

The Review.

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RICHIBUCTO, N. B., AUG. 8, 1895.

THE VALUE OF LAND.

That there has been a decline in the value of farm lands in New Brunswick is admitted. Many are inquiring whether prices will revive and there are some sanguine prophets who foresee an early return of better prices for land. The causes of the decline are apparent. The opening up of the Western prairies in the United States and Canada, well adapted as the lands are to the growth of wheat and other cereals, the introduction of labor-saving farm machinery, gang plows and self-binding reapers, making it possible with the labor of a few hands to fill vast granaries with wheat, naturally attracted the great body of land-seeking immigrants to those fertile plains. Hence the tide of immigration which once came to New Brunswick was diverted to the great West, and thither, too, many of our native population were attracted, thus effectually killing the demand for farm lands in this province. The immediate effect was two-fold. The clearing of new lands, so largely in vogue a generation ago was entirely stopped, and the value of old land farms declined with the lessened demand.

But there are reasons for believing that this condition will not be permanent. The great fall in the price of wheat, which in a few years has come down from one dollar to fifty cents per bushel, has made prairie farming no more profitable than the mixed farming of our own provinces. In fact it is the testimony of many of our own people who have made trial of the great West that they could have done equally well in New Brunswick, and have lived in greater comfort here. The abundance of fuel, the excellent water, the conveniences of good roads, school and church privileges here are in strong contrast with the conditions in like matters in most parts of the prairie country. Our crops, if sometimes less abundant, are more certain. We suffer less from droughts, frosts and grasshoppers, and it is a small advantage that we are much nearer the great markets of the world in which our surplus products must find their sale.

Besides, the immigrants have found that not all the prairie lands are rich. On the contrary many of them are poor when compared with our own New Brunswick soil. We have heard much of the deep black soil of the Red River Valley,—soil two to four feet deep and rich as a garden—but the proportion of such soil to the vast tracts of light, sandy and broken prairie is but small indeed, and the best lands there are all taken up, or held at high prices for speculation. We have in consequence already reached the stage at which migration to the prairie country is distinctly checked. These conditions must tend in the near future to give increased value to New Brunswick farm lands. It is true that the tide of British emigration has been partly turned from America to South Africa, but this can be no more than a temporary diversion. We have a better soil for cultivation than South Africa, and the time must speedily come when the attention of immigrant farmers from Britain and Ireland will be directed this way. In fact, at the present moment there is probably no part of the world in which the old-world farmer could do better than by coming to New Brunswick, purchasing at present values one of our improved farms, and applying here the more thorough methods of tillage to which they have been accustomed.

We venture to predict a revival in the price of farms from this cause. Such a revival might be greatly hastened by the action of our provincial government, if so disposed, in making known to the tenant farmers of the old world the conditions existing here and the advantages so easily obtainable. But at present nothing is being done to that end.

MANITOBA IS FIRM.

When parliament was prorogued recently there appeared some reason to hope for a settlement of the Manitoba school question by mutual concession. That hope seems to be fading off into obscurity. Manitoba stands firm in her attitude of

resistance to the remedial order. Mr. Greenway dares not make concession if he would, as the majority of the people in their present temper would speedily consent to oblivion any ministry which would consent to the restoration of separate schools.

The federal government, on their part, cannot now withdraw the remedial order, even if satisfied that the making of it in the first instance may have been a mistake. They are committed to reinforce the order by an act of the federal parliament when next it meets. So the dead-lock remains with no prospect of its being broken. But in the event of a remedial law being passed at Ottawa it must become a matter of grave difficulty to enforce it. We know something of the inefficacy of the Scott Act in counties that have adopted it but where a small minority are opposed to its provisions, and we can judge from this how impossible it would be to enforce any act of parliament to which the great majority of the people would stand opposed. Such will be the condition which will meet the proposed federal law restoring separate schools to Manitoba. It is safe to say that at least two-thirds of the people would stand opposed to the law. How then can it be enforced, however just and necessary its provisions may appear to the minority?

