

getting lower profits, but are obliged to be content with a smaller volume of business. The Government finances have suffered accordingly. The expectations about the North-West were such that in 1882 the Finance Minister calculated on being able to reduce the public debt to \$100,000,000 within ten years, and on having a superabundant revenue with which to carry on public works thereafter. As it is, the net debt is now \$250,000,000, and there have been deficits lately. It is necessary alike for Government and for people to brace themselves for a long period of economical living.

In 1802 over a million bushels of wheat and 28,000 barrels of flour were exported from Quebec. No doubt some of it was from the United States. The average exportation from 1800 to 1824 was 193,000 bushels and 23,000 barrels. In 1825 Canadian wheat was admitted into England at a lower rate of duty than foreign. The so-called Colonial Policy, whereby colonial products received preferential treatment in the markets of the Mother Country while British manufactures received like treatment in colonial markets, was then fairly established. But the letters of Mr. Gamble and other Upper Canadians to Earl Grey twenty years later show that the arrangement did not work to the satisfaction of

Canadians, who even at that day desired to have factories of their own. We know from their speeches in Parliament that it was denounced by English free traders as a bad thing for the Mother Country. Notwithstanding Mr. Lowther's agitation, it is hardly likely that modern democratic England will go back to a system which the England of fifty years ago grew tired of and repealed. The Canadian farmer, in short must look to himself and himself alone for salvation. The depression afflicting him afflicts farmers everywhere. In Ontario, with its fertile soil and thrifty people, the state of affairs is not so bad as in many other agricultural countries. The depreciation in the value of land is less, for example, than in the rural parts of New York and, of course, much less than in those of New England. Economy, patience and the application of scientific methods, which we are glad to see the Patrons inculcating, are the only means of affording the farmer relief. There are no sovereign remedies or lightning cure-alls for the ailment. It has its origin in the new conditions created by modern science, and till the world has adjusted itself to them a permanent revival cannot be looked for, let quacks say what they will.

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### TO WILLIAM WILFRED CAMPBELL.

**I**N liquid majesty the long lakes lay,  
 And throbbed with slow susurrus to and fro;  
 And mystic murmurs and strange voices slow  
 Rose inarticulate from wave and bay.  
 With voiceless voices thus from day to day  
 The long lakes laughed or wept, yet none might know  
 The wondrous secrets that lay hid below  
 The breaker's thunder, or the hissing spray.  
 Till One arose, and with fine tuned ear  
 Heard sounds by mortals all unheard before;  
 And lingering long on cape, or crag, or shore,  
 Where, rolling up, the chiming water breaks,  
 He caught the meaning of their voices clear,  
 And sang the secrets of Canadian Lakes.

*Frank L. Pollock.*