

NOTES OF THE WEEK

Business is being despatched with fair rapidity at Ottawa, and on Monday a minister intimated that the end of the session was looked for in July. The premier has introduced a bill raising the poll tax on Chinamen from \$100 to \$500, which ought to have the effect of stopping the influx of the laboring class. This is done in response to the demand of British Columbia, which asked that Japs be included. This, Sir Wilfrid explained, could not be done owing to treaty obligations, but representations had been made to the Japanese government, which had resulted in its issuing an order forbidding the emigration to Canada of the laboring class. Tuesday was wasted by a debate on a bunkum resolution recommending the Imperial parliament to grant home rule to Ireland. The mover, John Costigan, has long traded on his character as an Irish nationalist, for he has naught else to recommend him. While the Conservatives had offices and patronage to give he swore by them: when Laurier came into power he found no difficulty in wheeling round. A like resolution was presented, several years ago, by the Imperial authorities as meddling with what we have no business and the hint given that the Canadian parliament should wait until asked before giving advice as to how Ireland should be governed. After that both Sir John Macdonald and Sir John Thompson discouraged motions that are as impertinent as they are unconstitutional. Mr Costigan spread himself. Settling with the landlords was well enough in its way, but securing the land to the tenants, was not going to satisfy the people of Ireland, who must have home rule and a parliament of their own on College Green. The surprise in the debate that followed, was the premier's saying he would vote for the resolution, as he believed in home rule. The French members voted to a man for the resolution, which was carried by 102 to 41. Brown and Loy voted for the resolution: MacLaren against. If the announcement of the adoption of this resolution has any effect in the Mother Country it will be to lessen the prospect of the land act becoming law, for if that most generous of measures is not going to cement the union, then why should the people of Scotland and England pay a ruinous tax for the benefit of a country that intends to separate from us? At the same sitting Sir Wilfrid introduced the distribution bill. It was different from what was expected, for it does not define the limits of the re-organized constituencies. He said the late census showed there should be a member of parliament for every 25,367 of the population, and that therefore Prince Edward Island stood to lose 1 member, Nova Scotia 2 members, New Brunswick 1 member, and Ontario 6 members. British Columbia was to gain 1 member and Manitoba 3 members. As the population of the Northwest territories had increased largely since the census, he proposed they should have ten members. As to the re-arranging of constituencies having less than 25,367 population, the government, instead of doing so themselves would entrust that duty to a committee of the house, to be composed of 4 named by the government and 3 by the opposition. By this plan he hoped the bitterness of former allotments will be avoided.

The sending by the W. C. T. U. of a deputation to Ottawa to ask that the making of cigarettes be declared unlawful, has stirred the tobacco manufacturers, who are paying for insertion in the daily papers of articles declaring cigarettes to be free from all noxious substances and that the tobacco in them is not found in cigar stumps fished out of hotel spittoons. The W.C.T.U. has made an excellent reply, to the effect that what may or may not be in cigarettes is beside the question. What they affirm is, that cigarettes injure the health and weaken the brains of our

youth. It is for the tobacco men to produce evidence that cigarettes are conducive to health and mental brightness, which everybody knows they cannot do. Cigarettes are made and sold for the money that is in them, regardless of the harm they are doing the rising generation.

Mr Fielding evidently thought he had a snap upon the farmers who interviewed him. Here are a lot of greenies asking that no more subsidies to railways be given; I will let them go on and bring them up with a sharp turn at the end. Are you satisfied, he asked the farmers, with your facilities for moving your produce to market? Yes, they replied, and then Mr Fielding exultingly said, Oh, you are; well, then, how can you deny government help to others to get what you have? Is it not dreadful, those selfish farmers, having all the railways they need, objecting to give a subsidy to build railways in parts of the country that have none! We are surprised that this talk of cheap politicians should be adopted by one Mr Fielding's position. His assertion implies that the railways in the older parts of the country are the result of the subsidy policy. Is that true? Take our own district. It has three railways. Two of them were built and running for a long period before a demand was made for a subsidy. The government was making lavish grants to rival companies when our two companies set up a claim, and to prevent opposition to what the government had decided on, gave the amounts asked, wording the resolutions as if the roads were in process of construction. That the majority of subsidies were obtained as the result of log-rolling, a favored company being balanced by a grant to another, or by members combining to extort what they demanded, there is no denying. Worse than that, the promoters of these subsidies, the men who lobbied them and the members who voted them, got a commission, and, as has been proved in court, the ministries that put them in the estimates levied toll for their election fund. The mileage of railways that would not have been built had no subsidy been given is small, and these are among the roads that are not paying, and which will, probably, never pay, for they were not needed. To assume, as Mr Fielding did in dismissing the farmers, we would have had no railways had there been no subsidies, is what neither he nor anybody else can substantiate. The subsidy business has been demoralizing. It has brought into being a horde of slick fellows who first get charters, then subsidies, and then sell out. The success of the C.P.R. syndicate in extorting its gigantic subsidies in land and cash, has excited the cupidity of hundreds, and the game has been repeated scores of times on a smaller scale. It has not been millions on millions of dollars spent in building railways. It has been the people plundered under the pretence of building railways. This specious form of robbery must end and its ending will not stop the construction of railways that are required. The farmers believe, and they have facts on their side, that Canada has reached that point when it pays to build railways and that the day for subsidies has passed.