It is only common prudence to look forward along the road we purpose to travel, and see what difficulties are inevitable. It is clear that the enactment of a remedial law for Manitoba will precipitate a political storm of extraordinary intensity in Canada. For in the interior between its enactment and the beginning of the attempt to enforce it the general elections must be held throughout the country. The possibilities of such a contest are not pleasant to contemplate. It may turn out that the Catholic minority of Manitoba, however ill they have fared under the exciting school law of Manitoba, will not find matters much improved under the well-intended efforts of their friends at Ottawa.

We would gladly hope for some solution other than interference by the federal parliament were there fair grounds for such a hope. But it is but natural for the Greenway government, with popular feeling in its favor, to stand by the law it has made, whether this law be just or unjust, fair or unfair. At this distance we can look calmly on the matter, but we must not forget that the majority of the Manitoba people look upon the remedial order as an attempt at coercion, and hence as a measure to be resisted. The governments at Ottawa and Winnipeg are not in friendly accord. The latter is more than willing to impose obstacles and incite popular feeling to the disadvantage of the former, for political purposes. It is for these reasons that at the present moment we can see but little grounds to hope for a peaceful solution. The Manitoba government will not settle the question except upon its own terms, and these are terms which, in view of the pledges made the Ottawa government cannot agree to.

The Exhibition Association of St John is making extensive preparation for the provincial show to be shortly held there. The permanent buildings of the Association are being re-fitted and renovated and long rows of stalls for live stock are being erected close at hand. At some former exhibitions the live stock, from want of room on the city grounds, was kept at Moosepath, some miles away from the principal portion of the show, greatly to the inconvenience of visitors. That difficulty will now be obviated and the entire exhibition will be placed compactly together and easily accessible to all. The splendid street railway system of St John will afford facilities unknown at former exhibitions, for conveying visitors to and from their hotels and the exhibition at the cost of a few cents, thus rendering them independent of coaches in case of a shower. The show promises to be a good one and we trust that the North shore counties will be creditably represented thereat.

The year 1896 promises to be a great year for elections. Our neighbors must then choose a new president, Canada a new parliament and New Brunswick a new legislature.

Buctouche Notes.

AUG. 5.—Among those who were in town last week were Messrs. Mullar, Toombs, Thompson, Cameron, Ross and Girouard.

Misses Gertrude McDonald and Mame Lanigan, spent a few days here.

J. H. Abbott spent Sunday in town.

Miss Mary Bourque, is visiting friends in Cocagne.

Miss Annie and Mame Sutton are visiting their parents here.

U. D. Johnson spent Monday in Kingston.

Miss Celine Bourque left Saturday morning to visit her parents in New Bedford.

Mrs. Campbell, of Ottawa is visiting her brother, H. H. James at this place.

Miss Mary Hannagan, has returned from visiting friends in Dorchester.

Miss Ella McFadden, and Josie Sutton are visiting in Kingston.

Mrs. J. Hughes of Moncton who has been spending a few weeks with her mother Mrs. Chas. McManus returned to her home, on Saturday morning accompanied by her sister Mrs. W. K. Thompson.

McNairn Notes.

The farmers are through haying. The wheat crop is looking remarkably fine. Wm. Johnson has a splendid field of wheat he procured the seed from Jas. Girvan of Kingston.

Wm. R. McNairn B. A. preached a very fine sermon to a very large audience, and was heartily welcomed by his old schoolmates and friends. A very bright future seems to be in store for him and none can wish him greater success than the writer. He remained with his father a few days.

Mrs. James Johnson was very pleasantly surprised on Sabbath by the unlooked for arrival of her father Mr. H. Ainsworth of Portland, Me. who for the past eight months has been visiting his daughter in Texas, he returned to Buctouche the same day with his son-in-law Mr. H. Murray, but intends returning in a week to make her an extended visit.

Little Nettie Gunn of Moncton is visiting her aunt Mrs. Wm. McNairn.

