

The Provincial Exhibition.

This useful and beneficial institution was undoubtedly established for the advancement of agriculture. The benefits that have accrued from it have been incalculable; the perambulatory system has been beneficial. It has awakened an interest of rivalry and progress, and has undoubtedly added greatly to the revenue of the Dominion, in an indirect manner repaying a hundred fold the amount of its cost. There is nothing that men contrive but faults can be found with; errors will occur in every undertaking. Errors have been made in connection with this institution, and no doubt more will be pointed out and steps taken to remedy them.

The object of the Exhibition is to do the greatest amount of good to the country; some narrow, sordid minds may only look on the balance sheet to judge of its success, and would desire to see it with a large cash balance to its credit annually. This should by no means be of importance; in fact, it should not be carried on for the purpose of amassing wealth, but to expend it and merely pay its own expenses.

The present Board have evinced a desire to advance beyond their predecessors in doing good with the means at their disposal. They added to their expenditures by giving the great trial of implements in Paris last year. This was done without any charge for tickets, being free to all. The funds of the Association are generally diminished when the Exhibition takes place at Kingston, so they have wisely refrained from expenditures this year for a trial of implements in the harvest field.

HOW TO INCREASE ITS USEFULNESS.

For several years past attempts have been made to have the Exhibition held in Ottawa, but they have been met with the most strenuous opposition from the west. The western farmers say the distance is too far, the expenses will be too great, and the American purchasers will not attend; the Canadians are not as brisk purchasers as the Americans or Western men. It will not pay them, they say, to go there. The Western manufacturers also make these complaints.

OTTAWA'S CLAIM.

The representatives of the East say they have an extensive country that contributes largely to the Association's funds, and they desire a fair share of the benefits accruing from these funds; it would be a greater stimulant for the advancement of agriculture in that section than anything they have ever had, and unless they have it they will endeavor to separate themselves from the West and have their own Exhibitions. They will guarantee that it shall be no loss to the Association if they have the Exhibition at Ottawa. They are justly entitled to have it, and will have every accommodation for man and beast. The question will most probably arise again next autumn.

Would it not be fair and honorable of us to grant them their request, and would it not bind the East and West stronger together and awaken a spirit of progress? Would it not cause them to establish local Exhibitions, as Toronto, Hamilton, London and Guelph now have? We could have our Exhibitions just as well. It is to the Provincial Exhibition that each of these large local Exhibitions owe their origin. They have copied from it and adopted its rules and management, and, as the object is to do good to the Province, our opinion is that by taking the Provincial Exhibition to Ottawa in its turn, more good will be done than by keeping it in the Western section. Further, we can see no reason why it should be confined to four localities, as it is well known that the majority of farmers will not go beyond 30 miles from their homes to attend. The interests of the farmers should be consulted quite as much as the interests of the manufacturers or stock breeders. There need be no fear but that the exhibitors will be wherever the Exhibition is held, to carry off the prizes.

They have good, well-enclosed grounds at Ottawa, and the stock can be delivered at the grounds from the decks of the steamboats. Two railways are now running to Ottawa, one from Port Hope and the other from Prescott.

We well know the expenses of the exhibitors will be greater, and the time occupied in reaching Ottawa will not improve the stock. The distance from the grounds to the city and railway stations is farther than at other places, still it is our opinion that visitors will find more accommodation in Ottawa than was to be found in Kingston. It may not be next year that the Exhibition will be held there. It is our opinion that an additional grant of money

might be obtained, and the prizes greatly increased. The Province of Quebec would unite with Ontario, and a finer exhibition would be held in Ottawa than has ever been seen in Canada, that greater benefits would accrue to the Dominion from such a course.

We maintain that Ottawa is justly entitled to the Exhibition, and we should aid its going there, or, rather, forego our selfishness in preventing it from going. Thousands of farmers will see it who would never have any such opportunity if we retained it here. Ask yourselves: has not the Exhibition benefited you? Then why should we withhold it from those who have paid for its maintenance, and have received comparatively no benefit from it?

We hope those of our readers who feel an interest in the Exhibition will express their views on the subject, and we will find space for them in this paper, if they are of a reasonable length, whether favorable to the Exhibition being held at Ottawa or not. Farmers, express your views; we cannot be always right!

