

for the number and excellence of its schools; the central school is one of the finest buildings of the kind in Canada.

During the year just passed, one of the largest and best equipped of the city's school buildings was burned. This necessitated the transferring of a number of scholars to others, and the fitting up of temporary quarters for the rest. This building is being replaced by a much larger and finer structure. The most important event of the year was the opening this spring of the new Normal School, a very handsome and well appointed building.

One of our news items of this month relates to the Manitoba School Exhibit at the Dominion Teachers' Association meeting in Montreal. This exhibit was particularly admired by the teachers in attendance.

Late in the month of June the united schools gave a grand concert in the city. The children were in training for this for some time previous, and when the night for the concert came, were in almost perfect practice. The affair was attended by a very large number of people, and was pronounced one of the best concerts ever given in the city. There were over five hundred children singing in the choruses.

When the time for the promotion examinations came, the scholars were in a better state of preparation than ever had been the case before, and the results were very satisfactory to scholars, teachers and parents. It is expected that 1892-93 will be a banner year in the history of Manitoba's public schools.

THE EXHIBITION.

This is the month set for the holding of the great Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition, July 25 to 29. Last year the first in which an exhibition of this kind was ever held, the last days of September and the first of October were chosen. Experience showed, however, that these were not suitable, partly on account of the uncertainty of the weather at that season and partly because the farmers are just then busy with their fall work and as these are the people whom it is most desired to interest their convenience had to be considered. It was therefore thought wise to hold the Exhibition in July. This is only an experiment, however, and if it does not prove a success another change will have to be made.

The directors of the Exhibition Association have been able to work to better advantage this year. They gained a lot of experience during the time they were arranging the details of last year's show which they have turned to good account. The work was commenced early; an energetic secretary and manager was appointed; and a thorough system of advertising adopted. The result has been greatly increased chances for a successful show.

The grounds will be opened on Saturday and Monday, July 23 and 25, for the reception of exhibits, which are expected to be all in place by Monday night. Tuesday will be judges day and Wednesday will be the day of formal opening. President MacDonald will make the opening address. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday will be the people's days. An excellent programme has been arranged, which will

cover these and will include many events of importance.

It is expected that many eastern people will be in the city at the time, among them not a few home-seekers. These will be able to gather from the exhibition a fairly good idea of what Manitoba and the Territories are capable of producing and what the merits of the respective districts are. This exhibition will in itself thus be an education for everybody.

It is almost certain that every district in Manitoba and the Territories will be well represented at this show. The inhabitants of these recognize too well the great advantages in the way of advertising to be gained from exhibiting to miss the opportunity. There will be no excuse for such if they do not exhibit. The railway companies have all agreed to carry exhibits free both ways so that there is only a very small amount of trouble or expense to the exhibitor.

And now nothing remains but to await with patience the eventful week, and to pray for fine weather. That is the main thing needful to insure success.

A YEAR OF ELECTIONS.

In the English speaking world this is to be a year of elections. The great contest for seats in the British House of Commons; the United States presidential elections; and in our own little province the Legislative elections, are all to be decided in 1892. In Britain a House of Commons having a membership of about 670 has to be chosen, in fact is already chosen as at the time of writing the returns were nearly all in. This election had probably the most momentous issues at stake of all, and in a way effects the future of the whole world. Mr. Gladstone, "the Grand Old Man" at the head of the Irish Home Rule party is making a final struggle for Irish freedom. Representing as he does the most enlightened principles in politics, it is little wonder that this great warrior has won to such a large extent the sympathy of Britain. If he gets in with a working majority a radical change will at once be made in the methods of governing the isles of Britain. What these changes will be it is too soon yet to predict but Ireland will be given Home Rule that is certain. He has had to fight against some powerful forces. The Conservative party is at present enjoying a certain measure of popularity in Britain and not without reason. Their government during the six year term just expired, has been marked by much wise legislation and careful attention to both home and foreign matters. Their defeat, if they suffer one, will be due more to a desire which the electors have to give Home Rule and Mr. Gladstone a chance than to any great antipathy which they have for the Conservatives or their methods.

In the United States we see a totally different state of affairs. Here we find that the questions which are to be decided by the elections are not so much of an interior as an exterior nature. Protection or Free Trade? Shall they maintain a great wall about themselves and shut out the rest of the world from participating in any of the benefits arising from the existence of the United States, or shall they throw open their markets to all

nations and buy and sell freely with every man. That is the principle involved in the settlement of this tariff question, although we do say that either of the contending parties are committed to the carrying out of such. Questions relating to the currency of the United States will also be made to do duty as vote catchers, but they will, of course, be subservient to the great issue.

In Manitoba, another entirely different matter depends upon the result of the election. With us it is whether or not is the Government carrying out the wishes of the people in its school legislation. Their bill to abolish the system of giving Government assistance to two different sets of schools was such an unusual thing in the way of legislation as effected so seriously the interests of the inhabitants of our province that this has been made the principal issue at stake. The facts in connection with the agitation for the restoration of the old system are too well known to bear a repetition. A case involving the constitutionality of such legislation is now before the Privy Council in England, their decision may forever close the argument. That the Government will be supported by a majority of the people at the coming election there is very little doubt.

Editorial Notes.

The death of Premier Robson, of British Columbia, deprived that province of one of its ablest statesmen.

SINCE we last addressed our readers the two greatest preliminary events in the United States presidential contest have come off. The party nomination convention of the Republicans was held at Minneapolis, and turned out to be a most brilliant affair, that of the Democrats was held at Chicago, and was not so brilliant. The Republicans, the party now in power, have managed the ship of state with singular ability and success, but in a manner which has antagonized to the United States some of the most influential of foreign nations. Their convention resulted in the nomination of Benjamin Harrison to be the party's candidate for the Presidency. The Democrats are to follow out the analogy, the party out of power. They represent the most advanced thought of the American people in many respects. At their convention held in Chicago, they choose Ex-President Grover Cleveland to be their candidate for the Presidency. He is certainly the strongest man in their ranks. The two parties are ranging up on a number of important questions effecting the future of the United States, but probably the most important of these, and the one that will be made the issue at the coming elections is: Protection or Free Trade? The Republicans are committed to a policy of protection, the Democrats to one of free trade.

The hides of Galloway and polled cattle are being used to make robes in place of the now nearly extinct buffalo.

The Prince Edward Island lobster catch is reported to be a failure, less than half the catch of last year having been taken.