

your interests last and do not have a your division this done; a few dollars of the divisions in will make a tie; they been once given an home and filled person no better and having less name of your candi-

You do not wish a candidate that will be a believe the same Board will election, and in your divisions n. Just make this position: Do they papers, and if so, Canada? If they safely set them and not having prosperity in view; which way the wind important that you annual meetings this and much will de- of the men you the future powers of greater than they the influence of that look if you are not confidence in. The result has been an overwhelming defeat of the Ministry. It is not our duty in this paper to laud or condemn the former Ministry or their acts, except in regard to Agriculture. We will briefly see what has been done for or against our interests.

Overthrow of the Late Ministry and Review of Their Agricultural Acts.

The Coalition Government had been gradually becoming unpopular among the farmers of the country for many years. City interests and private ends have been sanctioned to the cost of the farmers. The farmers were more united at the last election, and selected men who they had more confidence in. The result has been an overwhelming defeat of the Ministry. It is not our duty in this paper to laud or condemn the former Ministry or their acts, except in regard to Agriculture. We will briefly see what has been done for or against our interests.

DRAINAGE.

Their only good measure has been granting aid to draining swamp lands. They have made a very great talk about this, but remove the veil and perhaps this would disclose whose particular benefit it has been done for. Has there not been large swamps held by Government patrons? The money, we believe, would have been much more beneficially and economically applied if the municipalities had the work under their own control. Still, the drainage of swamps was a necessity.

EMIGRATION.

Their emigration policy has been most deplorable. It is of importance that we should have cheaper labor and have our vacant lands brought under cultivation. They have sold the timber of the poor settlers' lands for a mere nothing. This has caused such disgust among our farmers and farmer's sons, who are the best settlers, that they have left us by the thousands. We have had our country replenished by poor, shiftless city operatives, that have to be maintained by the farmers at their own expense, as the citizens soon drive them into the country. The tax for their maintenance for the first winter they are here would amount to all the money the Government have expended for bringing them here; but no account can be arrived at as they are scattered over the country, and the farmers tax themselves, or give in charity to them to keep them alive, and as soon as they get fairly on their legs they go to the States, unless they have been put as far into our rocky country that they cannot remove. It was but yesterday that one poor emigrant called at our place with the usual tale—five children, sick husband, no employment, all in a pitiable plight. We have seen hundreds of such or worse cases. We know of one emigrant that purchased his land and timber and paid for it. The Government actually took part of his land from him, and robbed him of his timber for which he had legally paid. Of course these and similar acts have tended to drive our best men from our shores.

INFORMATION.

Farmers require all the information about agriculture they can obtain. The Government have thought best to keep them in darkness as much as possible, so that they might the more easily control them.

The Canadian agricultural papers have been nearly trampled out of existence. The most unjust and arbitrary law has been enacted and enforced, of prepayment of postage agricultural papers, being at double the rate that political papers are charged and allowed to pass on credit; this we knowingly and unhesitatingly assert has been done for the purpose of trampling down agricultural papers that would not become political engines for them. This has tended to float our country with American agricultural papers. This may have caused many of our farmers' sons to leave our country, as the prosperity of agricultural papers speaks well of a country. Perhaps this act alone has done more to depopulate our country than all their lauded emigration expenditures have done to induce settlers to come here.

There has been no encouragement for the establishment of farmer's clubs and libraries.

SEEDS.

They have encouraged in no way the introduction or testing of seeds. Although the country suffered great loss for the lack of timely introduction of new varieties, particularly when the midge was so destructive, they never moved a finger to relieve us of that dreadful scourge, by the introduction or dissemination of other varieties. When the potato rot was bad, or when our old varieties become so degenerated that we could not profitably cultivate them, they never gave us any information about any better sorts. And to show their utter shortsightedness of the farmer's interests, they compel them to pay just four times as much for seeds to be sent through the post as they charged for papers.

STOCK.

At the time the cattle diseases were prevailing in the States, they allowed our cars to be used for American cattle, and no proper infection preventative were enforced. We might have had the disease spread in our country. They were warned of the danger, but what did they or what do they care for the farmers. There is danger at the present moment of importing a disease from Europe. No measures are used to hinder its introduction among us. Who could estimate the loss if a disease once takes rest in our land. It has not been from good management that we have thus far escaped. They allowed one breeder to import stock, duty free, and made others pay. When a rumpus was raised they disappeared.

They made an attempt to check the introduction of the potato bug after it had spread over 200 miles of our country, and all over the Agricultural press had given all the remedies and knowledge about three months before.

IMPLEMENTS.

An importer wished to introduce a new kind of labor-saving implement such as was not known here, but will become of value if they are known. The inventor presented one to be introduced, tried and reported on; and lo! lo! lo! the Government secured the implement on the least possible pretext; and what! what! what! one of their own private paid public servants takes it without paying dues, freight, or anything else, and appropriated to his own purposes or ends. We will not extend on the implement line but turn to our

MARKETS.

It is of importance that the farmers of the country shall secure the full value for their productions. Our Canadian pork has had a better name, and commanded a better price than the American pork, the American pork being of inferior quality. The Government have allowed the Americans to ship their pork into Canada, and have it packed here and sent out of our country, on purpose to obtain our prices, equivalent with Canadian pork. This act must cost us farmers a loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars. It will take us ten years to recover the good name for our pork that this act on the

part of the Government has taken away from us. At the time the last treaty was entered into between Canada, England and the United States, we believe the farmer's interests were not taken into consideration, otherwise, had they been, we think this regiment of Custom House officers, and all those tide waiters, and political Custom Houses in our cities might have all been swept away along our frontier lines. The expense of maintaining this hungry, and we may say, from close observation, thievish retinue, for they know how to make pickings—is enough to sink our country. We farmers have to pay it all, why should our interests have been overlooked?

