

tural interests, and they have had better opportunities than we, for they have funds independent of their governments, while we shall have to depend upon government appropriations from time to time, which will throw the institutions into the hands of the politicians, and the stations, unless our political morality greatly improves, will be turned into political machines. The supreme control will reside in the Minister of Agriculture, who, as a rule, is totally ignorant of agricultural matters, and, as past experience proves, he will be controlled by rings of speculators who affect to be the greatest friends of our farmers.

At least two of the expectations of Prof. Saunders will not likely be realized. There is no present prospect of our Local and Federal Governments acting in harmony; there is greater reason to believe that they will agree on points of constitutional law. Each Government will want to claim that it has done the greater amount of good to our agricultural interests. The learned Professor also thinks that, on grounds of economy, several departments should be united in one person until the institutions get into running order. This will not work. At many other stations the Professors have their specialties, and have become leading authorities in their particular branch, and unless our station follows their example, their researches will be of no value, and their bulletins and reports may do more harm than good. This is the main cause of the failure of our Ontario Model Farm. There are only two alternatives: money must be lavishly spent in the hope of doing a small amount of good, or moderate sums must be spent with the certainty of doing no good.

We express the opinion that Nova Scotia is the only level-headed Province in the Dominion. It is preparing teachers to teach agricultural subjects in the public schools. This method requires no extra expenditures for agricultural education, and when the youths of our country once begin to appreciate the principles of agriculture, all the desirable will gradually follow.

Late advices from England state that contracts are being made for the delivery of Indian wheat in June and July at 93½ cents per bushel of 60 pounds. While the berry of the Indian wheat is rather hard and flinty, English millers are modifying their grinding machinery to fit it, and it is not unlikely that in the future India and not America will determine the market price of wheat in Europe.

The Calgary Tribune tells a tale about the ranching industry of Alberta, and gives figures showing the extent of the business. The list contains the names of seventy ranches, and the number of head of stock is given at 76,325 cattle, 10,025 horses and 21,300 sheep. Valued at \$40 per head, we would have \$3,053,000 invested in cattle; \$601,500 in horses at \$60 per head; and \$85,200 in sheep at \$4 per head. This is a most encouraging report, when it is considered that the industry is yet in its infancy. It is only some three or four years since the first attempt was made to establish ranching in the Northwest, and the results of the first winter were most discouraging, owing to mismanagement and lack of that knowledge necessary to success. Notwithstanding this setback, those who were best informed as to the climatic peculiarities of the country were not disheartened, and since then nothing but success has attended all efforts. The past winter has been very favorable, and stock now on the ranches are said to be in excellent condition.

The Farm.

Knights of Agriculture—Long Hours and Short Pay—The Ballot is Mightier than the Bullet.

A correspondent in another column appeals to us to break silence on the labor question, stating that he has waited in vain for our solution of the problem.

This is not strictly an agricultural question, and as it is being exhaustively discussed by political papers, we have not deemed it our duty to interfere. As a Canadian citizen, we are deeply interested in the movement; but in our professional capacity it takes us more than ten hours of hard work daily to keep abreast of the times in agricultural questions, and our readers will not be so exacting as to impose an extra hour or two upon us in order that we may constitute ourselves a leading authority on the labor question. However, as the problem has recently assumed an agricultural form, it being asserted that mutual sympathy has arisen between the Knights of Labor and the Patrons of Husbandry, and as most of the political papers are laboring more than ten hours per day to gain the support of the laboring classes, instead of contending for sound principles, our independence in the matter may be an ample equivalent for weakness in any other respect.

Our life has been devoted to the cause of the Knights of Agriculture, but we have received unsatisfactory encouragement owing to their unorganized condition. We have been thwarted, moreover, by the policy of political journals. When a scandal comes to light in political circles, the other party daubs it as a slander; and, no matter how shameful or shameless the act may be, the knights of toil receive the intelligence with supreme indifference. We as a people are crushed to the dust by the heels of monopoly; we create officials to tax us, making them our masters to whom we must bow in reverential awe, and when their pay gets too short, and their hours too long to be consistent with the dignity of their position, the only remedy to them is the imposition of more taxes; we must create lucrative offices for those who are not able to make an honest living by independent exertions; we appoint a number of officials to collect our taxes, where one man could do the work as well, in order that we may not feel the money go out of our pockets in lumps; we cause articles of consumption to be produced in dear localities, and restrict freedom of trade, in order to keep up prices and create monopolies; we vote for blusters of the Bill Frye stamp in order to create the greatest possible necessity for a standing army, creating knights of the sword to luxuriate upon our taxes. So long as this state of affairs exists, we must work several hours a day to earn our taxes, and many hours more to enable us to exist, while the knights of the pen and the tongue are trampling us still lower in the dust. It is a victory of minds in a state of organization over unorganized, slavish brute force.

The real issue is not, or rather should not be, one of labor against capital, but of labor and capital against monopolies. We make this distinction between the capitalist and the monopolist, that the money of the former is legitimately earned and is invested in legitimate en-

terprises, while that of the latter is plundered from the people through their representatives. When the people demand restitution, the cry of "VESTED RIGHTS" is raised. Let the knights of labor, capital, and agriculture unite in their might and demand that no "vested rights" can exist in the plunderings of the people; and on this issue let the knights of monopoly be vanquished.

Any platform erected on an unsound foundation cannot stand. The Knights of Labor have too many unsound planks in their platform; it will totter and fall by virtue of its own weight. If it is a social wrong for mankind to work ten hours a day, will the gallant knights force their wives and daughters to drop their needle or their dish-cloth at the tolling of their curfew? What about the poor farmer's wife who toils from early morn till the flickering of the midnight lamp? On the other hand we must recognize the rights of labor's knights. They have a right to drive the hardest legitimate bargain with their employers, and if they can get ten hours' pay for one hour's work, they are justifiable in doing so; but the same right should be conceded to other citizens, viz., to get as much labor as possible for a given expenditure.

Society as a body can be elevated and strengthened in two ways: Each part may benefit itself by working for the whole, or the whole may be vitalized by each member doctoring itself. The former is the natural, the latter the artificial and costly method. Agriculture is the vital organs, and when any of them becomes congested or dyspeptic, all the other constituent parts of the body must suffer. The labor limb cannot strengthen itself by over-burdening the vital organs. No cure can be permanent unless it originates in the circulatory system. Abscesses constantly breaking out on the limbs tend to degeneracy of the whole body, and require constitutional treatment.

Our correspondent appears to have the impression that there is no power, human or divine, against which the Knights of Agriculture can strike in order to secure short hours and long pay. He is greatly in error. Let them try the experiment of destroying the parasites—not with the bullet, but with the ballot. To do so requires organized effort. If the business is to be accomplished by strikes, strike against your enemies, not against your friends. On this principle labor cannot successfully strike against capital, or capital against labor. The common enemy of society is a parasite of the Plunder genus, of which there are three well known species, viz., Monopoly, Corruption and Taxation. Let the Knights of Labor, Agriculture and Capital unite their forces, arming themselves with that deadly weapon, the ballot, and route their common foe. Meanwhile, let this be the only plank in the platform. This will inaugurate the era of short hours and long pay, and all the other blessings will speedily follow.

Meanwhile, the Knights of Agriculture should practice the drill. Let them spend the long winters' evenings in learning how to hit with the ballot. Organize clubs until every one can hit the "bull's eye" with unerring certainty. The Knights of Agriculture will never, never accomplish this object so long as they continue to depend upon the Government