

SPECIAL NOTICE.

We beg to tender our best thanks to those of our subscribers who have responded so readily to our call for payment, in our circular to those in arrears last month, and who have in most cases done so with many good wishes for our success. Believing that the oversight is occasioned more by want of thought than any other cause, we trust that those who have not yet remitted will do so, and save us from the disagreeable necessity of pushing our claims upon them further.

Crop Prospects.

London, June 26, 1871.—Hay will be a light crop, far below the average. Fall Wheat to the West and South will be above the average; to the east it has been in many cases badly injured by spring frosts, and will not reach the average. Barley will be very light, few fields will give even half a crop. Peas will be fair. Spring wheat very poor,—we have not seen even one middling piece. Our own sowing of McCarling wheat,—the only kind of spring wheat we would sow this year,—is the worst looking crop on the farm. Cause—dry weather just as it came through the ground, which continued till last week. Let us hear how it answers in other sections. Oats will be but a medium crop; we have seen some pieces near Paris that, from present appearances, will scarce pay for harvesting. Report says that Spring Wheat is being plowed down near St. Catharines and other places. Root Crops bid fair to be over an average. Potatoes never looked better, where people have kept them clear of bugs. Some farmers that do not take an agricultural paper neglected to notice the bugs in time, and now only have bare stalks; they will have potatoes to purchase instead of to sell—and have raised such a crop of bugs as will cause thousands of dollars loss to good farmers.

To Young Canadian Farmers.

We have reason to believe that your parents have expended very large sums for educational purposes. We would ask some of you if writing was taught in the school in which you were educated? As yet there are very few sections from which we have had correspondence, in comparison to the number of places where the young folks think they know as much about everything as any body else. The greatest good of education is to be able to impart knowledge to others. Some of you might with advantage to yourselves and to the country, make an attempt.

Disease Among Horses.

We learn from our exchanges that a new disease has broken out among horses in New York, from which many have already died. We know nothing of this disease yet, and trust there may be no necessity on our part for investigation. One good thing is, we Canadians do not need to import horses from the States.

To prevent the introduction of the disease into Canada, it would be well that no horses should be admitted from the States until there is no further danger. We could lose nothing by being cautious. Even one race horse might spread the disease here.

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

CANADIAN PROGRESS.

Dear Sir,—Allow me to make a few remarks on the progress of the County of Wellington. The County Council during the year has granted \$45,000 for various public improvements, \$3000 for the Central Fair, \$300 for the Band, \$200 for the sufferers by the Bradford fire. They also have passed resolutions to abolish all tolls on the County Roads, as soon as the present leases expire. They have, I believe, more miles of gravel road than any other county in Ontario, which are all owned by the county. Let me ask what the County Council of Middlesex has done towards public improvements.

W. A. AYERST.

Talbotville.

Many of the residents of Middlesex know but little of what other counties are doing. It would do most of our farmers good to take a trip through the County of Wellington. They are able to pay their taxes, they raise more roots on an average, have better stock, and appear in a most prosperous condition—even more so than with us,—despite grants of \$45,000 per annum for public improvements.

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

Letter from Paris.

Dear Sir,—Our spring seeding time opened out with favorable weather, which gave the farmers in this section ample opportunity to sow a liberal breadth of spring crops—which was very generally improved—in oats, corn and barley. Spring wheat is only sown to a limited extent; the soil here does not prove to be as favorable to the growth of this cereal as soils composed principally of clay and clay loam, such as prevail in your section, and northern and western counties. Fall wheat has proved to be seriously winter-killed in this county—and on a visit to Guelpch, Beverly, Brantford, Burford, Galt, Ayr, &c., the indications are that the wheat will be a very short one. Reports come from Simcoe and Berlin that the injury to the winter wheat from the early exposure to severe frosts in March, has been unusually severe, indicating that the extent of country is large which shares in the misfortune of a light wheat crop. Spring crops have been retarded in their growth by the very severe drought which has prevailed. Barley will be a light crop, and early sown Oats will give a light return. The copious shower last night (June 23) will do immense good to our parched crops, it being the first rain which has thoroughly wet the ground since spring seeding.

Your June No. comes to us impregnated with a fair share of energy and spirit, which commends its pages to the great interest of the country; and the soas of toil, the farmers, who are the motive power to the agricultural interest, the basis of our country's prosperity. What farmers essentially require is to feel the importance of their position, and to have a knowledge of the power they possess in controlling the material interests of the country—Canadian Agriculture.

A paper advocating the farmer's prosperity may be "independent of political strife," but it cannot exist, or harmonise its influence in favor of such prosperity, without advocating a principle. Commerce is based on the products of a country; legislation essays to control commerce in the interest of party, and not in that of commerce. I commend your judgement in refusing to accept these entangling party alliances, but a principle you can advocate without fear or favour—suppose even that political action requisite to the furtherance and carrying out that principle. Theories are worthless to us unless they admit of solution by practical

application to our wants and necessities. "Free trade with the United States" is a motto you can add to your paper with the full assurance that it will prevail. There need be no hesitancy on your part; down here in the county of Brant we are very near unanimous. We want a thorough demolition of Custom houses on our frontier lines from Vancouver's Island to Nova Scotia,—unrestricted commercial intercourse with our neighbors. You appreciate, Sir, that the salt wells, oil wells, farm products, manufactures and the whole commercial interest would receive a grand impetus by such a move. Towns and cities would soon feel the invigorating influence, and make an era in the prosperity of our Dominion, which the people in after years will refer to with pride, as the beginning of a new life to enterprise and prosperity.