Treasurer Duffy made his annual financial statement Thursday afternoon. The management of the finances of Quebec is an unenviable task, for, as Mr Duffy remarked, the expenditure chronically exceeds the income. The past and current years are no exception. The government has managed to get the ordinary expenditure within the income of the province, but—there is an extraordinary expenditure. Subsidies to railways and to the Quebec bridge leave a deficit of about \$200,000. Mr Duffy declared it was impossible to give any aid to any new enterprises and that the hope of Quebec lay in receiving a larger federal subsidy and a share of the fisheries' award.

When it came to a vote on the Gamay charges, the motion of the government that they be heard before a commission of judges was carried by a majority of 5. As the ministers voted, including the one accused, the carrying of the resolution was no honor. The judges have had special powers conferred upon

them in compelling witnesses to give evidence and there seems to be no reason why the enquiry should not be thorough.

President Roosevelt feels the dishonor done the U.S. reputation by the senate's despicable shuffling with regard to the Cuban reciprocity treaty, and has assured the Cubans he will call an extra session of congress to carry out the agreement. It is not certain the house will vote as the president wishes.

The legislature of New York state has passed a bill authorizing the borrowing of a hundred million dollars to enlarge the Erie canal so that thousand ton vessels could use it. The proposal has to be ratified by the electors and will come before them next November. That they will adopt it is improbable. The day for canals in a country where they can be used only half the year has passed. Grain is not now held in store over winter. It is pushed on the market as quickly as it can be threshed, and railways alone suit the requirements of farmer and buyer.

The companies having rejected the demand of the Lowell cotton-operators for an advance of ten per cent. in their wages, 18,000 are now walking the streets. The fight may be a long one and involve other interests, for the companies not only refuse an increase of wages but declare they will not employ any one belonging to a trades-union. This widens the issue, and brings in every member of these unions.

