

**Farmers' Points.**

Preparations are now being made for the elections. Many parties are about; addresses are being given and will continue to be given for some time. Lawyers and citizens are now pouring their deeply studied speeches into your ears; some claiming to be Reformers, some Conservatives, and many of you farmers listen with glib lips and think you are doing yourselves and the country a good service by giving your votes to a person for no other reason than because he may be on the side of politics you like best. We, as farmers, should look to our interests; we should have a policy and a platform. Our policy should be to send more agriculturists to the Houses of Parliament, men that really live from the cultivation of their land. Farmers have been compelled to pay a very heavy tax for the direct benefit of the cities; our rights and interests have been sacrificed to the interests of cities in many ways, in fact in every way. Many farmers have not looked into these things as closely as they should. The fact is, that it never can or will be known to what an enormous extent this taxing farmers for the benefit of the cities and citizens has been carried on.

We have our just rights to obtain, and we should strive for them. Do not give up on one poor trial; if you have been conquered persevere, try again, and in time you will conquer. If you will only make one good stand others will rally round you. Let others know what you are doing or trying to do; let us raise our voices and make them heard—more farmers to Parliament. If you had sent one farmer there that had any influence, do you think this fourfold tax on agricultural information would ever have disgraced the 19th century? Shout aloud—Farmers' interests! farmers' rights! and send more farmers to Parliament to fight for them.

**To the Hon. A. McKellar, Minister of Agriculture.**

We are pleased to notice that you have condescended to consult with the Board of Agriculture on agricultural subjects; we believe that you will use your abilities for the advancement of agricultural interests, and will be directed to some extent by the farmers of the country. We believe you have taken a judicious step in checking any further expenditures on the Mimico Farm until the subject is better ventilated and judicious plans matured, if such an institution is to be established. The Mimico establishment, if our judgment is not in error, was intended to trample down and squelch private enterprises that should happen to be conducted by parties not entirely subservient to particular political tenets. It was the intention of some parties to trample out the Board of Agriculture and to establish an annual Provincial Exhibition at Mimico, leaving each section to its own resources. The scheme was a gigantic one. In its attempt the manager was selected. Had we received the offers which were made to us if we would lend our aid to the plans, we believe we should not have acted true to our name, the FARMERS' ADVOCATE. It is our belief that the farmers of the country should know what is intended to be done for or against their interests; that this subject and all other agricultural subjects should be openly discussed through all the agricultural papers of the country. The very simplest facts in regard to the different natures of plants and cereals, are not known to one-tenth of our farmers. The profits of selling or even raising Southern Corn is known only to few dairymen, and a thousand other really useful practical and profitable hints on all kinds of farming business are comparatively unknown. Would not a very great amount of good be done by furnishing information about such things to those who are not aware of the benefit of such information? Would not the increased spread of these very small crumbs of information be of advantage? Our farmers, as a class, must be fed with

such knowledge as they can understand. Elaborate and flowing technical language and terms are of little avail as yet; we are in darkness; we should be first instructed in something we understand a little about, and gradually increase the stock as the mind becomes capable of receiving it. Our aim should be to have the masses informed; we scarcely know one farmer who would read a scientific article on any subject. Our farmers have been in low positions, and many are now becoming wealthy. Knowledge should be supplied to them, and in what better way can this be done than by the encouragement of agricultural papers, agricultural clubs, libraries and lectures? Would it not be well to offer some little inducement for farmers to write articles on different subjects? We understand that some persons have been sent to the States to examine into the working of the Colleges there; should we not have reports about the results of the investigation, in short, concise forms, and have them described publicly? Perhaps a little expenditure in the above-mentioned manner might save an enormous expenditure that would have to be made annually, which the farmers would have to pay, whether the result was injurious or beneficial. Would it not be well to examine into the results of the expenditure made for a test and experimental farm many years ago in Toronto? Great expenditures were made, but we never heard of any good results.