The time may arrive when Newmarket, Collingwood, Guelph, Stratford, Clinton and other places will be prepared to guarantee sufficient accommodation for man and beast, and guarantee that no loss shall be sustained by the Association, as Ottawa is prepared to guarantee. They may put in a demand and probably have the Exhibition in their localities, and we doubt not that these places will be able to have as good an Exhibition as the other cities have.

Agricultural Interest and the Post-Office.

Impressing our claims from time to time that the tariff of charges by the Post Office Department for the transmission of small parcels of agricultural seeds, should have been lowered, we have been met by the plea that the post office, instead of being a source of revenue to the government, does not meet the expenses connected with it. It is true that its working does not cover its expenses. Its expenditure for the year was \$1,271,006; its receipts \$1,077,767, thus leaving a deficit of \$193,238. We would observe that to the franking privilege this deficit is largely owing. In reply to this plea, we would say that no government ought to make the post office a source of revenue. A government, if actuated by a desire to promote the intellectual and moral interests of the people, should look upon the post office as an instrument of accomplishing good far above the accumulation of dollars and cents.

Besides, it may be a means of largely increasing the wealth of the country, thus adding to the value of the exchequer, while, meantime, not exhibiting a profit in its Dr. and Cr. account. It is possible to grow in wealth by a liberal and judicious expenditure. Our statesmen might learn this lesson from men of business, who have long acted on it. We remember an old saying,—"To waste money of little value, betimes, is the greatest gain." Our statesmen are too apt to be unmindful of this policy. In the several departments of government they do not extend their view beyond that one immediately under consideration.

We do not take into account that other interests—agriculture, manufactures, commerce—may bring them a return, repaying, manifold, any deficit that might arise from a more liberal management of that department.

We will not cease our demand for more liberal measures in the post office department for the interests of agriculture. We ask, not as a matter of favour, but of justice, of regard for the public good, that our small packages of agricultural seeds, for testing and dissemination, may be carried by post at a reduced rate of at least one half of the present rate; and also that agricultural papers published in the Dominion should have at least equal privileges with any political newspapers. Our success in these matters may not be immediate, but it will be certain.

The leading factories and shops, as well as the builders and carpenters in Guelph, have commenced to pay their employees by the hour. The arrangement is reported to give satisfaction both to the employer and employe, and the best understanding exists.

Circulation of Agricultural Publications.

We have before us a table showing the number of newspapers and periodicals published in the United States, and their aggregate and average circulations. The number of agricultural periodicals is 93, having an average circulation of 8,072. This demonstrates that the U. S. farmers are fully sensible of the importance of having their minds stored with knowledge of that science to which they have devoted themselves. A farmer who does not study agriculture as a science, and carefully and diligently put that science in practice, can not hope for success in those days of experiment and improvement. It certainly speaks well for the shrewd common sense of our neighbours to give such encouragement to a class of papers, the principal attraction of which is the information they convey. These 770,755 subscribers to agricultural journals must so improve the agriculture of the country, not merely by their labours, but also by the example they set to their respective neighbourhoods, that every product of the country must have a wonderful increase.

Agricultural Committee.

We were very much pleased on our late visit to Ottawa, not only by the courteous kindness of many of the leading members to us, as representing the great agricultural interest, but still more by their manly desire to legislate justly for agriculture. They were most anxious to know the measures most beneficial to farmers, and for this purpose an agricultural committee was formed. We have now, on the eve of going to press, received a copy of a series of questions adopted by this committee, and ordered to be sent to leading agriculturists, millers, &c. We give abridged such of those queries as are of most importance to farmers:—

Not having reciprocity with the United States in the exchange of grain, flour, and farm stuff generally, do you think it for the interest of the Dominion that we should continue to admit American produce free, when our exports have to pay a toll of 20 per cent?

What duties, if any, would you impose on flour and on the various grains respectively, or what general guiding rule as to the imposition of such duties would you recommend?

Has the admission of Indian Corn any effect on the prices of coarse grain in your section of the country, and if so, what effect?

Do you advise legislation with a view to establishing and promoting in Canada the cultivation of the sugar beet, and the manufacture of sugar therefrom; also the cultivation of tobacco and flax, and what tariff would best conduce to the enterprise?

