

THERE is a strong possibility that the Dominion Government will abolish the grinding of wheat in bond. It is urged that Manitoba and North-West wheat is equal, if not superior, to the wheat produced in the North-Western States, and as Canada is rapidly becoming the largest wheat producing country in the world—notwithstanding Mr. W. E. Bear's pamphlet recently issued under the auspices of the Cobden Club, to the contrary—there is no reason why millers should not use Canadian wheat to grind instead of importing from the States. It might be wise for the Government, while they are at it, to make a radical alteration in the duty on flour, and thereby do away with the existing injustice to home interests. Talking of flour, it may be stated that the millers of Minneapolis, owing to the glut in the United States markets, have decided to run only half-time until January 1st, which they expect will relieve the pressure and give the market the required stimulus.

A PHILADELPHIA scientist believes that the sense of smell will disappear, and that, as nature never preserves useless organs, the nose must go. The theory is based upon the fact that the smelling sense has not been developed by the processes of evolution, but has declined, and is stronger in savages and animals than in civilized races. But the nose, whether Grecian, Roman, bulbous, or snub, is an organ, which occupies a conspicuous position in the human countenance, and, regardless of its power to smell, it would be difficult to replace it with anything that would look better. The loss of smell might be borne with resignation, as it is often a serious disadvantage, but most persons would prefer to retain their noses on the mere ground of personal looks. Perhaps the scientist had in his mind's eye the savage races who salute each other by rubbing noses. It might have occurred to him that, as they have flat noses—no doubt caused by the centuries of friction whilst saluting each other—in course of time their noses will get flatter and flatter till they will altogether disappear. So long as the civilized races cling to the good old custom of shaking hands or kissing each other on the cheek, lips or ear there is little chance of the nose going. What this Philadelphia scientist doesn't know about noses is apparently not worth knowing.

GENERAL BEN. HARRISON, of Indianapolis, the Republican candidate, has been elected President of the United States by a handsome majority, and Grover Cleveland, in March next, will retire into private life. It is claimed that the campaign was fought on the issue of Free Trade against Protection and that Protection won. That may be so, but twisting the British Lion's tail for the purpose of catching the Irish vote formed no unimportant feature of the contest. This "twisting the tail" business was conducted on the same principle as a game of chess. The Republicans, who had a majority in the Senate, made their first move by rejecting the Fisheries Treaty. President Cleveland went them one better by threatening retaliatory measures against Canada, which so far checked the shrewd move of his opponents. But they were not beaten. A Republican, under the guise of an American-Englishman, wrote a letter to Lord Sackville-West, British Minister at Washington, asking his private opinion on the retaliatory threat against Canada. Not suspecting the trap set for him, Lord Sackville-West innocently wrote in reply that he considered it was purely an election dodge. Although the letter was marked "confidential" it was flashed over the wires and published in every daily paper in the United States. This completely flattened out the Democrats, and aroused such a storm of indignation against the unfortunate British Minister that his recall was demanded, and he and his family have shaken the dust of the United States off their feet. Lord Sackville-West can well exclaim, "For ways that are dark, and tricks that are vain, the American politician is peculiar."

ONE of the progressive signs of the times is the affiliation of the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, with the University of Toronto. The recent Convocation of the University was memorable from the fact that five graduates were granted the degree of B.S.A.—Bachelor of the Science in Agriculture. This should be an incentive to the sons of farmers. Farming nowadays, with its mowers, binders, and reapers and other improved farm machinery, is a science, and there is no more honorable calling. To be a successful farmer, however, skill, intelligence, industry and unremitting attention are in constant demand. We were talking the other day to a practical and successful farmer. Said he, "I have three grown-up sons and all have, of their own free will, taken to farming and are doing well. I cannot help contrasting my own family with my father's. There were seven of us, four boys and three girls. My three brothers who, in their teens, displayed more intelligence and smartness than myself were sent to college, and each chose one of the learned professions. I was told by my father that farming was good enough for the dunce of the family. Well, I became a farmer, and although I did not get a University education I applied myself energetically to bettering myself to the utmost of my ability, and you know how well I have succeeded. Times are changed now. The learned professions are overcrowded, and why should the sons of farmers aspire to enter them and live for the rest of their days on a beggarly pittance. Far better for them to follow in the footsteps of their fathers, as there is a wide field for them in this broad Dominion. And you can rest assured that they are beginning to fully realize this fact. Farming, sir, is a science, and it's the dunce of the family who should now be selected to enter the learned professions. Is it more honorable to be a doctor, lawyer or clergyman than a farmer? No, sir, the farmers are the backbone of the country, and a successful farmer can hold up his head amongst the best in the land and be honored and respected of all men."



