

NOTES OF THE WEEK

This afternoon Premier Laurier will lay before the house of commons his proposals regarding the Grand Trunk Pacific railway. His announcement is awaited with interest. The redistribution bill is now before the house. There is no prospect of parliament rising before September.

The seed bill has been so changed in committee that probably Mr Fisher will hardly feel like making any effort to pass it. There is crying need for stopping the sale of adulterated seed, especially of grass seed, but how it is going to be done is not clear.

Ontario in its legislation regarding Sunday observance has led the rest of the Dominion. Its prohibiting the running of cars and excursions, the operating of paper and saw-mills, and of iron works, were resented by those interested, and the acts of the legislature were called in question, on the ground that only the Dominion parliament had power in such matters. By consent a prepared case was submitted to the law-lords in England, who have declared the Ontario statute to be beyond its powers. The ground for their decision was, that the regulation of work on the Sunday pertained to the criminal law, and, therefore, was beyond the competency of any provincial legislature. Unless the Dominion government can be induced to adopt the provisions thus set aside, Ontario will have to submit to the lax observance of Sunday to which this decision will lead. It is well to keep in mind, that none of the enactments of the Ontario legislature were based on religious grounds; their sole design was to protect the working man in his right to a weekly day of rest. If factories, street cars, steamboats, railways, can run on Sunday it follows that a large number of men must be deprived of the rest they need and to which they are entitled.

It would have been better had the farmers of Chateauguy not taken the attacks on their picnic so seriously. Looking at the untruthfulness of these attacks and having regard to the source from which they come, the farmers could afford to treat them with laughter and contempt. That they have not done so, proves how deep a hold their July gathering has upon them: if they did not regard it so highly, they would not resent the attacks upon it so deeply. Had the mouthpiece of these attacks been manly, he would, when speaking from the platform on the 1st July, have made his objections there and then, and given an opportunity for reply on the spot. Such an airing of pretended grievances would have satisfied him and Mr Brown they had no justification. Instead of that, the poisoned arrows are shot anonymously in French and English, and in an unlooked for way. That there is no ground for alleging the picnic is being used for political purposes and with the pre-designed object of hurting Mr Brown and Mr Dupuis, is apparent from the way in which it is organized. Early in June, by public advertisement, the farmers are notified of a meeting to arrange for the picnic. The meeting is open to every one who chooses to attend, and any farmer who has a suggestion to make is free to do so. At that meeting officers for the ensuing year are appointed, committees struck to attend to the several necessary arrangements, and invitations to speakers decided upon. All is free, open, and above board. Every farmer has his say, and the assertion that the arrangements are left in Mr Greig's hands could not be further from the truth. The picnic is arranged by the farmers of English river, Fertile creek, Tallochgorum, and the Chateauguy, and they are not of the sort to be dictated to by anybody. Mr Greig has been given prominence by them because no other of their number has done so much to make the picnic successful. He not only has given the use of his grove, but loaned the lumber, helped to

