

footing with other interests (and with you it is the most important), is to select your office-holders from men who are not strong party politicians. We have noticed that the strong Reform power evinced by some of the managers of the Dairymen's Association must tend to injure its progress. Conservatives must be dissatisfied, and will withdraw their support if such disgraceful proceedings are allowed as were exhibited at the late annual meeting in Ingersoll. The plausible account of skim-milk being allowed to enter the factories must be an injury to the nation, and it was plausibly spoken of for political purposes.

We therefore say to each of you electors of office-holders: For the management of agricultural affairs endeavor to elect men to these offices who will not make politics of more consequence than agricultural prosperity. There will be plenty of talking; and you thinking men, who make party politics your business, do not mix agriculture with it in any way, but select such men, if you can find them, whose main dependence is on agriculture alone. Neither religious sects nor party politics should interfere in agricultural matters. Politics, the Pulpit, the Sword, the Law, and the Railroad, have each its interests represented before the farmers, and they will all fatten, while the farmer may starve, unless he adopt this method.

Let agriculture be foremost, and take its proper position. You farmers have the power, if you had but the unity among yourselves, to act. Let agricultural men, or men who really have shown an interest in your affairs—we do not mean a pretended interest, put on for the sake of deluding you, but real continued actors and workers in your behalf—we say, let such be elected to represent you. Agriculture should rule and control the expenditure and power, and by electing real agricultural men, you will eventually attain the position that agriculturists deserve.

We have heard some farmers remark that the management was wrong. It did not matter to them. They did not care about it. It was not their business. Parties would do as they chose if they attended the meetings! We hope none of our readers will take such a low position. Be a member of a society, and have your voice heard there. Show that you are "a real live farmer," and not merely a dumb animal; shew yourselves men; be at your post of duty. Attend at your agricultural elections. If you have some particularly noisy person, give him a fair, reasonable time to talk, but do not allow one to occupy the time with the sole intent of wearying the patience of others, or preventing any one else from speaking. Be sure and elect an honorable chairman, who is not a strong party man, but one who wishes for the prosperity of agriculture in preference to politics, and will act fairly.

Cellars.

Jack Frost will try your cellars hard this month and next. If you are not quite secure from sufficient outside protection, take a paste brush and a bundle of old papers; paste them inside the cellar, and cover any places that the frost might easily penetrate. Twenty-five cents worth of paper and time, may save you \$50 worth of damage.

Correspondence.

To the Hon. Alex. Campbell, Postmaster-General of Canada.

DEAR SIR,—We wish to call your attention to the present postage act, which is so oppressively felt by publishers of agricultural papers, causing them to pay double the amount of postage as that chargeable upon political ones. Thus a political paper can be sent through the post office, prepaid, for one-half a cent, while the charge upon an agricultural one is one cent for each single copy. This difference amounts to a very large sum per annum, and compels agricultural editors to curtail every expense, and prevents them from employing necessary assistants to aid, or engravers to illustrate their papers as they would wish.

The result of such injustice is, that Canadian enterprise is checked, and thousands of American agricultural papers are circulated through the Dominion, because our own Canadian agricultural journalists cannot afford to make their papers as attractive in consequence of the heavy charge for postage.

We also believe that vast improvement and increase to the export and wealth of the country may be obtained by allowing seeds to pass through the post office as cheaply as they are carried by the post office on the other side of the lines. We can see no reason why they cannot be transmitted at as little cost over Canadian soil as over that of American.

Also we would call your attention to the wilful negligent acts of some of those engaged in the post offices, by either attempting to injure our interests, or by negligence on their parts, arising from the present post office arrangements, by which they receive no benefit from prepaid papers passing through their respective offices.

As the main revenue of our country must be derived from agriculture, and as our farmers have to pay for every thing they require at a higher rate than any other class, grant these requests, and we feel convinced the post office departments would be largely increased and the farmers greatly benefited.

Waiting your reply, I have the honor to be, Sir,

Yours most respectfully,

WM. WELD.

P. S.—I enclose one complaint just to hand. W. W.

Post Office Department,
Ottawa, Dec. 7, 1870.

SIR,—Your letter of the 5th inst., with its enclosure, is received.

You are under a misapprehension with respect to the postage rates on newspapers passing by post in Canada. This department provides for the transmission of all newspapers—whether political or agricultural—sent from office of publication to subscribers within the Dominion, at a uniform rate of postage, and, so far, recognizes no difference between the two.

In order to benefit by those rates, however, the conditions must be complied with—one of those is that publication shall be not less frequent than once a week; it is presumed that the *Farmer's Advocate* is published less frequently than once a week, and, if so, it would, of course, come under a different regulation as regards postage to that applicable to the transmission of newspapers.

