The Weekly Mail.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, OCT. 5, 1877.

NOTICE.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.

Subscribers to the *Weekly Mail*, a paper already affording more reading matter than any other weekly published in Canada, may for the future rely on an extended report of Parliamentary proceedings appearing in our columns. Beautiful new bright type, larger than that hitherto used for Parliamentary reporting, has been procured, and while the extra difficulty of reading will not be increased, the amount of matter which we are able to provide in this department of our paper will be doubled.

There is more news and reading matter in the broadsheet of the *Weekly Mail* than in any of the new-fangled weeklies, some of which are printed in a shape purposely intended to mislead the public as to the quantity of their contents.

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THE WEEKLY MAIL.

A NEW ORDER OF ECONOMY.

BECAUSE on attaining power in November, 1873, Mr. MACKENZIE cancelled a number of appointments made by the outgoing Government between the 1st January of that year and the 6th November when they retired, the *Globe* asks the country to believe that the Premier has fulfilled his pledge to cut down the Tory expenditure. It is indeed true that Mr. MACKENZIE did cancel many appointments at that time, but since then he has filled the vacant places with appointees of his own, and between a Tory drawing a salary and a Liberal drawing a salary, what is the difference to the taxpayer? Is from a dollars-and-cents point of view? It counts as nothing as proof of his economy that the Reformers succeeded to the vacancies—when he put Reformers in their places.

If the *Globe* would seriously discuss the question, let it come out of that stupid corner into the broad field of the Public Accounts. Take for instance Civil Government. In 1873 the expenditure under that head for salaries was $559,400. Sir JOHN adds, say $76,000 for the last five months of the Tory régime, and Mr. MACKENZIE cancelled those appointments, and the organ cries "behold the economy of the men in power!" But although Tory appointments to the amount of say $76,000 were cancelled in 1874, Liberal appointments were subsequently made, and in 1875 the total was no less than $685,000, or $126,000 more than when this economy of the Tories came coming began! In 1876 a slight reduction was made, the total on the 30th June of that year being $661,500, but still that is $111,000 more than Civil Government cost before Mr. MACKENZIE "inaugurated the reform" of discharging three Tories and appointing four Liberals. So, too, with regard to salaries on Public Works. In 1873 they amounted to $205,200. Sir JOHN, let us suppose made a number of appointments between the 30th June of that year and the 6th November, which Mr. MACKENZIE cancelled subsequently; but there was no economy in the matter, for here again for every three the Premier discharged he appointed four, the total on the 30th June, 1875, being $239,900, and on the 30th June, 1876, $250,900, or $42,000 more than when the folly for three operation began. Take Colonization. The total cost of collecting the revenue on the 30th June, 1873, was $367,600. Sir JOHN, let us suppose again, cancelled enormously extravagant Tory that he is, to that figure, and the honest and sinless MACKENZIE swept his broom into the street. That sounds well, but where does the country's gain come in, seeing that after getting rid of the Tory appointees, Mr. MACKENZIE filled, and more than filled, their vacant seats with Liberal appointees, the total for the 30th June, 1875, being $682,700, and on the 30th June, 1876, $721,000, or $154,000 more than it was when the "reform" was first begun. Take Excise. Salaries under that head on the 30th June, 1873, amounted to $76,800. Sir JOHN, let us suppose, thrust his creatures—that's the word—creatures into the service, and Mr. MACKENZIE thrust them out, and, thus, as the *Globe* argues, fulfilling his pledge to the country. But, and on this the *Globe* is silent, for neither then he discharged he must have appointed four other and hungrier creatures, and the cost on the 30th June, 1875, being $94,000 and on the 30th June, 1876, $92,000. And in considering these Customs and Excise items, it is to be borne in mind, that while Mr. MACKENZIE has thus been adding to the cost of collecting the revenue at the same year by year decreasing. To sum up, the total for salaries in these, the two most unmistakable branches of the public service—the expense of the Department of Justice and the Post Office—is very much greater extent growing with the country—was, on the 30th June, 1873, $1,411,000. The Premier took office in the 6th November, 1873, and at once buckled to his great work of economy, succeeding, by the 30th June, 1875, in raising the total to $1,701,000, and by the 30th June, 1876, to $1,734,000, his system of discharging three Tories and appointing four Liberals involving an annual loss of over $300,000. Were we to go into JERKINS' figures under the head of Public Works, the record could be made still more striking, but the *Globe* has more than once half-pleaded that it was an abnormal personage, for whom nobody was responsible. We have quoted enough, we hope, without pushing the abnormal business to convince even the organ that however commendable it may have been in Mr. MACKENZIE to have discharged a host of Tory appointees on taking office, his course saved the country nothing, since he simply drove them out to make room for the Liberal host, which, like Father Paddy's dogs the day after Lent:

Kept to scent fat things on the breeze, and of appetite never whatever grown,
Talped at the open portent, cried for a taste of his flesheots.

