

subject. He informed that in 1853, the late visited Valenciennes, upon which was in of land under cultivation, and the largely the soil since beet article of extended

wheat (2½ statute yielded only 19 hec- (53) produced 27 hec-

there were only 4,202 there are now (1853)

cattle in the district formerly, to 40,656 in

ette of the 25th of many parts of the country, if not quite the percentage gradually be the percentage representation of our sugar production of beet-root years was in 1868, 841,000 tons; in 1870, meeting of the English on the 8th July last, the Chairman, stated of sugar imported was the entire consumption in and native grown, and imported was equal support of foreign wheat. In other countries, why not a branch of industry is surely nothing in the Canada which would forbid, if properly tried, to prove eminently superior to the best of our would earnestly recommend, and would suggest consideration of this Board, and of the country.

feature in the agricultural Province is the cultivation this year, although its merits entitle it. There is every probability that it will be a remunerative one, and to some extent of great amount of manual manipulation is being with, and labor-saving simplifying its manufacture. I am informed that a manufactured in Woodstock a revolution in the cultivation of this Province of our resources are but beginning to be, where the spirit of its to exert its energy of the question of the Canada and its position in civilization, it surely becomes and direct attention to the per se assistance the ther. Let no one calling the name of a Canadian endeavor to contribute to that name to be respected, could any act of mine, well knowing its feebleness, of grass to grow before, I shall be satisfied my constant efforts ask you, gentlemen, to subjects to which I have consideration, and by encourage the expenditure to general cultivation to drop up our national address at Toronto my presence to you to an elaborate history of the progress and over which I have had twelve months to prepare, and so much better already its course from the to the state tree it not only to add that its progress uninterrupted, and it future in our hands from 1812,765. The Denison in a satisfactory manner, the Association holding of a guarantee for a sum, with interest at eight

The Veterinary School of Toronto, which is affiliated with this association, is, I am happy to say, under the able management of Dr. Smith, progressing in an extremely satisfactory manner; the number of pupils entered for the course of instruction next session is thirty second and third year students, besides a number of agricultural students, and the number who have graduated since 1866 is upwards of thirty. There is a prospect that, in a short time, every part of the country will be supplied with an educated, intelligent, and skilled class of veterinary surgeons, and that the care of the sickness and disease which from time to time assail our stock, now so much improved and valuable, will pass out of the hands of the country horse-doctor into those of the competent surgeon. With reference to the Entomological Society, our grant to that society is still continued with, I believe, the best possible results. The objects of that society being so similar to our own, they deserve every encouragement at our hands.

As to the question of the Government assuming the direction and control of this association, I have only to endorse the conclusive arguments of my colleague, Mr. Christie, against such course. I think it would be extremely injudicious for the Government to interfere in that way, and cannot see that any possible good would result from it; in fact, I would strongly deprecate any action on their part in that way.

In the department of arts and manufactures I am glad to see that the progress is commensurate with the requirements of the country. Every branch has been fully and more than fairly represented, and we may well feel proud that Canada can boast of possessing such a body of artisans and mechanics as those who have contributed specimens of their handiwork at this exhibition. This is particularly noticeable in the department of agricultural implements, a trade which is rapidly assuming vast proportions, raising up huge factories, and giving employment to large numbers of our people. The labor question always one of great difficulty, has lately so shaped itself as to tax all the ingenuity of our inventors and mechanics to devise expedients to enable the farmer who does not possess the necessary help within himself at all successfully to carry on his business. Immediately that a really good labor-saving machine makes its appearance in the market, the demand exceeds the supply, and thus two classes are benefitted, without the third, the laboring class, being in the least degree injured. In all the other manufactures of the country we find the same healthy tone. New industries are continually springing up, and our immense facilities for manufacturing—such as water-power, of which we possess an inexhaustible supply—and the rest being more and more developed. Our position in the geographical situation of the earth seems to point us out as a large manufacturing people, and by uniting the two branches of agriculture and arts gives us a sure pledge for the future.

