

A Farmer's Open Letter to Farmers.

FELLOW FARMERS,—In common with all intelligent yeomen I am a reader of the press, but perhaps I am a little exceptional in that I read both sides of the press. I take one side and I find one set of facts and figures, and I take the other side and I find another set, until sometimes my mind is so confused between them that I cannot believe either. I have given up paying much attention to these evolved figures because men specially hired for the work handle them for their own particular parties, put in what suits them and leave out what don't. But I do know this, and so do all farmers, from experience, that no matter who is in or out the expenses go on. Nor can I say that this is unnatural. Public affairs, like private, must be carried on at an expense, and in a new country like this the expense is great, because we need so many new public works. Both parties have given us some great and useful public works, without which the new parts of the country could not have been developed, so I find no great fault with either party upon that score. **What we have to consider is where the money to pay for these works is to come from.** Some say abolish the tariff and let goods in free from the United States and elsewhere, and let us raise the money by direct taxation. **That means to put all the taxes on the land, to which I object.** Mr. Blake said in a speech in West Durham, which I read in the *Globe*, that most of the tariff would have to stay, because we