

EXTENSION OF THE DOMINION.

The absorption of the North-West-Territory has come rather suddenly, but not a bit too soon, before the House of Commons. It has been understood from the first that the outlying portions of British North America should be included in the great scheme of Confederation at the earliest moment; and as the inhabitants of the Red River country have asked for admission to the Union, it is but right that the wish should be complied with. The only questionable feature in the business is the suddenness with which the subject has been brought up. Sir John A. Macdonald undertook to inform Parliament what measures would be brought forward, he made no mention of this North-West question; but we are not inclined to quarrel with the ministry for being hasty, as they have all along shown a disposition to the contrary, therefore we are not a little surprised at Mr. Blake coming out in opposition to the resolution introduced by the minister of Public Works. Mr. Mackenzie very properly rebuked him for doing so, especially as the measure is one the Reform party strongly advocated.

The debate upon the question has been highly interesting, and appears to have brought out some of the best talent in the House. The only objection of a feasible kind, raised against the annexation of the Territory in question was the expense. That is certainly a matter of great consequence; but it need not necessarily be made an objection, as the expenditure in connection therewith may be spread over a series of years. The great point to be considered is, the prevention of the United States absorbing the Territory. Already, that country is gradually annexing territory along its borders; and is this very moment using every means of persuasion to get British Columbia into the great American Union. Who knows how soon the annexation of the North-West might be accomplished if the government of Canada refuse to listen to the demands of the inhabitants of Red River. The step is highly opportune, and it is well that the Government have seen fit to include this measure in their programme. There can hardly be any doubt that the resolution will speedily be embodied in law. Of course, the sanction of the Imperial Parliament is required.—[*Examiner Barrie.*]

[We hope something may be done to open up this vast fertile expanse, as we already require land to induce our young men to remain on British soil, and that portion of the British possessions will afford great inducements as soon as a practicable route to it is opened.]

HOME.—The only fountain in the wilderness of life where man drinks of water unmixed with bitterness is that which gushes up in the calm and steady recess of domestic life. Pleasure may heat the heart with artificial excitement, but when the excitement is gone, an aching void, that is filled in the calm holy of domestic bliss when surrounded by all that tends to earthly comfort, he should turn his thoughts to a life that extends through infinity, beyond this which is an index pointing across the sea of life to one of happiness or misery.—*Ex.*

INCREASE IN PRICE.

You should take the Farmer's Advocate and send your orders at once for Seeds or you may not secure a supply, as our stock is limited in many of the advertised seeds.

We sold Chilian Wheat last month at \$2 50 to \$3 00. Now we have but a small stock and you cannot supply much even at \$3 00. We hope to be enabled to procure more, and will sell at less if we can purchase so as to be able to afford to do so.

We have just heard some good account of the Golden Drop from the North. It would be well to try a little of it. The quality of the wheat is superior to the Chilian. As soon as our present supply is exhausted the price of that will be increased.

on account of the rise in exchange, we now charge 15c more for the Country Gentleman and Farmer's Advocate, than we charged last month.

SUPPORT OF DOMESTIC ANIMALS.

No stock feels the pinch of food so much as the milch cow, and none is so likely to be neglected. Her life's blood is daily drawn from her in the shape of milk, and when the food which is allowed her fails to supply the waste, the tissues of her body are even turned into the lacteal trammels, and her emaciated frame shows the unnatural and cruel demand which has been made upon her strength and a weakening of her constitution, which affects her offspring and causes a degeneracy of the race.

The dictates of interest, no less than humanity, require that the class of farm stock on which human subsistence so largely depends, should receive generous treatment. They should never suffer for want of food or shelter. If the pastures fail, make up the deficiency in some other way. Feed the animals with meal or something of the kind, or even give them a portion of the fodder which had been stored for winter. It will never be needed more. There is no economy in starving animals so that at the setting in of winter they are "spring poor." The old adage that "stock well summered is half wintered," is true. A lean animal actually requires more food to support life, under exposure to cold, than one in good condition. Hence the food of animals can never be turned to a better account than to keep up their condition in the fall and early part of winter. If a pinch is inevitable, it had better come at the latter part of the feeding season, because a period will then be shorter; the animal will not suffer for so long a time.—*Ex.*

FACTS FOR FARMERS.

If you invest money in tools, and then leave them exposed to the weather, it is the same as loaning money to a spendthrift without security—a dead loss in both cases.

If you invest money on books and never read them, it is the same as putting your money into a bank, but never drawing either principal or interest.

If you invest your money in fine stock and do not feed and protect them, and properly care for them, it is the same as dressing your wife in silk to do kitchen work.

If you invest your money in choice fruits and do not guard and give them a chance to grow and prove their value, it is the same as putting a good hand into the field with poor tools to work with.

If you invest your money in a good farm and do not cultivate it well, it is the same as marrying a good wife and so abusing and enslaving her as to crush her energies and break her heart.

If you invest your money in a fine house and do not so cultivate your mind and taste as to adorn it with intelligence and refinement, it is as if you were to wear broadcloth and a silk hat to mill.

If you invest your money in strong drink, it is the same as turning hungry hogs into a growing cornfield—ruin will follow in both cases.

If you invest your money in every wonder that flaming circulars proclaim, it is the same as buying tickets in a lottery, where there are ten blanks to one prize.

Advantages of Steaming Food for Stock.

Eleven years ago the writer commenced cooking upon a small scale for his cows and horses, and although he encountered some difficulty in arranging his apparatus to suit him, yet from the beginning it was evident that the food was much improved even by imperfect cooking. He has continued it every winter since, and sometimes steamed for 50 head of cattle and six horses.

He found the advantages to be: First—That it renders mouldy hay, straw, etc., sweet and palatable, and satisfies the animal better, so that after eating they lie down contented. Second—It enables the feeder to mix different qualities of food, hay and straw—good and poor hay, etc., renders it all palatable, softening the hard tough fibre, and thus enabling the farmer to save all. Third—It improves the manure, rendering it always ready for use, decomposing more readily, and therefore more valuable when used in a fresh state, than that from unsteamed food. Fourth—It will cure incipient heaves in horses—has a remarkable effect upon horses with a sudden cold, and in constipation—keeps all animals more healthy and appears to answer all the purposes of grass. Fifth—It improves the appearance of the animal at once, causing the coat to become smooth and of a high color; enables fattening cattle to eat with less labor, and fatten in much less time; gives working animals time to eat all that is necessary in the intervals of labor. Sixth—It saves at least one-third of the food. Two bushels of cut and cooked hay will satisfy cows as well as three bushels of uncooked; and the cooking of hay and straw destroys all foul and troublesome weeds.—[*E. W. Stewart in Country Gent.*]