mend the road, clear up the brush, and sent his teams to haul water and what else was needed. All this he did not only for nothing, but cheerfully, and encouraged others to lend a hand. That he did so from an interested motive, we dare his anonymous assailant to prove. At every meeting at which Mr Greig has been chairman, he has warned the speakers not to touch on politics. The charge that he harangued for an hour on the absence of Messrs Brown and Dupuis at the gathering of last year, is made out of whole cloth. He did nothing of the kind. In his passing reference to them, he attributed Mr Brown's absence to the weather. That one who has done so much for the picnic should be treated in this fashion is as ungrateful as it is unjust. As to the general charge, that discrimination has been made in choosing speakers, that Conservatives have been given the preference and Liberals placed at a disadvantage, nobody who has attended these picnics regularly need be told it is baseless. The speeches have been brief, mostly congratulatory and dealing with generalities, and the names of Laurier and Parent have never been mentioned. The writer who makes this baseless charge, deliberately invents speeches to sustain his assertion. Not wishing to drag in the names of gentlemen who were kind enough to ascend the platform, we take only the assertions regarding the publisher of the Gleaner. He did not say a word about party politics, his subject being Mr Chamberlain's federation proposal. The reference to the stone-crusher and the Parent government are pure inventions of the anonymous writer, in order to give Mr Dupuis a puff. This is a sample of how what others said is twisted and perverted.—The farmers' picnic is an institution that has come to stay and of the success of which the people of Chateauguy have cause to be proud. Nothing can be more fitting than that in the brief lull between hoeing and haying the farmer should have one day's outing. And out he comes, with his wife and bairns, (God bless them) to join with his neighbors under the shade of the trees for social crack and kindly greetings and to break bread together. No assemblage could be more innocent or rejoice the heart of the lover of humanity more, than to see so great a gathering of hard-worked men and women enjoying a brief respite from their heavy and monotonous toil. That they do enjoy it is proved by the great attendance, even when, as this year, neither roads nor weather were favorable. That the day should be diversified by the elders listening to short addresses while the young folk are engaged in games is most appropriate. How miserable the envious spirit which would destroy this ideal annual gathering by introducing the demon of political party, by preferring the false charge that the picnic has been converted into a political arena, with the intent of injuring the two present members and of booming Mr Greig! Knowing how the picnic originated, knowing the men who have carried it on, knowing what has happened and been said on every 1st of July, the Gleaner only speaks the mind of those who attend the picnic that the charges made are unfounded and malicious, and expresses their belief that the picnic will go on and flourish when its reviler and his revilers are forgotten.

A few weeks ago it was stated the Quebec government had promised to pay the expenses of the appeals against the sentence passed upon A. V. Drew. There was some delay in fulfilling the promise, but the other day Mr Walker, M.L.A., received a cheque for the amount and on Saturday, B. G. Rowe, the respondent, and his attorney, Mr McCormick, K.C., being present in the village, the matter was finally settled. As will be recalled, Drew was convicted at the criminal term in March, 1902, of perjury and was sentenced to 2 years in the penitentiary. The judge refused a reserved case, but one was granted by the court of appeals, which, however, on hearing it on its merits, confirmed the conviction. An appeal was then taken to the supreme court, which, last spring, found no cause for disturbing the decisions of the two lower courts. It might be supposed that, when a criminal court finds a man

guilty, sentence pronounced, and he is taken in charge by the sheriff, that the crown would assume the duty of maintaining the verdict of the jury and the sentence of the court, but no provision is made in the statutes to that end. The result is, that if a convict can obtain a reserved case the private prosecutor has either to contest the appeal or let the conviction be set aside. Mr Rowe could not consistently stand by and see justice set at naught by legal technicalities, and so appeared as contestant both in the court of appeals and in the supreme court. In doing so he assumed the risk of heavy costs, and on the final disposal of the case representation was made to the Quebec government that, in equity, he ought to be reimbursed his outlay in defending a conviction of the court of King's bench. Premier Parent, Attorney-general Archambault, and the late treasurer acknowledged the justice of the claim, and the warrant for payment was ordered. The costs were \$576 and these, as stated, were paid on Saturday. We wish we could add that the law has been so amended that no future case of the kind can happen, for it is surely obvious that the crown should defend the convictions of the court of King's bench, the liability of the private prosecutor ending when the jury renders a verdict of guilty. It ought also to be amended in another point. Altho Drew was sentenced by the court of King's bench and put in jail, he was released by the judge on bail pending the result of his appeal and is still at liberty. Here is a case of a man sentenced by our highest criminal court, and his conviction confirmed by the court of appeals and the supreme court, walking about unconcerned, because our procedure is defective. It is exactly such failures in executing justice that have led to the unhappy state of affairs that exist in the Southern States. While it is satisfactory to know Mr Rowe has been relieved of his payment of costs in the two appeals, the ratepayers of Franklin should bear in mind he and his fellow-councillors are still out of pocket in defending themselves against the charges of trespass and conspiracy. Had Mr Rowe not been mayor of Franklin and his associates members of its council, or officers appointed by it, they would not have been arrested and dragged before magistrates' courts time after time. They suffered because they were servants of the township, and any other ratepayers who had been in their place would have undergone like usage. No ratepayer will serve as a councillor or accept an office under it, when prosecuted without cause, as the judgments of the courts proved, he has to defend himself at his own cost. It is common sense that when a township official in the discharge of duty is put to costs, the township will pay those costs. In their several appearances at Franklin, Huntingdon, and Valleyfield, costs to the amount of, we understand, six hundred dollars were incurred. To say that Mr Rowe and his companions should be left to pay that sum out of their own pockets would be a disgrace to Franklin. Consideration in the matter has been postponed until litigation was ended. It is now ended and the ratepayers ought now to act. If they will treat the men who have been worried as they themselves would like to be treated, their council will make good the several amounts these men have paid.