You will unite with me, gentlemen, in reverentially thanking a beneficent Providence for his many mercies towards us during the past year. Our fields have literally, when tickled with the plough, laughed into the harvest. We may safely call this a good year, and following upon a comparatively poor one, it is all the more acceptable. In the section of the country which I more particularly represented, last season was an unusually dry one, and in the month of August, 1870, a disastrous fire swept over a large area, consuming everything before, and leaving behind but a weary waste of blackened stumps and charred chimneys to point where the hard won home of the forest pioneer had once stood. Houses, barns, fences and crops, and in a few instances human life. In a short hour or two all passed away as though they had never been. The sufferings of the people, now made orphans, was something terrible. Deprived of their little all they knew not what to do; but the hand of charity of their fellow citizens was an open one, and almost immediately subscriptions came pouring in until they reached something over \$70,000. The Government of the Province, voting \$25,000, and that of Quebec \$3,000. The whole of the amount has been distributed to the sufferers as appears by the report of the committee, a copy of which has been sent to each subscriber. The report speaks for itself, but I may add that, thanks to those liberal donations, to the recuperative farmers, to the people themselves, the blight that has recovered from the blow, and out of evil much good has come. We may congratulate ourselves, gentlemen, upon the result of this year's exhibition, and point to it

as an indication of the generally healthy state of the country. It is said that Kingston is too far east for the holding of a completely successful exhibition, but certainly that statement has not been sustained by what we have seen during the last few days. But even if it were true, that would be no reason to abandon our present system. Our exhibitions are intended to be, so to speak, camps of instruction, designed to show to the farmers and mechanics of every section of the Province all that was best in the several branches of industry. To do that effectually, and really to carry out the spirit of our organization we should as far as possible bring our exhibition within the reach of all. As a rule it is more equitable to require the exhibitor and prospective prize taker to follow our exhibition, than to expect the mere spectator to do so. That question, however, is in your hands and it is for you to express an opinion.

Gentlemen farmers and mechanics of Canada, blessed with free institutions, living under the freest constitution in the world, the destinies of your country are in your own hands. Yours is the task under Divine Providence of raising her to the level of the highest or sinking her to the lowest ranks of civilization. Nature has endowed her with all the necessary requisites. Let art step in, and complete the picture of a prosperous, happy, and God-fearing people in a peaceful and plentiful land. Fill up the vacant gaps in your own sections and then when the proper time comes the rich broad plains of the western prairies lie waiting to absorb your surplus population—a place where under the broad aegis of the old-time flag your sons and daughters may perpetuate British pluck, energy and institutions, and form a connecting link in that chain of peoples who, hailing from the glorious trio of sea-girt islands, have always pushed to the front wherever the rights of liberty, justice and equality were imperilled.

Miscellaneous.

HYGIENE OF THE FARM.

We extract the following from the *Canadian Illustrated News*, published in Montreal. We think this about as sensible an article on smoking as we have seen:

PEOPLE WHO SHOULD NOT SMOKE.

In an article on the medical aspect of smoking tobacco, Dr. E. B. Gray asks, in the *Food Journal*:

"Is smoking injurious?" This is an every day question apt to be put by patients to their doctors. Like most broad questions of the kind, it involves far too many considerations to admit of being answered by a plain yes or no. A medical man, who has long been a moderate smoker and watched the effect of the habit on himself and others, here offers what he believes to be the true answer to the question.

First of all, there must be an understanding about the quality of tobacco to be smoked. Bad—namely, rank, quickly intoxicating, and prestaturing tobacco (certain kinds of slag and even distillate) must always be injurious. Few can smoke them at all—none, habitually at least—with impunity. So too with regard to quantity, even good tobacco, smoked to excess will to a certainty be injurious to the smoker, sooner or later, in some way or other. Of the various evil effects of excessive smoking, more will be said presently.

Next, as to the smokers. There are people to whom any tobacco, however smoked, is simply poison, causing, even in small doses, vomiting, pain, and alarming prostration. Such people never get seasoned to its effects, even after repeated trials; and if they are wise, they will forever let it alone. They will display still further wisdom by not presuming to make laws for others who have not the same idiosyncrasy.

