

fond recollections of earlier days, and joyous hearts over the reunion of old ties, let us grasp hand with a firmer grip and a deeper fervor, and as we look into each others faces may it be with eyes that speak again. How often at our family gatherings do we miss old and familiar faces? It cannot fail to be so here. Let us remember only their wise words and kindly acts. Our surroundings lead us to look back over the past and inquire into our growth and progress, and the work in which we have been engaged. We then turn our eyes to the future to get a view of that which lies before us, and as we get a faint idea of the vastness of the field, and realize how few are the laborers, we are led to ask, What can we do? But knowing the Great Master asks no more than we can accomplish by His help, we look about us for the duty of the present, and humbly and trustfully say, Lead on, Master. We have taught the farmers of this country that they can organize among themselves, and can wield an influence in their own behalf when united—something they were loath to believe. While the farmers have been gaining this knowledge, the politicians have learned the power of the united husbandman, and the dishonest ones among them are by no means comforted by the uneasiness among their old supporters. The sharper and swindler have also learned that the farmer is on the alert, and is not unwary game, though he is unwilling to give up the chase. There has also been kindled in the hearts of not a few a thirst for knowledge and an inspiration to work which augurs well for the future.

The work of the future: to place the farmer in his proper place in the social and political world by a very decided advance in his moral power and mental attainments. The first question here will be:—Does he not occupy his true place in the social circle or in commercial or political life? To this I would answer:—He does not. Why not? The usual answer that he is oppressed and ground down and denied his rights is simply twaddle, and I have no patience with it. It is true he is cheated in the commercial world, and gulled and despised by politicians. So is every other man who will put up with it. Mental and moral worth are self-buoyant, and rise like cream to the surface, and when coupled with strength of purpose mount up in spite of opposition and are veritably irrepressible in a free country like Canada. The fact that we find others ahead of us in the race of life is no reason why we should conclude that they have climbed into our place, and that the only way for us to rise is to oust them. The highway of advancement is broad enough for all to run, and our hope of ultimate success depends more on our own progress than