DIVIDED PARTY.

THE Republican party in the United States is at present in a very singular position. Its candidate for President now occupies the chair, but his course is far from giving entire satisfaction to many of those by whose votes and exertions he was seated. Against him these two things chiefly are charged—that he is too conciliatory to the South, and too much given to heaping favours and praise upon "unrepentant rebels;" and that he is trying to force upon the country more civil service reform than the country wants. Apparently the majority of the party supports the President, but the minority that opposes his policy is not to be despised. It has come to this, that within the Republican ranks an Opposition party exists, of no little activity and influence. This Republican Opposition is led by Senator CONKLING, of New York, whose speech at the State Convention of the party, held in Rochester last week, is accepted by everybody as a declaration of war against the Administration. The meeting of this Convention has been in fact the political event of the week over the border, and a certain beginning has been made, the end of which does not yet appear. That there must be serious dissatisfaction with the President in the ranks of his own party is certain. On two test votes which were taken Senator CONKLING carried the majority of the Convention with him by 311 to 111 in one case and by 296 to 110 in another, or almost three to one. A Democratic account says that his speech "electrified the delegates in force and power his great effort in the Convention of 1871, and was filled with invective, bitter sarcasm, vituperation, and venom beyond anything ever delivered in any New York State Convention. State Conventions are to be remembered, are professedly to be gatherings of men all belonging to the same party, and of "temperation and cool" "venom," discharged inside the fort rather than against the enemy outside, call for special remark. The defiant Senator charged the Administration with cracking the whip over his head, and the Cabinet with being composed of "men-milliners, dilettantes, and carpet-baggers in polities—with fatulent, rancid, and self-"righteous men in sheep's clothing." He denounced them in effect as Pharisees, pretending to a superior virtue which they did not possess, and charged that they were distracting the country and dividing the Republican Party with visionary and impracticable plans of "reform," falsely so called.

To outsiders the wonder will be how the Republican party is to live at all, if it is to be thus divided against itself. Were it well united it would have need of all the strength, this condition would bring, but divided it must be its fate! The Democrats have a majority in the House, and in the Senate parties are about evenly balanced, the Republican majority having been brought down to the verge of disappearance. There will, however, be an attempt made for sectional agreement, as far as voting the party ticket is concerned. The New York *Tribune* says that Mr. CONKLING controlled the Convention all through, and denounces him for his attack on the President; but says at the same time that the platform adopted is sound in the main, and that Republicans will undoubtedly vote for the nominees of the Senator's Convention, however much they may disapprove of his course. The next point of interest will be to observe whether the movement so vigorously inaugurated by Senator CONKLING will spend its strength in New York, or whether it will spread to other Northern States. Should the latter follow, the political situation will certainly be extraordinary, though perhaps not wholly unprecedented.

CLOSE OF THIS YEAR'S CAMPAIGN.

THE London correspondent of the Chicago *Times* telegraphs that paper that the Russians before Plevna are being gradually withdrawn, the siege having been in effect raised. Their loss in front of those terrible entrenchments is put down by the Turkish accounts at 40,000 killed in series of battles, at 80,000 men, disease killing as many as bullets. Their ambulance system has disappeared and all the surgeons have gone elsewhere, so that when a soldier is struck down, there he lies until mortification sets in and death carries him off the fever-breeding field. The army is almost mutinous and deserters common, two hundred going in one night. The campaign is virtually closed for the season, but if at any time during the winter the Turks succeed in breaking through the Russian lines of communication with the Danube, the war will end forthwith in Russian annihilation.