No one can enjoy smoking, or smoke with impunity, when out of health. The phrase "out of health," though it may sound vague, is definite enough to frame a general rule. At the same time, it is useful to know what, if any, are the particular disorders and conditions of health in which tobacco does special harm. As far as the writer's knowledge goes, these have never been specified by medical writers as clearly as desirable.

To begin, a man with a bad appetite will, if he smokes, most assuredly eat still less—a noteworthy fact for smokers or others recovering from wasting illness or "off their feed" from whatever cause. This effect of tobacco, by the way, while an evil to the sick man who

cannot eat enough, becomes a boon to the starved man who cannot get enough to eat; and ample illustration of this was furnished among the French and German soldiers in the recent war. Again no man should smoke who has a dirty tongue, a bad taste in his mouth, or a weak and disordered digestion. In any such case, he cannot relish his tobacco. It should be a golden rule with smokers that the pipe or cigar which is not smoked with relish had better not be smoked at all. Indigestion in every shape is aggravated by smoking, but most especially that form of it commonly known as a tonic and accompanied with flatulence. Diarrhoea, as a rule, is made worse by smoking.

One of the commonest and earliest effects of excessive or untimely smoking is to make the hand shake. This gives a cue to another class of persons who ought not to smoke—persons, namely, who have weak, unsteady nerves, and suffer from giddiness, confusion of sight, tremulous hands, tendency to stammer, or any such symptoms. And if tobacco does harm in mere functional weakness, still less allowable is it in actual organic disease of the system; as, for instance, where there exists any degree of paralysis or other sign of degenerative change in the brain or spinal cord. The improper use of tobacco does beyond question somehow interfere with due nutrition of nerve substance. An illustration of this familiar to oculists and medical men, is the so-called tobacco amaurosis, a failure of vision occurring in excessive smokers from mal-nutrition of the retina. Another class of persons who ought not to smoke, are those who have weak or unsteady circulations, and complain of such troubles as palpitation, cardiac pain, intermittent pulse, habitually cold hands and feet, or chronic languor.

Lastly, there is reason for believing that the habitual use of tobacco is likely to retard the due growth and development of the body. If so, no one should become a smoker until he is well past the period of puberty. Boys, moreover, have no excuse for smoking, for they are spared the hard wear and tear of adult life.

Now, after eliminating those who from idiosyncrasy cannot, and those who from bodily ailment or from tender years should not smoke, there will still always be a large residuum of happy folk who can smoke, enjoy smoking, and are indeed the better for it. These are they who use tobacco without abusing it—use it, that is to say in moderate quantity, in due season, and honestly for the sake of comfort which it gives them—a comfort every bit as legitimate as that which drinkers of tea, coffee, or wine extract in each case from their favorite beverage.

A LITTLE SERMON.

At a railroad station, not long ago, one of the beautiful lessons which all should learn was taught in such a natural, simple way, that none could forget it. It was a bleak, snowy day; the train was late, the ladies' room dark and smoky, and the dozen women, old and young, who sat waiting impatiently, all looked cross, low-spirited or stupid.

Just then a forlorn old woman, shaking with the palsy, came in with a basket of little wares for sale, and went about mutely offering them to the sitters. Nobody bought anything, and the poor old soul stood binking at the door a minute, as if reluctant to go out into the bitter storm again. She turned presently, and poked about the room as if trying to find something, and then a pale lady in black, who lay as if asleep on the sofa, opened her eyes, saw the old woman, and instantly asked in a kind tone, "Have you lost anything, ma'am?"

"No, dear, I'm looking for the heating place, to have a warm fore I go out ag'in. My eyes are poor, and I don't seem to find the furnace nowhere."

"Here it is," and the lady led her to the steam radiator, placed a chair, and showed her how to warm her feet.

"Well, now, ain't that nice?" said the old woman, spreading her ragged mittens to dry. "Thankee, dear; this is prop'r comfortable, ain't it?" I'm most froze to-day, bein' lame and achin'; and not sellin' much made me sort of down-hearted."

The lady smiled, went to the counter, bought a cup of tea and some sort of food, carried it herself to the old woman, and said as respectfully and kindly as if the poor soul had been dressed in silk and fur, "Won't you have a cup of hot tea? It's very comforting such a day as this."

