

"Petty cash, H. C. Thomson, \$36.10." Under the same head are such sums as "\$45.02," and "\$57.87," amounts which no business man would think of entering as "petty cash." "Petty cash" indeed! Most people would think such sums very considerable cash, and rightly.

"The fees paid 37 Judges in the Arts Department, say \$148, have been inadvertently omitted from the accounts."

"Attending State Fair at Rochester, Thomas Stock \$12, David Christie \$25, R. L. Denison \$26." Does it cost more than twice as much to entertain such gentlemen as Messrs. Christie and Denison, that it does a plain farmer like Mr. Stock?

"David Christie, expenses of self and Messrs. Burnham and Stone to Cattle Convention at Springfield, \$300." It is a remarkable, though certainly not an impossible circumstance, that the travelling expenses of these delegates should amount exactly to the even and lump sum of "\$300." Only one more item.

"Committee of Agricultural Society, liquor and cigars at Royal Hotel, \$20.70." That "bangs Banagher." It must either have been a very large Committee, or it must have met a number of times, or the members must have been hard drinkers and great smokers. There is internal evidence that there was only one sitting of this Committee—it was held during Exhibition week—and the above entry follows almost immediately on this one, "Hotel bill for board and officers \$266," a sum which itself leaves a trifle of margin for "liquor and cigars." Seriously, while we are not going to question any man's right to indulge in such superfluities, we do contend that if an Agricultural Committee wishes to guzzle and smok, it ought to do so at the private cost and charge of its members, and not at the public expense.

The fact is the accounts bear much internal evidence of extravagant expenditure and slovenly book-keeping, as well as great want of a conscientious sense of responsibility in the custody and use of the funds of a great public interest, and nobody knows how much longer this state of things might have gone on, had it not been for the timely and much-needed interference of the Commissioner of Agriculture.

## THE APPLICATION OF SEWAGE.

The British Legislature having by statute prevented the future pollution of the natural water-courses of the country, by being made the receptacles of the contents of town sewage, or other contaminating matter, the question has arisen amongst corporation authorities as to the means to be devised to get rid of their sewage. Well, what can be done with it? If lakes, rivers, ponds, open drains, and cesspools are *not* to receive it, where is it to go? The natural answer is, into the land. To the land it belongs—it was originally taken from it; and no sufficient substitutes having been applied in its place, to the land it should be given back. How do we in Canada stand in relation to this subject? Have we no swamp in the City of Toronto contaminating the waters of our bay, from which the supply for the domestic uses of its inhabitants is drawn? Have we no poor farm and garden lands in its neighbourhood—naturally poor, but made more so by exhaustive cultivation for the purpose of supplying the city with its vegetable food; land famishing for want of the very sewage that now goes to pollute one of the prime necessities of the citizens? If this is the case with Toronto, is it not, in its degree, equally applicable to other cities and towns in our Province and Dominion? Undoubtedly it is; and as the subject is now *forced* upon the attention of the British people, we may expect soon to hear of means being devised for its proper collection, conveyance, and distribution over the land. Already has much been said and written upon the subject, and successful experiments on a limited scale have been made. A pamphlet by T. Cargill, C.E., has just been published by Robertsol, Brownan, & Co., of the *Mechanic Magazine*, 166 Fleet Street, London, on "Sewage and its General Application to Grass, Cereals and Root Crops; showing the results obtained by actual experience down to the present day with plans and sections illustrating the method of forming the ground for the different systems and for distributing the sewage over irrigated fields."

Our Dominion Government, also, has recently re-issued a pamphlet, by the Rev. Henry Moulton of England, edited by E. A. Meridith, LL.D.