

## London Advertiser.

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London, Thursday, Jan. 2.

A COMING ELECTION AND THE  
PROVINCIAL FAIR.

We have taken occasion before now to point out that the man who has a platform and who is not afraid to let the public know what that platform is, must inevitably command public attention, and if his principles are sound, ought to be made the custodian of public confidence. A man who answers this description is Mr. C. M. Simmons, the well-known Lobo farmer and cattle breeder, who is a candidate for the seat at the Board of the Provincial Association of Agriculture and Arts for the eleventh district of Ontario, which will be filled next week.

Mr. Simmons has principles, and he has enterprise enough to make them known in plenty of time to let people judge what they may expect if he is elected, as it is believed he will be. A "Practical Farmer" recently wrote to him, commenting on his published platform, which, briefly stated, is that he would be prepared to work for the winding up of the Association, favoring none. This correspondent who wrote from Vanneck, suggested that Mr. Simmons would be worthy of support if he sought to reorganize the Association, and make it more useful to the farmers, especially as it was understood that it had "a claim on the various fair grounds throughout the Province." The critic concluded his argument in this manner:

Why not have one fair in the interests of farmers, being purely agricultural, with none of their miserable special attractions. Have the exhibition placed on the English system, with a detailed up over the prize animals, setting forth the award, breed, name of society, and name of breeder. Also have catalogues, and let each entry have its number in the catalogue, and let the number have printed the name of the animal, its breeding and the owner, and if the owner wishes to sell, price set. Give the people a chance to appreciate the show and they will do so.

Mr. Simmons, as was to be expected, sent a very spirited reply. He points out that the \$10,000 grant for the Provincial show will not be continued, and more than hints that the men now in office merely wish the organization continued in order that they may make money out of their connection with it—rather a hard deal on Chas. Rykert, Ira Morgan and the other old-timers who have so zealously contended for the basing of the Association. Mr. Simmons continues:

As an exhibitor at the Provincial for years, it is my honest opinion that the whole can be carried out by the numerous agricultural societies and associations already on foot, and better serve the public and save the enormous cost of the Association. Why trouble its ghost? Its assets in the city of Toronto are worth \$20,000 or \$25,000. This would be disposed of and the proceeds amicably divided amongst the agricultural societies of the Province, and the interests of Division No. 11 should be closely guarded.

The suggestion that the show should continue and run on the English style Mr. Simmons thinks is out of the question. Canada is doing very well so far, but the country is only sparsely settled, and we cannot expect to command such crowds as assemble at the Royal Show in England, and who are willing to pay for admission \$1.20 the first day; 50 cents the second, and 24 cents the concluding two days. A purely agricultural show carried on in that manner would result in a large deficit, and Mr. Simmons holds that it is highly expedient that the show of the future should pay their way. As to catalogues, he points out that they can be had at the Royal, and they have been circulated at the last two Provincial; but of course they have to be paid for.

It is not true, Mr. Simmons points out, that the Provincial Association has a claim on the fair grounds of the various cities. Only on London has the Provincial any claim, and that every fourth year. He might have added that London would be delighted if the Provincial Board saw fit to relinquish that claim, and permit the Western Fair directors to continue, uninterrupted, their splendid agricultural and industrial exhibitions. Mr. Simmons rightly argues that a show conducted as was the Provincial at London this year would be a failure if held at almost any other city or town in the Province, and he lays special stress upon the point that the imported managers of the Provincial show cannot expect to have the same cordial co-operation of the people of the city to which they are sent as would a local board. This is one of his strongest points. The imported management is not only expensive, but it is unnecessary.

In a second letter the Vanneck man still held to the opinion that the Provincial could be reorganized, the entrance fees raised to \$2 and \$3, and the admission fee placed at 50 cents. He concluded:

No doubt many of these who like fast horses and special attractions would be absent, but I am certain you would find the usual number of Lobo farmers present.