Mrs. A. McBeath and family returned to Moncton after two weeks visit among her friends.

Mrs. Jas. McNairn who was visiting her sister Mrs. Glendenning of Shediac has returned.

Miss Maggie English of Kingston is visiting her grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Morrison.

Mrs. Wm. McBeath and family who were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Finlay McBeath returned to Moncton on Saturday.

Miss Annie McEachern of Quincy, Mass. is spending her vacation with her brother and sister.

Miss Mary H. Johnson and her little niece have gone to visit her sister Mrs. J. Murray of Scotch Settlement.

Fuelering, Kent Co.

Mr. F. T. LeBlanc has built a fine barn this summer which improves the appearance of his place very much. P. D. Cormier is hauling the lumber for an extension to his barn.

Mr. Edouard R. Leger and wife have gone on a visit to relatives in St. Louis.

Mr. Girvan of Kingston was here recently and sold some fine carriages to the farmers here. The hay crop is almost all saved and is little more than half it was last year. The other crops are suffering for rain.

Forest fires are raging here and have done a great deal of damage. Mr. L. T. Bastarache lost his fences. Yesterday Wilfred Breaun lost a quantity of hay cut in the field and F. T. LeBlanc lost some of his fences and crop. Why don't some one look after the people who set fires for amusement at this season of the year?

The Ball given at the residence of Mr. Will Coates on Wednesday evening was a decided success, after tea which was provided in Mrs. Coates's best style some of the guests amused themselves on the swing which had been prepared for the occasion while others tripped the light fantastic. All seeming to enjoy themselves immensely, the host and hostess sharing in the amusement as joyfully as any of the guests. I did not secure a proper list of names of the guests but in future will be more careful to secure the names as Moncton Little River and Hicksville and some other places were well represented.

Vrai Acadiens.

Christians Massacred.

LONDON, Aug. 5.—The Globe publishes a dispatch from Hong Kong saying the massacre at Wassang, near Kucheng, began early on Thursday morning. The mob set fire to the houses of missionaries and killed one woman, one child and the husband of one woman. Chinese troops have been dispatched to the scene. The British and American consuls will interview the viceroy of the provinces regarding the outrage. All the foreigners killed were British, the Americans all escaping.

The Standard demands that the murderers of the missionaries in China be visited with condign punishment and that a stern example be made of the officials, who virtually connived at the commission of the crime. The paper says: "If the Emperor cannot or will not protect British residents, we must give him assistance of a kind that he will not welcome."

The Chronicle says it trusts Great Britain and the United States will combine to teach the Chinese a lesson that will cause foreigners to be respected forever, but in view of the conditions existing in the country the bodies sending missionaries, especially women, incur the greatest responsibility. The whole question, the Chronicle adds, ought to be reconsidered.

The Times says: "The outrage must of course form the subject of strong representations to China from England and probably from the United States also. It must not be passed over as a trifle. The instance of the murderers would cause a standing menace to the lives and property of the whole European community in China."

A despatch from Shanghai says the commission of inquiry into the Cheng Tu riots includes the prefect of Cheng Tu, who is seriously implicated.

K. D. C. Pillsbury and regulate the bowels.

"GONE"

Sister "Lella," died June 17th 1895.

Another hand is beckoning us
Another call is given;
And glows once more with angel steps,
The path that reaches heaven.

No paling of the cheek of bloom
Forewarned us of decay;
No shadow from the silent land
Fell round our sister's way.

The light of her young life went down,
As sinks behind the hill;
The glory of a setting star
Clear, suddenly, and still.

As pure and sweet her fair brow seemed,
Eternal as the sky;
And like the brook's low sound her voice
A song which could not die.

And half we deemed she needed not
The changing of sphere,
To give to heaven a shining one
Who walked an angel here.

The blessing of her quiet life
Fell on us like the dew;
And good thoughts were her footsteps
pressed.

Like fairy blossoms grew.
Sweet promptings unto kindest deeds
Were in her very look;
We read her face as one who reads
A true and holy book:

The measure of a blessed hymn
To which our hearts could move
The breathing of an inward psalm
A canticle of love.