Next week, one year ago, in the court-room at Beauharnois Albert V. Drew was placed face to face with a jury charged with a crime that is too common in our courts, yet one for which the guilty are rarely punished, that of bearing false witness. The trial was brief, for the facts were few and the evidence conclusive. The Franklin council, at a meeting in August, 1902, appointed seven rate-payers to go and examine a water-course which passed through the farm of Drew and report. Six of these ratepayers, one of them the mayor of the township, met on the 14th August to perform the duty which the council had ordered them to do. On coming to Drew's fence three of the men went on Drew's land and took measurements. The other three did not cross the fence. On the 19th Drew went to Valleyfield and made affidavit that all six had trespassed on his property. The six men were forced to leave their workshops and harvest-fields, and travel to Valleyfield to answer, and owing to adjournments of the court had to repeat the long journey three times. Drew, both in his information and in his evidence in open court, testified he had seen George Welch, Joseph P. Rowe, and Mayor Alex. McMillan crawl through his fence "and come right up in front of me," so trespassing upon his property. It was proved conclusively to the jury that these three men had not put a foot on Drew's land, and that the object of his declaring they had was to prevent their giving evidence on behalf of the three who had. No defence was attempted, it was acknowledged Drew had lied; the jury promptly returned a verdict of guilty and the judge sentenced him to 2 years in the penitentiary. That ought to have ended the matter, but it did not. Drew's lawyer asked for leave to appeal. He did not pretend his client had not lied, to the serious hurt of three of his neighbors, who had lost time and money in answering his false charge, but affirmed he had lied before a court that was not competent to try a case of trespass in the county of Huntingdon. When the case was called before Mr Papineau, that objection had been raised by Mr McCormick, K.C., representing the three innocent men. His objection was scouted by Drew's lawyer as baseless and absurd and who insisted Mr Papineau proceed, which he did. Now, lo and behold, this same lawyer turns round and asks that Drew be discharged because Mr Papineau had no jurisdiction! He had chosen the magistrate, selected the place of trial, argued both were as required by law, and now, when circumstances had changed with his client, pled Valleyfield was not the place for trial of such a case and that Mr Papineau had no business to have set upon it. Had Welch, Rowe, and McMillan ignored the summons, served upon them to appear at Valleyfield, there would have followed warrants for contempt of court. Judge Belanger rejected the application for a reserved case, but, on direct application to the court in Montreal, one was granted. The case was argued before the court of appeal, which confirmed the sentence. Still unsatisfied, Drew's lawyer made another move. He appealed to the supreme court. The case was elaborately argued before it. On the one side it was held, that as the false evidence was given before a magistrate and court who, it was alleged, had no jurisdiction, perjury had not been committed. Mr McCormick showed that, different from what the law used to be, the criminal code did not recognize the materiality of evidence or competence of the court as accessories to the crime of perjury—all it exacted was, proof that accused had lied with intent to mislead justice. Drew had been proved to have testified falsely in a judicial proceeding and before a de facto court and that was enough. In this view four of the judges agreed: the other two dissented. Thus the sentence is confirmed and Drew has to undergo the punishment meted out to him. We now want to point out a peculiar hardship arising out of this case. To put a stop to suits that had been taken out by Drew in the civil courts against himself and his companions, arising out of their obeying the order of the township council to view the watercourse, Rowe caused the arrest and trial of Drew for perjury. As the crown declined to assume the case, all the costs of the prosecution fell on him. Mr Rowe counted on that when he went before the grand jury to make complaint and felt satisfied when conviction was obtained. He thought that was the end of a most vexatious episode. It was not. Drew appealed to the full bench in Montreal. In fairness, the crown should have intervened to sustain the sentence of the court of King's bench. The moment the crown took possession of Drew and locked him in a cell to undergo the punishment that had been pronounced, it surely became responsible for him until his 2 years' imprisonment ended. The crown evaded its duty. The case had either to go by default or Mr Rowe incur the expense of defending the verdict of 12 jurymen and the sentence of a judge in a criminal term. He felt he could not let the case go, with the possibility, if the sentence was set aside, of being sued for damages for false arrest. He engaged counsel and was instrumental in having the finding of the criminal court sustained. Mr Rowe was now out of pocket more than he could spare, yet a fresh sacrifice was demanded. Drew appealed to the supreme court, and Rowe had to follow it to Ottawa as he had followed it to Montreal, and foot the entire bill, for in criminal appeals there are no costs allowed. The hardship is great, that a private prosecutor in a criminal case should be expected to uphold the decision of judge and jury in appeals. It should surely be either the rule that before a convicted criminal be allowed to appeal he deposit a sum sufficient to cover the costs of the respondent or that the expense be assumed by the crown. To say that a farmer, after doing his duty by his country in obtaining conviction of a perjurer, has to maintain in higher courts that conviction, is unreasonable. Its practical effect will be that perjurers will remain unprosecuted, for of those who might be willing to advance the money for trial before the court of King's bench to punish a liar, few would care to face the risk of defending a conviction in court of appeals and before the supreme court. The case is the first of the kind, and in the interests of justice, in the interests of every man exposed to injury by false swearing (and who can say he is not exposed?) the government ought to pay the costs of the court of appeals and of the supreme court. To let them fall on Mr Rowe will be to punish a farmer who has done a public service. A move ought to be made to bring the matter before the proper authorities and we trust will be done with success. Mr McCormick, who has acted throughout for Mr Rowe, is to be congratulated on having his reading of the law endorsed by three successive courts, the first the highest

in the land, and establishing the precedent that the essence of the crime of perjury lies in its intent to mislead justice and is not affected by the materiality of the evidence questioned or the competence of the court in which it was given.

