

The Union Advocate

Established 1867.

NEWCASTLE, MICHIGAN, N. B.
WEDNESDAY, MAR. 15, 1893.Seed Testing and Distribution of
Good Grain.To the Editor of the Union Advocate.
Sir,—Knowing that farmers generally are much interested in the above subjects, permit me to place before your readers the following:

SEED TESTING.

The work of testing the germinating power of grain and other agricultural seeds is now in active progress at the Central Experimental Farm in Ottawa. Up to the present over 1,000 samples have been tested and reported on this season, and on the whole with very gratifying results, showing a good percentage of vitality. There are, however, some districts in the Dominion from which samples have been received of very poor quality and quite unfit for seed. In some parts of Manitoba the harvest season of 1892 was a failure, and the grain was left in stock or stacked in winter and threshed in the spring of 1893. A number of samples of such grain have been tested and they show a very low percentage of vitality, many of them ranging from 15 to 40 per cent only, and are quite unfit for seed. In some other parts of the Dominion, and especially in some sections of Ontario and Quebec, the winter during the last harvest period was very wet, and the grain in the stock was subject to repeated wettings before it could be housed, and in the meantime some of it sprouted. A large proportion of such samples also show a low degree of germinating power, and it is as well as seed will be likely to result in poor crops.

Any farmers desiring to send further samples for seed should forward them without delay; the packages should contain about one ounce each, and they can be sent to the Experimental Farm from through the mail. The samples are tested and reports are usually furnished in about ten days after the grain is received.

SEED DISTRIBUTION.

Last year 16,905 sample bags of promising sorts of grain, weighing 3 lbs. each, were sent free through the mail to 9,111 farmers residing in different parts of the Dominion. This large quantity of grain, over 25 tons, was all of first quality and consisted of the most promising sorts which have been tested on the several Experimental Farms. By instruction of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture a similar distribution is now in progress for this year, and already over 3,000 samples have been sent out, and a large number are being mailed daily. The object of this distribution is to place in the hands of good farmers in all parts of the country samples of the best varieties of oats, barley, wheat, peas, &c., so that they may shortly be available for seed in every district in the country, and eventually result in the displacing of poor mixed and unfledged sorts, with varieties possessed of greater vigor and fertility. The number of samples sent to one applicant is limited to two in each case, and on this basis a very large number can still be supplied. With careful and judicious handling these 3 lb. samples will generally produce from one to three bushels the first year, and at the end of the second season the grower usually has seed enough for a large field. The advantages resulting from this large distribution of the best sorts of grain obtainable will not doubt in a few years be generally manifest in an improvement in the quality and growth of the crops, and a quantity of the average grain crops of the Dominion. A circular is sent with each sample which the recipients are expected to fill up and return at the close of the season, with particulars as to the character and growth of the plants. The request is also made that a sample of not less than one pound of the product be returned to the Central Experimental Farm, so that information may be had as to the measure of success in the application of the seed. Samples may be sent to the Experimental Farm at Ottawa free of postage.

WM. SAUNDERS,
Director of the Central Experimental Farm,
Ottawa, March 10, 1893.

School for the Blind.

The twenty-second annual report of the board of managers of the Halifax School for the Blind has come to hand. Six blind persons have been under instruction during the past year, 37 of whom were males and 17 females; 7 of these have since graduated or left the school, and one has been removed by death, making the total attendance at the end of the year, 46; of whom 22 are from the Province of Nova Scotia, 17 from New Brunswick, 10 from Prince Edward Island and 6 from Newfoundland. During the twenty-one years of its existence, the Institution has sent out a number of trained men and women who have been able to maintain themselves by the work of their hands. 28 per cent. are engaged in teaching music; 12 per cent. in conducting or taking part in concert companies; 8 per cent. in pianoforte tuning; 8 per cent. in business; 1 per cent. in manufacturing; 12 per cent. in giving instruction or working at trades; 2 per cent. as agents; 2 per cent. in farm work; 2 per cent. in literary callings; 22 per cent. residing at home.

Of these latter a large proportion live in the household and partially maintain themselves by the work of their hands. We can gather from this that the Blind Institution does a noble work, in educating and training those persons, deprived of the blessings of sight, to take their part in life's active work, and maintain themselves and others. The revenue of the Institution is (1) derived from grants from the governments of N. S., N. B., and P. E. I.; (2) the interest upon investments; (3) the sale of scripions and donations. The able and devoted Superintendent, Mr. C. F. Fraser, continues his office with ability and zeal, in the advancement of the Institution.

My Country 'Tis of Thee

Boston, Mass., March 7, 1893.

Dear Advocate:
Boston seems to have been transmuted into a debating society. The Christian pulpits have ceased to discuss the Sabbath and are now exhorting on the Hawaiian treaty. Cleveland's inauguration, and the Russian treaty, which is now pending and which provides that political offenders who have escaped to this country may be arrested and returned to Russia. The Socialists devote the Sabbath to a discussion of the economic question and demand that society be reconstructed on the principle of 'Equality and Justice.' The Ingersoll society, a Godless set, meet regularly every Sunday to prove that God is a myth, and why they should bother themselves so much about a myth more than I could ever understand. Then there are the Spiritualists, and heaven knows how many other sects and tenets. The more of them, the better. It is a pity that the people of this country should not be more united in their claims to have the only church in Boston having a pulpit at each end.

As one who still retains an interest in everything relating to the Dominion, I attended a meeting of the Social Reform Club, yesterday, which had for its subject: 'Would the annexation of Canada be conducive to the best interests of both countries?' and with your interest, I will give a synopsis of the speeches delivered.