It is supposed Russia has made an offer regarding Manchuria that will be accepted by Japan and the other Powers.

ORMSTOWN
During the past week Jas. Sangster had 60 hens and a very large bronze turkey stolen. Albert Parkinson had 65 taken also. At present Mr Parkinson has 35 boarders, making his loss the more serious.

During the electric storm last week, lightning struck the ventilator in John McGerrigle's barn, passing into the ground. His horse was in a box stall close at hand and was stunned. The animal is now better after three days of anxious care on the part of the proprietor. A barn in James-town was struck; the lightning left the gable, splintered a picket, and tore up the surface of the ground to an old stone foundation.

Mr Oliver St Louis is now building a fine residence north of the station. Little haying has been done yet, when a criminal court finds a man

usual. Hay is selling at \$10. Grain crops are reported bulky and of exceptionally good quality.

CAIRNSIDE
An indignation meeting was held in Fertile Creek school-house Monday evening with regard to the attacks made by the editors of the Ormstown Bulletin and LeProgres on the farmers' picnic. The meeting was unanimous in declaring the assertions of these papers as false and sympathy was expressed for Mr Greig, who had nothing whatever to do with inviting the speakers. It seems the members for Beauharnois were invited to the picnic and a letter of apology was received from Mr Loy by the secretary, Jas. Bryson, John Craig, and Robert Anderson were appointed to demand retraction of the slanders and an apology.

HOWICK
John McClenaghan has sold his farm on the Irish concession to a French Canadian from Cote St Laurent for the sum of \$5000. Mr McClenaghan leaves for the Northwest in the fall.

The funeral of the late Mrs Barlington, who finally succumbed to her injuries from fire when under treatment at the general hospital, took place at Georgetown on Tuesday.

Mr Shaw gave lantern views of ten nights in a bar-room to a small audience here on Tuesday night. The program was good but some disorderly fellows made things most uncomfortable for all present.

There has been no response so far to the repeated advertisements for a teacher for the Fertile Creek school. This school is in a desirable location, and there are just a sufficient number of scholars to enable the teacher to do them justice and at the same time to stimulate competition.

CHATEAUGUY
Mr A. C. Lockhart, one of our farmers at the Basin, met with a serious accident while putting off a load of hay on Saturday morning. The gearing of the hay fork stuck, and Mr Lockhart pulled upon the rope to loosen it, when the rope broke, pitching him with great force down from the mow upon the grinding. He fell backwards, narrowly escaping instant death. A doctor was called, and it was found that no bones were broken and no injuries sustained beyond a severe nervous shock.

Rev J. D. Anderson gave an address on Tuesday evening to his congregation on the subject of his trip to Vancouver at the time of the general assembly last month. About 50 assembled in the schoolhouse to hear him, and enjoyed it very much.

BEAUHARNOIS
Wm. Long, under indictment for murder, died in jail on Tuesday. Last February he took ill, refusing to eat, and was so weak when the criminal term opened, that he asked to have his trial put over. Since then he has been slowly sinking. He received every possible attention at the hands of the sheriff, Dr Laberge, who saw that he wanted for nothing, and his latter days were, as he acknowledged, made comfortable. In appearance he was older than his years, and when committed to jail had the look of a weak old man. The most charitable view of his crime is that he had a mental want. There was no sufficient motive for his shooting Denis Labre, and that crime, taken in connection with preceding acts, indicated a passionate and unbalanced nature. He had been in jail 25 months, and was in his 65th year. His death ends a sad life-story of the results of drink and angry passions.