THE CANADIAN GARDEN. by Mrs Annie L. Jack. Publisher, Wm. Briggs, Toronto. Price, postpaid, 50c.

In these days when Mother Nature is waking from her winter sleep, and preparation is being made to sow and plant, the coming of this little book is timely. It treats not merely of flowers, but of vegetables, fruit, and ornamental trees. It is, in fact, just such a guide as everybody wants who cultivates a bit of ground, and desires it to yield to the best advantage. To indicate how comprehensive the book is we may state there are chapters on pruning and grafting, fighting insects, transplanting, on the lawn, and care of house-plants. On everything pertaining to the garden a word of advice is to be found, and the best of it is, the advice comes of long practical experience. What Mrs Jack and her family have learned in their 30 and more years of raising fruit, vegetables, and flowers in their beautiful place at Chateauguay Basin is here embodied. We heartily commend the book to all who delight in gardening, and they can make no more profitable investment than by sending 50 cents for a copy.

ORMSTOWN.

A large and influential meeting was held in the town hall on Monday, when the two boards of school commissioners gave the ratepayers an opportunity to express their views on the McDonald offer to build and support a central and manual school for 3 years. The subject was well ventilated. At first a few opposed through a misunderstanding, but, after explanation, those parties concurred with those who are desirous of having the offer accepted. Several addresses were given. Those of the Rev Morrison and Rev Strong were to the point, setting forth the many benefits to be derived. Dr McLaren, Alex. Miller, John Maw, and several others strongly approved of accepting the offer. A resolution was afterwards adopted by both boards, voicing the decision of the meeting and accepting the offer. A copy of the resolution has been sent to Prof. Robertson, who is expected to pay Ormstown a second visit within 10 days.

The Crown brick company's yard has been bought by the contractors for the C. P. R. shops at Hochelaga, which will be among the largest in the world. The contractors, who are Americans, are extending the facilities of the yard to increase the output.

At the sale of McIntyre brothers a brood sow with a litter of 8 pigs, a week old, fetched \$45. How is that for pork?

HOWICK.

Sugar making began early in March but was checked by mild weather and till frost set in during the last week of the month, when it ran freely for a few days.

Rev J. W. McLeod preached his farewell sermons to large congregations on Sunday, the people manifesting much regret at his departure. His destination is uncertain, and he will be in this vicinity occasionally for a short time. Rev Mr Kinneer will preach the pulpit vacant next Sunday.

Thomas Gebbie has sold his 25-acre lot adjoining this village to Wm. Hay for \$2025.

The McCormick farm on the Chateauguay river has been bought by Wm. Kerr, Fertile Creek, for upwards of \$5,000.

The Brault hotel at the G.T. depot has been purchased by Mr Hebert of St Chrysostome for \$7,000.

SRE MARTINE.

Quite a change today from the weather of the last Wednesday of March. The roads are getting dry in the village and are fair outside, so many people are in town today and storekeepers are busy. The frost we had the end of last week and every night since has given the sugar makers a good run of sap, but today (April 1st) the frost seems to be out of the ground and there was no run. We still pay \$1 a gallon for syrup.

The fine weather has given new life to the village; everybody is busy and the repairing of dwellings and improvement of surroundings has begun. Some are making heavy repairs and there are several new buildings. J. A. Marcell, V.S., is moving his house to the centre of his lot and builds a large extension. H. Lefort, farmer, in front of the hotel, near the court house, is making extensive changes, and J. Parent is building a residence on the farm he bought from James McGowan, which had only two barns. Many houses are to be painted. For some time we had no funeral, but we had one on Monday, that of the wife of Onesime Vitar, from the upper part of this parish on the Chateauguay river.

VALLEYFIELD.

The fire brigade has been actively engaged this last week. Two alarms on Monday, 3 on Wednesday, and 3 on Thursday, gave the men plenty of exercise. In no case was there anything more serious than a chimney blaze, which, at this time of the year, generally monopolize the services of the brigade. Another dangerous habit—which is in violation of the by-laws—is the stove pipe used as a chimney in the summer kitchen, which should be strictly condemned.

The roads department, J. A. Robb chairman, is to be commended for its promptness in having the streets scraped. The back yards are also being got into proper shape. The free grant of coal cinders, given by the M. Cotton Co., is making a large improvement in the cleanliness of alleys, yards, and generally low-lying ground.

