



"I'M SORRY."

There is much that makes me sorry as I journey down earth's way,
And I seem to see more pathos in poor human lives each day,
I'm sorry for the strong, brave men who shield the weak from harm,
But who in their own troubled hour find no protecting arm.
I'm sorry for the victors who have earned success, to stand
As targets for the arrows shot by envious failure's hand;
And I'm sorry for the generous hearts who freely shared
Their wine,
But drink alone the gall of tears in fortune's drear decline.
I'm sorry for the souls who build their own fame's funeral pyre,
Derided by the scornful throng, like ice-deriding fire;
And I'm sorry for the conquering ones who know not sin's defeat,
But daily tread down fierce desire 'neath scorched and bleeding feet.
I'm sorry for the anguished hearts that break with passion's strain,
But I'm sorrier for the poor starved souls that never know love's pain,
Who hunger on through barren years, not tasting joys they crave;
For sadder far is such a lot than weeping o'er the grave.
I'm sorry for the souls that come unwelcomed into birth;
I'm sorry for the unloved old who cumber up the earth;
I'm sorry for the suffering poor in life's great maelstrom hurled;
In truth I'm sorry for them all who make this toiling world.
But underneath whate'er seems sad and is not understood
I know there lies, hid from our sight, a mighty germ of good;
And this belief stands close by me, my sermon, motto, text,—
The sorriest things in this life will seem grandest in the next.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox.



A LARGE consignment of Canadian horses recently sold in London, Eng., at an average price of twenty-eight guineas each. Other shipments of good stock are in prospect, and equally good prices are expected.

THE Canadian Institute is busy arranging for the expected visit of the Royal Society in 1897. They have applied to the Federal Government for an appropriation of \$20,000, and their request has been favorably received. Other public bodies will also subscribe to the expense fund.

THE statue of Sir John A. Macdonald erected at Montreal was unveiled on the 6th ultimo with every demonstration of respect to the

memory of the noted leader. The ceremony of unveiling was performed by His Excellency Lord Aberdeen, and speeches were delivered by members of the Dominion and Provincial Cabinets and other distinguished citizens, Hon. G. E. Foster, Minister of Finance, delivering the set oration for the occasion.

THE strides made by the fraternal societies of Canada has been shown very strikingly by the erection of the large Forester's Hall, the foundation of which was laid by His Excellency the Governor-General. The structure will be imposing, and will form one of the architectural features of Toronto, as well as being a substantial proof of the stability and success of one of the most progressive of the Canadian fraternal associations.

AN Order-in-Council has been passed reducing the duty on eggs from five cents a dozen to three cents a dozen. The tariff, as adopted last year, provided that whenever it should appear that eggs may be imported into the United States from Canada at a rate not exceeding three cents a dozen the import duty into Canada shall be three cents a dozen. The United States import duty is only three cents; the Canadian duty now has been lowered to that figure. British Columbia is the only Province that imports eggs largely. Its importations last year were 78,853 dozens.

THE latest reports by the Canadian Pacific railway wires from Manitoba and the Northwest, also from the Western American States, are to the effect that the wheat and other crops never looked better at this time of the year; that the damage to wheat by the late frosts would not exceed 1 to 1½ per cent., and to oats and barley 5 per cent.; that there has been a general rain over the entire Province of Manitoba and west to Moose Jaw, and that with warm weather crops should be headed out by the end of June, which would be two weeks earlier than usual.

ONE of the most remarkable conventions ever held in Canada was that of the National Woman's Council, presided over by Her Excellency the Countess of Aberdeen. The aims and objects of the Council have been widely circulated by the press and have met with general approval. It is not a "Woman's Rights" Society, but an organization of women

for the bettering of woman's condition in the various sphere in which she is engaged. The business-like way in which a difficult programme was carried out during a number of days, spoke volumes for the tact and executive ability of the noble president and the committee.

In an interesting paper, in his annual report, Professor Saunders says that there is no pleuro-pneumonia in Canada as far as is known or can be traced. He says that it is most unfortunate that many intelligent persons should confound this disease with tuberculosis. The former is essentially a lung disease, under the influence of which the lungs rapidly lose their power of discharging the natural functions, so that the infected animal dies. The latter, tuberculosis, is not essentially a lung disease. Out of 74 post-mortem examinations made, in 26, or two-thirds of the whole, no disease whatever could be detected in the lungs, nor were their functions interfered with in any way, the disease being confined to some of the other glands or organs of the body. Tuberculosis is identical with consumption in the human family, and exists to a greater or less extent in every country where cattle are kept in a state of domestication.

It is not often that the newspaper men of the Dominion meet to ventilate grievances, or to take concerted action in the interests of their craft. But recently, however, a meeting was held at Toronto, at which three interesting resolutions were passed: "That the Canadian Press Association views with alarm the decision recently given by the Quebec courts in the case of Pelland v. Graham, in which the principle is laid down that newspaper publishers are legally responsible for matters that may be contained even in admittedly fair reports of public meetings; that it regards such a decision as a serious menace to the liberties of the press and to the public interests, and as a check upon the exposure of wrong-doing, and that it heartily endorses the decision of the defendant in this case, the publisher of the *Montreal Star*, to carry an appeal if necessary to the highest court in the realm." * * * "That a solicitor be employed to defend actions of libel against members of the Association." * * * And "That the members of the Association hold an annual excursion through the most picturesque portions of Quebec and the Maritime Provinces."

THE distribution of seeds at the Experimental Farm at Ottawa this season has been unprecedentedly large. The total number of applications received was 31,145. Of these 26,033 have been supplied, leaving 5,109 to whom no samples could be sent. In carrying out this distribution, the plan adopted was to file the applications in the order in which they were received, and it was found that the number received up to the 15th of April was sufficient to exhaust the entire stock of available material. Those who applied after that date have been notified that the stock of material was exhausted in supplying the applications received earlier than theirs, that their applications had been entered, and should a similar distribution be authorized next year, that they would be the first attended to. To supply the 26,036 samples sent out this spring has required 30 tons 108 pounds of material. The samples have consisted of wheat, 3,251; oats, 10,269; barley, 4,639; peas, 2,123; corn, 1,707; potatoes, 4,017. These have been distributed by provinces as follows: Ontario, 5,814; Quebec, 14,209; New Brunswick, 1,687; Prince Edward Island, 785; Nova Scotia, 2,160; British Columbia, 183; Manitoba, 497; North-West Territories, 692.