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Letters enclosing remittances, &c., only acknowledged when specially requested. Our correspondence is very heavy, and must be abridged as much as possible.

The Legislature and Farmers

Some of the measures brought before the Legislature this year have been fraught with such interest to farmers that we take brief notes of them, viewing them not as party, but as farmers' questions. Appointment of analysts. We have occasionally availed ourselves of the reports of analysts published in the agricultural periodicals of England. From the writings of Prof. Voelcker especially we have taken some valuable extracts, and the service rendered by him to agriculture has been acknowledged not only in Europe, but also in this New World. The Dominion Parliament has, in the appointment of analysts by the Government, taken a lesson from the Home Government. The Act under the provisions of which the appointments have been made is entitled: "An Act to prevent the Adulteration of Food," and were the analysts merely to prevent that adulteration, the farmers, as well as all other classes, would reap no little benefit, but we hope the work will not rest here, but that all articles that can be subjected to analysis will ere long be examined and proved if they be genuine. There seems to be indications of this in the "tariff of fees" in which sulphur, ammonia and sulphuretted hydrogen are enumerated with articles of food.

Before the Committee on Agricultural Interests, Mr. Norris, M. P., who has been engaged in the milling business and obtained his supplies from the United States and Canada, testified that the importation of American wheat was prejudicial to the interests of Canadian farmers. If the importation of American flour, free of duty, were prevented, he could afford to pay Canadian farmers more for their wheat than he now does, and though consumers in this country might, as a result of the exclusion of American flour, be compelled to pay more for what they require than now, it would be cheaper to them in the end than the American flour, because it is better. He thought that millers could afford to sell cheaper in the home market

than in the foreign, because their returns would be quicker. Farmers frequently realize more for their wheat when they sell it to millers for manufacture in the country, than when they sell it for shipping. He believed it would be for the interest of the country at large to impose a duty on imported wheat and flour. He would, if he had his way, put a duty of ten cents per bushel on corn coming in from the States, but he presumed five cents was all that they could demand. The importation of corn interfered with the prices of our coarse grains which could not be shipped.

Such are the opinions of Mr. Norris on a subject of great importance to all classes in the country, and to none more than to farmers. Were Canadian produce admitted free to the United States, the question would present a different aspect from what it bears at present. The American duty on flour is 20 per cent. *ad valorem*, or between \$1 and \$1.50 per barrel according to the value. On wheat it is 20 cents per bushel. During the past year there were imported into Ontario, free of duty, 37,000 barrels of flour.

The Indians to Enjoy the Privileges of British Subjects.

Great Britain has at all times acted towards the Indians in the Empire as becomes a nation bearing the sacred emblem that she does, as her armorial bearings; and the Indians have in all circumstances proved themselves true and faithful allies (we cannot as yet call them fellow subjects), and they have been willing to sacrifice their lives in defence of England's honor. The government now proposes to bring them into closer relationship, and to bestow upon them the privilege of being British subjects; and they, it is said, are willing to enter into the proposed relationship, and to assume the responsibilities necessarily accompanying those precious privileges. By the proposed change they will be liable to taxation as Canadians, and have equal rights of voting for representatives in the Legislature and Municipal Councils. This new element introduced into our representative institution is a matter of no light importance, and the result will be awaited with much interest. To the Indians themselves this measure must have a most salutary effect. The increased responsibilities and newly acquired privileges will, it is to be hoped, stimulate them to higher motives, and conduce to greater industry, and more independence. If such be the effects of the measure, it will be a great benefit, not to them alone, but also to the country at large.

The number of Indians in the Dominion is approximately calculated at 91,910; their total personal property is estimated at \$489,234, and their real estate \$2,844,972; of the Indian population, 7,199 are children, of whom 2,105 are attending school. Besides good stocks of grain and farm produce, they own 2,734 horses, 2,339 cows, 1,568 sheep and other live stock.

The Agricultural Returns of Great Britain for 1875.

An authorized return of the arable land and the agriculture and agricultural produce of that country that affords to us the market for our exports, must be always to us a subject of great interest. The remuneration for our labors must depend, in a great measure, on the demand in England, the great mart of the world for surplus products. From the agricultural returns of the Department of the Board of Trade of Great Britain, we compile the following statistics:—The total quantity of land under all kinds of crops, bare fallow and grass, in 1875 amounted, for Great Britain, to 31,416,000 acres; for Ireland, to 15,775,000 acres, with a return of 92,000 for the Isle of Man, and 31,000 for the Channel Islands—a total for the United Kingdom of 74,314,000 acres, exclusive of woods and plantations, and of heaths and mountain lands. This shows a greatly increased area of cultivated land within the past year, an increase that has been going on continuously for some time; more especially has this been seen for the last seven years. Every effort is put forth by landowners and farmers to supply the increasing demand for breadstuffs and meal.

The total acreage returned for Great Britain in 1875 comprised 18,104,000 acres of arable, and 13,312,000 acres of permanent pasture. Of permanent pasture, there was an increase over the previous year of 134,000 acres, and of 736,000 acres since 1872. The great demand for meat and dairy produce, and their high prices, have produced a marked change in English agriculture; and evidently this increase of pasture is not at an end. Canadians will see the wisdom of such a course more clearly every year.

Of the land under tillage in 1875, there were devoted to grain crops 11,399,000 acres; this includes beans and peas; to green crops, potatoes included, 5,057,000 acres; to bare fallow, 570,000; and to rotation grasses, 6,337,000 acres. Here, too, we find the excellence of English agriculture. So far from impoverishing the land by successive crops of grain, the quantity of land devoted to the grain crop is less by half a million of acres than one-half of the total average under cultivation. There are no worn out farms, no impoverished tracts of country.

The Centennial Exhibition.

Canada is making great exertions to aid the great American Exhibition. The public exchequer has been liberally opened. A good display will, we trust, be the result. Canada has now, as at all other times, done her best towards aiding her American cousins. We hope Canadians will be more fairly treated by Americans, and trust to see our national honor and business transactions placed on a more just footing than has wont to be the case.