The house to let poster is hanging on a good many houses this spring, much to the delight of those who are not content unless they "fit" every six months, so giving them grand opportunities to operate on new victims for the loan of a cup of sugar, a couple of eggs, buck-saw, etc., and the comparison of the merits of their respective "kids," with new opportunities for scandal and gossip.

The college pupils had a sugaring party last week at St-Stapilas. They spent a pleasant day, and satiated themselves with the real product of the maple tree. Mr D'Aoust was the hospitable host—and was untiring in his efforts to please his youthful and merry guests.

Andrew Marcell, of Valleyfield, has been appointed by the R. & O. Navigation Co. as general overseer of the fitting up of the company's boats at Toronto, for which point he left Thursday.

A series of Lenten retreats are being held at the cathedral for the French-speaking members of the church. Rev Father Flynn, Redemptorist, is holding this week a nightly mission service for the English-speaking Catholics in the chapel of the orphanage. Large congregations fill both church and chapel.

Building operations promise to be many this summer. The M.C.C. will build a large extension to their dyeing department, Langevin & Ostiguy a large 3-storey cut-stone block on Victoria-st., adjoining this the Pease estate will erect a large building on the same plans. There is also the prospective building of the new post-office this summer. L. Young is getting out plans for a modern cottage; the college authorities are preparing plans for the construction of a large chapel, and Bishop Emard is having plans prepared for a large reading-room, etc.

The council held its weekly meeting on the 27th inst.; Mayor Thibault in the chair. A letter was read from the department of railways and canals, acknowledging receipt of a demand made by the council for a lease of water power on the Beauharnois canal. By resolution, proposed by Coun Robb, seconded by Coun Cossette, copies of both letters were sent to Mr Loy, M.P., with a request to press the town's claim before the proper authorities. A resolution was read from the board of trade urging the council to appoint a delegation to Ottawa and Quebec with the purpose, in the first instance, to secure from the federal government a lease of the water power above mentioned, and, in the second instance, to take the necessary steps to have the La-roque road toll-gate abolished, also to arrange for the transfer of the registry office to Valleyfield. Another resolution was read from the board of trade, complaining of the looseness with which the license laws are enforced. The parish council having passed a by-law imposing a tax on outsiders doing business within the parish limits, and also imposing taxes on outsiders trading in the same limits, it was proposed by Coun Robb, seconded by Dr St-Onge, that the matter be referred to the town attorney for legal opinion as to its legality. Here we would interject that what is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander. What about that \$2 per head tax which is exacted by the town council of those employees of the M. C. Co. who reside outside the town limits? If it is legal for the town to impose a tax on parish residents, why should it be illegal for the parish to impose a tax on townspeople doing business in its territory? Its a poor rule that don't work both ways. It must be borne in mind that the parish council has the maintenance of 3 or 4 bridges to look after, and to do so derives its resources from its toll-gate revenue. If, as everybody expects, this latter should be abolished, the parish must secure revenue from some source, and the only possible mode is by taxation. Our rustic cousin, who is wide awake when his purse is at stake, will, by all means, protect his interests when it comes to squeezing him for what he claims are his established rights, by 40 years' custom.

The town council has been compelled to protest against the defec-

tive electric lighting of the streets, which state of affairs has existed for a long time and is gradually getting worse. Unless remedied the council will be forced to take action against the Electric Light Co. for the full execution of its contract and for damages for non-fulfillment of its contract up to date. Although preaching in the wilderness for a number of years, the Gleaner's voice has at last been heard on this question of public utility, and for which the citizens pay dearly.

An action of \$63 has been instituted against the town by L. Barrette for damages to one of his sleighs, which damage took place on the dam. Mr Laurendeau has been retained to defend the case in the town's interests. The council reviews the electoral lists on the 8th of April. Proposed by Coun Robb, seconded by Coun Cossette, that the secretary write the Canadian Rubber Co. and Tootle Bros. of Montreal, asking them to send representatives to investigate the facilities Valleyfield offers them, in view of placing their factories within its limits.