"Sakes alive! Do they give tea at this depot?" said the old lady, in a tone of innocent surprise, that made a smile go round the room, touching the glumest face like a streak of sunshine. "Well, now, this is just lovely,"

added the old lady, sipping away with a relish. "That does warm my heart."

While she refreshed herself, telling her story meanwhile, the lady looked over the poor little wares in the basket, bought soap, pins and shoe-strings, and cheered the old soul by paying well for them.

As I watched her doing this, I thought what a sweet face she had, though I'd considered her rather plain before. I felt dreadfully ashamed of myself that I had grimly shaken my head when the basket was offered to me; and, as I saw a look of interest, sympathy and kindness come into the faces around me, I did wish that I had been the magician to call it out. It was only a kind word and a friendly act; but somehow it brightened that dingy room wonderfully. It changed the faces of a dozen women; and I think it touched a dozen hearts, for I saw many eyes follow the plain, pale lady with sudden respect; and when the old woman, with many thanks, got up to go, several persons beckoned to her and bought something, as if they wanted to repair their negligence.

There were no gentlemen present to be impressed by the lady's kind act; so it was not done for effect, and no possible reward could be received for it, except the thanks of a poor old woman. But that simple little charity was as good as a sermon, and I think each traveller went on her way better for that half-hour in the dreary room.—S. S. Workman.

A Scotch agriculturist says he has long been of the opinion that the ball smut in wheat is a fungus propagated by adhering to the seed, and unless this fungus is destroyed before being sown, all the grains infected by it are sure to produce diseased ears.

THE SICK ROOM.

A sick room is no place for curiosity. If no good word can be said, or kind service can be rendered in a sick and dying room, it is the last place to which one should go as a mere spectator. Every new face, the tread of every uncalculated footstep, the demands upon the air for breath, the breathing of such as must be in attendance, is an injury in sickness, and especially when debility is great. Nine out of ten feel as if it was an act of rude neglect, if they are not invited in to a sick room, and a direct insult if told that they must not go. Some persons go in to a sick room, and sit hour after hour with eyes fixed on the sick person, occasionally whispering to some equally indiscreet one that may chance to be nigh. This is absolutely intolerable. Others will hang about the door and peep at the sufferer, as they would steal a look, at some show. This, too, is intolerable.

Another practice when the patient is very sick, is that of feeling the pulse, looking at the finger nails, examining the feet, with sundry others, all which are accompanied with a very wise look, a sigh and a whisper. All this, too, is intolerable.

A sad mistake common in a dying chamber is to suppose that the dying person has lost perception and sensibility, because unable to speak. So far from this being the case, it is believed that the perceptions are more keen and delicate than when in health. Always let it be remembered, in a dying room, that the departing friend may hear all, and see all when the persons present will little suspect it. How important that everything in a dying room should be made what it ought to be, for the salvation and quiet of one who is being broken away from all dear on earth, and approaching all that is serious in eternity. The sacredness and stillness of the scene should be disturbed with great care and caution.

One word more in regard to a sick room. A very great mistake is made in the length of prayers, and loud and excited speaking in prayer in the sick room. This is an error too common, and often the occasion of great suffering to the sick and dying.—*Reformed Church Messenger*.

INTERESTING EXPERIMENT.

Two hundred pounds of earth was dried in an oven, and afterwards put into a large earthenware vessel; the earth was then moistened with rain water and a willow tree, weighing 5 pounds was placed therein. During the space of five years the earth was carefully watered with rain water, or pure water; the willow grew and flourished; and to prevent the earth being mixed with fresh earth or dust blown into it by the winds, it was covered by a metal plate, perforated with a great number of small holes, sufficient for the free admission of air only. After growing in the earth for five years, the willow tree was removed, and found to weigh 169 lbs. and about 3 ounces; the leaves which fell from the tree every autumn were not included in this weight. The earth was then removed from the vessel, again dried in the oven, and afterwards weighed; it was discovered to have lost only about 2 ounces of its original weight; thus 164 lbs. of lignin, or woody fibre, bark, 100 s. &c. were certainly produced; but from what source?—*Downing's Horticulturist*, 1850.