VALLEYFIELD
The intellectual powers of a large number of the employees of the Montreal Cotton Co. are actively engaged in the solution of an interesting problem, which to them is of as much importance as the great problem of evolution, evoked by Walker & Darwin, was to the scientific world. The question referred to has reached a state of acute tension, so much so that the matters now hold only short morning sessions in their back yards, discussing the latest scandal, the rest of their valuable time being devoted to attempting to solve the question in a way satisfactory to themselves. Pater is in no way behind in a like attempt, being often found at midnight sitting on the soft side of an empty coal bin, where he meditatively devises ways and means to convince his adversaries to his way of thinking. The present heavy mental strain on the community can only be relieved by a rattling good dog fight, a circus parade, or a serenade from the Valleyfield brass band. All this trouble has come about through a very simple proposition—When and where shall we hold the annual overseers' picnic and who shall attend the same? The stumbling-block in the way, however, of a successful solution is what, who, or which constitutes an overseer? The dividing-line is hard to define.

Marchand fell overboard. Alarm was immediately given, and Mr Marchand promptly reached the scene of the accident. The body was recovered in almost inanimating state. After fifteen minutes' energetic work the lad revived, and is now out of all danger. The boy had been in the water quite a while before being taken out, and his recovery borders closely on the miraculous.

On Sunday our town wore its normal quietude—the unsavory element having chosen other pastures for its drunken orgies.

Until it is finally decided as to what constitutes an overseer, we may say that the heads of the various departments in the cotton mill, to the number of 28, boarded the yacht White Squall Saturday afternoon for a trip down the Beauharnois and up the Soulanges canal. But for the terrific downpour of rain the trip was a pleasant one.

A meeting of the creditors of the Northrop Loom company is to be held at Beauharnois on the 4th August to appoint a curator.

The Gault institute having received its annual clean-up, presents a tidy appearance.

The corporation is enforcing the payment of real estate taxes, and a large number of warrants have been issued.

The Provincial Official Gazette fixes the date of the change of the court house, etc., from Beauharnois to Valleyfield on the 15th September.

Saturday week a young girl, about 15 years of age, named Blanche Lavallee, from Montreal, was found at the New York Central station attempting to get on a train for New York. Her strange conduct led to her arrest, and she was lodged in the waiting-room of the police station, where she was made as comfortable as possible. In the morning, when awakened, it was found she had attempted, during the night, to commit suicide. In the forenoon she attempted to choke herself by stuffing a napkin down her throat, and in the afternoon was discovered swallowing pins. She was consequently placed in a cell for safety. Thursday morning she was taken to Montreal, when, before Judge Lafontaine, evidence showed her to be suffering from suicidal mania. She had already been arrested in Montreal 4 or 5 times for attempting to do away with herself. She is now confined in the insane asylum.

The Liberal association of the county of Beauharnois is called to a general meeting in Valleyfield for August last.

At a meeting of the board of trade, held Friday evening, a resolution was adopted asking the town council to communicate with the board of underwriters, asking it to lay before the council the cause of the excessive increase in insurance rates brought into force recently, as regards certain sections of the town. If due to defective water supply or other cause the council should undertake to meet the underwriters' requirements. There is no doubt, and it is admitted by all, that the town requires a modern fire alarm system. That, along with other improvements, should cause a lowering of insurance rates. Another resolution was adopted, praying the council to ask the federal government to order the removal of the numerous shanties, etc., which adorn the canal bank from the bridge west. A case in point was forcibly brought to the notice of the board. Some few years ago the town sold, for unpaid taxes, a building, which was removed and the ground was left vacant with the understanding with the federal authorities that no permit would be granted to rebuild on the property. Three years after the property was rebuilt, the corporation rights being overlooked in the matter. The town has already sufficient uphill work in its endeavors to improve its streets and secure its honest revenue. Party grafters must not be tolerated to diminish the value of the town's property, by the erection of buildings which are a disgrace and defy municipal control. In this question both parties should join to prevent an abuse which should never have been tolerated.

The ladies' aid society in connection with the Presbyterian church held their second 5 o'clock tea on Thursday, as the guests of Mrs Duclou.

An impressive requiem service was held in the cathedral Tuesday morning for the repose of the soul of Pope Leo XIII.; Bishop Emard officiating. A large choir rendered Peralut's harmonized mass for the dead.