A successful social was given in the Methodist church Friday evening, under the auspices of the Epworth League; president Ed. Jackson filling the chair. An entertaining program was carried out, its various numbers receiving well-deserved applause. Mr Hartley, now leader of the Presbyterian church choir, gave two vocal solos, Miss Eva Boyd a pleasant recitation, and Principal Messenger and Rev W. Henderson, pastor, interesting readings. Mr Parker favored the audience with a recitation. Mr Hardgreaves rendered a couple of well-executed violin solos. Mr Hardgreaves is a master of that kind of instruments; his bowing is good, execution very clear, and renders "arpège" movements with great ease. He is quite an acquisition to our musical fraternity and we gladly welcome him. A silver contribution was taken up, to be applied in aid of St James church, Montreal. After refreshments had been served to the large audience present the entertainment closed by the singing of the national anthem.

The club boys held one of their always well-enjoyed smoking concerts Saturday evening. Besides a large number of the local talent who are always ready to contribute their services, Mr Quigly, of the Montreal Star, favored those present with a couple of well delivered recitations.

The St Patrick's supper, given under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid of the Presbyterian church, was a most enjoyable one. The tables and hall presented an inviting appearance. The president, Mrs D. D. McBain, was well supported by the ladies of the society. The program, under the direction of Mr S. Hartley, was a musical treat. The supper netted \$73.

On Wednesday evening, 25th ult., the Rev Thos. W. Winfield of Westmount, Montreal, addressed the congregation of the Presbyterian church on missions. He spoke in an able manner on the motive of missions, and related, with much interest, his experiences of 2 years as missionary on the west coast of Africa.

ST ANICET.

If this is not the renowned sea serpent, what is it? About 9 o'clock, Tuesday morning, as John Quinn of Newfoundland and a Mr Carter of Bainsville were crossing the lake from Bainsville to St Anicet, they were astonished to see a monster of some sort sporting in mid channel of the St Lawrence. They say it had a head as large as a calf and carried its head and neck about 2 feet above the water. They followed it some distance, but when they had got within about one hundred feet, it turned towards them. As they had only a small row boat, and no weapons they made a hasty retreat. It was going up stream towards Cornwall.

There is again a rumor that the Bell telephone are making arrangements to construct a line from Fort Covington via Dundas, Canaville, St Anicet, Port Lewis, and Ste Barbe, to St Stanislas. The conditions asked are \$50 from each municipality, and each municipality to take at least 6 phones at \$15 each per annum. They can get the \$50, but the phone phase of the matter is doubtful.

LAGUERRE.

The roads do not improve very rapidly this spring. On Sunday there were no vehicles in the church sheds, all who attended came on foot. The previous Sunday there was one buggy, a buckboard, and 2 men on horseback, the rest being pedestrians. Our obliging postmaster, H. C. Stewart, has added to his stock an imported 2-year old heifer, a cross between the Jersey and Ayrshire. John Duhamel, our new mail carrier, is doing remarkably well. Rain or shine he has not missed a trip yet, and is generally sharp on time. Certainly he earns his shekels.

Sugar makers are getting in better spirits, for these frosty nights and bright sunny days are the essentials for a good flow of sap. The old adage

has been verified this year, regarding the month of March, for it came as a lion and let like a lamb.

TROUT RIVER.

As the amount of business now done at Carr's station gives the G. T. railway co. an income of nearly \$3,500 per year, the residents of this vicinity felt the time had come when a siding would not only be a profitable investment for the railway, but a convenience to the public, so last fall application was made for a short siding and cattle yard. After investigation by the railway co. this was refused. Nothing daunted, the applicants have made another attempt. This time a deputation, composed of W. F. Anderson, J. Marshall, H. S. Tannahill, J. B. Carr, D. C. Morrison, A. Paul, and W. F. Stephen interviewed Mr McGuigan, assistant gen. mgr., and Mr McLeod, traffic mgr., on the 24th March and pressed their claims for a siding. The railway company offered to put in the siding and cattle yard if the people in the vicinity would pay its cost, and the company would give a rebate of \$1 a car, on all cars loaded and unloaded there until paid for. These were the best terms they would offer. They have not yet been accepted. If our people decide to do anything, better to pay the amount outright and be done with it. A siding and cattle yard at Carr's would be a great convenience and in time would be a profitable investment, just as our platform has been.

