

AGRICULTURAL.

To the Honorable Members of the Legislature of Ontario.

GENTLEMEN: You are all aware of the great loss we are suffering throughout the Dominion for lack of suitable seed wheat, that will stand against the effects of the midge. We have tried by experimenting to find a remedy for the evil, but without success. We have also endeavored to ascertain what kinds of wheat would be most likely to answer better than the varieties we are now cultivating. We have heard of a variety known by the name of the Giant or Mammoth Wheat, grown in the Mississippi Valley, a little of which has already been brought into Canada, and appears to answer well. Another kind known as the April Wheat has been imported from England which also appears to be suitable. Another kind known as the Chilian Wheat has been brought from Minnesota, although of inferior quality, has been yielding much better than other varieties we have been raising. Before there is sufficient of these varieties raised in this country to supply us with seed, probably some other malady may affect these kinds, we need a continual renewal of seed wheat. Our farmers are slow to look into these things, but few can afford to import, and the majority of that few would be unwilling to pay the cost after it would be imported, because there always is a risk in any new variety, still for our general agricultural prosperity it is necessary something should be done, and the sooner the better for the country. If you would grant us a loan of money, should it be only equal to half the amount of the loss that we have sustained by the law of limitation, and the errors of your surveyors, we will endeavor to import varieties of seed that we think will be most suitable to our requirements, and dispose of them in small quantities in every County in the Dominion at cost price to those that may choose to try them, and will return the money again to you without interest at such a time as you may state.

We consider this should be attended to now, so as to enable us to have new varieties to sow this Spring. Our enterprise will not entail on the government a lot of paid officials.

We address these few lines to you because when in the Parliament building the

other day in conversation with some of the honorable gentlemen, objections were made to the formation of a joint stock company. We heard also that nothing would be done about it this session, and that our plans were objected to because we had written articles showing the inefficiency of the late Board of Agriculture.

We believe we are doing good service to our country in condemning any improper management of our agricultural officers, and suggesting plans that should have long since been taken up by the late Board, and such as are of the most importance to our agricultural prosperity.

Should your honorable body devise any better plan than our petition asks for, we shall be most happy to submit to your decision. We cannot see the propriety of waiting another year, until a new agricultural Board is formed, and our country is ravished by the midge, with a remedy at hand that requires but little assistance from you to bring into immediate effect.

WM. WELD,

Ed. Farmer's Advocate.

To the Honorable Members of the Legislature of Ontario.

GENTLEMEN: We imagine we hear some of you say what does Weld mean by referring to the law of limitation?

We purchased our farm in the Township of Delaware, 25 years ago, from the present Hon. Judge Wilson. The lines had been run by your surveyors, and was partially improved. The adjoining land was settled and improved. We erected buildings, cleared the land, planted an orchard, and unlike other settlers, we reserved all our valuable timber, consisting of one of the finest tracts of walnut and oak to be found in the Province. We even purchased other timber to reserve our own. The inhabitants of the Township accepted your survey, and believed they lived in peace and security, protected in their rights by the British laws. After twelve years hard labor you sent another surveyor to run the lines again, and this change of lines made by him, came one-third of the distance across our farm, taking all the best of our reserved timber, running through our orchard, and cutting off the road to our house on one side, on the other side of our land, clearing and possession had been held for twenty years, and the law of limitation clearly prevented us from taking possession of other land in place of land taken from us. We applied to the best legal advisers, to know what step to take, and according to the advice of Judge Wilson, we resisted the survey that disturbed our possession, and after three trials at your Assize courts, we

were compelled to give up our land, timber and improvements without receiving any remuneration. To recover part of our land on the other side of us we had to pay \$250, and the best of our land on that side we can never obtain, on account of your law of limitation, by which act you gave another person land that we have legally purchased. We know it is not the intention of the British Government to rob a subject, but this can be nothing but legal robbery. The land alone would be a small item, in comparison to the heavy law expenses involved. This even would be small in comparison to the value of the timber at the present time, one tree alone having sold for \$100 in this Township. The land, law expenses and timber would be but slight in comparison to comfort and prosperity enjoyed, and the mental and physical prostration caused by such an unjust act, as to allow a British subject to be deprived of his property by the hand of the law, without ever having offended against it, and without the power of obtaining redress in any way.

We have spoken to the leading judges of the land, to some of the best lawyers, and to members of Parliament. All admit the case to be a very hard one, and the only objection raised by any to the liquidation of our just claim is, if the Government were to liquidate such claims they would be ruined. We have never heard of such a case as this. There may be some of minor import, and of greater magnitude, for ought we know. Native Britons expect their property to be protected and secured to them by the laws of the land. We believe if a government make a law that takes a man's real estate from him he should be paid for it.

We suppose we have paid at least \$2000 to our Government for taxes, and we expect protection from any Government to whom we pay taxes. It appears strange to us that with a surplus of cash on hand to the amount of \$500,000 that nothing could be done towards liquidating such a claim. Perhaps you may consider and assist a subject to regain his possession. Some may say that we have no business to touch on political matters. But this is important to us to know, if a farmer legally purchased a farm within the laws of Canada will secure him the land or not, and if they take the land for any purpose from him, will he be remunerated.

WM. WELD.

Ed. Farmer's Advocate.

Club lists are returnable up to the 25th of this month, and no longer, to be entitled to a prize. You can easily gain one.

To every person that has not paid for this paper, you are requested to do so, or put this in the hands of some one that you know WILL get up a club or subscribe for it.