The following members of the chamber of commerce have been named as delegates to the convention of chambers of commerce of the British empire, to be held in Montreal in August: Messrs Thea, Belanger, president; D. F. Smith, secy-treas; M. C. Co., Jas. A. Robb, Thos. Prefontaine, Mayor G. H. Thebaud, Urgele St Onge, and the Secretary.

Several robberies have occurred at different times, the thieves breaking into cars in the railway yards. Some time ago 7 bags of flour were stolen from a car lying in the N. Y. C. yard. The police were notified, and we understand the chief has succeeded in

discovering the guilty party, who will be prosecuted by the railway co.

On Tuesday morning a large procession was seen wending its way towards the C. A. railway station. It was headed by a faithful grafter, carrying a small bannerette, bearing that ever memorable motto, "Business is business." On the reverse it bore a no less significant inscription, "In union lies strength." Some of the followers carried bran-new galvanized pails, others long-handled white-eyash brushes, scrapers, etc., while others bore under their arms large packages of White's best lamp black. For contrast, others proudly waved packages of Black's pure white alumina. The party was selected to attend a session of the house of commons committee, now investigating the Valleyfield post-office land deal.

A Mrs P. Mercier, aged about fifty years, living in the west ward, committed suicide, Tuesday noon, by swallowing Paris green. The unfortunate woman lost her husband some time ago, and her only son became demented, and these trials were probably the cause of doing away with her life.

SR CHRYSOSTOME
On Tuesday evening, 28th, a lawn social was given on the beautiful lawn of Mrs Benj. Stacy, Norton Creek, by the ladies of St Matthew's church, Edwardstown. A large number were present and the ladies added a good sum to their treasury. An orchestra, made up from the ranks of the young people, added much to the enjoyment of the evening.

HEMINGFORD
On Wednesday night of last week, about 11 o'clock, officer Stevenson of Moores, N.Y., saw two men with an express wagon passing the customs house, and on calling on them to stop, they attempted to escape. Giving chase, he overhauled them and, after a struggle, succeeded in arresting the rig, which was driven by John Brazell, of Hemmingford, whom he placed in confinement, the other occupant, Oliver Lanore, also of Hemmingford, succeeded in getting back to King Edward's dominions, where, it is needless to say, he will be glad to stay for a time. There was about \$100 worth of wool in the load, which, with the rig, is forfeited to Uncle Sam. Brazell is now in jail at Plattsburgh, in default of sufficient bail. The U.S. authorities are making a vigorous attempt to stamp out the smuggling of wool, which has of late attained large dimensions.

A U.S. despatch gives this version: Customs officers Swivel and Stevenson, of Moores, captured near Moores' Junction a Canadian in the act of bringing a load of wool into the United States without paying the required duty of 11 cents a pound. At 11 o'clock last night two men drove through Moores' village in a suspicious manner. Officer Stevenson grabbed the horse by the head and ordered the men to surrender, whereupon one of them jumped from the rig and escaped. The other did not attempt to move off, and made a desperate fight, but was overpowered by the officers and arrested. The officers in searching the rig found a shot-gun and two hardwood clubs. The prisoner proved to be John Brazell, of Hemmingford, Que. Nineteen hundred pounds of wool fell into the hands of the officers.

DEWITTVILLE
About the middle of June 3 toughs from the vicinity of Chateaugay, N.Y., who were here fishing, stole a blanket out of a tent on the island, which was not missed for several hours after they had gone. Members of the Huntingdon Protective society reported the case to the Messrs O'Neil brothers of Frontier, N.Y., who were successful in having the thieves return the blanket as far as the Canadian line, begging that the society do not prosecute.

ATHELSTAN
The Rev John Cameron of Morrisburg preached here on Sunday, both afternoon and evening, with much acceptance. Rev Mr Rowat taking his place at Morrisburg.

Mr Wm. Saunders is building an addition to his residence, when he will have a more commodious office to transact the increasing business of this port.

LAGUERRE
Last week was slow for the farmers who had started haying, so much rain and dull weather, but it is to be hoped that the rain is over for the present. The hay crop is fairly good and the grain is very heavy. Those who sowed wheat will not regret it. In 1854 there was a man in this place who sowed 10 bushels of wheat and threshed 200 bushels, which sold at \$2 per bushel. The wheat may be as good this year as that, but the price will not. Fruit promises well and is free of blight.

