

can do, especially when backed up by friends in the Government: If anything does occur to prevent the line being constructed and used, it will be carried to the Privy Council, who, no doubt, will decide in a similar way to what they did in the case of Ontario vs. The Dominion, respecting the disputed Territory of Keewatin.

A rumor has been circulated that the Northern Pacific is using every effort to get into this country, and is also making overtures to the Hudson Bay railway as an outlet for its line to the Atlantic. If this is the case, the C. P. R. may well look forward with envy at its competitor. The G. T. R., is also eager to get into the country.

With these two lines great cutting of rates may be expected, which is sadly needed in some directions. In the not distant future we may also look forward to the day when the C. P. R. bondholders will be glad to sell out, and then the great hope of the Canadian people will be realized, an Imperial and Colonial Highway from ocean to ocean.

The Jubilee celebration with us was a poor affair, firemen's sports, boat racing, band playing, excursions, and the usual display of fireworks. The proper day appointed is the 16th July, when a regular programme has been filled, a regatta, horse and foot racing, with other amusements. Winnipeg is a wretched place on a holiday; there is really no place of recreation worth noting. We have no Point Pleasant Park, Public Gardens, or Common or picturesque walks as to Bedford, about the Northwest Arm, etc. We have a park in name, but it is only a portion of the prairie fenced in. There is a Victoria Gardens, a small green spot with a few large trees inside a high board fence on the city side of the Red River, where one has to pay admission fee; here the band plays at times, and fireworks are set off on a holiday. The other attractions are boating on the muddy Red River and Assiniboine, which offer nothing to a lover of nature in their low flat red clay banks, dotted here and there with old homesteads and stunted growth of trees. The water itself is not even prepossessing; it is of a reddish hue on the Red River, from the amount of clay held in suspension. On the other branch, which connects at the city, it has a peculiar sickly greenish body. As to walks around the city we have none, unless one likes to start out on the prairie and get lost. I am mistaken in this, however, there is a place about two or three miles distant, which belongs to Sir Donald Smith, and also some modern English homesteads on the Assiniboine River, which I will mention some other time. The best thing a person can do on a holiday in Winnipeg is to take up a good book or go into the back yard and chop wood.

Yours truly,

SCIRON.

MUSICAL ECHOES.

We quote the following remarks from the *American Musician*, for the benefit of our clerical friends, knowing that they express the conviction of very many of their hearers:

"Music is sadly neglected in the training colleges for clergy. The result is, they have no sympathy for a branch of art to them unknown, and, instead of being an inspired aid to devotion, is often the cause of mental torture to the members possessed of a cultivated taste. Something beyond the subject of theology is needed to bring the minister in rapport with his flock. The intelligent encouragement of a musically qualified pastor, would do more to raise the status of church music than the combined efforts of choir-master and congregation."

How many young ladies begin to teach music after a leisurely course of a few years, not from necessity, or from a particular fancy or fitness, but to earn some pocket money, in order to indulge in some luxuries or extravagances of dress, which their parents would not or could not furnish them? These would-be teachers are satisfied with a small recompense, and they waste their own time and the time of the children who unfortunately fall into their hands for a year or two, and then even the most ignorant parents (musically considered) find that their children have learned nothing.—*Mus. Courier*.

Impresario (to reporter): "Yes, I am organizing a new American concert company. I want to show our people that we have as good talent here as anywhere in the world. My prima donna will be Mrs. La Voce." Reporter: "And your tenor?" Impresario: "Rafael Upperson." Reporter: "Have you a basso?" Impresario: "A magnificent one—Ivan Offulkoff. I have also engaged Paoli Tympani, the pianist, and Una Corda, the great violinist." Reporter: "But all these people are foreigners, and you are an Englishman. What is there American about the company?" Impresario: "Its name and the advance agent."—*Tid Bits*.

The following is the text of the new verse which Mr. Bennett has written to "God Save the Queen":

"For her we thank Thee, Lord,
And now, in glad accord,
Thy goodness praise!
Strong 'Thy defense and sure,
Keep her from harm secure,
So may Thy love endure
Through all her days!"

The lines, it will be observed, are thoroughly in keeping with the rest of the national anthem, and are sufficiently meaningless to be admirable for their purpose.—*London Figaro*.

A rather melancholy society has been formed in Paris. It is an association of opera composers who have not had the good luck to find a manager willing to produce their works. These poor, unrecognized geniuses pay a

regular pro rata contribution, which will enable them to enjoy the luxury of having their opera, once rejected by heartless and unappreciative managers, performed for their own amusement.

COMMERCIAL.

The business situation has experienced little or no change since our last report. It has presented the quiet appearance to be expected during the "heated term," prior to the opening of the fall trade, which, as already noted, promises to be satisfactory, both in character and volume. The chief danger to be apprehended is from over-trading.