While his army is thus sustaining grievous reverses, the Czar himself is being subjected to a violent attack under which his boasted anxiety for the Christians of Eastern Europe is suffering. Count LADISLAS PLATER, President of the European Committee of expatriated Poles, is writing to the English and French papers a series of letters showing the persecution his countrymen are now enduring at the hands of the august champion of the oppressed Christians in Servia and Bulgaria. Letters received in Warsaw state that three Uniates have been shot in the citadel of Warsaw and a fourth hanged. It is in vain for the Czar to appeal to the Moslem cause is brought about in Poland. There is no relaxation in the religious persecution; the teaching of the catechism in Polish is forbidden; the priests are not allowed to visit their parishes, where they are "interned" without daring to leave them. At Wilna a priest, who was condemned to death for having nailed the manifesto of the Czar in which war was declared with Turkey, has been banished instead, and his place given to a Pole. The cruelties against the Uniates continue. It is attempted to force them by horrible cruelties and ruin to become schismatics, but the population continue firm, and exhibit to the world the strength of their religious conviction. At Lubienki, in the district of Bielak, a Uniate woman who was ordered to have her baby baptized by the Greek priest refused. For this crime she was brutally flogged and thrown into prison, while the village was occupied by the soldiery, who completely sacked it. Two Uniates in Wallachia, who took part in a Catholic pilgrimage, have been seized by many distinguished personages in Vienna the miserable lot of the inhabitants of their Province, and, indeed, the scene of despair which occurred when one of their neighbours, after being robbed by the Russians of all he possessed, died in their presence, that a great change in the people of Eova Scotia, but there is no sign of such change apparent, and no one can say why any such change should be brought about. The Government under which Dr. Tupper's supporters so often said was hostile to these Maritime Provinces, has shown no disposition to do so towards them, and very friendly, doing for the promotion of their interests, the very reverse of what the Ministerial Press has been in the habit of saying it would do if ever it had the power, and, in fact, doing more than Liberals ever asked. It would be an insult to the intelligence of the people of Nova Scotia to suppose that they have been misled by all this grandiloquent talk about all the evils, bribery, corruption, etc., which they have been relieved as soon as they were uttered by the worthies who occupied the position."

The chief among those "groundless stories" is about all the extravagance, corruption, etc.," is that relating to the Speaker of the Commons. The brutal Tories have insulted the Speaker, have broken the law, and the Government their most cherished principle in the matter of Confederation, and the villainous Tories harped on this subject so vehemently that at length the Premier and his friends were induced to refute it in the sight of the world. To this end the Premier made his followers vote that it was not a breach of Independence for Parliament Act; Mr. ANGLIN resigned, and the Premier then passed an Act indemnifying him against the penalties attaching to his crime. In this way the story was completely refuted; and in that or a somewhat similar way the other slanders have also been set at naught. But withal, as Mr. ANGLIN will discover when the elections come round, the wretched public is not satisfied that the Premier and his action of the same troublesome proceedings next year—in which case the House of Commons will find itself confronted with a very serious and unpleasant difficulty. Notwithstanding the die-establishment of the State Church in Ireland, and other concessions, and despite the increase of material prosperity borne testimony to by the present Lord Lieutenant, one has but to read what are called the "Nationist" ballads in Dublin and Belfast, where, to see that popular discontent is still largely rife, and that Irish questions still, as heretofore, must form the perplexity and burden of British statesmen. Apart from which, there is a great unrest even among Irishmen themselves—been the "sentimental" grievance of loss of Independence, which is the root of this perennial springing up of Irish discontent! It is easy to be in any real or fancied peculiarity of race. For if so, one may say that the Yoke must be as badly galling which is not the case. Now, though some loudly maintain, or quietly believe, that Irish ill-doing and sorenss are due to the form of religious belief, and concede that argument, for, in that case the Belgians, who have the same religious profession, would be in a similar condition, and we all know they are not. The real cause of Irish trouble and dissatisfaction must be connected, we imagine, in some form or other, with the great fact in social economics, that no country can go on comfortably in which the proprietorship and use of the land are not on a secure and well-ordered footing.

Of all methods of occupying the soil, none is found so successful in practice, or so suited to human wants and feelings, as that of giving a man a distinct and inalienable sight to his own property. If this property is not acknowledged in law to be his, and his alone—with a right to dispose of it as he pleases, experience proves that he may confidently look for much and various evil. This is what is known as the holding of lands fee-simple. In most countries approaching to the character of civilization such is the method of tenure. Residence upon, or use of the soil, is a different matter. In many countries—notably in Canada and the United States—proprietors occupy their own lands. But should wealth increase and population become more dense, we may expect that even here the plan of giving the use of lands for a certain term of years on payment of so much rent will, as in Great Britain, come more largely into operation. Even now the number of tenants in proportion to owners is larger than many people may suppose, being about twenty per cent. in Ontario, our wealthiest Province, but considerably less in Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick. The renting system has perhaps been carried to the greatest extent in Scotland, where it is said to work harmoniously and advantageously. It does so in virtue of two principles. The lands let are put by the proprietor into a condition suited for occupancy, and this occupancy, in terms of a written contract, is secured to the tenant as an heritage for a term of years. No clear is left unrendered, and so effective is every item in the contract made, by a ready appeal to a simple tribunal, that the tenant has quarrels about land may be said to be totally unknown in that part of the United Kingdom. Proprietors and tenant farmers, respecting each other's rights, live in mutual good-will and the interchange of acts of kindness and courtesy. By this united action society presents a happy a combination of circumstances as anywhere to be seen, and land when for sale is transferred at a higher price than in any part of the British dominions.

