

there is a postal delivery, and in other places it should remain as it is at present.

Mr. Davin strongly supported the contentions of the deputation, and said that the *FARMER'S ADVOCATE* was a publication which did great good in the Northwest, and it would be a serious thing if it would be anyways crippled. He contended that literature was a great factor in the progress of any country, and its wide dissemination should be encouraged.

The Hon. Mr. Reed said he would like to see fair play, that he had taken the *FARMER'S ADVOCATE* from its commencement, that it contained much valuable information, and was highly prized by the farmers and their families. Continuing, he said that he took many publications, but the *ADVOCATE* was the only one that was not destroyed. Every farmer should be encouraged to take it; it is patriotic—if it were not so it would not be in his house.

As we said in our last article, and again repeat, the time has come when the farmers must act independently, and demand measures which will be a benefit to themselves, and therefore to the country. The government and the parliament should exist for the people, not the people for the government, which is always the case where party politics are blindly followed. It is the privilege and duty of every elector to support only honest men who are loyal to the people and the country, and not merely party politicians. It is in the hands of our farmers to compel any measure they desire if they will study their own interests and act unitedly, judging for themselves, and not allow themselves to be misled by political claptrap.

Dr. Barnardo's Home.

We have read various attacks on the immigration work which is being done by Dr. Barnardo and his associates. We have carefully looked into this question, and have had considerable experience with the boys which they send to Canada, and must say we consider it laudable work when conducted as is being done by the Dr. No boys are sent to America from any of the various training homes but those who are physically and otherwise suitable to become thrifty and useful farm servants. About one year ago we saw 180 of these lads on a C. P. R. train, on their way to Toronto, and we are bound to say they were the most likely lot of emigrants we ever saw together. After these boys arrive they are placed with farmers on such terms as are advantageous to both master and servant. Should any boy or girl turn out other than they should, they are at once taken charge of by the Canadian officials of the Home, who make a thorough investigation of the case, and when the protegee is in fault and incorrigible, they are at once returned to England. In no case are they allowed to become a tax on this country. A direct and close oversight and constant communication is maintained by special officials with all who are placed out by the Institution. At the present time they have 1,600 boys in the Dominion (nearly all of whom are on farms). They are all young, and most of them will, in a short time, become useful citizens, and their presence will tend to make good farm help more easily procured than at present; for we all know that excessive wages is one of the heaviest burdens the Canadian farmer has to bear, and especially is this true in the newer provinces.

We recently received a call from Mr. E. A. Struthers, the Superintendent of Dr. Barnardo's Farm Home, near Russell, Manitoba. This Farm was established last year in connection with Dr. B.'s Homes in England. A number of big lads who have been under training in the English Homes have been brought to this farm, where they will remain in residence for a year, so as to become accustomed to the country and Canadian farm work before being placed in situations. The intention is to keep as many as 200 lads on the farm, which consists of over 8000 acres, situated in the most fertile district of Manitoba. Considerable attention will be devoted to dairying and stock-raising; a creamery is to be estab-

lished early in the present year. Under the able and experienced management of Mr. Struthers, the enterprise bids fair to be a success and a benefit to the country by supplying Manitoba's farmers with just such help as they require, and in training up a useful and industrious class to avail themselves of the exceptional facilities that the great North-west offers toward obtaining homes of their own, and an honest and respectable independence.

Education of Farmers.