The Rev. J. M. L. Babcock opened in the affirmative, claiming that Canada was richer in natural resources than any other country on the face of the earth. She had lumber, lead, copper, antimony, nickel, zinc, coal, iron, manganese, gypsum, limestone, ochre, fish in abundance, a very extensive sea coast, and two-thirds of the fresh water of the globe. Her people are thrifty, intelligent, capable, fatherly, kind, and hardy. He quoted from Blackwood's magazine to show that a regiment of Canadians had stood more privations and sufferings than a like number from any other quarter of the globe during the Crimean war, and declared the fact that nothing but a sickly sentiment retarded the growth of Canada. He was very emphatic in declaring that the property of Canada would increase in value tenfold by annexation, and quoted from history, giving statistics, making good this declaration. His faith in the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man was his springboard for the demolition of all artificial barriers to liberty, union and fraternity on this continent.

A Mr. Leonard, principal of the High School in Newton, took the opposite side. Mr. Leonard not only denied all the claims of Mr. Babcock but worked himself into a fever heat in his efforts to disprove them. He declared a people whose 'sickly sentiment' stood in the way of their advancement were unfit to become good citizens of a Republic. He said that the Province of Quebec was not only preyed upon by her neighbors and clergy but the government by the throat and exalted fabulous appropriations from the people's treasury in order to maintain her chieftain, Ontario was equally unfortunate. Its political atmosphere was permeated with orange bigotry. New Brunswick was on the decline. Her almshouses were a disgrace to civilization. He showed that in 1870 a week to maintain the paupers of Massachusetts and read from the 'Advocate' a speech delivered by Councilor Doyle showing that the paupers of Nova Scotia were supported at an expense of one cent a week, six cents a day, or forty-two cents per week. He also said that the facts were not as Mr. Babcock claimed, that the people were thrifty, intelligent and zealous, and to disprove what Mr. Babcock said he stated that a Boston syndicate has just purchased the coal mines of Nova Scotia and its government with them. He proved from statistics that the deposits of the working mines in Massachusetts in savings banks is greater than the entire deposits of the whole people of Canada. If Canada is so rich in natural resources, how is it that her own people flock to the United States so that they may obtain a livelihood? The Socialists are continually demanding legislation restricting immigration from the British provinces claiming that the influx of the Canadians had a more depressing effect in New England than that of the Chinese.

Man's Life.

(PHOTOGRAPH SUGGESTED BY RECENT DREAMS.)

Man's life is like the passing day,
How brightly shines its morning ray,
How grandly glows its noon,
How swiftly the shadows fall,
The twilight and the gloom.

Or, like the swiftly rolling snow,
Whose morning course has scarce begun
From East to West,
When, lo! the night is nearly run,
The evening shadows, the day is done,
So life's race is run.

Or, like the swiftly passing year,
Whose spring and summer, fall of cheer,
Pass swiftly on,
The autumn comes, the winter dear,
The year has gone!

Man's life is like a blooming tree,
Whence the glowing fruit we see,
So ripe, so rich, so true,
We pluck the fruit, let leave the tree,
With bounteous branches here!

Or, like a fair and fruitful field,
That with the happy harvest yield,
Now grandly grows,
Then, by the wintry frost congealed,
It lies dead, wintry snows!

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Chesse Factory.

Parliament to notice a fairly representative number of farmers and other interested met in the Temperance Hall, Montreal, on Tuesday, the 7th inst., at 7 o'clock P. M. for the purpose of taking into consideration the advisability of establishing a Chesse Factory in the city.

Mr. Wm. Cushman was appointed Chairman, and the undersigned Secretary.

The chairman briefly referred to the object of the meeting, stating the matter to be considered was new to them, and he would now call upon Mr. Thomas Newman who had come prepared to address them.

Mr. Newman said that he had much pleasure in regarding the call of the chairman, and that the project to be considered was an important one. He observed that cheese factories were prospering in other places and that the farmers present and in this country would give this matter their careful consideration. He had no doubt but one could be established here. The speaker then enumerated from a statement which he had prepared the possible results which would accrue to the farmers. He also submitted an estimate of the probable cost of a suitable building and appliances which would amount to about \$150,000. In conclusion, he made a strong appeal to those present to help the enterprise along.

The next speakers were Mr. McNeill and Mr. Anderson, of Ontario. They claimed that the natural conditions here were more favorable for cheese making than in the United States. They also gave some excellent ideas in connection with cheese manufacturing.

The following gentlemen also addressed the meeting, namely: Messrs. John Bates, R. D. Wilson, John Graham, F. Parks, C. Crocker, J. J. Clarke, M. Ames, John G. Cliff, Wesley Hoffman, and were in accord with the undertaking.

The following resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously: Resolved, That it is desirable to establish a cheese factory in the city of Montreal, and that the committee be authorized to take the necessary steps to carry out the same.

On motion it was ordered that the next meeting be held at the same place and at the same hour, on Wednesday the 15th inst.

R. N. WILSON, Secy.

Alcohol Poisoning.

The case of William J. Pidgeon, who died on Sunday last, and whose death a coroner's jury have found to be the result of alcohol poisoning, has been the subject of much discussion in the city.

Some changes in the laws regulating the sale of liquor have been suggested, and it is not unlikely that they will be adopted. It is not unlikely that they will be adopted. It is not unlikely that they will be adopted.

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New Brunswick Legislature.

Parliament on Monday the 13th inst. the members of the New Brunswick Legislature met in the House of Assembly at 10 o'clock A. M. for the purpose of transacting business.

The House was called to order by the Speaker, Mr. J. B. Macdonald, who read the prayer.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the report of the Committee on the petition of the Farmers' Association of the Province, in relation to the proposed amendment of the Liquor Act.

The report was read by Mr. J. B. Macdonald, and the House then proceeded to the consideration of the report of the Committee on the petition of the Farmers' Association of the Province, in relation to the proposed amendment of the Liquor Act.

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