Why do things present a less satisfactory aspect in Ireland? The reply, though lamentable, is not difficult. From the recent speech of the Lord-Lieutenant it appears that under the Encumbered Estates Act thousands of small tenants have, during the last few years, purchased their holdings, and have thus become freeholders, a very encouraging fact, and one which may do much for the advancement of Irish contentment and prosperity. But it is still notorious that very many land proprietors in Ireland are only so in a kind of illusory sense, and can fulfil neither proprietory obligations nor duties. Many have inherited property encumbered. Consequently they cannot sell the land, and are also both unwilling and unable to make the needed improvements. Another class have encumbered their properties with debt; and, as regards a third class, their titles have got into such a state of confusion that no one can safely deal with them, either as lessees or purchasers. The Encumbered Estates Act has cleared away a considerable number of embarrassments by summary sales of land, and to this extent has made a real instead of a sham proprietory. But a vast deal more is wanted. So long as the system of life interest in land continues, with the power of borrowing money on that interest, so long will there be multifarious entanglements, disputes and discontent. The different orders of society, Irish proprietors, referred to above, having no power, supposing them to have the will, to change the costs of needful improvements, and the tenant generally all refuse to do anything to adapt the land for farming purposes. They let a piece of land in the condition in which it came from nature. There is no house or office for the farmer. No fences are erected. There is no drainage. The tenant has to take the land as it is, or let it alone. Everything done in the way of improvement is at his own cost, and he is without any security that when he has improved the land his rent may not be raised. In England it has long been customary for landlords to erect farm buildings, and make all the requisite improvements. If they did not they would probably look in vain for tenants. But in Ireland, the renting of land, no matter in what condition, has been for ages, a question of life or death for the tenantry. Eager, hopeful, and desperate they have trusted to get through with their bargain "somehow." Having in this too confiding spirit gone upon the land they have found it absolutely necessary to make certain improvements at their own cost. At the very least they have erected a humble dwelling, with some huts for cattle, and have done certain trenching, fencing, and manuring. Many times the land of a farm to their portion of wilderness, and woe to the man or men who; even if rent is not forthcoming, shall attempt to evict them and all their labours! If they are able to pay their rent, well and good. If not, the improvements they have wrought with no small labour, appear to some confused mystic logical process of their own, to be sufficient ground for the landlord's claim, supported by the sheriff and the military, to eject the tenant-right goes to the ground. The small cultivator is thus ejected, and in the present view, it does complain that he should be liable to be ordered off the land without compensation for improvements, but in another step forward, and one that will largely increase its usefulness. Hitherto the weather indications for the day, which are issued at 10 o'clock in the morning, have been sent to the evening papers, and people in conspicuous places about the city, and in the 1st prox., they will be telegraphed every forenoon to seventy-five of the principal towns in the Dominion, by graph offices west of Quebec. This will extend the benefits of the weather office to the rural districts, and much to popularize the science of meteorology.

POULTRY AND EGGS FOR ENGLAND

To the Editor of The Mail.

SIR,—I trust the necessity of assisting any branch of trade between Canada and England and thus avoiding the impost of 20 percent to which our surplus agricultural produce is now subjected, will be a sufficient excuse for my troubling you with a few remarks upon your valuable space. The trade in horses, cattle, sheep, and dead meat, may be in some measure considered established. Not yet, however, with poultry and eggs, which are shipped in large quantities, may appear in our growing list of exports, I beg to lay the following information before your readers.