ELGIN SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS
Met on the 24th inst. Present: Chas. Brown, chairman, and commissioners Barrie and Brown (the latter having been re-elected on the 20th instant). The financial statement was read and accepted. Mr Chas. Brown was re-elected chairman and W. C. Gillies engaged as secretary-treasurer for another year. A rate of 2 mills of the dollar valuation was levied for school purposes.

THE ATTACKS ON THE FARMERS' PICNIC.

There has been such a general desire to know what was said of the farmers' picnic in LeProgres de Valleyfield of the 17th July, that we give a translation:

UN PIQUE NIQUE BLEU.
For several years the farmers, who speak the English language, of the parishes of Ormstown and Howick, have organized for the first July in each year, a picnic which has always been called the farmers' picnic. Mr Greig, who is standing candidate for the county of Chateaugay for the last 5 years, has been president of the committee of management for 3 or 4 years, and since he has held the position the picnic has become a political picnic—a picnic bleu. Altho it had been specially designed from the beginning that speakers invited to address this yearly gathering of farmers should not touch on politics, Mr Greig has believed that he could benefit, from his position as president of the committee and from this picnic, to puff his chronic candidature, at least once a year, in the county for which he was elected once by accident and without considering his personal worth. In 1901 Mr Greig, who is master-of-ceremonies at this fête of the farmers, commenced, under pretence of doing them a compliment, to invite the Liberal speakers, who, according to their custom, did not make the least allusion to politics. After they had spoken Mr Greig caused Mr Sellar, editor of the Gleaner, to mount the platform, and Mr Simpson, formerly of the cotton mills, Valleyfield, who made attacks on the Laurier government. Mr Simpson went to the point of insulting all the members who dared support such a government. In 1902 the two members of Chateaugay thought fit to absent themselves from a second edition of this attack, as out of place as it was offensive, and Mr Greig, the chairman of the committee, harangued for an hour on this absence of the two members. It was worth one's while to see him thus commiserating the poor farmers who were thus abandoned by their members. This year the members were at their post, accompanied by Mr Walker, member for Huntingdon. They were the only 3 Liberals at the fête. Arrived on the ground they immediately saw themselves surrounded by Mr Broder, Conservative member for Dundas, Ont., Mr Bell, Conservative member for Picton, N.S., Mr MacIntosh, Conservative member for Sherbrooke, Mr McCormick, advocate, and Conservative politician of Montreal, Mr Archibald Muir, the Conservative candidate in Huntingdon at the late election, Mr Ewing, merchant, and an active Conservative, of Montreal. All these invited Blues, who came to us from all parts of Canada, were there at the request of Mr Greig, who had not had time to think of inviting Mr Patterson, a brilliant young advocate, but a Liberal, who was born and brought up at Ormstown, and who now has an office in the village of Ormstown. Mr Cross, a distinguished advocate of Montreal and a child of the county, but who is Liberal, was also forgotten. The county of Huntingdon, which has furnished several distinguished members of the liberal professions, has not had the satisfaction of seeing one on the list of those invited, because those who could have come are recognized as Liberals. We are informed that the members for Beauharnois, who are both Liberals, were not so happy as to figure on Mr Greig's list, who preferred to the members from the district of Beauharnois, Conservative members of the provinces of Ontario and Nova Scotia. Seeing how matters stood Mr Dupuis asked the chairman to let him see the program of the order in which the speakers were to be called, for it was known that it had been arranged to call on Mr J. P. Brown, Mr F. X. Dupuis, and Mr Walker first, and the field would then be clear for Mr Greig's orators. In face of the protests of the members for Chateaugay, Mr Greig changed the program so that Mr Broder and Mr Bell were called on first. We ought in justice to say that these two members showed themselves worthy of the position they occupied, for they spoke with eloquence without making the slightest allusion that could, in any way, wound the susceptibilities of their hearers who do not profess their political principles. But things could not end in this manner. Mr Sellar of Huntingdon would have had nothing to say if he had not blamed the fiscal policy of the Laurier government and the policy of the Parent government on the subject of the aid it grants to the farmers, and he expresses surprise in his paper that Mr Dupuis, member for Chateaugay, had criticised some of his remarks, especially for blaming him for furnishing a stone-crusher to improve the roads. Mr Sellar, who has not found the speech of Mr Dupuis to his taste, should, it seems to us, have reported his own exactly in his Gleaner. His readers would then have been able to judge in what position the member for Chateaugay found himself. Mr McCormick,

