

for some years to come." Such prices are almost incredible when it is considered that in 1836, little more than half a century ago, when the site of Melbourne was marked out, there were only thirteen buildings, viz: three weatherboard, two slate, and eight turf huts. As a comparison between the value of land there in 1835 and the present year, it is stated in Wright's *Australian Gazetteer* that in the former year John Batman, a New South Wales settler, acting as agent for a knot of speculators, made his way to what is now the site of Melbourne and there made acquaintance with the native chiefs and persuaded them to sell him all their right, title, and interest to about 600,000 acres of fine land for the valuable consideration of "twenty pairs of blankets, thirty tomahawks, one hundred knives, fifty pairs of scissors, thirty looking-glasses, two hundred handkerchiefs, one hundred pounds of flour, and six shirts." This brilliant investment, however, brought him no results, for the government annulled the trade.

THE McKinley Bill is being hotly discussed and criticized almost throughout the whole civilized world. Great Britain, France, Germany, Austria, Italy and other nations who are affected in their exports by the new tariff are considering the best means of meeting the difficulty by retaliation or otherwise. Regarding the policy of our own country Sir John Macdonald, in his speeches at Halifax and St. John, N.B., gave no uncertain sound. Canadians, he said, were not to be coerced by a restrictive trade policy into selling their flag and their allegiance to the Queen but would remain true to their own Dominion and the British empire. He believed the McKinley Bill would not do much immediate harm, but the effect would be of much ultimate good. The people of the country would rise in their might and seek and find new avenues of trade. Such are the Premier's sentiments and they have found a cordial response from the press and people of the mother country. Fresh markets will be found in England, the West Indies, Australia, China and Japan for Canadian products which are shut out from the United States. Trial shipments of eggs have already been made to the English markets with most satisfactory results and a ready and paying market will also, it is said, be found there for our surplus hay, barley, cattle, sheep and hogs. Other channels of trade will be found for other products but that cannot be done in a day or a year, as when trade has once got firmly settled into certain grooves, it is always a labor of time to accomplish a wholesale transfer. In the effort, however, the Dominion will, without doubt, receive all the assistance that the mother country can possibly render; therefore, the time may not be so far distant as some people imagine. It is believed that the increased duty will have little, or no effect, on the exportation of our horses to the States as the purchasers will rather bear the extra duty than be without them. In this respect *The Horseman* of Chicago, a conservative journal on equine topics, pays the following compliment to Canada in its last issue: "It is not an exaggeration to say that in none of our States is the breeding interest becoming more firmly established and making greater comparative progress at present than in Canada. The movement is general all along the line, from the sandstone headlands that are washed by the Gulf of St. Lawrence to the boundless plains of the Great Lone Land. Many parts of the Eastern provinces are as admirably adapted to the breeding business as the rich province of Ontario, the better sections of which in agricultural wealth will compare favorably with any of the States. A tide of good blood has steadily poured across the borders, and now almost every county in the Dominion has its well-bred stallion, and on many farms are gilt-edged matrons."

We are told that "patience and perseverance overcometh all obstacles." Perhaps they do in most things but in the matter of the establishment of a system of advanced Public Schools among our rural populations, more especially devoted to the interests of agricultural education, it would seem as if something more than the exercise of these virtues were necessary to overcome obstacles that may be in the way. Are there any obstacles? We