Reward.

If farmers, who have discovered ingenious methods in connection with their work which would be of use to their fellow farmers, will write us and describe the same, furnishing a sketch when practicable, we will reward them by publishing them over their names, with an illustration when possible; and further, when we consider the plans or ideas advanced have special merit we will remit them amounts varying from 75c to \$5.00, in proportion to our estimate of their value to our readers.

THE rainy fall has not been without its blessings.

THERE seemed to be a great scarcity of turkeys on the Toronto market at Thanksgiving time.

WHY not sit down now and write the ILLUSTRATED a letter on some subject you think would be of special interest to its readers.

YOU can easily earn some beautiful and useful Christmas presents by heeding the suggestions in our Premium List. Look it over carefully.

Now, while outside matters do not require much attention, it is a good time to look over implements and tools, and put them in repair ready for use. It is a good time, too, to do fixing about the house. Put up that shelf for your wife and fix that cupboard she has spoken about so many times.

As Christmas time draws near and the fairer sex make an effort to beautify the home for the occasion, and make other preparations for the greatest and most interesting holiday season of the year, do not discourage them and grumble at what little time and money they may spend to further Christmas joys, by making home a little more attractive than usual, and by the exchange of little gifts. Rather take hold and assist to make this the most joyful Christmas tide your family has yet seen. A little money expended in this direction will be well spent. Try it and see what happiness it will bring you. The worth of the gifts and the money expended fortunately do not make up the joy of Christmas; it is the heart and willingness with which we participate in its pleasures.

We are at a loss to know how some women, in spite of the continued complaints of their unfair husbands about "time wasted," "money foolishly spent," and other constant discouragements to their efforts to decorate the home and make it attractive, still go on in their patient endeavors to keep a few plants at the window, make up ornaments, and otherwise beautify the house. We have had such cases brought to our notice though we hope they are few. It is the duty of every husband to lend all the encouragement he can to his wife and daughters on this line. The house is where they spend nearly all of their time, and that, too, at rather monotonous work; and the home should, therefore, be made as comfortable and beautiful as possible. If you have children, so much the greater reason for making home attractive, that they may become attached to it, and not wish to leave it before the proper time.

Is it any wonder that some farmers make a miserable failure of their business? You look about their farm and everything is left in a slipshod manner; fences in bad condition, roadways poorly kept, machines left out and uncared for, tools scattered about—literally a place for nothing and, therefore, nothing in its place. Show me a well kept farm and I will show you a successful farmer. We do not believe the elements necessary to successful farming are so widely different to those of successful manufacturing. What is the usual cause of failure amongst manufacturers? Visit the establishment of a manufacturer who has failed. In nine cases out of ten you will find the factory in a state of chaos. Materials poorly stored and in no regular place. Tools poorly kept and allowed to get out of repair. No regular system for doing anything. Go to the books and, as a rule, the same state of chaos exists. Records few and poorly kept. No systematized methods for doing anything. Now, we contend that the economical and successful farmer will keep things in ship-shape order about his place. He will not allow things to run down. He will keep records, too, and know what he is doing, and why should the farmer not keep books? We believe it would freshen his interest in his work to do this. We shall probably have more to say on this line later on.

When to Cut Trees.

WE are inclined to the opinion that there is much truth worth heeding in the following article from the *Maryland Farmer*. Since farmers have more time during the winter season for their work, custom has doubtless led people to think winter the proper time for tree cutting:—

It is generally considered that the best time to cut trees is in the winter; but experiments have proved this to be a mistake. The best time is during the last period of growth, or during the time of rest immediately following it—from the middle of July to the first of September. If the trees are cut at this time, the limbs allowed to remain, the wood