Under date of 22nd ult., Mr. Simmons sent a lively answer. He says he does not deny that the special attractions have a little too much hold on the city exhibitions, but he points to the way in which the Industrial at Toronto and the Western at London treat breeders and farmers generally in proof that the interests of the agri-

culturists are looked after by the management of these exhibitions. Indeed, he considers the Western Fair of London one of the most representative associations ever authorized by act of Parliament. Very properly, too, Mr. Simmons takes occasion to point out that the "contaminating influence" of the ordinary shows are not nearly so strong as those which have been allowed to creep around the Provincial. "Ask you," he says, "did you ever witness one that compares with the Provincial this year at London. Was there not something in every available spot practiced by fakirs and professional gamblers to take, attract, allure and deceive the unguarded and innocent at their own game?" We sympathize with these strictures, but it must not be forgotten that the trade of the fakir would be a poor one but for the ready gullibility of his victims. Why are people so ready to fall a prey to this class of adventurers?

What, then, Mr. Simmons asks, is the association engaged in, now that the Provincial Fair is buried?

The act of Parliament gives them certain powers, and states or enacts what they may engage in, viz., a veterinary college, registration of livestock, prize farms, prize educational sciences, etc. The grandest clause is \$1 per day and 1 cent per mile each way, while the ordinary college is \$100. This situation is a good one and is conducted and controlled outside of the association almost entirely. It issues the diplomas to the students who have passed their examination. Last year it cost the association, or they agreed to pay, \$100,000 for the examination. The President of the Agricultural and Arts Association who came up to Toronto and attended the college at the time the students were being examined by the professors of the college, Dr. A. Alexander & Co., 507, Mail Printing Company, \$70. I expect this was for the students' diploma and for a number of years it has not averaged the sum of \$300. The educational scheme has been carried on in offering prizes for essays on different subjects. Under this head second class four prizes were offered, amounting to \$25, and for essays on root culture and their value as cattle food, two prizes \$20 and for hindrances to progress in Canadian agriculture with a view to their removal, \$50, you will find on page 6 of the annual report, 1898. The education scheme is not a success, as the amount charged under that head is \$125. On prize fee including medals, \$75 was expended. Of this amount the judges received \$15. Under these three heads the amount has not averaged \$300 to each five years.

Mr. Simmons says that the keeping of the registration of live stock pedigrees is paid for by fees, and should be self-sustaining. "Nearly all are managed by associations and directors that are able and willing to watch their several interests." The following table of receipts and disbursements by the Association are given:

	Receipts	Disbursements	Balance
1894.....	\$4,560 02	\$3,837 17	\$722 85
1895.....	\$1,913 30	\$3,430 30	\$1,516 50
1896.....	\$3,430 30	\$2,857 28	\$573 02
1897.....	\$1,913 30	\$2,857 28	\$1,275 32
1898.....	\$2,108 64	\$2,202 71	\$1,116 50
Total.....	\$10,822 52	\$15,655 58	\$7,341 53

This shows that it cost \$82,217 08 for the running expenses for the above five years. Mr. Simmons says he sets no reflection on the management, but he asserts that the clogging of the machinery costs too much. His conclusion is that, though the Association has done good work in the past, its usefulness is now practically gone. Here is his argument:

Our agricultural shows, our farmers' institutes and the numerous associations connected with the varied industries of the Province are receiving aid from the Government, and now that we have a Minister of Agriculture, a man thoroughly practical and possessed of rare abilities, I am confident that every true Canadian welcomes him, although his department may cost \$50,000 a year. Would it not be wise to discontinue the Agricultural and Arts Association? All those matters which are partially managed by them can and will be just as well managed by the Minister of Agriculture and the Association ready doing the work, which are all self-maintaining or nearly so. There is another question—Is it wise to let the Agricultural and Arts Association in the city of Toronto, said to be worth \$20,000, let them be sold, and the proceeds amicably divided among the societies of the Province at large portion of the amount called running expenses, which can be ascertained by studying their yearly reports.

A man who can so intelligently and forcibly place his views before the people may be trusted to give a good account of his stewardship if elected as a representative of the important District No. 11.

