

Chicago, Bessemer iron could be made here in competition with American Bessemer iron, "if we had the same market." This is simply nonsense. There is a very large demand here in Toronto for all sorts of iron and steel, and this demand is being met with supplies chiefly from the United States, and for which such prices as we have indicated are paid. In addition to the low prices at which iron can be made in Canada it should be remembered that there is a Dominion bounty of one dollar a ton and a duty of \$4 a ton in favor of it. The manufacturing establishments in Toronto alone would consume all the charcoal and coke iron and mild steel that any one or even several furnaces and converters would likely produce. Mr. Ledyard knows this to be a fact; then why does he so persistently ring the changes on this old tune of a continental market?

### WHAT CANADA WANTS.

"WHAT Canada wants for her development is population. Now protection to be logical must prohibit labor unless, as so far it has done, it protects only the monopolist and capitalist, while it leaves the mechanic to fight the battle as best he can. The mechanics are beginning to see this, and hence the demand that in future the Government cease to bring population into the country. Could anything be more suicidal than a policy which, when brought to its full conclusion, demands that a heavy tax shall be imposed upon all manufactured articles coming into the country, and that labor shall cease to be invited into Canada?"

This quotation is from a letter of Mr. Stapleton Caldecott, published in the *Toronto Globe*.

He who does not comprehend that Protection benefits labor as well as capital is a poor student of events. One of the chief objects of Protection is to prevent the flooding of the country with the products of other countries where labor is very much cheaper than it is here. It is true that in other countries long years of devotion to certain industrial pursuits have wrought a perfection in machinery and appliances of manufacture, to which in this newer country we have not yet attained. This perfection in these particulars is one of the elements against which home manufacturers have to contend, and against which they cannot successfully contend without the aid of Protection. Sooner or later the difference in this direction between the older manufacturing countries and this will subside, become equalized and disappear; and when that time comes, as far as this feature of manufacturing is concerned, Protection will have done its work and will be no longer necessary.

But this is not the only object of Protection. As we show, in older countries this feature makes it possible to manufacture much cheaper than we can now do; but this is not the only feature, nor the most important one. It is because labor is so incomparably cheaper there than here that enables the manufacturers of those countries to produce goods at prices with which it would not be possible for us to compete were it not for Protection. Without Protection the Canadian workman would be forced to accept the same or even lower remuneration for his services as that paid to his foreign competitor. We all know what that means; and none know it better than the Canadian workman who may perhaps have come from a competing foreign country with the sole view to bettering his condition. He knows that there his life was a protracted and

continuous battle with want and poverty and every conceivable privation, without even the faintest hope or expectation of bettering his condition. He there saw squallor and want surrounding him, and his family strangers to any of the refining and elevating influences which he was unable, because of his poverty, to place within their reach. On the other hand, he knows that such is not his condition in Canada; and Mr. Caldecott has had many opportunities, by personal observation of the difference in the social status of the foreign and the Canadian workman, to discover how infinitely better off the latter is, under Protection, than the former under Free Trade.

These are the chief elements against which the Canadian manufacturer and the Canadian workman have to contend—longer established business, better facilities of doing business, and cheaper labor—and it is against these that they look to Protection for protection.

We are told that "what Canada wants for her development is population"; and we are also told that Canadian mechanics "demand that the Government cease to bring population into the country." This anomaly Mr. Caldecott attributes to the effect of Protection. The position assumed by Canadian labor organizations, as far as the importation of certain classes of foreigners is concerned, is eminently correct and proper; and it is to be hoped that their protests will be heard. We agree with the claim that Canada needs population but it is not that class of immigrants against which the labor organizations protest. Canada has the soil, climate and natural advantages to support a population many, many times larger than what she now has. This population is required in the agricultural sections—not in the cities and towns. The protest of the labor organizations is not against agriculturists, but against the indiscriminate flocking in of foreigners who never entertain the idea of locating elsewhere than in the cities where they expect to find gold dollars laying around loose in the streets which may be theirs for the gathering up. These undesirable incomers are consumers, not producers; and when hunger drives them to seek employment, they attempt to obtain it by elbowing and crowding out those who may be already at work, thus overstocking the labor market, depreciating wages and creating discontent among those already here whose numbers are sufficient for present purposes, and who would otherwise be contented and happy.

### THE GREAT NATURAL INDUSTRIES.

MR. STAPLETON CALDECOTT, who is not a Canadian manufacturer, but who is an importer and dealer in the manufactures of other countries, undertakes to teach a lesson to Canadians regarding the great natural industries of their country. He does not tell what these industries are further than to explain that "the agricultural interest stands head and shoulders above and beyond all others." He uses the *Globe* as his pulpit or rostrum from which to read his rambling sermon, in which he mixes quotations of the clergy and almost impious references to God with a great deal of vague and wild assertions that cannot be sustained by logical reasoning.

Having told us that "the true national policy of Canada is the development of the great natural industries of the country"; that our present fiscal policy is "miscalled" and that it