Despite the bad roads, quite a number gathered at the residence of A. Bell on Tuesday evening, the occasion being the semi-monthly meeting of the debating club. The popular question, resolved, "that it is to our advantage to consolidate our country schools," was the subject under discussion. J. A. Stephen opened for the affirmative and quoted a number of instances in the United States where the residents had found it to be advantageous. He was followed by Peter Elder who showed how this question had been taken up by leading educators of our country, and some of our brightest men were in favor of the scheme. D. A. McFarlane, for the negative, gave a thoughtful address, and pointed out that while it may have been a success in some of the states, conditions were different here, where climate, roads, &c., were against the plan. He was assisted by Miss Jessie Paul in an excellent paper. She claimed the present system had many advantages, if parents would only do their duty in seeing their children got to school. On the vote being taken, it was found the majority considered the affirmative had put up the best argument. Music, games, &c., helped to pass a pleasant evening. The next debate, resolved "that the Negro should have equal rights with the white man" will be an interesting one.

HUNTINGDON CIRCUIT COURT.

On Monday Judge St-Pierre opened court in order to deliver judgment in the two cases of ejectment he had taken en delibere. It will be seen by his decisions he has ended the long regime when a tenant could prolong his occupancy indefinitely by legal proceedings. The case where Cantelo Blachford spent \$900 in legal proceedings and was kept out of the possession of his property for several years forms a contrast with the proceedings reported below.

The case of John G. Rennie involved a point of law of some delicacy. Mr Rennie rented his farm in Havelock to Donthe Lafrancois for the year ending 31st November, 1901, at \$75 and taxes. The lease, by tacit consent, was renewed for 1902. Rennie wanted to sell the farm and gave Lafrancois the first offer, but he failed to get the money, and while still trying to borrow was informed by Rennie that he had sold the farm to one Hamilton, and that he would have to leave at the end of his year, November, 1902. Lafrancois was indignant, accused Rennie, and declared he would remain on his farm as long as he could and make him pay for all he could claim. The amount of rent and date of lease are proved, the court has only to consider whether legal notice to leave was given. Rennie notified him in person on the 28th March and April that he had to leave by 3rd November, but on both occasions the notice was by word of mouth. Lafrancois' counsel, Mr Brossart, K.C., contended that as there was a written lease and the rent was over \$50 a year, the notice to leave should have been in writing. The judge held that the deposition of Lafrancois supplied the commencement of perjury, and therefore the verbal testimony of Rennie, Hamilton, Oliver Baskin, and Richd. McDowell in support of the notice to leave must be accepted. Lafrancois admitted in his deposition he had been made aware in March, 1902, the farm had been sold and that he had been told to build new fence or make improvements as the purchaser was to take possession in November. The court held the notice to leave was sufficient. Coming to the counterclaim of Lafrancois, which he set up against the amount of rent he was due, the judge rejected the charge of \$36 for storage of furniture left by Rennie in the house and the various charges for repairs to buildings and breaking up land, as he had not notified Rennie. The only exception was \$3 for putting in 3 new rafters on the shed, as the delay in giving notice to do the work, which was urgent, might have been dangerous. Judgment in favor of Rennie for \$82 with costs and Lafrancois ordered to leave the premises within ten days, or be ejected.

Matthew Maddy & Sons vs H. R.

fields. It is not advisable to import climate different from our own, and to grow by yourselves preferable to When a farmer gets a reputation and seed, he ought to be encouraged giving him the name of a special brand is the general belief that a change from poor soil to rich is beneficial. At depends on the section in which grown. You will find it better to seed on your own farms than to what do you consider the best variety the variety you should sow depends of the soil. Not knowing the cannot say what variety would be best is limestone land. Limestone land is judged to be better As there seems to be no more seed grain, I will now direct your seed, which, with clover, as you abundant proof is the great seminating noxious weeds. Weeds every season and the cost of fighting become serious. Last year a which was established at Ottawa by the culture, and the first thing done was the Dominion for samples of grass We got 500 samples, each bearing the storekeeper from whom it was and alleged origin of seeds. These fully tested, and I give in this table a few of the samples bought in Quebec:

	Lbs. of Pure No.	No. of Seeds
1	1	1
2	1	1
3	1	1
4	1	1
5	1	1
6	1	1
7	1	1
8	1	1
9	1	1
10	1	1
11	1	1
12	1	1
13	1	1
14	1	1
15	1	1
16	1	1
17	1	1
18	1	1
19	1	1
20	1	1
21	1	1
22	1	1
23	1	1
24	1	1
25	1	1
26	1	1
27	1	1
28	1	1
29	1	1
30	1	1
31	1	1
32	1	1
33	1	1
34	1	1
35	1	1
36	1	1
37	1	1
38	1	1
39	1	1
40	1	1
41	1	1
42	1	1
43	1	1
44	1	1
45	1	1
46	1	1
47	1	1
48	1	1
49	1	1
50	1	1