who followed next, thought fit to eulogise Sir John Macdonald, whose political policy had been condemned by three-fourths of his listeners. Mr Muir violently attacked the railway policy of the Laurier government, and attempted to turn to ridicule the politicians who had thought fit to accept the invitation to speak at this farmers' picnic. As Mr Muir is well-known his offensive remarks have no appreciable consequences beyond helping to dispel the illusion as to the nature of Mr Greig's picnic. It is time our friends of Ormstown and Howick put an end to this regrettable system, which will cause this pretty fête, which they organized some years ago for the purpose of recreation, to disappear.

THE FARMERS' PICNIC.
The Ormstown Bulletin of the 23rd says: From time immemorial the picnic ground has been considered a rallying place. For who of us has not looked forward to those pleasant meetings, where old acquaintances are met, where bygone days are spoken of, and where for the present, at least, all selfish aims and ambitions are set aside—all unite in one common bond of sympathetic interest. The English-speaking farmers of the parishes of Ormstown and Howick are in the habit of holding such a picnic. It has always been understood by those who were the first to organize this picnic that no political or economical opinions were to be discussed or dwelt upon. No one was to come unless he had laid aside his party feelings and opinions on the burning questions of the world. Mr Greig, however, seems to have forgotten this injunction, and has taken advantage of the fact that he was president of the committee to change the original purpose of this picnic and make of it a political arena, and thus through this medium gain the popularity which he has for so long sought in vain. Strangely enough, Mr Greig overlooked (?) to number among his guests those men who were vitally interested in the farmers of the Beauharnois district,—we are speaking of Messrs Loy and Bergevin, the two members of Beauharnois county. Mr Patterson, a rising and capable young lawyer of the place, and Mr Alex. Cross, a distinguished lawyer of Montreal, who is a native of Chateaugay county, were also overlooked. Mr Greig undoubtedly deserves our forgiveness on this point, as he more than made up for this slight oversight in his wise discriminating selection of platform speakers. These were all of his political opinions, with the exception of Messrs Brown, Dupuis, and Walker.

Mr Sellar, though claiming to be a Liberal, has not been classed with the latter, for, as is well known, this gentleman has the almost unique distinction of being a party to himself. Let us say here that Mr Greig's forethought must be commended. Very wisely he had arranged the speakers so as to give open field to his followers by having the Liberal speeches over by the third or fourth item. His underhand scheme, though small and narrow, was seen through by the members of Chateaugay county, and on the just protestations of these members, the program was slightly altered. Fulfilling Mr Greig's hopes the Conservative speakers quickly drifted into politics. From pure self-defence the Liberal speakers broached this forbidden subject. Only from the Liberal side, and that by Mr Brown, M.P., was a cry raised against this turning of a mere recreation and celebration of a national fête into a political meeting. Mr Sellar is so full of the spirit of criticism that he does not find enough scope in his own paper to give vent to his fault-finding characteristics, and must seize this untimely occasion to pour out the surplus of it on his audience. We agree with Le Progres de Valleyfield that Mr Sellar would have been at his wits' end if he had not spoken of politics. He is so eager to thrust his opinions and advice on everybody, so desirous that all should follow his precepts, that we wonder what would be the result if we should follow his example. He evidently forgot himself in his oration. He should have known better than to contribute in making the farmers' picnic a political meeting. We earnestly hope that he will profit by this false move and come out of this gathering a sadder and a wiser man. We forbear to criticise Mr Greig's conduct for it has already been a subject of talk and censure among people of either party. Judging by his mode of action, the farmers' picnic of July 1st, 1903, which was under his direction, has certainly not had for its sole purpose the furtherance of the farmers' interests, but rather that of his chief organizer's own selfish ends. We do not wonder that such an unsuccessful candidate has to stoop to such slight and desperate means. Mr Greig has gained by so doing the condescending pity of all.

