### The Free Press,

LONDON, ONT.

Monday, July 29, 1889. BURDENS OF THE PEOPLE.

with some force of reason, that poverty is at once responsible for the vices of the poor and the crimes of the rich. They assert that the poor are driven by the pangs of necessity into methods of living which they would not accept if an apparent alternative were open to them, while the rich with an instinctive horror of poverty's pinch cling to or increase their hoardings, by means which are dishonest and criminal This doctrine cannot be accepted without qualification, but the truth which it em bodies cannot be disputed. All persons who are properly organized shrink from the thought of a life-long battle with the wolf at the door. This natural feeling when in the frenzy which followed a second sweeping rejection at the polls, a despicable effort was made to frighten the people into an abandonment of their allegiance to Sir John Macdonald. Day after day the columns of the Globe were filled with startling statements respecting the increasing burden of taxation and debt. Farmers were told that the Government had mortgaged their farms beyond redemption, while all other classes were was doomed, and unless the people arose at once in their might and swept the in iquitous Tories from power, desolation and national woe would come when it was too late! Looking back upon these wild appeals to the prudent instincts of the people, one cannot but feel that the failure to gain end aimed at was a high tribute to the popular good sense. The workingmen who were enjoying steady employment at fair remuneration and saw with satisfac tion the growth of their Savings Bank accounts, refused to be alarmed. In like manner, farmers turned a deaf ear to the persuasions of men whose selfish object was so apparent. The scheme was a miserable failure. Popular judgment was not to be so easily perverted, and the cry of ruin and decay has come to be a political by-word. As a matter of fact, th burdens of the Canadian people are no onerous. They do not bear grievously on anyone nor can it be said there was ever the least cause for alarm. The taxation in 1875 was \$5.32 per capita, and last year it was but 35 cents more. For this paltry 35 cents we have the Canadian Pacific Rail way and many valuable public works which have done so much to enhance our credit and give us a high standing with the nations of the world. It may be said, however, that the cost of these great enterprises is represented in the increased national debt. This is true, but the burden of that debt is the interest, and the interest is paid out of the revenue raised by taxation. Furthermore, as the result of our high credit, in spite of the wailings of poverty from within, the burden of taxation is growing less. In 1883 it was \$6.48 per head of the population, and in 1887 it was \$5.88 as against \$5.67 las So that there has been a decline of 81 cents per capita within the past five years, and to that extent there has been relief. It is not wholly fair, however, to measure the public burdens by this per capita plan, since that is not the method by which the money is raised. It is a convenient way of looking at the matter from a national standpoint and serves very weil for purposes of comparison; but beyond that it has no meaning. A careful analysis of the sources of revenue reveals the fact that those who consume the luxuries of life are our chief tax payers. The workingman and the farmer need pay very little indeed of the gross sum required to meet the annual obligations of the Dominion. The Grit press, of course, never admits this because it would take away from them a fertile theme for lamentation and complaint; but it remains unmistakably true. There are no good reasons for finding fault with our system of taxation so long as it operates in this satisfactory way and exacts the larger payments from those who are best able to make them. In the meantime the country is progressing, and the people seem to feel no fear of general poverty. Their burdens are actually lighter than those of their neighbors across the line, and, taken all in

#### THE MILLERS' ASSOCIATION.

all, their contentment is well founded.

What more could be asked?

The millers of this country have apparently struck a key note in trying to grade the grain purchases by means of a tester. It is well known that grain differs in quality so much that one farmer's wheat may be worth 25 cents a bushel more than way of testing the quality both would receive the same price. At the recent meet-

