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Office—Dundas-St., Opp. City Hotel.

New Seed Wheat.

The Scott wheat reports continue most favorable from all who have raised it. In the dissemination of this wheat alone we believe we have increased your wealth many hundreds of thousands of dollars. We can instance a single individual farmer who made over 500 dollars more from this wheat than he could from any other variety. He only purchased one bag of it at first. We can also cite many instances where farmers have raised between 100 and 200 bushels more from this variety than they could from any of the other varieties.

We have not said one word too much in its favor.

STONE'S WHITE SPRING WHEAT.

This wheat has proved itself unfit for us; we were afraid when Mr. Stone introduced it to us that it would not answer. We are glad no one lost much by trying it. We have in our office

TWO NEW VARIETIES OF SPRING WHEAT.

They have been forwarded to us from different parts of Canada. One is a red wheat; the heads are long, the straw is stiff, the chaff is red and has a long beard on it; the grains are rather wide apart, nearly as far apart as the Rio Grande or McCarling wheats. The grain is very different, being short and plump. This wheat is said to have been raised from one head that was picked from a field of common wheat. The party having it does not know its name.

The other variety is a white spring wheat having a red chaff and small heads growing from the main head; it has a very peculiar appearance. This wheat, we believe, is called the Mummy wheat. It was sent from the East Indies. A few grains were sent in a letter a few years ago to a person in Canada.

We would like to obtain information from any of our readers regarding either of the above wheats. If any one among you could know anything about either of them, we should be happy to hear from you. They are both reported to us as yielding large crops, and very high prices are asked for them. We shall give more information about them in the spring; to be correct, we ask for any information about them, as we have not grown either of them.

The Oil Business.

MONOPOLY, EXTORTION AND ROBBERY.

Farmers, it is high time we should awake to our interest. Since the receipt of the letter, headed "Light on the Oil Question," which appears in our correspondence column, we have made some inquiries into the great trouble. The facts are these:

Our burning oil is only worth 12 cents per gallon. It can be sold at the refineries at 15 cents per gallon, leaving a fair profit for producers and refiners; through monopoly and legislation we are compelled to pay from 25 to 30 cents per gallon. There is an unlimited supply of crude oil procurable at the

wells; the crude oil now is worth only 60 cents per barrel; a barrel will make 30 gallons of refined oil and 5 gallons of lubricating oil and benzine. In the States a superior oil sells for 12 cents per gallon, and the American oil could be sold in Canada for 16 cents per gallon.

To prevent this, representations have been made to the Government, such as to induce a duty of 10 per cent. being put on this American oil. This has been done to enable monopolists to pick our pockets. There is no fear of American oil being imported if our own oil can be procured. To prevent us from having our own oil at a fair price, a monopolizing company has been formed of a few cunning citizens, and nearly all the refineries leased, purchased or closed up. This company, on purpose to make us pay such prices as they choose, has perverted the law of supply and demand. Thus we have to pay nearly a half more to this company than we should pay if this monopoly was not in existence.

To have the refineries closed and leased by monopolists is not right. Our only remedy at the present time is to apply for the removal of the duty, which would at once reduce the price without the necessity of importing. This would save from \$1 to \$10 to every family in Canada, which sum otherwise would only go to the building up of colossal fortunes for monopolists at our cost and at a heavy loss to the progress of the Dominion.

The Short Horn Sales.

There has been a smaller number of Short Horn sales this fall than usual. The reason of this is that many sold largely last year, and are now increasing their herds. The principal sales that have taken place this past month have been those of Miller & Thompson, of Whitby, and G. Brown, at Brantford. The prices realized have not made a high average; but few American buyers attended the sales this year. There were important sales going on at the same time in the States; no doubt this was the cause of some Americans not attending.

The Government purchased some of the most expensive animals at Mr. Brown's sale at Bow Park farm.

Some of the Short Horn sales in England have gone off remarkably well. Higher prizes have been paid than ever before; the great run appears to be more for certain pedigrees than for beauty of animals.

A NEW HERD BOOK.

The Americans are about to issue another Herd Book. There will be great attempts made to depreciate all kinds of stock that have not just certain strains of blood in them. The fact is, in our opinion, that these particular breeds are only in the hands of a very few wealthy monopolists, and they wish to make every means subservient to the elevation of the value of these classes. Money has a mighty power. These high-priced animals are often used like the shuttlecock, thrown for one, two or

three years to one man at one price, and bought back again at a higher figure; sometimes these great prices are not actually paid. The Durham ring is now taking the place of the race course for speculation; it is a good substitute—a safer game to play and a more beneficial one.