do not know of any and it is therefore passing strange that none of our Local Governments has taken steps to give the system a trial. It has been successfully tried in other countries, at trifling expense, and its introduction in this country would be so manifestly to the advantage of our agricultural communities, that we wonder why they do not rise in their might and compel the governments to give it practical effect without further delay. What is to hinder each rural constituency from sending a deputation to their member in the Legislature and telling him quietly but firmly that he must use his influence with the Government in this direction? That would be a simple and effective way of helping along the good work. This is not a matter that farmers should look upon with indifference. It vitally concerns their own and their children's future interests and they should lose no time in taking concerted action, in the manner indicated, to have these schools established. The Public School Inspectors of Ontario have placed on record their opinion that it is desirable to establish such schools, and, we think, it will be admitted that few are better qualified to speak advisedly of the educational requirements of the rising generation, than they. It is a notorious fact, as we have previously said, that boys are reared in our rural districts without knowing and without noticing intelligently the thousands of objects of interest that surround them. Trees, flowers, grasses, wild beasts and birds are, with a few insignificant exceptions, sealed books, as it were, to the rustic youth. It is hardly to be wondered at that it is so, because his father before him knew equally little, and the instruction he receives at school deals with altogether different subjects, useful in their way, no doubt, and necessary, but barren of interest to youth as compared with the book of nature when properly opened and explained. It might, however, be very much otherwise were a suitable key provided for the opening up of nature's mysteries. Then we would have a wider and deeper interest in the things of the country taken by boys belonging to the country, and less of the growing tendency to crowd into large urban centres—in many cases much to the disadvantage of those who go. While on this subject we may mention that in Austria there is not only a High School of Agriculture, costing the State 125,000 florins a year, but there are fifteen intermediate and eighty-three primary agricultural schools besides nine chairs of agriculture in polytechnic establishments and agricultural experiment stations. Moreover, there are 162 courses of agricultural lectures, attended on an average by about ten thousand a year. The whole expense of agricultural subventions is set down in the Austrian estimates for the present year as 1,777,084 florins, equal to about \$388,500.

#### Words of Encouragement.

THE following letters are among the many received last month:—

MR. ALFRED B. OWEN, agent, Dr. Barnardo's Home, Toronto.—Enclosed please find cheque in payment of account, which kindly receipt. We shall be glad to renew our contract for another year at same rate, as I am pleased to say your paper has been of great service to us and brought us into communication with a large number of the best class of farmers.

MR. ED. M. JAMIESON, Melita, Man.—Please find enclosed fifty cents, for which, kindly send me MASSEY'S ILLUSTRATED till Dec. 1891. I congratulate you on its success. We like it as a home paper, and do not mean to be without it again. Wishing you success, etc.

MR. J. READER, The Pas, Cumberland, N. W. T.—Please find enclosed fifty cents, in postage stamps, in payment of my subscription for the next year's numbers of your interesting publication, which is always welcomed out here.

MR. S. MILLS, Bunyan, Ont.—I am a reader of MASSEY'S ILLUSTRATED and am well pleased with it. The letters from Palestine were really interesting. I think many of the cuts of inventions and hints with regard to farm management worth the price of the magazine. Your September number was a beauty.

MR. C. A. CASS, L'Orignal, Ont.—Enclosed please find one dollar to pay for MASSEY'S ILLUSTRATED for this year, which I am receiving, and for next year, 1891. I like your paper very much and consider it well worth the money.

SEE advertisement on page 11.