**Seeds.****M'CARLING WHEAT.**

Since our last issue we have received even more favorable accounts from persons who procured this variety last season, than we ever had before, not one complaint having been made about its productiveness or quality during the past month.—Two parties, Mr. J. Cameron, of Niasso, and Mr. Shiver, of Westminster, have called at our office, showing us wheat that resembles it very much; indeed, we cannot see any difference in the grain. One shearer had 32 bushels per acre, the other 35, and they both say it is the best spring wheat raised in their sections. Some complain about the price charged for it; undoubtedly it is high, but we paid a high price per bushel after harvest, and have had the No. 1 quality hand-picked at a cost varying from 25 cents to \$1 per bushel, besides, dividing losses, and packing it in small lots, writing letters, &c., in reference to it, costs money. Still it is being now pretty widely disseminated in small quantities.—We have such confidence in it that we wish some of it to be in every township, and feel sure that it will be a public benefit. We shall present quarter of a pound of it to any one of our subscribers (who have paid their \$1 for the present year), who will remit the postage, which will be three cents, and four cents for the bag, label, and expense of packing; also, we shall send a package on the same terms to the first member of each agricultural society that wishes to try it, even if they are not subscribers to the paper.

**EXCELSIOR PEAS.**

We also receive satisfactory accounts in regard to this variety of peas. It is our belief that they will be of advantage, and we will make the same offer in regard to them.

**EARLY PROVIDENCE PEAS.**

We have received some of the above peas, an English variety. It is a large, wrinkled pea, of brown colour, and is said to be an enormous cropper, yielding 10 bushels per acre more than our white varieties. The specimens we have received were raised in Newmarket, Canada. If any of our subscribers should like a 4 oz. package, we will present the peas to them, but they must remit the price of postage, one cent per oz., and four cents for the bag and packing.

**POTATOES.**

Orders have arrived in such numbers for some kinds of potatoes, that we believe we shall be short of some varieties before the season closes. However, we can yet fill orders for all the varieties advertised

by us. We will make the same offer to our subscribers in regard to the different kinds of potatoes as we have made in regard to the M'Carling wheat, that is, we will send them half a pound of any variety on payment of the postage, one cent per oz., and the cost of bag and packing. It is not our intention to give each kind to one person, but one kind to each.

**OUR FIELD SEEDS.**

Our new stock of field seeds has landed. We have not ordered a large lot, but merely sufficient for our readers who procure their stock from us, and we have not spared expense in trying to procure the best turnip seeds; we have one-half a pound of new turnip seed that is most highly spoken of, the cost of which half-pound alone was \$6.50, or £1 6s., in England, rather a dear turnip seed it will be thought. Many will not believe that we would pay at the rate of \$13 per pound for turnip seed. It was procured from H. Clark, of London, England, who stands at the head of the seed business there. Many will ask what will we do with it; no one will purchase it, for Canadians can raise their own seeds. There are persons now raising turnip seed in Canada; we have seen it raised here and believe it answers well. We shall divide this and sell some of it in small packages at 20 cents per package; we shall have some left for ourselves, which, if we cannot find any person to take care of it and raise seed, we shall sell it ourselves and try our luck at raising turnip seed. Still we would rather that one or two of our readers would undertake it, as we have so much to attend to.

**GRASS SEEDS AND GRAIN.**

We have imported numerous small lots of the different kinds of grasses, and, knowing that we could not devote the attention to these that we should, we asked the Minister of Agriculture for aid for such a purpose, as grasses are of importance to the country. We hope some of our readers who have time to look after them will give them a fair test, and for this purpose we will present one or two of you with a small quantity, on condition that you will give them a fair trial and report to us. A very small piece of land will answer for a test, and will do quite as much good to the country as if it was imported by the ship load. We can procure more if they are found to answer.

**OATS.**

We have some imported Brown oats, as they are called; also a few Black and White Tartars, and we will add some of our Canadian and American varieties. We will also place them in the hands of our subscribers to test and report upon, and to supply us with seeds. The greatest difficulty is found in having so many varieties, as we cannot afford to employ the necessary labor to keep them all pure, and we find that the seeds we procure from others are too often mixed. We advertise to supply the best we can procure, but sometimes we are really ashamed of the kinds we have to send out.

**NEW BRUNSWICK OATS.**

We have procured a quantity of this variety of oats from Owen Sound, but they are not as good a sample as we would wish, not being as plump or as pure as they should be.

