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NATIONAL COLONIZATION

Under the Patronage of Rev. Father Labelle Established in 1884, under the Act of Quebec, 32 Vict., Chap. 36, for the Benefit of the Diocean Societies of Colonization of the Province of Quebec.

The 17th Monthly Drawing will take place On WEDNESDAY, November 21st, 1888.

4t 2 o'clock, p.m

PRIZES VALUE, \$50,000. Capital Prize-1 Real Estate worth \$5,000.00

LIST OF PRIZES.

2307 Prizes worth \$50,000.00.

TICKETS \$1.00.

Offers are made to all winners to pay the prizes cash, less a commission of 10 per cent
Winners' names not published unless specially authorized.

DRAWINGS ON THE THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

S. E. LEFEBVRE, Secretary, Offices-19 St. Janes St., Montreal, Ca.

J. J. McLELLAN,

117 Argyle Street, Halifax.

Headquarters for WRAPPING PAPER PAPER BAGS, TWINES, &c.

HOME AND FARM.

The Annual Meeting of the Halifax County Agricultural Society was held in the Provincial Library, on the 6th inst, W C. Silver, President, in the Chair. The publication of a practical work, adapted for general use, on the system of agriculture, suitable for Nova Scotia, was brought forward as a desideratum. We certainly think it would be an object towards which the Society might, as suggested, probably afford aid by an appropriation of funds and otherwise.

The suggestion of holding a joint Provincial and Dominion Exhibition this year fell through, owing to the unexpected lapse of the Dominion Government grant. We hope this project will be entertained for next year, and

ernment grant. We hope this project will be entertained for next year, and that the Dominion aid may be forthcoming.

The Society had under consideration the destructiveness of the English sparrow, which, it appears, (no doubt, as was observed, unintentionally,) comes under a Nova Scotian Act for the protection of small birds, supposed to be useful. There can be no question, we take it, that the sparrow is a nuisance. Nature provides in different climates for such fauna as are incidental to natural conditions, and therefore beneficial. The check of one species or the undus multiplication of another is also incidental to the scheme of Providence. Canada is provided by nature with her own birds, whose natural operations agricultural science now decides to be an aid to the farmer more than compensatory of the damage they effect. Our indigenous birds ought therefore to be protected, but the sparrow is a ruthless invader—he is far too tough a customer to be called an exotic—and his destruction ought to be accomplished if still possible. Those who, from a foolish sentiment — for there is nothing engaging about him — first imported the bird, committed as detrimental an error as those who first let loose the rabbit post in Australia. Passer delendum est / Let the sparrow

Again and again we insist on the points that Nova Scotia does not produce the butter she ought to produce, either in quantity or quality, especially the latter; and again and again we point to the advantage our noble Province has in being at the door, so to speak, of the English market. In this connection the London Canadian Gazette at least does its duty from the other side of the Atlantic, and endeavors to wake us up. Here is what it

says, and it is well worth our serious attention:—
"If in regard to cheese as a staple article of commerce, Canada has little to learn from her competitors, the same cannot be said in regard to butter. In that product Canada is lamentably behind, and unless speedy steps be taken she must soon fall out of the contest altogether. In cheese the percentage of increase in Canada's total export has, during the last half decade, been 42.5; in butter the percentage of decrease has been no less than 62.7. The record of British imports of Canadian butter is no less unsatisfactory. In 1876 the United Kingdom imported 98,579 cwts. of butter from Canada, and in 1886 only 31,522 cwts., a decrease of 67,057 cwts. or over 68 per cent. The United States has similarly been losing her hold upon British markets—her decrease in the same period was 75,741 cwts., or 64 per cent. On the other hand, Holland, whence Britain now receives now by far her largest supply of butter and margarine, increased her exports to Britain in the same period by 791,366 cwts., or 196 per cent.; while Denmark showed an increase of 195,361 cwts., or over 400 per cent. It is true that in this comparison Canada suffers from the fact that her exports to Britain in 1876 were exceptionally large, and it is also to be noted that in 1887 she exported to Britain about 1,500 cwts. more than in 1886; but nevertheless there is only too much justice in the remark which Mr. Bear makes in his pamphlet, that the diminished British imports of butter from Canada 'seem to indicate that production relatively to population has decreased,' while he is not far wrong when he adds that the general quality of Canadian butter now reaching British markets 'is not good enough to command a ready market.'

Canada has abundance of cheap land and cheap food. Why then should

she fall behind in this part of the commerce of the dairy? The answer is only too obvious. It is because her product lacks 'quality.' 'All the eminent agricultural authorities who have visited Canada are of opinion that if the farmers were willing to take the necessary trouble, there is no reason whatever why Canada should not participate to a great extent in the benefits of this important trade'—so said the high commissioner in his last annual report. 'It is, of course, to the inferior quality of the butter that the lack of expansion in the Canadian trade is due'-added Mr John Dyke in his report; and all other practical authorities say much the same. While Denmark, Holland and Sweden have been marching ahead, Canada has been marking time, and she is marking time still. It is true that in this she is only following to a large extent the example of the Mother Country.

At the Dairy Show meetings it was repeatedly admitted that very little progress is being made in respect to the British production of butter, and the same may be stated of Canada. Shall it be Canada's permanent record this stagnation in the face of increasing progress on the part of her Euro pean rivals? For the credit of Canada, we hope not. The question is, in truth, the question of all others which Canada must face, and happily there are signs that her public men are not altogether forgetful of its importance. On this side of the Atlantic, for some time past, no effort has been spared by the representatives of the Dominion to arouse Canadian producers to the imperative need for prompt and united action to 'level up' the quality of the Canadian article. Year after year the same fact may be found insisted upon in the reports of the British agents of the Dominion Government, to be found buried away in the blue books of the department of agriculturewould that some means were devised of bringing these valuable reports to the direct notice of those they most concern—the Canadian producers.—But still, little or nothing has been done; and while Canada's export client trade is progressing by leaps and bounds under the stimulus of a health