man who brings a lean 53-pound to the bushel sample. But hitherto how have grain buyers operated, especially in small towns and villages? Why the man who brought his poor sample of wheat, poorly cleaned and full of rubbish, has fared as well as the individual who brought a first class sample. The millers in truth ous town of Port Arthur, is to hand. have been victimized by grain buyers from The disciples of Henry George maintain the fact that all classes of wheat have been bunched together, and no grading done. This haphazard way of buying wheat, mixing good and bad together, goes all the way down through a category, from the farmer who raises the wheat to the man unconstitutional or not, the law was cerwho consumes the loaf of bread from the baker. The miller, say, buys 55 wheat when he should have 60; he charges the baker accordingly, and the baker again charges his customer. Buying grain by the fore lately through the enterprise of its some systematic test, as proposed by the Millers' Association, would not only be advantageous to themselves, but it would arranged a gorgeous pyrotechnic display also be satisfactory to the farmer-for he would know he was being was not overlooked by the leading organ paid according to quality and of the Reform party in 1883, 1884 and 1886, merit. The little pretty jealousies of one place paying a higher price than another would be done away with, as a standard would be established, and in a given radius, with the exception of a slight variation in freights, which would make but little difference, a uniform price could be paid according to the condition of the grain. The adoption of 60 lbs. as the standard for the North Atlantic. wheat in no way clashes with the per cental or one hundred pounds purchase. Indeed by statute, any commodity can be bought warned that the crash of calamity could by the 100 lbs. or any fraction thereof, not much longer be averted. The country such as a bushel being 3-5 of a cental. The 60 lbs. is used as a standard of quality, the 100 lbs. as a convenient standard of purchase to fit in with the currency. The action of the Western Millers' Association is certainly in accord with the views expressed by the farming community at their institutes, which have been held in different parts of this Western Peninsula. The farmer will be benefited, the miller will get his just dues, the baker will have better graded flour, and the consumer will have the benefits arising from this sys-

EXPERIMENTAL FARMING.

tematic way of buying and selling.

Some most interesting experiments have been and are being made with regard to crops and manures in England. It is well demonstration of joy and affection on the known that for the last half a century Sir | meeting of the mother and her young. J. B. Lawes, of Rothamsted, has spent he best part of his life and a liberal fortune in experimental agriculture. Probably no other man has done so much for the advancement of this cause. Possessed of brilliant talents and the best education that Oxford and Cambridge could afford, he ook up agriculture as a study, and to-day we find him saying that one life is too short the welfare of the successful agriculturist. No other man has influenced British farming to the same extent, and no other man has influenced the production of the "two blades of grass where one grew before" to such an extent as Sir J. B. Lawes. The present British system of rotation of crops, the application Rothamsted and Hoburn experiments. At the present time, through these influences of experiments and intensive farming, England leads the world in advanced agriculture. The results of the experiments this year are highly instructive especially in the application of mineral manures. An important lesson has been evolved, and that is that the application of soda and sulphate of ammonia alone is positively injurious to pasture. The application of these to cereals appear to be highly advantageous. The Woburn experiments were recently visited by eighty members of the Royal Society, and the wheat experiments were first explained by Dr. Voelcker. Those on the continuous growth of barley and wheat in the main confirm the Rothamsted results. The two unmanured plots have yielded very similar results, although the lowest of the plots give, at the end of eight years of successive corn crops without manure, 23 bushels of wheat, and 32 bushels of barley per acre. On the plots where ammonia salts and nothing else, and where nitrate of soda has been so used, the produce has been largely increased, and the soil shows years ammonia salts have had the advantage, in others nitrate of soda. "Seato cause the chief difference, the ammonia salts telling rather more than the nitrate of soda in a wet season. and the nitrate more in a dry. Nitrate of soda has produced rather more straw also." Mineral manures alone, on the other hand, have given no appreciable increase of either wheat or barley over the unmanured plots. The best results have been obtained by the combination of mineral manures tained by the omission of ammonia salts or nitrate of soda for a single year, another's, and yet without some systematic this bringing down the produce very

CURRENT TOPICS.

A supplement to the Manitoba Colonist, on elegantly printed quarto volume, handsomely illustrated with views, maps, portraits, etc., and historical notes of all interesting localities in or near the prosper-

Minnesota made a law to forbid the pubishing of detailed reports of executions, and the newspapers have violated it at the first opportunity, and will test the constitutionality as interfering with the guaranteed liberty of the press. Whether tainly obsolete before it was enacted.

