

THE FLIGHT OF WINTER.



Sunshine and Smiles.

Laugh, and the world laughs with you—
Weep, and you weep alone;
For this brave old earth must borrow its mirth,
It has troubles enough of its own.
Sing, and the hills will answer,
Sigh, it is lost on the air,
The echoes bound to a joyful sound,
But shrink from voicing care.

Rejoice, and men will seek you,
Grieve, and they turn and go;
They want full measure of all your pleasure,
But they do not want your woe.
Be glad, and your friends are many,
Be sad, and you lose them all;
There are none who decline your nectar'd wine,
But alone you must drink life's gall.

Feast, and your halls are crowded,
Fast, and the world goes by,
Succeed and give and it helps you live,
But no man can help you die.
There is room in the halls of pleasure
For a long and lordly train;
But one by one we must all file on,
Through the narrow aisles of pain.



WE are pleased to be in a position to state that, from representations made to him, the Postmaster-General has decided to withdraw the clause from the Postal Amendment Bill imposing a charge of one cent per pound upon monthly and semi-monthly publications. We were the only paper interested, with one exception, to strenuously object in its columns to this clause being adopted, and it is gratifying to find that our efforts have not been unsuccessful. It might not be out of place just here to say that if original matter in our columns is worth republishing, it is surely worth crediting. We always do so.

THERE seems to be every reason to believe that the cultivation of the sugar cane can be carried on in Ontario with profitable results. It appears that a farmer near Grimsby last year cultivated a quarter of an acre of early amber cane and from it 46 gallons of good syrup were made which readily sold at 75 cents per gallon. The syrup was excellent in quality and far superior to the imported American article. This would represent a yield of \$138 per acre, and it is said that the yield on this quarter of an acre was not an average one. It is essential to the farmer that every acre of the farm should be made productive, and if he should have some land that he does not know exactly what to do with let him try the cultivation of sugar cane.

MR. DYKE, the Government agent at Liverpool, England, suggests that Canadians should turn their attention to the exportation of dairy cows. About two thousand were sent to Liverpool last year and the average price realized was \$90, although one cow brought as much as \$117. He says that a Canadian cow in good condition is worth \$25 more than a Yorkshire cow sent to the milkman's stables.

The class of cows saleable should be fairly well-bred; possibly they should be with their second calf and their udders should be perfect. Calves sent to England have brought \$10 to \$12 each. A ready sale could also be found for condensed milk, as it is very much in request in England.

MR. PLATT, M. P., moved a resolution in the House of Commons last month to the effect that it is expedient to remove the duty on, and place upon the free list, all grains and seeds which do not ripen in Canada, but which are now largely imported and sown for the production of food for cattle under the system of feeding called soiling and ensilage now largely adopted by the farmers of Canada. It was urged that these grains and seeds, which are grown in the Southern States, are the farmers' raw material, and as such should be admitted free. It would also aid in furthering the dairy interests and would enable farmers to feed cattle more cheaply than at present. Several of the speakers who represent rural constituencies bore strong testimony to the value of ensilage as food. The motion was ultimately withdrawn upon the understanding that during the session seed corn fodder would be placed on the free list.

It will always give us pleasure to circulate words of praise for those who are striving to forward the interests of the farming community. Prof. J. W. Robertson, of the Ontario Agricultural College, who has always taken a keen interest in the work of Farmers Institutes not only in Ontario but in various States of the Union, is thus spoken of by Mr. C. L. Gabrilson in the March number of *Farm, Stock and Home*, Minneapolis, Minn.:—"Among the present institute workers of Wisconsin is Prof. J. W. Robertson, of the Agricultural College at Guelph, Province of Ontario. This gentleman is among the brightest minds whose practical work along the line of agricultural investigation is making such men as Henry, Babcock, Sanborn and others noted. His two weeks' stay in the State will make him hosts of friends and inspire his hearers by his earnest and practical way of presenting plain farm facts. It is gratifying to note how the young men are getting to the front. Experimenters in most lines of science have more to their credit at thirty-five than a past generation could show at seventy-five. But, then, this is a fast age."