We have barely time to refer to these questions very briefly. The agricultural interest receives no protection, and other interests are protected; we, therefore, as a matter of justice, claim that farmers be no longer denied a sufficient protection.

The Government of the United States refuses to allow Canadian produce to be imported to that country unless on the payment of a very high duty. We claim that the Canadian Legislature impose an equal duty on American produce imported into Canada.

The Canadian farmers are beharred from the markets of the United States, while the American farmers can and do pour in their grain and other products into Canada, thus in a measure depriving us of the advantages of our markets. We can supply the Lower Provinces with flour, &c., so let us in fair play supply them, without American interference. If we are not to have reciprocity, let us then in simple justice have such protection as is needed to develop the resources of our country.

We have already spoken of the encouragement we believe the Government should give to promote the manufacture of beet-root sugar. Let them remunerate

him, who at a great expenditure of money and labor, has succeeded in the manufacture. Let those who in like manner are benefactors to the country, not have to complain that they have spent and labored for an ungrateful country.

Parliamentary Affairs.

In the Dominion Parliament great talent, power, and ability have been centered on the debate on the Treaty, and most ably has it been discussed by both parties. We are well aware that many of our readers would like us to treat on this subject, but in our professed position of politics we dare not express one word of approbation or dissension. This is not the sphere in which we would interfere.— If you desire to know the real position in which we stand it will be essentially necessary to peruse a Conservative and Reform paper.

A correct opinion cannot be formed by having only one side of a question. All other papers we have seen in Canada are political or have their political leanings, and will report to suit their ends and purposes, or the purposes of their main supporter or supporters, and if you attach credence to a class of papers published for one side alone and do not heed closely the remarks of the opposing party, you are sure to be a misguided party fool, and unfit to give a vote at the elections. Your party may be right or it may be wrong; by reading only one side of the question, as we are aware many of our readers do, you are sure to have your minds biased to such party as the paper you read supports.

You must take two papers to be enabled to form a correct opinion. Remember it is political power that rules, still we as agriculturists must assert our power, demand our rights and take the management of agricultural affairs, or they will be subservient to party politics. We do not mean to imply that either editors or publishers are untruthful in their reports, but facts may be omitted or commented on to suit the party. You must have this in view when reading political papers, to be correctly informed.

OUR PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT

will meet ere long, and we anticipate a debate of importance will take place on which it may be the duty of editors of agricultural papers to express their views. The question of the situation of the Canadian Agricultural, Educational and Experimental Farm will be brought up, and its object and the intended modes of management may be discussed. The present Government have a weight thrown on their hands that they as yet appear undecided how to deal with.

Most probably the results of the last Experimental Farm may be brought up, because the attempt has previously been put into operation; but the results of the former one do not show equivalent advantages in comparison to the expenditures. It is probable that the question may arise whether such an establishment would tend to check private enterprise, and if more benefit would not accrue to the country by encouraging private enterprises, agricultural clubs, and the spread of agricultural information; would the Government by adopting these plans interfere in any way with existing establishments; would the institution be used as a hot-bed or hospital for partisans, and would it ever be worth its cost?

We hope some of our readers will express their opinions; now is the time to speak before anything is done; write your opinions.

—The necessity of more light-houses at the east end of Anticosti is unfortunately exemplified in the number of recent wrecks there. The north-east end seems to be particularly dangerous, as appears by the wrecking of four vessels lately.

We have ing, of Wo water 'pail consists in t or bale is a use the eye and often th out handles sists in an pail, thus the upper o over and us The atten drawn to

LAMB

During t opportunity of ren's Subso a short dist verized the low the bot saw it were on which it was much pated, one furrow and land operat and loamy quire more and we thi to be made on such soil that he is described.

We feel be done h this imple on exhibitio fall shows opportunity to go and fail to see ner in whi The sub to the plo tivator tee the handle lowered to wheel run landside wheel, it i run with would oth tached to beam.

Subsoil been much ben one of more part soils.

NEW A

It is re plete revc the applic past 50 y that is n almost lo was perfo never pe wondering the old n cleaning the past The abov most val are need have a n and thre dred, as t of perfor The c beyond c has done increas an incal ally beco These o demand Warner's the use millions even s.w made to common prevent ture or ments