

and teach the laborer his responsibilities. If the agriculturists of this country were organized so as to act together, they could control and direct legislation, instead of parliament being composed of professional politicians and lawyers. You would have a fair representation of farmers in all our legislative bodies. In our agricultural education we are behind the age; we have not a school in the Maritime Provinces where a young man can enter and obtain that theoretical and practical education which is necessary to the fullest development of the agricultural resources of this country. As you are aware committees have been appointed from this Grange in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to interview their respective governments with reference to the establishment of an agricultural school and model or experimental farm, in a central locality for these provinces. I regret to say the result of that interview has not been very satisfactory. The best available educator we now have is the Grange. Scarcely twenty years have passed since the organization of the first Grange in America, and about twelve years since its introduction into this Dominion. It has been marvelously prosperous, and has far surpassed the most sanguine expectations of its immortal founders. In the Grange room, where patrons discuss agricultural topics, and where the results of experiments are carefully compared, we learn to profit by the experience of others, and are continually gaining new light, and skill, in our profession; whose mind sharpens mind, and numberless opportunities offered for the fullest development of the intellect, which is requisite to become a successful farmer. It is the duty of every farmer to become a member of our order; as such, they have equal rights and privileges. I would urge the members of the Grange, as a united brotherhood, to stand firmly together, and cordially support every enterprise undertaken for the general good of the patrons as a body. We have no sympathy with the patron who looks all to self, and is not prepared to make some sacrifice for our great brotherhood. Our aim is to use every honorable effort to benefit ourselves morally, socially and financially, and every brother and sister taking the obligation of the order is morally bound to exert themselves to this end. Ours is a social order: all can find something to enjoy. We discourage the principles which shut out woman from a knowledge of the mysteries. We open wide the doors and bid her welcome. The order of the patrons of husbandry is designed to strengthen fraternal ties by encouraging education and culture, advance to a higher state of perfection—the science of agriculture. We encourage the cultivation of fruit and flowers, by which we increase the attractions of home by adorning them with the beauties of nature. Labor clears the forest and makes the wilderness rejoice and bloom as the rose. Labor drives the plough, scatters the seed and reaps the harvest. Hundreds of the wealthy class labored in the field and kitchen in olden times, before folly superseded wisdom, and fashion drove economy and common sense off the track. The business of the Grange is based on co-operative principles. Without co-operation our order would never have been organized; without united effort we would fail to carry our purpose. All along the journey of life we find no place where we do not mutually need help. I know of no failure where the true principles of co-operation have been correctly applied. Every enterprise requiring the efforts of many must act on this principle or failure is the result. Thousands of dollars are saved annually by this organization, and a much larger amount might be saved by more economic management, co-operatively, upon more correct and improved business principles. In this country the rich are becoming richer and the poor poorer, and farmers should not lose sight of the fact that their lands and industry are taxed for the benefit of the moneyed class. We have the advantage of the Grange trust, the Mutual Aid and the Grange Wholesale Supply companies; a branch of the latter company has been established in this city under the able management of Brother John Burnes, for the benefit of patrons in the Maritime Provinces. Arrangements have been made with manufacturers and large wholesale dealers to furnish this house with goods at bottom prices, the patrons receiving those goods at same price with cost of handling and transit added. It has been liberally supported by members of the order since its establishment. The monthly sales have gradually increased, amounting to about \$42,000 for the first year, and consignments sold amount to about \$4,000, for which no commission has been charged. As this business is transacted on co-operative principles, permit me strongly to urge upon patrons the necessity of being prompt in their remittances for goods ordered, to enable the manager to purchase in the lowest markets for cash, the patrons receiving the benefits of such purchasers.

In conclusion, he who discharges his duty as a patron cultivates for himself and others the purest traits of manhood. With faith in the Father of all he struggles against vice and immorality, and builds for himself a memorial of good deeds and a good name. With hope for his helmet he sows, morning, noon and night, and awaits with patience the glorious harvest. With charity as his councillor and fidelity at his side, knowing if he does so he shall receive the welcome "Well done" in the Master's own good time.

W. F. GEORGE,
Master of the Maritime Provincial Grange.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

EVENTS AND COMMENTS.