The far-famed "Star and Garter" at Richmond, England, is being kept well to new proprietor, Mr. A. Mella. There were great doings at this historic old hostelry on July 17, for which occasion Mr. Mella on the terrace, and four miles of the river bank were illuminated with Bengal fire.

Belle Isle and approaches thereto in unusually large numbers this season. S. S. 'Texas," just arrived at Montreal, reports no less than fifty of them east of that point, and the same number in the Straits. The "Lake Huron" had a similar experience, and reports one huge for years. For sale by fellow, the largest and highest ever seen in

Red rain fell recently in the Province of Lublin, Russian Poland. The shower asted for about ten minutes. The peasants, who mistook the red liquid for blood, became panic stricken, and crowded the churches, where they were quieted by the priests. Several bottles of the red rain were sent to chemists aud microscopists in Warsaw for examination. For several days after the shower all the surface water in Lublin was of a dark pink color.

A mother loon with two little loonlets was observed on Pigeon Lake. The little oons were on the mother's back and on the approach of the boat, after a vain effort to swim away, the mother went down leaving the young on the surface. They were easily caught, but the captors being more humanely disposed, and greater lovers of nature than usual, after examining the little creatures placed them on the water again and pulled away, when they

A somewhat novel case is reported from Northcote, Victoria. The Rev. Mr. Duncan, the local clergyman, sued a man named Brown for £3, the amount of a marriage fee. Evidence was given that the base benedict had promised the clergyman "three quid" for splicing the nuptial knot, but after he was married a little time he showed every disposition to "dodge" to solve all the great problems that affect his reverend creditor. This resulted in his appearance before the local magistrate, who at once ordered him to pay the money. A man who won't pay his marriage fee is nearly as bad as one who neglects to pay for his newspaper.

It takes China to furnish horror upon norror, surpassing in magnitude and the number of lives lost even the catastrophe lives horror, surpassing in magnitude and the number of lives lost even the catastrophe of different mineral manures to produce at Johnstown. That empire has experienced the best results, is largely due to the several floods within the past year or two that destroyed more human beings than any that America has ever known. And now a recent fire at Lu Chow is reported at which, it is stated, over 1,200 persons by other means. There were destroyed 37,000 awellings, and a population of 170. 000 were camped out without shelter. The paternal government is doing what it can to furnish relief, but the aid afforded is necessarily inadequate.

> In the course of his speech delivered on he occasion of the opening of the St. John summer carnival on Monday Sir Leonard electricity the Mayor of Vancouver, B. C., had fired the gun heralding the opening of the Exhibition. "Little did I think," said Sir Leonard, "when I visited the Mayor of Vancouver a short time ago that he would be able to fire the opening gun of our Exhibition from Vancouver, but such is the progress of electricity." Sir Leonard went on to say that he was sanguine enough to believe that the day was not far distant when people would be able to sail through the air as they do now over the ocean.

In the United States the total production of all kinds of commercial coal in 1888 was over 142,000,000 tons, representing a value at the mines of \$204,000,000.

