

The Provincial Board of Agriculture.

This Board held a meeting during the past month; some very important business was before them. Perhaps the most so was the

SELECTION OF THE JUDGES.

The Hon. D. Christie desired to have judges from the States on the Short Horn class; in this measure Mr. Murton, of Guelph was his main supporter. A warm discussion ensued, perhaps the warmest the present Board has ever had.

We were led to believe that Christie was king of this Board, but Graham, Gibbons, Shipley and others opposed him, and would only allow half of the judges to be brought from the States. Christie was much vexed at this thwart.

We have to thank the late President, the plain, bluff, unpolished Canadian farmer, Mr. S. White, for his audacity and pluck in this matter, although he had been Christie's aid on previous occasions. In this he opposed him, and prevents our eating the humble pie and annexation pill of allowing the Americans more power than we have over our own business.

This important decision was only carried by the deciding vote of Mr. A. Wilson, the President. We deem this an important step, and strongly commend the upholders of Canadian dignity. The Americans are good customers and good neighbors, but we do not wish them as masters.

Surely we can select men with as much honor and as good judgment as they have across the lines. Canadians should control their own affairs. If we want annexation let it be known above board. We have yet to learn that Canadians desire annexation before we advocate that measure.

Murton, of Guelph, nominates half the judges on Durhams from the other side of the lines. Christie desired more. Not one quarter of the members of the Board know anything about these Americans that are appointed. The last time American judges were called in there was quite as much dissatisfaction expressed regarding the decisions as at any other time. We think the Board has gone quite far enough in this matter of allowing half the judges to be brought from the States, all to be selected by Christie, and all proposed by Murton, of Guelph.

We like the Americans' money, but when we cringe to it for political elections and when we sell the main agricultural interest and power and influence to them, we may as well shut up shop and resign in favor of the stars and stripes. Reciprocity we have asked for, annexation we have not yet dreamed of, but Christie's attempts to have the full power of our Durham stock under the Americans is too much for Canadians to sanction. We hope to see those independent, plain farmers who resisted the measure as much as they did, elevated to better positions and to enjoy more power.

TWO PRINCE OF WALES' PRIZES THIS YEAR.

The Prince of Wales' Prize was withheld last year on account of the error of the exhibitor to whom it was awarded.— This year it is to be given to the best flock of Cotswolds raised by the exhibitor. The other Prince of Wales' Prize is to be given for the best Durham Bull and five calves.

FOUR PLOUGHING MATCHES

are to take place this season under the auspices of the Board of Agriculture, to each of which the Association grants \$300; also, each electoral division in which the match is held is to contribute \$25 towards the match, and the President of it is to become *ex officio* member of the committee appointed for said district.

The matches are to be held at Ottawa, Port Hope, Paris and Chatham.

We approve of the spirit of the Associ-

ation in their patronage to different parts of the country, but Paris is rather near to Hamilton, which had the advantages of the Provincial Exhibition last year, and Paris was selected for the trial of implements two years ago. We hope the Board will not quite forget the northern parts of Ontario next year, as there is a large tract of country there that has comparatively little opportunity for the inhabitants to attend our Provincial gatherings. It might be well to aid them in their agricultural gatherings, in fact, we would have preferred seeing both the Ottawa and Paris ploughing matches held at other points where the farmers have not had such opportunities as they have had at those places.

We do not wish to condemn the acts of the Board; we know many of the members to be such that it would be difficult to select better. We merely throw out these hints for consideration.

Agricultural News.

A company has been formed in this city for the purpose of manufacturing India-rubber from the milk weed. They propose to plant out a small patch of milk weed in order to find out what quantity of the rubber can be manufactured by the acre. The projectors speak confidently of their ultimate success.

We know many farms where it would be quite unnecessary to plant it in order to have a crop of milkweed.

