

have cause to unite in one grand patriotic course, having more exalted and more philanthropic ends than the suppression of truth and shielding of vice.

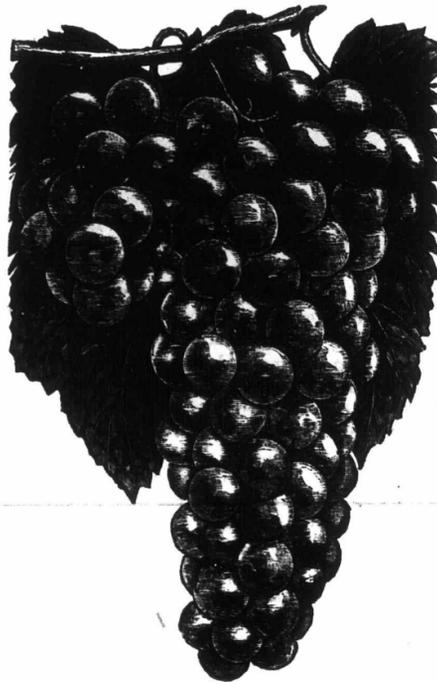
Farmers, our country has never been more in danger than at the present time. From Vancouver Isle to Labrador you have heard of dissatisfactions, menaces and in some instances, bloodshed. The greatest cause is partyism. Partyism is many headed; it sacrifices truth, honor and everything ennobling to its ends, while fraud and deception are its weapons. The results, although seen in a small way in many places, should cause us to look for preventative or remedial measures. We cannot remain at rest; we must be improving or degenerating. We should all strive to ward off any impending danger. How can we best do it, is a question asked by many. We can see no better way than to direct the attention of the people from partyism to patriotism. We have a large and beautiful country, ample room to make tens of millions of happy homes. It is possible that some leading expert may be found to promulgate plans that may bring from our present political parties plans that may tend more to patriotism. We see the clamours for more offices, more jobs, high salaries; all these are for the benefit of partisans, and nearly all are additional means to increase the burdens of the real cultivator of the soil. Your ADVOCATE has made many enemies of those desiring to obtain your money and increase your burdens. Many of these strong partisans are abroad in the land and may have tried to disparage our work and your ADVOCATE by forcing their partizan publications on you, by defaming your journal regardless of truth, by attempting to deprive your journal of the credit due to it, by withholding their support, by word or deed. Of such, however, when you hear them in public meetings or in private, when they solicit your vote or influence for themselves or some friend, you may depend they have an axe to grind at your expense in increased taxation of your land or on your necessities of life.

If the FARMER'S ADVOCATE has during the last twenty years attempted to serve your interest in efforts to improve the agriculturist mentally, morally and honorably, and has succeeded in convincing more every year of its utility, then hesitate no longer; send in your \$1, and \$1 for some neighbor that you have convinced of the utility of the ADVOCATE, and it may be possible that this journal may warn you of danger in time to save your stock, your crops, or your happiness, as it has already done in many instances.

THE WESTERN FAIR.

Perhaps the greatest loss that the agricultural exhibitors of Western Ontario have sustained has been the disposal of the Western Fair grounds in the city of London. The farmers fought hard against it for fifteen years, but the union of organized bodies and citizens and some misguided or interested parties, have obtained a power over lands that were granted for exhibition purposes, and broken up the best located and

the best exhibition grounds that Canada ever had, where the best really agricultural exhibitions have ever been held, and under various pretences desire to pocket the proceeds. Part of the grounds are now sold and, built on, and every device is being practiced to wrest the remaining portion from the farmers. The full particulars would be too long for us to publish in this journal, but suffice for us to say that every paper and every farmer should be informed of the full particulars of this improper transaction. There are Members of Parliament who have attended the annual meetings that should be called upon to explain, and should inform you truly of the real position of these



THE EMPIRE STATE GRAPE.

grounds, and of the means taken to deprive the farmers of them. We look on it as the worst thing that ever transpired in Middlesex.

What has been done in London may be enacted in any county. Farmers should attend the annual meetings, and be sure and accept no promises in lieu of titles in their own hands for properties supposed to be held by them. In your elections do not put too much confidence in the most plausible or longest speeches. Remember some are apt to talk against time to annoy you and prevent others being heard. Let short speeches be the order of the day, and allow as many as possible to express their views, and elect men whom you know to be honorable and honest, and whom you know to be farmers or farmers' sons, and can and will act openly, fearlessly, truthfully and honorably in looking after your interests. Farmers can do all that is required if they only have an opportunity. It is not judicious to elect merchants or professional men to offices that farmers alone should hold. The loss of the Western Fair grounds has been brought about by those who serve other interests, through misrepresentation and allurements that will never be carried out. In years to come you may look in vain for such an agricultural exhibition as has been held on these grounds.

A NEW GRAPE.

To the best of our knowledge we were the first to raise cultivated grapes in the Township of Delaware; in fact we do not know of any being raised for a distance of 60 miles west of London at that time, nearly 40 years ago. The variety we first grew was the Clinton. A plant from the old stock now clings to the old homestead, and has borne for the last 25 years. We have since tried several of the new varieties, the Concord, the Clinton, and the Delaware being the most valued for hardiness.

This year we intend to plant an Empire State grape vine, and have pleasure in introducing it to you. We have received the very highest commendation regarding it from one of our most reliable Canadian fruit growers. We give the description given of it by different gentlemen who have grown it in Michigan and New York States. It is a new early white grape, the whitest of the hardy varieties, other so-called white grapes being either green or brownish. It was a seedling of the Hartford Prolific with the Concord. \$4,000 was paid to the propagator by Pratt Bros., nurserymen, Rochester, N. Y., who now control the stock. It is a strong grower, very early and as hardy as the Concord; it resists mildew better than most varieties; it is very productive, of the best quality, free from floxiness, a good keeper, hangs to the stem well and is considered the best raisin grape that can be raised in northern latitudes. The bunches are large, from six to ten inches in length; fruit large, roundish-oval in shape. From the various reports we have received from different localities we feel justified in commending this grape to our grape-growers and amateurs, believing that it will be found more profitable than any grape we now have growing, as the price that these grapes have commanded, and would command in our markets, would far exceed that of any we now have growing. The price of really good new varieties is always high; these vines are sold at from \$1.50 to \$2.00 each, depending on the age of the vine.

Those of our subscribers who reside in localities where the Concord will ripen, and who want to make a little profit by selling a few really choice grapes at a good price in your city or village, we feel confident will meet with no loss by sending us two or three new subscribers and procuring one of these vines. We do not advise you to invest heavily until you are sure of what you are doing. Do not plant a grape vine unless you have fully made up your mind to take care of it; very few of you are aware of what can be done with a single plant. In England one grape vine is reported to have borne five tons of grapes in one year and has been in bearing for over one hundred years. In the United States we saw a rose bush, or rather tree, as large round as a man's leg; it returned in one year more profit than 100 acres of nursery ground. Your stock and grain are not paying any too well just now. Just prepare a piece of ground near your house, clean away some of the rubbish you have there, put in a vine and take care of it. Some day you may receive more profit from it than from your best cow. Perhaps you may believe as we do at the present time, namely, that it will be more profitable to plant than sow. See our monthly prize list and you can procure the best without money,