- 1st.—The McKinley Tariff bill signed by President Harrison. General Lord Wolseley assumes command of the troops in Ireland.
- 2nd.—Disastrous fire in Sydney, New South Wales; loss £1,500,000. . . . Circular issued by the New York Central railroad to the heads of departments instructing them to employ no more Knights of Labor.
- 3rd.—Sir John Macdonald and other Ministers address two public meetings in St. John, N. B. . . . Arrival of the Comte de Paris in New York.
- 4th.—Death of the wife of General Booth, Commander-in-chief of the Salvation Army. . . . The first ground broken for the construction of the great Niagara tunnel.
- 5th.—All the buildings on the State Experimental farm at Hamlin, Minn., destroyed by fire; loss \$35,000.
- 6th.—The Mormons at a General Conference in Salt Lake City, accept the manifesto of their President forbidding in the future all polygamous marriages.
- 7th.—Ten men killed, twenty wounded, and the village wrecked by a series of explosions at the Dupont Powder works, Rockland, Del. . . . The Imperial Parliament summoned to meet on Nov. 25th. . . . Arthur Hoyt Day, found guilty at the Welland Assizes of murdering his wife by throwing her over the precipice at Niagara Falls, and sentenced to be hanged on Dec. 18th.
- 8th.—Tilsonburg, Ont., carries a by-law in favor of a \$10,000 bonus to the Tilsonburg, Lake Erie, and Pacific railway. . . . Hon. Wilfrid Laurier, leader of the Opposition, addresses a big political meeting at Abbotsford, Que.
- 9th.—Two school girls, Mary and Eliza McGonigle, outraged and murdered, in a wood near their parents' residence, Cumberland, Russell County, Ont; the suspected murderer, Narcisse Larocque, arrested. . . . Formal opening of the West End Y. M. C. A. building, Toronto.
- 10th.—Wm. O'Brien, and John Dillon, the Nationalist M. P.s, make their escape from Ireland, forfeiting their bail of £1000 each, in order to visit the United States. . . . Fire in Wallaceburg, Ont.; loss \$10,000.
- 11th.—The Pillow-Hersey Manufacturing Co's rolling mills at Point St. Charles, Que., destroyed by fire; loss \$75,000. The Jews in Sebastopol, Russia, ordered to leave the city.
- 13th.—Deaths of Justice Miller, of the United States Supreme Court, and ex-Secretary of War Belknap, at Washington. . . . The children of the Public Schools, Toronto, celebrate the anniversary of the battle of Queenston Heights.
- 14th.—Death of Mr. R. Sellars, the oldest native of Kingston, Ont., and the oldest Freemason in Canada, in his 90th year. . . . Public reception tendered the delegates to the Eighteenth Annual Congress of the Association for the Advancement of Women, at Toronto. . . . F. Blanchard sentenced to be hanged at Sherbrooke Que., on Dec. 12th, for shooting his companion, Calkins, in November last.
- 15th.—Valuable seams of coal located in Cape Breton.
- 16th.—The Leland hotel, Syracuse, N. Y., destroyed by fire, four lives lost. . . . The Senate and Regents of Victoria University assent to federation.
- 17th.—Opening of the annual convention of the Baptists of the Dominion, at Woodstock, Ont. . . . Archdeacon Farrar accepts the chaplaincy of the Imperial House of Commons.
- 18th.—The new Cape Breton railway just completed by the Government formally opened by the Governor-General.
- 19th.—Dr. Dennis O'Connor consecrated Bishop of the London, Ont., diocese in presence of an immense congregation.
- 20th.—Death of Captain Burton, the distinguished traveller and writer. . . . Abbott and Co's machine shop and workshops, Montreal, destroyed by fire; loss \$40,000. . . . Death of Senator Archibald, of North Sydney. . . . Sir Richard Cartwright opens his political tour by addressing the electors of Renfrew.
- 21st.—Rev. James Thompson, Methodist minister, at Honeywood, Ont., suspended for preaching conditional immortality and the annihilation of the wicked.
- 22nd.—Three railway collisions in the United States, one near Birmingham, Ala., the other near Kansas City, and the third in a tunnel near Cincinnati, O.; six persons killed and many injured. . . . The Gladstonians carry the election in the Eccles division of Lancashire, previously held by a Conservative.
- 23rd.—Reported that New York merchants are to test the constitutionality of the McKinley Act in the courts.
- 24th.—Severe storm in New York and Boston and along the coast, ships wrecked and great loss of property. . . . The Comte de Paris enthusiastically welcomed in Montreal.
- 25th.—Great festivities in Berlin, Germany, in celebration of the ninetieth anniversary of Count Von Moltke's birthday.
- 26th.—Archbishop Cleary of Kingston, Ont., invested with the pallium in presence of a distinguished gathering of clerical dignitaries.
- 27th.—Another destructive fire in Kinmount, Ont.; loss \$12,000.
- 28th.—Father Macdonell consecrated Roman Catholic Bishop of Alexandria, including Glengarry and Stormont.
- 29th.—The explorer, Stanley, sails from England for his lecture tour in the States and Canada. . . . The North West Assembly opened at Regina.
- 30th.—The Governor-General lays the foundation stone of the new buildings in course of erection in connection with McGill University, Montreal.