Another grub is making ravages in this section of the country, cutting off whole fields of grain. It is spoken of as a grayish green grub, about one inch in length, and is so bad in some places that fields of grain have had to be ploughed up again and re-sown. The gardeners are complaining that the grubs are carrying off their cabbage and tomato plants. We read that some farmers are applying a light sprinkling of salt to their fields affected with the grub, and they say with good effect.

The Onion Worm or grub is also at work. They get into the centre of the onion and eat it out. If you notice the ends of your onion tops getting brown too early in the season, you may be sure that you have a visit from the onion grub. A gardener of experience tells us that the best way to be rid of them is to mix up salt and water (slight dose) and pour some on the onions affected.

A very large company has been formed in New York for the manufacture of artificial butter. They buy up beef suet; it is put into a meat chopper and minced fine; it is afterwards placed in a boiler with as much water in bulk as itself. A steam pipe is introduced, which melts the suet. The refuse or membrane goes to the bottom of the water; the oily substance floats and is removed. A temperature of 80° makes the stearia of the fat sink to the bottom, and the remainder, floating on top, is drawn off and about 13 per cent. of fresh milk is added, with the necessary salt, and the whole is steamed for ten or fifteen minutes. Those who have tried the butter say it equals the best. All the leading steamship lines between New York and Europe are to be supplied this summer with this newly invented butter. Several of the leading men in the butter trade have taken stock, and the discoverer expects that the new product will drive live cow butter out of the market.

There is a storm brewing in England. The farm laborers there have had a Union for some time which has forced a raise of wages wherever the Union was established.

The farmers have now become alarmed and have formed a Union of their own to oppose the laborers with, and there is sad work going on. Men striking and farmers turning them out of their houses. There has been as yet but little violence, but that must be expected shortly.

Mr. Shiels, of Adelaide, expresses the opinion that the usual practice of sowing timothy in the spring is not generally profitable. Too often we have dry, hot summers, which completely kill out the timothy, and leave nothing for next year. His practice is to sow his timothy in the fall.

The wheat sowing in the vicinity of Nashua, I. a., is nearly complete, and as early sowing generally brings good crops in that district, farmers have reason to anticipate a good harvest in 1873.

Farmers, Awake and Unite.

We in Canada, who hear of the wonderful fertility of the West, are apt at times to think their lots much pleasanter than ours.— This last winter has made things look a little different. By a general combination of railroads, freights have been raised so high that it is worth almost as much to bring their corn and other produce to the seaboard as it is worth when it gets there. This has caused a general depression, and although a farmer there may have a good crop, the value he realizes from its sale or exchange is exceedingly small. This combination of railroads has therefore forced upon the farmers of the west the necessity of a combination amongst themselves, and the work of organizing so far has been so successful that they will force Congress ere long to aid them either by compelling the railways to take the freight at a less extortionate rate, or build new railways to the west for farmers' freight alone.

The principles actuating the "Granges," as their organizations are named, may be judged from the following forcible inscriptions upon the banners in a procession of 5000 in Lawrence, Kansas, some days ago:

'Down with Banks and up with Corn!
'No Quarters to Monopoly!
'Equal Taxation!
'God Speed the Plough!
'United We Stand, Divided We Fall!
'Live and Let Live!
'Money Rings, Beware!
'Farmers Will be Free!
'No More Parasites!
'Less Offices, Less Laws, Less Taxes, and More Justice!
'Industry Will be Rewarded!
'Farmers to the Front—Politicians to the Rear!
'Peaceably if We Can—Forcibly if We Must!
'Reform or Revolution!
'Vox Populi!
'Fraternity, Equality, and Fair Exchange!'

We call attention to this movement in the west for the reason that we will probably in a few years be suffering from the same causes that they are now.

There is a tendency among our railways now toward combination for excessive charges. We know very well how unequally they now levy their rates for local freights in Canada, and how careless they are as to whether they properly attend to the business, unless, indeed, it is for one of our big merchants; then they are obsequious enough.

