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THE AUSTRALIAN PREMIER.

The speech of Sir Edmund Barton, Premier of the Australian Commonwealth, at a dinner in his honor given by the Board of Trade at the Toronto Club, was quite noteworthy. It was as British in tone as the most exuberant Imperialist could desire and at the same time as democratic and as firm in the assertion of the rights and interests of colonials as the most liberal Canadian could have been. While declining to explain what had been done and said at the Colonial Conference in London, he yet stated that what each delegate said showed that there is existing, between the colonies and the mother country "an understanding—under any name you like—which seems to be a practical federation." He approved the idea of outlying portions so adjusting duties as that the inflow should be "as much as possible from the United Kingdom, and as little as possible from the men of whom we know nothing." Another thing he stated most strongly, and we are mistaken if there are not many Canadians who feel as he does about it, "I do not like the name colonists," said Sir Edmund Barton; and in another place, "I do not like the terms colonies and dependencies." These very terms seem to imply to the mind of John Bull that a colonist must be a sort of inferior person, to be patronized and to be treated with highly distant civility.

THE MANITOBA PROSPECT.

Amplly favorable is the prospect for this year's grain harvest in the province of Manitoba. Indeed it is not easily possible to overstate the richness of the wheat promise. From almost every part comes accounts of the luxuriant yield. As to the harvest weather and the success of efforts made to save the great quantity of grain, there is room for distrust at certain points. Cold rain here, slight frost there, are disturbing features of the latest telegrams. But the estimates have been made by people in the province fairly able to judge that from sixty to seventy per cent. of the wheat is surely saved in good condition. If the remaining thirty or forty per cent. is injured by frost, or sprouting, or otherwise, there remains the satisfaction of an enormous yield of sound wheat. Statistics of quantities are not just now feasible; the big yields we hear of are possibly rare for the average yield is handsome enough. But the fact appears to be that another banner year has come for the wheat fields of Manitoba.

In the Territories, too, the prospect is good. A despatch of 1st September says that the weather around Edmonton has been favorable for ripening. Light rains had fallen, but no grain has been lodged or any frost visitation. "Cutting is now general. Barley is practically all harvested. Wheat is all ripe. Oats are being cut, and all is nearly ripe at least it is safe from frost. Quality of grain is unsurpassed and the yield will be large."

A loud call has been heard for farm laborers by the thousand from other places to help in harvesting the Manitoba grain, and many have gone. But we learn this week that people in Winnipeg, for instance, are saying the laborers are still few, and wondering why more people from other provinces have not heeded the call. We can give them one reason. It is that not a few of those who went to Manitoba last year as harvesters were badly used by the farmers. We can tell them of parties induced to go from Ontario and by a miscalculation of the Government or the railway reaching there too early, who were not paid the wages they had been led to expect. We can tell them of a party of six from Nova Scotia, discovered near Napinka without money or food, who declared that the farmers had "jewed" them by offering them only \$25 per month instead of \$35, and then would only let them work on fine days. The Manitoba farmer may be a close-fisted hand at bargains of this sort, but he is liable to do great harm to himself and his province by such parsimonious tactics. We can only hope that the great blessing of an ample harvest, saved in good order, may be vouchsafed to this great and prosperous province.

THE MILLINERY OPENINGS.

Things in general could not well have been more propitious for the Fall millinery openings in Montreal and Toronto this week than has actually proved the case. Beautiful weather, the cheapest railroad rates on record, and, in the case of Toronto, the promise of an extra fine Exhibition, combined to bring together un-