## A PRIZE FOR MOTHERS.

If to increase population be one of the chief objects of the legislative bodies of Canada, then indeed is the Quebec Legislature about to take a most patriotic step. In the speech from the throne, at the opening of the Legislature on Tuesday, the Government announced that it intended to foster the work of colonizing the vacant lands by the passage of two acts—"one for the purpose of fostering the legitimate operations of colonization societies and the other granting a lot of land of 100 acres to the father and mother of at least two living children, born in lawful wedlock, such lot to be their homestead." This scheme will not be apt to meet with the indorsement of those who look upon the rearing of large families as a crime, or of those who are especially fearful lest the mothers of Quebec bring more children into the world than the enterprising mothers of this Province feel able to successfully rear. It is a revival of the law by which the old French kings were wont to encourage fecundity among their subjects in bygone ages, and may in some measure be expected to prove successful.

If the law were to give the reward to every woman who had been mother to a round dozen of children, the number of 100 acres that would be claimed might be greater than the ability of Col. Rhodes to supply, for the French-Canadians are a very prolific race. It is no record, however, that the average French-speaking family is really no larger than the average English-speaking family in Ontario. The mortality of the Quebec population, in years of infancy, is so much greater than that prevalent in Ontario that an equilibrium is reached before the respective families attain years of maturity. The Francophones have therefore no cause for apprehension on the score of Mr. Mercer's bill to reward Quebec fecundity among his fellow citizens, especially as the prize is offered to mothers no matter what their nationality. Indeed, we should think it is a scheme much better adapted to promote colonization in Quebec than is the Dominion Government experiment of keeping Senator Fabre at Paris, where he enjoys a large salary at the expense of the Canadian taxpayers, under the supposition that he is promoting the immigration of Frenchmen to this country, whereas the man who has been

prevailed upon to come to Canada, through his instrumentality has yet to be met.

The great trouble in Quebec is not that Frenchmen are not born in plenty, but that as soon as they reach years of discretion they find it to their advantage to make their homes across the border and leave the Government lands uncultivated. The lawgivers of Quebec and of the Dominion could promote colonization in a much more effective way by co-operating for the reduction of the taxation of the people, and thus making them contented with their lot and prevent their expatriation. Nevertheless, the Quebec Premier's system for rewarding productive motherhood will be watched with much interest. If it is even a partial success we will doubtless have the Premiers of Ontario and Manitoba adopting similar measures for encouraging the settlement of the vacant lands in this and the sister Province.

Home industry should certainly have the preference.

Hon. Mr. COLBY the new member of Sir John Macdonald's Government, was entertained at a banquet by his supporters in Stansfeld, Que., the other night. He asserted that the French language had equal rights with the English language in Canada. We do not coincide in the statement, because if it held good it would imply that in Ontario, for example, the system of dual language should prevail. There can be no objection to people of any nationality using their own language in this Province, and it is highly desirable that in districts peopled by a French-speaking population the bi-lingual books should be used in the elementary classes, because it is impossible to teach a child in the language it does not comprehend; but beyond that it cannot be too clearly understood, despite the plea of Sir John Macdonald's Minister, last selected, that the language of Ontario is English, and that no other language stands on a par with it or can become part of our institutions.

A Tory contemporary argues that because Sir John Macdonald took occasion in a speech at London three years ago to repudiate the Mall's programme, it cannot be fighting his battle there. The Tory leader's repudiation never goes when he gets into trouble. Everybody remembers how Macdonald repudiated Louis Riel, and "wished to God he could catch him," while he was paying good public money to the rebel leader to get out of the Dominion and stay out. What can the repudiation of a double-faced politician be worth when he would be guilty of such duplicity as that, and never once express contrition for his previous wrong-doing. If the Mall trusts to the Tory leader for a vindication, it is leaning on a broken reed.

SENATOR MACDONALD, of Toronto, is a practical philanthropist. He has just handed over \$40,000 to aid in the extension of hospital accommodation in that city, and the Wycliffe College property has been purchased. In a short time, buildings will be erected, and full advantage taken of the munificent benefaction. If all moneyed men were as ready to distribute a portion of their surplus earnings as is this merchant prince, it would be much easier to solve social problems affecting the masses than is now possible.

WONDERS will never cease. A funeral has just taken place by mail! The ashes of Dr. John K. Bartlett, who was cremated at Los Angeles recently, were sent through the mails to a friend in Milwaukee. They were contained in a small rosewood box, which was buried in Dr. Bartlett's family plot in the latter city. The Doctor was a graduate of Yale, and a physician of high standing.

