struse studies, the sisters could favourably compete with their brothers, but that after not maintain the race. All this is of the past, and like many another false assumption has been disproved by incontestable fact. Since the opening of our college halls to females, not a few of the highest honors have been conferred upon ladica. At the McGill Convocation last week, three out of the five modallists were ladies, who carried off the Logan gold medal for first rank honors in natural science, the Prince of Wales gold medal for mental and moral philosophy, and the Lord Stanley gold medal for first rank general standing. A few more experiences of this kind will place the fair students in a position to fling back the charge of "inferior intellect," which the lords of creation so confidently and arrogantly urged.

Though the fact of numerous adherents or the circumstance of heary age does not in itself constitute an argument for or against the truth of any religious system, it is neverspeedily be destroyed, especially if those sets forth the reasons why the infidel writings and speeches of the champion opposer will leave Christianity exactly where they formed it. "The faith," says he, "whose fundamental doctrines have seen generations of opponents sink into oblivion has nothing to fear from rhetorical assault. It throve and conquered not only in spite of thirty legions, but also in spite of all that the flashing wit of Lucian, or the haughty mysticism of Porphyry, or the battering eloquence and keen criticism of Celsus could do against it. Hobbes, Spinoza, Bayle, Lord Herbert of Cherbury, the keen sarcasm of Voltaire, the powerful style of Diderot, the Euglish Deists, the French Encyclopædists, the corrosive analysis of the school of Tubingen, the microscopic skepticism of Strauss, the perfor. ed dreamed of Renan-what have they effected? Count over our great statesmen, bur great writers, our great travellers, even our great scientists, and the infidels among then can be reckened on the fingers. The argumentative position of Christianity is strongernowthan itever was. Allthat Colonel Ingersoll has said or can say against it has been said better and said before, and has not produced the slightest appreciable effect upon the judgment of mankind." In this view of the matter there is reason for the confidence that as Christianity has conquered in the past so she will continue to conquer. On the other hand the repeated failures of those who sought her overthrow can hardly fail to dampen the hopes of those at present bent on her destruction. They are fighting in a los-

tions of learning to females was under die ed, the seeds extracted and opium inserted, tency of labor, and they can enjoy money who will defend it in private, is a notable "inferiority of the female intellect." It was to escape detection. This is deception regravely assorted again and again that in the duced to a science. Still it would hardly be more rudimentary branches and less ab. just to his Caucasian brethren to affirm that the Colestial holds a monopoly of crooked transactions, It is not so very long ago a certain stage had been reached they could that coffins were used, so it is said, for the illegal introduction of "fire water" into prohibited districts of our own country. our generosity we must not forget the old saw, "Be just before you are generous."

The future historian in describing the deeds and speeches of Canadian statesmen will require to make an exception of the Senatorial session of 1890. Ordinarily this somewhat uscless body manages to discharge the duties allotted to it without attracting much popular attention. This year, however, the case has been otherwise. They have had an unusually large docket of divorce ses which have led to considerable speechmaking, and in one instance almost to a fisticuff encounter. Then there is the Territories act, passed by the Commons, wherein are found passages extremely offensive to some of their senatorial honors. Especially is the clause obnoxious which provides that the dual language system hitherto prevailing shall be retained in the Courts but that in respect theless, a guarantee that the system will not of the debates in the Legislative Assembly and the publication of its proceedings, authorwho are its friends include among their num- ity shall be given to the Assembly, after next ber the best and brightest intellects of the election to regulate the matter as it deems age, and if the system has already withstood best. Led by Mr. Bellerose the French the shock of all the imaginable assaults its members are making a vigorous fight to have focs could make against it. To this fact the obnoxious clause struck out, and the Archdeacon Farrar draws the attention of present status i. retained. However the Colonel Ingersoll, who is exerting himself so question may be decided, the debate has industriously to overturn the Christion re- evoked a good deal of lung power and a fair ligion. In elequent words of which the Rev. amount of oratorical ability; enough at least Doctor is such an acknowledged master he to make this session stand out somewhat conspicuously from those that have gone before.

That the farmers of the United States are not prosperous is a fact to which reference has recently been made in these columns. They themselves realize and acknowledge the painful truth. They have even gone so far as to consult together as to the best way of improving their condition. As the result of these deliberations, a scheme has been devised by the Farmer's Alliance, (which has its branches all over the country), by which the Government is to be asked to come directly to their aid. That they should look in this direction is only natural. Have they not heard it said that the treasury at Washington is running over with gold, to properly dispose of which is the problem that perlexes the nations best financiers! Then hat more reasonable than that some of this great surplus should be : sturned to the struggling ons of the soil? They do not ask it as a charity. 0 . They are willing to give the government security in the form of agreed, whether the government, in coun the grangers will very likely ask for some of some means by which the disade the same is the plams themselves. And it would be dif to say evils, of party-governd, the plans themselves. And it would be dif to say evils, of party gottend, ing cause

"Tor ways that are dark" the "heathen "lends money at one per cent to Tom who parliament by the dowler for the approximation of Dick who is a sailor, or even that city the other night, disclosed the fact that city the other night, disclosed the fact that lemon rinds are used for smuggling the other, indeed, any tangible security for that the say evils, of party gottend, the say evils, of party gottend, with the plans themselves. And it would be dif to say evils, of party gottend, with the support of their claim. "If be measurably mitigated the field to say evils, of party gottend, with a support that many meast find to the control of the control of

question of opening up the higher institut drug into the country. The lemon is open- the loan, but they have the promise and po- chise act, which is said to be without friends man. But if nothing is too good for the far-mers, nothing is too good for those who are not farmers, and there are not printing presses enough in the country to provide money for the innumerable loans which the Government would be compelled to issue. It is matter of consideration for the economist curiously to inquire how long the Government, which is the people, could continue to lend money to the people, who are the Government, before the concern, mortgageor and mortgageo together, would be bank rupt.