To give an idea as to the extent of the importation of these commodities, it is sufficient to better than quote from the return just issued by the Board of Trade, from which it appears that the quantity imported during 31st July last, poultry to the value of £114,741 was imported into England; and eggs to the value of £98,846 were imported during period in 1876, is £28,846 less. The increase is overall about 20 per cent. Cook turkeys will make a good showing, and prove that this decrease in the supply has been met by an extended home production. Now, I have had some experience in shipping eggs, and I know that a 1-5 centimetre shell covering of the shell, retire to bed, and become perfectly useless on reaching England. After searching for some hours, the tun diminutive eggs were found to be broken, and the contents lodged behind the grating of a ventilating register. Sturdy has been repaired to the cellar, and on the top of the egg, where he will probably remain until his trial comes off. Among other articles which are shipped in large quantities, which the pioneer had expressed from the farms, are dressed fowl. The trade of this bottle three light on his mode of communicating with his outside friends. He was in the habit of making one knock, which he said were due him for painting, and sending the proceeds of the transaction to his family, for collection. His usual plan was to write these accounts on one half sheet of paper, and some to town and hold a fresh chorus. In this space he wrote in onion juice, whatever he desired to communicate to his friends. The accounts received the confederate, and held to the fire, disclosed the secret, and the prisoner, Jeffreys, $500 to assist him to escape; and it is quite likely the latter would have done so, if he had not been so unfortunate as to be caught. Jeffreys is a young man of good family, and a high stone wall. Through the medium of Jeffreys, Sturdy's friends were informed of the place, and the prisoner then passed an act indemnifying him against the penalties attaching to his crime. In this way, Sturdy's case was completely refuted; and in that or a somewhat similar way the other slanders have also been set at naught. But withal, as Mr. ANGLIN will discover when the elections come round, the wretched public is not satisfied that the Premier and his action of the same troublesome proceedings next year—in which case the House of Commons will find itself confronted with a very serious and unpleasant difficulty. Notwithstanding the die-establishment of the State Church in Ireland, and other concessions, and despite the increase of material prosperity borne testimony to by the present Lord Lieutenant, one has but to read what are called the "Nationist" ballads in Dublin and Belfast, where, to see that popular discontent is still largely rife, and that Irish questions still, as heretofore, must form the perplexity and burden of British statesmen. Apart from which, there is a great unrest even among Irishmen themselves—been the "sentimental" grievance of loss of Independence, which is the root of this perennial springing up of Irish discontent! It is easy to be in any real or fancied peculiarity of race. For if so, one may say that the Yoke must be as badly galling which is not the case. Now, though some loudly maintain, or quietly believe, that Irish ill-doing and sorenss are due to the form of religious belief, and concede that argument, for, in that case the Belgians, who have the same religious profession, would be in a similar condition, and we all know they are not. The real cause of Irish trouble and dissatisfaction must be connected, we imagine, in some form or other, with the great fact in social economics, that no country can go on comfortably in which the proprietorship and use of the land are not on a secure and well-ordered footing.

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THE GUELPH ABDUCTIONIST.

An Artful and Well Contrived Plan to Break Gaol Frustrated.

Details of the Plot.

GUELPH, Sept. 29.—The *Herald* to-night gives the following account of the attempted escape of Fred. Sturdy, the abductor of Miss Carr:—

A few days since it came to the ears of Mr. Mercer, gaoler, through some person outside, that he had better look sharp after the prisoner, Fred Sturdy. Subsequently events went to show that the warning was timely. The goal was so crowded that it was necessary to put two prisoners in one cell, and Sturdy's partner was Matthew Jeffreys, who is serving out a term for stealing a watch. This Jeffreys is looked upon by the gaol authorities as a sober, quiet prisoner, and is counted to Sheriff Gow, almost instinctively, on Friday evening, to remove Jeffreys from Sturdy's cell. The removal was effected at about 6 o'clock. Had he been allowed to remain there all night, it is more than probable that Sturdy would have been a free man to-day. Mr. Mercer strongly suspects something wrong, said to Jeffreys on Friday night, "Come, you know all about this; and mighty well you know it, too." Jeffreys supposing the whole thing had been discovered, said to Well, I couldn't shut myself up as we was going on." And he made a clean breast of the whole plot. This is the story as he tells it: Sturdy, immediately on his cell, which is in the second story, opens into a corridor, the windows of which face the Market Square. Sturdy had a file, which he was stored, till Thursday, the gallows upon which Wilson was hanged. Immediately he heard the cells occupied by the hard-labour prisoners, who are in the yard, directly under his window, commence to file a light stone wall. Through the medium of Jeffreys, Sturdy's friends were informed of the place, and the prisoner then passed an act indemnifying him against the penalties attaching to his crime. In this way, Sturdy's case was completely refuted; and in that or a somewhat similar way the other slanders have also been set at naught. But withal, as Mr. ANGLIN will discover when the elections come round, the wretched public is not satisfied that the Premier and his action of the same troublesome proceedings next year—in which case the House of Commons will find itself confronted with a very serious and unpleasant difficulty. Notwithstanding the die-establishment of the State Church in Ireland, and other concessions, and despite the increase of material prosperity borne testimony to by the present Lord Lieutenant, one has but to read what are called the "Nationist" ballads in Dublin and Belfast, where, to see that popular discontent is still largely rife, and that Irish questions still, as heretofore, must form the perplexity and burden of British statesmen. Apart from which, there is a great unrest even among Irishmen themselves—been the "sentimental" grievance of loss of Independence, which is the root of this perennial springing up of Irish discontent! It is easy to be in any real or fancied peculiarity of race. For if so, one may say that the Yoke must be as badly galling which is not the case. Now, though some loudly maintain, or quietly believe, that Irish ill-doing and sorenss are due to the form of religious belief, and concede that argument, for, in that case the Belgians, who have the same religious profession, would be in a similar condition, and we all know they are not. The real cause of Irish trouble and dissatisfaction must be connected, we imagine, in some form or other, with the great fact in social economics, that no country can go on comfortably in which the proprietorship and use of the land are not on a secure and well-ordered footing.