**NORWAY OATS.**

Some persons are well satisfied with the Norways and consider them an acquisition, while others condemn them as an arrant humbug.

We would like one person to attend to the oats, another to peas, another to spring wheat, another to grasses, another to turnips, another to fall wheat, and some to field seeds, to send reports of the success or failures of the different kinds. Remember that the reports of failures, as well as of success, are useful; the majority are willing to publish the successes, but we want both sides. If some of our readers will respond, we shall be happy to divide the costs and profits with them; there will be loss on some kinds and profit on others. It is a necessary and useful work we are engaged in, and we can, by our

united efforts, have every necessary test carried out, by dividing the labor. A single test in one locality is not always sufficient, for instance, some kinds of grain, potatoes, &c., are favorably reported from some sections, and condemned in others.

**Patrons of Husbandry.**

To Amos Hoff, Secretary, and E. Farvington.

GENTLEMEN,—We send you a few numbers of the FARMERS' ADVOCATE, being much pleased to notice your exertions for the benefit of farmers. We shall be happy to enroll our name as a member of one of your Granges, and we shall also feel greatly obliged if you will send us a copy of the rules or laws that govern your societies. We have labored alone for the past seven years in this Dominion to awaken the farmers to the necessity and advantage of unanimity of action. Our labors are gradually becoming appreciated, and now hundreds who at first ridiculed our ideas and plans, are our supporters. Our journal is now considered the leading agricultural paper of this Dominion.

We are much pleased to observe that the ladies are interested in your organizations.

**For the Iowa Homestead.****SOMETHING NEW.**

There surely must be something new, That's pressing hard on farmers' minds, For in our school rooms not a few Are frequent found with lowered blinds. A secret order—is that so, That they are now in this combined? Strange tho't, when but few days ago, Few farmers then were thus inclined; But if we're asked the reason why We've made this great and sudden change, We all with one consent reply, We want the name of "Crystal Grange." With this new name we feel quite proud, Begin to stir, and say combine, That we may move the lowering cloud, That's hung long o'er the farmer's mind. With brother Patrons everywhere, We want to work and be as one: With one united voice declare Our rights, and work till them we've won. "This union, farmers, we must have; Come one, come all, then let us be Combined, and hush the jeering laugh Of those who say we can't agree. To paddle each our own canoe, They say we must, or downward float. To fight alone is hard work too; Then farmers, come, let's ride the goat. Good times are coming; then hurrah, Three cheers for Granges everywhere; Blood suckers now must cease to draw From us, for we've no more to spare. The lazy hounds of whom we read In Homestead's columns tother day, May bark and whine till they are dead, No more shall they upon us prey; And those who seek for office too, For what it brings within their purse, When they come round well—"shoo, fly, shoo!"

My stars! but won't they buzz and fume? To such, wher'er they may be found, Who've drawn so largely from our veins, We say to be combined we're bound, And thus to break oppression's chain. Then, farmers, come, let's all unite, Maintain our rights and honor too; That when these suckers on us light, We'll only need say—"shoo, fly, shoo."

**For the Iowa Homestead.****DISTRICT MEETING.**

DEAR HOMESTEAD:—I send you a word of cheer from this part of the State. We now number 13 Granges in Tama county, and on Tuesday the 20th inst., large delegations from the Granges of Tama and Poweshiek counties met in council at Tama City, to the number of nearly three hundred, to take into consideration the measures that were necessary for the good of the Order in this part of the State.

There has been a strong and influential opposition to the Patrons in this place, and thus far they have defeated any attempt at the organization of a local Grange here. The denunciations of the movement as a humbug and a swindle might be heard on our street corners and in many of our places of business, mingled with wholesale defamation of the persons prominently connected with the movement in this part of the State, and loud and frequent have been the predictions of the utter failure of the whole movement; but there has been a marked change in social and business atmosphere since Tuesday last, and since that time I have not heard a "dog move his tongue against it." As the different delegations came pouring into the town, an observer might have noticed a lengthening of the physiognomies of the prominent opposers of the movement, and in some in-

stances offers were voluntarily made of the me already comm

Brother Sme Grange, who has the assembled quent and has from the exper northern part of vice to the new State, as well as ples and work to throughout t and frequently

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