The recent "bread-riot" in London is a suggestive theme for English Statesmen, and must loom up in the eyes of the British Cabinet with the magnitude of the "grim spectre" that haunts the Irish question. The English people have now to confront the piteous appeals of the starving mechanics of London, with those of the poverty-stricken farmers of Ireland. The principle cause of these troubles can only be explained by the freedom with which other nations can enter English ports with their products,

without paying a duty which will protect English mechanics as well as Irish farmers. The prosperity of Great Britain rests on the tripod of Agriculture, Manufactures and Commerce. If either one of these great branches of a nation's industry becomes deranged, the whole fabric must suffer. The repeal of the "Corn laws" inordinately stimulated manufactures in England, and depressed not only the Agricultural products of Ireland, but of England as well. The United States under a "protective tariff" at home, have found a ready market for their products in "Free Trade England." As long as this continues to be the case, just so long will these convulsive efforts of the starving thousands break out into riots in London. It is the natural result of causes, that any Statesman or juvenile political economist can solve. A great historian says, "What aims or discipline shall resist the strength of famine or despair," truly these were prophetic words in the late London riots. The police were, it seems, powerless to resist the force of the mob. If "England expects every man to do his duty," let her rulers adopt a new system of fiscal legislation for her subjects. Let them be protected. Their home industries by a "protective Tariff," and not attempt to force her mechanics and farmers to compete with other countries, unless she is equally clothed with the inviolable armor of "protection" to her home industries. The combat between "free trade" in England and "protection" in the United States has been long and unequal and the result has been that "protection" has won the battle. Then let England reconstruct her tariff in the interest of Agriculture and manufactures as she did her Navy in the interest of Commerce, after the Confederate naval victory of the "Merrimac" in the late American war. Just now we see that our "high tariff" neighbors across the line, have snubbed Sir John A. McDonald in his attempt to procure a "Commission" for the settlement of the "fisheries question." Now if England wishes to retain that loyalty which Canadians have ever shown to the Crown, let her pass a protective Tariff on all imports from other countries except those under the Realm, and then we shall hear no more about England being mortgaged to the United States to keep the peace, nor will "bread riots" and "famines" be so frequent in London and Ireland, as they have been during the last twenty-five years.

VETERAN.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

STRAY SHOTS.

It is satisfactory to learn that the Pope is recovering. His Holiness has come to be held in high regard in Protestant countries, on account of the apparent tendency of his policy to subordinate the temporal rights and aspirations of the church to its purely religious functions. Should his successors continue to entertain the noble and christian ambition which Leo XIII seems to have set before the Church—i. e., to be a Church holding aloof from political interference, whose head should come to be regarded as the arbiter of national disputes—the Pontifex Maximus may fill a function so useful and beneficent as to command the respect of all nations.

It is certain that the wisdom and moderation of the present Pope has done more to elevate the character of the Roman Church, and to disarm Protestant suspicion, in his eight years' reign, than his misguided predecessor would have accomplished by a hundred acts of absolutism based on falsified history and dogma of the crudest human invention.

The Pope's concessions to the spirit of reason and scientific truth have won for him a respect and regard among Protestants quite unknown in former times. It will remain to be seen whether the mantle of his wisdom and reasonableness will pass on. If his successors should chance to be imbued with anything like the same spirit of goodwill, the status of the Church will be raised in Protestant opinion.

I think His Holiness has the sincere good wishes of all thinking men, and I trust he may be spared for some years yet to the advantage of the world at large.

There has been allusion in the daily press to the reported evidence in the case of McQueeney, accidentally killed on board the *Minia*. Some of the medical evidence appeared to me to be very peculiar, and to indicate that easy-going and offhand treatment of serious cases for which the Hospital, justly or unjustly, has gained for itself an evil reputation. I had it in mind to make some comment on the subject a fortnight ago, but a necessity to attend to other subjects prevented me. Meanwhile one of your daily contemporaries took it up on the grounds which occurred to me, and has been answered by Dr. McKay with a haughtiness probably more consonant with the dignity of the profession than satisfactory to the public.

An extensive field of thought is opened up by any suspicion of medical or surgical shortcoming. Most men of the world come largely into contact with medical men, civil, naval and military, and I think the general impression left by that contact is that they are, as a class, pre-eminently distinguished by perspicuous courage and ability, generosity, kindness, humanity and self-sacrifice. But there is a drawback which, in a close community, may be mischievously developed to the undeserved discredit of the majority.

That drawback is professional etiquette. There is a legend of a city—let us say Atlantis—where the medical body admitted and sustained as the head of their faculty, a practitioner whose practice was so ineffably brutal that the man ought to have been hung a dozen times over for murder. But whatever a man may be, the lips of the profession are sealed. He may tear the throat out of a man in a reckless operation to remove the diphtheritic membrane; he may take a buckeaw and saw a man's feet off at the instep—"men may come and men may go," and they went, according to the legend, in a tolerably rapid sequence—but no protest escapes the lips of the faculty. They are sealed by etiquette.