Mr. Bowman's complaints shall receive due enquiry.

I am Sir, your obedient servant,
WM. WHITE.

We do not see that the above explanation alters our assertion in one iota. The simple fact is, that when the act referred to was passed there was not a weekly agricultural paper published in the Dominion, and on the other hand, there was not a political newspaper published less frequently than every week, so that the act being clogged with the conditions affecting agricultural papers could only have them in view when framed.

EDITOR.

DEAR SIR,—I have to complain of not receiving your paper from the post office regular. The November number I only received last Thursday, and very frequently it is nearly a month after the issue of the paper before I get it. This I consider a great drawback to parties subscribing for the *Advocate*, as, if they do not get the information about seeds, etc., till the month expires, it makes them too late to take advantage of what the paper may contain relating to them. This is much complained of by subscribers in my section.

I am Sir, yours truly,
JAMES BOWMAN.
Lobo, Dec. 3rd, 1870.

We would just make the comment, while thanking Mr. Bowman for his communication, that there is no wonder that papers get astray, when, through the negligence of the postmaster, they are allowed to lie about the office for such a length of time instead of being put into the hands of those to whom they are addressed.

P. S.—We could add scores of similar complaints, but this will suffice.

Government Aid.

The statement below will explain how we have stood in relation to Government, and what benefits have been derived from it of a private nature. Some persons have been foolish enough to imagine that we have received public money to aid us.—But every cent of public money that we have received to the time of sending this article to the printers, has been \$10 from the Minister of Agriculture for ten copies of our paper for one year, and \$30 from the County Council of Middlesex for papers that cost double that sum to be sent to agricultural sections in the County. The total would not pay for one month's postage.

Letter

To the Warden and Members of the Co. Council of Middlesex—

GENTLEMEN,—I am constantly receiving applications from all parts of this county, and the country generally, for some new variety of spring wheat, but unfortunately have none which I can safely recommend. Seeing that farmers as a class have suffered much loss of late years by sowing what varieties they can command, and which seem to have become altogether unsuitable for raising crops, so as to be remunerative, it seems an imperative necessity laid upon us, if spring wheat is to be raised throughout the country, that some new kinds be introduced and put upon trial, in order to obtain what would be of great benefit to the farmer, and a source of wealth to the whole Dominion. I would, with a view to meet this great and growing want, respectfully suggest

that you vote a sum of money to be expended for that purpose. Should you see fit to do so, I would humbly offer my services, to disseminate the same, without charge, to farmers in each township who might be willing to test, and report upon the same. I have already spent large sums in introducing fall wheat, oats, peas, and potatoes, of new varieties, which have been widely distributed throughout the county, and the surrounding country, and we have reason to know that much good has been the result, besides being the basis of a source of increased wealth to the Dominion. We believe that much remains yet to be done in introducing new varieties of grain, especially that of spring wheat, so that better and more valuable kinds may be obtained than any that the farmers in this county can at present command.

Waiting the result of your deliberation, I remain, yours respectfully,

W. WELD.
Canadian Ag'l Emporium,
London, December, 1870.

The above was handed in to the County Council, but no results followed. Let electors ask of their representatives the reason why large sums have been granted in aiding railroads and exhibitions, and nothing can be had from them towards aiding you to raise crops wherewith to pay your taxes.

There is a moderation even in parsimony, and at some future time not distant you will see some of the leading men of that Council supporting measures that may cost you millions, and probably not be half as beneficial to you as the timely advance of \$100 to be applied for the importation of spring wheat when it is required.

We have also given the Board of Agriculture information of your requirements, but despite their \$6000 surplus of hard cash, not one cent has been appropriated for importing spring wheat.

We have likewise made your necessities known to the Minister of Agriculture, but as yet we know not his decision.

However, we propose holding a meeting at which any supporters or approvers of the Agricultural Emporium are respectfully invited to attend; the meeting to be held in the Agricultural Hall over the Farmer's Advocate Office, Dundas street, on Thursday, 12th January, 1871, at one o'clock p.m.

While inviting our friends, we hold the meeting open to all. We would ask you and them to point out what good measure has been carried and put into force by either of the above public bodies; and we would like also to be informed of what monies have been spent during the same period, and what good results are expected to flow from such expenditure directly or indirectly to agriculture.

To Implement Manufacturers.

In nearly every business but yours dealers have some leading article to dispose of at about cost price. There is a great demand for cheap Horse-Powers. Whoever will furnish the most efficient and cheapest would draw custom. We have two, four or eight horse-powers for \$50. Who will supply the farmers with the cheapest and best. We do not refer to any new and high-priced patent; but the farmers want a cheap horse-power, as efficient as those now in use.

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