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Founded 1866.

Agricultural Societies A very large number of these Societies have

sent us their yearly report, and in nearly every

instance we are pleased to note an increased at-

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE -AND-

HOME MAGAZINE

WILLIAM WELD, Editor and Proprietor.

The Only Illustrated Agricultural Journal Published in the Dominion.

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tendance and interest at the annual meeting. Many have sent us special points to noti e; but in most cases they are local, and have been well brought out at the meetings,. At present we can only thank these Societies for their great and growing attachment to the FARMER'S ADVOCATE and are pleased to hear that the Societies who gave the FARMER'S ADVOCATE to members, added immensely to their roll of membership. Success to our agricultural societies, one and all May all have good shows and fall fairs. All will bear in mind that each township agricultural socie ty can give one copy of the ADVOCATE for 1882 as a special prize for whatever the Directors shall select, to be competed for at their annual show.

GAME OF BOTANY. - One of our subscribers who won this prize will find that the game was not accompanied with the rules ; on receipt of the name and address the rules will be forwarded to make this interesting and valuable prize complete.

Back numbers of the ADVOCATE for past years can not be procured unbound.

Government Agricultural Expenditures.

Perhaps there is no better subject for shady politicians to harp upon than what great good has been done for farmers, and many are easily gulled by such a lot of real bosh as is often spoken or printed. Our observations lead us to the conclusion that when the public money is laid out or legislative enactments are made for the purpose of favoring some particular individual, locality or party, such expenditures invariably result in injury to the majority of the farmers and to the detriment of this Dominion. Many years ago a large sum of money was expended to establish a model garden in Toronto. A few favorites profited by the expenditure, but the farmers paid the bills and profited nothing, despite the laudations of the press and speakers. It was thrown up in disgust by all, and the good results that were to follow were never realized. Every person who really has the interest of farmers at heart and desires the real prosperity of the Dominion in preference to individual or party interests, would do well to examine into every expenditure and see what its real object is. The complete failures of the Government Farms in Quebec are models of incredible farces, and are mere suckers on the public exchequer. Wherever any great good has been done it can always be traced to individual results. Public expenditures are too often apt to be used to check rather than foster private enterprises, and sometimes smother them. The causes of the alterations in the Election Act, for the election of or rather the retaining some of the old Board in office, we looked on as the cause of the disruption of the Agricultural and Arts As-sociation. The object was to keep a few in office and in power ; and that few attempted to serve their own ends in doing this. Thousands of our most substantial and leading farmers have gradually become disgusted. The grant of money to establish the Ontario Farmer is another instance. That journal is long now dead. instance. That journal is long now dead. The fostering of many other 1 et schemes might be cited. Agriculture can look after itself if the Legislature will not enact laws to injure it. To legislate against the plain township farmers, and the taxing of them to support speculatorry is not apt to result beneticially. The majority of The majority of farmers want fair play and nothing more. Fair play would have given Kingston the Provincial Exhibition this year. Fair play would not vote for immense sums to be expended against beneficial private enterprises. Fair play would not have caused such a loss to the farmers by the vacillating management of the Herd Book. Fair play would not support the centralizing of the Government grant for the benefit of a few speculators or adventurers. Fair play would not allow the cities the power to overcharge farmers, neither would it ask that citizens should not be repaid for accommodation furnished to farmers. Hasty, hurried and undiscussed changes are apt to be injurious. Why bas not the Model Farm been made self-sustaining ere this? If the Government do not expend the grant for agriculture, why not vote it for the Muskoka sufferers ? Better do that than expend it in opposing farmers in their enterprises.

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Our Prize Essav

A prize of FIVE DOLLARS will be given for "WILL IT PAY TO SOW WITH CLOVER IN THE SPRING, TO BE PLOUGHED UNDER IN THE FALL." This essay must be in this office by the 15th March, and is intended to give and show practical results.

"YES OR NO."-We much regret to disappoint some who have won this lithograph. Our stock is completely exhausted, and our publishers are so busy that they cannot promise a further supply for several months. In the meantime we have se 1 cted "GATHERING FERNS," by John Lucas, Royal Academy of England, and "CROSSING THE STREAM," by George Earle, also of Royal Academy, England. These two crayons are exceedingly att-active and full of interest to every admirer of the beautiful. They are simple and very natural pictures of what they represent, of most excellent workmanship and void of all the loud and coarse tints or colors which so frequently mar the beauty of many otherwise deserving pictures. These crayons are printed on fine plate paper and cannot be procured, as far as we are aware, in Canada. All who chose "YES OR No," and have not received it, if they send a postal card with their choice of one of above before the 20th inst., it will be sent them.

Bound volumes of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE for 1881 will be mailed, postage prepaid, to any address in Canada or the United States for \$1.50. Orders can now be sent in.

Subscribers are requested to report promptly by postal card, with name and P. O. address, when their ADVOCATE fails to reach them in good time. Every subscriber should have his copy in his hands in every part of the Dominion, with few exceptions, by the 10th of each month.

Subscribers are desired to send the name and address of any farmer who should take the FARM ER'S ADVOCATE, and a sample copy will be at once mailed free to him. As our subscription lists swell, so greater improvements can be made.

In our March No. we hope to give a cut and fuller particulars regarding 'he Russian Mulberry, some account of which was given in a former issue. Our subscribers will do well to give this valuable fruit and ornamental tree, so highly spoken of in many · localities, a trial this season, and for the purpose of doing this, a plant from 6 to 12 inches will be sent, postage paid, per mail to any old subscriber for each new subscriter he may send in, paid in advance for one year.

The Government, on 31st Jan., received a cable despatch from the Co'onial Office, announcing that the Imperial Privy Council had removed the restrictions placed upon the importation of American breeding cattle into Canada. American breeding cattle will now be admitted upon the same terms as cattle imported from other infected countries, which are subject to a quarantine of ninety days. The quarantine stations for this purpose will be established at such principal points as will meet the requirements of traffic.