

is no necessity of acceding to either of these requests, for to do so would be to strike a heavy, if not fatal blow, to iron making interests generally throughout the country, which are very large and valuable, for the sake of helping those in New England, which are comparatively small and inconsequential.

Discussing this move on the part of the New England makers, and the situation generally, the *London Advertiser* says:—

This is just what might have been expected of a high tariff in a country like the United States, or in any country for that matter, with time to develop it. The New England iron workers are complaining now, and soon it will be the turn of the iron men of Pennsylvania and Ohio. Meantime the iron workers of Great Britain keep their old place at the head of the column; for, although their exports of products to the United States may be growing less for a variety of reasons, they are finding new markets in every quarter of the globe, and no country in which protection prevails is able to compete with them outside of its own territory. In the first six months of 1887 more than one third of the total exports of iron from Great Britain went to the United States, whereas in the first six months of the present year the total to that country was only a little more than one seventh; but, on the other hand, while the exports of Great Britain to all countries in the first six months of 1887 was 1,983,311 tons, it was in the first six months of the present year 1,990,901 tons.

The New England iron makers want iron ore, coal and coke put on the free list, and the 6 per cent. *ad valorem* duty upon pig and scrap iron restored as they were before the war. In 1860, at the beginning of the rebellion, the average price of foundry pig iron in Philadelphia was \$22.75 per gross ton, and that price was lower then, owing probably to the prevailing excitement regarding the impending trouble, than it was five years before, in 1855, when it was \$27.75 per ton. At the close of the war, in 1865, and before the Morrill tariff came into force, the price of iron was \$46.12½ a ton, from which time, and under the operations of Protection, the price gradually receded, until now it is quoted at about \$17. At the dates here mentioned, the highest prices of Scotch pig iron at British shipping ports, as compiled from Fossick's History of the British Iron Trade, were as follows: In 1855, 90 shillings per ton; in 1860, 65 shillings; in 1865, 55 shillings, and in 1887, 48 shillings. In other words, the price of Scotch pig, in Great Britain, receded from 55 shillings in 1865 only to 48 shillings in 1887, a difference of only about \$1.68 per ton, while under a high protective tariff in the United States the recession has been from \$46.12½ in 1865 to \$17 in 1889, a difference of more than \$19 per ton.

The *Advertiser* is mistaken when it says that Great Britain retains its place at the head of the column as a manufacturer of pig iron, for this is not the case, the output of that protected industry in the United States last year being considerably greater than that of the United Kingdom. As our contemporary shows, the United States is a large consumer of British iron. The United States does not seek at this time to be an exporter of pig iron, for the home consumption is greater than the home production, else there would not be such a large demand there for British iron.

The New England phase of the matter is but a side issue which does not affect the main question; and our Free Trade friends cannot make any tangible points against Protection in discussing it.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

OWNERS of American steel plants are advised to put up lightning rods tipped with gold—gilt-edged, as it were—if they would have British capitalistic lightning strike them.—Cleveland, O., *Iron Trade Review*.

'THE tiny pebble cast upon the glassy bosom of the deep sea in a dead calm.' This is the metaphorical and adjective style that "Eli," of *St Louis Farm Machinery*, uses in alluding to a recent occurrence. "Eli" is excitable. Suppose the tiny pebble should be cast upon the glassy bosom of the deep sea during a fierce storm! The "ripple" would be fearful to contemplate.

It is well understood that the cereal crops now being harvested are the best Ontario farmers have been favored with for many years. Wheat will be above the average, although not up to the quantity or quality which was at one time expected. Barley, however, will be an excellent crop, both in quantity and color. As a result the sales of binders and reapers have been larger in Ontario than was expected.

AN apparatus is now on exhibition at the Paris Exposition in which a person's photograph is taken automatically upon the insertion of the requisite coin in the slot. It is constructed so as to execute all the photographic processes necessary in order to obtain a photograph upon the insertion of the required coin. The whole mechanism is operated by electricity through the medium of storage batteries and electric motors, as well as the action of electro-magnets which are temporarily energized at the proper time.

THE Inter-State Commerce Committee of the United States Senate did not get much satisfaction in Chicago in making up a case against the Canadian railroads. The heavy shippers of grain, flour, etc., were unanimous in praise of the liberal policy of the Canadian roads, and the accommodations afforded shippers in reaching the Eastern markets, especially those of New England. Some of the railroad magnates and New York business men may not relish the truth, but the truth nevertheless remains that the Canadian railroads prevent the establishment of toll stations to rob the Western producer and shipper.—*American Miller*.

THE measures adopted ten years ago by the Austro-Hungarian Government to encourage sericulture in Hungary, have been very successful. This industry now affords employment to 40,423 families, as against 1,059 in the year 1879. Not long since there were only a few mulberry plantations scattered over certain districts, but now there are 1,500 well cultivated and under Government supervision. In the first year after the State establishments had been started, the country's total production consisted of 2,507 kilos of cocoons, which were sold for 2,809 florins; last year the silk-worm breeders obtained a crop of 703,488 kilos, valued at 724,260 florins. Three large establishments, conducted on scientific principles, have been erected, and these give employment to eight hundred and fifty-two winders, besides other operatives.