

effected so noiselessly and peacefully and was attended with so little sacrifice or expense, we find it difficult to realize that anything of considerable importance has taken place. If it had cost us more, it would have probably been more highly prized. This may in part account for the apparent lack of enthusiasm in the celebration of Dominion Day; but we believe it to be susceptible of a far more satisfactory explanation. Our people are outgrowing the pitiable kind of sports with which holidays of this kind have been heretofore celebrated. "Grinning through a collar," "Climbing the greased pole," and similar relics of barbarism, may have a charm for people in an infantile or semi-barbarous condition, but they are scarcely the thing for intelligent Canadians. Nor is it easy to convince them that there is any very close connection between the sentiment of loyalty, or feeling of patriotism, and the explosion of large quantities of gunpowder, and the firing of squibs and fire-crackers. The more intelligent people become, as a rule, the quieter and less demonstrative do they become. At least so it is in this northern part of the new world. With us there may be strength of conviction and depth of feeling, with very little manifestation of enthusiasm. A people more thoroughly loyal to the government under which they live, or more patriotic, than the Canadians are, we do not believe exists on the earth; but they claim the right to determine for themselves how, and on what occasions, their sentiments may be most appropriately manifested.

#### PROSPECTS OF HARVEST.

The state of the crops, always a matter of interest to an agricultural people at this season of the year, is naturally enough matter of more than ordinary solicitude at present. A short crop this year would be no ordinary calamity. Upon the character of the harvest we are chiefly dependent for the revival of trade

which is so deeply depressed. If we have a really good harvest and fairly remunerative prices next autumn, the cloud which has rested upon us will be lifted, and the sun of prosperity will shine upon us again; but a light crop and low prices would be disastrous in the extreme. It is matter, therefore, of devout thankfulness to the bountiful Giver of all good that there is every indication at present of an abundant harvest. The spring was later by a fortnight than usual, and in some parts of the country, at least, the drought in May and the early part of June became alarming; but more recently the rain has fallen in abundance, and the prospect now is that crops generally will be above the average yield.

#### ELECTION TRIALS.

The trial of elections has of late imposed such an enormous amount of extra labour upon the judges that it has been suggested that the judiciary should be reinforced. If every election, with rare exceptions, as at present, is to be protested, it must inevitably come to this. There is a limit to even a judge's capacity for labour; and no thoughtful person can have read the daily papers of late without coming to the conclusion that that point must be pretty nearly reached. But is this kind of thing to go on for ever? After the humiliating revelations which have been made during the last few months, is there not enough virtue and patriotism left in the country to put down and crush out those corrupt practices which make these trials a necessity? If the moral and religious men of the community would only take their proper share in election contests, and if, with an intelligent apprehension of the enormous criminality which attaches to all bribery and corruption, they would set their faces as a flint against everything of the kind, and make aspirants to parliamentary honours know that they would not be parties to it themselves nor tolerate any one who was, election protests