



VOL. VIII. { WILLIAM WELD, Editor and Proprietor } LONDON, ONT., DECEMBER, 1873. { \$1 Per Annum, Postage Prepaid. } NO. 12
 { Office—Dundas St., Opp. City Hotel. }

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A Retrospective View.

The present number closes our eighth volume. We return our sincere thanks to all of you that have aided us in any way to carry out the undertaking of establishing an independent paper in our country, the object of which has been to establish the Agricultural Emporium and that on an independent basis.

We look back with pleasure on the results of many of the cereals and roots that we have introduced to our patrons, many of which have tended to increase your wealth and the prosperity of this Dominion. We have been the means of greatly increasing the growth of the Midge Proof Wheat in the time of need; in disseminating the Treadwell Wheat, the Diehl Wheat, and lastly the Scott Wheat, all of which have been very profitable. The Early Rose Potatoes, introduced to you by us, have been a great acquisition to the country. Among the many things introduced by us a few may not have proved quite so satisfactory.

We have fearlessly exposed the management of the old Board of Agriculture and have at the same time always striven to support the Provincial Exhibition when it was in danger of being entirely overthrown by a political design. We advocated its existence, and in such a manner as to allow all parts of the country to be enabled to have an opportunity of visiting it occasionally; whereas, if it were made a permanent and fixed establishment in one locality, the farmers within driving distance of such locality would be about the only ones to receive the benefits from it, and all other parts of the country would be taxed for the benefit of such locality.

We have not yet established a test farm on such a scale as we anticipated to have done ere this, but we are now perhaps in a better position to do so than ever before. We have had a charter granted, although the late Government may have adopted our plans, or rather attempted to steal them from us because we would not make our journal subservient to political purposes, and the present Government may be attempting to carry out such a scheme: still we are carrying on our independent course.

We have advocated encouragement to farmers' clubs and all agricultural societies such as all farmers can reach within 15 miles drive of their own farms.

We have also used our pages to endeavor to send more farmers to the Legislative halls, or even men that will really interest themselves in farmers' requirements.

We have vastly improved our paper in the editorial staff, in illustrations, in the quality of the paper, and in the quality of work done on it. Our friends have

greatly increased our circulation; and by this means we have been enabled to make these improvements. We hope to make greater progress than ever the incoming year. We thank every one of you that have aided in its support in any way.

We have labored to make this journal not a dry statistical or copied production, but have endeavored to be up to the times in all things pertaining to agricultural information.

We wish every one of you the compliments of the coming happy season, return our thanks to all, and hope we may have renewed acquaintance with old friends and many new ones before the commencement of another year. No pains on our part will be spared to make your journal a welcome and profitable visitor to each member of the household.

Agricultural Politics.

Your journal has claimed the name of being nonpolitical. It stands now a monument of wonder and surprise that it should still exist, as no paper has ever before been known to exist for eight years without being allied to or supported by either party of politicians. This journal has stood against the utmost oppression, stood against the expenditure of public money to annihilate it, and laws made to exterminate it because its originator would not consent to serve political ends that he deemed injurious to farmers.

We contend that farmers are used as mere drudges from whom to extract labor and money for the use of party politics and office seekers. We have proposed to write neither for or against either party, except as touching the interest of the farmers and from an agricultural point of view.

At the present time, when such a great change has taken place in the administration of our affairs, we deem it but right that we should express our views on this great and important change; still we know we cannot say one word without some strong partizan being offended, because the feelings on political questions are worked up to the highest pitch by the two great contending powers, and many of you are almost frantic about it; some think the ultimatum of bias must now be obtained, others that the whole country is totally lost.

The real fact, gentlemen, is that it scarce matters a straw to you which party is in power. They both pull the wool over your eyes and put their hands in your pockets. All the talk and all the speeches you hear are mere buncombe or blind guides to you. We have heard the great orators, and each appears to attempt to be fog more than the other. We look on

the whole state of our political arena as a delusion, a snare, a trap.

We believe the change of Government will do good; corruption had gone too far and is still having too great a sway, and will continue to have.

We would like to see farmers unite and select one or two men to send to the Houses of Parliament who would fearlessly open their mouths and use their votes for the interest of farmers. The two McDonalds were trained and bred lawyers, and their agricultural knowledge would not tend to our benefit, but would rather tend to keep good fat pickings for lawyers in all the forms which we are compelled to pay.

What farmer has not experienced the expense of having been summoned to attend some jury case, perhaps travelled 40 miles, perhaps 60, and most likely waited round a court house two or three weeks, and have nothing more than a \$100 debt or a family squabble to attend to, that ought to be settled by any magistrate.— There are fine pickings for the lawyers, and the farmers have to pay it.

Why are so many large salaries paid to partisans for filling offices that our sons could just as well fill at one quarter the cost. Why are farmers and farmers' sons never or scarcely ever placed in public positions? Because the cities and political men of the cities create and retain these fat offices for political patrons, and we farmers have to feed them with silver spoons, build their palatial residences for them, erect their stately buildings, and furnish them with every luxury, ornament and comfort, all for political favors. We can name such.

Some of the new Ministry may mean well, but if they will not heed what farmers say and make an effort to watch our interests, and give the farmers that just consideration and honorable, honest treatment they deserve, we say we should unite with heart and voice and ask for justice to one and all of us.

If any poor farmer has been deprived of his land, of his property, of his just rights, we say it should be the first duty of a Government in an agricultural country to see that justice was done.

It is our impression that a greater loss is sustained by the country, caused by unjust oppression on farmers and poor men, by driving them, their friends and influence to a foreign country, than all the good that has yet been done by a Government under the name of emigration expenditure.

We speak from observations that have come under our notice, and from information received from numerous sources that have come to our office, and have never appeared in print in any of the political papers. The millions of money

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