We miss her in the place of prayer
And by the hearth-fires light
We pause beside her door to hear
Once more her sweet "Good night."

There seems a shadow on the day
Her smile no longer cheers;
A dimness on the stars of night
Like eyes that look through tears.

Alone unto our Father's will
One thought hath reconciled;
That He whose love exceedeth ours
Hath taken home his child.

Fold her O Father in thine arms,
And let her henceforth be
A messenger of love between
Our human hearts and thee.

Still let her mild rebuking stand
Between us and the wrong;
And her dear memory serve to make
Our faith in goodness strong.

And grant that she, who trembling here,
Disturbed all her powers so,
May welcome to her holier home
The well beloved of ours.

Fall River, Mass. "HER SISTERS."

Healthy Public Sentiment.

Nothing is so productive of good results in the operation of what we term the body politic as a healthy public sentiment. It shapes and controls legislation and the administration of the laws. It is to the body politic what a healthy digestion is to the physical body. Speaking of digestion, the greatest remedy in the world for chronic indigestion or dyspepsia is Hawker's nerve and stomach tonic. The most obstinate cases are cured by this remedy. It stimulates and tones up the organs, enabling them to do their work perfectly. The blood is enriched and the nervous system invigorated. Perfect health is restored. Hawker's nerve and stomach tonic is sold by all druggists and dealers at 50c per bottle or six bottles for \$2.50, and is manufactured only by the Hawker Medicine Co., (Ltd.), St. John, N. B., and New York City.

A Woman's Age Secured.

In a case before a Paris court, in which a popular actress had to appear as a witness, the judge seemed to show considerable diffidence about asking the lady, as he was in duty bound to do, what was her age.

Evidently he considered that such a question put to a witness would be a direct incitement to perjury, so he asked her age before she had been sworn.

"How old are you, Madame?" he said. After a little hesitation the lady owned to being twenty-nine years of age.

"And now that you have told the court your age," continued the gallant judge, "you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth."

The Marquis of Dufferin, the British Ambassador to France, and ex-Governor General of Canada, has written to the Canadian Marksman, Hayhurst, congratulating him upon his success at the rifle meeting at Bisley.

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We have also received a large stock of Wall Paper with Borders to Match, consisting of 3,600 rolls, among which will be found some elegant designs.

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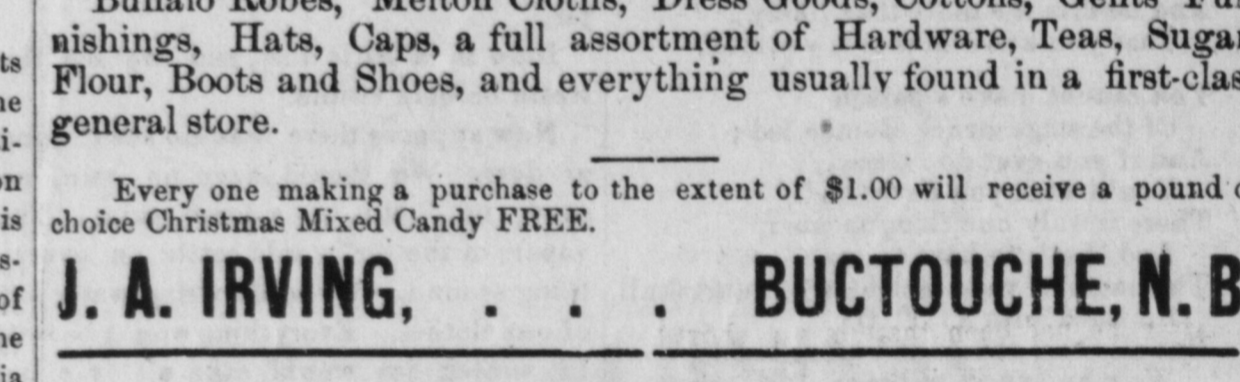
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