Price per bushel	Seed in 100 lb.	of Weeds in each pound
..... \$3.80	 92	 2,340
..... 3.84	 75	 237,690
..... 4.50	 15	 630
..... 2.75	 94	 13,500
..... 3.00	 94	 10,620
..... 3.00	 93	 3,780
..... 3.50	 89	 4,910
..... 3.50	 57	 2,880

e that even where the number of seeds is comparatively small, as in the St. the timothy was bad, consisting of seeds, and seeds of such low vitality able of growth. The Alsike sold worse than the timothy, and is the the market, which is owing to the the to England, where it sells at 24c the screenings are kept for sale in following are samples of the seed sold

Cost per bushel	Lb. of Pure Seed in 100 lb.	Actual Cost of Pure Living Seed per bushel	Number of Seeds per pound
..... 2.00	 36	 \$20.00	 4,950
..... 10.20	 39	 11.43	 4,950

10.80	92%	11.67	680
10.20	89%	11.40	5,940
10.20	83%	12.29	25,290
10.80	64	16.90	17,730
12.00	85%	14.03	5,400
8.10	57	14.21	80,100

u will see how large a percentage of the seeds of no value, from being imperfect, really ripened. What seems to the ap alsike is really very dear, for he th it a deal that will not grow, while it is that a lot of weeds. In one sample eeds of 23 different species of weeds. e chiefly those of white cockle, false e, thistle, dock, lambs quarter, ox- arly all the timothy and alsike had and n wholesale houses in Montreal, and clover, which gave these results on

	Lb. of Pure Seed in 100 lb.	Cost of Pure Seed	No. of Weed Seeds in each pound
\$7.20	61	\$11.80	1,845
7.80	92	8.47	4,635
7.20	89	8.08	11,250
7.80	95	8.21	315
7.20	83	8.38	1,665
7.20	85	8.47	8,190
7.80	92	7.92	4,230
7.80	93	10.08	46,995
7.35	99	7.74	5,175
7.20	93	7.74	5,175

sample contained 43,605 weed seeds. Going to the wholesale houses in Montreal, we were bought, we found their methods not effective. Out of alsike seed as they

the growers, they take out one-third of the seed. The clean two-thirds go to England, and the one-third of screened seed goes to the home market. The wholesale dealers are not to blame, for the Quebec farmer takes from 10 to 15 cents a pound, while the dealer pays 25c. It is well to understand that the merchant will take out all weed seeds, but the weeds are of the size and weight of the good seed that is being screened, and are not detected. This can be avoided if, in growing the seed, the ground is gone over frequently, and the weeds are pulled out by hand so that none go to seed. The farmer may expect more of this if he fails last year in Ontario, whence the seed comes, what you will buy this year is only one remedy for the deplorable state that exists in the grass-seed business. The farmer to deal only with the best seed, and take only the best quality, whatever the price. By doing so you will avoid the weeds on meadow to weeds every year. The farmer handles seed, and knowing the quality, discriminates as to its value, each has his own store as the other store, and do so buyers. It is seldom, even in the best stores, that the seed is as good as it is advertised. It is found as what is exported from England, the reason being, as already stated, that the dealer will not pay the price. Some dealers are honest, but others are not honest, and increase their profits by selling impure seed. It is to be dealt with by law, so that all dealers shall have a certificate of test by the government, and the dealer charge according to the grade. The farmer should get the best grade, and the buyer a certificate of grade. The farmer should not buy 5 grades of grass and clover seed, but they do not always mean what they say. The farmer should know, nor are they expressive of quality. The Canadian wholesale seedmen are not to be blamed, but they have got into an association and tried to keep the farmer from getting the best system of grading seed according to the quality. The farmer should not have power to enforce their terms, but the dealers used their terms to sell poor seed. The association became a thing of the past. The farmer needed to protect the farmer from the dealer, and the dealer from the farmer, upon by foul seed, is a law that would be a great help. The farmer should not buy seed containing such noxious weeds as the following:—glory, sow-thistle, and others.