THE PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION—ITS BEANY OR PERMANENCY.

IT is no use question whether the Provincial Exhibition should be held as four or five different places in the Province in turn or be permanently located in one place. Under the itinerant system no doubt much good has been effected. The growth of these annual fairs if not uniformly regular has been on the whole upwards and onwards. Those who can recall the first Provincial Exhibitions must admit that the exhibitions of late years have shown a great advance towards bearing a fair ratio to the increased population, extent of cultivated acreage, and manufacturing advancement of the Province. It may be said, with some degree of force, that a system which has led to such good results is not open to many serious objections. But it is true, nevertheless, that there is much to be said in favour of the opposite view.

Itinerancy in connection with public institutions of any kind is necessarily the cause of much inconvenience. It was found so when the seat of Government of the old Province of Canada was now in one place and now in another. Everybody felt it to be a relief when Ottawa, though at the time but a small city placed in the backwoods, was selected as the permanent seat of Government. It enabled buildings to be erected suitable to the accommodation of the members, the civil servants, and in keeping with the surroundings of a capital. We admit it is not quite so important, from this point of view, that the Provincial Exhibition should be permanently located; though we are quite aware that if one central place were selected buildings would be erected in it which would greatly outstrip any of those which we now have in any of our cities. The question of new Exhibition grounds and buildings is being agitated in Toronto. Did our citizens have the assurance of the Agricultural and Arts Association that the annual fairs would be held here year after year we have no doubt a site of ample area would be selected, and buildings, worthy of Toronto, be erected on the ground, but of the great Province of which it is the capital, erected. Of course, without such assurance no amount of expense will be incurred.

The fair just closed in London has unquestionably been very successful. London is the centre of a fine agricultural country, and of a large and thriving population. It did not evince a good spirit on the part of our friends there, however, even before the gates of the Exhibition grounds were closed, to exclaim, with all the emphasis of capital letters: "And now for the Western Fair of 1878." It must have occurred to the directors of the Agricultural and Arts Association that the extent to which District Fairs have been favoured for several years has made the evident (might we not say, intentional?) detriment of the Provincial Exhibition must tell greatly in favour of the permanent locating of the Provincial Fair. London, Hamilton, Brantford, Kingston, Belleville—have all their Western or Central Fairs, and, as a rule, about the same time as the Provincial Fair. Would it not be better if the District Fairs were continued yearly, and the Great Fair for the whole Province held in one central place?

We know we shall be accused of monopoly, and selfishness, and all sorts of bad things, for even making this suggestion. But the time has come, we believe, for making it, and making it strongly and pointedly. It is with no selfish interest whatever that we point to the danger which the multiplication of these District Fairs will bring to the Provincial Exhibition unless it is given permanent root in a central place. And if the directors of the Association do not feel like considering it now, the time is not far distant when they will feel compelled to do so.

THE SOUTHERN NEGROES.

THE Southern papers are discussing the alarming mortality rate among the coloured population of those States. In Richmond, where the white mortality is comparatively about equal, the average of deaths among negroes is fully twice as great as among whites. During the week ending the 23rd ult., fourteen white persons died there and twenty-five coloured. The mortuary reports of Mobile, Savannah, Memphis, New Orleans, Augusta, and Charleston tell the same tale. The average of deaths among the coloured race is three or four times as great as among the white. The official mortuary report of Memphis show that during the year 1876 there were six hundred and twenty-two deaths among the white population and six hundred and one among the negroes. This mortality is disproportionate to the lower tier of prisoners, a proceeding which led Sturdy to write the following note, and which was found upon Jeffreys, and which is in Sturdy's writing: "Always on the watch, Fred. Keep up your courage, come any day or every day. Be sure and not open any parcel except tobacco, as there may be something I don't want anyone to see." Friday evening at 5.30 the men between the hours of 6 and 7 arrived, and Sturdy lowered a string and brought up a package which he opened. This parcel contained two saw blades, one of which was evidently intended for the jailor's use, and the other for himself. If they are able to pay their rent, well and good. If not, the improvements they have wrought with no small labour, appear to some confused mystic logical process of their own, to be sufficient ground for the landlord's claim, supported by the sheriff and the military, to eject the tenant-right goes to the ground. The small cultivator is thus ejected, and in the present view, it does complain that he should be liable to be ordered off the land without compensation for improvements, but in another step forward, and one that will largely increase its usefulness. Hitherto the weather indications for the day, which are issued at 10 o'clock in the morning, have been sent to the evening papers, and people in conspicuous places about the city, and in the 1st prox., they will be telegraphed every forenoon to seventy-five of the principal towns in the Dominion, by graph offices west of Quebec. This will extend the benefits of the weather office to the rural districts, and much to popularize the science of meteorology.