It is officially stated that the Government has it in consideration to send a special commissioner to China and Japan, with a view to obtaining authoritative information that may lead to a larger development of trade between those countries and Canada. It is evident that no reliable trade information can be valueless, and, therefore, such a mission cannot fail to produce good results. Although our annual exports to both of those countries in the last year are small—reaching last year only to the sum of \$63,000—still we believe that there are possibilities of an enormous increase in the shipment of many articles that we produce, and that the Japs and Celestials require, such as butter, cheese, flour, products of the forest, etc., etc. All that is now wanted is authentic information of their demands, and this the proposed mission will furnish.

The following are the Business Changes in this Province during the past week.—David S. Howard & Duncan W. Carter, Genl. Store, Parreboro, formed copartnership as Howard & Carter; A. C. Elderkirk and Chas. W. Elderkirk, Genl. Store and Lumber, Advocate, formed copartnership as A. C. & C. W. Elderkirk; S. Legg, Watchmaker, removed to Middleton; John S. McLeod, Tinsmith, Kentville, succeeded by Calkin & Carroll; Arthur Rogers, Hardware, Yarmouth, succeeded by Wm. L. Rogers.

DRY GOODS.—Travellers' orders for fall goods have been rather disappointing as regards volume, but it should be remembered that it is yet early in the season, and there is plenty of time in the next two months for the development of a very large trade, which will quite come up to the earlier prognostications. There has been no really new feature in any line, and prices of all staple goods have remained steady.

IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.—While a fair amount of business has been done in the main, there has been little change in this branch of trade. The firmness of Canada plates occasions some comment, as orders for them are very difficult to place for prompt delivery. Some years since, when buyers were offered such plates freely, they almost invariably refused, but latterly they have been anxious to buy. Little fresh business has been done in pig iron, but sales of old stock are reported at shaded figures. Warrants are cabled at 3d. lower—42s. 2d. No. 3 foundry in Middleborough is unchanged at 34s. 6d., and hematite pig in Workington at 43s. 3d. Finished iron has ruled steady and unchanged with a fair business. Tinplates, tin, copper and lead, have remained as before. Fall orders are beginning to show better volume. On the whole the hardware trade is in a fairly healthy condition, with good prospects ahead.

BREADSTUFFS.—The flour market has a weak tone, especially for old ground stock, which is depressed and lower. The fresh article, however, is fairly maintained in value. It is difficult to sell old, and, in fact, sellers have to accept buyers' figures. The grain market in Canada has continued very quiet, and was entirely devoid of interest, so far as spot transactions were concerned. In Chicago wheat has again been weak and has declined, while oats have been firmer. Cables from Europe have not been so good, and an unfavorable tone is displayed. The market for wheat off coast has been slow, and there is little enquiry for cargoes on passage. Corn on passage was quieter. In Liverpool wheat was inactive and corn steady. Three steamers took, last week, from Montreal to England 160,500 bushels of western wheat. The statistician of the department of agriculture in Washington reports a further extension of the corn area of about 1,500,000 acres—an increase of 2 per cent over the acreage of 1886. In States of declining wheat culture, maize has advanced its area largely—notably in Kansas. A marked advance is noted in the district between the Mississippi and the Rocky Mountains, and a considerable increase is reported in the cotton States. The season has been fairly favorable, both for planting and growth, and condition is high averaging 95.7. The great corn growing States, which furnish the surplus, average nearly 99 in condition. The condition of the winter wheat on the first of July, or at the time of the harvest for the more southern States, was 83.5. Where harvested grain has been threshed results are variable, with plump, sound grain in some localities, and a shrunken berry indicated in others. A somewhat serious decline in the condition of spring wheat is reported, largely from the prevalence of clinch bugs. The clinch bug, the hessian fly, the grasshopper in the northwest and the joint worm in West Virginia, have all aided in reducing the yield of wheat, but it is believed that the crop will equal in quality and quantity that of last year. Rye, barley and oats show a reduction in condition. There has been an increase of 2.7 per cent in the acreage of potatoes, of which the condition average is 93.

PROVISIONS.—Business in pork, lard, etc., has, during the past week, been limited to a small volume. Stocks are small, but the demand is merely nominal, and the trade is devoid of life. In Chicago, lard has continued to show firmness, standing at \$6.62½ for August, \$6.75 for September, and \$6.80 for October. Meats there were firm at the advance. Provisions have been steady in Liverpool, cable quotations being, pork, 66s. 6d.; lard, 34s.; bacon, 39s. 3d., and tallow, 22s. 6d.

BUTTER.—The market is quiet, but steady for choice qualities of creamery and dairy. There can be no doubt that the production of butter has,