PRINCESS LOUISE, who has occupied her home in Kensington Palace, London, since her return from Scotland, will very shortly go to the Riviera, where she will remain until the spring is far advanced, and will then come to meet the Queen. Since her arrival in London the Princess has been engaged in finishing a portrait of Her Majesty, which she commenced at Balmoral, and which is intended for the large drawing-room at Osborne. The Princess of Lorne, it may be added, will not accompany the Princess to the Riviera.

## THE LADIES!

A New and Distinct Form of Dress, which is Admiring Canadian Women. Now some of them Regained Fresh Complexion, Perfect Health, and Superior Physical Beauty.

A great London Physician says that he notes a new and distinct form of nervous disease produced in Canadian women by worry about servants and overwork in caring for the home. This is only too true. It is why we see so many ladies pale, weak, languid, and suffering from headaches and innumerable weaknesses. They cannot stand the strain upon their nervous system. Many of them have found the means to sustain their failing strength, to give color to the cheeks, and new life and vigor to the body, in Paine's Celery Compound. This pure and scientific remedy is especially adapted to the needs of women, and is daily giving the most remarkable cures. Mrs. W. E. Cooper, 50 St. Hyppolite St., Montreal, was for a long time troubled with nervous headaches, loss of appetite, low spirits, etc. After using the Compound, her headaches disappeared, appetite was good, and her spirits revived.

Annie Goulet, of River Beaudette, P.Q., found the Compound a certain cure for weakness, and now feels as well as she ever did.

Many a Canadian lady has the same reason to be grateful. Paine's Celery Compound can be purchased at any druggist's for one dollar a bottle. If he should not have it on hand, order direct from WELLS, RICHARDSON & CO., MONTREAL.

Lezanne Xmas presents, something entirely new at St. Lawrence's drug store. Successor to Harkness & Co.

ANNUAL STOCK-TAKING SALE  
—AT—  
GREENE'S STA HALL

It has been our custom heretofore to sell off our surplus stock of Overcoats and Winter Goods BY AUCTION in the month of January, but this year we have decided to clear them off by Private Sale at COST PRICES, and for this month our stock of Boys', Youths' and Men's Overcoats and other heavy goods will be offered at WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS' PRICES. We make no foolish, extravagant statements. Honest value and fair dealing is what we guarantee. Take advantage of this special sale as soon as possible at

GREENE'S STAR HALL  
138 Dundas Street.

Spring Skates,  
Spring Skates,  
NO. 5,  
65 CENTS PER PAIR.

Carvers, Carver Sets, Cutlery  
Spoons, etc.,  
AT BOTTOM PRICES.

SEE OUR ASSORTMENT OF—  
SILVERWARE  
Our prices will astonish you.

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111 Dundas Street and 654 Dundas  
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Leading Nos. 048, 128, 130, 135, 333, 161.  
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THE ESTERBROOK STEEL PEN CO.,  
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WOOD AND COAL

At the lowest rates in  
the city and of the  
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FRANK SAGE'S NEW LIVERY

Two doors South of Te-  
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New rigs; best in the city at  
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Satisfaction guaranteed.  
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First-class horses and car-  
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Rigs delivered to all parts of the city. Give  
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This hotel is newly built, with modern  
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commercial house in the city.

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THOMAS' EUROPEAN HOTEL,

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Fifty splendid rooms from 50 cents per day up.  
Restaurant open until midnight and on Sun-  
day. The only cafe in Toronto patronized by  
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KEACHEIE & CO., Props

THE RUSSELL, OTTAWA.

The Palace Hotel of Canada.

This magnificent new hotel is fitted up in the  
most modern style. Visitors to the Capital  
most convenient to stop at the Russell, where  
they can always meet leading public men.

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AMERICAN HOTEL, PARIS, ONT.

The above hotel has recently been recon-  
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I have now on hand a large stock of blankets and stocking yarns and underclothing. On account of large stock of these goods, the prices are very reasonable. Call and purchase and secure them at wholesale prices.

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