M. N. BROWN.

Paris, Ontario, June 24, 1871.

Union Among Farmers.

Advantages of united effort has been long appreciated and approved among those who pursue the trades and professions. Those especially, the seat of whose business is in large towns or densely populated districts, have made most progress in this department of improvement. Farmers being apart and associating less with each other, or with the world perhaps than most other classes of society, have been slower than other bodies of men of equal intelligence to see the advantages of union for their common good, or to improve to the full the advantages they already see. Yet something has been done. The Agricultural Fairs, which have become so popular within the last few years, have diffused a vast amount of information, which had otherwise been confined to a few. They have inspired a self respect, awakened an emulation and enthusiasm for improvement, whose effect on the agricultural interests has, along with other favorable causes, been as life from the dead.

Whatever processes can lessen the number of middle men between the producer and the customer both ways, are blessings to the community. The merchant, we admit, performs a great and valuable service wherever he is needed. But still all devices—honest ones we mean—that may lessen or remove the necessity for his aid are blessings. They relieve labor of one of its heaviest burdens, the support of a large crowd of non-producers, who must be paid at a high rate for what they do, and whose number from the operation of obvious causes, is becoming greater every year. But our object at present is not so much comment on the progress already made by farmers in union of effect, as to point out other things in which union is especially needed, and in which its results would be without doubt of the most beneficial character.

First among the matters which we would commend to the notice of our friends, is union in the purchase of our costly stock, books, implements, seeds, shrubs, trees and other things of a similar kind. It is so easy to see the way in which union may operate most advantageously in securing improvement in farming implements, seeds, shrubs and trees, that we may not dwell longer on them at this point.

The farmers of a certain neighborhood are fully convinced that a certain breed of horses, cattle, sheep or swine is the best they could have. But only one of them is able to make the purchase of a first rate male and female that can be relied on as thoroughbred. But by uniting their means they make the expense very light, which would secure a speedy introduction among them of the very best of all kinds of stock, which the American and British stockgrowers can furnish.

In the destruction of vermin, union is absolutely essential to success. A gardener attempts to save his fruit trees from the ravages of the borer, or the fruit from the apple worm. He uses every preventive and remedy that a single man can use. He accomplishes a little, and but a little; for his neighbors on all sides neglect these matters, and live on from year to year unaffected by his suggestions or example. Their orchards and gardens are prolific sources of every species of vermin and insects, that flourish under the reign of carelessness and laziness; every year he is overrun with a new swarm. He becomes discouraged and at last gives up the struggle. Union is essential to success in all these matters. Let a whole neighborhood be animated by a common spirit and pursue the same effective system of prevention and cure, and the pest may be conquered.—Ohio Farmer

The Farmer's Advocate.

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TERMS OF ADVERTISEMENTS.—10 cents per line, Agate space. Specials, 20 cents per line. Editorials 50 cents per line.

The provincial trial of implements will take place at Paris. The day is not yet fixed; the Secretary informs us it will be about the 15th or 20th of July, depending on the maturity of the wheat crop.

OBSERVATIONS ON SHOEING.—No person should ever allow his horse to be shod by a farrier who employs or keeps in his shop the knife used for cutting away the hoof, shaped like a small shovel, and usually braced against the shoulder when used in shovelling away the horn. The Almighty designed the frog as an elastic, insensible cushion, on which the horse should walk, as do the fowls and some animals: yet blacksmiths delight in cutting away the most useful part, and thereby expose that which is sensitive to contact with the hard road. No greater folly can be imagined, and to a reasonable man it only requires to be noticed to make the error self-apparent. The blacksmith will argue that he must cut away the rags, and sometimes they are so ignorant as to declare they cut away the frog to prevent the very object of its creation. The frog should never be cut, or any portion; if allowed to take its natural course it becomes a perfect safety-stand and protection to its full vigor and usefulness; but at the first shoeing the knife goes to work—and so it continues while there is frog to cut.

WHITEWASHING.—Good whitewash, well applied to fences, rough siding and the walls and ceilings of buildings, has a highly sanitary influence, as well as being in the highest degree preservative in its effect. To be durable, whitewash should be prepared in the following manner:—Take the very best stone lime and slack it in a close tub, covered with a cloth to preserve the steam. Salt, as much as can be dissolved in the water for slacking and reducing the lime, should be applied, and the whole mass carefully strained and thickened with a small quantity of sand, the purer and finer the better. A few pounds of wheat flower mixed as paste may be added, and will give greater durability to the mass, especially when applied to the exterior surface of buildings. With pure lime properly slacked and mixed with twice its weight of fine sand, and sifted wood ashes, in equal proportions, almost any color may be made by the addition of pigment. Granite, slate, freestone and other shades may be imitated, and without any detriment to the durability of the wash. This covering is very often applied, and with good effect, to underpinning, stone fences, roofs and the roofs of barns and other outbuildings.

NEVER MIND THE WOULD SHED.—"My dear Amelia," said a dandy, "I have long wished for this opportunity, but hardly dare speak for fear you will reject me. But I love you; say you will be mine! Your smiles would shed"—and then he came to a pause; "your smiles would shed"—and then he paused again. "Never mind the wood shed," said Amelia; "go on with the pretty talk."

PICKLE AND PRESERVE JARS.—When ever pickle or preserve jars are empty, wash them well in cold water, dry them thoroughly, and put them in a dry place. If you wash pickle or preserve jars in hot water, it will crack their glazed surface, and make them porous, which spoils them for use, as pickles and preserves require have the air kept from them.