

the size is large, and some engravings are attractive, but there is a great lack of practical information in it which is not to be wondered at, when we find that the editor and most of the writers for it know nothing about farming, having spent their lives in the city.

We may have blamed George Brown for more than is his due, as we find the Rev. editor of the *Canada Farmer* has the whole management of that paper. If Mr. Brown were to engage the assistance of some really practical person, that would act fairly to the country, we should not have started this paper. Our aim has been for the advancement and prosperity of the Dominion.

TO THE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF ONTARIO.

GENTLEMEN:—Four years ago we suggested the plan of establishing an Agricultural Emporium for disseminating the best stock, seeds and implements. It was spoken of by those capable of judging to be a most beneficial undertaking. We have since been laboring to the utmost of our means and abilities to get it into successful operation, which we have at length succeeded in doing, having disseminated stock and seed throughout the Dominion that must materially add to our export receipts. We have been at heavy expense in procuring and trying different kinds of seeds, and in spreading good stock. To bring these plans forward we found it necessary to establish an agricultural paper, which all know must occupy much time and required a large sum of money. We feel confident that with assistance we can make the Emporium and the paper both useful to the country as well as profitable. There exists no law by which we could form a joint stock company for carrying out our plans above spoken of.

We request that an Act be passed allowing the formation of a joint stock company to establish the Agricultural Emporium. In addition to the above we have suffered heavy losses in timber, land and law expenses, caused by the law of limitation, for which we have received no remuneration. We have received no benefit or favor directly or otherwise from the present Agricultural Board in Toronto nor from the Government. We therefore request that the loan of a small sum may be granted to enable us to carry out to a greater extent the plans already commenced, hoping that you may not fail to see the utility of the undertaking nor to allow a voluntary public servant to be unrewarded, especially one who has suffered much loss by the existing laws of the country, without blame on his part.

The Treasurer of the West Middlesex Agricultural Society, (Mr. Keefer,) requests us to notify the several Township's Societies in West Middlesex, and the holders of prize tickets at the County Show, that he has received the Government County grant in aid of agriculture, and is prepared to pay the Township Societies and prize list of 1867.

PERHAPS YOU MAY.

About four years ago we suggested the propriety of establishing a Farmer's Bank, as the farmers could not get accommodation at the Banks when they most wanted it. When two or three more of our Banks fail, or a little pressure sets in and you are again shut out from any accommodation, by our Banks dabbling in American securities or barren rocks, and you have to suffer loss on the bills you circulate or accept as payment for your produce—then Perhaps You May say we will have a Bank. The Middlesex Insurance Company is as successful and as safe as any other. It is doing the business that used to be done by others. It is managed by farmers. We have made other suggestions that some of you considered of importance. Every one that reads this paper has power to assist our plans or help its circulation. Perhaps You May!

SEED PEAS.

MR. EDITOR:—I send by express a sample of the peas you wrote for, their proper name is, the Crown pea. I got into the seed of them from about one pint, and the third year I grew them I had eighty-seven bushels. For the last three years I have grown no other kind, as I consider them superior to any other variety. I have raised over 40 bushels per acre, but think from thirty to thirty-five about the average yield. The straw if well saved, I find nearly equal to hay—all stock eat it clean. My sheep will eat it in preference to the best clover hay. Another great advantage they possess is, they do not lie down like other peas. If the ground is rolled they can all be mowed. For the last two years I have cut the greater part of mine with my mower, this year I fixed a table to my mowing bar and with a boy cut seven acres in less than a day, leaving all bunched for hauling. They require better ground than the common pea; being a short vine variety never growing more than two and a half feet long. I have now one vine bearing thirty-two pods and have found over forty pods from a single pea.

I have them perfectly pure, as I grow no other kind and expect to have about two hundred bushels; which you can have at \$1 per bushel. I have never been able to supply the demand. I have sent them from Toronto to Michigan, and have never met a person who got from me that was not satisfied when they threshed.

I would not like to thresh at present as I would have to put my straw out as I threshed it, but could fill orders after the first of January, and can ship per rail to you.

I remain Sir,
Yours respectfully, J. C. R.

A NEW AGRICULTURAL ACT.—The Board of Agriculture has notified the several County Agricultural Societies in Ontario to send each one delegate to a meeting of the Board to be held in Toronto at 2 p. m. on the 12th day of November, to confer with said Board relative to a new Agricultural Bill.

Profitable Farming.

John Johnston's remarkable success as a farmer might be attributed to his underdraining, and to the large quantity of plaster he used for many years on clover. But this would only be a partial statement of the truth. His success is owing, first, to the man himself,—to his rare good judgment, combined with indomitable energy, persevering industry, close observation, and prompt, intelligent action. Second, to underdraining. Third, to the free use of plaster on clover. Fourth, to consuming all the clover, straw, and corn, on the farm. He has raised 3,000 bushels of corn in a year, but none has ever been exported from the farm except some which he gave to be sent to Ireland at the time of the famine. He never sold a bushel. It has all been fed out with the clover, straw, stalks, etc., raised on the farm. In addition to this, he has bought large quantities of oil-cake to feed sheep and cattle, and this has added greatly to the quality of the manure heap. Fifth he bestowed great care on his summer-fallows. They are not allowed to grow up to weeds, but were repeatedly plowed and harrowed, and rolled and cultivated, until the stiffest clay was reduced almost to as fine a tilth as an English turnip field. Such thorough tillage is itself more than an equivalent to a heavy dressing of our common manure.

Underdraining enabled him to work his land thoroughly and in good season. This thorough tillage set free the latent plant-food in the soil. The clover took it up and organized it into good food for sheep. The sheep extracted the fat from the clover hay, and left the nitrogen and mineral matter in the manure heap. So of the corn, straw, and stalks. They all found their way back to the land, with oil-cake in addition. It is easy to understand why his land is vastly more productive than when it first came into his possession. Underdraining, good culture, and good manure will make any land rich.—*American Agriculturist.*

Communications.

For the Farmer's Advocate.

MR. EDITOR.—Dear Sir:—

It appears that certain persons in the western counties, are selling to beekeepers what they call "a bee charm." Now allow me to say through the *Advocate* that bees cannot be charmed, and whoever sells a bee charm is a swindler—obtaining money under false pretense, and should at once be brought before the authorities. Doubtless some unprincipled fellow has visited the late Michigan Fair, and seeing Mr. Flander's of Ohio, gulling the people by selling "a bee charm," have