> All Europe breathes more freely new that May Day is safely passed. For several weeks police circles and members of governments have been greatly exercised over the preparations that were being made by the abor organizations for their forthcoming demonstration. Trouble was apprehended in several countries, particularly France and Germany, and precautionary measures were taken by the authorities to promptly quell any riotious outbreak. The cable announces, however, that the day passed off without any important disturbance occurring any where. Of the demonstration in London it is stated that, "Labor day has come and gone without any appreciable disturbance to the current of metropolitan life and activity." Here the most noticeable event of the day was a socialist meeting in Hyde Park, at which some inflammatory speech making was indulged in and a resoluion passed condemning the tyrannical and despotic conduct of the governments all over the world for preventing workers from celebrating their labor holiday whereand here they choose, and cailing upon the industra. portion of the community in all countries to federate, with a view to abolish the cutthroat system of competition, and put an end to wage slavery, which keeps them in a degraded and demoralized condition and a degraded and demoralized condition and a state of semi-starvation, while their masters, the profit mongers, live in affluence, comfort, luxury, and splendor. In Vienna "the demonstration was a triumph of good order and common sense over the vaporings of the Socialists and Anarchists." In Paris "there was no manifestation worthy of the name. It was a feature of the day that although crowds assembled they did not consist of workingmen." Similiar reports from all parts of the assembled they did not consist of working-men." Similiar reports from all parts of the continent—Berlin, Brussels, Madrid, Lisbon, Rome, etc.,—state that in no place did any violent demonstration take place. That the day should have passed off so quietly will occasion rejoicing among the friends of peace and order. It will strengthen their hopes, too, inasmuch as it is an evidence that the influence of the Socialist and Anarchist movement is not as powerful as many had supposed, and an assurance that the Armamovement is not as powerful as many had supposed, and an assurance that the Armageddon of Capital and Toil will not be fought forthwith. Before that struggle takes place it is to be hoped that a better spirit may prevail, under whose influence all injustice may be rectified and all wrongs redressed.

It is an interesting question upon which political economists are not themselves ortgages upon their land; and will agree trues where the people have a voice in deter money borrowed. Happy conception ! carried on except along party lines. Leaving Probably they hadden the Though in the wilderness their Canaan is in the theoretical question to be decided by opinically the view. Only this stands in the way those whose time is decided by opinically the probably the proba Though in the wilderness their Canaan is in the theoretical question to be decided by opinically view. Only this stands in the way, those whose time is devoted to the study of material manager of that the scheme is in danger of meeting op the principles of government, and acceptance as it is the principles of government, and acceptance as it is the principles of government. position from others who do not see out of the fact that, for some time to come; the best-farmers eyes, butchers, bakers, candlestick. This country are likely to be be governed by makers, who, when they rec plums going to party, t may well, be asked if there ? leftwill?

cussion, that the changes were rung upon the after which the rind is so adroitly sealed as lent at one per cent. as much as any other example. Recently an article in the Contemporary Review, by Prof. A. V. Dicey, draws the attention of the English speaking peoples to the system adopted in Switzerland, and known as the referendum. According to this provision, every law passed by the Fed oral legislature, which involves an alteration of the Federal Constitution, must be referred to the voters for acceptance or rojection Any other law may be so referred on the demand of 30,000 voters or of eight can tons. The people cannot give a qualified assent; they must answer "Yes" or "No." so the referendum is nothing more nor less than a right of veto vested in the electorate instead of in the excutive. Should the ans wer of the voters be adverse, the ministry favoring it are not thereby compelled to re. sign. Thus party feeling is not strongly en listed, and an expression of sober, deliberate, and independent opinion is obtained.

> Speaking of this system in relation to partyism Prof. Dicey says; "The party system, whatever its advantages, and they are not insignificant, is opposed to the sovereignty of the people, which is the fundamental dogma of modern democracy. That system throws the control of legislation first into the hands of a party, and then into the hands of the most active or the most numerous section of that party. But the part of a party may be, and probably is a mere fraction of the nation. The principle of the referendum, on the other hand, is to place, at any rate, as regards important legislation, parties. factions and sections under control ' the national majority. The creation of a pop lar vote is open it must be frankly admitted to grave objections. The consideration, however, which more than any other, may commend it to the favorable attention of thoughtful men, is its tendency to revive, in democratic societies, the idea which the indemocratic societies, the idea which the influence of partisanship threatens with death, that allegiance to party must, in the minds of good citizens yield to the claims of loyalty to the nation." Now some such provision us this, engrafted upon the present order which gives the electorate the opportunity of pronouncing judgment at the polls upon the action of their representatives, would doubtless tend to secure better legislation. It sometimes happens that an issue of vast unportance. less tend to secure better legislation. It some-times happens that an issue of vast importance has not been satisfactorily treated by the party in power, while at the same time the party's policy respecting other impor-tant issues is infinitely better than the policy of the Oppposition touching these same issues. If therefore the people possess ed the power of the referendum, they might to the sets of which they did not an interest. veto the acts of which they did not approve, without being compelled, as at present, either to renounce allegiance to the party whose general policy and conduct commend thomselves, or making a choice between two platforms, neither of which is perfectly

The refusal of the stonecutters of the sig now on strike, to confer with his Wors Mayor Clarke, ica tan lat confel he structed to try too under haropean labor troubgalepot of the foreign