THE AGRICULTURAL BOARD.

Attempts have been made by the last Government to overthrow the Provincial Board of Agriculture. The Western Fair was started to rival the Provincial Board. The attempt was to centre all influence and power over the farmers in the hands of the executive, to erect an agricultural college and carry on a test and experimental farm, and to make it a powerful political engine. We know these things better than many others, because we have rejected offers to enlist us for that service. They have totally disregarded the voice of Agriculturists, of the Board of Agriculture, of County Councils and Agricultural Societies.

We may say that Agriculturists have gained in wealth during the past years of enchantment; but the cause of their success is in no way attributed to the Government. Canada has made her wealth at the expense of other nations. The Crimean war and the war in the States poured wealth into our coffers. We have not to thank our late Government for one cent of it.

THE NEW MINISTRY.

We have confidence in the New Ministry. We have on previous occasions conversed with some of the gentlemen of which it is composed. We are sure that many of those things, of which we have complained, will be altered by them as soon as possible. Farmers, we shall, in this paper, endeavor to advocate your interests as heretofore, and believe they will not turn a deaf ear to our appeals for you.

ODE TO A STAR.

Beautiful star,
Why roam so far!
Why not come near,
When to me, thou'rt so dear!

Pale little star,
Tell him that's afar
That where e'er he may roam
We miss him at home;

Ask him to come,
For still there are some
Who fondly hath cherished
Each fond tie that perished.

Go tell him alone,
That if tears can atone
For the hasty words spoken,
To send me some token.

Will he never forgive?
Then why do I live!
Oh! kind little star,
Ask him that's afar.

I. F. I. SCH.

The Household.

WINTER PASTIMES.

Hurrah for good old winter evenings! Now's the time for fun and frolic! I hope papas and mammas will kindly bear with us if we do have a few young friends home to tea, once in a while. We will try and be moderate in our noise-making, as we know elderly people like to have peace and quietness sometimes; but I hope they will sometimes remember that they were young themselves not a thousand years ago, and I'll venture to say, as noisy and as fond of fun and company as any of us.

I wonder what new list of plays and fun we can get up this winter. Of course we have

lots of books to read, and new songs to practice. Then there is the merry, noisy, giggling, soul-exhilarating sleigh-rides. Oh! blessings on the man who first invented sleigh-riding with its silvery, jingling bells. I hope that the gay young gentlemen who drive such handsome "rigs," will bear in mind that their sisters and lady friends are as fond of having a dash over the frozen snow as they are themselves, and that there is nothing in the world better for the health of we poor female community, who are shut up in close houses nine-tenths of the year, than a good sleigh-ride in the pure, frosty air. So, three cheers for the young gentleman who will take us out the oftenest for a drive! May he never want for paper collars, and pretty plaid neckties! May his sugar-loaf hat never fall off, and may his Sunday boots never need blacking. That's so!

Let us now look after our games for the evening. There are the grand old games of "Blind Man's Buff," and "Frenchman's Buff." Then we have "Ships arrived," "Post Office," &c., &c., to the end. There is a very nice game, which can be played without noise, and when played nicely (especially if we are any-way intelligent), is also quite instructive. We call it "Daur's Game." As it may be new to some, I will describe it:—

Each person is provided with a lead-pencil and a sheet of paper; also, two slips of paper an inch in width, one being three inches in length and the other about one and a half inches. Each person then writes a question on the long slip, and a word on the short one. Of course they can ask any question they like, and write any word that comes into their heads. These are then collected and well shuffled and mixed up in a jar, or any vessel that a person can get their hand into, but not large enough at the mouth for them to see into when the hand is in. Each one then draws a long and a short slip; on the longest paper they of course find a question, and on the short one a word. The fun now is to answer the question so as to make it rhyme with the word. Suppose one of the company draws the question, "Who was the oldest man?" and the word, "hoe." He must put his poetical talents to work and make rhyme of some sort, or be styled the dunce of the evening. For instance he can write down on the sheet of paper:

"Methusalem was the oldest man,"

As every one must know;

He raised his root crops from the ground,
And never used a "hoe."

Again, should any one draw the question, "What season is passing?" and the word, "heaves," if they happen to be playing in the fall, they can easily say:

"Beautiful autumn" is sighing farewell

To the trembling, rustling leaves,

Boisterous winds are tolling its knell;

See, with sorrow, the lake's bosom "heaves."

It is really laughable to behold the consternation depicted on some of the countenances when they draw a word that in no way relates to the question, which is in general the case. I remember one person drew the question, "Who built the Ark?" and the word, "elephant." After considerable rumination, he succeeded in writing the following:

"Noah built the Ark" aslant,

He worked so hard it made him pant,

Like a tired and worried "elephant."

Hoping that some kind friend will send us some new and instructive games next month, I conclude my observations. I. F. I. SCH.

P. S.—I hope and trust that parents will see to having all their "little dears" well protected from cold and snow, by good woollen clothes and whole leather boots. Do not allow those pretty little girls to go to school with a space of two inches between their stocking tops and the frill of their muslin pantalettes; and do, for pity's sake, put mits and a cravat on that pale-faced little boy, or perhaps in a month or two, you may be digging a little grave or two. I. F. I.

We are pleased to receive a communication from our old friend, "I. F. I." It is so long since we heard from you, we feared some unknown cause had prevented your writing. Your selection of the "Old Dragoon" is a capital thing. Accept our thanks; send more of your selections and oblige.

To prevent mistakes, we request all our correspondents and readers to date their communications from the Post Office to which their papers are addressed.

It is only by labor that thought can be made healthy, and only by thought that labor can be made happy.