THE Budget speech of Hon. Mr. Foster, Finance Minister, is universally acknowledged to have been an exceedingly able and effective effort, particularly so as it came from a new and untried man. His statement of the condition of accounts showed that our receipts last year were \$35,908,463 and our expenditures \$36,718,494, leaving a deficit of \$810,031. For the present fiscal year he estimated the receipts at \$38,500,000 and the expenditure at \$36,600,000, showing a surplus of \$1,900,000, and for the year 1889-90 the receipts at \$39,175,000 and the expenditure at \$36,500,000, showing a surplus of \$2,675,000. The net debt of the country had increased from \$75,723,641 in 1868 to \$108,324,964 in 1874 when we acquired our last province, and to \$234,531,358 on July 1st last. This showed an increase from 1868 of \$158,802,717. The cost per capita had increased from \$1.29 per annum in 1868 to \$1.78 in 1888 or an increased burden of 49 cents per head per annum. Of this increased debt, the sum of \$106,472,032 was incurred in assuming at different times the debts of the provinces who formed part of the Confederation, so that the net increase in the public debt on account of strictly Federal expenditure was only \$128,059,325. This amount was offset by the consideration that during the period since Confederation there had been a total capital expenditure of \$179,709,974, so that our capital expenditure, which was almost entirely for public works, had exceeded our net increase in strictly Federal debt by \$51,650,649.

THE movement to Manitoba this year is unprecedented. Every Tuesday last month special colonist trains were run through from Ontario to Winnipeg. As many as 13 and 14 special trains left Toronto during the afternoon and evening of each Tuesday, every train being accompanied by a

special agent of the Manitoba Government to look after the comfort of the passengers. These colonist trains will also be run every Tuesday during April. The arrivals in Manitoba to date of settlers' effects are much in excess of the arrivals for the first six months of last year. A large proportion of the new settlers are sturdy young fellows, sons of Ontario farmers, just the sort of men to build up and develop a new country. About the middle of March about 450 French-Canadians arrived in Winnipeg, and the majority settled on the Red and Assiniboine rivers near Winnipeg, and at Oak Lake. It is estimated that some 2000 French-Canadians will settle there this year. The emigration from the Old Country is just beginning and promises also to be heavy. Upon the whole prospects were never brighter in Manitoba than at present. Real estate men report large sales at improved prices, implement men report larger sales, and the farmers are jubilant over good paying prices for their grain. Last year the Manitoba Government opened an office at 30 York street, Toronto, for the dissemination of information relating to that province, and placed it in charge of Mr. A. J. McMillan. Their selection was a wise one, as Mr. McMillan has shown himself to be in every way eminently qualified for the position.

WHAT's the matter with Michigan? The *Muskegon News* says:—"The farmers cry for help. It having been demonstrated that the foreign market for our wheat, corn, and provisions, is steadily slipping away from us, and that the farmers in all parts of the country are struggling with debt and discouragement, the protectionist writers and orators are fain to acknowledge the fact. When called upon to devise a remedy they are at a loss. They tell the farmers they must stop rushing wheat and corn and 'diversify their industry.' This is equivalent to a recommendation that hereafter they shall plant carrots and cabbage." And this with a market of sixty millions, Kansas appears also to be in a bad way. Mr. John Totten left his farm near Belleville about a year ago and settled in Kansas. He wasn't there long when he pulled up stakes, returning to Canada and settling on a farm in the township of Eramosa. The *Guelph Mercury*, speaking of Mr. Totten's case, says:—"He was bitterly disappointed and came back a sadder and a wiser man, convinced that the Province of Ontario is far ahead of the State of Kansas. He reports the corn crop a failure, while the price was low. The small grains were devoured by the chinch bug. Great poverty and distress exist among the settlers in the region where he located, the northwest of the state. There is a general wish to sell out and get away. Mr. Totten did not buy land, so he was free to leave and has left." As a confirmation of our remarks in a previous issue regarding the distress among the settlers in Dakota the *Prairie Farmer* says "The Territorial Statistician of Dakota says there is not enough wheat in Dakota for seed and bread for the population, the estimate of wheat remaining in the farmers' hands and in elevators being placed at only 8,000,000 bushels. The storage is placed at 3,000,000 bushels." The farmers in New Jersey, Iowa and other States are in as deplorable condition as those in Michigan and Dakota. Is it not therefore suicidal policy on the part of Canadian farmers to leave this fair Dominion for a country where the farmers are not only in absolute distress, but are laboring under far greater disadvantages and discouragements.

THE *Rural New Yorker* in its issue of March 23rd has a most interesting and instructive article to stockbreeders. It gives the results of a three years' beef-making experiment made by Prof. Johnson at the Michigan Agricultural College. Bull calves of Shorthorn, Hereford, Devon, Jersey, Galloway and Holstein breeds were secured, which were considered average specimens, and with these calves the trial was conducted. They were fed side by side, the same kinds of food being used for each, though of course different quantities were fed to the different animals. They were kept in a thriving condition and were never forced as show cattle usually are. The steers were exhibited at a number of fairs and were slaughtered at the Chicago Fat Stock Show last November. A committee composed of some of the most experienced feeders in America, and another committee composed of