London Exhibition Grounds.

In our September number we called attention to the fact that these grounds would be sold unless immediate action to prevent it was taken. They were advertised to be sold in lots on Monday, the 21st of September. We had a petition drawn up on Saturday, and took it to many of the citizens. Nearly all whom we asked signed it. We presented it to the mayor; he had the sale postponed. We are now in hopes of having the grounds retained. It would be much to the loss of the farmers and citizens to dispose of them. They are considered by all who have visited them to be the best grounds in Canada. We think in assisting in staying the sale of these grounds we have done a good service to the interests of agriculturists and the country generally.

The Exhibition at Ottawa.

The Provincial Exhibition is to be held at Ottawa next year. Ottawa has asked to have it held there for several years, and we consider it right that she should have it, as the inhabitants of that section of the country have been paying towards its maintenance a long time. The Exhibition should be looked on as a travelling school. It will do good to the inhabitants around Ottawa. It has done so much good in the western portion of Canada that the young schools, taking pattern from the old one, are in many respects surpassing the parent institution.

The Hon. J. Skead guarantees that the Association shall not be a loser by going to Ottawa. It is our impression that as good an exhibition will be held there as there was in Toronto this year. Many of our western exhibitors and visitors may not attend, but with those that attend from the west and the eastern exhibitors that will be there, in many departments the exhibition will surpass the last one held here.

The greatest drawback, in our opinion, will be the knowledge that Ottawa is so expensive a city to live in. Charges for reasonable accommodation will be almost ruinous, unless more efficient measures are taken to accommodate the public. In Toronto this year the houses that accommodate farmers doubled their charges from 25 cents to 50 cents for meals or bed. The meals provided might give satisfaction, although not half equal to such as are usually provided at other times; the sleeping accommodation is always lacking, and should be in some way considered by those who assemble the mass together.

Ottawa charges of \$3, \$4 and \$5 per day at common times, with the prospect of even a raise, are subjects that will be considered by those desirous of attending. We hope we may be able to give to our readers some

account of steps being taken to provide sleeping accommodation at 50 cents or \$1; we know of persons who had to pay such charges as 50 cents for a seat in a chair, and one 50 cents for sitting on a salt barrel at night. One of these parties would have willingly given \$4 for a good bed, but could not get one.

The Provincial Exhibition.

This Exhibition being held this year in the great centre of business of Ontario, we should have expected it to have surpassed any of the previous ones. Nearly every paper in the Province has spoken highly of it, and lauded it far above its deserts in our opinion.

We will describe it as it appeared in our eyes. As an exhibition it fell far short of any we have had for many years; such a display of empty stock pens we never before witnessed at any exhibition; had they been pulled down and burned visitors would not have been so much disappointed as by passing along them and finding nothing there. In heavy draught horses the display was good; a fair display of roadster and carriage horses was seen, but not nearly as good an exhibition in this class as might have been seen at the Western Fair in London. Durhams, as a show, were no where in comparison to previous exhibitions. Durham men say the quality was superior; our eyes failed to see in what this great superiority consisted; it might be in the name of the blood that ran in the veins of the few animals exhibited. Very few of our breeders exhibited. Quantity was very deficient.

Sheep were good, but not as numerous as they should be. Some were only shown in small numbers, and no marked improvement in any class of them. In some classes the stock was far inferior to other exhibitions.

There was a good display of implements and machinery, but on the whole this department could not be claimed to excel previous exhibitions.

The grain department was very meagrely represented.

Vegetables, fruits and flowers.—Many a county or township exhibition we have seen would throw this department entirely in the shade, both in regard to quantity and quality, except perhaps in prizes for large quantities shown by professional nurserymen.

In cheese and butter, local exhibitions are often quite as good.

In the fine arts and ladies' departments the exhibition could not be claimed as being superior to previous exhibitions.

But the great and grandest point of all is that it was a pecuniary success; the weather was fine, the attendance was large, and the cash receipts were most satisfactory.

It may be asked:

WHY WAS THIS EXHIBITION INFERIOR TO PREVIOUS EXHIBITIONS?

One great reason was because of the unusual drouth during the latter part of the summer, causing pastures to be bare and

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