In view of the close competition between different agricultural countries, the increased, and seemingly ever increasing cost of living, the many commodities once called luxuries but now considered necessities, the constantly decreasing fertility of the soil, is it not of the utmost importance that the farmer, as well as the druggist, the doctor, or the lawyer, be a liberally educated and thoroughly progressive man. Farming in Canada has, in the past, been in many instances profitable in spite of bad management. With a virgin soil, protected in winter by forests, there was almost a certainty of a good yield of wheat or other crops. Some of the best wheat crops ever grown in Ontario, (not the best, as some good farmers have their land in better condition than when it was cleared), yielding thirty-five to forty-five bushels per acre, were grown on land that had never been plowed. The timber burned off during the summer, and wheat sown on the ground among the stumps, and harrowed with a heavy three cornered drag in the fall. But the circumstances are now vastly different. The plant food taken up by the large crops of earlier years, has in most instances been but partially restored; and the crops consequently are growing smaller and smaller. Now where will this end? The dull, slow going farmer says, crops are bad, and regards it as bad luck. The educated progressive farmer knows there is a cause existing somewhere, and sets to work to ascertain what it is, and what the remedy. The uneducated farmer is always strongly prejudiced against book-farming, as he is usually pleased to term it (and there is no obstacle so hard to overcome as deep-seated prejudice). The educated farmer studies the growth of crops, the different manures required, best methods of obtaining, and most economical methods of applying them, and many other things from time to time, that the uneducated man will think unworthy of his attention. When shipping cattle to the English market first became profitable, some men saw the opening in the distance, and bred large cattle for the trade. Now, that it has become less profitable, we find many of our best men turning their attention to dairying, and most of them are finding it very profitable. The Hon. Chas. Drury stated a short time ago, "Education is useful to a man, even in digging a ditch;" and there is no question but that education lifts a man to a higher sphere of life, and makes him more useful to himself, and to the country in which he lives.

The department of education is about to issue an agricultural text book for our common schools. In conversation with an advanced farmer a short time ago, as to the wisdom of their use being optional, he said it should be compulsory, as in more than half the sections the ratepayers would vote against their use. It is to be hoped that such will not be the case, however, as never has there been as great necessity for a farmer to be an educated man as to-day, and this necessity will doubtless become greater in the near future.

Norway Spruce as Premiums.

For twenty-four new subscribers prepaid for one year, or twelve prepaid for two years, we will give 100 trees; for twelve new subscribers prepaid for one year, or for six prepaid for two years, we will give 50 trees, and for six new subscribers we will give 25 trees. These trees will be twenty to twenty-four inches high, transplanted three times. Express charges will be paid to any part of Ontario.

If some prefer smaller trees and more of them, to such we offer by mail, postage paid, for 20 new subscribers prepaid for one year, or 10 for two years, 140 trees of the same variety, 12 to 14 inches high. For 10 new subscribers prepaid for one year, or 5 for two years, 70 trees. For 5 new subscribers prepaid for one year, 35 trees.

A Successful Farmer and Stock-breeder.

In all lines of life, liberality of thought and adaptability and persistency of purpose will accomplish much. It was forcibly impressed on our mind recently when visiting the farm and home of Mr. Edward Jeffs, half a mile east of Bond Head village, and five miles west of Bradford station, on the Northern Railway. The subject of our sketch began life on the farm on which he now resides, which is pleasantly situated on the gravel road from Bradford to Bond Head. The farm contains two hundred and forty-five acres of excellent land. The residence is a handsome and commodious brick house. Mr. Jeffs has been a member of the Municipal Council of West Gwillimbury for ten or twelve years, at present in the capacity of Deputy-Reeve. He was one of the first members of the Advisory Board of the Agricultural College Farm, Guelph, which position he still holds. He began breeding thoroughbred stock twenty-three years ago. At the head of the present herd stands Prince Arthur =3682=, now five years old, good in all points and finely bred. He was bred by Mr. Caldwell, Crown Hill, and was got by Honest Tom from the cow Sheriff Hutton Rose, imported by Mr. Wm. Linton, of Aurora, she by Sir Arthur Ingram. A pair of beautiful red yearlings attracted our attention. Mr. Jeffs informed us they had won prizes at several shows last fall, sometimes one winning first and sometimes the other. Zora 15th, the mother of one, is of the Zora family of known merit. The other is a direct descendant of imported Margaret, by Snowball. Myra, by Fillagree Duke, of the Mara family, Mr. Jeffs assures us, will under favorable circumstances make fifteen pounds of butter per week. A few very nice Leicesters and Southdowns grace the yards, also some Berkshires, among which was one exceptionally fine young sow. This gentleman and his family make one realize the fact that farming is second in dignity to no other calling, and one son, who is studying medicine, expressed regret that he could not be at home to push the promising young stock. If more of our farmer's sons had this sentiment inculcated in their early years, and were taught to study their calling intelligently, the cities would have fewer charms for them than at present.

The London Agricultural Gazette says:—There is no more useful reading than honest narrations of successes won, unless it be equally honest descriptions of good intentions which, for some cause or other, have ended, in at least temporary or apparent failure. There is an almost insatiable appetite for facts about farming.