POULTRY AND EGGS FOR ENGLAND

To the Editor of The Mail.

SIR,—I trust the necessity of assisting any branch of trade between Canada and England and thus avoiding the impost of 20 percent to which our surplus agricultural produce is now subjected, will be sufficient excuse for my troubling you with a few remarks upon your valuable space. The trade in horses, cattle, sheep, and dead meat, may be in some measure considered established. Not yet, however, with poultry and eggs, which are shipped in large quantities, may appear in our growing list of exports, I beg to lay the following information before your readers.

To give an idea as to the extent of the importation of these commodities, it is sufficient to better than quote from the return just issued by the Board of Trade, from which it appears that the quantity imported during 31st July last, poultry to the value of £114,741 was imported into England; and eggs to the value of £98,846 were imported during period in 1876, is £28,846 less. The increase is overall about 20 per cent. Cook turkeys will make a good showing, and prove that this decrease in the supply has been met by an extended home production. Now, I have had some experience in shipping eggs, and I know that a 1-5 centimetre shell covering of the shell, retire to bed, and become perfectly useless on reaching England. After searching for some hours, the tun diminutive eggs were found to be broken, and the contents lodged behind the grating of a ventilating register. Sturdy has been repaired to the cellar, and on the top of the egg, where he will probably remain until his trial comes off. Among other articles which are shipped in large quantities, which the pioneer had expressed from the farms, are dressed fowl. The trade of this bottle three light on his mode of communicating with his outside friends. He was in the habit of making one knock, which he said were due him for painting, and sending the proceeds of the transaction to his family, for collection. His usual plan was to write these accounts on one half sheet of paper, and some to town and hold a fresh chorus. In this space he wrote in onion juice, whatever he desired to communicate to his friends. The accounts received the confederate, and held to the fire, disclosed the secret, and the prisoner, Jeffreys $500 to assist him to escape; and it is quite likely the latter would have done so, if he had not been so unfortunate as to be caught. Jeffreys is a young man of good family, and a high stone wall. Through the medium of Jeffreys, Sturdy's friends were informed of the place, and the prisoner then passed an act indemnifying him against the penalties attaching to his crime. In this way, Sturdy's case was completely refuted; and in that or a somewhat similar way the other slanders have also been set at naught. But withal, as Mr. ANGLIN will discover when the elections come round, the wretched public is not satisfied that the Premier and his action of the same troublesome proceedings next year—in which case the House of Commons will find itself confronted with a very serious and unpleasant difficulty. Notwithstanding the die-establishment of the State Church in Ireland, and other concessions, and despite the increase of material prosperity borne testimony to by the present Lord Lieutenant, one has but to read what are called the "Nationist" ballads in Dublin and Belfast, where, to see that popular discontent is still largely rife, and that Irish questions still, as heretofore, must form the perplexity and burden of British statesmen. Apart from which, there is a great unrest even among Irishmen themselves—been the "sentimental" grievance of loss of Independence, which is the root of this perennial springing up of Irish discontent! It is easy to be in any real or fancied peculiarity of race. For if so, one may say that the Yoke must be as badly galling which is not the case. Now, though some loudly maintain, or quietly believe, that Irish ill-doing and sorenss are due to the form of religious belief, and concede that argument, for, in that case the Belgians, who have the same religious profession, would be in a similar condition, and we all know they are not. The real cause of Irish trouble and dissatisfaction must be connected, we imagine, in some form or other, with the great fact in social economics, that no country can go on comfortably in which the proprietorship and use of the land are not on a secure and well-ordered footing.

Of all methods of occupying the soil, none is found so successful in practice, or so suited to human wants and feelings, as that of giving a man a distinct and inalienable sight to his own property. If this property is not acknowledged in law to be his, and his alone—with a right to dispose of it as he pleases, experience proves that he may confidently look for much and various evil. This is what is known as the holding of lands fee-simple. In most countries approaching to the character of civilization such is the method of tenure. Residence upon, or use of the soil, is a different matter. In many countries—notably in Canada and the United States—proprietors occupy their own lands. But should wealth increase and population become more dense, we may expect that even here the plan of giving the use of lands for a certain term of years on payment of so much rent will, as in Great Britain, come more largely into operation. Even now the number of tenants in proportion to owners is larger than many people may suppose, being about twenty per cent. in Ontario, our wealthiest Province, but considerably less in Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick. The renting system has perhaps been carried to the greatest extent in Scotland, where it is said to work harmoniously and advantageously. It does so in virtue of two principles. The lands let are put by the proprietor into a condition suited for occupancy, and this occupancy, in terms of a written contract, is secured to the tenant as an heritage for a term of years. No clear is left unrendered, and so effective is every item in the contract made, by a ready appeal to a simple tribunal, that the tenant has quarrels about land may be said to be totally unknown in that part of the United Kingdom. Proprietors and tenant farmers, respecting each other's rights, live in mutual good-will and the interchange of acts of kindness and courtesy. By this united action society presents a happy a combination of circumstances as anywhere to be seen, and land when for sale is transferred at a higher price than in any part of the British dominions.

