

alleged sepulchre is not essentially a grotto, it by no means follows that, even if a grotto, it is to be considered the true sepulchre of Christ. If it were such (which we have not yet affirmed or denied), how much more gratifying and exciting to every reasonable mind would it have been, if left in its originally simple state, instead of being dressed out with the labour of art and the theatrical disguisings which we have described.

Godfrey, of Boulton, and his brother Baldwin were honoured with sepulchres in the church. Their original tombs were however destroyed, some years ago, by the Greeks; but the sword and spurs of Godfrey continued to be carefully preserved; and the tomb also have now been re-erected.—*Pictorial Bible.*

#### THE CONDITION AND PROSPECTS OF CANADA.

(From the Montreal Witness.)

Since our last issue, Parliament has closed a singularly labourious, and we hope, beneficial Session, during which the representatives of the people, judging by the amount of business done, must have worked almost without intermission. It is peculiarly pleasing to be able to render this testimony to our Legislators, without distinction of party, inasmuch as we have been obliged, pointedly, to condemn the way in which time was frequently trifled away in former years, on account of the intemperance of Members on both sides of the House.

The past Session may be looked upon as an epoch from which several of the great practical developments of the resources of the Province will date. It also affords indisputable evidence of growing prosperity and enterprise, as well as of increased population and resources. A glance over the list of bills passed, will explain our meaning. It will there be seen that a large proportion of the whole number, are for Railways and other roads—Telegraph lines—Mining and Manufacturing Companies—and increase of Banking Capital. The latter, with some of the former, it is true, are reserved for Her Majesty's consideration; but the greater part of them will probably be sanctioned at no distant date.

There is nothing more common than for men in business to look back to some former period as much better than the present, and to think that commerce is daily becoming less profitable and more precarious, and in fact, that prosperity is disappearing from the country: no view can be more erroneous. There is probably twice the amount of business—take it altogether—doing in Canada in the year 1847, than there was ten years ago; and there can scarcely be a doubt that the present amount will again be doubled by 1857. Now, although the rate of profit may not keep pace with the ratio of increase, as indeed it ought not, for a large business should always be done at a less ratio of profit than a small one, yet the whole amount of profit, is, and indeed must be greatly increased, in order to support the greatly increased number of persons engaged in carrying on the business of the country. A particular year, it is true, may not prove profitable in some one, or even in all branches of business, but, upon the average, any period of years must greatly exceed any former similar period, both as to the amount of business done and the amount of profit realized by all concerned.

Not only, however, should the business increase, as is really the case, but the safety and facility of doing it should also annually increase, on account of the gradual accumulation of capital in the hands of farmers, mechanics, and traders; but this we fear is not found to be the case. Now, why is this most important element of improvement deficient? Simply, we think, because of the mania, we might almost call it, of overtrading. Almost every man is doing more than his means will warrant.

In Britain, France, Germany, &c., if a trader or mechanic makes money, the first thing he does (we are speaking generally and according to the best of our information) is to take the discounts on his purchases, i.e., to do his business on the best possible terms, buying for cash and keeping himself easy all the time. If he continue to make money, and he is then likely to do so in an increased ratio, he buys a piece of property and builds a house for himself, still free of debt, and all the time his business may be nearly stationary as to amount, or if it have increased the increase is gradual, healthy, and easily managed. In Canada, on the contrary, if a trader or master mechanic makes a little money, his first object is to double the amount of his business, an operation which stretches his credit as far or farther than at first; makes him purchase at as great a disadvantage as when he began,

almost without means, and keeps him constantly in what is familiarly termed hot water. Nay, he usually buys property on credit and builds a fine new dwelling house and shop out of his creditors property. When things are at this point, if every thing go on prosperously, and if he do not continue to add new branches of business or extend the old, he may possibly, and with a great struggle, get through, but if a hard year come, if he make any of the ordinary losses in business, or if any of his creditors are restive, he must either compound with them or go into bankruptcy, when his estate will be found to realize little or nothing.

Let this great error of overtrading be corrected, and there remains no serious bar to rapidly increasing prosperity. The Bible declares, with great accuracy and distinctness, that "they who make haste to be rich, fall into a snare and pierce themselves through with many sorrows." When will men believe in the Bible in such a sense as to act on its precepts?

#### THE NEW IMMIGRANT SHEDS.

(From the same.)

The Hospitals at Point St. Charles have been so far completed as to permit of the removal to them of a considerable part of the sick from the old immigrant sheds during the past week. The hospitals consist of nineteen buildings, 100 feet long by 30 wide each, and one 200 feet by 20; the whole being arranged in seven rows of 300 feet long each, besides the intervals between the buildings, with a street between each row. The nineteen buildings which are thirty feet wide, are the hospitals, and contain three rows of single beds: this allowing about 16 inches between each bed, gives about 32 beds to the row or 96 beds in each—making room for nearly 1800 patients in the meantime. But, as it is desirable to dispense with the centre row of beds as soon as possible, the permanent hospital room should only be calculated at 1200. In these buildings the arrangements for ventilation are complete, there being not only a window opposite almost every bed, but a door for every four beds in the length, besides a ventilating roof, and arrangements to raise boards all round both at the top and bottom of the wall in case of need. These facilities for ventilation will, no doubt, contribute greatly both to the safety of the patients and their attendants. The buildings 20 feet wide is divided into store rooms and eating and sleeping rooms for the Doctors, Orderlies, Nurses, &c., in order that they may not be constantly exposed to infection as heretofore, even when taking their meals.

#### PASSION FOR FARMING.

A few years ago, a tiller of the soil was but little more esteemed than the tiller of a canal boat. To sow wheat and raise carrots, was not only ungentle, but "coarse and muscular." Within a short time, however, a passion for short horned Durhams and Mangel Wurtzel has broken out even among our more wealthy citizens, that's perfectly refreshing to common sense, and will prove of incalculable benefit to the country.

A man of fortune, now-a-days, looks upon himself as a snob, if he can't boast of one of the best regulated farms in the state, and a field of wheat that will turn in 70 bushels to an acre. Time was, when people boasted of their "turn outs" and equipages—their gold laced niggers and 1500 dollar carriages, but that time is gone, especially with our millionaires. To pride yourself on such things now, is to proclaim you one of the "upper vulgar."

To be considered an aristocrat in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, you must be able to boast of bulls, not bullion—of imported stock, instead of railroad. For one, we rejoice at this change. All that farmers needed to make it one of the most tempting, as well as profitable employments in the world, was fashion, and all it wanted to make it fashionable, was for our wealthy men to take hold of it. The good effect of the change already begins to show itself in every county in the state. Till men of fortune and study took to the plough, thirty and forty bushels of oats to an acre were quite a good yield. Last year, however, many of our farmers run their crops up to ninety and one hundred bushels; one gentleman, indeed, got as high as one hundred and twelve bushels to an acre! Formerly yellow corn, in the best hands, would give fifty bushels to an acre; last season it