tinne*.

The nickel mines of Sudbury are the richest in the world,

and an establishment for refining the matte, which would give employment to a large number of Canadian workmen, is an impossibility in Canada at this time. How long, oh Lord, how long will this blindness last? The McKinley tariff made nickel matte free of duty, while it imposed a duty of \$200 per ton on refined nickel, hence the erection of a nickel refinery at Cleveland. An export duty of \$200 per ton upon the nickel contained in Canadian ore and matte would soon give us a refinery which would give employment to a large number of Canadian workmen, and would, at the same time, knock the McKinley duty on refined nickel into smithereens. Impose the duty.

It is surprising how much more power the Local Legislatures have under the British systems than under the American. Here the Lieutenant-Governor of a province rarely vetoes a bill. During the last session Governor Flower, of New York State, vetoed 121 bills passed by the Legislature.—*The Empire*.

Very funny indeed. Because our Lieutenant-Governor does not have occasion to frequently veto bills, the Local Legislature has much more power than the Legislatures of American states, where the Governor vetoes many bills. If our Lieutenant-Governor rarely vetoes a bill it is not because the Legislature has power to prevent him, for he has the undoubted power to do so; and in these respects our system is quite similar to that of our neighbors.

A CONVENTION for the reciprocal protection of trade marks and designs has been ratified between Great Britain and the republic of Ecuador. It is open for any of the British colonies to be included within the convention, if they so choose, and an order in council has been passed asking that Canada may be included as a contracting party.

THEY who are ever looking for the American capitalist whose arrival will develop our iron mines, and who believe he is sure to come because President Cleveland will take the duty off iron ore, may be able to reconcile their hopes with the facts that hundreds of iron miners have been paid off in the Lake Superior districts, several mines have been shut down, and ore has been offered cheaper than ever before known in the history of American iron mines.—*Mining Review*.

CONGRESSMAN John De Witt Warner, writing in the last number of the *Engineering Magazine*, says that in the next American tariff iron ore will be on the free list. If this proves true there will be rejoicing in Canada.—*Montreal Herald*.

This means, we presume, that the rejoicing would be on the part of the owners of Canadian iron mines, who would then have access to the sixty million market. There are no well-developed iron mines in this part of Canada, and the iron mines of the United States are in such condition of development as to be able to produce ore enough to make some ten million tons of pig iron per year. But notwithstanding this wonderful development there is much depression in the trade, and work in many of the highly productive mines has been suspended, as seen by the following from the *Cleveland Iron Trade Review*:—

The prophecy of ore men that sales late in the season will be rather at an advance upon these figures than below them, is based on the steady maintenance of the low rate of ship-