Why do things present a less satisfactory aspect in Ireland? The reply, though lamentable, is not difficult. From the recent speech of the Lord-Lieutenant it appears that under the Encumbered Estates Act thousands of small tenants have, during

CANADIAN.

About 600 acres of beets, suitable for the manufacture of sugar, are under cultivation in Wellesley Township.

An extension of the Great Western railway (Vt. G., and B.) is called for, from Alma or Goldstone to Arthur.

The Dundas *Banner* takes objection to an estimate bill of $418.09 for keeping the conveyance of the new Court House in Hamilton. The champagne cost $198, and the dinner $137.

The London *Advertiser* says that a well-to-do farmer's wife, of Burford, was recently caught in the act of till-tapping at a grocery. On refunding about $200, which she admitted to have stolen at various times, she was acquitted.

The *North York Reformer* says:—"We regret to learn that there are several bad cases of typhoid fever in Newmarket and vicinity at the present time. None as yet have proved fatal. The disease is fortunately not very contagious."

Mr. John Thory, of Tuckersmith, recently delivered at the Seaforth flax mill a load of flax which weighed 3,000 pounds. The load was drawn from Mr. Thory's farm, a distance of two miles, and was drawn by a team which weigh 2,400 pounds.

The St. Catharines *Daily News* says:—"We hear it positively stated that one of the steamers of the Royal Mail Line will ply during the winter between this port and Toronto, touching at Port Dalhousie. If This is so certainly reason why this should not be done."

The Woodstock *Sentinel* sets our double at rest as where a recent shipment of brooms from that town went to. It was not to Liverpool, England, but to Liverpool, the veritable land of the heather, that the shipment was made. Another exchange mentions forty dozen as the quantity.

Says the *Reporter*:—"In Brantford we may occasionally see a load of pumpkins or water our horse at a telegraph pole, but our prominent citizens do not go so completely obfuscated as to meet another friend home with a lighted lantern, after sunrise of a morning, as some of the Guelph men have been doing lately."

"A very heavy business is now being done on the Grand Trunk railway. The passenger trains east and west frequently consist of from two to twelve cars, and a very large proportion of the freight is Canadian. This is very satisfactory, and forms another illustration of the return of the long lamented "good times."—*Belleville Ontario.*

Teaching machine and mowing machine manufactories will happen, even on the best regulated farms. Recently a young man named James Shearer, while cutting clover for seed on Mr. Samuel Cline's farm, in Dunnville, Dorchester, was thrown from his seat on the machine, and falling on the knives had two fingers of his left hand cut off. He was also slightly cut on the right arm.

The Kingston *Daily News* says:—"The other day Mr. J. Westcott, of Usborne, brought into Exeter one hundred bushels of wheat as a load, for which he received, gold, at the rate $1.02. Many farmers this fall are sowing double the quantity of wheat they did last year to the detriment of the Canadian farmer to the success of the wheat crop in Usborne township, and to farmer's pocket, as offered on the market one thousand bushels of fall wheat."

The *Ottawa Valley Advocate* says:—"When the citizens of Lachute have to pay ten cents per head for cabbages and similarly high prices for other vegetables, it is suggested that there is room for a green grocer here. Mr. Thomas Montreal, good vegetables are retailed at from three to five cents per head, so if they cannot be raised in this neighborhood, they could be imported and sold at a profit."

The famous blockade runner, Chicora, formerly owned by the celebrated firm of Wood and Prince Arthur's Landing, passed Windsor the other day en route to Buffalo, where she will be fitted for the lake trade with a record of 2.26¼, is, on account of his great speed, to be called Jay Gould. Will next season run on Lake Ontario. The reason for withdrawing her from the upper lake was her unsuitedness.

The *Prescott Telegraph* says:—"Hop picking in this section is now finished, and the crop has turned out very badly considering them for market. Mr. T. S. Murdock, the proprietor in this locality, has, however, had some six acres under hops, and estimates his crop at about five