Tonawanda, N. Y., has been visited tries of the same size. with a plague of sand flies. A despatch says:-"When the sun went down Thurswith either ammonia salts or nitrate of day night a heavy cloud was noticed hang- strange about the propensity of men to soda. Interesting results have been ob- ing low over the Canadian shore of the Niagara River, and many thought a storm lowed by a taking by suicide of the life of nearly to that of the unmanured were lighted the nature of this storm be- his first impulse generally is to run away plots. On their being applied the succeed- came at once manifest. Billions of Canaing year the hignest yield is again obtained, dian sand flies, ephemera that live but a feels it necessary to kill himself. Troubles ing of the Western Ontario Millers' As- and in turn lost the next year when the day, having a wide spread of wing and a connected with women work madness in sociation the following grade of buying active nitrogeneous manures are omitted. This as at Dyson's Wood, is evidence of the brain. It is one of the penalties that the brain. It is one of the penalties that the brain. It is one of the penalties that the brain. This, as at Dyson's Wood, is evidence of town. In an hour it was impossible for man pays for the devotion of woman in the fact that when not used by the crop pedestrians to walk the streets. Stores and will be tried till next meeting, by which time, if found to work satisfactory, will be made compulsory:—64 lbs wheat, 4c; over 63, 3c; 62, 2c; 61, 1c; 60 lbs, standac; with these active nitrates are lost, and nothing is left in the soil for a succeeding cr.p. If anything, there is rather more residue left from ammonia salts than from nitrate of soda. With these, farm-yard manure is ard; 50 lbs, 1c less; 58, 2c; 57, 5c; 56, 8c; also brought into competition. This, and inner harbor were literally thick with though not producing such heavy crops as their remains. The Street Commissioner of extermination on the June bugs, which soda. With these, farm-yard manure is to the depth of three inches. The canal in West Prussia, have been waging a war brass cup with an indicator divided into the combination of mineral and nitrogeneous manures leaves a considerable residue with a force of men, has been busy all day appeared by the million in the fir forests of 100 parts, with the standard at 60, the numous manures, leaves a considerable residue cleaning up the dead insects. The printhat region a short time ago. Altogether for several years after its first application. cipal streets are now free, but from a 480,000 litres of June bugs were killed and ber of pounds to the bushel. This tester is no doubt that our Ontario farmers do not use sufficient mineral manures to light bodies fills the air with a horrible at the large of the light bodies fills the air with a horrible at the large of the large o

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A curious way of making hay is very generally adopted by the Fins. Poor men who own no meadows have long been accustomed to cut what grass they can find in perished in the flames and 400 were killed the forest glades and other waste lands. Owing to the lack of roads and farmsteads the hav was stuffed among the branches of neighboring trees to await the winter frosts and snow, when it could easily be carried off by sledges. After a wet season some farmers noticed that this was actually better in quality than that which they themselves had made from much better grass. The wild crop, so to call it, had dried much better in the tree branches, exposed to a Tilley referred to the fact that by means of free circulation of air than the rich herbage which had lain long on the sodden ground. Hence it occurred to them to make temporary trees upon which their own crops might be dried. This experiment was attended by such success that the plan has been widely imitated, and bids fair entirely to supplant the old-fashioned methods. After the mowing is done a number of poles about ten feet in length, aud provided with long transverse pegs, are set up at intervals, and the grass is loosely heaped upon them; the result is said to be

The Insurance Post, of London, Eng. conveys this idea of the vastness of Cana da: -It is difficult to afford an adequate as yet no sign of exhaustion. In some This product extends away into the great conception of this country. England, prairie States, which have only begun to Wales and Scotland form together an area be coal-producing sections. A few years of 88,000 square miles; you could cut forty sons," says Dr. Voelcker, "appear ago Illinois, Iowa and Indiana produced such areas out of Canada. New South but little coal. Now Illinois is the second | Wales contains 309,175 square miles, and coal-producing State in the Union, and is larger by 162 miles than France, Coneven the product in Iowa aggregates tinental Italy and Sicily. Canada would 4,000,000 tons. The recent discoveries of make eleven countries the size of New coal, both soft and hard, in the Canadian South Wales. There are in (extent) three North-west, assure an abundance of fuel British Indias in Canada, and still enough for this continent for a few generations left over to make a Queensland and a Vie toria. The German Empire could be carried out of Canada, and fifteen more coun-

> Boston Herald:-There is something murder women. It is almost always folwas brewing. As soon as the street lamps the murderer. If a man kills another man or to deliver himself up to justice. Nine the scale of civilization.

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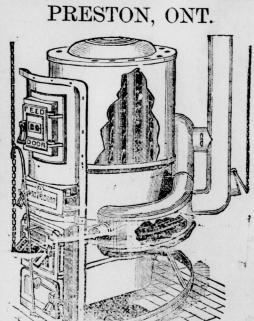
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L. VANKOUGHNET. Deputy Superintendent-Genera of Indian Affairs. Department of Indian Affairs, Ottawa, 11th May, 1889.

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