Quebec, July 27.—Ten nuns, members of the order of Jesus, who were among the religious sisters expelled from France by the present French government, arrived in this city by the ss. Dominion Saturday.

who followed next, thought fit to eulogise Sir John Macdonald, whose political policy had been condemned by three-fourths of his listeners. Mr Muir violently attacked the railway policy of the Laurier government, and attempted to turn to ridicule the politicians who had thought fit to accept the invitation to speak at this farmers' picnic. As Mr Muir is well-known his offensive remarks have no appreciable consequences beyond helping to dispel the illusion as to the nature of Mr Greig's picnic. It is time our friends of Ormstown and Howick put an end to this regrettable system, which will cause this pretty fête, which they organized some years ago for the purpose of recreation, to disappear.

THE FARMERS' PICNIC.
The Ormstown Bulletin of the 23rd says: From time immemorial the picnic ground has been considered a rallying place. For who of us has not looked forward to those pleasant meetings, where old acquaintances are met, where bygone days are spoken of, and where for the present, at least, all selfish aims and ambitions are set aside—all unite in one common bond of sympathetic interest. The English-speaking farmers of the parishes of Ormstown and Howick are in the habit of holding such a picnic. It has always been understood by those who were the first to organize this picnic that no political or economical opinions were to be discussed or dwelt upon. No one was to come unless he had laid aside his party feelings and opinions on the burning questions of the world. Mr Greig, however, seems to have forgotten this injunction, and has taken advantage of the fact that he was president of the committee to change the original purpose of this picnic and make of it a political arena, and thus through this medium gain the popularity which he has for so long sought in vain. Strangely enough, Mr Greig overlooked (?) to number among his guests those men who were vitally interested in the farmers of the Beauharnois district,—we are speaking of Messrs Loy and Bergevin, the two members of Beauharnois county. Mr Patterson, a rising and capable young lawyer of the place, and Mr Alex. Cross, a distinguished lawyer of Montreal, who is a native of Chateaugay county, were also overlooked. Mr Greig undoubtedly deserves our forgiveness on this point, as he more than made up for this slight oversight in his wise discriminating selection of platform speakers. These were all of his political opinions, with the exception of Messrs Brown, Dupuis, and Walker.

Mr Sellar, though claiming to be a Liberal, has not been classed with the latter, for, as is well known, this gentleman has the almost unique distinction of being a party to himself. Let us say here that Mr Greig's forethought must be commended. Very wisely he had arranged the speakers so as to give open field to his followers by having the Liberal speeches over by the third or fourth item. His underhand scheme, though small and narrow, was seen through by the members of Chateaugay county, and on the just protestations of these members, the program was slightly altered. Fulfilling Mr Greig's hopes the Conservative speakers quickly drifted into politics. From pure self-defence the Liberal speakers broached this forbidden subject. Only from the Liberal side, and that by Mr Brown, M.P., was a cry raised against this turning of a mere recreation and celebration of a national fête into a political meeting. Mr Sellar is so full of the spirit of criticism that he does not find enough scope in his own paper to give vent to his fault-finding characteristics, and must seize this untimely occasion to pour out the surplus of it on his audience. We agree with Le Progres de Valleyfield that Mr Sellar would have been at his wits' end if he had not spoken of politics. He is so eager to thrust his opinions and advice on everybody, so desirous that all should follow his precepts, that we wonder what would be the result if we should follow his example. He evidently forgot himself in his oration. He should have known better than to contribute in making the farmers' picnic a political meeting. We earnestly hope that he will profit by this false move and come out of this gathering a sadder and a wiser man. We forbear to criticise Mr Greig's conduct for it has already been a subject of talk and censure among people of either party. Judging by his mode of action, the farmers' picnic of July 1st, 1903, which was under his direction, has certainly not had for its sole purpose the furtherance of the farmers' interests, but rather that of his chief organizer's own selfish ends. We do not wonder that such an unsuccessful candidate has to stoop to such slight and desperate means. Mr Greig has gained by so doing the condescending pity of all.

Quebec, July 27.—Ten nuns, members of the order of Jesus, who were among the religious sisters expelled from France by the present French government, arrived in this city by the ss. Dominion Saturday.

