THE ONTARIO WORKMAN.


Regent street of ${ }^{-S t}$ : 'Petorsburg) the cellars were flooded, chusing much'dam age to merchandise, stores, etc., and in the public" gardens: many trees were blown down or torn up the roots. All telegraphic communication with Cron stadt was for the time stopped. At Cronstadt the dooks were much damaged, and several barges were lost with all hands. As if the damage done by wiod and water was not sufficient another destructive element made it appearance-two great fires breaking ut in the suburbs, and lighting up the desolation that was being wrought West of the town an immense lucife match manufsctory was burnt to the ground, while on the northern side, and behind the fortress, a beautiful country bouse, the property of a rich merchant was destroyed by fire. On the follow ing morning the wind began to slacken and consequently the water to subside. Had the wiod continued for a few hour more the amount of damage to life and property must have been enormous.

CO-OPERATIVE FARMING.
Co-operative farming bas, it seems Iready commenced in the United States, and, so far, it is very successful. For instance, the best and principal part o the cheese produced in the country i made by the co-operative plan, whethe the famers sell their milk, or put in their milk and receive their pay in dividends when the cheese is sold, for both methods are adopted. Country merchants have now almost ceased to to buy cheose, and well it is that they bave done so, for they are without the proper means of taking care of it many of them are such poor busince men, or they have so little capital, that they cannot afford to pay what cheese worth; and formerly when they doal in it many of them failed. Butter i also made in factories in the same way and even when made in families it is bought by special dealors, who takei at the house and pay cash for it. This is of great advantage to the dairy farmer, for he is able to pay cash for whatever ho may need and he can trado where he likes. If progress is made with like success in this manner for a few years, the country merchant will buy neither fruit, hops, nor vogetables and will soll bat few groceries or far machinery, for these oan be bought' a they now are in many sections at wholesale, and at better prices than they now get in the retail way, and buyers can afford to pay better prices; for this way of doing business drops out, first, the country merchant; second, the small dealer, making two middlemen and, of course, their profits are saved to the farmer.

## CO-OPERATIVE LABOR

An apparently strong argument against the practicnbility of co-operation has been based on the alleged recent refusal of farm laborers in England to share expenses and profits with Mr Brand, who has figured in the varrativ as a liberal landowner dealing with im provident and ungrateful laborera. W
nom hent, from Gerald. Masge, .hat
other gide of tho story. Mr. Biond offered cach of the laboregrs, 48 sgon as he could raise £5-say $\$ 25$-and put it into his hands, a share in the farm in proportion to that sum. But the average wages of those laborers is only 12s. ur about three dollarsa week. The rent is. hulf a dollar, so that there are only two and a hulf dollars, or about thirtysix cents a day, left for the food, fuel, elothing, medical care, etc., otc., of the laborer and his family, tho averago number of the household being six. This is sir cents a day for oach. As might have been expected not one of the men had the $£ 5$ at the end of the year. It was as much as the whole earnings of ench of them for eight or ine weeks.
This proposal was certainly a cruel insult to the laborers, and its promulgatiou indicuted much contempt for the intelligence of tho, public who were gulled by the spurious character of the pretentious and hollow offer.

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