Why is it that the farmer is not treated with every respect and attention when he is on board the train. The conductor is surly and the rates of travel are increased upon him because he only wants to travel a short distance. We farmers have to pay for these railways, and we must and will have our rights upon them. If we only demand it of our representatives in Parliament they can compel the railways to deal justly by us.

Farmers' Rights.

We, as farmers, have rights, and we should be more united to enable us to maintain them. Trades, professions, citizens and politicians unite their strength and demand and obtain their rights; the farmer is the common prey for all, and he has to pay for all.

You cannot be ignorant of the numerous strikes for higher wages, shorter hours and guarded privileges of the various mechanics, trades, laborers and professions. It is time that we should begin to clamor for our rights, to unite, demand and obtain them.

The latest combination injurious to farmers that we have heard of is the

SURVEYORS' LEAGUE.

Surveyors merely require a good common education. Common school teachers can survey; farmers and farmers' sons that have passed through a common educational course can survey. There is nothing difficult in it to any one having studied Euclid Geometry, but surveyors have a law to protect them, and are enabled to prevent any one but themselves from surveying. They were well enough compensated when the law gave them the privilege of charging \$4 per day; not being satisfied, they have been combining and have now put up their charges to \$8

per day, this to be charged for eight hours work, and the day to count from the time they leave their office until they return.

This must tell most oppressively on our settlers; it must take the farms and homes from many a poor back woods settler. Sometimes a surveyor may and has hung round a poor farmer's place for one or two weeks, under pretence of waiting for his astronomical observations.— The present combination enables them to increase it still more.

The surveyor can thus run a bill of \$21 per day; besides, all expenses have to be borne by the employer. This combination is as yet only in this western part of Canada.

A settler may take up a Government lot at \$1.25 per acre. He must find out the boundaries of his lot; a surveyor may live within 10 or 100 miles, and the surveyor has the power of making the settler pay double as much as the land cost him to run a line, and then the Government or surveyor is not responsible for the work done.

We can speak from experience: we have paid great surveyors' bills for a mere nothing, and find the work not as well done as a common school boy could do. But the law prohibits the school boy and protects many an incapable surveyor. The loss to farmers is now enormous for these bungling acts of legal surveyors. If the farmers' sons were to be allowed to survey the level would soon be found and good reliable lines would be run.

We believe that our individual farmer's loss occasioned by the Government surveyors authorized and paid by the Government, exceeds the sum of \$5000, and no recompense from the Government.

And this extortion might go on unchecked and without comment, if we had no other paper than those devoted to politics to take up our grievances. They have not condemned this combination of surveyors. From this and hundreds of instances farmers may see the great necessity of their having a farmers' paper such as the *ADVOCATE*, and by their liberal support maintaining it in a position to serve them effectually. We have for years contended for the rights of farmers, and until now at a great pecuniary sacrifice. Our increased and increasing circulation is a testimony that farmers now recognize the service we may have been the means of doing them by advocating their interests; and we intend to prove ourselves worthy of that support by maintaining their rights and opposing every measure that may be injurious to them, whether it is from the combined members of a profession or from Legislature or Government.

The Ontario Agricultural Em-porium.

In our last issue we published the Act of Parliament chartering this institution. We also submitted a few questions to our readers, to ascertain the spirit existing in regard to it.

We regret that the responses have not been so numerous as we would like. We have spoken to several leading farmers, most of whom would like to see it established, but few would be willing to aid it. We addressed the agricultural committee of the County Council of Middlesex, the majority of whom were favorable to it; in fact, the only obstacle in its way raised by any one of them was that they did not see the necessity of such an establishment now, as the Government Farm would be sufficient.

This was expressed by Mr. G. McGugan, one of the Reeves of Lobo; he is a plain, practical farmer, and his views probably are the views of the majority of the farmers.

Still we are confident of the success of the establishment, if put into proper working order. It requires but two or three gentlemen with a little capital and influence to make it a success. Our capital has not been sufficient to carry it out as it should be, hence the necessity of a